

The International Comparative Legal Guide to:

Environment Law 2009

A practical insight to cross-border Environment Law



Published by Global Legal Group, in association with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP,
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1 Environmental Policy and its Enforcement

1.1 What is the basis of environmental policy in Greece and which agencies/bodies administer and enforce environmental law?

Environmental policy in Greece has long been based on the internationally accepted principles of preventive and precautionary action, sustainable development, common responsibility and the polluter pays principle. Such policy has been shaped in accordance with the EU targets and the internationally set goals for a clean environment. Green Economy is expected to “re-power” the financial institutions locally, regionally and internationally.

Environmental protection has been typified as a constitutional right since 2001. The Constitution (art. 24), declares the state duty to protect and preserve the environment along with the substantive right enjoyed by the individual in relation to it. Such right lies between the economic and social rights on one hand and the “due rights”, i.e. the civil and political rights, on the other. State is not only expected to adopt preventive and precautionary measures but also to undertake duties such as, access to information, participation of the individuals in the decision making and access to justice. Judicial proceedings are instituted even against the State and state authorities or even third party actors, including legal entities (direct effect).

The Ministry for the Environment, the Physical Planning and the Public Works steer and monitor any environmental initiative. Their work is supported by consultation agencies such as, the Regulatory Authority for Energy, Environmental Inspectors and special funds. Local authorities are responsible for the law enforcement in the context of decentralised state power.

The Ministry of Development provide economic incentives for investments in the section of Green Investments.

1.2 What approach do such agencies/bodies take to the enforcement of environmental law?

Domestic environmental policy package entails all instruments of law enforcement, meaning a “command and control” approach, economic instruments and dissemination of information tools.

The former is clearly illustrated in performance requirements and performance control. Thus, defined environmental objectives are to be accomplished on a given timetable, such as elimination of the atmospheric emissions causing environmental stress.

Financial incentives schemes launched by both the Ministry for the Environment and the Ministry of Development seek to steer behaviour towards a green economy. Pure subsidies are given to

support innovation, investment and best practices or techniques.

Information based approach is set out to promote public awareness and therefore, public participation in nature preservation.

1.3 To what extent are public authorities required to provide environment-related information to interested persons (including members of the public)?

The information-based approach is reflected in the domestic legislation in line with EC Directive on Access to Environmental Information (2003/4/EC) and the international standards set out in the 1998 Aarhus Convention. Such provisions form part of the general principle of transparency in public administration governance.

Authorities must disclose information in due time to any applicant, natural or legal entity which is related to research results, monitoring of ecosystems and any part of the decision making procedure. Remedies are provided against the State for no reasoned or not adequately reasoned rejection of the application.

Commercial secrecy, internal documents, intellectual property and personal data are protected. Information connected to international public affairs and national safety is restricted to the authorities.

At the same time, authorities promote dissemination of information by individuals towards either the State or other citizens; ecolabelling of products or vehicles for example is part of the green strategy for quantitative limitation of polluting emissions. Ecolabel may be used for proof of compliance to technical specification in case of green public procurement.

2 Environmental Permits

2.1 When is an environmental permit required, and may environmental permits be transferred from one person to another?

Environmental permits reflect the “command and control” approach in the enforcement of the environmental legislation. Activities and projects that are likely to have a significantly adverse effect on the environment are authorised only upon assessment of their impact on humans and on nature. Such authorisation is given in the form of an environmental permit.

The permit is given to the applicant, who may be either an individual or a state agent. It serves as a prerequisite for any other license that is necessary, the project to be performed.

The process entails the involvement of a number of State authorities, which are competent to review the submitted study for

environmental issues and decide upon the environmental impact. Starting from the most hazardous projects, impact control is decreasingly deregulated. The Ministry for the Environment is primarily responsible in collaboration with the local authorities.

Given that the environmental permit is given *ad rem*, it may be transferred to a new project owner.

2.2 What rights are there to appeal against the decision of an environmental regulator not to grant an environmental permit or in respect of the conditions contained in an environmental permit?

Applicants for environmental permits are provided with those remedies against the public administration decisions on the permit, as in any other case of administration legislative act. Individual citizens and state agents may file in petition for the revocation of the act. Authorities shall have to decide afresh on the matter based on the data having been submitted in the first place.

The environmental impact assessment consists of two steps. Prior to the Permit, the applicant must obtain a positive Preliminary Environmental Impact Assessment. Those decisions are interrelated and therefore should the preliminary approval be revoked, the permit shall consequentially follow.

