



Case Information Sheet

Specialist Prosecutor v. Pjetër Shala (Case No. KSC-BC-2020-04)

PJËTËR SHALA



A member of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) stationed in Kukës, Albania

Indictment

Confirmed on 12 June 2020, the redacted version made public on 15 April 2021.

Please find the confirmed indictment [here](#).

Judges

Pre-Trial Judge: Nicolas Guillou

Arrest/Transfer/ Initial appearance

Arrested on 16 March 2021 in Belgium and transferred to the Hague on 15 April 2021;
Initial appearance took place on 19 April 2021;

Background information

The charged crimes took place in the context of and were associated with an armed conflict in Kosovo between the KLA and forces of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and the Republic of Serbia, including units of the Yugoslav army, police and other units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and other groups fighting on behalf of the FRY and Serbia.

The alleged crimes with which Shala is charged took place between approximately 17 May 1999 and 5 June 1999 against persons detained at the Kukës Metal Factory (Albania) allegedly used by the KLA. According to the indictment, the victims of these crimes were all FRY citizens, who did not actively take part in hostilities.

Charges

Shala is charged on the basis of individual criminal responsibility (Article 16(1)(a) of the Law) with war crimes (arbitrary detention, cruel treatment, torture and murder as found in Article 14 of the Law).

Status of the Case

Pre-trial

Proceedings before the Kosovo Specialists Chambers

PRE-TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

On 14 February 2020, the President assigned Judge Nicolas Guillou as the Pre-Trial Judge, after receipt of a notification by the Specialist Prosecutor of his intent to initiate proceedings.

On 12 June 2020, the Pre-Trial Judge confirmed the indictment against Shala and issued the "Arrest warrant for Mr Pjetër Shala" and the "Order for Transfer to Detention Facilities of the Specialist Chambers".

On 19 June 2020, the Specialist Prosecutor submitted the confirmed indictment with redactions, as authorised by Pre-Trial Judge.

On 19 April 2021, Shala made his initial appearance before the Pre-Trial Judge during which he pleaded not guilty to all the charges against him.

Defence Counsel

Jean-Louis Gilissen (Counsel), Mohamed Hédi Aouini (Co-Counsel)