



KOSOVO SPECIALIST CHAMBERS
DHOMAT E SPECIALIZUARA TË KOSOVËS
SPECIJALIZOVANA VEÇA KOSOVA

In: KSC-BC-2020-06

**The 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 Guénaél Mettraux

Judge Fergal Gaynor, Reserve Judge

Registrar: Fidelma Donlon

Date: 26 October 2026

Language: English

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**Public Redacted Version of Decision on Prosecution Submissions of Proposed
Lesser Redacted Transcripts (W04264, W04500, W04875, W02183, W04874, W04826,
W04743, W02714, W00542 and W04290)**

Specialist Prosecutor

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TRIAL PANEL II (“Panel”), pursuant to Articles 21(2), 23 and 40(6)(f) of Law No. 05/L-053 on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor’s Office (“Law”) and Rules 80, 84(1) and 116(4)(b) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (“Rules”), hereby renders this decision.

I. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

1. On 7 November 2023, the Panel issued an oral order on the review of private session portions of hearing transcripts in view of their reclassification, wherein it set out the procedure to be followed by the Parties and participants.¹

2. Between 13-15, 20-23, 27-30 January 2025 and between 10-13 February 2025, W04264,² W04500,³ W04875,⁴ W02183,⁵ W04874,⁶ W04826,⁷ W04743,⁸ W02714,⁹ W00542¹⁰ and W04290¹¹ testified in these proceedings.

3. On 19 and 21 February 2025, and on 6, 13 and 27 March 2025, following *inter partes* correspondence with the Defence teams for Hashim Thaçi, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi and Jakup Krasniqi (collectively, the “Convicted Persons”), the Witness Protection and Support Office (“WPSO”) and Victims’ Counsel, the Specialist Prosecutor’s Office (“SPO”) filed submissions in relation to the

¹ Transcript of Hearing, 7 November 2023, p. 9444, line 14 to p. 9446, line 21.

² Transcript of Hearing, 14 January 2025, pp. 23691-23726.

³ Transcript of Hearing, 14 January 2025, pp. 23730-23811; Transcript of Hearing, 15 January 2025, pp. 23821-23839.

⁴ Transcript of Hearing, 13 January 2025, pp. 23546-23686.

⁵ Transcript of Hearing, 20 January 2025, pp. 23842-23994; Transcript of Hearing, 21 January 2025, pp. 23998-24160; Transcript of Hearing, 22 January 2025, pp. 24161-24220.

⁶ Transcript of Hearing, 22 January 2025, pp. 24220-24327; Transcript of Hearing, 23 January 2025, pp. 24359-24449.

⁷ Transcript of Hearing, 27 January 2025, pp. 24503-24581.

⁸ Transcript of Hearing, 27 January 2025, pp. 24586-24605; Transcript of Hearing, 28 January 2025, pp. 24612-24723; Transcript of Hearing, 29 January 2025, pp. 24726-24830.

⁹ Transcript of Hearing, 30 January 2025, pp. 24834-24866.

¹⁰ Transcript of Hearing, 10 February 2025, pp. 24870-24895.

¹¹ Transcript of Hearing, 10 February 2025, pp. 24898-24998; Transcript of Hearing, 11 February 2025, pp. 25000-25116; Transcript of Hearing, 12 February 2025, pp. 25118-25215; Transcript of Hearing, 13 February 2025, pp. 25217-25304.

testimony transcripts of W04264 ("W04264's Transcript"), W04500 ("W04500's Transcript"), W04875 ("W04875's Transcript"), W02183 ("W02183's Transcript"), W04874 ("W04874's Transcript"), W04826 ("W04826's Transcript"), W04743 ("W04743's Transcript"), W02714 ("W02714's Transcript"), W00542 ("W00542's Transcript") and W04290 ("W04290's Transcript") (collectively, "Transcripts"), to which it annexed consolidated proposals of public lesser redacted versions of the Transcripts (collectively, "Submissions").¹²

