



KOSOVO SPECIALIST CHAMBERS
DHOMAT E SPECIALIZUARA TË KOSOVËS
SPECIJALIZOVANA VEÇA KOSOVA

CASE

INFORMATION SHEET

Case No.
KSC-BC-2023-10

Specialist Prosecutor versus:



Sabit Januzi



Ismet Bahtijari



Haxhi Shala

Current stage:
ENFORCEMENT OF SENTENCE

ACCUSED/CHARGES

SABIT JANUZI

Date of birth: 29/04/1966

- A Kosovar national born in Bërvenik/Brvenik, Kosovo.

ISMET BAHTIJARI

Date of birth: 27/02/1963

- A Kosovar national born in Fushticë e Poshtme/ Donja Fuštica, Kosovo.

HAXHI SHALA

Date of birth: 17/03/1970

- A Kosovar national born in Banje, Malisheve, Kosovo.

Description of charges

According to the confirmed indictment, "Witness 1" is a person who has or is likely to provide information to the Special Investigative Task Force, SPO, and/or to any KSC Panel about any crimes or offences falling under KSC jurisdiction. The indictment states that between at least 5 April 2023 and 12 April 2023, Shala, Januzi and Bahtijari, in co-perpetration with other individuals, coordinated as a group before and after in-person approaches made to Witness 1 by Januzi and Bahtijari.

Modes of responsibility

Direct commission/Attempt to commit crimes
Co-perpetration/Agreement to commit crimes
Assistance in the crimes

Counts

1. Obstructing official persons in performing official duties, by serious threat (criminal offence against public order)*
2. Obstructing official persons in performing official duties, by participating in the common action of a group (criminal offence against public order)
3. Intimidation during criminal proceedings (criminal offence against the administration of justice and public administration)

**Count 1 was later withdrawn as per the plea agreement.*

CONVICTIONS/REPARATIONS

Sentence/Reparations, 4 February 2025

Following the approval of the plea agreements between the three accused and the SPO, the Trial Panel imposed the following sentences:

Haxhi Shala: 3 years' imprisonment

Sabit Januzi: 2 years' imprisonment

Ismet Bahtijari: 2 years' imprisonment

Furthermore, the accused agreed to pay the total sum of **500 Euros** as reparations to the participating victim. In particular, Shala will pay 400 EUR, Januzi will pay 100 EUR while Bahtijari will not be required to make any payment.

TIMELINE

Following their arrest by the Specialist Prosecutor, Sabit Januzi and Ismet Bahtijari were transferred to the KSC Detention Unit in The Hague on 6 October 2023 while Haxhi Shala was transferred on 12 December 2023.

Initially, these were two separate cases: one against Januzi and Bahtijari (case number KSC-BC-2023-10) and the other against Haxhi Shala (KSC-BC-2023-11).

In December 2023, the SPO requested to join these two cases, and the Pre-Trial Judge granted the request in February 2024. Afterwards, the joined case was assigned the number KSC-BC-2023-10.

On 4 September 2024, the Pre-Trial Judge transmitted the case file to Trial Panel I. The trial preparation conferences took place on 7 and 8 October 2024.

On 24 October 2024, the Panel decided that the trial shall open on 14 November of the same year. On 11 November, the SPO and the Defence informed the Panel that they were nearing the conclusion of plea agreements for each accused. Subsequently, on 12 November 2024, at the request of the parties, the Panel postponed the trial's commencement to allow for the finalization of these plea agreements.

During the plea hearings on 18 and 19 December 2024, all three accused pleaded guilty to counts 2 and 3 of the confirmed indictment.

On 4 February 2025, the Trial Panel approved the plea agreements and imposed sentences: Haxhi Shala was sentenced to 3 years while Januzi and Bahtijari were each sentenced to 2 years. Furthermore, the accused agreed to pay the total sum of 500 Euros as reparations to the participating victim. In particular, Shala will pay 400 EUR, Januzi will pay 100 EUR while Bahtijari will not be required to make any payment.

On 19 February 2025, the KSC President Ekaterina Trendafilova decided to modify the sentences for Januzi and Bahtijari and provide for their release on 21 February 2025, under the conditions set forth in the decisions. These conditions will continue to apply for the duration of the sentences imposed by the Trial Panel, namely for the remainder of the two years sentence imposed on each of them.

WHO IS WHO IN THIS CASE?

PRE-TRIAL JUDGE



Judge Marjorie Masselot

TRIAL PANEL I



Judge Mappie Veldt-Fogla (Presiding Judge)



Judge Roland Dekkers



Judge Gilbert Bitti



Judge Vladimir Mikula (Reserve Judge)

SPECIALIST PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE (LEAD COUNSEL)



Tazneen Shahabuddin



John Devaney

DEFENCE TEAMS (LEAD COUNSEL)



Jonathan Rees (for S. Januzi)



Felicity Gerry (for I. Bahtijari)

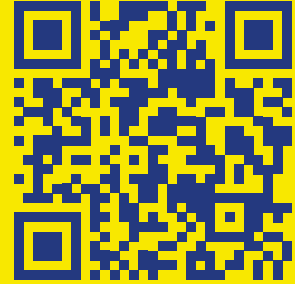


Toby Cadman (for H. Shala)

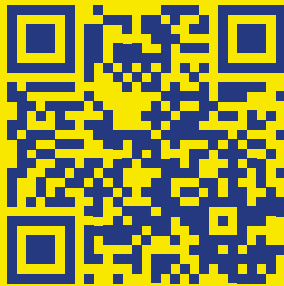
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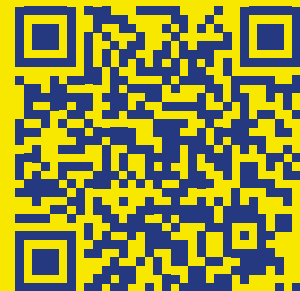
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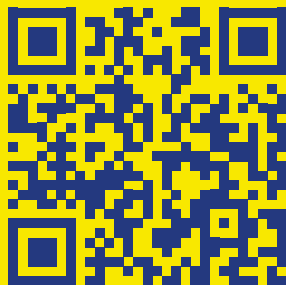
Court Calendar



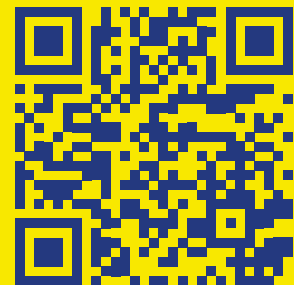
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