



KOSOVO SPECIALIST CHAMBERS
DHOMAT E SPECIALIZUARA TË KOSOVËS
SPECIJALIZOVANA VEÇA KOSOVA

In: **KSC-CA-2024-03**

Before: **A Panel of the Court of Appeals Chamber**
Judge Michèle Picard
Judge Kai Ambos
Judge Nina Jørgensen

Registrar: Fidelma Donlon

Date: 1 April 2025

Original language: English

Classification: **Public**

Order Scheduling an Appeal Hearing

Specialist Prosecutor's Office:

Kimberly P. West

Counsel for Pjetër Shala:

Jean-Louis Gilissen

Counsel for Victims:

Simon Laws

THE PANEL OF THE COURT OF APPEALS CHAMBER of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (“Court of Appeals Panel”, “Appeals Panel” or “Panel” and “Specialist Chambers”, respectively),¹ acting pursuant to Article 33(1)(c) of the Law on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor’s Office (“Law”) and Rule 172 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence (“Rules”), hereby issues this Order.

1. The Appeals Panel notes that Rule 180 of the Rules provides that, “[a]fter the expiry of the time limits for the filing of the briefs provided for in Rule 179, the Court of Appeals Panel may set the date of an appeal hearing, if necessary.”² The Panel further notes that pursuant to Rule 181(4) of the Rules, “[t]he Court of Appeals Panel shall endeavour to decide the motion for additional evidence prior to an appeal hearing [...]”.

2. On 4 February 2025, the briefing was completed regarding Mr Pjetër Shala’s (“Shala”) appeal against the Trial Judgment issued in KSC-BC-2020-04.³ On 28 March 2025, the Panel issued its decision on Shala’s motion to present additional evidence on appeal pursuant to Rule 181 of the Rules.⁴ Taking into consideration the specific circumstances of this case, the Panel is satisfied that an appeal hearing is

¹ F00011, Decision Assigning a Court of Appeals Panel, 3 September 2024 (confidential, reclassified as public on 4 September 2024).

² See also KCS-CA-2023-02, F00029, Order Scheduling an Appeal Hearing, 17 August 2023, para. 1.

³ See, notably, KSC-BC-2020-04, F00847/RED, Public redacted version of Trial Judgment and Sentence, 24 September 2024 (confidential version filed on 16 July 2024) (“Trial Judgment”); F00017/COR/RED, Public Redacted Version of Corrected Version of Revised Defence Notice of Appeal, 31 October 2024 (corrected confidential version filed on 30 October 2024, uncorrected confidential version filed on 30 September 2024) (a prior version of the notice of appeal was filed: F00010/RED3, Public Redacted Version of Defence Notice of Appeal, 11 October 2024 (confidential version filed on 2 September 2024)); F00029/COR/RED2, Public Redacted Version of Corrected Version of Defence Appeal Brief, 13 January 2025 (corrected confidential version filed on 26 November 2024, uncorrected confidential version filed on 25 November 2024); F00040/RED, Public redacted version of ‘Prosecution Response Brief with two public annexes’, 30 January 2025 (confidential version filed on 17 January 2025); F00041/RED, Public Redacted Version of Victims’ Counsel’s Response to the Defence Appeal Brief, 7 February 2025 (confidential version filed on 17 January 2025); F00043/COR/RED, Public Redacted Version of Corrected Version of Defence Reply Brief, 26 March 2025 (corrected confidential version filed on 6 March 2025, uncorrected confidential version filed on 4 February 2025).

⁴ See F00053/RED, Public Redacted Version of Decision on Defence Motion to Present Additional Evidence on Appeal, 28 March 2025 (confidential version filed on 28 March 2025).

necessary and hereby schedules it for **Thursday, 15 May 2025 at 13:30** and **Friday, 16 May 2025 at 10:00**.

3. Moreover, subject to adjustments as appropriate, the schedule for the Appeal Hearing shall be as follows. The Panel notes in this regard that the time allocated for the submissions, responses and reply includes any questions from the Panel which may arise during the hearing.

Thursday, 15 May 2025

13:30-13:40 – Introductory statement by the Presiding Judge (10 minutes)

13:40-15:10 – Submissions of Defence (1 hour 30 minutes)

15:10-15:40 – *Break (30 minutes)*

15:40-17:10 – Response of SPO (1 hour 30 minutes)

Friday, 16 May 2025

10:00-11:00 – Response of Victims’ Counsel (1 hour)

11:00-11:20 – Reply of Defence (20 minutes)

11:20-11:30 – Optional personal address by Shala (10 minutes)

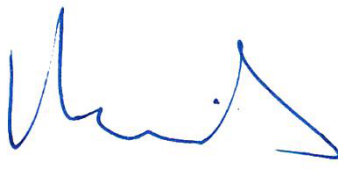
11:30-11:35 – Concluding statement by the Presiding Judge (5 minutes)

4. Finally, in accordance with Rules 68 and 173(3) of the Rules, the Panel instructs the Defence to indicate via email to the Court Management Unit, by **Monday, 5 May 2025 at 16:00**, whether the Accused wishes to participate in the Appeal Hearing, and/or whether the Accused wishes to appear via video-conference. If the Accused does not wish to participate in the Appeal Hearing, the Defence should submit the pertinent waivers, in the same manner and by the same date and time.

5. For these reasons, the Court of Appeals Panel:

SCHEDULES the Appeal Hearing for Thursday, 15 May 2025 at 13:30 and Friday, 16 May 2025 at 10:00; and

INSTRUCTS the Defence to indicate, by **Monday, 5 May 2025 at 16:00**, and in the manner set out above at paragraph 4, whether the Accused wishes to participate in the Appeal Hearing and, if necessary, submit the pertinent waivers.



**Judge Michèle Picard,
Presiding Judge**

Dated this Tuesday, 1 April 2025

At The Hague, the Netherlands