II. DISCUSSION

A. W04264

4. With respect to W04264's Transcript, the SPO proposes redactions to information which it avers may be contrary to the interests of the witness's privacy and dignity, if disclosed to the public.¹³ WPSO and Victims' Counsel agree with the SPO's proposal and WPSO proposes additional redactions to: (i) information that, if disclosed to the public, may be contrary to the interests of the witness's privacy and dignity; and (ii) the ERNs of certain evidentiary material.¹⁴ The Defence teams did not respond.¹⁵ The SPO submits that it does not consider the redactions proposed by WPSO to be necessary.¹⁶

¹² F02945, Specialist Prosecutor, *Prosecution Submission of Proposed Lesser Redacted Transcripts (W04264 and W04500)* ("F02945"), 19 February 2025, with Annex 1, confidential; F02955, Specialist Prosecutor, *Prosecution Submission of Proposed Lesser Redacted Transcript (W04875)* ("F02955"), 21 February 2025, with Annex 1, confidential; F02986, Specialist Prosecutor, *Prosecution Submission of Proposed Lesser Redacted Transcripts (W02183 and W04874)* ("F02986"), 6 March 2025, with Annex 1, confidential; F03009, Specialist Prosecutor, *Prosecution Submission of Proposed Lesser Redacted Transcripts (W04826, W04743 and W02714)* ("F03009"), 13 March 2025, with Annex 1, confidential; F03061, Specialist Prosecutor, *Prosecution Submission of Proposed Lesser Redacted Transcripts (W00542 and W04290)* ("F03061"), 27 March 2025, with Annex 1, confidential.

¹³ Annex 1 to F02945, p. 3, para. 1.

¹⁴ Annex 1 to F02945, p. 3, paras 3-4. *See also* F02945, para. 1.

¹⁵ F02945, para. 1.

¹⁶ Annex 1 to F02945, p. 3, para. 2.

5. The Panel notes that W04264 was not granted in-court protective measures. However, the Panel considers that most of the proposed redactions are intended to protect the witness's privacy and dignity and are limited in scope.

6. In particular, in relation to the SPO's proposals, the Panel is satisfied that the redactions to W04264's Transcript proposed by the SPO are necessary and proportionate to the protection of W04264's privacy and dignity, and consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.

7. Turning to WPSO's proposal, the Panel finds that redactions to the ERNs of certain documents and to information that is already in the public domain are not necessary,¹⁷ as this information does not infringe the witness' right to privacy, as well as in light of the fact that W04264 was not granted in-court protective measures. However, the Panel considers that the remaining redactions proposed by WPSO protect information that is proposed for redaction elsewhere in W04264's Transcript, are necessary and proportionate to the protection of the witness's privacy and dignity and are consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.

8. Moreover, the Panel considers that one additional redaction is necessary for the protection of the witness's privacy and dignity, and for consistency with redactions proposed elsewhere, namely p. 23724, line 17 (only the word "[REDACTED]").

9. In light of the above, in the interest of guaranteeing to the greatest possible extent the publicity of the proceedings, the Panel finds that any confidential portion of W04264's Transcript which is not the subject of a proposed redaction in the relevant Submissions, and subject to what specified in paragraphs 7-8 above, can be reclassified as public.

¹⁷ Annex 1 to F02945, Transcript of Hearing, 14 January 2025, p. 23711, line 4; p. 23718, lines 23-24; p. 23719, line 17; p. 23720, lines 5, 10; p. 23721, lines 19-20, 22, 24; p. 23727, lines 7, 22, 24; p. 23728, lines 3-8.

B. W04500

10. With respect to W04500's Transcript, the SPO proposes redactions to identifying information, in line with W04500's protective measures, and to ensure the security and well-being of third parties.¹⁸ WPSO agrees with the SPO's proposal.¹⁹ Victims' Counsel agrees with most of the SPO's redactions and proposes additional redactions, as well as to lift certain redactions proposed by the SPO.²⁰ The Defence teams did not respond.²¹

11. The Panel notes Victims' Counsel's proposals for lesser redactions.²² The Panel agrees with Victims' Counsel's proposals and is of the view that, in relation to p. 23740, lines 18-25, and p. 23741, line 2 to p. 23742, line 5 of Annex 1 to F02945, only those redactions proposed by Victims' Counsel are necessary and proportionate.

