

ANNEX 1 to
Prosecution response to Application for Interim Release on behalf of Mr adri
Veseli

Public Redacted Version

ANNEX 1.1: Declaration of



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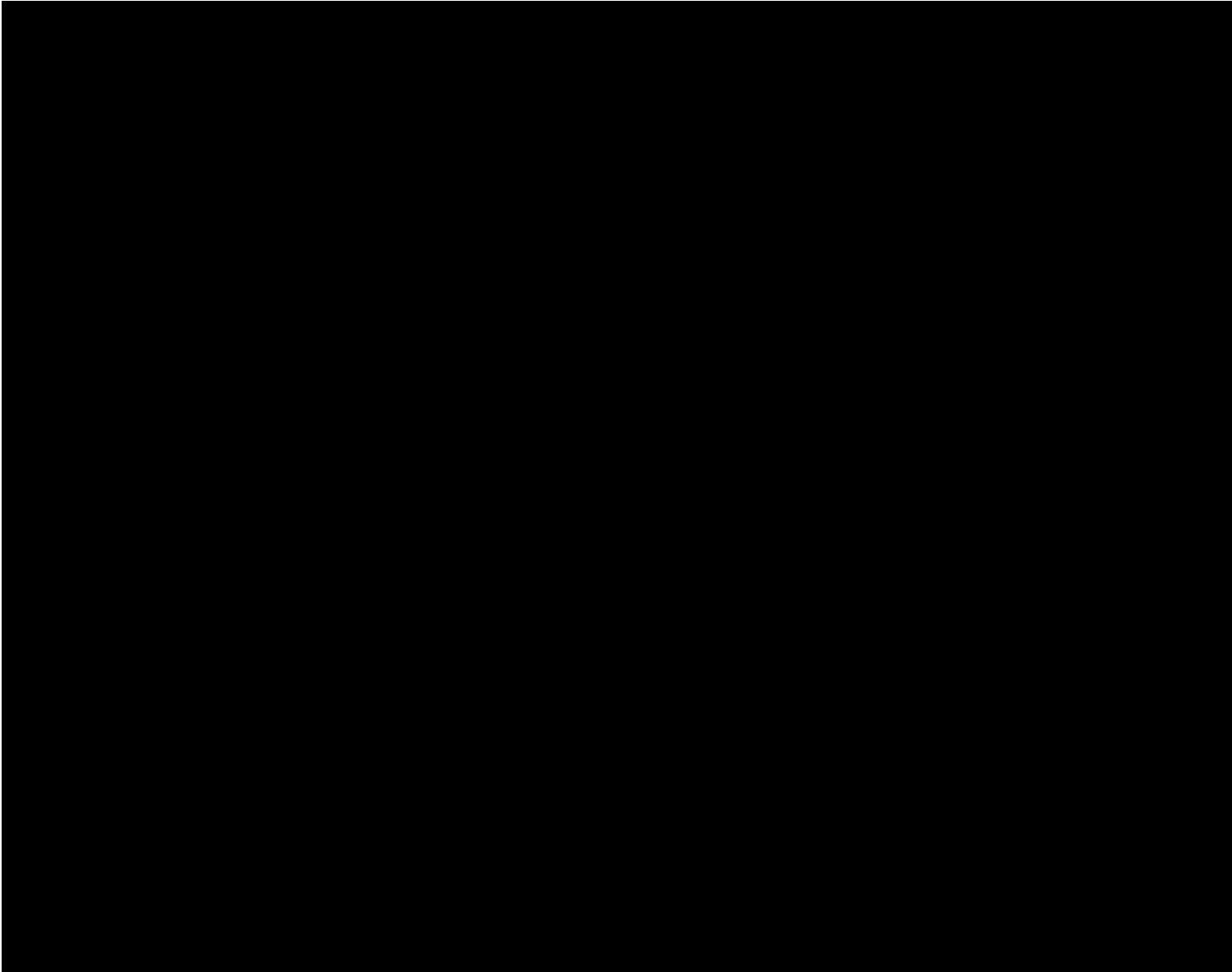
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29 December 2020

At Den Haag, Netherlands.

