

Weekly Press Briefing Chambers and Registry N°11/2021 The Hague, 25/11/2021

Update

Welcome to the weekly press briefing of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, where we aim to provide you with an update on the latest developments at the court and a look ahead at next week.

In the Salih Mustafa trial, the eighth and ninth witness testified on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. The witnesses testified with protective measures, including the use of a pseudonym as well as face and voice distortion. They were both questioned by the SPO, the defence, the victims counsel and the Judges.

On Tuesday, Trial Panel I ordered the continued detention of Mr Mustafa. The Judges found that the risk that the Accused will obstruct the progress of proceedings by interfering with victims and witnesses continues to exist.

The Law provides that the Judges review every two months if the reasons for detention of an accused still exist. These reasons can be the risk of flight, the risk of obstructing criminal proceedings or the risk of committing the same or another criminal offence.

Upon request by the Judges, the Specialist Prosecutors Office on Tuesday filed a new order of testimony for the months of January and February and decided to no longer call one of its initially foreseen witnesses, because previous witnesses have already provided the same evidence.

The next hearing in this case will take place on 13 December 2021 at 09:30.



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In the case against Hysni Gucati and Nasim Haradinaj, Trial Panel II stated that it intends to issue a decision on the Defences' requests for dismissal of charges by 26 November. They stated this in the "Scheduling Order for Work Plan and Time Limits for the Next Steps in the Proceedings" of 9 November 2021.

If the Judges reject the Defences' request to dismiss the charges, a defence preparation conference will be held on 2 and 3 December.

You can find all public filings on the KSC website.

In other news, the Kosovo Specialist Chambers outreach team met this week with different groups of the general public, youth and civil society in Laplje Selo/ Llapllasellë, Pristina and Gjilan/Gnjilane area. At these interactive outreach events, the team provided information on the mandate and the latest developments in the proceedings before the Court and responded to questions and concerns raised by the participants.

**Journalist Questions** There were no questions asked