



Case Information Sheet

Specialist Prosecutor v. Hashim Thaçi, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi and Jakup Krasniqi (Case No. KSC-BC-2020-06)

HASHIM THAÇI



Head of the Political and Information Directorates of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA); Prime Minister of the Provisional Government of Kosovo (PGoK) and KLA Commander-in-Chief.

KADRI VESELI



Member of the KLA Political Directorate and Head of the KLA intelligence services; Chief of the Kosovo Intelligence Service and PGoK Minister of the Intelligence Service.

REXHEP SELIMI



Head of the KLA Operational Directorate; KLA Inspector General and by the end of March 1999, upon the formation of the PGoK, PGoK Minister of Public Order/Minister of Internal Affairs.

JAKUP KRASNIQI



Member of the KLA Political Directorate and the official KLA spokesperson; KLA Deputy Commander; PGoK spokesperson.

Indictment

Revised indictment confirmed on 26 October 2020, made public on 5 November 2020. The corrected and amended indictment was filed on 3 September 2021.

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

Judges

Pre-Trial Judge: Nicolas Guillou

Arrest/Transfer/ Initial appearance

Thaçi: arrested on 5 November 2020 in Kosovo; transferred to The Hague on the same day; initial appearance on 9 November 2020: he pleaded not guilty to all counts.

Veseli: arrested on 5 November 2020 in Kosovo; transferred to The Hague on the same day; initial appearance on 10 November 2020: he pleaded not guilty to all counts.

Selimi: arrested on 5 November 2020 in Kosovo; transferred to The Hague on the same day; initial appearance on 11 November 2020: he pleaded not guilty to all counts.

Krasniqi: arrested on 4 November 2020 in Kosovo; transferred to The Hague on the same day; initial appearance on 9 November 2020: he pleaded not guilty to all counts.

Background information

The charged crimes took place between at least March 1998 through September 1999 in the context of and are associated with an armed conflict 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.

According to the indictment, Hashim Thaçi, Veseli, Selimi, Krasniqi, and other members of a joint criminal enterprise shared the common purpose to gain and exercise control over all of Kosovo by means including unlawfully intimidating, mistreating, committing violence against, and removing those deemed to be opponents. Such opponents allegedly included persons who were or were perceived to have been: (a) collaborating or associating with FRY forces or officials or state institutions; or (b) otherwise not supporting the aims or means of the KLA and later the PGoK, including persons associated with the Democratic League of Kosovo and persons of Serb, Roma, and other ethnicities.

Charges

Thaçi, Veseli, Selimi and Krasniqi are charged on the basis of individual criminal responsibility (Article 16(1)(a) of the Law) and on the basis of superior criminal responsibility (Article 16(1)(c) of the Law) with:

Crimes against humanity (persecution, imprisonment, other inhumane acts, torture, murder and enforced disappearance of persons as found in Article 13 of the Law); and

War crimes (illegal or arbitrary arrest and detention, cruel treatment, torture and murder as found in Article 14 of the Law).

Status

Pre-trial

Proceedings before the Kosovo Specialists Chambers

PRETRIAL PROCEEDINGS

On 23 April 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 24 July 2020, the Specialist Prosecutor submitted a revised indictment for confirmation upon order from the Pre-Trial Judge.

On 26 October 2020, the Pre-Trial Judge confirmed the revised indictment against the four accused and issued the arrest warrants and orders for transfer.

On 9, 10 and 11 November 2020, Thaçi, Veseli, Selimi and Krasniqi made their initial appearance before the Pre-Trial Judge, during which they pleaded not guilty to all the charges against them.

On 21 April 2021, the Pre-Trial Judge granted the applications of nine victims and admitted them as victims participating in the proceedings as Group I.

On 22 July 2021, the Pre-Trial Judge, in two decisions, granted in part the Defence motions and ordered the SPO to correct and amend the indictment by, inter alia, excluding the joint criminal enterprise III liability for the special intent crimes. The SPO filed the amended indictment on 3 September 2021.

Defence Counsel

Thaçi: Gregory Kehoe (Counsel), Dastid Pallaska (Co-Counsel), Pierre-Richard Prosper (Co-Counsel), Luka Mišetić (Co-Counsel) and Sophie Menegon (Co-Counsel)

Veseli: Ben Emmerson (Counsel), Andrew Strong (Co-Counsel) and Annie O'Reilly (Co-Counsel)

Selimi: David Young (Counsel) and Geoffrey Roberts (Co-Counsel)

Krasniqi: Venkateswari Alagendra (Counsel), Aidan Ellis (Co-Counsel) and Victor Băieșu (Co-Counsel)

Victims' Counsel

Group 1 – Simon Laws (counsel), Maria Radziejowska (co-counsel)