ANNEX 1.2: [REDACTED]

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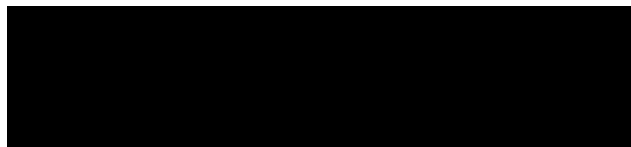
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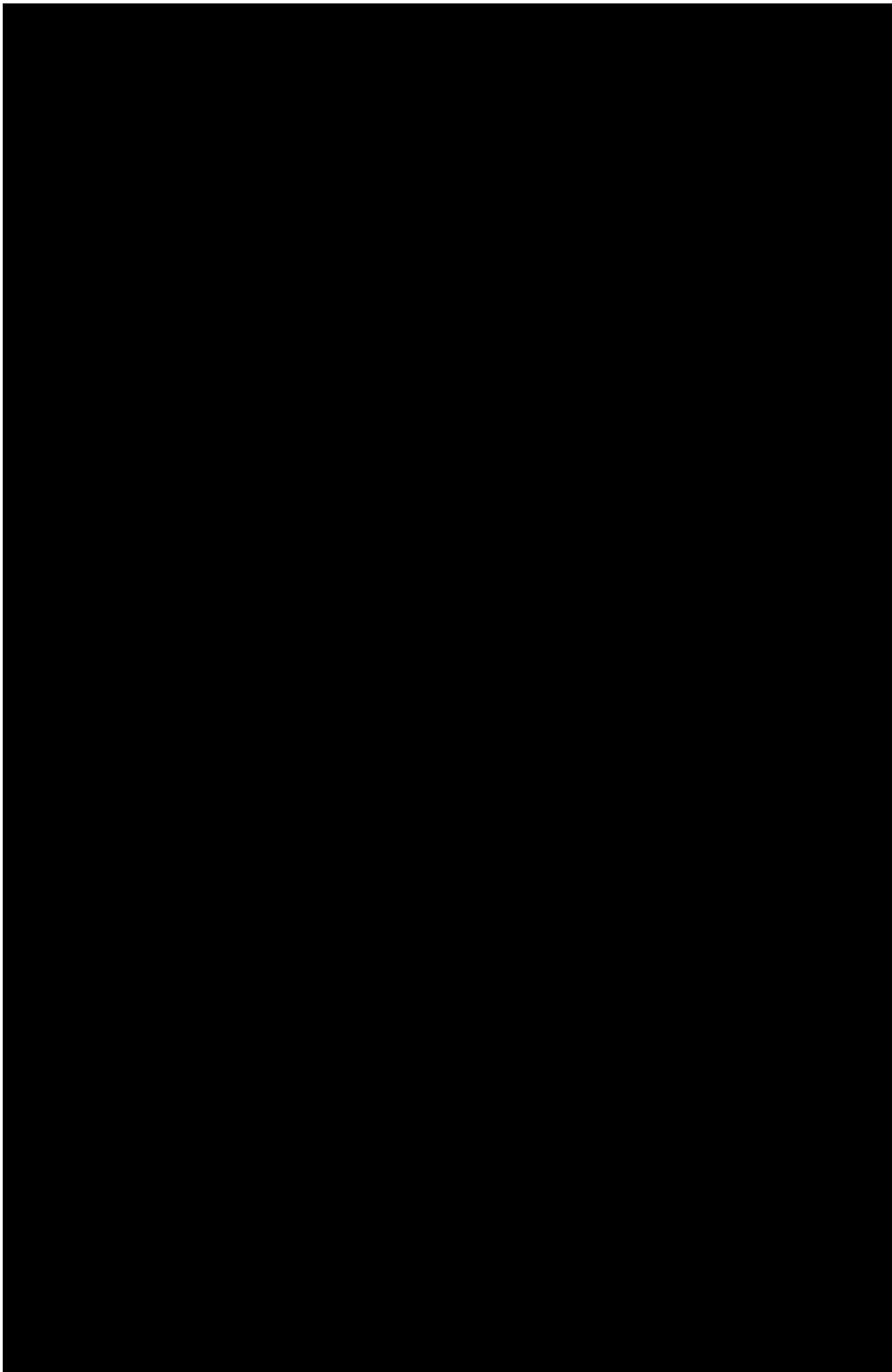
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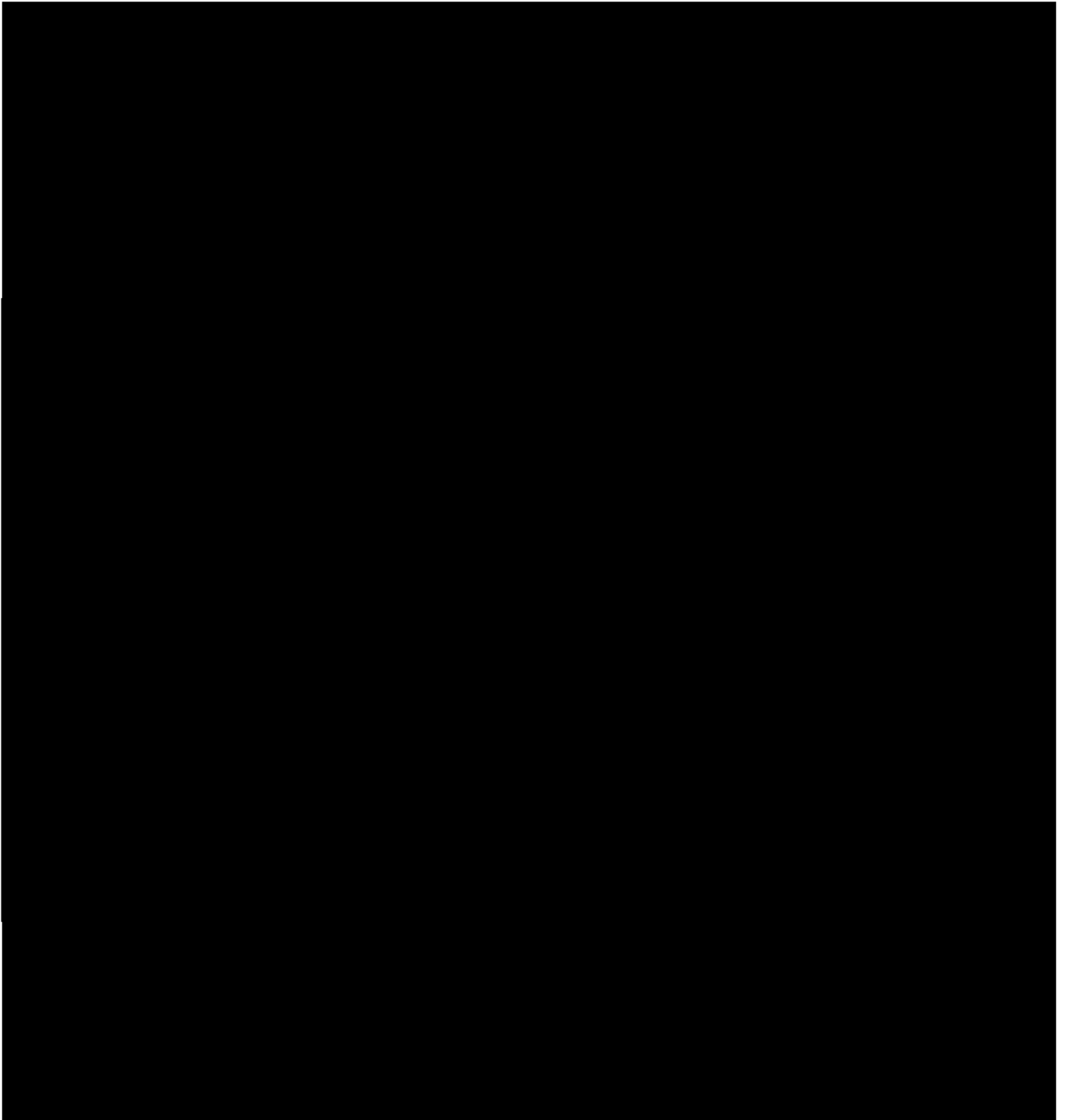
ANNEX 1.3: Background Document

