Mr Pietro Spera was appointed Ombudsperson of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers in May 2018. He has been serving as Judge in the Court of Genoa since 2010 where he presides over trials and facilitates mediation and conciliation. As former International Judge with the War Crimes and Organized Crime Chambers of the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo), Ombudsperson Spera has extensive international experience. He previously served as the Head of the Italian Justice Project in Afghanistan (Kabul), where he delivered justice reform projects designed to promote and ensure compliance with international human rights law.

Ombudsperson Spera has published on various subjects including case management and judicial efficiency. He is a member of the Roster of Experts for UN Sanctions Monitoring, as well as an expert for the EU project “Strengthening Efficiency, Accountability and Transparency of the Judicial and Prosecutorial System in Kosovo.”

The Ombudsperson's mandate and official functions are detailed in Constitutional Amendment No. 24, in the Law on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor’s Office in Rules 28 and 29 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, as well as in Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure for the Specialist Chamber of the Constitutional Court.

The establishment of the Office of the Ombudsperson within the structure of the KSC and SPO is distinctive in that it provides an additional layer of human rights protection for persons interacting with the KSC and the SPO.

For all media and general queries please contact the Public Information and Communication Unit at: mediaKSC@scp-ks.org, or call +31 (0)6 249 21 036.

You can contact the Office of the Ombudsperson regarding a complaint at: ombudsperson@scp-ks.org, visit www.scp-ks.org or write to:

Office of the Ombudsperson, Kosovo Specialist Chambers
P.O. Box 47
2501 CA, The Hague, The Netherlands
Among other functions, the Ombudsperson may:

- Receive complaints from persons interacting with the KSC and SPO alleging human rights violations.
- Conduct inquiries into admissible complaints.
- Enter and inspect detention facilities.
- Propose and facilitate mediation and reconciliation, where appropriate.
- Make recommendations and propose actions to the President of the KSC and the SPO on matters falling within their functions.
- Make referrals to the Specialist Chamber of the Constitutional Court.
- Participate as amicus curiae (friend of the court), upon invitation by an individual Judge or a Panel.

The Ombudsperson's activities include the power to conduct inquiries into complaints received. To this end, the Ombudsperson issued the Complaints Procedure setting out the various applicable steps and procedures. In addition, the Complaints Form issued by the Ombudsperson is the form which must be completed by individuals wishing to make a complaint asserting a violation of their fundamental rights by the KSC or SPO.

For more information, please see the Guide to the Complaints Procedure and the Complaints Procedure available on the KSC and SPO websites.

The Ombudsperson adopted and published the Code of Ethics for the Ombudsperson, which regulates professional standards applicable to activities of his Office.

The Ombudsperson is required to perform his duties with independence, impartiality, professionalism and to act consistently with the high moral character required by the Constitution of Kosovo, the Law on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor’s Office and the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.

For all information relating to submitting a complaint, please see the Complaints Form, Complaints Procedure and the Guide to the Complaints Procedure at: www.scp-ks.org.