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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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LEGAL EDUCATION FROM SCHOOL BANK





HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE WITH STUDENTS OF BAJRAM CURRI FOR LEGAL EDUCATION

Bajram Curri, June 8, 2023

High Inspector of Justice Artur Metani became part of the educational activity of the students of “Besëlidhja e Malësisë” school, in the city of Bajram Curri.

The activity is part of the objective of the High Inspector of Justice Office to promote legal education even in pre-university education, a process that has begun in the lecture halls of law students of public universities throughout the country.

The 9th grade students of this school, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, had prepared a legal case, which they debated divided into two groups, about the influences of

social status versus the rights in court. Playing roles of debaters, students presented arguments on legal, moral, ethical and practical law and the lessons learned, that doing the right thing is the best choice, even when there are opportunities for unfair advantages and profits

Congratulating the students on their preparation, strong arguments and dynamic debate, the High Inspector of Justice answered their questions on the HIJ work and the society’s contribution to the rule of law.

Mr. Metani singled out the conclusion of the debate, precisely the education on the fight against any injustice and the perseverance to keep justice independent, without improper influences, as a challenging process for every



society as well as a civic duty
 “Justice, before a being a document or law read and applied by the judge and prosecutor, is first of all a social value”, – said the High Inspector of Justice.

“If you are honest and give your contribution to a society with a culture of justice, then you and

the society will have a strong reaction against injustices. When you will not accept to benefit unjustly from something undeserved, then you will undoubtedly fight, so that others cannot benefit from things that do not belong to them as well.”

Mr. Metani, accompanied by members of the





HIJ Office, visited the classroom-museum of the school and talked with the teaching staff about the HIJ work as well as exchanging views and ideas about educating school students with the culture of law and civic engagement against injustice.

During his visit, the High Inspector of Justice also had an informal meeting with the local authorities, where they discussed the prospects of the city’s development and the opportunities offered to young people.





METANI INFORMS THE LAWS COMMISSION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF HIJ OFFICE FOR 2022

High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani presented the annual report of the institution work during 2022, to the Committee for Legal Issues, Public Administration and Human Rights.

In his speech, Mr. Metani focused on the implementation of the 11 recommendations of the Assembly resolution for the Office of the High Inspector of Justice for 2022, through a synthesis of the level of their implementation,



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with the fulfillment of 9 recommendations and 2 others in the process.

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The High Inspector of Justice answered the questions of the members of the Commission on various aspects of the HIJ activity.

Read the full HIJ Annual Report for 2022

<https://ild.al/en/2023/05/05/hij-report-2022/>





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 June 2023, the Complaints and Public Relations Sector received 17 complainants, who appeared at the premises of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, and 12 phone calls from citizens, who requested information on the stage of their complaints or Information on completing the TIP complaint form

Coordinator for the right to information is part of this sector



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 June 2023, at the Office of High Inspector of Justice, **11 requests** for information were received, which were processed in all cases within 5 days (the law provides that applicants to return response within 10 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, in the section "How to receive complaints".



HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE, MR ARTUR METANI WELCOMED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INSPECTORATE GENERAL OF JUSTICE OF FRANCE, MR CHRISTOPHE STRAUDO

At the invitation of High Inspector of Justice Mr. Artur Metani, with the support of CEPEJ – the joint project of the European Union and the Council of Europe, the President of the European Network of Justice Inspection Services (RESIJ), at the same time chairman of Inspectorate General of Justice of France, Mr. Christophe Straudo was on a working visit to Albania. The visit agenda included meetings with heads of institutions in Tirana, which were also attended by the Ambassador of France in Albania, Ms. Elisabeth Barsacq. In the Metani-Straudo bilateral meeting, the conversation between the two counterparts focused on their commitment, as part of RESIJ, to contrib-





ute to a justice system that is based on the core principles of independence, impartiality and equality before the law.

While focusing on the respective institutions, Mr. Metani and Mr. Straudo shared the same attitude that despite the changes in the institutional status, the inspection should always be independent and in respect of the balance of the public interest in

the administration of justice.