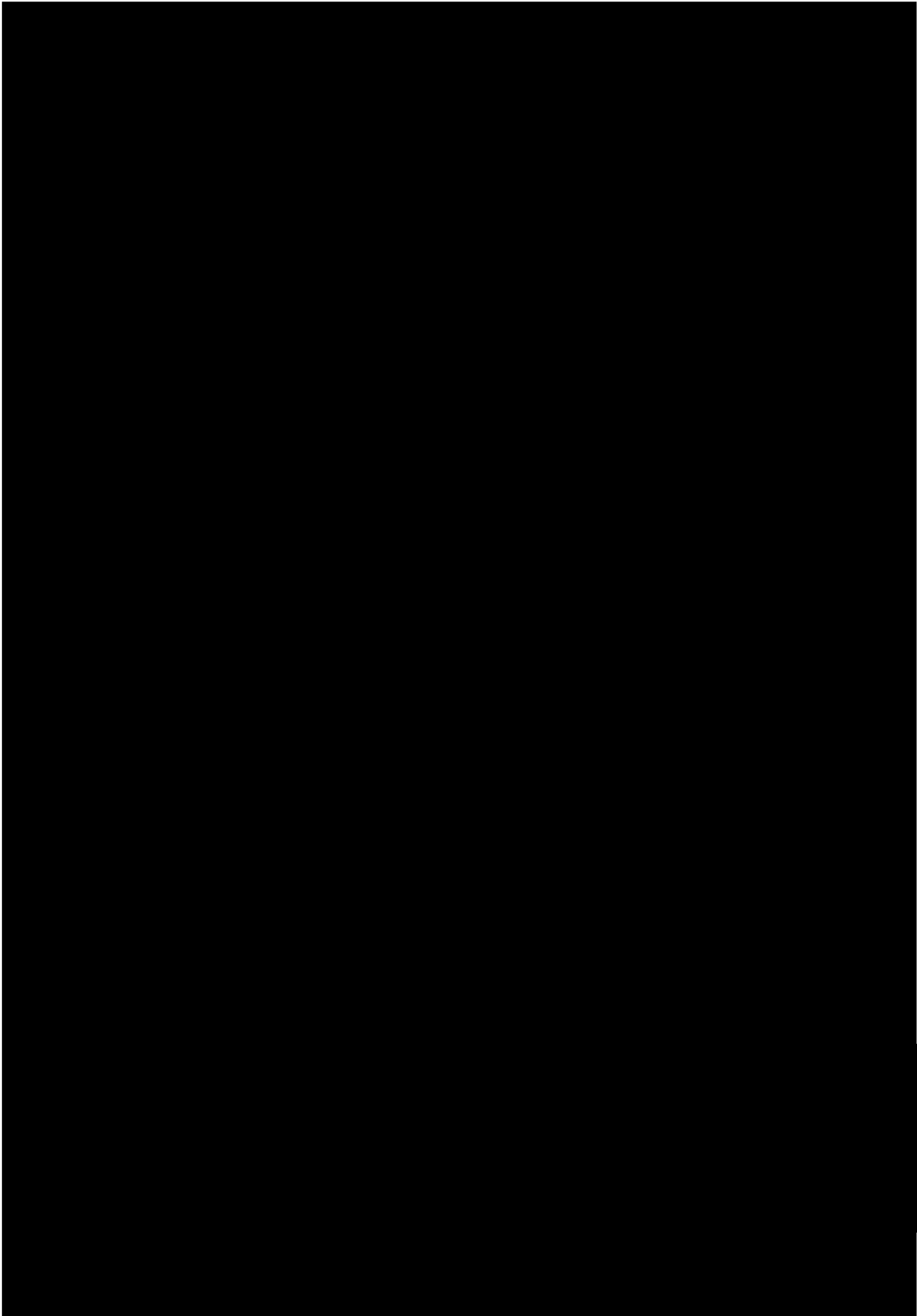




