

COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA) AS A COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE

MAGISTRATE DR ELAINE MERCIECA LL.D

THE POLICE (Inspector Mark Anthony Mercieca)

Vs

CAROLIE EVA METZ

Case No: 159/21

Today, 1st February 2022

The Court,

Having seen the charges brought against Carolie Eva Metz, 25 years daughter of Daniel and Beatrice nee' Brouillard, born in Saint-Martin D'Heres on the 25th December 1995, residing at Apartment 6, Blake Frairs, Star Complex Triq San Anton Manuel Caruana, Naxxar and holder of French identity Card no. 190438154822:

Accused for having on these Islands, on the 4th September 2021 and in the previous weeks:

1) Imported, or caused to be imported, or took any steps preparatory to import any dangerous drug (cannabis grass) into Malta against the provisions of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, Chapter 101 of the Laws of Malta.

2) Had in her possession (otherwise than in the course of transit through Malta of the territorial waters thereof) the whole or any portion of the plant cannabis, in terms of Section 8(d) of Chapter 101 of the Laws of Malta.

Having seen the Attorney General's order dated 8th October 2021 in terms of article 22(2) of Chapter 101 of the Laws of Malta for these proceedings to be heard summarily by this Court as a Court of Criminal Judicature;

Having seen that the accused admitted to the charges brought against her and that she reconfirmed her guilty plea after being given sufficient time to reconsider;

Having seen the acts and documents of the case;

Having seen the declaration made by the Prosecuting officer during the sitting, of 6th December 2021, whereby he declared that from the investigation it transpires that the amount of illegal substance imported, albeit not a small amount, was intended solely for the accused's personal use.

Having heard submissions with regards to the penalty which should be meted out;

Considered

The accused has admitted to the charges brought against her and thus these have been sufficiently proven;

With reference to the penalty to be meted out, the Court, is taking into consideration the nature of the offence for which the accused is pleading guilty, the nature and amount of substance merits of this case; the accused's guilty plea at the earliest stage possible, the clean criminal record and the declaration made by the Prosecuting Officer that the substance involved was intended for the accused's personal use.

Decide

For the above-mentioned reasons, this Court, after having seen articles 7, 8(a), 8(d), 15A, 22(1)(a) and 22(2)(b)(ii) of Chapter 101 of the Laws of Malta, upon her admission, finds the accused, Carolie Eva Metz, guilty of the charges proffered against her and condemns her to five months imprisonment, which by virtue of article 28A of the Criminal Code, such sentence shall not take effect unless within the period of one year from today, the offender commits another offence punishable by imprisonment. The accused is also being condemned to the payment of a fine (multa) of five hundred Euros to be paid within the period of six months from today.

The Court is also hereby ordering the destruction of illegal substance exhibited in these proceedings, once this judgement becomes final and definitive, which destruction should be done under the supervision of the Registrar, who shall also draw up a process verbal documenting the destruction procedure. The said process verbal shall be inserted in the records of these proceedings by not later than fifteen days from the said destruction.

Dr Elaine Mercieca Magistrate

Christine Farrugia Deputy Registrar