



New Democracy, PASOK face prosecutor's deadline in party funding probe

New Democracy and PASOK must respond by the end of Monday to a demand by financial prosecutor Grigoris Peponis for more information relating to the parties' funding.

At the end of January, Peponis invited officials from New Democracy and PASOK to give explanations about large loans the two parties received from several banks as part of a probe into political funding.

Peponis has asked officials from the two parties to answer questions with regard to combined debts of some 250 million euros to banks.

New Democracy reportedly owes some 105 million euros to ATEbank and 15 million euros to Piraeus Bank.

PASOK reportedly has borrowed 97 million euros from ATEbank, 22 million from Attica Bank, 10 million from Marfin and 5 million from Piraeus.

Peponis is investigating the circumstances under which these loans were granted and whether any laws were broken. Both parties are thought to have mortgaged future state funding, which all parliamentary parties receive, to obtain the loans.

Golden Dawn spokesman Kasidiaris to stand trial over 2007 attack on student

Golden Dawn MP and spokesman Ilias Kasidiaris is due to stand trial on Monday in connection with the mugging of student in 2007.

Kasidiaris is accused of being part of a group of five people that attacked the student, who was beaten and stabbed and had his identity card stolen.

The lawmaker's immunity was lifted by his fellow MPs in order for him to stand trial. A witness to the incident claims the students assailants were driven away in Kasidiaris's car.

The deputy denies involvement in the attack.

CREATING NURSERY SCHOOLS FOR GREEK CHILDREN

Golden Dawn MPs have told supporters of the far right party that it will create privately-run nursery schools for Greek children.

Speaking at an event in Crete on Sunday, lawmakers Ilias Panagiotaros and Ilias Lagos, announced the party's intention to open its own nursery schools.

The extremist party's deputies launched an attack on the Greek left, claiming it had caused children to learn a warped version of the country's history.

Last week, the party announced that it had started holding seminars for children at one of its offices in eastern Attica.



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