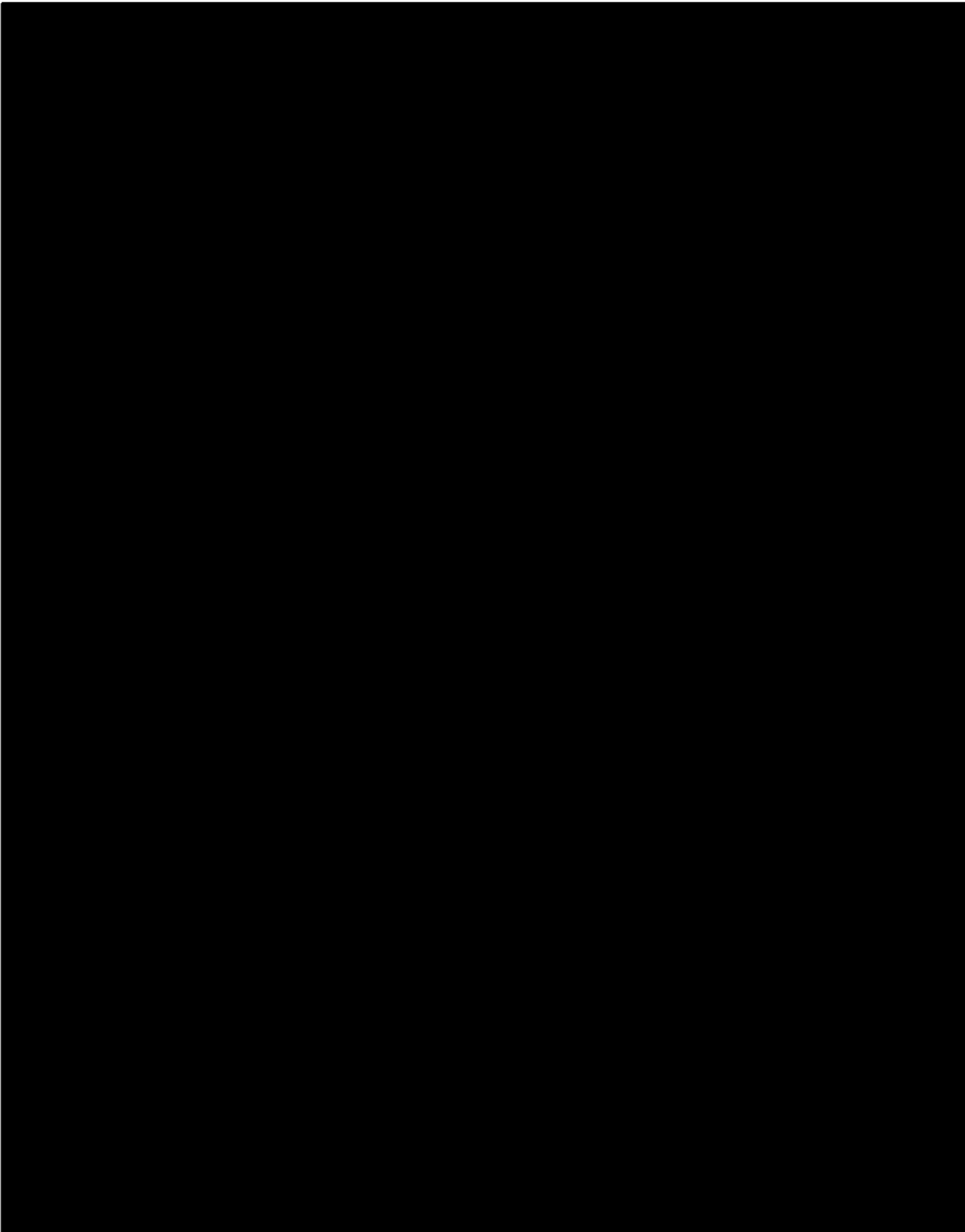
ANNEX 1.4: 

