



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 *Thaçi et al.* case, the parties filed written submissions before the Pre-Trial judge concerning the points of fact on which they agree. The Judge had ordered them to do so in line with the Rules, which say that he should record any points of agreement between the Prosecution and the Defence, in order to make the proceedings more expeditious by narrowing down the list of issues subject to dispute.

In the same case, on 18 November, the Specialist Prosecutor filed a provisional list of its first 40 witnesses whom the Prosecution intends to call during the trial.

The Pre-Trial Judge yesterday further partly granted *Thaçi's* and *Selimi's* requests for leave to appeal two earlier decisions by the Pre-Trial Judge, authorizing the Prosecution to amend its witness and exhibit lists.

In decisions issued on 18 November, the Pre-Trial Judge ordered the continued detention of Mr Jakup Krasniqi and Mr Rexhep Selimi. The Judge found that there is a moderate risk of flight in relation to both accused and that the risks that they will obstruct proceedings or commit further crimes continue to exist and cannot be sufficiently mitigated by conditions outside the Detention Facilities of the Specialist Chambers. The Judge also assessed the overall proportionality of the time spent in pre-trial detention and found for both accused that it is not disproportionate.

In the *Salih Mustafa* case, the Trial Panel ordered the continued detention of the accused, finding that there continues to be a risk that Mr Mustafa would obstruct the progress of proceedings, and that this cannot be sufficiently mitigated by conditions or additional limitations. The Trial Panel also found that Mr Mustafa has not been detained for an unreasonable period.

An appeals hearing has been scheduled for next Thursday and Friday, 1 and 2 December in the case of *Hysni Gucati* and *Nasim Haradinaj*. According to the agenda set by the Appeals Panel, the Defence teams will each be given the opportunity on 1 December to orally present the arguments supporting their appeals. On 2 December, the Prosecution will be given the opportunity to respond, and the Defence teams will be able to reply to the Prosecution's responses. Both Mr Gucati and Mr Haradinaj will also be able to personally address the Appeals Panel, if they wish to do so.

Members of the public can follow the hearing on 1 and 2 December from the premises of the Specialist Chambers in the public gallery, or online through the website of the Specialist Chambers, in Albanian, Serbian or English.





An earlier request by Mr Haradinaj for an oral hearing to be scheduled in the case has now been issued in a public redacted version, which can be read on the Specialist Chambers website.

This week representatives of the Specialist Chambers held interactive events with young people and civil society in the Gjilan/Gnjilan area, Pristina and Shterpce/Strpce.

In other news, Alex Whiting became the Acting Specialist Prosecutor following the departure of Jack Smith as Specialist Prosecutor. Mr Whiting will continue as Acting Specialist Prosecutor until a new Specialist Prosecutor is appointed in accordance with the Law.

Journalist Questions

No questions were asked