In the meeting with the Deputy Chairwoman of the Albanian Parliament, Ms. Ermonela Felaj said that the Assembly appreciates and strongly supports the functioning of the High Inspector of Justice, the increase in its contribution and performance in terms of improving the performance of the system,





establishing the best work standards in the justice system and fulfilling the public expectations and trust. Ms. Felaj also underlined the importance of the cooperation of the HIJ with the Inspectorate General of Justice of France, based on the similarity of the criminal and civil legislation of both countries.

In the meeting with the Minister of Justice, Mr. Ulsi Manja appreciated France’s contribution to

the consolidation of the justice system in Albania, even through this cooperation with the High Inspector of Justice, within the framework of RESIJ.

The Minister of Justice said that with the approval of the justice reform in Albania, the justice institutions are completely independent, while the challenge now is the implementation of this reform, with the efforts of all actors in the coun-



The President of RESIJ underlined that HIJ with observer status, is actively present in the Network by bringing its own contribution and in this context, within RESIJ there are no differences between EU member states and EU candidate states. On the other hand, Mr. Straudo underlined that France and the European Network of Justice Inspection Services will continue to support the HIJ.

try, especially the new institutions of the system such as the High Inspector of Justice, whose work is having a strong impact on the system, not only with the handling of complaints or individual cases, but with the dimension of recommendations which have resulted from the conduct of thematic inspections.

In the meeting held in the premises of the High Judicial Council, the chairperson Ms. Naureda Llagami, evaluated, among other things, the full cooperation with the High Inspector of Justice. “The work performance of Mr. Metani and his team has been professional and has reflected

high standards, influencing in this way, the performance of the courts in the country. – said the chairperson of the High Judicial Council adding that “precisely because of this work and trust that is being built in this institution, I think that in the future, the increase in the courts work performance will come naturally.”

In the meeting with the High Prosecutorial Council, the chairman Mr. Alfred Balla underlined the professional work of the High Inspector of Justice in relation to the HPC, as the institution that decides on the disciplinary measures against prosecutors proposed by the HIJ. On the other hand,



the chairman of the High Prosecutorial Council appreciated the impressive work of Mr. Metani in the field of international cooperation, something he has found out himself, with his participation in the International Conference of the European Justice Inspection Services, which HIJ organized in Tirana last year to discuss the independence of magistrates.

In the meeting at the Supreme Court, Mr. Straudo accompanied by Mr. Metani met with the Vice President of the Supreme Court of Albania Mr. Sokol Sadushi and its members Mr. Ilir Panda and Mr. Ervin Puppe.

After making a presentation of the Supreme Court, Mr. Sadushi focused on the role of the High Inspector of Justice, which he singled out as the most powerful institution in the system, due to the powers given by the constitution, and he also evaluated the professional relationship with the HIJ.

In these meetings Mr. Christophe Straudo praised the support of the Albanian institutions for the High Inspector of Justice and the contribution of

the HIJ to the impartiality of the justice system and the strengthening of the rule of law, as a cornerstone in Albania's journey towards EU membership. The President of RESIJ underlined that HIJ with observer status, is actively present in the Network by bringing its own contribution and in this context, within RESIJ there are no differences between EU member states and EU candidate states. On the other hand, Mr. Straudo underlined that France and the European Network of Justice Inspection Services will continue to support the HIJ.

High Inspector of Justice Metani valued the cooperation with RESIJ as a very good professional experience for the HIJ, and highlighted the efforts of the institution he heads, to establish work norms every day. At first glance this may seem simple but it undoubtedly serves the future, a justice system that serves citizens with the best legal standards. Even the visit of Mr. Straudo, according to Mr. Metani, serves this working philosophy of HIJ.





THEMATIC INSPECTIONS IN THE FOCUS OF HIJ TEAM TRAINING

In parallel with the visit to Tirana of Mr. Christophe Straudo, President of RESIJ and Chairman of the Inspectorate General of Justice of France, two inspectors general of the Inspectorate General of Justice of France, Magistrate Inspector Marjorie Obadia and Inspector General Jean-Louis Dumas conducted a two-day training session with the team of HIJ, with the support of CEPEJ -the joint European Union/Council of Europe project on justice.

At the beginning of the training session, in his welcoming address, High Inspector of Justice Mr. Artur Metani praised such professional exchanges as a working method for the institution he heads, so that the HIJ team could have the highest work performance based on the expertise and best practices of European counterpart institutions or even other institutions.