SPO Translations









ANNEX 1.5: Media Article
Concerning Syljeman SELIMI
Meeting

SPO Translation

Insajderi.com

2 years ago

<https://insajderi.com/sylejman-selimi-i-shkoi-ne-ode-personit-qe-ia-refuzoi-dekoraten-per-merita/>

He visited his *Oda* /traditional men's reception room/ but how did Sylejman SELIMI refuse President THAÇI's decoration/?/



Tonight he visited his /Hashim THAÇI's/ reception room in Buroja of Skënderaj, however, the former KLA General commander did not have the same opinion and disposition for president THAÇI on 19 February last year.

SELIMI refused president THAÇI's decoration by saying that he did it in order not to be a hypocrite.

He said that he could not accept the decoration for his contribution in the KLA following his statement that he was being held "unjustly in prison for alleged war crimes".

"I had the honour to receive decorations and gratitude by different domestic and international personalities, Kosovo presidents, Albania presidents, also by international personalities, including NATO Secretary General, NATO admirals and generals, many KFOR generals, Kosovo chief administrator, Iowa State Guard Commander – USA, US Ambassador and many other domestic and international personalities. I was proud that my contribution and work in the service of the country was being honoured every time I received a decoration or was honoured with gratitude. I read in the media today that my name was amongst many people decorated by Kosovo's President on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of independence. How can I receive a decoration for merits in war at a time I am being held unjustly in prison for alleged war crimes? That is why such a decoration is unacceptable for me, for as long as I am unjustly being held and convicted. I refuse this

decoration thus, I do not have to feel guilty of hypocrisy,” said SELIMI’s letter written on 19 February 2018 refusing president THAÇI’s decoration.

However, tonight he visited president THAÇI’s *oda* in Buroja village, Skënderaj, together with Assembly speaker Kadri VESELI and former Skënderaj /Municipality/ leader Sami LUSHTAKU.

/photo: Caption: Hashim THAÇI, Sylejman SELIMI, Kadri VESELI and Sami LUSHTAKU/

Former TMK /Kosovo Protection Corps/ Commander and former Kosovo Ambassador to Tirana /Albania/, Sylejman SELIMI, was released yesterday from prison. He will be under the supervision of the Kosovo Probation Service until 30.10.2020.

SELIMI was arrested in May 2013 and was found guilty of the criminal offence of war crimes against the civilian population by the Mitrovica Basic Court on 27 May 2015. He received a 6-year prison term.

On 7 June 2018 there was a retrial in the “Drenica 2” /case/ and “Drenica 1” /case/ on 11 June. In relation to this case his Counsel Tomë GASHI said several days ago that Sylejman SELIMI continued to be held in prison for three months without any legal right.

During his imprisonment SELIMI was transferred several times to Kosovo University Clinical Centre (QKUK). He suffered from several illnesses.

He was also hospitalised 19 days ago, several days after the report that he was among dozens of people summonsed by the Specialist Prosecution Office in the Hague.

It is not yet known when will SELIMI travel to the Hague to be interviewed by the Specialist Prosecution office. /Insajderi.com

ANNEX 1.6: Partial Transcript of the interview of Mr. Kadri Veseli
available at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=72F9s8ZEyys>

SPO Translation

TV channel	KTV Kohavision - YouTube
Program	RUBIKON
Journalist/Interviewer	Mr. Adriatik KELMENDI
Other participants	Mr. Kadri Veseli
Full/Partial transcription	<i>Partial Transcript of the interview of Mr. Kadri Veseli</i>
Duration of the program	1:15:53
Date when first broadcasted	
Time of broadcast	

43:05:00

Mr. Kelmendi: In the first part we talked a lot about the agreement with Serbia. When do you expect the dialogue with Serbia to be concluded and that Serbia recognizes Kosovo?

