

March 2025 | No. 47

# NEWSLETTER

## HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE

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Inspektori i Lartë i Drejtësisë



@ILD\_Albania



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**METANI: BEST VETTING PRACTICES SHOULD SERVE  
THE CONSOLIDATION OF JUSTICE STANDARDS**



Boulevard "Dëshmorët e Kombit" | BUILDING No.13 | Tiranë, Albania



## **METANI: BEST VETTING PRACTICES SHOULD SERVE THE CONSOLIDATION OF JUSTICE STANDARDS**

The High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani, participated in the roundtable discussion on the topic “The vetting process and its aftermath towards an independent, professional and accountable judiciary in Albania”, together with leaders and representatives of justice institutions and beyond, such as the High Judicial Council, the High Prosecutorial Council, the High Court, the High Inspectorate for Declaration and Control of Assets and Conflict of Interest, the Ombudsman, Civil Society organizations, etc., the Ambassador of the European Union and the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Nether-

lands in Tirana.

The meeting was organized by the Albanian Helsinki Committee (AHC), which presented the Policy Document regarding the continuation and consolidation of the vetting process in Albania, with the support of the Platform of First Group-chapter. In his speech, Mr. Metani said among other things that “Since the establishment of the reformed justice bodies and continuing, the recruitment, career and accountability processes of magistrates are being implemented by these bodies, based on the legal provisions in force that regulate them. In addition to





these practices already established by the justice bodies, the standards established by the vetting process also constitute a good and complementary model of the procedures that we follow today. Of course, the standards implemented by the vetting process, which was a sui generis, temporary and extraordinary process, cannot be used as a substitute for the work processes that we follow since the establishment of the justice institutions. The absorption of best practices implemented by vetting serves not only to increase the performance of the justice system, but also to consolidate our best common standards.

**Speech by the High Inspector of Justice at the roundtable discussion “The vetting process and its aftermath towards an inde-**

**pendent, professional and accountable judiciary in Albania”**

Honorable Ambassadors Mr. Gonzato and Mr. Vos!

Honorable participants!

Thank you for the invitation and the opportunity to express some considerations regarding the document drafted within the framework of the activity of the vetting bodies in Albania.

Taking into account the fact that the purpose of this document is to improve the debate on the policies and accountability of the justice system, I highly appreciate the development of such activities, which pro-



more direct discussions on those issues, which require special attention and an in-depth and qualitative analysis within the framework of their processing and implementation.

Since the establishment of the reformed justice bodies and continuing, the processes of recruitment, career and accountability of magistrates are being implemented by these bodies, based on the legal provisions in force, which regulate them. In addition to these practices already created by the justice bodies, the standards created by the vetting also constitute a good and complementary model of the procedures that we follow today. Of course, the standards implemented by the vetting process, which was a sui generis, temporary and extraordinary process, cannot be used as a substitute for the work processes that we

have been following since the establishment of the justice institutions. However, the absorption of the best practices implemented by vetting serves not only to increase the performance of the justice system, but also to consolidate our best common standards.

This process of transferring these practices and standards is delicate and requires not only careful analysis, but also a coordinated plan of measures, both in the regulatory and administrative aspects. It requires a careful analysis of the competencies of each body, in the context of the inclusion of this transfer in aspects of asset check, integrity or professionalism.

The report presented today by the experts of the Albanian Helsinki Committee also serves this process. It is a considerable document, which contains a number of



findings of a technical nature, regarding procedures and standards and highlights a number of issues. These issues have been raised at the discussion level and I believe that they constitute a good guide for the discussion on these identified problems, as well as a starting point for this process that we are talking about. Such a technical overview of the challenges of the vetting process definitely serves to improve standards and consequently also the unification of the practices of the institutions.

I would not like to dwell on the work processes of the High Inspector of Justice regarding the application of best vetting practices, as I think this is not the case, but I would like to emphasize once again in the end that the development of this process on borrowing the best models or standards developed by vetting bodies requires increased attention and care on the part of justice insti-

tutions, to serve the unification of the practices of our institutions and the consolidation of our common practices.

Thank you!





## GUIDANCE FOR COMPLAINANTS ON THE COMPETENCIES OF HIJ

Since the commencement of its operations up to the publication of this bulletin, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice (HIJ) has confirmed receipt of 7199 complaints from citizens and various institutions. At different times and in a systematic manner, the HIJ Office has provided responses to citizens regarding their questions about the status of their complaints, the decision-making process, the timeframe for review, the entities against whom a complaint may or may not be filed, as well as the reasons a complaint may be archived.

