KOSOVO SPECIALIST CHAMBERS
DHOMAT E SPECIALIZUARA TË KOSOVËS
SPECIJALIZOVANA VEĆA KOSOVA

**Weekly Press Briefing**
**Chambers and Registry**
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# Press 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 case of Hashim Thaçi, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi and Jakup Krasniqi, on 06 November and 10 November 2026, the Trial Panel granted two requests by Victims' Counsel allowing a relative of two deceased victims to resume participation in the proceedings on their behalf. On 10 November 2026, the Trial Panel granted a request by Victims' Counsel to extend the time and word limit for their reply to the joint Defence response concerning reparations. There are 156 participating victims in this case.

In the same case, on 06 and 11 November 2026, the Trial Panel ordered that lesser redacted versions of transcripts be made public related to the testimony of 8 witnesses. This follows earlier decisions by the Trial Panel to make public the previously confidential testimony of 49 witnesses.

These decisions reflect the public nature of the proceedings and the commitment of the judges to transparency. During the Thaçi et al war crimes trial, a majority of the witnesses testified entirely or mostly in public session, and 61 witnesses testified without any protective measures. Witness testimony that was initially confidential is reviewed continuously so that more testimonies can be made public later while ensuring the ongoing protection of victims and witnesses. Public transcripts and video recordings of trial hearings can be accessed on the KSC website, where they are organized by hearing date, or on the court's YouTube channel.

In the case of The Specialist Prosecutor v. Hashim Thaçi, Bashkim Smakaj, Isni Kilaj, Fadil Fazliu and Hajredin Kuçi, the pronouncement of the trial judgment is scheduled to take place next Tuesday, 17 November 2026, starting at 10:00 in the morning. The hearing will be broadcast through the streaming page of the website, where it can be viewed anywhere in the world in Albanian, English or Serbian with a short, 10-minute delay. The recording of the hearing will also be made available on YouTube.

According to the indictment, between at least 12 April 2023 and 2 November 2023, during separate, unprivileged visits to the Detention Facilities, Hashim Thaçi provided Bashkim Smakaj, Isni Kilaj, and Fadil Fazliu with confidential information about Prosecution witnesses, and attempted together with them, as well as other uncharged individuals, to influence the testimony of certain witnesses. The indictment also alleges that Mr Thaçi agreed with Mr Kuçi that the latter should contact Prosecution witnesses in the Thaçi et al. war crimes trial, contrary to an order prohibiting them to do so except in accordance with certain procedures.

All accused in this case have pleaded not guilty to all of the charges. Isni Kilaj was conditionally released in December of last year, while Bashkim Smakaj and Fadil Fazliu were conditionally released in February 2026. Mr Kuçi has been at liberty, and not been detained throughout the pre-trial and trial proceedings.



P.O. Box 47 | 2501 CA, The Hague | The Netherlands | www.scp-ks.org | T +31 (0)6 249 21 036

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