

IPRC 2012

GREECE, 12.4.2012

Dear Ms Knapova,

I rush to answer to your question as you put it in your last e-mail because I plan to be offshore for the next 10 days , and later abroad on some business trips.

Here below I inform you about Greece's steps regarding the recompensation/remedy of movable and immovable property:

On a legislative level:

In April 2011 and in spite of economic crisis, a compensation (10 million Euros) of the Jewish community of Thessaloniki for the city's old cemetery, demolished by Nazis where later was constructed the University of the town, was voted unanimously by the Greek Parliament, thus resolving what was seen as the last outstanding issue the Greek state had towards its Jewish community.

On an administrative level:

There is a serious progress as with regard Greece's-Russia's talks for the repatriation of Greek Jewish Archives, looted by Nazis and later transferred to Moscow by the Red Army troops that liberated Berlin. Many years later, over a decade, it seems that the two parties are converging on a mutual negotiation base, a fact that guarantees the solution of the issue for which all the Greek governments the last 12 years have proceeded in many steps and at all levels.

Wish you a very happy, after Easter, time,

Photini Tomai-Constantopoulou
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Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Head of Greece's Delegation in ITF and ITS-Bad Arolsen Archives, Greek delegate in ESLI