New Joint Ministerial Decision issued to align practices related to age assessments with the Pact

On 13 October 2026, a new Joint Ministerial Decision (JMD) on age assessments was issued to align with provisions of the Pact on Migration and Asylum. Key differences from the previous JMD, issued in 2025, include:

- The assessment begins with a physical and psychological evaluation. X-ray examination is only conducted when the physical and psychological evaluations do not agree with each other. In addition, the requirement to complete all three tests on the same day has been removed.
- When an applicant refuses in writing to undergo a medical examination for the purposes of age assessment, this leads to a presumption of adulthood (as was the case before), which is now confirmed by a formal decision on the applicants adulthood.

The full text of the JMD is available here (in Greek).

Source(s)

- Ministry of Migration and Asylum | Υπουργείο Μετανάστευσης και Ασύλου (13 October, 2026), Κοινή Υπουργική Απόφαση Αριθμ. 187501/2026, ΦΕΚ Β 6208/13-10-2026, Καθορισμός της διαδικασίας εκτίμησης ηλικίας υπηκόων τρίτων χωρών ή ανιθαγενών αιτούντων διεθνή προστασία. [Joint Ministerial Decision 187501/2026, Government Gazette B 6208/13-10-2026, Age assessment procedure for third-country nationals or stateless persons applying for international protection], https://www.e-nomothesia.gr/kat-allodapoi/koine-upourgike-apophase-187501-2026.html

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