

In: KSC-BC-2020-06

Specialist Prosecutor v. Hashim Thaçi, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep

Selimi and Jakup Krasniqi

**Before:** Trial Panel II

Judge Charles L. Smith, III, Presiding Judge

Judge Christoph Barthe

Judge Guénaël Mettraux

Judge Fergal Gaynor, Reserve Judge

**Registrar:** Dr Fidelma Donlon

Filing Participant: Specialist Prosecutor's Office

Date: 12 September 2024

**Language**: English

**Classification**: Public

## Prosecution reply relating to Rule 154 motion F02530

Specialist Prosecutor's Office Counsel for Hashim Thaçi

Kimberly P. West Luka Mišetić

Counsel for Kadri Veseli

Counsel for Victims Rodney Dixon

Simon Laws Counsel for Rexhep Selimi

**Geoffrey Roberts** 

Counsel for Jakup Krasniqi

Venkateswari Alagendra

- 1. The Response<sup>1</sup> ignores prior findings of the Panel, and the established standard for admissibility of statements, particularly in the context of Rule 154, where the witnesses will be available for cross-examination.
- 2. In relation to W03885, the Defence raises arguments about the purported centrality of his Proposed Evidence.<sup>2</sup> As the Panel has previously held,<sup>3</sup> the centrality of a witness's evidence is not, of itself, a ground which prevents its admission under Rule 154. The Panel has repeatedly confirmed that in light of the ability to cross-examine the witness, evidence going to important issues in the case is admissible under Rule 154 and does not, without more, cause undue prejudice.<sup>4</sup>
- 3. Regarding W04422's Proposed Evidence, as already stated in the Motion,<sup>5</sup> the SPO is only tendering the pages which are W04422's proposed Rule 154 Statement.<sup>6</sup>
- 4. For the foregoing reasons and those previously given, the Motion should be granted.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Joint Defence Response to Prosecution motion for admission of evidence of Witnesses W03885, W04422, and W04669 pursuant to Rule 154 and related request, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02562, 11 September 2024, Confidential ('Response').

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Response, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02562, para.3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Decision on Prosecution Motion for Admission of Evidence of W01453, W03878, W04446, W04575, and W04651 Pursuant to Rule 154 (F02005), KSC-BC-2020-06/F02117, 12 February 2024, Confidential ('12 February 2024 Decision'), para.17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See e.g. Decision on Prosecution Motion for Admission of Evidence of W01511, W04260, W04305, W04410, W04744, W04752, and W04864 Pursuant to Rule 154 (F02204), KSC-BC-2020-06/F02328, 22 May 2024, Confidential, paras 55, 70-71, 88; 12 February 2024 Decision, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02117, para.17; Decision on Prosecution Motion for Admission of Evidence of W00072, W02153 and W04586, KSC-BC-2020-06/F01664, 10 July 2023, Confidential, para.31; Corrected Version of Decision on Second Prosecution Motion Pursuant to Rule 154, KSC-BC-2020-06/F01595/COR, 9 June 2023, Confidential, paras 15, 23, 33, 47, 82-83; Decision on Admission of Evidence of First Twelve SPO Witnesses Pursuant to Rule 154, KSC-BC-2020-06/F01380, 16 March 2023, Confidential, para.28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> KSC-BC-2020-06/F02530/A02, p.2. *See also* Prosecution motion for admission of evidence of Witnesses W03885, W04422, and W04669 pursuant to Rule 154 and related request, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02530, 4 September 2024, Confidential ('Motion').

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Specifically, pages SPOE00119681-00119689 (English) and SPOE00119697-00119706 (Albanian).

**Word Count: 348** 

Kimberly P. West

**Specialist Prosecutor** 

Thursday, 12 September 2024

At The Hague, the Netherlands.