12. The Panel notes that W04500 was granted in-court protective measures.²³ The Panel is of the view that, subject to what mentioned above, the remaining proposed redactions to information that might identify W04500 are necessary and proportionate to protect the witness and third parties, as well as consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.

13. In addition, the Panel considers that limited further redactions are necessary to protect the witness and third parties, and for consistency with redactions proposed elsewhere, namely: (i) the entirety of line 19 at p. 23797; and (ii) the reference to the ERN of a document at p. 23811, line 25.²⁴

¹⁸ Annex 1 to F02945, p. 4, para. 1.

¹⁹ Annex 1 to F02945, p. 4, para. 2. *See also* F02945, para. 1.

²⁰ Annex 1 to F02945, p. 4, para. 3. *See* Annex 1 to F02945, p. 5. *See also* F02945, para. 1.

²¹ F02945, para. 1.

²² *See* Annex 1 to F02945, p. 5.

²³ F00133/COR, Pre-Trial Judge, *Corrected Version of First Decision on Specialist Prosecutor's Request for Protective Measures* ("F00133/COR"), 14 December 2020, strictly confidential and *ex parte* (a confidential redacted version was filed on the same day, F00133/COR/CONF/RED), para. 132(q).

²⁴ "[REDACTED]".

14. In light of the above, in the interest of guaranteeing to the greatest possible extent the publicity of the proceedings, the Panel finds that any confidential portion of W04500's Transcript which is not the subject of a proposed redaction in the relevant Submissions, and subject to what specified in paragraphs 11 and 13 above can be reclassified as public.

C. W04875

15. With respect to W04875's Transcript, the SPO proposes redactions to identifying information in relation to another witness, W04500, in line with the latter's protective measures.²⁵ WPSO and Victims' Counsel agree with the SPO's proposals.²⁶ The Defence teams did not respond.²⁷

16. The Panel notes that the only redactions proposed in relation to W04875's Transcript relate to W04500, who is briefly discussed therein.²⁸ The Panel recalls that W04500 was granted in-court protective measures.²⁹ The Panel is satisfied that the redactions proposed by the SPO are necessary and proportionate to protect W04500's identity, and consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.

17. The Panel further considers that the in-court redaction order in relation to p. 23601, line 23 and p. 23602, line 2, remains necessary and proportionate to the protection of W04500 and is consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.³⁰

²⁵ Annex 1 to F02955, p. 3, para. 1.

²⁶ Annex 1 to F02955, p. 3, paras 2-3. *See also* F02955, para. 1.

²⁷ F02955, para. 1.

²⁸ *See* Annex 1 to F02955, p. 3, para. 1. *See also* Annex 1 to F02955, Transcript of Hearing, 13 January 2025, pp. 23538-23545.

²⁹ F00133/COR, para. 132(q).

³⁰ F02826, Panel, *In-court Redaction Order, Hearing on 13 January 2025*, 13 January 2025, confidential (a public redacted version was filed on 15 January 2025, F02826/RED).

18. In the interest of guaranteeing to the greatest possible extent the publicity of the proceedings, the Panel finds that any confidential portion of W04875's Transcript which is not the subject of a proposed redaction in the relevant Submissions or referred to in paragraph 17 above, can be reclassified as public.

