### **High Inspector of Justice**

#### Newsletter

# **April 2021**





HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE RECEIVES OSCE AMBASSADOR DEL MONACO

High Inspector of Justice Artur Metani received (on 21.04.2021) the Head of the OSCE presence in Albania, Ambassador Vincenzo del Monaco. Mr. Metani congratulated Ambassador del Monaco on his position in our country and praised the supporting role of the OSCE presence during the Albania's journey to strengthen institutions, democratic values and the rule of law.

The High Inspector of Justice acquainted the Ambassador of the OSCE presence with the ILD Office work during these 14 months, with the challenges and results in the process of verification and disciplinary investigation of the magistrates as a public obligation with a view to having justice with the best western standards and practises.

The Ambassador of the OSCE presence in Albania praised the High Inspector of Justice work and expressed his willingnes to support HIJ Office in the most efficient performance of constitutional functions.

High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Metani and Ambassador del Monaco shared their willingness to continue the cross-institutional cooperation so as to support the HIJ Office activity, through its capacity building.



On the meeting with Ambassador Del Monaco, Mr. Metani posted on his official Twitter account:

"Pleased to have met Ambassador Vincenzo del Monaco, the Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania. OSCE has always played an important role in strengthening the rule of law in our country. We discussed with the Ambassador the possibilities for cooperation between the two institutions."



### COMMUNICATION WITH CITIZENS

As part of the professional development and the standardization of the working procedures of the Complaint Unit, ILD staff organized a discussion on Communication with Citizens, at the beginning of April. During the discussion it was highlighted the importance that the institution gives to the fair treatment of each complainant and the assistance with the complaint form when they fill it out at the HIJ premises.



In order to implement transparency and the right to information, the employees of this Unit provide assistance through the telephone number made available for this purpose, as a guarantee to increase the public's trust in the justice system and also to positively present the institution in front of citizens, other institutions, partners etc., in order to avoid any negative perception.

"The main commitment of the High Inspector of Justice Office is that judicial functions in the Republic of Albania must be performed independently, impartially and with integrity through a system of responsibility and accountability."

#### **COMPLAINT SECTOR**

The HIJ Complaint Sector is responsible for guaranteeing the right of citizens to information and transparency to the public. This Unit monitors the complaints traceability in the system and provides answers to complainants on the complaint stage.

As part of the transparency program, in order to increase the communication with the interested citizens, the High Inspector of Justice Office in addition to the official address and the official Web, has made available the telephone number:

+355 4 2217217

#### **STATISTICS**

During **April**, the High Inspector of Justice Office received 125 complaints made by citizens, organizations and institutions.

The total figure resulted in:

- 110 complaints filed by citizens;
- **15 complaints** filed by public and non-public institutions.
- **33** calls with citizens, who asked information about the stage of their complaints. **14** meetings complainants, who were assisted during the process of completing the complaint form at HIJ premises .

The High Inspector of Justice Office has performed the standard confirmation process of receiving complaints for all the new complaints submitted during April 2021.



Complaints against judges and prosecutors are referred to the inspectors and they are at different stages of the process, such as the initial consideration, verification and the archiving together with the relevant decisions.

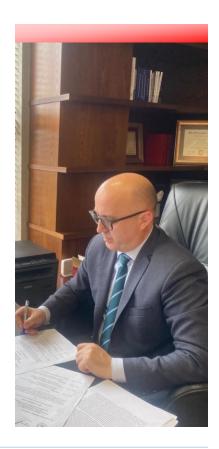
## HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE STARTS COOPERATION WITH US OPDAT MISSION



High Inspector of Justice Office and OPDAT mission of the Us Department, held a virtual roundtable (on 22.04.2021) on the disciplinary investigation process related to allegations of misconduct by judges and prosecutors in Albania.

In his welcoming speech High Inspector of Justice Artur Metani, thanked the OPDAT resident legal advisor in Albania, Mrs. Michelle Lakomy and expressed his satisfaction about the initiation of cooperation with OPDAT mission to build HIJ capacities in terms of best practises of disciplinary investigation against magistrates as well as restoring public trust in justice.

The Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors of the High Inspector of

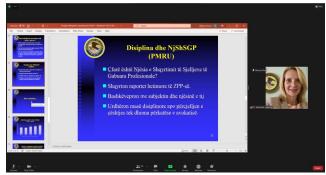


"Happy to start a new partnership with OPDAT mission on HIJ capacity building.
Today: Evaluating magistrates' misconduct allegations from the perspective of the US
Department of Justice, Office of Professional Responsibility."

Justice Office discussed with Ms. Leslie Ann Gerardo, Counsel to the Department of Justice, Office of Professional Responsibility, the cases and disciplinary investigation practices so as to improve the processes of admitting, reviewing and undertaking actions based on allegations of misconduct by magistrates in office in the new justice institutions created as a result of the justice reform.

This is the first of a series of events that OPDAT will organize in cooperation with the High Inspector of Justice Office as part of a special training and technical assistance program for the HIJ.





On the training in cooperation with Euralius V, Mr. Metani posted on his official Twitter account:

#### "Happening now:

#HIJ and #EURALIUS V, training on disciplinary investigations against magistrates. Preparatory work before starting a disciplinary investigation, law interpretations, constitutional provisions during the transitional period.

Second day of training on preparatory practices before starting a disciplinary investigation. The consolidation of new practices to guarantee the investigation impartiality and to respect both the public interest and the magistrate independence."

**#EURALIUS #HIJ** 

# TRAINING ON DISCIPLINARY INVESTIGATION AGAINST MAGISTRATES



Mission EURALIUS V in cooperation with the High Inspector of Justice Office conducted the third cycle of training on disciplinary investigations against judges and prosecutors, on April 16th and 17th.

Specific aspects of the preparatory work before starting a disciplinary investigation, interpretations of the law, magistrates' conducts as well as the implementation of the constitutional provi-

sions during the transitional period due to the legal vacuum, were discussed during the two-day training with the inspectors, assistant inspectors and the HIJ cabinet.

This training cycle is part of the High Inspector of Justice training program in cooperation with EUR-ALIUS V in order to strengthen the capacities and the professionalism of the HIJ staff.





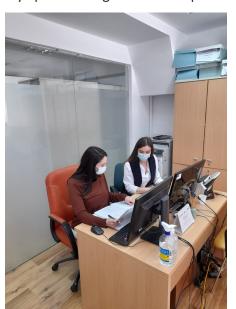
#### ARCHIVE-PROTOCOL OFFICE WORK





The archive-protocol office is the Unit where every complaint or document which reaches the High Inspector of Justice Office starts its journey.

This Office records the documents by protocolling the correspond-



ence which enters or leaves the HIJ Office as well as sending the signed documents.

The small but energetic team of this office compiles and prints the documents as well as distributing the documentation according to the seal of the High inspector of Justice. They also follow with evidence the submission of the closed documents practices by the relevant units of the institution.

The archive-protocol office employees scan every document that enters and leaves HIJ Office, edit documents created by the High Inspector of Justice Office as well as classifying documents based on the Law of archives no. 9154, 06.11.2003. The archive-protocol office tasks also include the cooperation with the HIJ reporting and complaint office to make reports on the number of complaints received by the institutions, their progress as well as each statistics report required by the High Inspector of justice.



#### **Digitalization**

The archive – protocol office is the first to use the complaint and document management system, an intelligent system built by EURALIUS, in cooperation with OSCE presence in Albania in order to increase the efficiency of the HIJ staff.

Setting up this intelligent system brings a number of conveniences, such as the use of the real-time data, the generation of accurate information through digital and "paperless" methodology, creating easy access for the users of this system.



#### **April 2021**

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Spot prezantues ILD Prezantimi i Inspektorit të Lartë të Drejtësië  $\mathscr{S}$  youtube.com

Click to see the Introduction video of HIJ





"This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the Office of High Inspector of Justice and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union"