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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  
@ILD\_Albania

**METANI: NO ONE CAN BE STOPPED FROM SAYING WHAT THEY  
THINK ABOUT JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS PERFORMANCE**





**METANI: NO ONE CAN BE STOPPED FROM SAYING WHAT THEY THINK ABOUT JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS PERFORMANCE**

The High Inspector of Justice held an open lecture with the participants of the Academy of European Integration and Negotia-

tions, on the module “Independence and efficiency of the Justice System – reforms before and after accession”, within the





“Rule of Law” edition.

Mr. Metani made a presentation of the role and functions of the High Inspector of Justice and answered questions about the institution he heads, the new justice system and public expectations.

The High Inspector of Justice underlined

the importance of informing citizenry of the justice institutions but not only, because a lot has been said about the HIJ and other institutions, but very few of these people who talk, tend to read and understand the role of these institutions and this creates wrong premise from the very con-

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cept. “I hear references such as “new justice” for example. – said Mr. Metani. – In fact, there is a new system of justice, not “new justice”, because it is the same people who were part of another organizational system and now, they are part of a new system with more competences. Responding to the interest of the participants on public expectations from justice and its institutions, Mr. Metani said that no one can be stopped from saying what they



**“Everyone has the right to express themselves, to say what they think about the work of the justice bodies. Our best defense is transparency and the simplicity and clarity of our decisions. So that they could be understandable and without terms that create equivocation, even for the common citizen. If the institutions are clear and transparent, everyone can see the difference in the quality of their work. No one can be stopped from saying what they think. The level then, of course, is related to everyone’s culture, formation and information. But each of us may have to speak through our own work.”**

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what they think. The level then, of course, is related to everyone’s culture, formation and information. But each of us may have to speak through our own work.”

The interest of the participants, people employed in central and local institutions, justice, in civil society organizations, universities, media and free professions, also focused on the magistrates demeanor, ethics, public perception in relation to reality.





## THE ORDINARY CITIZEN IN THE FOCUS OF THE HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE

Throughout 2023 the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, in addition to its daily functional activity of inspection, verification, investigation and disciplinary proceedings, has paid special attention to the relationship with the citizens, by considering them in two dimensions: as complainants for alleged disciplinary violations against judges and prosecutors as well as informed citizens, through legal education activities with different social groups during the year.

Citizens as complainants have served as initiators of several different thematic inspections of the HIJ Office during 2023. One example is the thematic inspection on the procedure for reasoning and delivery written court decisions, initiated by the verification of a large number of complaints on claims for court cases delays as well as delays in

delivering written court decisions by judges. This inspection, which was carried out in the Court of First Instance of General Jurisdiction Tirana (Civil Chamber) and the Administrative Court of First Instance Tirana, is now completed.

In the same way, the dynamics of citizens' complaints have served to initiate thematic inspections on allocating cases at prosecution offices; on assigning cases by drawing lots and controlling reports of the electronic system in courts; on practices and causes of replacing prosecutors, on thematic inspections that are in progress as well as at different procedural stages.

Another thematic inspection, which is nearing completion, is that of releasing prisoners on parole. This inspection has been in pro-

gress since HIJ started its work in 2020, due to the high public sensitivity in that period after the releases on parole of several criminals that were well known for the justice.

Since the establishment of the High Inspector of Justice, the attention towards citizen-complainants has been high, both for those who have filed their complaints directly with the HIJ, and for others who had filed their complaints for years with previous institutions in charge of the disciplinary process of magistrates.

Thus, out of 33 requests for disciplinary proceedings submitted since 2020 by the High Inspector of Justice to the High Judicial Council and the High Prosecutorial Council, 28 of them are based on complaints filed by citizens with the HIJ or with previous institutions, but inherited from the HIJ and investigated by it. Citizen engagement has been

high. Only during December 2023, 100 complaints were filed by citizens with the High Inspector of Justice Office, 40 of which were filed only in the last week of December.

Bearing in mind the principle that an informed citizen manages to address the problem he encounters to the right place, the High Inspector of Justice Office is following a public communication strategy which starts in the institution with the facilities created for every complainant through its website, where there is a dedicated form to be filled out as well as every day with the assistance provided for the citizens who want to file their complaints at the HIJ premises or receive information about the progress of their complaints.

During 2023, the Complaints and Public Relations Office received 237 citizens; made 188 clarifying phone calls with interested



**During 2023, the Complaints and Public Relations Office received 237 citizens; made 188 clarifying phone calls with interested citizens and answered 202 submitted requests for information. At the same time, communication has continued outside the institution, within the framework of transparency and public awareness on the mission, competences and responsibilities of the HIJ Office, through legal education.**

citizens and answered 202 submitted requests for information.