43:15:00

Mr. Veseli: We are ready for this process, the sooner the better.

43:20:00

Mr. Kelmendi: Do you, as the chairman of a powerful party, expect a date when this will finish?

43:26:00

Mr. Veseli: I believe that if there is serious reflection from Serbia, the Republic of Serbia, we can think that by the end of the year, and this is precisely the reason why I proposed this platform, because we don't have time to deal with ourselves, is to conclude the dialogue phase towards the end of the year or beginning next year, with an agreement which will pave the way for Kosovo integration in the United Nations.

44:00:00

Mr. Kelmendi: Is there a price to pay for this?

44:04:00

Mr. Veseli: The only price that Kosovo has to pay is to show willingness, which the Democratic Party of Kosovo has been trying to do, willingness and readiness to demonstrate that we are capable and ready to take all responsibilities for our communities; Kosovo sovereignty is sacred, the territorial integrity, I repeat it, the sovereignty and the territorial integrity is nonnegotiable and that there is no dialogue for this. At the same time....

44:37:00

Mr. Kelmendi: There will be no Serb Republic formed in Kosovo?

44:38:00

Mr. Veseli: Never. I think for the international community and us, Bosnia is already a concern. The idea of landswap, the idea of partition, these are Serb and Russian ideas. I would even say that...

44:57:00

Mr. Kelmendi: Have you discussed it with Mr. Thaci. It has been said that he discussed it with Mr. Vucic. There are reports including from the opposition saying that, in a way, they were both open to discuss this. Mr. Jeremec mentioned this.

45:10:00

Do you think that I would for a second think about Mr. Thaci what I just said! This is a Serb and Russian idea. And this is done to tarnish but it is not the reality. Someone who has fought all his life for independence and statehood would now go and damage himself and talk about landswap and partition. We need to trust each other more, and what we need most is for some people to not manipulate things in this form. They are not honouring themselves. They are not damaging us by trying to tarnish us but they are damaging Kosovo. They are manipulating some citizens, who, maybe because they are uninformed, may think that we have reached the point where our ego has blinded us, or as some put it "the fear of the Special court". Neither of these impresses us in relation to the State, which is sacred and for which we were ready to die. Let alone leaving a chair! You think that impresses us!?

46:26

Mr. Kelmendi: Some fear of the Special Court could be seen on 22 December when in one afternoon you gathered to repeal the law. The ambassadors from the biggest countries, friends of Kosovo, our biggest friends had to react! The US ambassador said that this was a stab in the back, The UK ambassador whom you mentioned earlier said that this was the worse night for Kosovo since the war because you wanted to undertake an action which they thought to be for personal interests, and they said this clearly, and today you are saying that you are not afraid! This is what we saw!?

47:00

Mr. Veseli: I will be very straightforward. There is dissatisfaction in Kosovo, for every conscious person, we are in the week of the disappeared, the whole land of Kosovo is filled with massacres, no one has been held accountable for the murders of innocent people, from the infants to the disabled elderly, rape and total destruction of property. There is dissatisfaction, we must admit this is a fact, there is dissatisfaction, while at the same time Kosovo has to have such a Special Court.

47:47

Mr. Kelmendi: We can agree on that 100%, but you voted it! Why did you vote it?

47:48

Mr. Veseli: Just a second, I'll be very sincere about this cunning politics which then take an individual form.

48:04

Mr. Kelmendi: But it was you, the governing coalition!?

48:05

Mr. Veseli: My position on that matter is clear and I made it public because of the very fact that we are now in this process. This is like a black cloud over our heads. Having said that, I cannot deny the fact that I have colleagues within my party who think and are convinced that this is an injustice done to Kosovo only because it (Kosovo) is weak. And they are right. However the difference between some colleagues, and this is the reason why there hasn't been any crises with respect to the stance

of the Democratic Party of Kosovo, and I have been very tolerant towards both sides, those who were in favour and those who were against, because they have the right/are right. But I think that...

