



Permanent Representation of Greece  
to the Council of Europe

Strasbourg, 05 February 2024  
Ref. No. 6686/140

Dear Mr. Gruden, *Dear Matjaž,*

Following your kind message informing us on the decision by the partner organisations of the CoE Safety of Journalists Platform to publish on the Platform the case of the death of Sokratis Giolias as a case of impunity, please find attached a response from the Greek Authorities and specifically the Ministry of Citizen Protection.

I would kindly ask for the said reply to be uploaded to the Platform and forwarded to the partner organisations.

Sincerely Yours,

Panayiotis Beglitis  
Ambassador

To: **Mr. Matjaž Gruden**  
Director  
Directorate of Democratic Participation  
Directorate General of Democracy  
Council of Europe

**In town**



## HELLENIC REPUBLIC

### **On the investigation of the death of Greek journalist Sokratis Giolas**

#### **Response from the Greek Authorities Ministry of Citizen Protection**

Journalist and broadcaster Sokratis Giolas was murdered on 19 July 2010. The terrorist organisation “Secta epanastaton” (= sect of revolutionaries) claimed responsibility for the murder. Following a preliminary inquiry by the Attica Security Division, files were passed to the Special Violent Crime (Counter Terrorism) Division that works to confront crimes of extreme violence, and then to the competent judicial authority and the independent Public Prosecution Service for a thorough and extensive investigation.

Nevertheless, neither the preliminary inquiry nor the main investigation found sufficient evidence to initiate prosecution and, currently, without active lines of enquiry, the investigation remains at the Athens Public Prosecutor's Office.

It should be noted that the above terrorist organisation, during its activity, carried out three more criminal acts, for which it took responsibility: an armed attack on a police station, an armed attack and the throwing of an improvised explosive device at the facilities of the ALTER tv station and the homicide of a police officer of the Special Violent Crime Division.

It is also noted that in the investigation of this case, as of any other case related to the phenomenon of terrorism, the Special Violent Crime Division carries out with professionalism all the necessary investigation acts, applying at the same time the best research and data analysis practices, under the supervision of a competent Prosecutor of Appeals, appointed by the Supreme Court.

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