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# NEWSLETTER

# HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE

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Inspektori i Lartë i  
Drejtësisë



Inspektori i Lartë i Drejtësisë Artur Metani  
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**COMPLAINTS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTOR**





## COMPLAINTS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTOR

Communication with citizens is part of the daily work of the High Inspector of Justice. For this reason, part of the changes in the organizational structure of the HIJ office, in order to make the institution as functional as possible, is the completion of the complaints sector with the dimension of public relations, "The **Complaints and Public Relations Sector**" is responsible for guaranteeing citizens' right to information and transparency towards the public.

This sector follows the traceability of complaints in the system and provides answers to complainants, on the stage at which their complaint is being processed

**Coordinator for the right to information** is part of this sector.





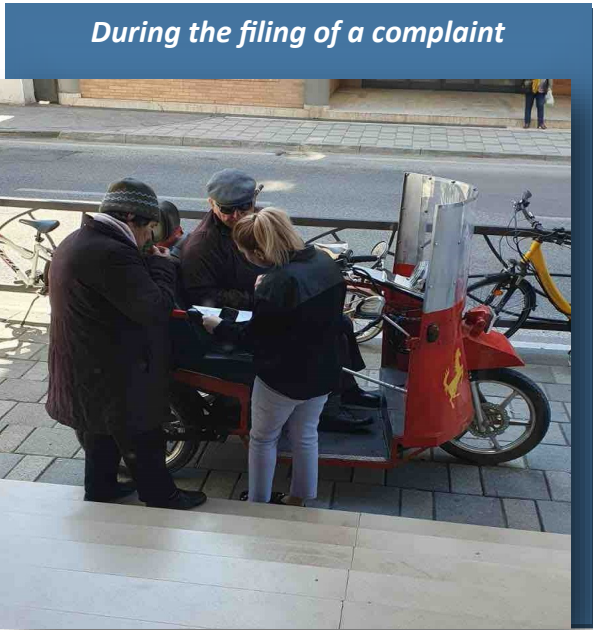


*While assisting the complainants*

The team of complaints office welcomes citizens-complainants every working day from 09:00 am to 02:00 pm, while for increased communication with interested citizens, in

addition to communication through the website and official address, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice has made available the phone number +355 4 2217217.

*During the month of **March 2023**, the Complaints and Public Relations Sector received **14 complainants**, who appeared at the premises of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, and **19 phone** calls from citizens, who requested information on the stage of their complaints or Information on completing the TIP complaint form*



*During the filing of a complaint*

## COORDINATOR FOR THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION

In accordance with the principles and rules provided for in law no. 119/2014 "On the right to information", the coordinator for the right to information in the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, enables every applicant the right to be familiar with public information, as well as communicates according to the need with the applicant regarding the processing of the request for public information.

Requests for information are filed by citizens, legal entities, interested groups, and can be send through the "Albanian Post", e-mail at the address: info@ild.al, as well as the e-mail of the coordinator for the right to information: amanta.jasa@ild.al.

The information provided in the transparency program is published and continuously updated in the register of requests and responses, within the legal deadline.

## MONTHLY FIGURES

*During **March** 2023, at the Office of High Inspector of Justice, **21 requests** for information were received, which were processed in all cases within 5 days (the law provides that applicants to return response withi n10 days).*

## COMPLAINT PROCESS AT HIJ

The Office of the High Inspector of Justice continues with intensive work to confirm the complaints carried and those administered since February 1, 2020, when it was established as an institution.

To facilitate this process for interested persons, HIJ has published on the official website a special complaint form, which:

Can be completed directly and submitted online;

Can be downloaded, completed and sent by email to info@ild.al or by mail at the

address Boulevard "Dëshmorët e Kombit", Building no.13, Tirana.

It can also be completed by presenting at the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, if necessary, to ask for assistance of the team of the Complaints Office.

Upon receipt of the complaint, the High Inspector of Justice within 5 days confirms in writing its receipt.

The criteria for the admissibility of the complaint are published on the official website of HIJ [www.ild.al](http://www.ild.al), in the section "How to receive complaints".

## MARCH OF HJC IN NUMBER

During **March** the Office of High Inspector of Justice has administered **64** complaints, **60** of which were submitted by citizens and **4 submitted** by institutions.

The High Inspector of Justice Office has performed the standard confirmation process of receiving complaints for all the new complaints submitted during March 2023. 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.