2.3 Is it necessary to conduct environmental audits or environmental impact assessments for particularly polluting industries or other installations/projects?

Particular projects and activities are expressly recognised as most likely to have an adverse ecological effect and are therefore more closely monitored. Those activities are categorised in groups such as heavy industry, energy generation, mining, infrastructure, agriculture, foodstuff and tourism.

The first group enlists projects such as crude-oil refineries, thermal power stations of over 300 megawatts, radioactive waste disposal and storage installations and integrated chemical installations or laying motorways, air- and seaports. Telecommunications infrastructure is subject to impact assessment on the human and natural environment.

The energy industry, including that produced from renewable energy sources, waste and hydroelectric power is closely monitored. Green energy infrastructure is to respect the ecosystems where they are hosted. Natural gas pipelines are also audited in their construction.

2.4 What enforcement powers do environmental regulators have in connection with the violation of permits?

Any authority responsible to issue permits (see question 2.1 above) monitors compliance to the environmental terms set forth in the permit. The Environmental Quality Inspection Authority performs controls on the site of a project. An environmental permit may be revoked in case of non compliance to the obligations undertaken by the project owner. The Ministry for the Environment may pose fines in case of terms infringe.

3 Waste

3.1 How is waste defined and do certain categories of waste involve additional duties or controls?

Defining “waste” has been a matter of debate in the Community environmental regulation history. Domestic law for the environment has considered the evolution of the meaning and

places under its scope any object or pollutant unit (substance, sound, radiation or any other form of energy) in any possible form that the holder wishes to discard, must or is obliged to.

Hazardous wastes are expected to be managed under strict conditions for the protection of human and natural environment. Hazardous wastes are *grosso modo* the non municipal wastes. Those enlist pollution units containing hazardous substances, organic or non organic chemical disposals, oil refinery waste, off-products of thermal procedures.

Radioactive waste is used as prescribed by the National Centre of Scientific Research “Demokritos”.

3.2 To what extent is a producer of waste allowed to store and/or dispose of it on the site where it was produced?

Waste management, in all is subject to permits related to its collection, transit, disposal, temporary storage and recovery.

Authorisations required include an environmental permit (see questions 2.1 and 2.2 above) along with a license of the activity performance. Public administration inspects the site, as well as the necessary infrastructure to safeguard public health.

Waste producer may dispose off or temporarily store waste on the site where it was produced on condition that it is in solid form. Any pollution unit in gaseous or liquid form is outside the ambit of the authorised activity.

Enterprises, though, enjoy special rights with regard to their own dischargeable units. Command and control requirements set forth their obligation to comply with the already existing National Waste Disposal Planning and the environmental permit acquired in the first place, their main business activity to be performed. No other formalities are required.

3.3 Do producers of waste retain any residual liability in respect of the waste where they have transferred it to another person for disposal/treatment off-site (e.g. if the transferee/ultimate disposer goes bankrupt/disappears)?

Municipal waste management is part of the State competence. Waste producers may be held liable either in case of a private shipment agreement or in the case of hazardous wastes disposal.

Under the EC Regulation 259/1993 (EEC) producers take their waste back in that case, where the shipment is not completed as consigned. Such regulation concerns inter or intra State transit.

With regard to disposal of hazardous wastes, the producer undertakes various responsibilities that might turn into residual liability in case of environmental damage. One is expected to keep registry of dispatched waste and ensure safe packaging.

3.4 To what extent do waste producers have obligations regarding the take-back and recovery of their waste?

Under domestic legislation, there is no general obligation for recovery imposed on waste producers. There are tax schemes, however, which reflect the “polluter pays principle”. Those strongly encourage the alternative waste management, meaning recycling rather than disposing.

The recycling and re-use of packaging waste has been specifically regulated and promoted by measures taken by the State. There are quantitative targets set which are illustrated as follows:

By December 31st, 2001:

- 60% packaging waste will be used for energy generation;

- 55% - 80% packaging waste;
- 60% glass and 60% paper and carton;
- 50% metallic waste;
- 22.5% plastic; and
- 15% wood,

all measured in weight, will be being recovered.

Other categories of waste are strongly encouraged to be recovered. Waste producers, i.e. consumers would be expected to return their waste to their manufacturer or to discard them in the framework of an established collection system of waste recovery. Vehicles, electric and electronic appliances and batteries are regulated accordingly.

