



KOSOVO SPECIALIST CHAMBERS
DHOMAT E SPECIALIZUARA TË KOSOVËS
SPECIJALIZOVANA VEÇA KOSOVA

File number: KSC-BC-2020-06/IA001, IA002, IA003 & IA004

Before: The President of the Specialist Chambers
Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova

Registrar: Fidelma Donlon

Date: 4 February 2021

Language: English

Classification: Public

Decision Assigning a Court of Appeals Panel

Judges of the Court of Appeals Panel:

Judge Michèle Picard

Judge Kai Ambos

Judge Nina Jørgensen

Specialist Prosecutor's Office:

Jack Smith

Counsel for Hashim Thaçi:

David Hooper

Counsel for Kadri Veseli:

Ben Emmerson

Counsel for Rexhep Selimi:

David Young

Counsel for Jakup Krasniqi:

Venkateswari Alagenda

THE PRESIDENT of the Specialist Chambers (“President”), acting pursuant to Articles 33(1)(c), 41(10) and 45(2) of Law No. 05/L-053 on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor’s Office, Rules 58, 169 and 170 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers and Rules 3 and 4 of the Rules on Assignment of Specialist Chambers Judges from the Roster of International Judges (“Rules on Assignment”), herewith assigns a Court of Appeals Panel to decide on interlocutory appeals filed by Messrs Hashim Thaçi, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi and Jakub Krasniqi (“Accused”) against decisions issued by the Pre-Trial Judge rejecting their requests for interim release (collectively “Appeals”).¹

I. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

1. On 4 November 2020, Mr Krasniqi was arrested in Kosovo pursuant to an arrest warrant issued by the Pre-Trial Judge on 26 October 2020² and was transferred to the Detention Facilities of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers in The Hague on the same day.³
2. On 5 November 2020, Messrs Thaçi, Veseli and Selimi were arrested in Kosovo pursuant to arrest warrants issued by the Pre-Trial Judge on 26 October 2020⁴ and were transferred to the Detention Facilities of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers in The

¹ AI001/F00001, Defence Request to Appeal the “Decision on Kadri Veseli’s Application for Interim Release”, 1 February 2021 (“Veseli Appeal”); AI002-F00001/RED, Public Redacted Version of Krasniqi Defence Appeal against Decision on Jakub Krasniqi’s Application for Interim Release, KSC-BC-2020-06/AI002/F00001, dated 3 February 2021, 3 February 2021 (“Krasniqi Appeal”); AI003/F0001/RED, Public Redacted Version of Appeal against Decision on Rexhep Selimi’s Application for Interim Release, KSC-BC-2020-06/IA003-F00001, dated 3 February 2021, 3 February 2021 (“Selimi Appeal”); AI004/F0001/RED, Public Redacted Version of Thaçi Defence Appeal against the “Decision on Hashim Thaçi’s Application for Interim Release” with Public Annexes 1 and 2, 4 February 2021.

² See F00027, Public Redacted Version of Decision on Request for Arrest Warrants and Transfer Orders, 26 October 2020 (“Decision on Arrest Warrants”).

³ See F00048, Notification of the Reception of Jakub Krasniqi in the Detention Facilities of the Specialist Chambers, 4 November 2020.

⁴ See Decision on Arrest Warrants.

Hague on the same day.⁵

3. On 22 January 2021, the Pre-Trial Judge denied the requests for interim release of the Accused (“Impugned Decisions”).⁶

4. On 1 February 2021, Mr Veseli appealed the Impugned Decision.⁷

5. On 3 February, Messrs Thaçi, Selimi and Krasniqi appealed the Impugned Decisions.⁸

II. ASSIGNMENT

6. Having considered the criteria set forth in Rule 4(2) of the Rules on Assignment, including relevant experience and expertise as well as availability at this time,

THE PRESIDENT HEREBY ASSIGNS:

⁵ See F00053, Notification of the Reception of Hashim Thaçi in the Detention Facilities of the Specialist Chambers and Appointment of Counsel, 5 November 2020; F00054, Notification of the Reception of Kadri Veseli in the Detention Facilities of the Specialist Chambers and Appointment of Counsel, 5 November 2020; F00055, Notification of the Reception of Rexhep Selimi in the Detention Facilities of the Specialist Chambers, 5 November 2020.

⁶ F00094, Decision on Kadri Veseli’s Application for Interim Release, 22 January 2021, para. 64; F00177/RED, Public Redacted Version of Decision on Hashim Thaçi’s Application for Interim Release, dated 22 January 2021 and filed on 26 January 2021, para. 61; F00179/RED, Public Redacted Version of Decision on Rexhep Selimi’s Application for Interim Release, dated 22 January 2021 and filed on 26 January 2021, para. 58; F00180/RED, Public Redacted Version of Decision on Jakub Krasniqi’s Application for Interim Release, dated 22 January 2021 and filed on 26 January 2021, para. 52.

⁷ See generally Veseli Appeal.

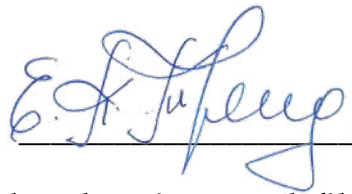
⁸ See generally Thaçi Appeal; Selimi Appeal; Krasniqi Appeal.

Judge Michèle Picard

Judge Kai Ambos

Judge Nina Jørgensen

to the Court of Appeals Panel to decide on the Appeals.



**Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova,
President of the Specialist Chambers**

Dated this Thursday, 4 February 2021

At The Hague,
The Netherlands