



**IN THE COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA)**  
As a Court of Criminal Judicature

**MAGISTRATE**  
**DR. CAROLINE FARRUGIA FRENDO**  
*B.A. (Legal and Humanistic Studies), LL.D.,*  
*M.Juris (International Law), Dip. Trib. Eccl. Melit.*

**Case number 444/2017**

**The Police**  
**(Inspector Jonathan Ransley)**

**vs**

**Parashkeva Georgieva**  
**Nikolina Marinova**  
**Silviya Filipova**  
**Elena Filipova**  
**Boginya Mitkova**  
**Nikolina Kostova**  
**Tanya Ilieva**  
**Stoilka Todorva**  
**Georgi Nedkov Petkov**  
**Simeon Filipov**  
**Zlatko Nikolov**  
**Stancho Georgiev**  
**Nacho Georgiev**

**Today 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

**The Court:**

Having seen the charges brought against:

Parashkeva Georgieva of 27 years, and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 646694314;

Nikolina Marinova of 26 years, and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 647168021;

Silvija Filipova of 31 years, and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 646570687;

Elena Filipova of 30 years, and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 645434512;

Boginya Mitkova of 22 years, and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 646809081;

Nikolina Kostova of 31 years, and holder of Bulgaria identity card number 646236634;

Tanya Ilieva of 26 years, and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 646303978;

Stoilka Todorova of 22 years, and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 647228387;

Georgi Nedkov Petkov of 25 years, and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 383551305;

Simeon Filipov of 33 years, and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 646438960;

Zlatko Nikolov of 25 years, and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 646921579;

Stancho Georgiev of 21 years and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 646694887;

Nacho Georgiev of 24 years and holder of Bulgarian identity card number 647168394.

Accused of:

1. In these past months in these islands, they conspired with a person or persons in Malta or outside of Malta for the purpose of committing any crime in Malta and this in breach of Article 48A(1) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta;
2. Furthermore, throughout this time, place and circumstances promoted, constituted, organised or financed an organization with a view to commit criminal offences and this in breach of Article 83A(1)(a) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta;

3. Furthermore, throughout this time, place and circumstances knowing or having reasonable cause to suspect the aim or general activity of the organization set up for the purpose mentioned in paragraph (a), actively took part in the organisation's criminal activities, and this in breach of Article 83A(1)(b) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta;
4. Furthermore, throughout this time, place and circumstances they belonged to an organisation referred to in above-mentioned charges and this in breach of Article 83A(2) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta;
5. Accused of having on the 5th October and days or weeks prior to this date, in these Islands, with various acts made during different periods of time, but that breach the same article at law and that were made with the same resolution, they made acts of *money laundering* by:-
  - i) Converting or transferring property when they knew or suspected that that property was directly or indirectly obtained, or with proceeds of criminal activity or with act of participation in a criminal activity, with the cope or scopes of concealing or showing something else not of original property or the giving of help to a person or persons concerned and involved in the same criminal activity;
  - ii) Conceales or showed something which is not the same thing, provenance, place, dispositon, movement of rights regarding, in or on a property, when they knew or suspected that that property was obtained directly or indirectly from a criminal activity or from an act or acts of participation of a criminal activity;
  - iii) Obtained, possessed or used property when they knew or suspected that the same property was obtained or originated directly or indirectly from a criminal activity or from an act or acts of participation in a criminal activity;
  - iv) By retention without reasonable excuse of a property when they knew or suspected that the same property was obtained or originated directly or indirectly from a criminal activity or from an act or acts of participation in a criminal activity;
  - v) Attempted to make or participate illegally in all the dispositions hereabove mentioned;

- vi) Acted as complicit according to Article 42 of the Criminal Code regarding either one of the things or activities defined in the sub-paragraphs (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) hereabove mentioned;

According to Article 3 of the Money Laundering Act, Chapter 373 and Article 18 of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

Nacho Georgiev, Stancho Georgiev and Georgi Nedkov Petkov accused of having between the 25th September 2017 and the 27th September, 2017:

- 6. Committed theft of stereo speakers, from The Trading Post situated in Triq Gorg Borg Olivier, Sliema, which amount does not exceed two hundred and thirty Euro and ninety four cents (€232.94) to the detriment of Nicholas Johnson and Michela Johnson and/or other person or persons;

Stoilka Torodova is accused of:

- 7. On the 29th September 2017, between 10:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. in these islands, committed theft of a wallet and its contents and a mobile phone from a bus to the detriment of Mary Elizabeth Mackenzie, which theft is aggravated by value, and the whole amount exceeds two hundred and thirty two Euro and ninety four cents (€232.94);
- 8. Furthermore, between the month of September 2017 and the month of October, 2017, knowingly received or purchased any property which has been stolen, namely two mobile phones bearing the mark of Huawei and Sony Xperia and that their value exceeds the amount of two hundred and thirty two Euro and ninety four cents (€232.94) but does not exceed the amount of two thousand three hundred and twenty nine Euro and thirty seven cents (€2,329.37), misapplied or obtained by means of any offence, whether committed in Malta or abroad, or knowingly took part, in any manner whatsoever, in the sale or disposal of the same;

Tanya Ilieva accused of:

9. On the 5th October, 2017 between 1:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. in these islands, committed theft of a wallet and it's contents from a bus to the detriment of Marie Rose Zaouali, which total amount does not exceed the amount of two hundred and thirty two Euro and ninety four cents (€232.94);

The Court is humbly being asked to deal with the accused Parashkeva Georgieva, Nikolinka Marinova, Silviya Filipova, Elena Filipova, Boginya Mikova, Nikolinka Kostova, Tanya Ilieva, Stoilka Todorova, Georgi Nedkov Petkov, Simeon Filipov, Nacho Georgiev, Zlatko Nikolov and Stancho Georgiev as recidivists by means of various judgements delivered by various foreign Courts.

Having seen the Prosecuting Officer read out and confirm on oath the charges brought against the accused on the 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2017 and again on the 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2018.

Having seen the acts of the proceedings namely: a copy of the Republic of Bulgaria identity cards belonging to the women accused in these proceedings marked as Doc A; a copy of Georgi Nedkov Petkov's passport marked as Doc B; a copy of the Republic of Bulgaria identity cards belonging to the men accused in these proceedings marked as Doc C; Parashkeva Georgieva's conviction sheet marked as Doc D; Nikolina Marinova's conviction sheet marked as Doc E; Silviya Filipova's conviction sheet marked as Doc F; Elena Filipova's conviction sheet marked as Doc G; Boginya Mitkova's conviction sheet marked as Doc H; Nikolinka Kostova's conviction sheet marked as Doc I; Tanya Ilieva's conviction sheet marked as Doc J; Stoilka Todorova's conviction sheet marked as Doc K; Georgi Nedkov Petkov's conviction sheet marked as Doc L; Simeon Filipov's conviction sheet marked as Doc M; Zlatko Nikolov's conviction sheet marked as Doc N; Nacho Georgiev's conviction sheet marked as Doc O; Stancho Georgiev's conviction sheet marked as Doc P; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Parashkeva Georgieva marked as Doc A1; statement released by Parashkeva Georgieva marked as Doc A2; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Nikolinka Marinova marked as Doc A3; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Silviya Filipova marked as Doc A4; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Elena