4 Liabilities

4.1 What types of liabilities can arise where there is a breach of environmental laws and/or permits, and what defences are typically available?

Although, the Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) has not been yet fully transposed in national law, Greece has already adopted rules of criminal and civil liability.

Environmental stress is prosecuted with two to three years of imprisonment plus fines. The same rule applies in those cases, where projects and business activities are carried out without permit or in breach of the terms of such permit. Should the performance of an activity pose risk of human loss or personal injury or should the incident of loss or injury occur, the penalty is more severe.

At the same time, nature degradation is considered a tort giving grounds for remedies. Civil liability is also established in the individual right to personality (art. 57 Civil Code). Public administration may pose penalties from 50 to 2,000,000 Euro.

Special provisions apply in cases such as, sea pollution and soil contamination due to landfills.

4.2 Can an operator be liable for environmental damage notwithstanding that the polluting activity is operated within permit limits?

Environmental permits set the framework of a business activity performance, the ecosystem and nature not to be endangered. It is quite uncommon for fines and penalties to be imposed so long as a project owner complies to the general terms of the permit. Should, however, the performance of certain activities have adverse effects on human and the natural environment, new measures shall be imposed by the State. Nevertheless, liability could be justified by the objective liability doctrine for tort.

In other cases, where environmental terms are disregarded, performance may be sustained or banned. A license may then be withdrawn and annulled.

4.3 Can directors and officers of corporations attract personal liabilities for environmental wrongdoing, and to what extent may they get insurance or rely on other indemnity protection in respect of such liabilities?

Corporations are deemed as important actors in the environmental agenda. They play their role either as threat to the environment either as prescribers of norms or finally as law implementators. Companies' board and officers are in general hidden behind the corporate veil and only in certain occasions can they attract penal liability for their decision making.

Breach of environmental law is one of these cases where directors of any company type are held personally liable for any adverse effect on the environment given the fact that they are expected by law to show diligence and care that any business activity is carried out in line with environmental law.

4.4 What are the different implications from an environmental liability perspective of a share sale on the one hand and an asset purchase on the other?

Legal entities in Greece may be held liable for civil matters or pay exemplary damages. Shareholders themselves cannot be held responsible for any environmental wrongdoing. Holding stock in a company limited by shares does not lead to implications other than loss of profit in the face of fines and compensations that will have to be paid. Therefore, buying shares in a company, where no strict compliance is met, can only result in smaller dividends than those in any other case. Lenient policies on environmental issues, such as low environmental standards used in the production process may mobilise shame against the company. That would create low demand and therefore low profit for the shareholder.

Purchasing an asset may only turn problematic, when its specifications are not in line with legal prerequisites. There is no residual liability for the purchaser. Nevertheless, they will have to gain an environmental permit to use such asset.

4.5 To what extent may lenders be liable for environmental wrongdoing and/or remediation costs?

The environmental economy has not yet so far developed as to pose liability to financial institutions for lending funds to corporations that are not environmental sensitive. Green products have been built, RES to be promoted or energy efficiency to be achieved but no legal standards have been posed, so that the borrower is strictly compliant to environmental laws. It is only in the framework of corporate responsibility that the banking sector may face some cost, i.e. reputation risk.

5 Contaminated Land

5.1 What is the approach to liability for contamination (including historic contamination) of soil or groundwater?

Contamination justifies civil remedies for soil and groundwater contamination.

In 2004 Greece was condemned by the ECJ to take measures for the effective transposition of the EC Directives that provided for sound urban waste-water treatment, groundwater protection and safe hazardous waste management.

Since then, jurisprudence has evolved establishing civil liability of the State for inadequate protection measures. The right to personality of each individual raises civil liability.

Individuals are also liable on the same grounds. Additional protection is provided under property rights law in those cases where soil quality degradation incurs from activities performed by neighbouring land owners. Extended use of pesticides for example may justify injunction measures, compensation and recovery of rights.

5.2 How is liability allocated where more than one person is responsible for the contamination?

Liability scheme is governed by the general provisions established

in the Greek Civil Code. Courts order experts' opinions and reports that can quantify contamination and allocate responsibility pursuant to each individual's activity. In cases, where damage cannot be attributed to separate actors, liability is joint and several.

5.3 If a programme of environmental remediation is 'agreed' with an environmental regulator can the regulator come back and require additional works or can a third party challenge the agreement?