**VERIFICATIONS**

18 verification decisions, of which:

8 verification decisions, initial review (ILD);

10 verification decisions (files backlog, by the former KLD);

**DISCIPLINARY INVESTIGATIONS**

2 disciplinary investigation decisions for 2 magistrates

1 decision to close the disciplinary investigation for 2 magistrates

2 requests for disciplinary proceedings for a magistrate

**ARCHIVES**

. 109 archived decisions from 229 reviewed complaints:

30 archiving decisions after initial review (HIJ);

41 archiving decisions after the initial review (files backlog, by the former KLD);

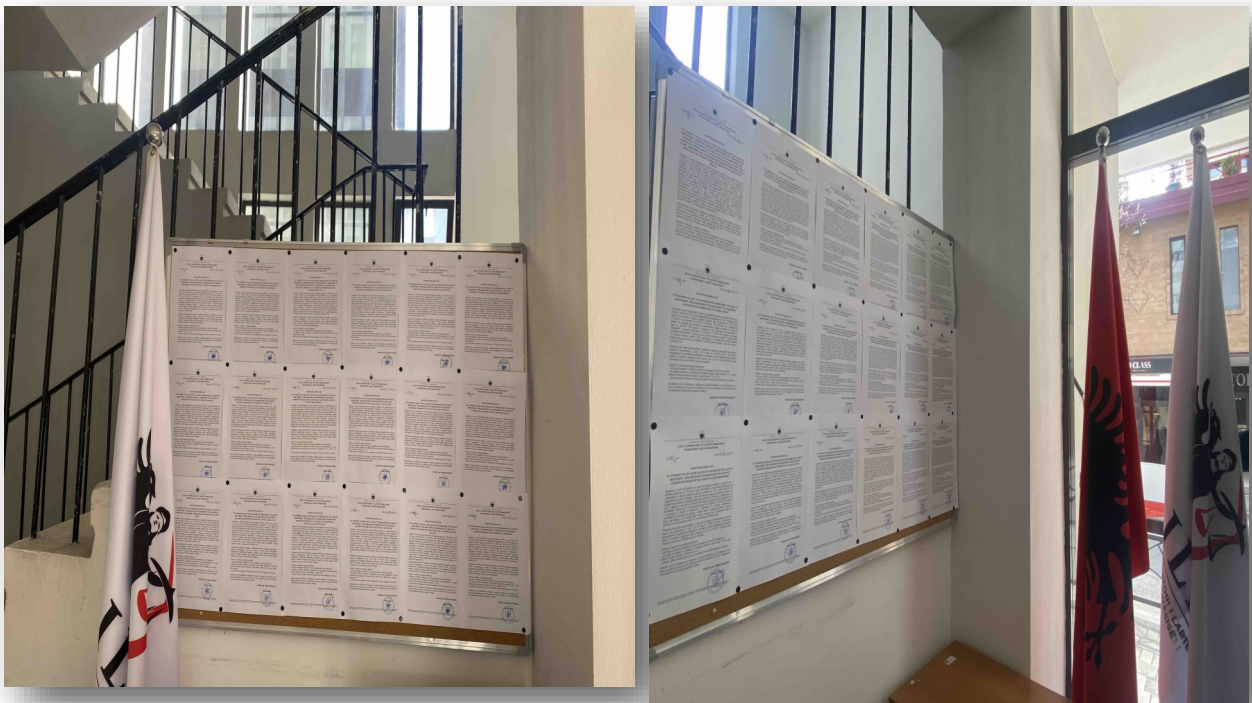
. 38 archiving decisions after verification, of which:

6 archiving decisions after verification (HIJ);

32 archiving decisions after verification (files backlog, by the former KLD).

## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISIONS

Even during the month of March , the Office of the High Inspector of Justice made public announcements of archiving decisions for 30 complainants, who were unreachable at the addresses communicated by them. In addition to the stands of the ILD, according to the law, these announcements are also found on our official website and posted in the stands of the municipalities where the complainants come from. The Office of the High Inspector of Justice has made a total of 262 public announcements



### INFORMATION

*Due to the reconstruction of the building, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice has been transferred for a period of time to the address: Street "Abdi Toptani", Building No. 5, 3rd floor, Tirana (at the State Advocacy).*

*The schedules for communication with citizens who want information or to submit a complaint to the HIJ (High Inspector of Justice) will remain unchanged. The team of the Complaints Office will welcome you every working day from 09:00 am to 02:00 pm.*

*Citizens will be welcomed on the first floor of the institution.*





## HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE STARTS BILATERAL COOPERATION WITH SPANISH INSPECTION SERVICE

Madrid March 7, 2023

High Inspector of Justice Mr. Artur Metani made a working visit to Madrid at the invitation of Ms. Amparo Camazón, head of the Inspection Service of the General Council of the Judiciary of Spain.

In the meeting held at the premises of the Spanish Inspection Service, the chairwoman Ms. Amparo Camazón and the vice-chair Ms. Elena Burgos introduced the Albanian delegation to the organization, financing, functions, duties and other national services responsible for monitoring and evaluating the

justice system in Spain as well as the nature and typology of missions, information and communication technologies, transparency and communication, protection of personal data and foreign relations of the Spanish Inspection Service.

