

In: KSC-BC-2020-06

Before: Trial Panel II

Judge Charles L. Smith III, Presiding Judge

Judge Christoph Barthe Judge Guénaël Mettreaux

Judge Fergal Gaynor, Reserve Judge

Registrar: Dr Fidelma Donlon

Filed by: Registrar

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Notification of Withdrawal of Co-Counsel, Termination of Counsel, and Appointment of New Counsel, for Hashim Thaçi

with two confidential Annexes

Specialist Prosecutor Counsel for Hashim Thaçi

Kimberly P. West Luka Mišetić

Counsel for Kadri Veseli

Ben Emmerson

Victims' Counsel

Simon Laws Counsel for Rexhep Slimi

Geoffrey Roberts

Counsel for Jakup Krasniqi

Venkateswari Alagendra

- 1. Pursuant to Rule 26(1) of the Rules,¹ the Registrar hereby informs Trial Panel II ('Panel') of the following, in respect of Mr Hashim Thaçi's ('Mr Thaçi') legal representation: (i) the withdrawal of Mr Joe Reeder ('Mr Reeder') as Co-Counsel; (ii) the termination of Mr Gregory Kehoe's ('Mr Kehoe') appointment as Counsel; and (iii) the appointment of Mr Luka Mišetić ('Mr Mišetić') as replacement Counsel.
- 2. On 26 May 2021, the Registrar appointed Mr Kehoe as Counsel and approved Mr Mišetić as Co-Counsel to Mr Thaçi.²
- 3. On 12 April 2023, the Registrar approved Mr Reeder as Co-Counsel to Mr Thaçi.³
- 4. On 19 January 2024, the Registry notified the Panel of a letter sent by Mr Thaçi, informing the Panel that his contract with Mr Kehoe had ended, and that, as a result, Mr Kehoe would no longer represent him going forward.⁴ On the same day, Mr Kehoe filed before the Panel a request for early termination of his representation of Mr Thaçi, and of the services of Mr Reeder and eight other members of his Defence Team.⁵
- 5. On 29 January 2024, the Registrar, after receiving further information from Mr Kehoe regarding his request for early termination, requested the Panel to seek confirmation from Mr Thaçi and his then Co-Counsel, Mr Mišetić, about Mr Thaçi's representation by Counsel going forward.⁶
- 6. On 31 January 2024, the Panel held an *ex parte* hearing, to discuss the issue of Mr Thaçi's legal representation.

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¹ Rules of Procedure and Evidence Before the Specialist Chambers, KSC-BD-03/Rev3/2020, 2 June 2020, public ('Rules'); *see also* Law No. 05/L-053 on Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor's Office, 3 August 2015, Articles 21(4), 21(5), 34(7) and 41(4)(b).

² KSC-BC-2020-06, F00324, Notification of Appointment of New Counsel for Hashim Thaçi and Approval of Co-Counsel with confidential and *ex parte* Annexes 1-2, 27 May 2021, public.

³ KSC-BC-2020-06, F01455, Notification of Approval of Co-Counsel for Hashim Thaçi with one confidential Annex, 13 April 2023, public.

⁴ KSC-BC-2020-06, F02068, Notification from Hashim Thaçi to the Trial Panel and Request for Approval of Termination of Representation by Counsel with one confidential Annex, 19 January 2024, confidential.

⁵ KSC-BC-2020-06, F02069, Motion to Withdraw by Lead Counsel for Hashim Thaçi, 19 January 2024, public.

⁶ KSC-BC-2020-06, F02088, Notification of Letter with Additional Information from Counsel Requesting Early Termination with one confidential and *ex parte* Annex, 29 January 2024, confidential and *ex parte*.

7. On 9 February 2024, Mr Mišetić informed the Panel that he had reached an agreement with Mr Thaçi to succeed Mr Kehoe as Counsel.⁷

8. On 12 February 2024, Mr Thaçi provided, via Mr Mišetić, a request to the Head of the Defence Office to appoint the latter as his Counsel.

9. On 14 February 2024, the Panel approved the early termination of Mr Kehoe's representation of Mr Thaçi,⁸ considering that the request accords with the latter's rights and adequately ensures his effective representation. The Panel was satisfied that the replacement will cause no unfairness to Mr Thaçi or any of his co-Accused, nor delay the proceedings.

10. Accordingly, on 16 February 2024, the Registrar: (i) terminated the services of Mr Reeder Co-Counsel and the appointment of Mr Kehoe as Counsel for Mr Thaçi,⁹ and (ii) appointed Mr Mišetić, who is admitted to the List of Counsel pursuant to Sections 7(3) and 18(1) of the Directive on Counsel, as Counsel for Mr Thaçi in accordance with Sections 12 and 13 of the Directive on Counsel.¹⁰

11. Pursuant to Rule 82(3) of the Rules, the Registrar submits that the Annexes to this filing are classified as confidential as they contain personal information concerning previous Counsel and Co-Counsel, as well as replacement Counsel.

Word count: 677

Dr Fidelma Donlon

Registrar

Monday, 19 February 2023

At The Hague, the Netherlands

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⁷ KSC-BC-2020-06, F02116, Notification to the Trial Panel Concerning Engagement of New Counsel, 9 February 2024, confidential and *ex parte*.

⁸ KSC-BC-2020-06, F02121, Decision Approving the Termination of Representation by Counsel for Hashim Thaçi, 14 February 2024, public.

⁹ See Annex 1, Letter of Termination of Representation, KSC/REG/6768, 16 February 2024, confidential. ¹⁰ See Annex 2, Appointment Letter, KSC/REG/IOR/6770, 16 February 2024, confidential; Decision on Admission to the List of Specialist Counsel, KSC/REG/DEF/0036, 2 May 2018.