

SPECIALIST PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE ZYRA E PROKURORIT TË SPECIALIZUAR SPECIJALIZOVANO TUŽILAŠTVO

In: KSC-BC-2023-12 Specialist Prosecutor v. Hashim Thaçi, Bashkim Smakaj, Isni Kilaj, Fadil Fazliu, and Hajredin Kuçi

Before: Pre-Trial Judge

Judge Marjorie Masselot

**Registrar:** Dr Fidelma Donlon

Filing Participant: Specialist Prosecutor's Office

**Date:** 7 July 2025

Language: English

Classification: Public

Public redacted version of 'Prosecution submissions on review of detention of

Hashim Thaçi'

**Specialist Prosecutor's Office** 

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. Pursuant to Decision F00325,<sup>1</sup> the Specialist Prosecutor's Office ('SPO') files its submissions on the next review of Hashim THAÇI's detention.

2. In numerous decisions, the Pre-Trial Judge has properly and consistently found: (i) a grounded suspicion that THAÇI committed crimes within the jurisdiction of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers ('KSC');<sup>2</sup> (ii) the existence of a risk of flight;<sup>3</sup> (iii) articulable grounds to believe that THAÇI will obstruct the progress of KSC proceedings,<sup>4</sup> and will commit further offences;<sup>5</sup> (iv) that no release conditions can mitigate the Article 41(6)(b) of the Law<sup>6</sup> risks;<sup>7</sup> and (v) that THAÇI's continued detention is proportional.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Third Decision on Review of Detention of Hashim Thaçi, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, 5 June 2025 ('Decision F00325'), para.36(c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *See* Public Redacted Version of Decision on the Confirmation of the Indictment, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00036/RED, 29 November 2024, paras 210, 228, 235, 249-250, 313(a); Public Redacted Version of Decision on Request for Arrest Warrants and Related Matters, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00037/RED, 29 November 2024, ('Decision on Arrest and Transfer'), para.43; Transcript (Initial Appearance), 8 December 2024, pp. 18-19; Decision on Review of Detention of Hashim Thaçi, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00165, 7 February 2025 ('Decision F00165'), paras 14-16; Second Decision on Review of Detention of Hashim Thaçi, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00250, 7 April 2025 ('Decision F00250'), paras 16-18; Decision F00325, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, paras 17-18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *See* Decision on Arrest and Transfer, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00037/RED, paras 49, 55; Transcript (Initial Appearance), 8 December 2024, pp. 18-19; Decision F00165, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00165, paras 21-28, 36; Decision F00250, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00250, paras 23-27, 35; Decision F00325, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, paras 19-20, 27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *See* Decision on Arrest and Transfer, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00037/RED, para.50; Transcript (Initial Appearance), 8 December 2024, pp. 18-19; Decision F00165, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00165, paras 29-32, 36; Decision F00250, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00250, paras 28-32, 35; Decision F00325, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, paras 21-24, 27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *See* Decision on Arrest and Transfer, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00037/RED, paras 53-54; Transcript (Initial Appearance), 8 December 2024, pp. 18-19; Decision F00165, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00165, paras 33-36; Decision F00250, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00250, paras 33-35; Decision F00325, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, paras 25-27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Law no.05/L-053 on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor's Office, 3 August 2015 ('Law'). All references to 'Article(s)' refer to articles of the Law, unless otherwise specified.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *See* Transcript (Initial Appearance), 8 December 2024, pp. 18-19; Decision F00165, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00165, paras 37-40; Decision F00250, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00250, paras 36-39; Decision F00325, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, paras 28-30.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *See* Transcript (Initial Appearance), 8 December 2024, pp. 18-19; Decision F00165, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00165, paras 41-44; Decision F00250, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00250, paras 40-44; Decision F00325, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, paras 31-35.

3. No information or developments to the contrary have subsequently intervened, and these findings remain unaltered and appropriate at this time. THAÇI's continued detention therefore remains necessary and proportionate.

## **II. SUBMISSIONS**

4. Following the well-grounded and sustained findings outlined above, there have been no consequential changes which undercut Decision F00325. Accordingly, and as a review of detention under Rule 57(2) of the Rules<sup>9</sup> considers what has changed, *if anything*, since the prior ruling on detention,<sup>10</sup> the continued detention of THAÇI remains necessary and proportionate. Importantly, the Pre-Trial Judge is not required to make findings on the factors already decided upon in an earlier ruling, but rather need only satisfy herself that they continue to apply.<sup>11</sup>

