



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.

On 5 March, the Single Judge ordered the continued detention of Isni Kilaj, finding that there is a risk that he may obstruct the progress of criminal proceedings and commit further offences, as well as a moderate risk that he may flee.

Mr Kilaj was arrested as a suspect on 2 November 2023 in Kosovo by the Specialist Prosecutor's Office and transferred to the Detention Facilities of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers in The Hague the next day, pursuant to a transfer order issued by a Single Judge of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers.

According to the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, when a suspect or an accused person is detained, a Judge needs to review every two months whether the reasons justifying their detention still apply. When it comes to suspects, the total length of detention before the Prosecution files an indictment cannot last more than a year, and during that time, each request for a two month extension needs to be justified by investigative measures to be taken by the Specialist Prosecutor.

In his 5 March Decision, the Judge also reiterated that there is a grounded suspicion that Mr Kilaj may have committed crimes against the administration of justice, specifically, violating the secrecy of proceedings and obstructing official persons in performing official duties. The Judge noted that these findings relate to confidential material seized by the Prosecution during a judicially authorised search of Mr Kilaj's residence for which a grounded suspicion exists that they were either intended or actually used for the purpose of interfering with the administration of justice.





Hearings in the trial of Hashim Thaçi, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi and Jakup Krasniqi are scheduled to resume next Monday, 18 March, at 9 am. 48 witnesses have testified in the trial so far.

Journalist Questions

There were no questions asked.

