



## 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 trial of Hysni Gucati and Nasim Haradinaj, the Judges last Friday rejected the Defences' requests to dismiss the charges against them. On Monday, the Judges also rejected the Defences' request to appeal this decision.

At the end of the Defence preparation conference in the Gucati&Haradinaj case today, Trial Panel II issued a number of oral orders deciding, that the Defence case will start tomorrow, 3 December with the opening statement of Mr. Gucati's Defence, followed by their presentation of evidence on 6 December. Mr. Haradinaj's Defence case will commence after the end of the Gucati's Defence case. The Panel set 17 January 2022 as the target date for the closure of the Defence cases.

In the Pjetër Shala case, the Pre-Trial Judge on Monday granted the Defence's request to appeal two aspects of his decision wherein he had rejected challenges raised by the Defence against the form of the indictment. Today, the President assigned a Court of Appeals Panel consisting of Judge Michèle Picard, Judge Emilio Gatti and Judge Nina Jørgensen.

On the same day, the Pre-Trial Judge issued another decision, wherein he rejected the Defence's request to appeal his "Decision on Motion Challenging the Establishment and Jurisdiction of the Specialist Chambers".

In the Hashim Thaçi et al. case, the Defence and the Specialist Prosecutor filed submissions on issues related to the continued detention of some of the accused.

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Once the Pre-Trial Judge issues a public decision on the matter, it will be available on the KSC website.

The next hearing in the Salih Mustafa case will take place on 13 December 2021 at 09:30. The next witness called by the Specialist Prosecutor is scheduled to testify between 13 and 15 December. The witness will testify with protective measures, including voice and face distortion and the use of a pseudonym. This will be the last witness testifying this year. The case will resume in the New Year.

**Journalist Questions**

There were no questions asked