Usually, contaminated land is remedied by that project owner who has caused the damage, e.g. the landfill management license-holder. Public authorities undertake a region cleanup when the project owner is difficult to be identified or found. Public works and services may be conferred under laws for public procurement.

Procurement agreements are governed by public administration provisions and civil law. The State is considered a dominant contracting party and therefore the terms of the agreement may be unilaterally modified. The authorities amend the contract so long as basic principles, i.e. *bona fidae* administration and property rights are respected.

Third parties actors may challenge the agreement on condition that the content infringes upon their pre-existing rights or in case the procurement procedure has not taken place in a due manner.

5.4 Does a person have a private right of action to seek contribution from a previous owner or occupier of contaminated land when that owner caused, in whole or in part, contamination; and to what extent is it possible for a polluter to transfer the risk of contaminated land liability to a purchaser?

A purchaser may seek remedies in case of contaminated land conveyance only in that case, where the purchaser was not aware of the damage that had already occurred and the purchaser acted in good faith. In cases of exemplar damages, the vendor cannot be held liable for pollutant releases made by the previous owner (that would be objective liability). It is the perpetrator who is responsible in any case. Damage may be attributed to vendors acting in bad faith or in cases where they continue to perform activities of environmental cause. Should the quantification of damage made by each actor be impossible, the vendor and the seller might be jointly held accountable.

5.5 Does the government have authority to obtain from a polluter, monetary damages for aesthetic harms to public assets, e.g., rivers?

The aesthetic niveau is part of the environmental quality and therefore ecosystem damage raises liability under the general provisions. The same idea lies behind various legislative acts as for example permission granted to the individuals for use of shores under the understanding that their condition shall remain intact; it is common place that seas and shores are mainly used for aesthetic and recreational use. Such goods are protected not only for reasons of biodiversity protection but also for their aesthetic importance to the public.

6 Powers of Regulators

6.1 What powers do environmental regulators have to require production of documents, take samples, conduct site inspections, interview employees, etc.?

The Ministry for the Environment is supported by various consultation bodies and other agencies to perform their duties. One of those is the Environmental Quality Inspection Agency which perform on site controls. The authority is decentralised and consists of many local subgroups to perform audit of compliance to the environmental permits. Prefectural and municipal representatives participate in the audits. Project owners are obliged to disclose any information requested.

7 Reporting / Disclosure Obligations

7.1 If pollution is found on a site, or discovered to be migrating off-site, must it be disclosed to an environmental regulator or potentially affected third parties?

Certain obligations will have to be fulfilled under the Environmental Liability Directive which will soon have to be enforced. A Member State, which identifies transboundary damage may report the issue to the Commission and any other Member State concerned; it may make recommendations for the adoption of preventive or remedial measures and it may seek, in accordance with this Directive, to recover the costs it has incurred in relation to the adoption of preventive or remedial measures.

The bill contains certain obligations of individuals involved to inform competent authorities either when pollution is found on a site, or when there is a danger of potential environmental damage.

7.2 When and under what circumstances does a person have an affirmative obligation to investigate land for contamination?

Those applying for an environmental permit must perform prior inspection of the project - site and compile a report of the data collected. Those reports are submitted to the Ministry for the Environment and must therefore fulfil certain criteria. Biodiversity and environmental quality form part of the requested data.

7.3 To what extent is it necessary to disclose environmental problems, e.g. by a seller to a prospective purchaser in the context of merger and/or takeover transactions?

Typically, environmental information is disclosed depending on the materiality threshold set out by the object of the agreement or by the contracting parties. Data is material for certain projects such as industrial plants, power generation units or infrastructure (see question 2.3). Facts are formed as representations and/or warranties at the negotiation stage. Due diligence may or may not be carried out depending on the type of warranties given (flat or unqualified representation). Breach of such duty may provoke rescission lawsuits or damages sounding in contract and even tort, if fraud is present.

8 General

- 8.1 Is it possible to use an environmental indemnity to limit exposure for actual or potential environment-related liabilities, and does making a payment to another person under an indemnity in respect of a matter (e.g. remediation) discharge the indemnifier's potential liability for that matter?**

Environmental liability consists of the following three elements: penal charges; responsibility to the state; and civil accountability. The project owner remains accountable to the State and to third parties in any case. Third parties may undertake the obligation to pay damages to beneficiaries and set the owner free. This is very often the case when the project is conveyed to a buyer who wishes to mitigate liability risk or liability obligations that have been already imposed.