Filipova marked as Doc A5; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Nikolinka Kostova marked as Doc A6; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Boginya Mitkova marked as Doc A7; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Tanya Ilieva marked as Doc A8; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Stoilka Todorova marked as Doc A9; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Georgi Nedkov Petkov marked as Doc A10; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Simeon Filipov marked as Doc A11; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Zlatko Nikolov marked as Doc A12; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Stancho Georgiev marked as Doc A13; declaration of the refusal to consult a legal Aid signed by Nacho Georgiev marked as Doc A14; statement released by Simeon Filipov marked as Doc B1; statement released by Zlatko Nikolov marked as Doc B2; statement released by Georgi Nedkov Petkov marked as Doc B3; statement released by Stoilka Todorova marked as Doc B4; statement released by Tanya Ilieva marked as Doc B5; statement released by Boginya Mitkova marked as Doc B6; another statement released by Boginya Mitkova marked as Doc B7; statement released by Nikolinka Kostova marked as Doc B8; statement released by Elena Filipova marked as Doc B9; statement released by Silviya Filipova marked as Doc B10; statement released by Nikolinka Marinova marked as Doc B11; statement released by Stancho Georgiev marked as Doc B12; statement released by Nacho Georgiev marked as Doc B13; true copy of 5 receipts marked as Doc JR1; true copy of 4 receipts marked as Doc JR2; a copy of a receipt and an enlargement of the receipt marked as Doc JR3; invoice issued by Park Hotel marked as Doc JR4; a copy of the identity cards of the accused and the passport of Georgi Nedkov Petkov marked as Doc JR5; a document showing money transactions marked as Doc JR6; 16 photographs marked as Doc JR7; a receipt indicating the objects elevated from each and every accused, as well as an envelope with photographs marked as Doc BM1; set of documents from Bulgaria marked as Doc JR8; set of documents from Greece marked as Doc JR9; set of documents from the United Kingdom marked as Doc JR10; set of documents from the Czech Republic marked as Doc JR11; set of documents from Italy marked as Doc JR12; set of documents from Austria marked as Doc JR13; a coloured photocopy of the female accused's identity cards marked as Doc JB1; a colours photocopy of the Georgi Nedkov Petkov's passport marked as Doc JB2; a photocopy of the male accused's identity cards marked as Doc JB3; a document indicating money transactions marked as Doc NC1; minutes written by WPC 316 Ruth Fenech marked as

Doc RF1; a photocopy of the female accused's identity cards and a copy of the identity cards of Simeon Filipov Georgiev, Nacho Georgiev, Zlatko Nikolov and Stancho Georgiev marked as Doc RF2; hand written notes by WPC 316 Ruth Fenech marked as Doc RF3; envelope containing 17 photographs marked as Doc JR8A; request for information extracted from the criminal record marked as Doc JR9A; set of document from France marked as Doc JR10A; current incident report dated 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 marked as Doc SF1; an email marked as Doc JB4; current incident report dated 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017 marked as Doc EV1; a document showing money transactions marked as Doc AM1; current incident report dated 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 marked as Doc RA1; current incident report dated 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 marked as Doc RA2; 4CD's marked as Doc CA1; current incident report dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2017 marked as Doc PP1; an email marked as Doc CGS1; an email marked as Doc CGS2; email marked as Doc CGS3; email marked as Doc CGS4; email marked as Doc CGS5; report by PS 422 Neil Godwin Caruana marked as Doc NGC1; current incident report dated 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 marked as Doc KA1; report by WPS 215 Valerie Farrugia marked as Doc VF1; current incident report dated 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 marked as Doc EV1; current incident report dated 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 marked as Doc SS1; current incident report dated 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2017 marked as Doc GB1; 8 rogatory letters; a document translated by Maria Ferstle marked as Doc MF1; a document translated by Donatienne Cutajar marked as Doc DC1; document marked as Doc NV1; document marked as Doc RC1; document marked as Doc IF1;

Having heard the witnesses brought by the Prosecution, namely: Inspector Jonathan Ransley; PS 157 Brian Mifsud; Joseph Bugeja; Dr. Noel Cutajar; WPC 316 Ruth Fenech; WPC 251 Sallyanne Felice; Astrid Ann Grech; WPC 355 Elisa Valente; Rosemarie Zouali; Alex Miruzzi; PS 1314 Raymond Ambrogio; PS 1515 Austin Magro; PC 127 Clyde Agius; PC 1479 Pierluigi Pace; WPC 331 Martina Marie Borg; Joseph Saliba; Inspector Chris Galea Scanura; PS 422 Neil Godwin Caruana; Inspector Krista Armenu; WPS 215 Valerie Farrugia; WPC 355 Elisa Valente; PC 1084 Sven Sammut; PC 1394 Gilbert Bajada; WPC 322 Alessia Costanzo; Maria Ferstle; Donatienne Cutajar; Shaun Apap Meli; Katia Andonova Kokinos; Marisa Camilleri; Nazeta Veskova; Ray Coppini; Imelda Fede.

