Golden Dawn Watch

Keep your eyes open!

Who we are

Golden Dawn Watch is an initiative to monitor the trial against Golden Dawn, organised by the Hellenic League for Human Rights, the Greek Observatory against Fascism and Racist Speech in the Media, which works as part of the Educational Foundation of ESIEA (Journalists’ Union of Athens Daily Newspapers), the Antifascist League of Athens and Piraeus, and the City of Athens Migrants’ Integration Council. The main aspect of this initiative is the website goldendawnwatch.org, which will be managed by an editorial group. The initiative is already supported in various ways by antiracist and antifascist organisations, foundations, NGOs, citizens’ groups and migrant organisations.

Why we created Golden Dawn Watch

In September 2013, immediately after the murder of Pavlos Fyssas, the Greek Police arrested the leadership of Golden Dawn, as well as tens of its party officials and members, who were involved in the criminal activities included in the huge case file. After a long inquest which lasted 9 months, the Court of Appeal decided with irrevocable decree that 69 individuals, including all of Golden Dawn’s Parliamentary Group from the 2012 elections, will stand trial charged with participation in a criminal organisation. Described in the 1109 pages of the decree are all of the crimes committed by Golden Dawn party officials and members since 2008.

On 20th April 2015 one of the most important trials in contemporary Greek history will begin. It is set to be a huge process that is expected to last several months. The victims and their relatives will join the proceedings as a civil party in three cases, the case of the murder of Pavlos Fyssas, the case of attempted murder and attacks on Egyptian fishermen, as well as the case of attempted murder against the trade unionists from PAME (Trade Union Front). We believe that this trial concerns all of us, because the outcome will be a milestone as much in local politics as in Greek society. Golden Dawn themselves are trying to establish a regime of fear and to keep their actions secret. Until now, whenever its members of parliament, party officials or members has been involved in trials, the organisation has used terror tactics both inside and outside of the courtroom and tried to establish a regime of fear.

Due to the huge significance of this trial, we consider it our obligation to monitor it closely and our duty to overcome fear.

Our aim:

* to make public all information concerning Golden Dawn’s actions and to illuminate all aspects of the trial
* for every citizen, in Greece and abroad, to have continuous and reliable information about everything that happens inside and outside of the courtroom throughout the duration of the trial
* to provide analysis from specialists, lawyers and the monitoring team of GDW
* to keep Golden Dawn and its actions in the light.

What we do

The initiative Golden Dawn Watch, through accredited colleagues, will monitor the trial from the courtroom, each day, from the beginning to the end.

Our work will include:

* publishing a summary report after each day at court
* translating this report into English, so as to keep the international public informed
* publishing on a regular basis commentaries on the coverage of the Golden Dawn trial in the Greek press, which will be carried out by the working group from the Greek Observatory against Fascism and Racist Speech in the Media.

The group Golden Dawn Watch also aims to:

* provide analysis, commentaries and the opinions of specialists, experts and lawyers in the form of:

- interviews

- original and/or republished articles and texts

- radio programmes

- leaflets

- audio and audio-visual material etc.

* organise events, with the collaboration and support of other bodies, in order to inform as wide a public as possible about the development of the trial
* come into contact with organisations and bodies from Greece and abroad who share the same aims and concerns, in order to initiate the creation of a large network of interested parties
* provide, through our colleagues, specialised and detailed information to journalists from Greece and abroad, to specialists, but also to all those who are interested in the trial.

Because we believe that only a well-informed and sensitised public can develop a strong resistance against the spread of racism, fascism and Neo-Nazism and ultimately, against fear.

[www.goldendawnwatch.org](http://www.goldendawnwatch.org)

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