

High Inspector of Justice

Newsletter

No.7

July 2021



DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AT THE FOCUS OF HIJ, HJC AND HPC

Investigations and disciplinary proceedings of judges and prosecutors were the focus of a joint meeting initiated by the actors involved in this process – the High Judicial Council, the High Prosecutorial Council and the High Inspector of Justice.

Once it was established, on February 1st, 2020, HIJ started the first disciplinary investigations against magistrates, and subsequently, the HJC and the HPC adopted their respective regulations on disciplinary proceedings. The development of the first disciplinary proceedings submitted by HIJ to both Councils, based on the new

justice reform legislation, has prompted the heads of the new institutions, High Inspector of Justice Artur Metani, Chairperson of the HJC Naureda Llagami, and Chairperson of the HPC Gent Ibrahimimi to activate this communication and coordination platform to identify issues of common interest encountered during the implementation of the law, agreement and coordination on the implementation of uniform standards, by guaranteeing a regular disciplinary process and respecting the independence of magistrates.

At this work meeting the chairpersons of international missions assisting the justice institutions, the European Union Delegation, the EURALIUS mission and the US Department of Justice, OPDAT, conveyed their support.



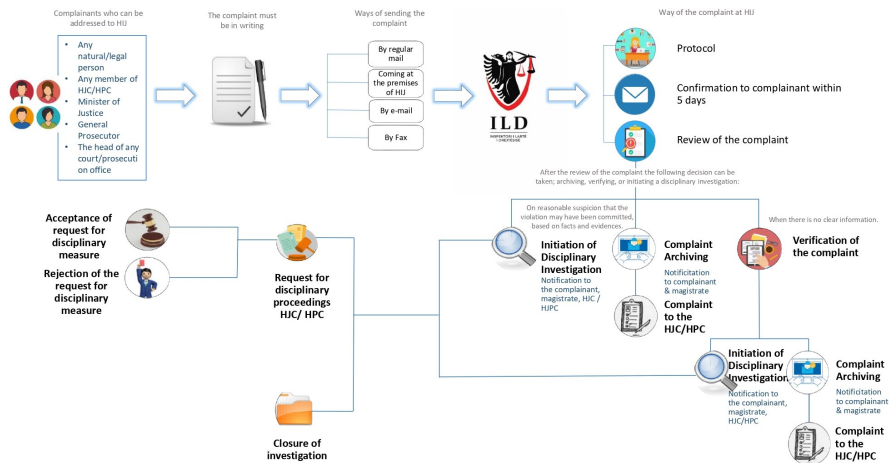
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Disciplinary Proceedings

Activation of this communication and coordination platform between the High Inspector of Justice, the High Judicial Council and the High Prosecution Council aims at agreeing and coordinating the implementation of uniform standards, by guaranteeing a regular disciplinary process and respecting the independence of magistrates.



Complaint Process



Your complaint can be submitted electronically by email, by mail or directly to the High Inspector of Justice Office (HIJ).

When you fill out a complaint form at the HIJ premises in person, you can be assisted by the employees of the Complaint Sector.

You can submit your complaints at HIJ Office from **Monday to Friday, 09:00 a.m. -14:00 p.m.**

“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 Sector monitors the complaints traceability in the system and provides answers to complainants on their 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 **July**, the High Inspector of Justice Office received **122 complaints** made by citizens and institutions.

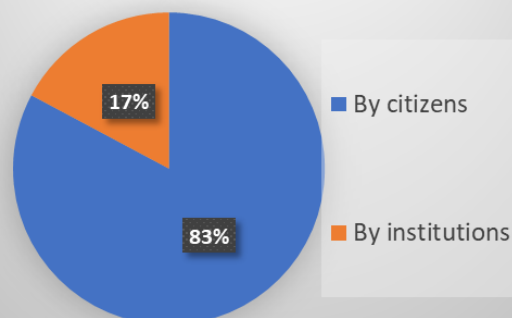
This total figure resulted in:

101 complaints filed by citizens;

21 complaints filed by institutions.

41 phone calls with citizens, who asked information about their complaint stage. **25 meetings** with citizens.

COMPLAINTS DURING JULY 2021



The High Inspector of Justice Office has performed the standard confirmation process of receiving complaints for all the new complaints submitted during July, 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 relevant decisions.

EURALIUS V APPRECIATES HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE

The cooperation of the High Inspector of Justice with the mission EURALIUS V was evidenced through a joint awarding ceremony for the members of the respective staff.

The High Inspector of Justice, Artur Metani praised the valuable assistance over the years of the EURALIUS mission in our country for the consolidation of the justice system. “It is one of the most productive and supportive missions, of the European Union, on institutional developments in Albania.” said the High Inspector of Justice. Mr. Metani underlined the contribution of EURALIUS’ mission leaders over the years in Albania. “I want to remember the first leaders, Judge Coledan and Roland Miklau,



with whom I cooperated during my professional experience, who laid strong foundations of an institution with high integrity, up to the current leader, Mrs. Bernhard”.

