



In: KSC-BC-2023-12

Before: Pre-Trial Judge
Judge Marjorie Masselot

Registrar: Dr Fidelma Donlon

Filed by: Registrar

Date: 6 February 2025

Language: English

File Name: The Specialist Prosecutor v. Hashim Thaçi, Bashkim Smakaj,
Isni Kilaj, Fadil Fazliu and Hajredin Kuçi

Classification: Public

**Registrar's Notification of Letter from Counsel for Mr Hashim Thaçi
Seeking Early Termination of Appointment
with two confidential and *ex parte* Annexes**

Specialist Prosecutor's Office
Kimberly P. West

Specialist Counsel for Hashim Thaçi
Nina Tavakoli

Duty Counsel for Bashkim Smakaj
Bas Martens

Specialist Counsel for Isni Kilaj
Iain Edwards

Duty Counsel for Fadil Fazliu
Michiel Pestman

Specialist Counsel for Hajredin Kuçi
Alexander Admiraal

1. The Registrar hereby notifies the Trial Panel that, on 5 February 2025, Specialist Counsel for Mr Hashim Thaçi ('Mr Thaçi'), Ms Nina Tavakoli ('Ms Tavakoli'), requested the Registrar's approval to terminate her representation of Mr Thaçi in this case early, arguing that there is good cause to do so pursuant to Section 16(2)(b) of the Directive on Counsel.¹
2. Pursuant to Section 16(1) of the Directive on Counsel, the Registrar, in considering early termination of representation, shall have due regard to the importance of continuity of representation and must obtain the approval of the Panel seised of the matter in which Specialist Counsel is acting. Moreover, pursuant to Article 21(5)(a) of the Law,² Mr Thaçi must be represented by Specialist Counsel as he is in detention on remand.
3. In this regard, the Registrar notes that Ms Tavakoli indicated in her letter that Mr Thaçi would continue to be represented in this case by his current Co-Counsel, Ms Sophie Menegon ('Ms Menegon'). To this end, on 6 February 2025, the Head of the Defence Office requested that Mr Thaçi confirm by Monday, 10 February 2025 whether he wishes for Ms Menegon, or another eligible Counsel, to be appointed as his Specialist Counsel in this case, should Ms Tavakoli's appointment be terminated early, as requested.³
4. The Registrar will keep the Trial Panel informed of any further information received in this regard.

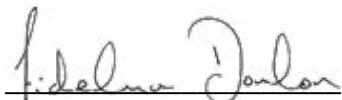
¹ Annex 1, confidential and *ex parte*; Registry Practice Direction, Directive on Counsel, KSC-BD-04-Rev1, 22 February 2024, public ('Directive on Counsel').

² Law No. 05/L-053 on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor's Office, 3 August 2015 ('Law'). See also Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence Before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, KSC-BD-03/Rev3, 2 June 2020, public ('Rules').

³ Annex 2, confidential and *ex parte*.

5. Pursuant to Rule 82(3) of the Rules, the Annexes to this filing are classified as confidential and *ex parte*, as they contain personal information pertaining to Specialist Counsel and Co-Counsel, as well as Mr Thaçi's representation.

Word count: 331

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Fidelma Donlon', written in black ink over a horizontal line.

Dr Fidelma Donlon

Registrar

Thursday, 6 February 2025

At The Hague, the Netherlands