

Applicable procedures to challenge and enforce rights in appellations of origin and geographical indications in the Republic of Albania

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The procedure applicable in the territory of the Republic of Albania to challenge applications for protection of appellations of origin and geographical indications originating in a third country, before the Republic of Albania decides on the protection thereof, is provided in Articles 180, 182/ç and 182/d of the Law No. 9947, dated 07.07.2008, "On Industrial Property", as amended.

After the decision on protection is taken, if it is refused based on the Article 180, challenges in respect of such a decision may be introduced via the Cancellation/ Invalidation Division while if the decision of refusal is based on Articles 182/ç and 182/d, challenges may be introduced via the Board of Appeal procedures (item 9 of the Article 182/ç).

The Cancellation/ Invalidation Division and the Board of Appeal are structures within the General Directorate of Industrial Property of the Republic of Albania.

The procedures applicable in the territory of the Republic of Albania to enforce rights in appellations of origin and geographical indications consist primarily in the administrative procedures of control institutions¹ are obliged to perform in accordance with the provisions on control in the respective regulations providing for a protection scheme to Protected Designation of Origin, Protected Geographical Indications.

Rights in appellations of origin and geographical indications may also be enforced by having recourse to the judicial ordinary procedures of the Republic of Albania. (Article 184/a of the Law No. 9947, dated 07.07.2008, "On Industrial Property", as amended).

About the measures at the border of the country and control in the internal market (Article 188 and Article 200 of the above-mentioned law), the following are the authorities responsible:

Name of Authorities or bodies	Address	Telephone number	E-mail	URL
Albanian Customs Authorities	Tiranë, Kashar Mëzez, Lagjia Fushë Mëzez, autostrada Tiranë-Durrës, km 1, Qendra "Pajtoni Bussines Center", kati 5	+355 42 232 988	helpdesk.dpd@dogana.gov.al	http://www.dogana.gov.al/
State Inspectorate for Market Supervision	Ministria e Financave dhe Ekonomisë, Bulevardi "Dëshmorët e Kombit", nr.3, Tiranë		info@ishmt.gov.al	http://ishmt.gov.al/

¹ For food and agricultural products: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Law No. 8/2019 "On quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs"; <https://bujqesia.gov.al/>
Non-food products: The competent Authority, Item 2 of the Article 182/c.