D. W02183

19. With respect to W02183's Transcript, the SPO proposes redactions to information that is either referring to confidential documents, subject to redaction orders or identifying other witnesses.³¹ WPSO and Victims' Counsel agree with the SPO's proposals and WPSO proposes additional redactions to the ERNs of certain evidentiary material and to information relating to the privacy and security of the witness.³² The Defence teams did not respond.³³ The SPO submits that it does not consider the redactions proposed by WPSO to be necessary.³⁴

20. The Panel notes that W02183 testified publicly without in-court protective measures. However, the Panel considers that the redactions proposed by the SPO are intended to protect the confidentiality of certain documents, including in relation to information subject to Rule 107 restrictions, as well as information subject to redaction orders³⁵ or identifying other witnesses. The Panel is satisfied that the redactions to W02183's Transcript proposed by the SPO are necessary and proportionate and consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.

³¹ Annex 1 to F02986, p. 3, para. 1.

³² Annex 1 to F02986, p. 3, paras 3-4; F02986, para. 1.

³³ F02986, para. 1.

³⁴ Annex 1 to F02986, p. 3, para. 2.

³⁵ F02845, Panel, *In-court Redaction Order, Hearing on 21 January 2025*, 21 January 2025, confidential (a public redacted version was filed on 24 January 2025, F02845/RED).

21. Turning to WPSO's proposal, the Panel finds that the redactions proposed by WPSO to the ERNs of certain documents and to information that is already in the public domain are not necessary.³⁶

22. In light of the above, in the interest of guaranteeing to the greatest possible extent the publicity of the proceedings, the Panel finds that any confidential portion of W02183's Transcript which is not the subject of a proposed redaction in the relevant Submissions, and subject to the changes specified in paragraph 21 above, can be reclassified as public.

E. W04874

23. With respect to W04874's Transcript, the SPO proposes redactions to information which it avers may be contrary to the well-being of certain victims and other individuals, if disclosed to the public.³⁷ WPSO and Victims' Counsel agree with the SPO's proposal and WPSO proposes additional redactions to the ERNs of certain evidentiary material.³⁸ The Defence teams did not respond.³⁹ The SPO submits that it does not consider the redactions proposed by WPSO to be necessary.⁴⁰

24. The Panel notes that W04874 testified publicly without in-court protective measures. However, the Panel considers that the redactions proposed by the SPO are intended to protect information that, if disclosed to the public, may be contrary to the well-being of certain individuals. Moreover, the Panel considers that such

³⁶ Annex 1 to F02986, Transcript of Hearing, 20 January 2025, p. 23850, lines 1, 3, 6, 8; p. 23852, line 2; p. 23854, lines 13, 20; p. 23855, line 14; p. 23869, lines 3-4; p. 23885, lines 12, 16-17; p. 23934, line 6; p. 23938, line 20; p. 23959, line 3; p. 23961, lines 9-10; p. 23965, line 8.

³⁷ Annex 1 to F02986, p. 4, para. 1.

³⁸ Annex 1 to F02986, p. 4, paras 3-4; F02986, para. 1.

³⁹ F02986, para. 1.

⁴⁰ Annex 1 to F02986, p. 4, para. 2.

redactions are in line with the Panel's in-court redaction orders⁴¹ and are very limited in scope. The Panel is satisfied that the redactions to W04874's Transcript proposed by the SPO are necessary and proportionate and consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.

25. Turning to WPSO's proposal, the Panel finds that the redactions proposed by WPSO to the ERNs of certain documents and to information that is already in the public domain are not necessary.⁴²

26. In light of the above, in the interest of guaranteeing to the greatest possible extent the publicity of the proceedings, the Panel finds that any confidential portion of W04874's Transcript which is not the subject of a proposed redaction in the relevant Submissions, and subject to the changes specified in paragraph 25 above, can be reclassified as public.

F. W04826

27. With respect to W04826's Transcript, the SPO proposes to maintain redactions ordered by the Panel in the Serbian version of W04826's Transcript.⁴³ WPSO and Victims' Counsel agree with the SPO's proposal and WPSO proposes additional redactions to the ERNs of certain evidentiary material.⁴⁴ The Defence teams did not respond.⁴⁵ The SPO submits that it does not consider the redactions proposed by WPSO to be necessary.⁴⁶

⁴¹ F02849, Panel, *In-court Redaction Order, Hearing on 22 January 2025*, 22 January 2025, confidential (a public redacted version was filed on 4 February 2025, F02849/RED); F02854, Panel, *In-court Redaction Order, Hearing on 23 January 2025*, 23 January 2025, confidential (a public redacted version was filed on 4 February 2025, F02854/RED).