Having seen that the accused registered a guilty plea with regards to all the charges with the exception to Article 83A(1)(a)(b) of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

Having seen that the Court after explaining the consequence of their guilty plea, and after having explained the possible punishment that could be inflicted upon them, and after having given them sufficient time to reconsider their guilty plea and to consult with their lawyers, all the accused confirmed their guilty plea once again.

Having seen the Articles at law sent by the Attorney General dated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 whereby the Attorney General finds that the accused Parashkeva Georgieva, Nikolinka Marinova, Silviya Filipova, Elena Filipova, Boginya Mitkova, Nikolina Kostova, Simeon Filipov, Zlatko Nikolov, should be found guilty according to the following Articles at law, namely:

1. In Article 48A of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta
2. In Article 83A(1)(a); (b) and (2) of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta;
3. In Articles 49 and 50 of the Criminal Code; Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta and;
4. In Articles 17; 31; 23; 23B; 23C; 532A and 533 of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

Having seen the Articles at law sent by the Attorney General dated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 whereby the Attorney General finds that the accused Tanya Ilieva, Georgi Nedkov Petkov, Stancho Georgiev, Nacho Georgiev, should be found guilty according to the following Articles at law, namely:

1. In Article 48A of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta
2. In Article 83A(1)(a); (b) and (2) of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta;
3. In Articles 49 and 50 of the Criminal Code; Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta and;
4. In Articles 17; 31; 23; 23B; 23C; 532A and 533 of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.
5. In Articles 284 and 285 of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

Having seen the Articles at law sent by the Attorney General dated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 whereby the Attorney General finds that the accused Stoilka Todorva, should be found guilty according to the following Articles at law, namely:

1. In Article 48A of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta
2. In Article 83A(1)(a); (b) and (2) of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta;
3. In Articles 49 and 50 of the Criminal Code; Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta and;
4. In Articles 17; 31; 23; 23B; 23C; 532A and 533 of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.
5. In Articles 261(c); 267 and 279(a) of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.
6. In Articles 334 and 286 of the Criminal Code, Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

Having seen that in the Court's minutes dated 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2019, the Court read out the Articles at law and all of the accused declared that they had no objection that their case be heard and dealt with summarily before this Court.

**Considered:**

The Court, with regards to the second (2<sup>nd</sup>), third (3<sup>rd</sup>) and fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) charge, in relation to Article 83A(1)(a)(b), of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, finds that these charges do not result, as not enough evidence has been produced in this regard. Therefore, the Court is acquitting all the accused from these charges.

**Decide:**

**The Court after having seen, Articles 48A, 83A(1)(a)(b)(2), 49, 50, 17, 31, 23, 23B, 23C, 532A, 533, 284, 285, 261(c), 267, 279(a), 334, 286 of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta;**

Finds all the accused guilty of the first (1<sup>st</sup>), and fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) charges;

Finds the accused Stancho Georgiev, Georgie Nedkov Petkov and Nacho Georgiev guilty of the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) charge;

Finds Stoilka Todorova guilty of the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) and eight (8<sup>th</sup>) charges brought against her;

Finds Tanya Ilieva guilty also of the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) charge brought against her;

Condemns all the accused to a period of three (3) years imprisonment, of which the period that the accused spent in preventive arrest is to be deducted from this amount.

**Dr. Caroline Farrugia Frendo LL.D.**

**Magistrate**

**Nadia Ciappara**

**Deputy Registrar**