On the second day, members of the Spanish inspection service made several presentations on the disciplinary system in Spain, the relevant legislation, the initiation of a disciplinary proceeding, disciplinary cases, disciplinary procedures and the citizen services unit..



This bilateral cooperation with the Spanish counterparts is part of the cooperation within the joint participation of the HIJ, in the European Network of Inspection Services.

The exchange of experience and the acquaintance with the practices of international counterpart institutions is part of the HIJ vision to implement the best work standards in the

disciplinary process.

At the end of this working visit, the High Inspector of Justice, at the invitation of the Department of Constitutional Law of the University of Seville, participated in a round table discussion on the justice system in Albania.

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**THE FIGHT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY IS NOT FINAL DESTINATION BUT A DAILY STRUGGLE**

High Inspector of Justice Mr. Artur Metani participated in the meeting organized by the National Council for European Integration (NCEI) on the topic “What is expected from Albania during the negotiation process with the European Union?”, where the Commissioner for Neighborhood and Enlargement in the European Commission, Mr. Olivér Várhelyi, leaders of independent institutions and representatives of civil society in the country were present. Taking the floor at the meeting, Mr. Metani highlighted the efforts for the independence of the judicial system and the healthy democracy in the country.

“The fight against corruption in and for the independence of the judiciary is not a final destination, but it is an everyday effort of all of us, not only of the structure that works to make functional the system of the constitutional and democratic control of the work of the judges and prosecutors. But, more than this, it is required a democratic environment, so that the judicial system and the justice institutions are fully functional. Definitely there can be no democracy without independence of the judiciary as well as no independence of the judiciary without democracy, and the cultivation of democracy in a society like this – a polarized society if I

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may say so, the only long-term solution I think, is to discuss and search for solutions for the issues that arise at a certain moment. This should be a non-emotional discussion, not based on the debate of the moment, but on long-term solutions which are in accordance with the constitution and in particular with those values which you discuss with Albania.” said Mr. Metani.



**The full speech of the High Inspector of Justice:**

Thank you, Mr. Balla!

Mr. Várhelyi, welcome to Albania.

It is my pleasure to be part of this table, even though I may have some doubts whether the High Inspector of Justice or even the institutions of justice should be part of processes or tables like this one, yet I still consider it a personal pleasure, because being part of this important process for the future of the country is also a professional satisfaction, as you are part of an environment where you can exchange opinions and have discussions on the values which we are fighting for. We exchange viewpoints with colleagues or representatives of structures of the European Union, from which we un-

doubtedly expect to exchange opinions on the values on which this reform is being built or even Albania's progress in this process.

Second, this is obviously not the place to talk about what has been done well or could have been done better by our structures, or by me personally, but in my view the fight against corruption in and for the independence of the judiciary is not a final destination, but it is an everyday effort of all of us, not only of the structure that works to make functional the system of the constitutional and democratic control of the work of the judges and prosecutors. But, more than this, it is required a democratic environment, so that the judicial system and the justice institutions are fully functional.

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out independence of the judiciary as well as no independence of the judiciary without democracy, and the cultivation of democracy in a society like this – a polarized society if I may say so, the only long-term solution I think, is to discuss and search for solutions for the issues that arise at a certain moment.

This should be a non-emotional discussion, not based on the debate of the moment, but on long-term solutions which are in accordance with the constitution and in particular with those values which you discuss with Albania and the EU structures are ne-

gotiating with Albania.

This is what I consider important so as to make the reform functional, beyond the obligations we have and we must commit to doing even more in this direction.

However, I still think that the efforts of one institution or even five institutions would not be enough, if the importance of this reform was not understood by everyone, including the participants at the table and also by others beyond it.

Thank you!

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## HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE MEETS WITH THE AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE IN ALBANIA

High Inspector of Justice Artur Metani, welcomed the French ambassador in Albania, Ms. Elisabeth Barsacq, who was accompanied by Ms. Tiphaine Simon, a student of the French National School for the Judiciary, who is doing an internship at the French embassy in Tirana.

Having thanked the ambassador for her vis-

it, Mr. Metani appreciated the support of France in the consolidation of democracy in our country, the important reforms undertaken, such as the justice reform and the journey of Albania in the process of joining the European Union with the negotiations started with chapter 23 "Judiciary and human rights".

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The High Inspector of Justice introduced the ambassador to the HIJ work and to the activity as an observer member in the European Network of Inspection Services (RESIJ), which is run by France.

Speaking about the reform in justice, Mr. Metani and Ms. Barsacq shared the opinion that this is a long process that will require its own time to achieve the expected results

from the comprehensive will for a functional justice system with standards.

On the other hand, Mr. Metani highlighted that the efforts for the magistrates independence should not be seen as a final destination but as a daily effort of all institutions, because only a functional justice system brings the expected results.

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