

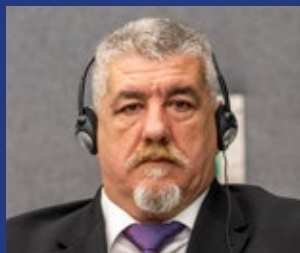


KOSOVO SPECIALIST CHAMBERS
DHOMAT E SPECIALIZUARA TË KOSOVËS
SPECIJALIZOVANA VEÇA KOSOVA

CASE INFORMATION SHEET

Case No.
KSC-BC-2020-04

Specialist Prosecutor versus:



Pjetër Shala

Current stage:
END OF TRIAL

ACCUSED/CHARGES

Pjetër Shala

Date of birth: 17/09/1963

Position(s) during the period covered by the indictment:

- A member of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) stationed in a former metal works factory in Kukës, Albania. According to the indictment, this factory also served as a site for the detention and interrogation of persons suspected of having collaborated with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and Serbia or of failing to support the KLA.

Description of charges

This case concern the acts of Pjetër Shala at the KLA base in Kukës between approximately 17 May and 5 June 1999.

The indictment alleges that in this period Pjetër Shala and certain other KLA soldiers, police and guards shared a common purpose to interrogate and mistreat detainees at the factory. The common purpose involved the crimes specified on the right. According to the indictment, the victims of these crimes were all FRY citizens, who did not actively take part in hostilities.

Modes of responsibility

Joint criminal enterprise
Direct commission
Aiding and abetting

Counts

1. Arbitrary detention (war crimes)
2. Cruel treatment (war crimes)
3. Torture (war crimes)
4. Murder (war crimes)

CONVICTIONS

Trial Judgment, 16 July 2024

The Trial Panel found Pjetër Shala guilty of the war crimes of arbitrary detention, torture and murder (counts 1, 3 and 4) while he was acquitted of cruel treatment (count 2).

Sentence: 18 years' imprisonment

TIMELINE

Following his arrest in Belgium, Shala was transferred to the Detention Facilities of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers in The Hague on 15 April 2021.

On 19 April 2021, he pleaded not guilty to all charges in the indictment.

On 21 September 2022, the Pre-Trial Judge transmitted the case file to Trial Panel I.

The trial commenced on 21 February 2023 with the presentation of evidence of the Specialist Prosecutor's Office (SPO) . On 6 July 2023, the SPO closed its case.

On 21 August 2023, the Victims' Counsel presented evidence.

On 15 September 2023, the Panel denied the Defence motion to dismiss the charge of murder (count 4), pursuant to Rule 130 of the KSC Rules of Procedure and Evidence.

The Defence case commenced on 20 September 2023 and closed on 15 January 2024.

The evidentiary proceedings in this case were closed on 9 February 2024 and the closing arguments took place from 15 until 17 April 2024.

On 16 July 2024, the Trial Panel found Shala guilty and sentenced him to a prison sentence of 18 years.

CASE STATISTICS

Pre-trial period length	22 months 6 days
Number of trial days in court	44
Number of witnesses in court	10 (SPO), 2 (Victims' counsel), 10 (Defence)
Number of participating victims	8
Total time before Basic Court	39 months

WHO IS WHO IN THIS CASE

PRE-TRIAL JUDGE



Judge Nicolas Guillou

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)



Filippo De Minicis



Gaia Pergolo



Eva Wyler

DEFENCE TEAM (LEAD COUNSEL)



Jean-Louis Gilissen

VICTIMS' COUNSEL



Simon Laws

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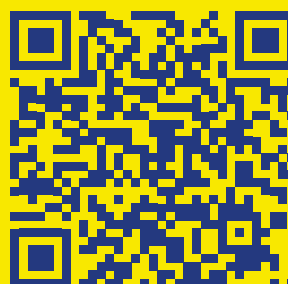
Case page



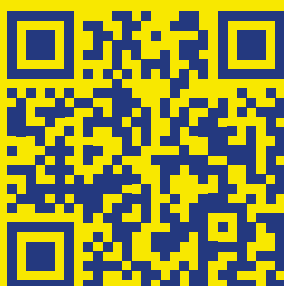
Court Calendar



KSC Live Update



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