- 8.2 Is it possible to shelter environmental liabilities off balance sheet, and can a company be dissolved in order to escape environmental liabilities?**

There seem not to be ways for sheltering off any environmental liability. A parent company may convey to a subsidiary that asset which causes damage, corporate groups, however, form consolidated financial statements and therefore fines and penalties cannot be avoided to be paid. A company that is dissolved cannot escape fines and penalties, since the liquidation process may not come to an end unless all debts of the company are paid out.

- 8.3 Can a person who holds shares in a company be held liable for breaches of environmental law and/or pollution caused by the company, and can a parent company be sued in its national court for pollution caused by a foreign subsidiary/affiliate?**

Shareholders cannot be held personally liable for any environmental wrongdoing made by the company. Holding companies, though, might undergo scrutiny for such actions pursuant to various pieces of legislation, e.g. energy sector legislation. Parent companies do not pay damages as if they were the perpetrators but any transaction made by the group is monitored, so that duties and obligations are not skipped through group structuring tools.

Typically, parent companies are not held accountable for pollution caused by members of the group which reside in other countries. Lifting the corporate veil has been scarcely accepted by national courts in Europe and that would mainly lie on the grounds of abuse of their separate personality "doctrine" within members of the same corporate group.

- 8.4 Are there any laws to protect "whistle-blowers" who report environmental violations/matters?**

There is no concrete provisions for the protection of whistle blowers, as those contained in the Water Pollution Control Act or the Toxic Substances Control Act in the US. Employees who decide to disclose inside information of wrongdoing are treated according to the company policy on the matter. A framework of rules, however, result in the protection of whistle-blowers, i.e., corporate governance rules, data protection legislation and labour laws. Policies may pose certain procedures for blowing the whistle which have to be followed for the investigation to be effectively run and

the whistle blower to remain anonymous.

- 8.5 Are group or "class" actions available for pursuing environmental claims, and are penal or exemplary damages available?**

Class actions may be brought before the court in cases of environmental claims. Since the right to a clean environment has been expressly recognised as a constitutional right and given that such rule has direct effect, any citizen can pursue their right and therefore can be member of a class action against environmental harm. Case study has shown, however, that courts order proof of concrete damage by the plaintiffs, e.g. land contamination by the residents of the area where soil is polluted.

In any case, the Code of Civil Procedure gives claimants the ability to form a group and file in a common action when common damage occurs.

For penal and exemplary damages see question 4.1.

9 Emissions Trading and Climate Change

- 9.1 What emissions trading schemes are in operation in Greece and how is the emissions trading market developing there?**

Greece has countersigned UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol and has ratified its participation in the Greek Parliament. At the same time EC entered into the agreements as a separate legal entity and has actually set out a stronger percentage of limitation of the CO2 emissions than that of the UN. Domestic legislation is in line with both the regional and the international legal framework; tradable emissions allowances correspond to 341,547,710 tonnes CO2 for the years 2008-2012. Those are allocated to applicants that perform businesses in the Energy Sector and the Metal Industry. Non-organic substances are also strictly regulated. A system based on CER and ERU tools has not been adopted yet.

April 2008, Greece had been found not to be in compliance with the national system requirements for the phase B of the agreement. The country took more effective measures to meet its obligations and November 2008 any restriction against it, was waived.

10 Asbestos

- 10.1 Is Greece likely to follow the experience of the US in terms of asbestos litigation?**

The recent case in Libby - Montana showed that the mine, which was exploited in the area, had been contaminated with asbestos, whereas the locals were not informed about the danger. Greece has enacted domestic legislation against exposure to asbestos and asbestos contamination which aims to protect workers and employees in their working environment from carcinogenic materials and other hazardous substances. Although the country has not countersigned the ILO Geneva Convention, Greece has transposed all EC legislative acts in the sector. Employers are expected to take efficient measures against exposure to asbestos fibre and dust, i.e. minimise exposure to the least possible, acquire necessary equipment and show due care for asbestos waste disposal. Any breach of obligations is a criminal offence and results in exemplar penalties.

10.2 What are the duties of owners/occupiers of premises in relation to asbestos on site?

The owner of a site, where asbestos is found is expected keep the area clear of the hazardous substances. They dispose of the substance either by way of its extraction or destruction of the site (incl. dismantling ships and infrastructure). The maximum quantity of the substance allowed is 0.010 fibre per cm³. The owner receives a certification of compliance to the aforesaid quantities.

