



KOSOVO SPECIALIST CHAMBERS
DHOMAT E SPECIALIZUARA TË KOSOVËS
SPECIJALIZOVANA VEÇA KOSOVA

File number: KSC-CC-2026-34

Before: **The Specialist Chamber of the Constitutional Court**

Judge Vidar Stensland, Presiding

Judge Roumen Nenkov

Judge Piotr Hofmański

Registrar: Fidelma Donlon

Date: 3 July 2026

Language: English

Classification: Public

**Decision on Pjetër Shala's Request for an Extension of Time to File a Referral to
the Constitutional Court**

Specialist Counsel for Pjetër Shala

Jean-Louis Gilissen

Hédi Aouini

Specialist Prosecutor

Kimberly P. West

Victims' Counsel

Simon Laws

Maria Radziejowska

1. On 1 July 2026, Mr Pjetër Shala (“Mr Shala”) filed a request to the Specialist Chamber of the Constitutional Court (“Chamber”) seeking an extension of the time limit to make a referral before the Chamber (“Request”).¹ Mr Shala is represented by Mr Jean-Louis Gillisen and Mr Hédi Aouini (“Specialist Counsel”).
2. On 2 July 2026, the President of the Specialist Chambers (“SC”) assigned the above Panel pursuant to Article 33(3) of Law No. 05/L-053 on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor’s Office.²
3. Mr Shala submits that good cause exists for the requested extension, namely that: (i) following a previous referral lodged by Mr Shala, Specialist Counsel must prepare a reply to the responses of the Specialist Prosecutor’s Office and Victims’ Counsel, due on 10 July 2026, which raises complex legal issues and requires substantial time and resources;³ and (ii) the SC’s summer court recess period from 27 July to 14 August will significantly reduce Specialist Counsel’s operational capacity at a critical stage in the preparation of the referral.⁴ Accordingly, he requests a thirty-seven (37)-day extension of the time limit to file his referral before the Chamber, namely until 2 October 2026, in order to ensure his ability to present his case in a full and effective manner.⁵
4. Turning to the Request, the Chamber observes that, pursuant to Rule 20(1)(b) of the Rules of Procedure for the Specialist Chamber of the Constitutional Court (“SCCC Rules”), referrals by authorised individuals must be filed within two (2) months from the date of the notification of the final ruling concerning the alleged violation which, according to the Request, was 25 June 2026.⁶ Therefore, and considering also Rule 6(2) of the SCCC Rules, the deadline for the referral is 26 August 2026. In this regard, the Chamber further notes that, pursuant to Rule 6(4)(a) of the SCCC Rules, it may, *proprio*

¹ KSC-CC-2026-34, F00001, Defence request for an extension of time to file a referral to the Constitutional Court, public, 1 July 2026.

² KSC-CC-2026-34, Decision assigning judges to a Constitutional Court Panel, public, 2 July 2026.

³ Request, paras 3-4.

⁴ Request, para. 5.

⁵ Request, paras 2, 6-7.

⁶ Request, para. 1. See also KSC-SC-2025-06, PL002/F00009, Decision on Pjetër Shala’s request for protection of legality, public, 25 June 2026 (“Decision on protection of legality”).

motu or on a showing of good cause, extend any time limit prescribed by the SCCC Rules or set by the Panel.

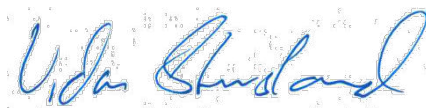
5. Having carefully considered the reasons advanced in the Request, the Chamber deems it appropriate to extend the time limit prescribed by Rule 20(1)(b) of the SCCC Rules. However, given the nature of the constitutional proceedings to be initiated by the intended referral, which are primarily concerned with assessing alleged violations of individual rights rather than reviewing the factual or legal findings of the criminal chambers,⁷ the arguably limited scope of the referral as contemplated,⁸ and the fact that Specialist Counsel have represented Mr Shala throughout the proceedings before the SC and are therefore familiar with the issues intended to be raised, the Chamber finds that an extension until 15 September 2026 is sufficient for the preparation of the referral.

6. In light of the above, the Chamber extends the time limit for Mr Shala to file his referral to 15 September 2026.

FOR THESE REASONS,

The Specialist Chamber of the Constitutional Court

Grants, in part, the Request, and *extends* the time limit for Mr Shala to make his referral to **15 September 2026**.



Judge Vidar Stensland
Presiding Judge

Done in English on Friday, 3 July 2026

At The Hague, the Netherlands

⁷ See, for example, KSC-CC-2025-31, Decision on the referral of Hashim Thaçi to the Constitutional Court Panel concerning fundamental rights, public, 5 February 2026, para. 44, with further references to case law.

⁸ Request, para. 1. See also Decision on protection of legality.