⁴² Annex 1 to F02986, Transcript of Hearing, 22 January 2025, p. 24232, line 23; p. 24237, line 22; Transcript of Hearing, 23 January 2025, p. 24405, lines 24-25; p. 24429, line 14; p. 24431, lines 15, 18; p. 24433, line 24.

⁴³ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 3, para. 1.

⁴⁴ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 3, paras 3-4. *See also* F03009, para. 1.

⁴⁵ F03009, para. 1.

⁴⁶ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 3, para. 2.

28. The Panel considers that the in-court redaction order in relation to p. 66, lines 6-7 and p. 67, line 11, of the Serbian version of W04826's Transcript remains necessary and proportionate to protect the identity of a victim and is consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.⁴⁷ The Panel notes that SPO does not propose further redactions.

29. Turning to WPSO's proposals, the Panel finds that the redactions proposed by WPSO to the ERNs of certain documents discussed in public session are not necessary.⁴⁸

30. In light of the above, in the interest of guaranteeing to the greatest possible extent the publicity of the proceedings, the Panel finds that, subject to what specified in paragraph 28 above only in relation to the Serbian version of W04826's Transcript, and subject to the changes specified in paragraph 29 above, any confidential portion of W04826's Transcript can be reclassified as public.

G. W04743

31. With respect to W04743's Transcript, the SPO proposes redactions to sensitive information in relation to another witness, W02714, in line with the latter's protective measures.⁴⁹ The SPO further proposes redactions to information subject to a redaction order by the Panel.⁵⁰ WPSO and Victims' Counsel agree with the SPO's proposal, and WPSO proposes additional redactions.⁵¹ The Defence teams did not respond.⁵² The SPO submits that it does not consider the redactions proposed by WPSO to be necessary.⁵³

⁴⁷ F02882, Panel, *In-court Redaction Order, Hearing on 27 January 2025*, 27 January 2025.

⁴⁸ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 24535, line 9; p. 24561, line 10.

⁴⁹ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 4, para. 1.

⁵⁰ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 4, para. 2.

⁵¹ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 4, paras 4-5; F03009, para. 1.

⁵² F03009, para. 1.

⁵³ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 4, para. 3.

32. The Panel recalls that W02714 was granted in-court protective measures.⁵⁴ The Panel is satisfied that the redactions proposed by the SPO in relation to W02714 concern information that would identify the witness.⁵⁵ The Panel further notes that the remaining redactions proposed by the SPO are consistent with the Panel's in-court redaction order of 29 January 2025.⁵⁶ The Panel is satisfied that the redactions proposed by the SPO are necessary and proportionate to protect sensitive information in relation to W02714, as well as the identity of another individual, and are consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.

33. Turning to WPSO's proposal, the Panel finds that the redactions proposed by WPSO to information discussed in public session are not necessary.⁵⁷

34. In the interest of guaranteeing to the greatest possible extent the publicity of the proceedings, the Panel finds that any confidential portion of W04743's Transcript which is not the subject of a proposed redaction in the relevant Submissions and subject to the changes specified in paragraph 33 above, can be reclassified as public.

H. W02714

35. With respect to W02714's Transcript, the SPO proposes redactions to identifying information, in line with W02714 protective measures.⁵⁸ The SPO further proposes redactions to information subject to redaction orders of the

⁵⁴ Transcript of Hearing, 28 January 2025, p. 24608, line 16 to p. 24610, line 12, confidential.

⁵⁵ See Annex 1 to F03009, p. 4, para. 1. See also Annex 1 to F03009, Transcript of Hearing, 28 January 2025, pp. 24608-24610.

⁵⁶ F02872, Panel, *In-court Redaction Order, Hearing on 29 January 2025*, 29 January 2025, confidential (A public redacted version was filed on 7 February 2025, F02872/RED).