11 Environmental Insurance Liabilities

11.1 What types of environmental insurance are available in the market, and how big a role does environmental risks insurance play in Greece?

The environmental insurance market in Greece was not particularly developed until recently when the major insurance firms commenced providing such coverage in the market, despite the fact that the specific type of insurance is actually laid down in the Private Insurance Law.

Currently, the scope of cover offered under the relevant policies includes clean-up costs, remediation costs as well as cover for civil liability against third parties. It is worth noticing that apart from environmental liabilities arising out of a sudden and accidental event cover is also provided for liabilities resulting from gradual pollution.

Directive 2004/35/EC on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage has not been transposed yet. However, the relevant bill, which is under process, establishes environmental insurance as a type of compulsory insurance thus taking a more stringent approach in comparison to the abovementioned directive. Legislation currently in place provides sporadically for a compulsory coverage, such as the case of a landfill owner.

11.2 What is the environmental insurance claims experience in Greece?

Due to the fact that environmental insurance is a product newly launched in the Greek market and the current lenient regime on pollution (polluters were most likely to be subject to administrative fines instead of a duty to indemnify), the amount of the claims which have been raised under the relevant policies appears to be very low. However, the above situation is anticipated to change following the implementation of the Directive 2004/35/CE into Greek law, which is based on the principle "the polluter pays".

12 Updates

12.1 Please provide, in no more than 300 words, a summary of any new cases, trends and developments in Environment Law in Greece.

Greece is to face a dual challenge: environmental protection and economic development.

Energy Industry provides a chance for sustainable development. Renewable energy sources, incl. waste have been used as a way to harmonise growth and clean environment. Their use is expected to create new investment opportunities and will contribute to the elimination of greenhouse gas emissions. The country shares the EU objective to augment the proportion of renewable energies in the energy mix by 20% by 2020. PV units and wind farms are promoted and supported by the state and involve a wide series of environmental issues to be addressed both by court and the administration, such as spatial planning, biodiversity and preservation of cultural heritage. Project owners finance their initiatives by means of private and public funds in line with domestic and European legislation.

A new oil - well was opened 16th March 2009 in Kavala and shall produce 8,000 - 10,000 barrels per day. Climate change issues and pollution from seabed activities shall arise along with private - public sector cooperation and activities.

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Born in New York in 1965 he has completed his studies in Greece and has attended special courses abroad. His main expertise relates to the energy industry and has supported the clients on banking, corporate, project finance, regulatory issues. He has been involved in the liberalisation of the electricity and gas market of Greece and acts for regulatory bodies as well as for major international energy companies investing in Greece. He has been involved also in the gas industry and acts for the State owned gas company in relation to the privatisation of low pressure distribution systems. Major projects on which he is involved relate to project finance of renewable projects (wind and pvs), as well as thermal power plants. Another important element of his practice are the public sector projects for which he acted for both the Greek State and the private sector (privatisation of State owned companies, concession agreements, public private partnerships relating to parking stations, Olympic Games premises, toll roads, etc). He is a founding member of the Institute of Energy of South East Europe (IENE), of the American Bar Association and a co-chair of SEE Legal Group.

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In April 2006 two long-established and renowned Greek Law Firms, Kyriakides-Georgopoulos Law Firm (established in 1933) and Daniolos Issaias & Partners Law Firm (Established in 1923) decided to merge and form Greece's largest multidisciplinary law firm in order to cover the needs of their respective clients in all fields practice.

Our Energy Practice has a proven track record in the following areas:

Upstream & Downstream Gas and Petroleum Projects, Electricity Generation - Transmission - Trading and Supply, Licensing regime of Energy Projects (renewable, etc) Project Finance and M&A of Energy related projects, Environmental issues and Regulations applicable to the industry sector.

KG-DI has offices in Athens, Piraeus and Thessaloniki through which the firm's 95 lawyers, 18 of whom are partners, offer their legal services and expertise to high profile Greek and international clients.

Our objective and commitment is to provide high quality legal services and to meet the evolving demands of legal practice, endeavouring to be effective, reliable and consistent. The successful handling of our clients' affairs is attributed to our professionalism, efficiency and expertise, qualities that our firm constantly demonstrates.

The firm's attorneys in addition to their specialisation in various fields of law, are fluent in the English language as well as considerable number of other languages including French, German, Italian, Spanish and Russian.