

THE ~~GOLDEN DAWN~~ TRIAL

GOLDEN DAWN WATCH

An initiative to monitor the trial against Golden Dawn, Golden Dawn Watch was set up by the Hellenic League for Human Rights, the Greek Observatory against Fascism and Racist Speech in the Media (part of the Educational Foundation of the Athens journalists union ESIEA), the Antifascist League of Athens and Piraeus, and the City of Athens Migrant Integration Council. The initiative is supported in a number of ways by antifascist organisations, foundations, NGOs, citizen groups and migrant organisations.

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KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN

"Slash and burn those who pollute our race"
Golden Dawn newspaper, 12 Jun 1996

"We don't have a president. We've a leader, whom we follow faithfully like real soldiers and we don't back out no matter what he tells us. We strictly follow and execute his orders"
Stathis Boukouras

"Forget the MPs and their parliamentary crap ... We've hated them for years; we've no interest in them. Of course, we take advantage of some of the perks of the job. We can now carry licensed weapons. So there won't be much of a fuss if there's an incident ... we can operate with a little more ease"
Ilias Kasidiaris

"We are Nazis ... because in the miracle of the German revolution of 1933, we caught a glimpse of the strength that will redeem humanity from the Jewish rot"
Golden Dawn's journal Emeis, May 1981

"We are soldiers; we are disciplined; we are Golden Dawners. You are like a disciplined army. I thank the boys in black"
Nikos Michaloliakos

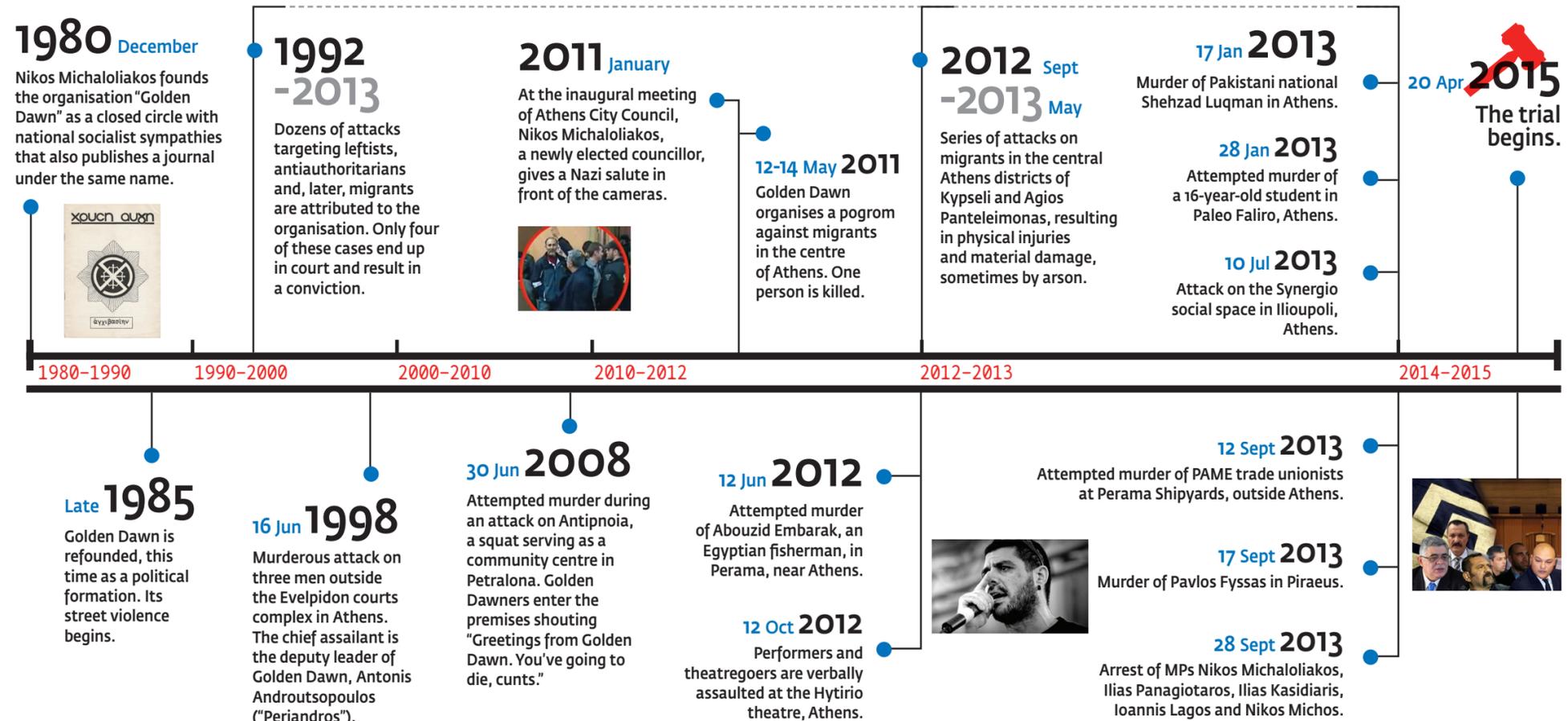
"They say that we are the evil fascists, the nationalists. The truth is they're not wrong. Our mission is not to improve those inside parliament, to correct political forces that are corrupt and already finished, but rather to get rid of them once and for all"
Michail Arvanitis

