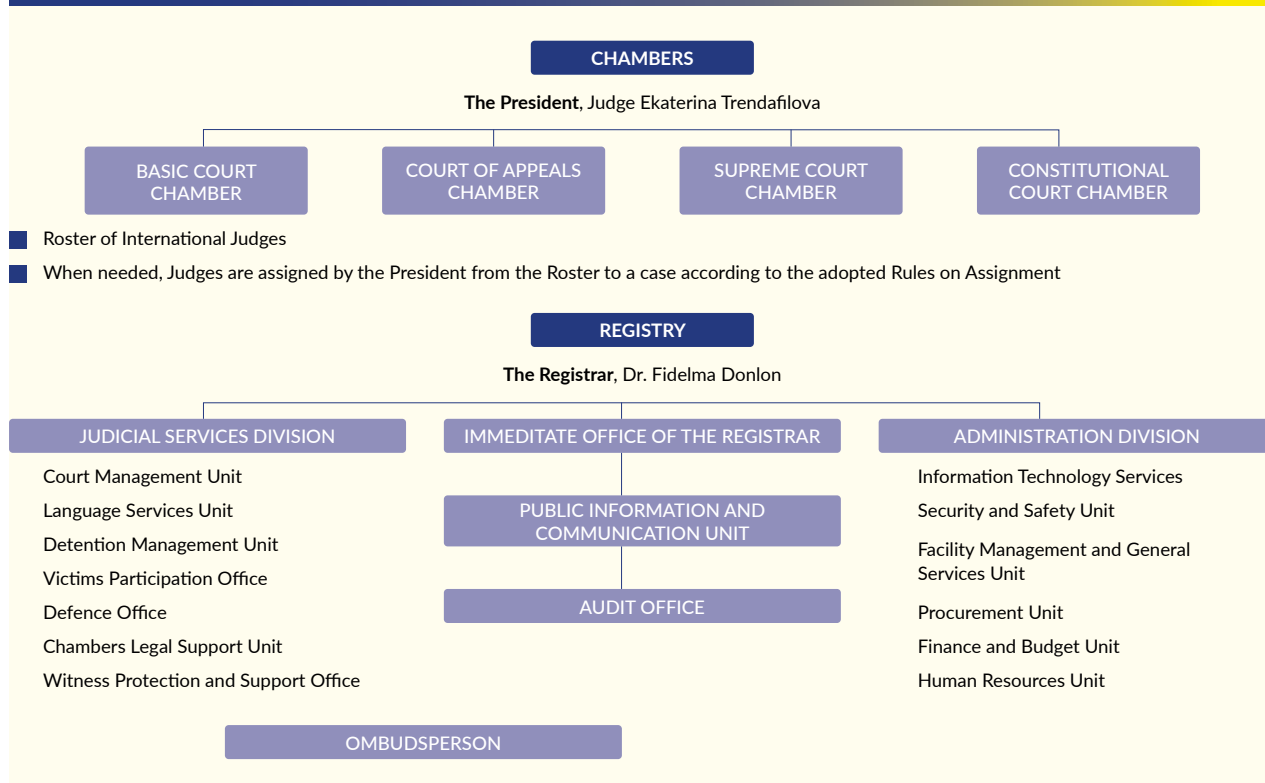




MANDATE

- Temporary judicial institution.
- Mandate and jurisdiction over crimes against humanity, war crimes and other crimes under Kosovo law as specified in Article 15 of the Law on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor's Office.
- Individual criminal responsibility only.
- Alleged crimes committed between 1 January 1998 and 31 December 2000 related to the allegations contained in the Council of Europe Assembly Report of 2011.
- KSC has jurisdiction over natural persons of Kosovo/Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) citizenship, or over persons accused of committing crimes against persons of Kosovo/FRY citizenship.
- KSC allows victims to participate in proceedings.

STRUCTURE



STAFF

- In accordance with the Exchange of Letters between the Kosovo President and High Representative of the European Union in 2014, the KSC is staffed by international judges and personnel.
- Nationals of 27 EU member states, and additional contributing states (Canada, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, United States) are eligible to apply.

KEY DOCUMENTS

- Law on ratification of the international agreement – 23 April 2014, ratified by the Kosovo Assembly.
- Constitution and Amendment of the Constitution, Article 162: The Specialist Chambers and the Specialist Prosecutor's Office – adopted by the Kosovo Assembly on 03 August 2015.
- Law on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor's Office – adopted by the Kosovo Assembly, 03 August 2015.
- Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers - latest amendments in June 2020.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

AUGUST 2015

The Kosovo Assembly adopts Article 162 of the Kosovo Constitution and the Law on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor's Office.

