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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

THE HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE
WISHES YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025!



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025!



HIJ HOSTED A GROUP OF STUDENTS AND LECTURERS FROM KOSOVO

A group of lecturers and students from the Faculty of Law of the University of Pristina, conducted a four-day study visit to the office of the High Inspector of Justice. The delegation from Kosovo was headed by the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Prof. Avni Puka, who was accompanied by the two vice-deans, Prof. Florent Mucaj and Prof. Ardit Gashi, Professors Islam Pepaj and Muhamet Vokri, as well as five first and second level students of studies, Gent Bunjaku, Vlera Gjokaj, Arton Salihi, Anita Baftija and Vlerë Hoxha.

The visit is part of the cooperation that the HIJ Office has established with the Faculty of Law of the University of Pristina, through an agree-

ment signed in October 2022 in the capital of Kosovo.

On the first day, the delegation from Kosovo was hosted by the High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani and the HIJ staff. Expressing his satisfaction for this visit, Mr. Metani said that such exchanges with students and lecturers are very important for the future of the institution and to get acquainted with the functioning of the HIJ and the dynamics of its work.

This cooperation takes on added value when it is done with colleagues and students from the other side of the border.

The Dean of the Faculty of Law, Mr. Avni Puka,



noted that this study visit to Tirana is a privilege but also an emotion and comes as a continuation of the cooperation agreement with the HIJ. The legal clinic of the Faculty of Law in Pristina has as part of its work practice cooperation

with institutions, for the practical skills of students, said Dean Puka.

The lecturers and students from Kosovo visited the premises of the office of the High Inspector of Justice, which was followed by a presenta-





tion of the competencies and functions of the HIJ, by the inspector, Ms. Joana Asimi, accompanied by discussions and comments from the Kosovo delegation.

On the second day of the study visit to the High Inspectorate of Justice, the students were introduced to the process of reviewing complaints, verification and disciplinary investigation, with practical cases of disciplinary investigation, a module that was presented by assistant inspectors Mr. Julis Zebi and Ms. Ornela Shurdhaj.

“Conducting thematic and institutional inspections” was the module that the students from Kosovo were introduced to on the third day of the

visit to the High Inspector of Justice. The presentation was made by the member of the cabinet, judge Ms. Arjeta Lika, who responded to the students’ interest in this work process.

On the last day of the week at the institution of the High Inspector of Justice, the students from Pristina were introduced to the model of the High Inspectorate of Justice, regarding transparency and public communication, by the advisor for communication, Ms. Mimoza Koçiu.

During this study visit the students of the Faculty of Law of the University of Pristina visited the High Judicial Council, the High Prosecutorial Council and the Special Structure against Corruption and Organized Crime.

The visit is part of the cooperation that the HIJ Office has established with the Faculty of Law of the University of Pristina, through an agreement signed in October 2022 in the capital of Kosovo.

FROM THE STUDY VISIT OF STUDENTS FROM KOSOVO





HIJ WORK MEETING WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

In the framework of the closing of the calendar year, the High Inspector of Justice Mr. Artur Metani held a work meeting with leaders of civil society organizations, whose work includes monitoring justice reform, human rights, transparency, accountability and good governance.

Mr. Metani noted the importance of such infor-

mal and continuous communication, which encourages both critical and supportive views, for the work of the High Inspector of Justice, by sharing ideas and evaluating decisions and work processes, from the approach of civil society as a public actor, which influences the improvement of democratic processes in the country, by promoting transparency and accountability on

Meetings with civil society organizations are a tradition of the work of the High Inspector of Justice, materialized with a cooperation agreement, signed with 6 organizations, to promote the increase in the performance and capacities of the HIJ Office, through increased communication and the development of joint activities.



the part of public institutions. Mr. Afrim Krasniqi from the Institute of Political Studies (IPS), Mr. (CEDI), Mr. Gerti Shella from the Center for Pub- Ardian Dhima from the Institute for Policy and lic Information Issues (INFOCIP) and Mr. Gjergji Legal Studies (IPLS), Ms. Ina Xhepa from the Cen- Vurmo from the Institute for Democracy and





Mediation (IDM), discussed with the High Inspector of Justice aspects of the work of the HIJ and issues of the justice system, conveying perspectives, but also proposals for the efficiency of the work during the coming year. Meetings with civil society organizations are a tradition of the work of the High Inspector of Justice, mate-

rialized with a cooperation agreement, signed with 6 organizations, to promote the increase in the performance and capacities of the HIJ Office, through increased communication and the development of joint activities.



