

COURT OF MAGISTRATES (GOZO) AS COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE

MAGISTRATE DR SIMONE GRECH B.A., LL.D., MAG. JUR. (EUR LAW)

Case number 32/2025 (SG)

The Police (Police Inspector Keith Xerri)

versus

Lazo Bojinovic

Today, the 16th May 2025

The Court;

Having seen the charges against Lazo Bojinovic, of 21 years, son of Miroslav & Danica nee' Culum, residing at 'Orchidea Apts., FL 2, Triq Mons. Mikiel F. Buttigieg, Fontana, Gozo, holder of Serbian Passport number 018283452, born in Serbia, on the 8th August 2003 charged for having on the 14th of May 2025, between the time of 22:30 & 23:30hrs at night, while in Triq ir-Rabat, Marsalforn, Zebbug, Gozo or in other places in the island of Gozo:

- 1. had in his possession the psychotropic and restricted drug (ecstasy) without a special authorisation in writing by the superintendent of Public Health, in breach of the provisions of the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance Chap 31 laws of Malta and the Drugs (Control) Regulations, Legal Notice 22 of 1985 as amended
- 2. had in his possession the drugs (cocaine) specified in the First Schedule of the Dangerous Drug Ordinance, Chapter101 of the Laws of Malta, when he was not in possession of an import or an export authorisation issued by the Chief Government Medical Officer in pursuance of the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 6 of the Ordinance, and when he was not licensed or otherwise authorised to manufacture or supply the mentioned drugs, and was not otherwise licensed by the

President of Malta or authorised by the Internal Control of Dangerous Drugs Regulations (G.N.292/1939) to be in possession of the mentioned drugs, and failed to prove that the mentioned drugs was supplied to him for his personal use, according to a medical prescription as provided in the said regulations, and this in breach of the 1939 Regulations, of the Internal Control of Dangerous Drugs (G.N.292/1939) as subsequently amended by the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance Chapter 101 of the Laws of Malta

The Court is humbly requested to order the confiscation of all exhibits in case of guilt, in addition to imposing the punishment established by law.

In the event of guilt the Court is also being requested to order the accused to pay the costs relating to the appointment of experts, in accordance with article 533 (1) of Cap. 9 of the Laws of Malta.

Having seen the records of the case, including the Order of the Attorney General in terms of subarticle (2) of Article 120A of Chapter 31 of the Laws of Malta and subarticle (2) of Article 22 of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Chapter 101 of the Laws of Malta) for the accused to be charged before the Court of Magistrates (Gozo) as a Court of Criminal Judicature to answer to the charges against him for violation of the provisions of the said Ordinance;

Having seen that during the sitting held today, the accused pleaded guilty to the charges brought against him, which plea he confirmed after the Court explained to him the consequences thereof and gave him sufficient time to reconsider his plea and to retract it;

Having heard the submissions of the Prosecution and the defence in respect of the punishment to be meted out;

Having seen all the acts of this case;

Considers that:

In view of the guilty plea filed by the accused, as duly assisted by his Lawyer, the Court cannot but find him guilty of the charges brought against him.

For the purpose of the punishment to be inflicted, the Court took into account that the accused registered his guilty plea during the first sitting held. The Court took note of the serious nature of the offences of which he is being found guilty and the circumstances of the case.

CONCLUSION

For these reasons, the Court after having seen the relevant Articles of Chapter 31 of the Laws of Malta and the Drugs

(Control) Regulations, Legal Notice 22 of 1985 as amended, and the relevant Articles of the 1939 Regulations of Internal Control of Dangerous Drugs (G.N. 292/1939) as subsequently amended by the Dangerous Drugs ordinance Chapter 101 of the Laws of Malta, the First Schedule of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance Chapter 101 of the Laws of Malta; Articles 120A(1)(a) of Chapter 31 of the Laws of Malta, Article 120A(2)(b)(ii) of Chapter 31 of the Laws of Malta, Article 40A of Chapter 31 of the Laws of Malta, Article 120 of Chapter 31 of the Laws of Malta, Fourth and Sixth Sections and Articles 22 (1)(a), 22(2)(b)(i), 22(2)(b)(ii) of Chapter 101 of the Laws of Malta; Regulation 9 of Subsidiary Legislation 101.02, Regulation 8 of GN 292/1939 and Regulation 3(1) of Legal Notice 22 of 1985, Articles 120A(1)(a), 120A(2)(b)(i), 120A(2)(b)(ii) and Section A of the Third Schedule of Chapter 31 of the Laws of Malta upon his guilty plea, finds the accused guilty of all the charges brought against him and condemns him to a term of imprisonment of twelve months which by application of Article 28A of the Criminal Code is being suspended for a period of two years from today and condemns him also to a fine (multa) of five hundred euros (€500).

The Court explained to the person sentenced in clear and simple terms the legal consequences of this judgement should he commit any other offence punishable by imprisonment within the operative period of the suspended sentence.

Finally, the Court orders the destruction of all the objects exhibited, consisting of dangerous drugs or objects relating to drug use, once this judgement becomes final and definitive, which destruction shall be carried out by the Registrar, Criminal Courts and Tribunals, 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.

Since no experts were appointed, the Court shall not order that any expenses be paid by the person sentenced in terms of Article 533 of Chapter 9 of the Laws of Malta.

(sgd) Dr Simone Grech Magistrate (sgd) John Vella D/Registrar

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For the Registrar