APRIL 2016

Dr Fidelma Donlon is appointed Registrar of the KSC, marking the commencement of work of the institution in The Hague. Dr Donlon is re-appointed Registrar in April 2024.

SEPTEMBER 2016

David Schwendiman is appointed Specialist Prosecutor.

DECEMBER 2016

Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova is appointed President of the Specialist Chambers, taking office in January 2017. Judge Trendafilova is reappointed President, effective December 2024.

JANUARY 2017

The Host State Agreement enters into force, providing legal basis for the KSC to conduct proceedings in the Netherlands.

FEBRUARY 2017

19 Judges are appointed to the Roster of International Judges.

MARCH 2017

Judges adopt the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. Specialist Chamber of the Constitutional Court confirms they comply with the Constitution in June 2017. Latest amendments enter into force in June 2020.

MAY 2018

Pietro Spera is appointed Ombudsperson of the KSC.

SEPTEMBER 2018

Jack Smith is appointed as Specialist Prosecutor following David Schwendiman's resignation.

FEBRUARY 2020

The Specialist Prosecutor announces his intent to initiate proceedings and President Trendafilova assigns a Pre-Trial Judge to review indictments.

SEPTEMBER 2020

Six new Judges appointed to the Roster of International Judges.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020

Arrest, transfer and initial/first appearances of Salih Mustafa, Hysni Gucati and Nasim Haradinaj.

NOVEMBER 2020

Arrest, transfer and initial appearances of Hashim Thaçi, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi and Jakup Krasniqi.

MARCH 2021

Arrest of Pjetër Shala in Belgium, followed by transfer to The Hague and initial appearance in April 2021.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021

Trials begin in the cases of Spec. Prosecutor v. Salih Mustafa and Spec. Prosecutor v. Hysni Gucati and Nasim Haradinaj.

MAY 2022

Trial Panel pronounced its judgment in the case of Specialist Prosecutor v. Hysni Gucati and Nasim Haradinaj.

DECEMBER 2022

Trial judgment pronounced in the case of Specialist Prosecutor v. Salih Mustafa.

FEBRUARY 2023

Appeal judgment pronounced in the case of Specialist Prosecutor v. Hysni Gucati and Nasim Haradinaj.

FEBRUARY/APRIL 2023

Trials begin in the cases of Spec. Prosecutor v. P. Shala and Spec. Prosecutor v. Hashim Thaçi, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi and Jakup Krasniqi.

APRIL 2023

Order for reparation to victims pronounced in the case of Specialist Prosecutor v. Salih Mustafa.

JUNE 2023

Kimberly West is appointed as Specialist Prosecutor.

OCTOBER 2023

Arrest, transfer and initial appearances of Sabit Januzi and Ismet Bahtijari.

OCTOBER/DECEMBER 2023

H. Gucati and N. Haradinaj conditionally released after having their sentences modified.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

Arrests, transfers and first appearances of Isni Kilaj and Haxhi Shala.

DECEMBER 2023

Appeal judgment pronounced in the case of Specialist Prosecutor v. Salih Mustafa.

JUNE 2024

One new Judge appointed to the Roster of International Judges following the resignation of another Judge.

JULY 2024

Trial judgment pronounced in the case of Specialist Prosecutor v. Pjetër Shala.

SEPTEMBER 2024

After the ruling by the KSC Supreme Court, the Appeals Panel imposed a new, reduced, sentence for Salih Mustafa.

NOVEMBER 2024

Order for reparation to victims pronounced in the case of Specialist Prosecutor v. Pjetër Shala.

DECEMBER 2024

One new Judge appointed to the Roster of International Judges following the resignation of another Judge.

DECEMBER 2024

Arrests, transfers and initial appearances of Hashim Thaçi, Bashkim Smakaj, Fadil Fazliu, Isni Kilaj and Hajredin Kuçi (administration of justice charges).

FEBRUARY 2025

Trial Panel I approved the plea agreements between the accused and the SPO, sentencing Sabit Januzi and Ismet Bahtijari to two years each, and Haxhi Shala to three years.

FEBRUARY 2025

Sabit Januzi and Ismet Bahtijari conditionally released after having their sentences modified.

JUNE 2025

KSC signed Agreement on Enforcement of Sentences with Belgium.

JULY 2025

Appeal judgment pronounced in the case of Specialist Prosecutor v. Pjetër Shala.

SEPTEMBER 2025

One new Judge appointed to the Roster of International Judges following the resignation of another Judge.