⁵⁷ Annex 1 to F03009, Transcript of Hearing, 28 January 2025, [REDACTED].

⁵⁸ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 5, para. 1.

Panel.⁵⁹ WPSO and Victims' Counsel agree with the SPO's proposal, and WPSO proposes additional redactions.⁶⁰ The Defence teams did not respond.⁶¹

36. The Panel preliminarily notes that certain redactions proposed by the SPO at p. 24860, line 13 to p. 24864, line 16 are not in line with the Panel's redaction order, as modified on 10 February 2025.⁶² The Panel is of the view that, with the exception of p. 24862, lines 13 and 21, and p. 24863, lines 1-2, these proposed redactions that are not in line with the Panel's oral order are not necessary.

37. In relation to the remaining redactions proposed by the SPO and WPSO, the Panel recalls that W02714 was granted in-court protective measures.⁶³ The Panel is satisfied that these remaining redactions to W02714's Transcript are necessary and proportionate to the protection of W02714, and consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.

38. Moreover, the Panel considers that limited additional redactions are necessary for the protection of the witness, and for consistency with redactions proposed elsewhere, namely: (i) p. 24846, lines 8-9 (only the words "[REDACTED]"); (ii) p. 24847, line 14, in its entirety; (iii) p. 24848, line 1 (only the words "[REDACTED]"); (iv) p. 24860, line 1 (only the words "[REDACTED]"), lines 2-3 (only the words "[REDACTED]"); and (v) p. 24863, lines 3-4 (only the words "[REDACTED]").

39. In light of the above, in the interest of guaranteeing to the greatest possible extent the publicity of the proceedings, the Panel finds that any confidential portion of W02714's Transcript which is not the subject of a proposed redaction in

⁵⁹ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 5, para. 2.

⁶⁰ Annex 1 to F03009, p. 5, paras 3-4; F03009, para. 1.

⁶¹ F03009, para. 1.

⁶² F02880, Panel, *In-court Redaction Orders, Hearing on 30 January 2025*, 30 January 2025, confidential, pp. 2-3 (a public redacted version was filed on 3 February 2025, F02880/RED); Transcript of Hearing, 10 February 2025, p. 24868, line 17 to p. 24869, line 21, confidential.

⁶³ Transcript of Hearing, 28 January 2025, p. 24608, line 16 to p. 24610, line 12, confidential.

the relevant Submissions, and subject to what specified in paragraphs 36 and 38 above, can be reclassified as public.

I. W00542

40. With respect to W00542's Transcript, the SPO proposes redactions to identifying information, in line with W00542's protective measures.⁶⁴ WPSO and Victims' Counsel agree with the SPO's proposal.⁶⁵ The Defence teams did not respond.⁶⁶

41. The Panel notes that W00542 was granted in-court protective measures⁶⁷ and that some redactions are proposed in line with the Panel's in-court and post-session redaction orders.⁶⁸ The Panel is of the view that the proposed redactions to information that might identify W00542 are necessary and proportionate to protect the witness, and consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons. The Panel further notes that the SPO also proposes redactions to information that might identify another witness, W02714, who is briefly discussed in W00542's Transcript.⁶⁹ As noted above,⁷⁰ W02174 was also granted in-court protective measures.⁷¹ The Panel is satisfied that these remaining redactions to W00542's Transcript are necessary and proportionate to the protection of W02714, and consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.

⁶⁴ Annex 1 to F03061, p. 3, para. 1.

⁶⁵ Annex 1 to F03061, p. 3, paras 2-3. *See also* F03061, para. 1.

⁶⁶ F03061, para. 1.

⁶⁷ F00133/COR, para. 132(q).

⁶⁸ F02916, Panel, *In-court Redaction Order, Hearing on 10 February 2025*, 10 February 2025, confidential (a public redacted version was filed on 4 March 2025, F02916/RED); F02921, Panel, *Post-session Redaction Order, Hearing of 10 February 2025*, 11 February 2025.

