

PREPARATORY DOCUMENTS

Greece, North Macedonia, Bulgaria - Sofia 2023

Speaker: Dr. Maria Vassilikou, Jewish Museum of Greece

**A Jewish man imprisoned in Pasardžik asks on 29. December 1942
the local Jewish community to help his family left back in Drama¹**

Mr President,

I am a seller of roasted sunflower- and pumpkin seeds. After the Bulgarian occupation in Drama I was not allowed to continue my business in my small shop, which granted my family - consisting of 4 children, my wife and myself- a scanty get by. I was obliged to find a way out of the misery, but I fell victim to the law concerning speculation. [As a result] the misery settled down again in our home. Without any support I can no longer endure the situation in the „Bošulja” quarry. My family is begging all passers-by on the streets but alas!... in the evening they all go hungry to bed, and the same story continues the other day. I have a sixteen year old daughter who could go astray... That is why I ask you, Mr President, in the most polite way, that some help will be given to me, as a rescue from the obvious decay. I am convinced that my request will be heard, and remain with respect

¹ The document is published and annotated in German in Band 14 of the documentary edition *Verfolgung und Ermordung der europäischen Juden durch das nationalsozialistische Deutschland, 1933-1945 (2017)*, (No 221, p. 558-559).