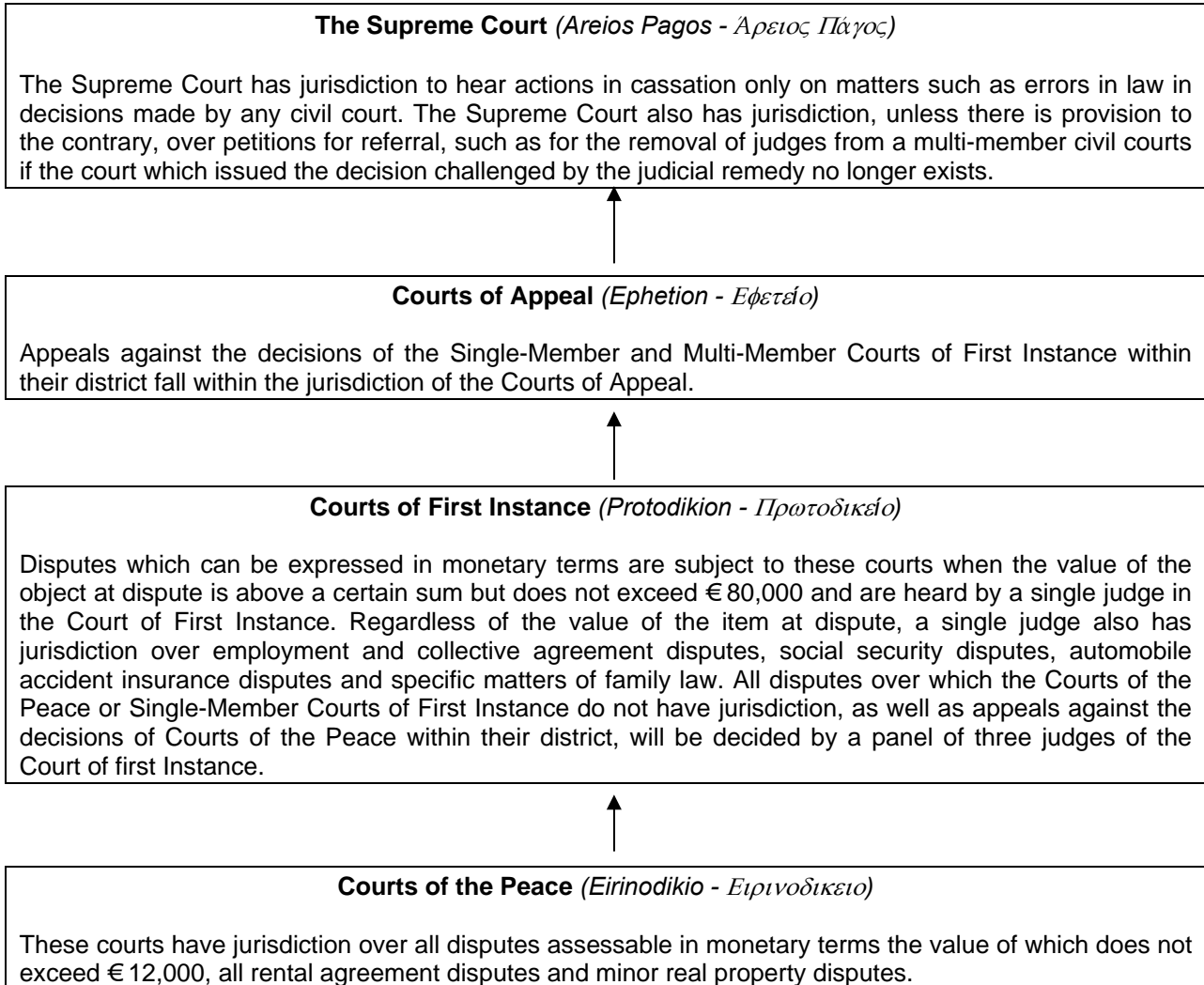


# THE GREEK JUDICIAL SYSTEM

## 1. COURTS OF ORDINARY JURISDICTION

### (a) Civil Cases



### (b) Penal Cases

The courts of civil jurisdiction also hear penal cases (as courts of penal jurisdiction). The philosophy of the system is the same, but there are some differences. So

#### *General Jurisdiction*

- Crimes punished with imprisonment of up to one month are heard by the **Courts of Peace**;
- Crimes punished with imprisonment of up to three months are heard by the **One-Member Court of First Instance**;
- Crimes punished with imprisonment of up to five years are heard by the **Three-Member Court of First Instance**;
- Crimes punished with imprisonment longer than five years are heard by a **mixed jury** (3 Court of First Instance judges – 4 civilians);
- **Appeals** against these decisions are heard by a **mixed jury** (3 Appeal judges – 4 civilians);
- Crimes committed by minors are heard by the **Minors' Courts**;
- **Appeals** against these decisions are heard by the **Minors' Court of Appeals**.

### Special Jurisdiction

- Certain crimes punished with imprisonment of up to five years (e.g. concerning the forests and urbanism legislation, cheques, social security contributions and taxation) are heard by the **One-Member Court of First Instance**;
- Crimes punished with imprisonment of up to three months and committed by special categories of people (e.g. lawyers and judges) are heard by the **Three-Member Court of First Instance**;
- Certain crimes committed by special categories of people **and** punished with imprisonment longer than five years, are heard by the **Three-Member Court of Appeals**;
- **Appeals** against these decisions are heard by the **Five-Member Court of Appeals**.

Each Court hears the appeals against the decisions of the immediately lower court (e.g. appeals against One-Member Court of First Instance decisions are heard by the Three-Member Court of First Instance).

The Supreme Court has the same powers as in civil jurisdiction. It also hears cases concerning crimes committed by Members of Parliament and Ministers during their term of office and concerning the exercise of their office.

## 2. ADMINISTRATIVE COURTS

The administrative courts try administrative and taxation disputes, as well as disputes concerning other claims against the State, including delictual ones. Administrative disputes concern either the annulment of an administrative act or a claim against the State or both.