⁶⁹ Annex 1 to F03061, Transcript of Hearing, 10 February 2025, p. 24869.

⁷⁰ *See above* para. 37.

⁷¹ Transcript of Hearing, 28 January 2025, p. 24608, line 16 to p. 24610, line 12, confidential.

42. In light of the above, in the interest of guaranteeing to the greatest possible extent the publicity of the proceedings, the Panel finds that any confidential portion of W00542's Transcript which is not the subject of a proposed redaction in the relevant Submissions can be reclassified as public.

J. W04290

43. With respect to W04290's Transcript, the SPO proposes redactions to information that is either referring to confidential documents, subject to redaction orders or identifying third parties.⁷² WPSO and Victims' Counsel agree with the SPO's proposal and WPSO proposes additional redactions to the ERNs of certain evidentiary material.⁷³ The Defence teams did not respond.⁷⁴ The SPO submits that it does not consider the redactions proposed by WPSO to be necessary.⁷⁵

44. The Panel notes that W04290 was not granted in-court protective measures. However, the Panel considers that the redactions proposed by the SPO are limited in scope and are intended to protect the confidentiality of certain documents, as well as information subject to redaction orders⁷⁶ or other identifying information which, if disclosed to the public, may be contrary to the well-being of third parties. The Panel is satisfied that the redactions to W04290's Transcript proposed by the SPO are necessary and proportionate and consistent with the effective protection of the rights of the Convicted Persons.

⁷² Annex 1 to F03061, p. 4, para. 1.

⁷³ Annex 1 to F03061, p. 4, paras 3-4; F03061, para. 1.

⁷⁴ F03061, para. 1.

⁷⁵ Annex 1 to F03061, p. 4, para. 2.

⁷⁶ F02922, Panel, *In-court Redaction Order, Hearing on 12 February 2025*, 12 February 2025, confidential (a public redacted version was filed on the same day, F02922/RED).

45. Turning to WPSO's proposals, the Panel finds that the redactions proposed by WPSO to the ERNs of certain documents already in the public domain are not necessary.⁷⁷

46. In the interest of guaranteeing to the greatest possible extent the publicity of the proceedings, the Panel finds that any confidential portion of W04290's Transcript which is not the subject of a proposed redaction in the relevant Submissions and subject to the changes specified in paragraph 45 above, can be reclassified as public.

III. DISPOSITION

47. For the above-mentioned reasons, the Panel hereby:

- a) **APPROVES** the proposed redactions as set out in the Submissions, subject to the changes specified in paragraphs 7, 11, 21, 25, 29, 33, 36 and 45;
- b) **FINDS** that the remaining portions of the Transcripts identified in the Submissions as suitable for reclassification, subject to the changes specified in paragraphs 8, 13, 17 and 38, can be reclassified as public;
- c) **DIRECTS** the SPO to communicate to the Registry the public lesser redacted versions of the Transcripts in accordance with the redactions approved in the present decision; and
- d) **DIRECTS** the Registry to ensure, upon receipt of the public lesser redacted version of the Transcripts, that the same redactions, subject to paragraphs 28 and 30, are implemented in the Albanian and Serbian

⁷⁷ Annex 1 to F03061, Transcript of Hearing, 11 February 2025, p. 25019, line 25; p. 25040, line 17-18; p. 25060, line 1; p. 25073, line 2; p. 25080, lines 7-8; p. 25086, line 6; Transcript of Hearing, 12 February 2025, p. 25141, line 25; p. 25146, line 3; p. 25147, lines 2, 18; p. 25153, line 7; p. 25161, line 17; p. 25178, line 17; p. 25180, line 20; Transcript of Hearing, 13 February 2025, p. 25268, line 1; p. 25269, line 13.

versions of the Transcripts, as well as the respective audio-video records,
to the extent technically feasible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Charles L. Smith, III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Judge Charles L. Smith, III

Presiding Judge

Dated this Monday, 26 October 2026

At The Hague, the Netherlands.