At the same time, communication has continued outside the institution, within the framework of transparency and public awareness on the mission, competences and responsibilities of the HIJ Office, through legal education. For this reason, the High Inspector of Justice has created a tradition of conversations with different social groups, which has been intensified during 2023.

In 12 meetings, conferences and memorandums of cooperation, various social categories have been included, from pupils and students to Civil Society Organizations, focusing on the justice system and the protection of human rights.

A mock trial by students of the secondary school “Besëlidhja e Malësë”, in Bajram Curri, open lectures with law students at University of Vlora and University of Elbasan together with the signing of memorandums of cooperation, a conversation with the students of the Academy “Citizen in charge” in Tirana, have been targeted activities for the promotion of legal educa-

tion from the pre-university system to the university one.

Also, in 2023 the High Inspector of Justice, aiming at communicating with interest groups in other cities as well, organized with the support of the OSCE, two discussion tables with Civil Society Organizations in Lezhë and Lushnja. The open communication at these tables highlighted the importance of the institution’s presentation to various interest groups where they live as well as the discussions on how they perceive the institution’s role, experiences and expectations in relation to the behavior of magistrates in the system.

This direct communication of the High Inspector of Justice serves to increase the transparency and efficiency of the HIJ work, helping at the same time to increase and strengthen public trust in the justice system.

During 2023, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice has been object of professional study analyzes by Civil Society Organizations, which focus on the monitoring of the justice system. The Institute for Political and Legal Studies, the Center for the Study





of Democracy and Governance and Infocip, through special events, have presented and discussed with the High Inspector of Justice, with professionals in that field and representatives of institutions, the progress of the HIJ activity, the challenges and progress as well as the vision for the future.

In this end of year resume, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice would like to take

this opportunity to sincerely thank all the social groups, individual citizens and institutions that interacted with the HIJ throughout 2023, for their recognition, criticisms as well as suggestions to contribute to the strengthening of the institution, but also to the trust in the justice system, through the cultivation of law as a social value, through legal education with the principles of the rule of law.

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***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 web-

site and official address, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice has made available the phone number +355 4 2217217. Coordinator for the right to information is part of this sector



*During the month of January 2024, the Complaints and Public Relations Sector received 21 complainants, who appeared at the premises of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, and 22 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

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.

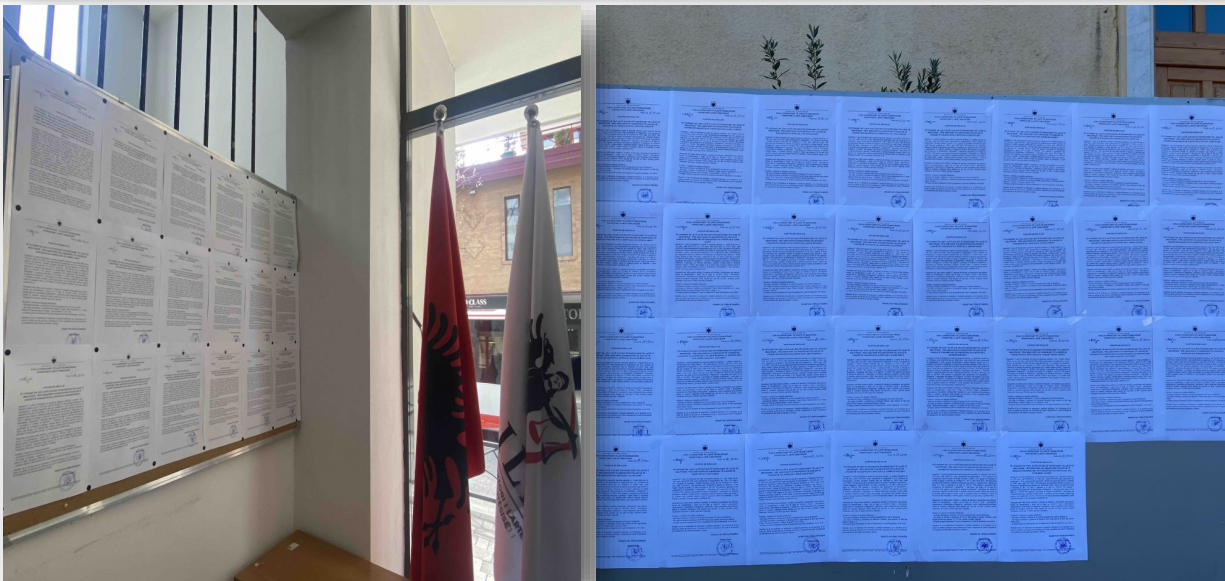
Requests for information are filed by

citizens, legal entities, interested groups, and can be send through the "Albanian Post", e-mail at the address: [info@ild.al](mailto:info@ild.al), as well as the e-mail of the coordinator for the right to information: [amanta.jasa@ild.al](mailto: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 January 2024, at the Office of High Inspector of Justice, 18 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).*



## **DECISIONS BY ANNOUNCEMENT, HIJ TRANSPARENCY AND INFORMED CITIZENS**

The Office of the High Inspector of Justice has had and continues to focus on the citizen, not only as a complainant, who files alleged disciplinary violations against magistrates, but also as an informed citizen.