5. Although the presence of just one risk under Article 41(6)(b) is sufficient to require continued detention on remand,<sup>12</sup> all three risks remain evident at this time. Further, no condition of release can appropriately mitigate them. Indeed, the risks enumerated in Decision F00325 and earlier decisions – that is, the articulable grounds to believe that THAÇI may flee, obstruct the process of KSC proceedings, and commit further offences – can only be effectively managed in the KSC Detention Centre, whether considered in isolation or comprehensively. This is affirmed by the Pre-Trial Judge's most recent determination, that any assurance(s) provided by THAÇI cannot adequately mitigate the risks under Articles 41(6)(b).<sup>13</sup> Ultimately, when these risks

<sup>13</sup> Decision F00325, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, paras 28-30.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Rules of Procedure and Evidence Before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, KSC-BD-03/Rev3/2020, 2 June 2020 ('Rules'). All references to 'Rule' or 'Rules' herein refer to the Rules, unless otherwise specified.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Specialist Prosecutor v. Gucati and Haradinaj, Decision on Nasim Haradinaj's Appeal Against Decision Reviewing Detention, KSC-BC-2020-07/IA002/F00005, 9 February 2021 ('Haradinaj Appeal'), para.55.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> *Haradinaj* Appeal, KSC-BC-2020-07/IA002/F00005, para.55; *Specialist Prosecutor v. Pjetër Shala*, Public Redacted Version of Decision on Pjetër Shala's Appeal Against Decision on Review of Detention, KSC-BC-2020-04, IA003/F00005/RED, 11 February 2022, para.16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See for example Decision on Isni Kilaj's Appeal Against Decision on Continued Detention, KSC-BC-2023-12/IA001/F00005, 28 January 2025, para.17 ('[i]f one of those conditions is fulfilled, the other conditions do not have to be addresses in order for detention to be maintained').

are clear and present and no lesser measures than detention are available, the accused shall continue to be detained.<sup>14</sup> The repeated findings as to the articulable risks attributable to THAÇI, pursuant to Article 41 of the Law, have been made on the basis of numerous individualised and well-grounded factors,<sup>15</sup> reflecting an appropriate holistic approach.

6. Nor has the limited further passage of time altered the assessment. THAÇI is charged with 11 counts of Article 15(2) offences and faces a potentially lengthy sentence if convicted. Separately, and as repeatedly noted by the Pre-Trial Judge, these proceedings continue to move forward expeditiously.<sup>16</sup> Significant recent benchmarks of the progress since Decision F00325 was issued include: (i) that all preliminary motions have been decided by the Pre-Trial Judge,<sup>17</sup> and are pending any associated appeals; (ii) an important investigative effort, [REDACTED], has been completed, reflecting a major milestone, [REDACTED];<sup>18</sup> (iii) that search results from seized phones have been and continue to be provided to the Accused on a rolling basis; (iv) the SPO's filing of its' Third Rule 102(3) Notice<sup>19</sup> and the disclosure of the requested material to the defence teams of all Accused; and (v) the continued disclosure of other material required by the Rules. Finally, THAÇI continues to gain increased insight

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Specialist Prosecutor v. Gucati and Haradinaj, Decision on Hysni Gucati's Appeal on Matters Related to Arrest and Detention, KSC-BC-2020-07/IA001/F00005, 9 December 2020, para.51.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> *See* Decision on Arrest and Transfer, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00037/RED, paras 49-55; Transcript (Initial Appearance), 8 December 2024, pp. 18-19; Decision F00165, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00165, paras 21-36; Decision F00250, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00250, paras 23-35; Decision F00325, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, paras 19-27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> See for example Decision F00325, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, para.32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Decision on the Thaçi Defence Preliminary Motion on Jurisdiction, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00343, 19 June 2025; Decision on Preliminary Motions Alleging Defects in the Indictment, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00347, 24 June 2025; Public Redacted Version of Decision on Preliminary Motions for Adjournment and Severance of the Proceedings, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00354/RED, 30 June 2025. <sup>18</sup> See generally [REDACTED].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Prosecution's third Rule 102(3) notice, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00341, 17 June 2025 ('Third Rule 102(3) Notice').

into the evidence underpinning the charges against him through the ongoing disclosure process.<sup>20</sup>

7. This relevant backdrop – which has not changed since Decision F00325 – informs the current review as to detention on remand, and THAÇI's continued detention remains necessary and proportionate.

III. CLASSIFICATION

8. This filing is classified as confidential pursuant to Rule 82(3), because it refers to confidential information. A public redacted version will be filed.

IV. RELIEF REQUESTED

9. For the foregoing reasons, the Pre-Trial Judge should order THAÇI's continued detention.

Word count: 1,223

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Monday, 7 July 2025 At The Hague, the Netherlands

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See for example Decision F00325, KSC-BC-2023-12/F00325, paras 19, 21.