DECEMBER OF HIJ IN NUMBER

During **December** the Office of High Inspector of Justice has administered **98 complaints**. High Inspector of Justice Office has performed the standard confirmation process of receiving complaints for all the new complaints submitted during **December 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	PROCESI DISIPLINOR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 64 practices treated of which: • 49 decisions to archive (including 15 consolidated cases) • 32 decisions to archive following initial review; • 17 decisions to archive following verification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 verification decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 decisions to initiate disciplinary investigation (1 prosecutor) • 3 requests for disciplinary proceedings for a prosecutor (2 proceedings) and one request for a judge

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".

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISIONS

Even during the month **December 2024**, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice made public announcements of archiving decisions for **10 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. The Office of the High Inspector of Justice has made a total of **80** public announcements for **2024**.





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



During the month of December 2024, the Complaints and Public Relations Sector received 24 complainants, who appeared at the premises of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, which requested information on the stage of their complaints or information on completing the TIP complaint form.



CORDINATOR 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 **December 2024**, at the Office of High Inspector of Justice, 12 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).*

HOW HAVE WE ENGAGED WITH CITIZENS IN 2024?

The Office of the High Inspector of Justice has successfully concluded an intensive year of work, showcasing its dedication to engaging with citizens by addressing their complaints and providing requested information. Throughout the year, the Complaints and Public Relations Sector offered in-person assistance to 264 citizens from across Albania at the Office's premises. These individuals, who lodged complaints against various magistrates, were assisted in completing the official complaint form, which is also available on the institution's website, www.ild.al.

In addition to in-person consultations, the Office provided assistance through its telephone service at +355 4 2217217, handling 188 calls in 2024. Citizens received guidance on how to file complaints, the estimated duration for complaint processing, where and how to submit grievances, and which entities complaints could be lodged against.

To further facilitate the complaint process, the Office has consistently simplified the official complaint form, ensuring it is easy to use and accessible for both citizens and institutions. This ongoing effort aims to facilitate the reporting of suspected violations by judges and prosecutors throughout Albania.

The High Inspector of Justice also investigates alleged violations ex officio, based on public information or data obtained during institutional and thematic inspections. These investigations cover all aspects of court operations, judicial administration, prosecution offices, and prosecution administration. They are initiated following formally justified written requests from

the High Judicial Council, the High Prosecutorial Council, the Minister of Justice, the General Prosecutor, or the Office's annual inspection plan.

Over the past year, the Office has also fulfilled its legal obligation to ensure the right to information. In 2024, 202 requests for information, submitted by citizens or other entities, were processed and responded to promptly.

Furthermore, during the same period, 88 publicly announced decisions were registered in accordance with Article 162 of Law No. 44/2015, "The Administrative Procedures Code of the Republic of Albania."

This comprehensive and citizen-oriented approach highlights the Office's commitment to transparency, accountability, and the effective administration of justice.

FIGURES 2024

- ◆ **264 citizen consultations**
- ◆ **197 citizen phone calls**
- ◆ **202 information requests**
- ◆ **88 decisions announced publicly**



HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE WORK VISIT TO THE ECHR

4th and 5th of December 2024 in Strasbourg

The High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani, accompanied by the unit of inspectors, conducted a two-day work visit to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) in Strasbourg.

The Albanian delegation held professional work sessions with judges and jurists of the ECHR, on the disciplinary process and its link with the independence of magistrates, as well as presentations and discussions of Articles 8, 10 and Article 6, the civil part, on working standards in the context of discipli-

nary proceedings.

