



MALTA

**IN THE COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA)
AS COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE**

**MAGISTRATE
DR. CHARMAINE GALEA**

Today the 13th March 2024

**The Police
(Inspector John Leigh Howard)**

vs

**Raphael Henri Pradeleix
(Holder of French ID with number – 1410 4520 2761)**

The Court,

Having seen that the defendant **Raphael Henri Pradeleix** was charged with having on the 11th of March, 2024 and/or in the previous days in the Maltese islands;

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;

The court was requested that in case of guilt, apart from inflicting the punishment as prescribed by law, to order also the confiscation of all objects exhibited.

The Court was also requested to apply Section 533(1) of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta, with regards to the expenses incurred by the Court appointed Experts.

Having seen that the acts of the proceedings;

Having seen the order of the Attorney General for the accused to be charged and tried by the Court of Magistrates (Malta) as a Court of Criminal Judicature;

Having heard the defendant plead guilty to the charge brought against him, which guilty plea was confirmed after the Court explained to him the punishment for the charge brought against him and gave him time to reconsider such plea;

Having heard the submissions regarding the penalty to be meted out.

Having considered:

The defendant admitted the charge brought against him and hence the Court is of the opinion that the same charge have been sufficiently proven;

Regarding the penalty to be meted out, the Court took into consideration the nature of the offence and the defendant's clean conviction sheet and also that there is agreement between the Prosecution and the defence that the Court may, at its discretion, impose a fine (multa) as punishment.

DECIDE

Wherefore the Court, after having seen article 7 and article 22 (2) (b) of Chapter 101 of the Laws of Malta, on his admission finds defendant **Raphael Henri Pradeleix** guilty of the charge brought against him and condemns him to the payment of a fine (multa) of eight hundred euro (€800).

In terms of article 533 of the Criminal Code, the Court is also condemning **Raphael Henri Pradeleix** to pay all the costs with regards to the expenses of appointed experts in the acts of the inquiry related to this incident. The costs are to be paid within two (2) months from when he is notified by the Registrar of the Criminal Courts and Tribunals of the same expenses.

The Court is also confiscating all the dangerous drugs (cannabis grass) seized by the Police and formally exhibited in the acts of this case, and orders its destruction once this judgement becomes final and definitive. This procedure is to be carried out under the supervision of the Registrar, who shall draw up a *proces-verbal* documenting the destruction procedure. The said *proces-verbal* shall be inserted in the records of these proceedings not later than fifteen days from the said destruction.

Dr. Charmaine Galea
Magistrate

Antonella Cassar
Deputy Registrar