



KOSOVO SPECIALIST CHAMBERS  
DHOMAT E SPECIALIZUARA TË KOSOVËS  
SPECIJALIZOVANA VEÇA KOSOVA

**In:** KSC-BC-2020-06  
**The Prosecutor v. Hashim Thaçi, Kadri Veseli, Rexhep Selimi,  
and Jakup Krasniqi**

**Before:** Pre-Trial Judge  
Judge Nicolas Guillou

**Registrar:** Dr Fidelma Donlon

**Date:** 15 December 2022

**Language:** English

**Classification:** Public

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**Order Varying Time Limit for Defence Responses**

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**Acting Specialist Prosecutor**  
Alex Whiting

**Counsel for Victims**  
Simon Laws

**Counsel for Hashim Thaçi**  
Gregory Kehoe

**Counsel for Kadri Veseli**  
Ben Emmerson

**Counsel for Rexhep Selimi**  
David Young

**Counsel for Jakup Krasniqi**  
Venkateswari Alagenda

**THE PRE-TRIAL JUDGE**,<sup>1</sup> pursuant to Article 39(13) of the Law on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor's Office and Rules 9(5) and 76 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence Before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers ("Rules"), hereby renders this order.

## I. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND AND SUBMISSIONS

1. On 30 November 2022, the Pre-Trial Judge confirmed that the case file of these proceedings will be ready for transmission on Thursday, 15 December 2022.<sup>2</sup>
2. On 13 December 2022, the Defence for Hashim Thaçi, the Defence for Kadri Veseli, the Defence for Rexhep Selimi and the Defence for Jakup Krasniqi (collectively, "Defence") requested a suspension of deadlines over the upcoming judicial recess ("Request").<sup>3</sup> The Defence asserts that, given the imminent transfer of the case to the Trial Panel, it is expected that the Parties will be required to address a plethora of issues in preparation for trial, and in this context, written submissions in this case are particularly burdensome.<sup>4</sup> The Specialist Prosecutor's Office indicated that it did not oppose the Request.<sup>5</sup>

## II. APPLICABLE LAW

3. Pursuant to Rule 9(5) of the Rules, the Pre-Trial Judge may *proprio motu* or upon a showing of good cause extend any time limit prescribed by the Rules.

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<sup>1</sup> KSC-BC-2020-06, F00001, President, *Decision Assigning a Pre-Trial Judge*, 23 April 2020, public.

<sup>2</sup> KSC-BC-2020-06, F01131, Pre-Trial Judge, *Notification Pursuant to Rule 98(3) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence*, 30 November 2022, public.

<sup>3</sup> KSC-BC-2020-06, F01155, Specialist Counsel, *Joint Defence Request for Suspension of Time Limit During the Winter Recess*, 13 December 2022, public.

<sup>4</sup> Request, para. 3.

<sup>5</sup> Request, para. 2.

4. Pursuant to Rule 76 of the Rules, any response to a motion shall be filed within ten (10) days of the motion and any reply to a response shall be filed within five (5) days of the response.

### III. DISCUSSION

5. In light of the upcoming judicial recess,<sup>6</sup> the Pre-Trial Judge finds that good cause has been shown for the variation of time limit for the Defence to respond to currently pending filing, F01148, whose response deadline falls well into the judicial recess. The Pre-Trial Judge accordingly orders the Defence to file any response to F01148 by Wednesday, 18 January 2023. The Pre-Trial Judge further considers that any reply to such response(s) shall follow the timeline set out in Rule 76 of the Rules.

### IV. DISPOSITION

6. For the above-mentioned reasons, the Pre-Trial Judge hereby:
- (a) **GRANTS** the Request, in part;
  - (b) **VARIES** the time limit for Defence response(s) to F01148 to **Wednesday, 18 January 2023**; and
  - (c) **ORDERS** any reply to follow the timeline set out in Rule 76 of the Rules.



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**Judge Nicolas Guillou**  
**Pre-Trial Judge**

Dated this Thursday, 15 December 2022  
At The Hague, the Netherlands.

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<sup>6</sup> The winter judicial recess runs from Monday, 19 December 2022, to Friday, 6 January 2023, see KSCPR-2021, F00002, President, *Judicial Recess Periods for 2022*, 11 November 2021, p. 2, public.