One of the ways to be closer to the citizen with his decision-making is the decision by announcement, not only as a legal obligation, but also a way to inform the citizen-complainant in time and as quickly as possible.

Since the establishment of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, attention to citizens-complainants has been high, both for those who have addressed the HIJ directly, as well as for others who had filed their complaints for years in predecessor institutions, in charge of the disciplinary process of magistrates.

In function of the principle, that an informed citizen can address the problem he encounters, the Office of the High Inspector

**During the year 2023, 350 announcement were published in the premises of the HIJ the local government units, as well as on the official website, pursuant to Article 162 of Law 44/2015 "Code of Administrative Procedures in the Republic of Albania".**

of Justice is following a public communication strategy, which starts in the institution, with the facilities created for every complainant, through the website , where there is a dedicated form to be filled out, and further, every day, with the reception and assistance of citizens who want to file a complaint physically, or receive information about the progress of their complaint.

On the other hand, in all cases of not finding the complainants, at the addresses they have left when submitting the complaint, the Complaints and Public Relations Department tries to communicate, in order to deliver the decision, in addition to the procedure provided by the law, through the publication of notification by public announcement, in the relevant unit of the Local Government, from where the citizen's complaint came.

Part of this systematic engagement of HIJ is also the final information for the complainant, i.e. the decision that was taken on his complaint. For this reason, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, in addition to the notification according to the law, based on the provisions of Article 162 of Law no. 44/2015 "Code of administrative procedures of the Republic of Albania", makes the public announcement of the decision for a period of 10 days, including the publication on the official website of the institution.

This increased communication of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice serves to increase the transparency, but also the efficiency of HIJ's work, as a way to influence the growth and strengthening of public trust in the justice system.

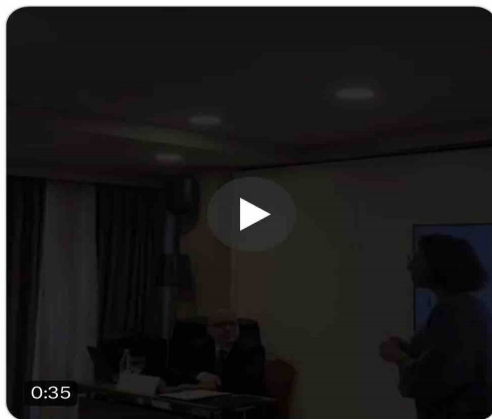
Also, announcements are part of the Transparency Program of the High Inspector of Justice. In publishing the information, the High Inspector of Justice takes into account the interest of the complainant and the information that belongs to him, to receive it at the right time and in the right way.

**Announcements are also provided for in the Transparency Program of the High Inspector of Justice. In publishing the information, the High Inspector of Justice takes into account the interest of the complainant and the information that belongs to him, to receive it at the right time and in the right way. This direct communication of the High Inspector of Justice serves to increase the transparency, but also the efficiency of the work of the HIJ, also helping to increase and strengthen public trust in the justice system.**

## HIJ ON TWITTER



**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise** @ILD\_f · Jan 6 ...  
 Faleminderit pjesëmarrësve të Akademisë së Integritit European dhe Negociatave për kontributet mbi punën e #ILD -së dhe sistemit të drejtësisë, pavarësinë, sjelljen e magjistratëve, perceptimin publik dhe realitetin. Ishtë kënaqësi komunikimi me ju. #ILD ⚖️ #AIEN



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 1 7 79



**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise** @ILD\_f · Jan 6 ...  
 “Dëgjoj referenca të tilla si “drejtësia e re”. Në fakt ka një sistem të ri drejtësie e jo “drejtësi të re” sepse janë të njëjtët njerëz, që kanë qenë pjesë e një sistemi tjetër organizimi e tani janë në një sistem të ri, me më shumë kompetenca e pavarësi



From ild.al

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**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise** @ILD\_f · Jan 6 ...  
 Po ndodh: me studentet e Akademise se Integritit European dhe Negociatave per te ndare mendime mbi shtetin e se drejtes, efikasitetin e sistemit te drejtesise dhe rolin e #ILD-se ⚖️ #aien #drejtesia #integrimi



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**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise** @ILD\_f · Jan 29 ...  
 Si cdo të hënë, përpunimi javor i ankesave #ILD  
 ✓ 5852 të konfirmuara  
 ✓ 5014 të trajtuara  
 ✓ 838 në proces trajtimi  
 ✓ 236 në verifikim pas shqyrtimit fillestar  
 ✓ 108 Magjistratë të hetuar  
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[ild.al/sq/ankete/](http://ild.al/sq/ankete/)



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## JANUARY OF HIJ IN NUMBER

During **January** the Office of High Inspector of Justice has administered **79 complaints**, .