48:47

Mr. Kelmendi: But the majority of them had already voted! Why would they regret it two years later?

48:50

Mr. Veseli: There is no regret. There were also people who thought that there was pressure to vote it and that the insistence of the US and EU to establish the Special Court was not very serious. There were, both individuals and entities. There were also allegations that the Special Court was established only to politically eliminate specific persons, and that once it is established, those who will go there will be considered as victims and those who remain would say that those who were taken there knew about it.

49:26

Mr. Kelmendi: Mr. Veseli, what are you describing here? Are you saying that people were deceived two years ago when they voted it and now?

49:34

Mr. Veseli: No, no. There is no deception but a clear thought....

49:44

Mr. Kelmendi: But in that case it should have been rejected at that time instead of taking actions that damage the seriousness of Kosovo as a country because if this happens once it can then happen with every law!?

49:50

Mr. Veseli: I am the first one who had a crystal clear stance on this matter

49:59

Mr. Kelmendi: But you expressed it a bit late!

50:00

Mr. Veseli: Not late. From the very first day, from the first day. And this is the reason you did not see me giving any statements, to push this. Because my position is...

50:15

Mr. Kelmendi: But had the Vetevendosje given their votes on that night, it would have been abolished because the PDK gathered the signatures for it.

50:20

Mr. Veseli: Vetevendosje often bluffs only for political and electoral gains. They don't have a position and they showed it on that day as well. With respect to the Special Court, Vetevendosje like some other parties have the stance that we who fought the war must either disappear somehow or...this is a wrong concept. There is a concept of politically eliminating people through things that damage Kosovo.

50:49

Mr. Kelmendi: Regarding the Special Court, you did not show consistency either. The PDK voted it and then wanted to undo it within a night! This is not consistency!

50:55

Mr. Veseli: No, no. We were consistent. There was inconsistency from some who threw teargas at us, called us traitors, blamed us for everything thing, that this should not be done to Kosovo, and then in just 15 minutes they walked out like good boys. And look, they were not that serious. You know how we were accused when we voted that court, precisely!

51:22

Mr. Kelmendi: But at that time, just like the accusations from the ambassadors, that you were doing it for personal interests?

51:27

Mr. Veseli: I will not go into the interpretation of the ambassadors. I am a leader of Kosovo, I am a son of Kosovo first of all and I cannot add anything more to the speech when we voted and adopted the special court. From 12 June 1999, I have used this expression if you know it, I have said that for me life is wonderful but at the same time good enough, because I have seen freedom, I have seen the state, I have seen the change which I wanted and fought for since my childhood. God knows how much I was ready sacrifice. But I will say this, He wanted me to be here today.

52:22

Mr. Kelmendi: God?

52:23

Mr. Veseli: Yes, because I believe in God as I believe in my fellow fighters who were strong and brave and we removed a state which was feared even to dream of. One of the most powerful militaries.

52:38

Mr. Kelmendi: Which means that you are ready to make sacrifices at any time and that you don't do things for your personal interests?

52:40

Mr. Veseli: Never. I don't even think about it. I empathise for... my fellow fighters and I were fighting a war, we will be ready for any sacrifice. Some extraordinary friends left their families and I feel for them because they are going for a matter in which it is possible that most of them will come out as innocent but there is so much resentment and non-existent allegations against the former fighters that sometimes it worries me that everything that happens in this country is related to the KLA. I do not accept this. At the same time I am a harsh critic against those boasting because they fought and even more against those who want to take advantage of this. But people who have done nothing for the homeland and try to judge the freedom fighters because they were ready to die, took up arms for that cause, I don't accept this. Today they think that they are attacking the fighters in the harshest way.

53:56

Mr. Kelmendi: Who is attacking them?

53:57

Mr. Veseli: They are attacked by those you hear everyday, those who try to link every bad thing in Kosovo since the 12 June to the freedom fighters. This is not a dignified attitude.