"We do not accept the role of MP. Let them know that we don't like being in parliament. We feel uncomfortable in there; we feel disgust and revulsion. If they want, we'll abandon it from one moment to the next and take to the streets. Then they will know the meaning of Golden Dawn. We'll show them. They'll know the meaning of assault battalions, the meaning of war and struggle, the meaning of bayonets sharpened on the pavement"
Nikos Michaloliakos

"We will have to function using the organs of the movement, like a political liberation army of nationalism, and to enforce the firm principles of military dogma - loyal and unwavering obedience to the hierarchy. Long live victory! Long live the leader!"
Christos Pappas

"We are nationalists and hatred is healthy wherever human beings turn against subhumans. They are dirty, the garbage of the earth, and we will not leave until the last of this scum is gone"
Ilias Panagiotaros

INDICATIVE TIMELINE



> THE STRUCTURE OF THE TRIAL

4 MAJOR CHARGES

The so-called Golden Dawn trial centres on four major cases. The case file also includes a long list of related crimes (see No. 4 below), which are to be tried separately in other courts. They have been included in this trial because they support the charge that Golden Dawn is a criminal organisation.

1. ATTACK ON EGYPTIAN FISHERMEN

Perama, night of 12 September 2012: A group of Golden Dawn members try to break the wooden shutters and windows of a house known to be inhabited by Egyptian fishermen, shouting: "We will fuck your whore of a mother" and "You're going to find out what Golden Dawn means". When they fail to break in, they climb up to the flat roof where, using sticks and iron bars, they beat Abouzid Embarak, who is asleep. He is left with serious facial and head injuries, fractures, wounds, swelling and a bruised lung.

2. ATTACK ON PAME MEMBERS

Perama, night of 12 September 2013: Twenty members of the Communist Party-aligned PAME trade union are painting wall slogans in the district. An "assault battalion" made up of Golden Dawn members from Nikea, Perama and Salamina launches an organised attack on the PAME members, trapping them and beating them with sticks, batons and axes. The Golden Dawners shout, "Fuck your houses, your families, your sisters; you're going to die here, you commie cunts". Nine PAME members are seriously injured.

3. MURDER OF PAVLOS FYSSAS

Amfiali, Piraeus, night of 17 September 2013: Pavlos Fyssas and several friends are victims of an organised assault at the hands of a group of members of the local Golden Dawn branch in Nikea. They chase them down the street waving planks and clubs. They shout, "Come here, you chickens! We'll kill you! We'll slaughter you! You're going to die!" Two of Fyssas' friends are beaten, and while Fyssas himself is pinned down by three men, Giorgos Roupakias stabs him twice in the heart and once in the thigh. Fyssas dies at the scene. Roupakias confesses to the crime.

4. MEMBERSHIP AND DIRECTION OF A CRIMINAL ORGANISATION

Under the fourth charge, 20 defendants – including all 18 Golden Dawn MPs from the 2012-2015 parliamentary period – are accused of membership of and directing a criminal organisation. Article 187 (1) of the criminal code defines a criminal organisation as a structured group with continuous activity, made up of three or more persons, that seeks to commit felonies covered by separate articles in the criminal code or by special criminal laws. The law recognises no difference between individuals whose membership dates to the founding of the organisation and those who joined at a later stage.

SOME OF THE RELATED CASES

- 2011** • Attack on two Albanian women in Metaxourgio, Athens
- 2012** • Pogrom and arson attack targeting Roma in Etoliko, western Greece
• Usurping authority in a street market in Mesolongi, western Greece
• Assault on members of the Piraeus Antinazi Initiative
- 2013** • Murder of Pakistani national Shehzad Luqman in Petralona, Athens
• Attempted murder of a school pupil in Paleo Faliro, Athens
• Arson attack on a shop owned by a Cameroonian national in Platia Amerikis, Athens
• Allegations of protection rackets, burglary, weapons possession and fraud, leading to the arrest of the former district police chief of Agios Panteleimonas, Athens
- 2014** • Attack on the Resalto social centre in Keratsini, Piraeus

The trial began on 20 April 2015 in the women's wing of Korydallos Prison, before the first section of the Three-Member Athens Criminal Appeals Court. The victims of charges 1-3 are participating in the trial as civil parties.

> DEFENDANTS AND CHARGES

