

ANNEX 3 to
Application for Interim Release

Public

Gazeta Express, Sunday 15th October 2017¹

Draft Translation

Express: Mr. Krasniqi, a decade has passed since visa liberalization was promised, we still do not know how much longer this process is going to last. President Thaçi decided to request from the Albanian state passports for Kosovo citizens in order for Kosovo citizens to travel without visas. Is this an acceptance of failure of our institutions to extract the country from isolation?

Jakup Krasniqi: Yes, usually visa liberalization has been an issue that was promised during electoral campaigns and for irony those who blocked the liberalization were the ones who promised it the most. Albania is not the path to liberalization for Kosovo citizens. As long as Kosovo is an independent as sovereign country. Maybe it's easier to request union with Albania! There is no doubt, our institutions failed, but the isolation of our citizens in the Schengen zone should be seen as a political obstacle for our country by some EU countries. Otherwise, the isolation of our citizens is completely meaningless, as seen from our perspective. These obstacles are being done to honest citizens, those whose needs are usually for education. The organized crimes is not being blocked.

Express: Do you believe that the current government will solve the issue of visa liberalization?

Jakup Krasniqi: The Government has just begun working, therefore, we should wait and see, they should not give easy promises.

Express: The issue of the Special Chambers was reactivated on Monday by President Thaçi, he through accusations and raised doubts about the justice that with court will bring, why do you think he chose to speak about this Court at this moment, especially since he was the one who pushed for this court to be voted in the Parliament.

Jakup Krasniqi: There was a time when analysis and discussions for the establishment or not of the court should have happened, now every discussion about it is basket after the harvest. Why the president is behaving like this after the Kosovo Assembly has voted for the establishment of the court, he is the only one to know! Anyway, such a behavior from the president does not reflect in a good way for us in regards to our relationship with countries of the democratic world.

Express: You were against the establishment of this court, you called it a shame for our country and that this court is being established based upon the lies of the genocidal regime of Milosevic, do you still have the same opinion?

Jakup Krasniqi: Yes, I have given many statements against this court, before and after its establishment in the Assembly. I was against it because I was convinced that the Dick Marty report was written based on Serbian sources and was sponsored by Serbia and its friends. Furthermore, this court is not directed towards crimes committed in Kosovo, but only towards

¹ Gazeta Express, [Interview with Mr. Krasniqi](#), 15 October 2015.

alleged crimes of KLA members, so, crimes of one ethnicity and this is in violation of the international justice standards. What is even more anachronic, as the report of Dick Marty, as the Council of Europe resolution and the Specialist Chambers are established based on accusations of organ trafficking, whereas, prosecutor Williamson states that “ there is no evidence of organ trafficking”. After this statement, procedures for establishment of this court should have been stopped. And this should have been done by Thaçi Government.

Express: Do you believe that they might be biased, because President Thaçi days ago stated that the Specialist chambers is cooperating very well with Serbia?

Jakup Krasniqi: This should have been known on time. When the bases of it is the Dick Marty report, it was written based on the order and dictate of Belgrade. This was documented in the best way by our political scientist Bardhyl Mahmuti in his book “Great Deception” published some time ago.

Express: Do you think there were promises from the international community that Kosovo will get memberships in different international mechanisms and other benefits in exchange for the establishment of the Specialist Chambers.

Jakup Krasniqi: In the meetings that we have had with different international representatives in Kosovo, before the Chamber was established in the Kosovo Assembly, where I took part as well, such promises were not given by nobody.

Express: There are requests by internationals, diplomats that Kosovo should be cooperative when the indictments are submitted, do you agree with that?

Jakup Krasniqi: Now the Specialist Chambers is Kosovo’s even though it’s located outside of our territory. No one should flee justice, nor inside or outside of Kosovo. Even though my stance about this Court was public and nothing has happened in the mean time for me to alter my opinion. That damage that is being done to Kosovo with this Court is huge, maybe irreparable. I am talking about the political damage.