

In: KSC-BC-2023-12

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

Before: **Single Trial Judge**
Judge Christopher Gosnell

Registrar: Dr Fidelma Donlon

Filing Participant: Specialist Counsel for Hashim Thaçi

Date: 2 February 2026

Language: English

Classification: Public

Thaçi Defence Notice pursuant to F00602

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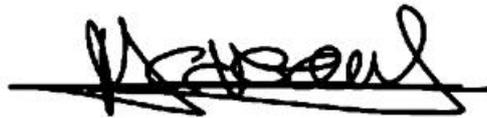
Specialist Counsel for Hajredin Kuçi

Alexander Admiraal

1. On 4 December 2025, the Single Trial Judge issued an Order Scheduling Commencement of Trial, and ordered that the election required by Rule 117(3) of the Rules¹ be made by way of filing by 2 February 2026.²
2. Accordingly, the Defence of Mr Thaçi (the “Defence”) hereby notifies to the Single Trial Judge that it does not intend to give an opening statement at the commencement of trial, after that of the SPO.³
3. The Defence reserves its right to give an opening statement after the closing of the SPO’s case and before the opening of the Defence case, if any, in accordance with Rule 117(3)(b).

[Word count: 159 words]

Respectfully submitted,



Sophie Menegon

Counsel for Hashim Thaçi

Monday, 2 February 2026

Paris, France

¹ KSC-BD-03/Rev3/2020, Rules of Procedure and Evidence before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (“Rules”).

² KSC-BC-2023-12/F00602, Single Trial Judge, Order Scheduling Commencement of Trial, 4 December 2025, public, para.27(d).

³ Mr Thaçi wishes to make an unsworn statement pursuant to Rule 142(1) at the commencement of trial, *i.e.* after the opening statements on 27 February 2026.