In the framework of this visit, the Albanian embassy in Strasbourg organized a reception with ambassadors of the Council of Europe countries, where the High Inspector of Justice

Mr. Artur Metani, in the capacity of the guest of honor, provided an overview of the justice reform in Albania, the challenges, the role of the HIJ and also responded to the interest of the ambassadors who were present on aspects of the work of the justice system in our country.

PHOTOS FROM ACTIVITIES IN STRASBOURG





METANI: INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION SERVES THE QUALITY OF JUSTICE

Tirana, 13 December 2024

The High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani, held a work meeting at the High Prosecutorial Council, where he was received by members of the HPC, legal advisors and representatives of the Support Unit of the Council's Committees.

The focus of the conversation was on addressing the challenges related to institutional communication and further strengthening the synergy of cooperation between the two institutions for an efficient and more sustainable justice system.

Expressing his satisfaction with this meeting, Mr. Metani praised the cooperation so far between the High Inspector of Justice and the High Prosecutorial Council, emphasizing that continuous dialogue remains the key instrument for fulfilling the missions of the two institutions.

“The justice institutions as a whole, but above all the Councils (HJC and HPC) and the HIJ, must speak the same language. In order to help each other and the entire system as a whole, it is essential to show cooperation and synergy in addressing problems. The separation and respect of powers is an important dimension to preserve the integrity and image of institutions. Our institutions are independent, independent even in decision-making, but we must speak the same language of values, transmit the same spirit of values, on which the reform in justice was built and on which the rule of law is based,” said Mr. Metani, among other things.

Part of the discussions were also thematic and institutional inspections, the standardization of discipline in the work of magistrates, as well as the treatment of cases that require emergency intervention. The meeting emphasized the need to create a common standard for the standardi-



zation of relations between heads of prosecutors' offices/courts and magistrates, overcoming issues that the law does not clarify, with professionalism and institutional cooperation.

The members of the High Prosecutorial Council thanked Mr. Metani for his commitment, assessing the relationship between the two institutions as correct and based on respect for the law.

They emphasized the importance of continuing this cooperation to maintain public trust and high ethical and professional standards.

This work meeting between HIJ and HPC served to reflect the joint commitment to a transparent and fair justice system.



HIJ ON TWITTER

 **Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur M...** @ILD_Albania

An insightful meeting in Strasbourg with ambassadors from the CoE countries where we discussed and addressed their interest in the role of the High Inspector of Justice and the ongoing justice reform in Albania. 🙏 to Ambassador @DastidKoreshti for organizing this important event.



 **Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur M...** @ILD_Albania

The Albanian delegation held professional work sessions with judges and jurists of the #ECHR, on the disciplinary process and its link with the independence of magistrates...#HIJ 🙏



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Mr. Metani noted the importance of such informal and continuous communication, which encourages both critical and supportive views, for the work of the High Inspector of Justice, by sharing ideas and evaluating decisions and work processes... 🙏



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"Our institutions are independent even in decision-making but we must speak and transmit the same spirit of values on which the reform in justice was built..." said Mr. Metani, among other things #workingmeeting #HIJ @KLP_al



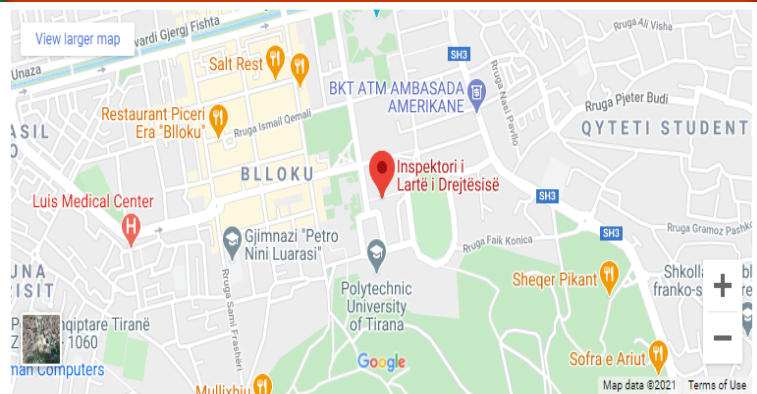
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Prezantimi i Inspektorit të Lartë të Drejtësisë
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Më skano!