The High Inspector of Justice Office has performed the standard confirmation process of receiving complaints for all the new complaints submitted during **January 2024**. 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.

ARCHIVED	VERIFICATION	DISCIPLINARY PROCESS
<p><b>94 decisions out of 159 reviewed complaints, specifically:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-73 archiving decisions after the initial review</li> <li>-21 archiving decisions after verification</li> </ul>	<p>-26 verification decisions, from the practices of the HIJ.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2 decisions to initiate disciplinary investigation for 1 judge and 1 prosecutor</li> <li>-2 requests for disciplinary procedure for two judges</li> </ul>

## 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](mailto: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

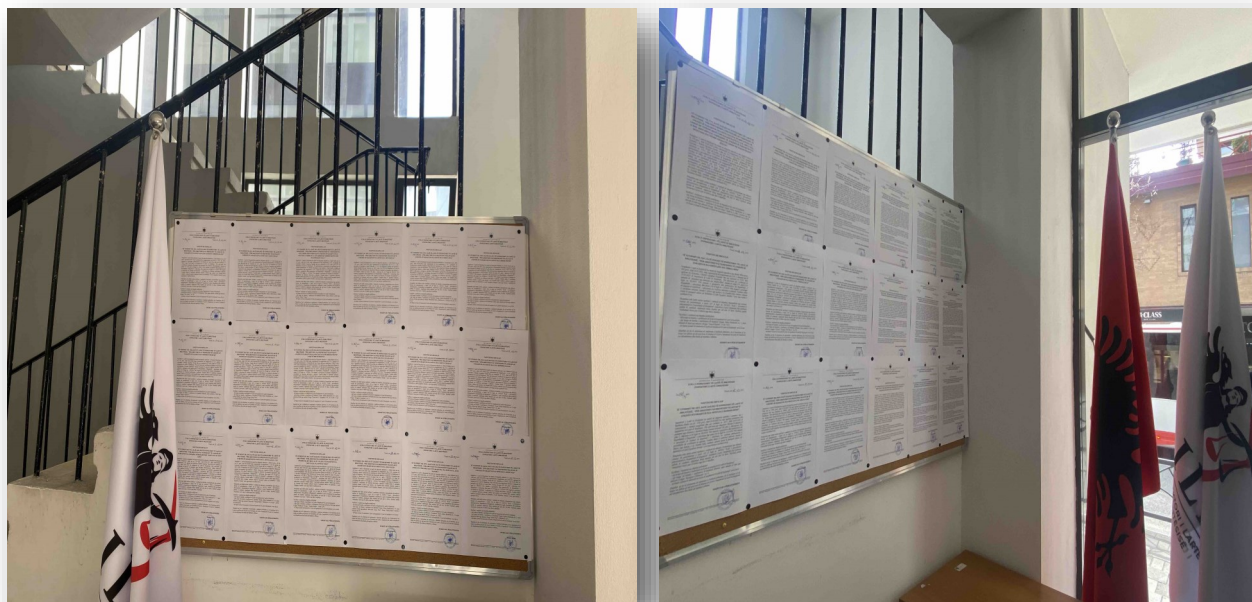
Office of the High Inspector of Justice, if necessary, to ask for assistance of the team of the Complaints Office.

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".

## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISIONS

Even during the month of **January 2024**, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice made public announcements of archiving decisions for **12 complainants**, who were unreachable at the addresses communicated by them. In addition to the stands of the HIJ, 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.





JANUARY 2024

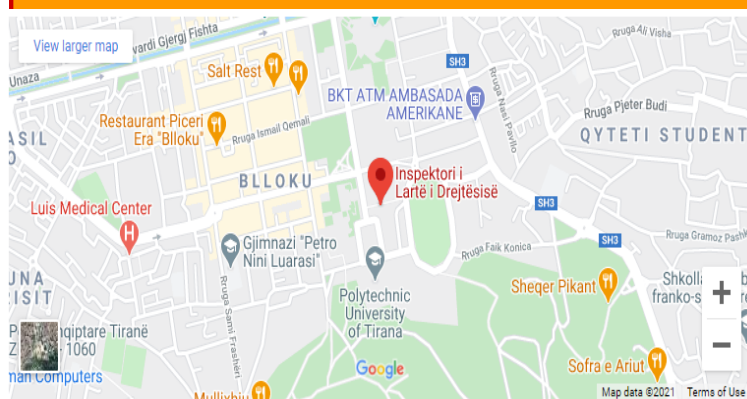
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## CONTACT HIJ

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