## Workplace Investigations

### **Contributing Editors**

Phil Linnard at Slaughter and May Clare Fletcher at Slaughter and May

# 09. What additional considerations apply when the investigation involves whistleblowing?



#### Greece

Author: Angeliki Tsatsi, Anna Pechlivanidi, Pinelopi Anyfanti, Katerina Basta at Karatzas & Partners

L. 4990/2022 includes specific requirements regarding, among other things, the procedure of receiving and investigating respective reports, confidentiality issues (especially regarding the identity of the whistleblower), data protection issues (including restrictions to the right of access) and the employer's right to keep a record of the relevant complaint and investigation. Such provisions are expected to be further detailed by Ministerial Decisions in future.

Last updated on 03/04/2023



#### Poland

Author: Wioleta Polak, Aleksandra Stępniewska, Julia Jewgraf at WKB Lawyers

In principle, an internal investigation should be conducted in the same way, regardless of whether it is initiated following a whistleblowing report, an audit, or a monitoring result. This includes anything related to confidentiality, fairness, data privacy protection, etc.

If an internal investigation is initiated following a whistleblower report, the main characteristic that is imposed by the EU Directive on the protection of persons who report breaches of EU Law (Whistleblowers Directive) and that will also be available under the Draft Law is for the organisation (employer) to communicate (if practicable) the report to the whistleblower. Furthermore, the whistleblower should receive feedback as to whether follow-up actions were undertaken following the report and, if yes – what actions were taken – and if not – why the follow-up actions were not taken.

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Author: Laura Widmer, Sandra Schaffner

at Bär & Karrer

If an employee complains to his or her superiors about grievances or misconduct in the workplace and is subsequently dismissed, this may constitute an unlawful termination (article 336, Swiss Code of Obligations). However, the prerequisite for this is that the employee behaves in good faith, which is not the case if he or she is (partly) responsible for the grievance.

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#### Contributors



## Greece

Angeliki Tsatsi Anna Pechlivanidi Pinelopi Anyfanti Katerina Basta Karatzas & Partners



#### Poland

Wioleta Polak Aleksandra Stępniewska Julia Jewgraf WKB Lawyers



#### Switzerland

Laura Widmer Sandra Schaffner Bär & Karrer

www.internationalemploymentlawyer.com