

Antisemitic and Racist Statements by Greek Political Leaders

Golden Dawn candidates have gained traction in national elections and the European Parliament, in line with a trend for far-right parties in several European countries. Golden Dawn denies being neo-Nazi or antisemitic, but their symbols and rhetoric strongly suggest otherwise. Party leaders are also unapologetically hostile to migrants and LGBT people. Many voters appear to be either overlooking the neo-fascist message or embracing it, even as dozens of Golden Dawn's leaders and members are on trial for allegedly operating a criminal organization involved in murder, violent attacks, and other crimes.

Here are some of their statements:

Leaders of Golden Dawn

"Either to vote Syriza and Kos becomes – as well as the rest of Greece – Pakistan, or to support Golden Dawn and Kos becomes Greece again." *Source: Ilias Kasidiaris, Golden Dawn spokesman, member of Parliament, [International Business Times](#) (2015)*

"Close the borders! Make the army and the navy seal our borders and not let people enter illegally. When it gets dark, the Greeks live in fear. . . Golden Dawn will fight this fear." *Source: Nikolaos Michaloliakos, founder and leader of Golden Dawn, [Financial Times](#) (2015)*

"A vote for Golden Dawn means a no to the memoranda. It means no to allowing illegal immigration; no to suppression." *Source: Nikolaos Michaloliakos, founder and leader of Golden Dawn, [Financial Times](#) (2015)*

"Golden Dawn takes political responsibility for the murder. . . of rapper Pavlos Fyssas... [but] there is no criminal responsibility involved." *Source: Nikolaos Michaloliakos, founder and leader of Golden Dawn, [Financial Times](#) (2015)*

"When we will be powerful, we will be ruthless. It's then that we will show what assault militias stand for... what it means to sharpen bayonets on the pavements." *Source: Nikolaos Michaloliakos, founder and leader of Golden Dawn, [The Times of Israel](#) (2015)*

"The most Orwellian moment we experienced so far was the "appearance" of anonymous false witnesses in the legendary trial of Golden Dawn with digitally varied voices, who were hiding in the office of a secrets service completely identified with the totalitarian regime of the Big Brother of '1984.'" *Source: Ilias Kasidiaris, Golden Dawn spokesman, member of Parliament, [Golden Dawn website](#) (2015)*

"Here we see a late amendment, a major national issue: For the construction of a mosque in the city of Athens, the capital of Greece. Golden Dawn is strongly opposed to this prospective. We consider this act to be traitorous. We shall denounce and oppose with every legal means, expressing the will of the vast majority of Greeks.... Until now, we didn't have jihadists in Greece. But we will have jihadists, radical Islamists. This will create a cell for them to

flock to and congregate, criminal elements, decadent elements, which will cause further fracturing of the country's social fabric." Source: *Ilias Kasidiaris, Golden Dawn spokesman, member of Parliament, [WordPress blog](#) (2015)*

"He [Hitler] was a great personality, like Stalin. In every period of time, there must be, there are some people who are doing the dirty job." Source: *Ilias Panagiotaros, Golden Dawn member of Parliament, [Interview with 60 Minutes Australia](#) (2014)*

"If you're talking about one nation, it's one race. This is how God fixed Earth." Source: *Ilias Panagiotaros, Golden Dawn member of Parliament, [Interview with 60 Minutes Australia](#) (2014)*

"We wanted to put the thieves in jail, but they got to us first. It doesn't matter though, because Greece always wins in the end." Source: *Ilias Kasidiaris, Golden Dawn spokesman, member of Parliament, [The Times of Israel](#) (2014)*

"We want a thorough cleansing of the political system, a real catharsis. The politicians who have stolen billions from the taxpayers over the years must give the money back and go to jail." Source: *Ilias Kasidiaris, Golden Dawn spokesman, member of Parliament, [Financial Times](#) (2014)*

"[Immigration] is an invasion. This is an undeclared war... We are a country of ten million people maximum and we are facing an invasion of approximately two, two-and-a-half, maybe three million illegal immigrants, most of them being Muslims and Jihadists - fanatic Muslims, not just Muslims." Source: *Ilias Panagiotaros, Golden Dawn member of Parliament, [YouTube](#) (2014)*

