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Small claims

Greece

Article 25 1 (a) Competent courts

The competent courts are the territorially competent district civil courts of the country.

Article 25 1 (b) Means of communication

The action is brought by lodging a written application to the registry of the district civil court in person. The application may also be made by email or via a digital platform for the submission of documentation where such means are available.

Article 25 1 (c) Authorities or organisations providing practical assistance

No such authority has been established.

Article 25 1 (d) Means of electronic service and communication and methods for expressing consent for thereof

There is no possibility of electronic service or communication by electronic means.

Article 25 1 (e) Persons or professions, obliged to accept service of documents or other written communications by electronic means

Those who engage in electronic commerce in Greece, i.e. persons offering services and effecting sales via the Internet, have a legal obligation to accept communications using electronic means, pursuant to Article 8(1) of Presidential Decree No 131/2003 (harmonisation of Greek law with Directive 2000/31 /EC), in cases involving disputes arising from contracts concluded between the parties by use of a simple electronic signature, i.e. through simple electronic mail and messages exchanged.

Article 25 1 (f) Court fees and the methods of payment

The costs are calculated on the basis of costs incurred by the winning party in the particular court case.

Court fees to be paid by the claimant include: a) the lawyer's fees, provided that the relevant proceedings were signed off by a Greek lawyer, amounting to EUR 32, and (b) the court stamp duty paid for the consideration of each court case, amounting to approximately 1.14 % of the total amount requested (principal and interest). No court stamp duty is to be paid for claims up to the amount of EUR 200.

Where the defendant assigns the case to a lawyer (who must sign the completed form C), he or she must pay an advance lawyer's invoice fee of EUR 32. Exceptionally, an additional advance lawyer's invoice fee of EUR 32 is required where the lawyer is called to an oral hearing.

Court stamp duty must be paid to the State budget, while lawyers' fees must be paid to the Bar Associations, which collects and subsequently pays the lawyer's invoice by filing a corresponding document.

Article 25 1 (g) Appeal procedure and courts competent for an appeal

Judgments handed down under the small claims procedure are not appealable. However, recourse is available in the form of an application to be submitted to the court that issued the decision, and an appeal for annulment to the Supreme Court.

Article 25 1 (h) Review of the judgment procedure and courts competent to conduct such a review

A review request may only be submitted by filing an application at the registry of the court that issued the decision.

Article 25 1 (i) Accepted languages

The acceptable language is Greek.

Article 25 1 (j) Authorities competent for enforcement

The bailiffs competent at the place of enforcement are responsible for the seizure of movable and immovable property; the notaries are responsible for auctioning.

The lawyers are responsible for the drawing up of the garnishing order, while the bailiffs are responsible for the service of that document.

The district civil court which issued the decision is competent under Article 23 of the Regulation.

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