



## Update

Welcome to the weekly press briefing of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, where we aim to provide you with an update on the latest developments at the court and a look ahead at next week.

In the case of Hysni Gucati and Nasim Haradinaj, the Defence continued its cross examination of the first witness, an SPO investigator, on Monday and Tuesday of this week. The witness testified about the documents seized by the SPO from the KLA War Veterans' Association last September, and about whether these contained information considered by the SPO to be confidential.

The Trial Panel has announced that it will ask for the opinions of the defence and prosecution on some of the evidence provided during the testimony of the first witness. Based on these submissions, the Judges will decide if they will allow for this evidence to be considered in the trial.

On Tuesday afternoon, the second witness, a journalist from Kosovo, started his testimony. The witness has been compelled to appear in accordance with Rule 121(2) of the KSC Rules of Procedure and Evidence and is assisted by counsel. The witness testified about how he and his news outlet received the documents from the KLA War Veterans' Association.

The third witness in the case began his testimony today.

Also in the Gucati and Haradinaj case, the Trial Panel ordered the Kosovo Police to provide information, by 26 November, regarding its authority and capability concerning the potential temporary release of Mr. Gucati and Mr. Haradinaj.

In a related decision, the Judges ordered the Registrar to provide written information, within the same deadline, about specific rules applicable at the Specialist Chambers'





detention facilities, in particular concerning potential restrictions in regards to visits and communication of detainees.

In the case versus Hashim Thaci and co accused, the Court of Appeals Panel on Wednesday denied the appeal of Mr. Thaçi against the Decision of the Pre-Trial Judge on Review of Detention.

Among other things, the Court of Appeals Panel found that the assessment of the Pre-Trial Judge did not abuse his discretion in finding that a risk of obstructing the progress of proceedings continues to exist and found that the Defence had failed to demonstrate that the Pre-Trial Judge had made errors in his assessment of the conditions of release. The decision is published on the KSC website.

The next status conference in this case is scheduled for tomorrow (Friday) at 2:30 in the afternoon. Among the topics on the agenda are disclosure and investigative steps.

Looking ahead to next week, the Salih Mustafa trial will resume next Tuesday, 2 November, with the testimony of the fifth witness.

In other news, the Kosovo Specialist Chambers Outreach team held moderated discussions with citizens from communities near Kamenica and Peja/Pec this week, providing basic information on the court and its proceedings to the participants and answering their questions. The meetings took place online.

Since 2018, the Specialist Chambers has conducted similar Outreach events across Kosovo with citizens, young people, civil society and others to provide information about the court, listen to people's comments and concerns and answer questions.

### **Journalist Questions**

There were no questions asked