"We have approximately three million illegal immigrants that are destroying everything in the country in every aspect of life.... [W]e haven't taken the law into our own hands, this is for sure. Because if we would have taken the law into our hands, trust me, we would have solved any problem in Greece." Source: *Ilias Panagiotaros, Golden Dawn member of Parliament, [YouTube](#) (2014)*

"Until 1997 the international association of doctors and I don't know what considered homosexuality a sickness, illness, which it is." Source: *Ilias Panagiotaros, Golden Dawn member of Parliament, [Interview with 60 Minutes Australia](#) (2014)*

"We're the Athenian citizens, not those that came from Bangladesh. The Athenian citizens, the finances of the city will be utilized exclusively to assist the Athenian citizens. Not the illegal immigrants, not the Pakistanis, not the Afghans, none of those that come to Greece to commit crimes." Source: *Ilias Kasidiaris, Golden Dawn spokesman, member of Parliament, [Golden Dawn New York Division](#) (2014)*

"History has not yet given its final verdict on Hitler." Source: *Ilias Kasidiaris, Golden Dawn spokesman, member of Parliament, [greekreporter.com](#) (2013)*

"I have read many books that question the number of the 6 million Jews, and they say that it is an overestimation which was made up, even the antifascist writers claim this... There were no ovens! This is a lie. I believe that it is a lie. There were no gas chambers either. There were many dead in the concentration camps, from many nations. This was a war crime. The concentration camps built by the Americans for the Japanese, this was also a war crime." Source: *Nikolaos Michaloliakos, founder and leader of Golden Dawn, [JTA](#) (2012)*

Official Golden Dawn Materials

“Respecting the intellectual, national, and racial *inequality* of humans we can build a just society based on equality before the law.” *Source: [Golden Dawn website](#) (emphasis added)*

“A vote for Golden Dawn means Faith, Fatherland, and Freedom! A vote for Golden Dawn means NO to Memorandums, NO to immigration, NO to foreign rule. A vote for Golden Dawn is the only National option.” *Source: [Golden Dawn website](#)*

“National planning for a solution to the demographic problem so we don’t become a minority in our own country.” *Source: [Golden Dawn website](#)*

“The rotten establishment of political hacks fears the voice of Truth, the voice of Golden Dawn and this was proven beyond doubt once again. United the Memorandum Arch conspired and decided to bar the Leader of Golden Dawn from their fixed and controlled “Televised Debate”. After they kept him illegally for 18 months in prison, they now tremble at the thought of a confrontation with him. With what arguments and with what political program could the representatives of the anti-Greek establishment stand up against the Leader of the Nationalist Movement? N. G. Michaloliakos expresses the national resistance of the Greeks against the Memorandum, illegal immigration and all the wounds that plague our Homeland. Golden Dawn will respond to this blatant violation of the principle of plurality and constitutional legality with dynamic and legal protest demonstrations. The voice of truth cannot be silenced!” *Source: [Golden Dawn website](#)*

“The traitors of the political changeover made Greece enslaved and indebted until 2199, indebted for centuries. They made our glorious and proud Homeland a perpetual debt colony, a dreary misprint of a dependent state with rich past, but with no future. We, the Greek Nationalists of Golden Dawn, do not legitimize any unpopular and memorandum friendly measure. Much more, we do not legitimize them even with the presence of the Secretary General, Nikolaos Michaloliakos, in the Councils of Political Leaders. We are on the side of the Greek People and resist. We have honest, pure and genuine Greek political speech and we do not play petty politics. Much more we do not play with the future of our Homeland and our People.... The national resistance is here and THE STRUGGLE IS TO BE CONTINUED. We denounce to the Greek People the political charlatans of SYRIZA that follow the memorandum friendly steps of New Democracy and PASOK. We, the Golden Dawners, stand proudly politically opposite, WE ARE AGAINST ALL, expressing the true National Opposition. I ask you to hold up your head, do not be afraid of the mass media propaganda. The fear of bankruptcy is false. The bankruptcy of the Greeks and the Greek State is real. Greece has officially bankrupted, at least morally, since 1974. Today, the tested Greeks must be born again from our ashes and fight politically against all internal traitors of the unpopular arch. The “democratic arch” for 41 years, from July ’74 until today July 2015, has been dissolving the Homeland. Greek, you have one option. Finish them! They destroy you. Greeks, be sure that through the scourge of the Memorandum will come better days of liberation, national independence and social justice.” *Source: [Golden Dawn website](#)*

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