

ILIAS G. ANAGNOSTOPOULOS



Education/Position

Ilias G. Anagnostopoulos graduated from the School of Law, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, in 1978. In 1982, he received a Doctor Juris degree from the J.W. Goethe University of Frankfurt am Main, Germany, with a book on pre-trial detention. He is a Professor Emeritus in Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure, School of Law, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

Practice Areas

Ilias was called to the Athens Bar in 1982 and is also an international member of the New York City Bar (2019-). He heads Athens-based law firm Anagnostopoulos focusing on all aspects of business crime and criminal and regulatory risk management. He has appeared as lead counsel in prominent cases involving bribery, corrupt and anti-competitive practices, money laundering, bank, tax, customs, securities and EU fraud, corporate criminal liability, sanctions enforcement, anti-terrorism, extradition and alternatives, and mutual assistance.

In [Lexology Index 2026](#) Ilias ranks among the thought leaders in investigations, business crime defence, and asset recovery, and is described as *"a leader guru in criminal matters and white-collar crime"*. [Chambers Europe 2026](#) states that Ilias *"offers standout experience in a plethora of white-collar crime topics, including bribery, fraud and money laundering cases"* and ranks him among an elite of lawyers in this area (Band1). [Legal 500 EMEA 2026](#) has inducted Ilias into the Hall of Fame noting his *"extensive experience advising on fraud, market abuse, corruption, environmental and corporate liability, and sanctions"*, while [GIR 100 2025](#) highlights his position as *"a long-standing figure in complex criminal trials"*.

From 2007 to 2013 Ilias chaired the Criminal Law Committee of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE), Brussels, and since 2013 he chairs the Hellenic Criminal Bar Association, Greece. From 2015 to 2019 Ilias was a member

of the Law Commission on the new Greek Criminal Code which entered into force in July 2019. He is a member of the High-Legal Council with the Bank of Greece and a Fellow of the International Academy of Financial Crime Litigators.

Memberships include experts committees of the Hellenic Ministry of Justice (1986-2019); European Criminal Bar Association (founder member), European Criminal Law Academic Network, European Law Institute (fellow), , International Bar Association, International Association of Penal Law, International Society for the Reform of Criminal Law, American Bar Association (associate), National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (international).

Publications

Ilias is a member of the editorial board of the leading criminal law journal in Greece “Poinika Chronika”. He is a regular commentator of cases and offers expert opinions in domestic and cross-border proceedings. His numerous publications in Greek, English and German cover most aspects of business crimes, international and European criminal law, reform of criminal procedure, human rights and crime policy.

Some of his publications are:

[Freezing of Assets: Proportionality Issues](#), Poinika Chronika 2026, 162 pp [in Greek]; [Criminal Law in Greece](#) (with K. Magliveras), Kluwer Law International, 2nd ed, 2023, 288 pp; [Deferred prosecutions agreements \(DPAs\) and criminal accountability](#), Poinika Chronika 2023, 481 pp [in Greek]; [Proportionality issues in European arrest warrant proceedings](#)”, in E Billis et al (eds), Proportionality in crime control and criminal justice' Oxford Hart Publishing 2021, 337 pp; [One Act, Multiple Prosecutions Unlimited Sanctions?](#) American Bar Association, 31st National Institute on White Collar Crime, 2017, U11-15; [Criminal justice cooperation in the EU after the first few 'steps': A defence view](#), ERAForum 1/2014, 9-24; [The right of access to a lawyer in Europe: A long road ahead?](#) , European Criminal Law Review 1/2014, pp. 3-18; [Ne bis in idem in der Europäischen Union: Offene Fragen](#), FS W. Hassemer, CF Müller, Heidelberg 2010, 1121-1140; [Ne bis in idem](#), European and international aspects, P. Sakkoulas 2008, 215 p. [in Greek].

A list of Ilias's publications is available at <https://iag.gr/publications-by-iag-law-firm>

Notable cases

Novartis Hellas: In this highly publicised and politically prominent case we advise Novartis in parallel regulatory, civil and criminal proceedings on allegations of

bribery, money laundering, and anti-competitive practices as well as in the company's lengthy internal investigations.

-EM: EM, a worldwide prominent Greek businessman, who leads a big group of publicly traded companies in the energy, construction and other sectors, had been accused of bribing the then CEO of the Public Electricity Company in exchange for lucrative contracts. After a multi-month trial in 2019 EM was acquitted on charges of bribery and money laundering, avoiding an otherwise huge reputational damage and financial repercussions to his group of companies.

- LM Ericsson executives' case: Our clients, former LM Ericsson top executives, had been charged with bribery and money laundering in relation to the purchase of military equipment by the Greek Army via a well-known Greek trader. All of them were acquitted by the Appeal Court Athens sitting as a first instance court in 2020.

-George Loukos: GL, a former Artistic Director of the Lyon Opera Ballet, France, was Chair and Artistic Director of the Athens Festival Organisation (2006-2015), which is responsible for the biggest international summer art festival in Greece. He faced charges of aggravated breach of trust in connection to alleged 'double' payments to companies that provided services to the Athens Festival. Co-defendants were the managers of said companies. We acted as defence counsel for GL before the Three Member Court of Appeal Athens sitting as a first instance court in a multi-week trial hearing. The Court returned a widely publicised acquittal verdict in June 2023.

- Maria Spyraiki: MS, a former member of the European Parliament, has been investigated by OLAF and subsequently by the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) on allegations of EU-Fraud in relation to the remuneration of her Parliamentary Assistants. The case was ultimately dropped by EPPO in January 2024.

-November 17th Terrorist Organisation: In these multiyear investigations and trial hearings (2002 to 2007) we represented as a prosecuting party the families of American and British victims assassinated by the Organisation between 1975 and 2000; we secured the convictions of N17 members to multiple life and/or multiyear sentences (2002-2006).