



Update

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

In the case of Hysni Gucati and Nasim Haradinaj, the SPO on 3 March filed its final trial brief. The parties' closing statements are scheduled to take place from 14 March, starting at 9:30, until 18 March.

During the closing statements, the parties will seek to highlight the most important aspects from their cases and may be asked questions by the Panel members. The Accused have the right to speak last and their statements are scheduled for 18 March.

On 7 March, President Trendafilova assigned a Court of Appeals Panel following Mr Nasim Haradinaj's appeal of Trial Panel II's decision ordering his continued detention. The Panel is composed of the Judges Michèle Picard, Kai Ambos and Nina Jørgensen.

In the case of Mr Salih Mustafa, the Defence trial preparation conference was held jointly with the Victims' status conference on 8 and 9 March to discuss the next steps in the proceedings.

The Trial Panel issued a number of oral orders in this case, including scheduling 22 March as the date for the Defence's opening statements, followed by 23 March, when the testimony of the Defence's first witness will commence. The Defence was allocated a total of 36 hours for direct examination of its 17 witnesses authorized to testify.





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The Panel further authorized victim 05 to present their views and concerns before the Panel on 21 March at 9:30 for one hour. The victim's identity will be kept confidential vis-a-vis the public.

In addition, the Panel appointed the Dutch Forensic Institute to medically assess the psychiatric and physical damage and injuries suffered by three victims and ordered the Institute to prepare a report accordingly. This report is to be submitted to the Panel by 13 May and is without prejudice to the Panel's ultimate decision on the innocence or guilt of the Accused.

On 4 March, the Pre-Trial Judge in the Pjetër Shala case set 31 May as the tentative date by which he intends to transfer the case file to a Trial Panel.

The next pre-trial hearing in the case against Mr Taçi and co-accused is scheduled to take place on 24 March starting at 14:30.

In other news, this week, the KSC Outreach team has been meeting with law students in Mitrovica North, with law students from Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje and Lipjan/Lipljan in Pristina, with students of a medical high school in Pristina, with high school students in Peja/Peć as well as with communities in Novobërdë/Novo Brdo and Shillovë/Šilovo.

Journalist Questions

No questions asked.