Chairman of the Inspectorate General of Justice of France, Mr. Christophe Straudo underlined the willingness of the French counterparts to give their expertise to their Albanian colleagues at any time, and this training session proves it.

During these two days of training, the French inspectors made a presentation of the Inspectorate General of Justice of France, focusing on thematic inspections and supporting ones, operational controls and reference standards, the methodology of functional inspections, administrative investigations against magistrates and the methodology used, by discussing concrete cases, problems and solutions.

The training sessions were attended by Inspectors of the HIJ Office, assistant inspectors, members of the cabinet and of the department of



drafting legal acts and services.

Inspector Jean-Louis Daumas, head of the department of decisions execution at the Inspectorate General of Justice of France, with a long experience as a head of penitentiary services, and Magistrate Inspector Marjorie Obadia held a meeting with the general director of prisons, Mr.

Admir Abrija, who introduced them to the prison system in Albania, their management, the social dimension of the system, the professional growth of the staff and answered the questions of the interlocutors, who made comparisons with the French model.





HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE PARTICIPATES IN RESIJ ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

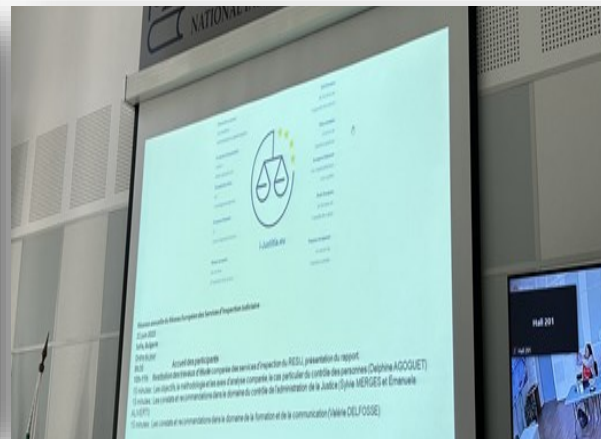
Sofia, June 21, 2023

High Inspector of Justice Artur Metani was on a working visit to Sofia, Bulgaria, where he participated in the annual meeting of the European Network of Justice Inspection Services (RESIJ), part of which, with observer status, has been the Office of High Inspector of Justice since December 2021.

A comparative study report of the Inspection ser-

vices of Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Spain and Albania, was presented in the first part of the meeting. The report was prepared on the field of control and administration of justice of each of the respective countries, with findings on similarities and differences, as well as cooperation, perspectives and priorities of RESIJ inside and outside the Network.

In the second part, the General Assembly of RESIJ made an assessment of the political, administra-





...tive and financial situation of the Network and approved changes to the Statute, related to the internal organization. At this meeting, the members elected the new president of RESIJ, Romania, which succeeded France, the founder and chair of the Network since the beginning

The new changes in the Statute were deemed by the members in their discussions, to help strengthening the structure of the European Network of Justice Inspection Services, as a promising mechanism for the development of European public evaluations or inspections on behalf of European and international bodies.

Through the assessments, combining field approaches and comparative data, RESIJ has been able to position itself in the role of a trusted public third party. The activities carried out for five years now, on behalf of both the Commission of the European Union (DG Just – Department for Justice of the European Commission) and the Council of Europe (CEPEJ) are proof of this.

According to the principle of rotation among participating countries, the next RESIJ Assembly will be held in Tirana on December 15-16, 2023.



JUNE OF HJC IN NUMBER

During **June** the Office of High Inspector of Justice has administered **41 complaints**, which were submitted by citizens .

The High Inspector of Justice Office has performed the standard confirmation process of receiving complaints for all the new complaints submitted during **June 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

24 verification decisions, of which:

- ⇒ 11 verification decisions (HIJ practices);
- ⇒ 13 verification decisions (files carried by the former HCJ);

DISCIPLINARY INVESTIGATIONS

1 decision to continue the disciplinary investigation for 5 subjects (judges)

ARCHIVES

98 archiving decisions from 119 practices specifically examined:

34 archiving decisions after verification by HIJ practice, of which:

