

Weekly Press Briefing Chambers and Registry N°40/2022 The Hague, 03/11/2022

## 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, and the opportunity to ask questions.

In the Thaçi et al. case, the parties have responded in writing to the order of the Pre-Trial Judge who had asked them to file written submissions in preparation of tomorrow's status conference.

The Prosecution as well as the Defence teams declared that they do not foresee any difficulties in transferring the case file to a trial panel around the end of the year, pending the completion of certain procedural matters.

The Prosecution further submitted that they do not foresee any difficulties in providing a list of the first 40 witnesses to be called during the trial by 18 November 2022.

The status conference, where these and other matters will be discussed, will take place tomorrow, on 4 November at 13:30 and can be followed from the public gallery or via the streaming function of the KSC website.

We would like to recall that Mr Thaçi, Mr Veseli, Mr Selimi and Mr Krasniqi were arrested in November 2020 based on an indictment that was confirmed by the Pre-Trial Judge *prior* to their arrests based on arrest warrants issued in their names.

Turning to another matter, the Single Judge in a matter related to Mr Driton Lajçi, rejected the Defence's second request to order the SPO to terminate the investigation against Mr Lajçi. The Single Judge did not find the length of investigation against Mr Lajçi unreasonable considering its complexity.

The Single Judge further stated in this decision that the Prosecution is under no obligation to provide Mr Lajçi with periodic updates on the status of the SPO's investigation against him.

In other news, the KSC Outreach team this week met with law students and journalists in Pristina and with high school students in Ferizaj/Urosevac.

## **Journalist Questions**

No questions were asked

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