



Update

Welcome to the weekly press briefing of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, where we aim to provide journalists with an update on the latest developments at the court, and the opportunity to ask questions.

In the Salih Mustafa trial, the Defence of Mr. Mustafa notified about the official closure of its case last Thursday, 26 May.

On 1 June 2022, Trial Panel I granted the request of the Victims' counsel and appointed Mr Stefan Lerz from the Nederlands Rekencentrum Letselschade with the mandate to calculate the material damages and economic loss by the alleged direct victims in the Mustafa case. Mr Lerz is to submit his report by 23 June 2022.

Last Friday, Trial Panel I granted the SPO's request to hear a rebuttal witness. This hearing was held yesterday, on Wednesday, 1 June, mostly in private session.

At the end of yesterday's hearing, the Panel issued an oral order, asking the parties, the Registry and the Victims' Counsel to review the transcript of the hearing to determine whether parts of the transcript can be re-classified as public while upholding the protective measures for witnesses and victims as necessary.

This oral order is in line with the Panel's "Order for submissions on the lifting of redactions in trial hearing transcripts or their reclassification" from 18 March 2022, in which the Panel asked the parties, the Registry and the Victims' Counsel to undertake a revision of the transcripts of previous hearings, and to jointly provide submissions on whether existing redactions can be lifted and/or transcripts can be reclassified as public.

The order was made with a view to respecting the principle of the right to a public hearing while upholding the protective measures for witnesses' and victims as necessary. Final deadline for submissions in this regard is 22 July 2022.





**Weekly Press Briefing
Chambers and Registry**

N°21/2022

The Hague, 02/06/2022

When concluding yesterday's hearing the Presiding Judge also stated that dates and times for further hearings in this case will be announced in due course.

In the case of Mr. Thaci and co-accused, the Pre-Trial Judge rejected the defence request to appeal his decision from 22 April to allow the SPO to amend its exhibit list and add material related to two witnesses.

The Pre-Trial Judge found that amending the exhibits list did not significantly affect the fair and expeditious conduct of the proceedings or the outcome of the trial, while the permission related to the two witnesses did not arise from the disputed decision and therefore cannot be appealed.

In Outreach news, the Kosovo Specialist Chambers has resumed its visitors' programme for students and has recently hosted presentations and discussions with groups from the American University of Paris, DePaul University, Maastricht University and Leiden University.

Journalist Questions

No questions asked.