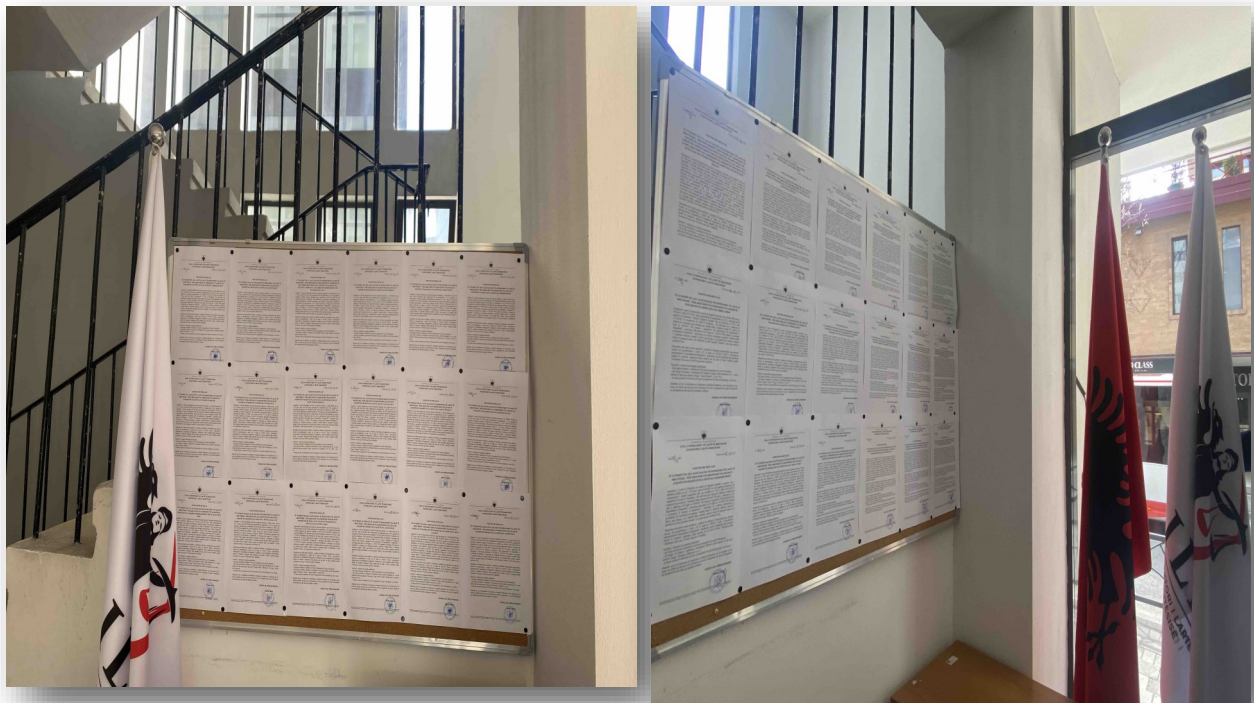
- ⇒ 30 archiving decisions after the initial review;
- ⇒ 4 archiving decisions after verification

64 archiving decisions from practices handled (files carried by the former HCJ):

- ⇒ 45 archiving decisions after the initial review;
- ⇒ 19 archiving decisions after verification

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISIONS

Even during the month of **June**, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice made public announcements of archiving decisions for **5 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.

JUNE 2023

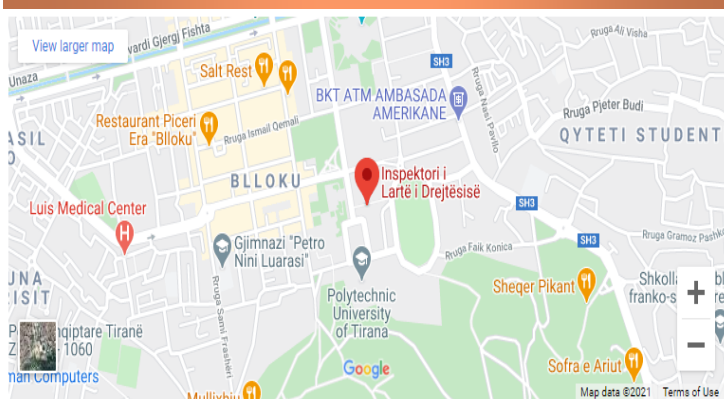
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