

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:** 24 March 2025

Language: English

**Classification**: Confidential

# Prosecution reply relating to Rule 153 motion F02989

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### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Specialist Prosecutor's Office ('SPO') hereby replies to the Defence Response,¹ which repeats arguments previously raised by the Defence with regard to W02172's evidence in the First Response,² and which have already been addressed by the Panel in its Rule 153 Decision.³ The Response fails to identify any additional reasons why the Motion, as resubmitted,⁴ should not be granted in its entirety. W02172's evidence is admissible as it is relevant, *prima facie* reliable, has probative value which is not outweighed by any prejudice, and satisfies the requirements of Rule 153.

## II. SUBMISSIONS

2. The Defence objections to W02172's Proposed Evidence<sup>5</sup> have already been considered and addressed by the Panel in its Rule 153 Decision.<sup>6</sup> In the Response, the Defence expressly incorporates by reference its prior objections,<sup>7</sup> re-hashes arguments raised in the First Response,<sup>8</sup> and even repeats verbatim the previous findings made by the Panel on these very objections.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Joint Defence Response to Prosecution consolidated motion for the admission of the evidence of witnesses W02172 and W04858 pursuant to Rule 153, KSC-BC-2020-06/F03039, 19 March 2025, Confidential ('Response').

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Joint Defence Response to 'Prosecution motion for the admission of the evidence of witnesses W00964, W02172, W02538, W02549, W04238, W04380, W04386, W04436, W04661, and W04734 pursuant to Rule 153', KSC-BC-2020-06/F02856, 23 January 2025 ('First Response'), paras 29, 31-41.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Decision on Prosecution Motion for the Admission of the Evidence of Witnesses W00964, W02172, W02538, W02549, W04238, W04380, W04386, W04436, W04661, and W04734 pursuant to Rule 153, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02937, 14 February 2025 ('Rule 153 Decision'), paras 15-17, 24-25, 27-29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Prosecution consolidated motion for the admission of the evidence of witnesses W02172 and W04858 pursuant to Rule 153, and related protective measures request with confidential Annex 1, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02989, 7 March 2025, Confidential ('Motion').

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Motion, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02989, Confidential Annex 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Rule 153 Decision, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02937, paras 15-17, 24-25, 27-29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Response, KSC-BC-2020-06/F03039, para.4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See First Response, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02856, paras 28-29, 31, 35, 38-41. Compare with Response, KSC-BC-2020-06/F03039, paras 4, 7-14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Response, KSC-BC-2020-06/F03039, paras 5-6, 13; and Rule 153 Decision, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02937, para.27.

- Insofar as the Response mirrors previous arguments, those have already been 3. addressed and decided upon<sup>10</sup> and do not warrant reconsideration. The SPO also incorporates by reference its prior reply to those arguments.<sup>11</sup>
- 4. The Motion implements the Panel's findings<sup>12</sup> and thus eliminates the prejudicial effect that led the Panel to initially deny the admission of W02172's proposed evidence through Rule 153.

### III. CLASSIFICATION

5. Noting that the Defence has not filed a public redacted version of the Response, this reply is confidential pursuant to Rule 82(4). However, as it does not contain any confidential information, the SPO requests its reclassification as public.

# IV. RELIEF REQUESTED

For the reasons given above and previously, the Motion should be granted in its entirety.

Word count: 548

Kimberly P. West

**Specialist Prosecutor** 

Monday, 24 March 2025

At The Hague, the Netherlands.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See Rule 153 Decision, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02937, para.15, specifically considering the Defence's objections related to (i) acts and conduct; (ii) KLA structure; (iii) the role of certain JCE members; and (iv) the existence, or not, of a KLA policy targeting alleged collaborators. Compare with the same points raised in the Response, KSC-BC-2020-06/F03039, paras 4, 7-14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Prosecution reply relating to Rule 153 motion F02782, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02888, 31 January 2025, Confidential, paras 2-5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See Motion, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02989, paras 7-9, footnote 6, and Annex 1 to the Motion, containing redacted material. Compare with Rule 153 Decision, KSC-BC-2020-06/F02937, paras 17-18, 26, 28-29.