On her part, Dr. Agnes Bernhard praised the High Inspector of Justice Artur Metani for the cooperation with EURALIUS, which was reflected through the awarding ceremony. “We must have such moments when during the work we are both appreciate and appreciative. HIJ is the youngest of the justice governing institutions, but it is an institution that has excellent results and should be an example for the other institutions.

Thank you very much for your dedication, your leadership and *(continues on next pg.)*

your commitment to leading the HIJ.” said Mrs. Bernhard.

On behalf of EURALIUS V, the Head of the Mission Dr. Agnes Bernhard handed over awarding certificates to some employees of the Office of the High Justice Inspector, for their contribution to joint projects on behalf of the HIJ, namely to Magistrate Inspector Marsela Pepi, to the advi-

sors Periand Teta, Elona Kana and Isida Koka, as well as to the director of the directorate of legal analysis and drafting Eljona Bylykbashi. While the High Inspector of Justice Artur Metani handed a letter of gratitude to the legal expert of EURALIUS V, Mrs. Anita Mihailova, for the commitment, contribution and support in building and strengthening the capacities of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice.



REMARKS BY HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE ARTUR METANI AT THE “5 YEARS OF JUSTICE REFORM: FINALIZATION OF THE NEW CROSS-CUTTING JUSTICE STRATEGY” EVENT



The High Inspector of Justice participated in the meeting held on July 23 "Justice reform - 5 years later: finalization of the cross-sectoral justice strategy 2021-2025"

Below, the full speech of the High Inspector of Justice held at this meeting.

**Honorable Mrs. Gjonaj,
Honorable Ambassador Soreca,
Honorable Ambassador Kim,
Distinguished colleagues of justice institutions,
Dear guests,**

The development of a new strategy comes at a time when all the justice system institutions have been established, thanks to the constitutional and legal structure developed for a new system and a new approach to the justice system. We are at the

moment when the cycle of establishing new justice institutions has ended, as well as equipping them with the necessary infrastructural and human capacities for bringing strategic priorities for the country to life.

The past five years served to understand the importance of the need to transform one of the most delicate but crucial pillars in a state of law. The High Inspector of Justice, during his 17-month journey, has had comprehensive challenges in setting up the office and becoming functional- from providing working facilities, to filling the vacancies with human resources, challenges which we are still facing.

However, in my remarks, I would like to focus on strategic planning, as the main system that guarantees the coordination and implementation of the constitutional institutions' policies in the long run, to ensure an effective and sustainable

During the speech of the High Inspector of Justice

Five years after the adoption of the justice reform, the real challenge of the new institutions remains the support and coordinated cooperation between the authorities in the careful and impartial assessment of the needs as well as addressing at the right time the concerns and problems that are identified, through functional monitoring, implementation and approval mechanisms.

[Click](#) to read the whole speech of Mr. Metani at the official website, [ild.al](#).



distribution of financial resources.

I would like to welcome the effort of recent months to provide an integrated planning of sectorial policies and to draft them in an integrated document according to the justice system actors, translated into concrete goals, with measurable measures and indicators, whose focus remains the continuation of the reforms undertaken.

In this sense, with the establishment of the independent institutions, the strategic planning process has improved due to the inclusiveness and harmonization of policies at the level of coordinated institutional planning and integrated with strategic planning. The strategic document structure, made available for opinion, supports the development of the institutional mission, in terms of evaluating and analyzing the normative framework on which it is based the activity of building human capacity and developing technology tools in order to provide service efficiency.



As in every stage of drafting the reform, the support of our partners has been noticeable and it is also reflected in the quality of this document content. However, the key to success is expected to be the proactive involvement of independent institutions in this process, their involvement taking into account their requirements and proposals, because the measurement of results and objectives will be a product of the independent bodies' performance in meeting the major goal, that of consolidating the justice system.

Now with the new document for the next 5 years, it becomes obvious the need for a more comprehensive approach in the development of the budget sector policies too, as well as avoiding the influence of the executive in controlling the budget of independent constitutional institutions, as a means to guarantee the autonomy and the independence of the institutions.

From the experience so far, one of the factors that affects the institution's performance is the way of providing funds, their effective use and the adequacy of financial, material and human resources available to the institution. Providing these resources in a timely manner guarantees the independence of the institutions. Funding as needed and using it in a transparent manner are fundamental to achieving the set objectives, on time and with quality.

We have left behind the era of establishing our institutions, and now it is time for measurable and qualitative results, to justify the public's trust in justice.

This is the challenge of the future!

Thank you

To watch the full video of the speech of the High Inspector of Justice, [click here](#).

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[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

[Click](#) to watch the introduction video of HIJ