

LAW & POLICY GROUP**GRIST****GREECE BOOSTS LABOR LAW PROTECTIONS**

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From 1 Jul 2019, Greek employers must comply with increased labor law protections ([Law 4611/2019](#)) (Greek), including a requirement to provide a lawful and valid reason when terminating employees on indefinite-term employment contracts. Previously, employers could terminate employees “at will.”

Other changes include the following:

- The time limits for claiming unlawful termination or termination payments — three and six months, respectively — are suspended under certain circumstances.
- Severance payments must be transferred into the employee's bank accounts.
- Employers must pay social security contributions on behalf of interns and apprentices — employers that don't comply will be excluded from participating in apprentice and internship programs for two years.
- Employers must follow new notification requirements — for example, when hiring employees who are not employed on indefinite contracts, and reporting employees' annual leave.
- New sanctions — including criminal penalties — apply to employers and individuals who hinder labor authority's workplace inspections.
- New standards, including health and safety requirements, apply to employees' use of motorcycles for employment purposes, and additional indemnity payments cover the use and maintenance of the vehicle.

RELATED RESOURCES

- [Labor Law 4611/2019](#) (Greek) (17 May 2019)

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