Order of the Court (Sixth Chamber) of 11 July 2008 (reference for a preliminary ruling from the Panevėžio apygardos teismas — Republic of Lithuania) — Criminal proceedings against Edgar Babanov

(Case C-207/08) (1)

(First paragraph of Article 104(3) of the Rules of Procedure
— Agriculture — Free movement of goods — National legislation prohibiting the cultivation of any type of hemp)

(2008/C 285/24)

Language of the case: Lithuanian

Appeal brought on 21 February 2008 by Athanasios Pitsiorlas against the judgment of the Court of First Instance (Fifth Chamber) delivered on 27 November 2007 in Joined Cases T-3/00 and T-337/04 Athanasios Pitsiorlas v Council of the European Union and European Central Bank

(Case C-84/08 P)

(2008/C 285/25)

Language of the case: Greek

Referring court

Panevėžio apygardos teismas

Criminal proceedings against

Edgar Babanov

Action

Reference for a preliminary ruling — Panevėžio apygardos teismas — Compatibility with the law of the European Union of national legislation providing for criminal liability for cultivating any type of hemp — Power of a court to apply national legislation when the hemp content of active substances does not exceed a certain threshold

Operative part of the judgment

- Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 of 29 September 2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers and amending Regulations (EEC) No 2019/93, (EC) No 1452/2001, (EC) No 1453/2001, (EC) No 1454/2001, (EC) 1868/94, (EC) No 1251/1999, (EC) No 1254/1999, (EC) No 1673/2000, (EEC) No 2358/71 and (EC) No 2529/2001 must be interpreted as meaning that it precludes national legislation which has the effect of prohibiting the cultivation and possession of hemp grown for fibre covered by that regulation.
- 2. Community law precludes the court of a Member State from applying national legislation which, contrary to Regulation No 1782/2003, has the effect of prohibiting the cultivation and possession of hemp grown for fibre covered by that regulation.

Parties

Appellant: Athanasios Pitsiorlas (represented by: D. Papafilippou, dikigoros)

Other parties to the proceedings: Council of the European Union, European Central Bank

By order of 3 July 2008, the Court of Justice (Second Chamber) dismissed the appeal and ruled that Athanasios Pitsiorlas had to bear the costs.

Action brought on 17 July 2008 — Commission of the European Communities v French Republic

(Case C-327/08)

(2008/C 285/26)

Language of the case: French

Parties

Applicant: Commission of the European Communities (represented by: G. Rozet and D. Kukovec, Agents)

Defendant: French Republic

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 209 of 15.8.2008.