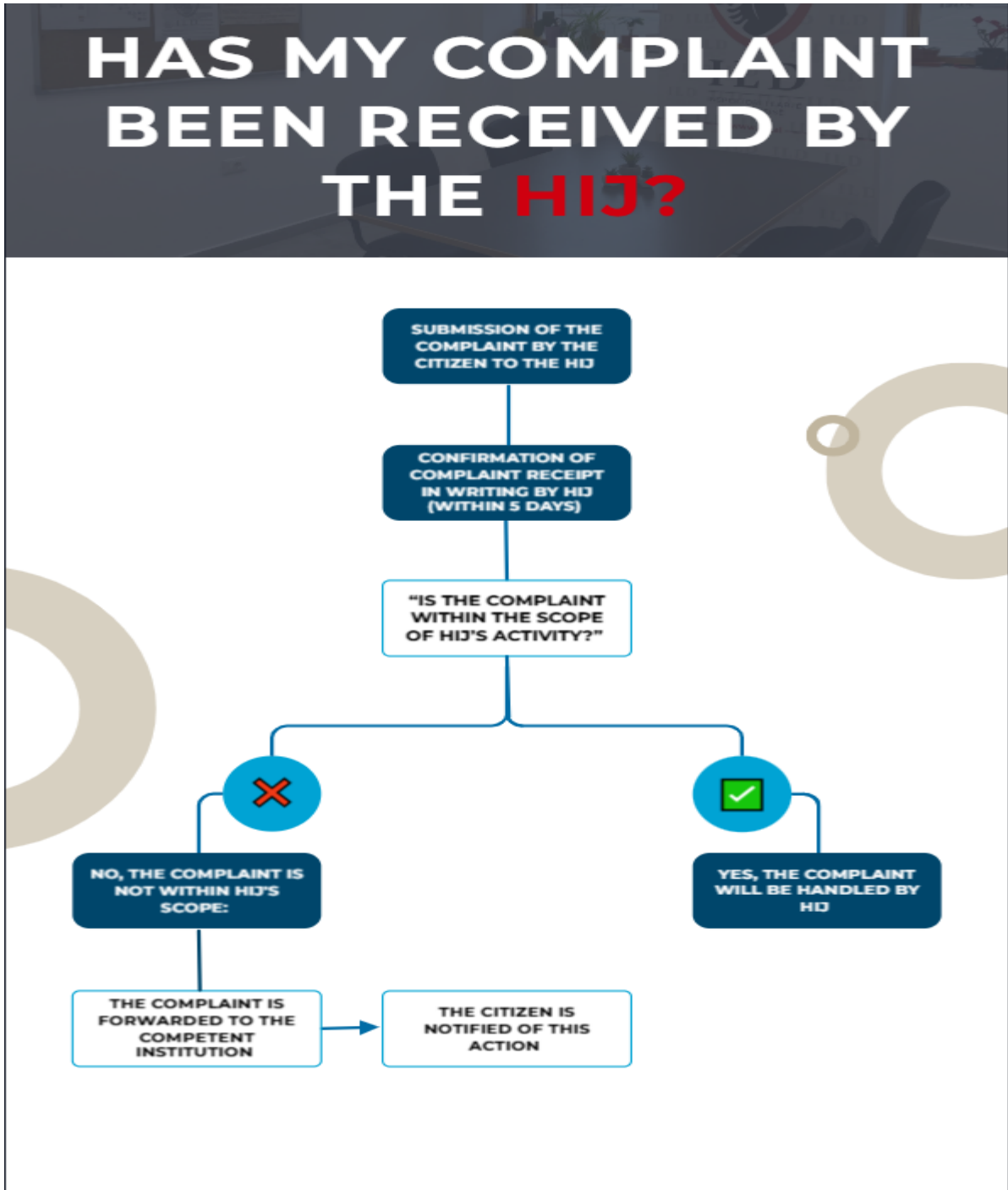
Based on the complaint review process, we emphasize—as clearly defined by law—that HIJ is not competent to review complaints submitted against chancellors,

legal assistants, court chief secretaries, judicial secretaries, court summoners, other employees of the judicial administration, judicial police officers, lawyers, or public or private bailiffs, as well as other parties involved in an investigative or judicial process.

In this edition of HIJ's monthly bulletin, we continue to offer comprehensive clarifications regarding our working procedures. Using graphic illustrations, we address frequently asked questions, such as: "Has my complaint been received by HIJ?", "How long does HIJ take to handle my complaint?", "What requirements must the complaint satisfy so that HIJ can accept it?", and "Why was my complaint archived?"

**HAS MY COMPLAINT BEEN RECEIVED BY THE HIJ?**

Upon receiving your complaint, the High Inspector of Justice confirms its receipt in writing within 5 days. This process is called the complaint confirmation. Also, in case your complaint is not the object of the HIJ activity, the responsible unit of the HIJ forwards your complaint to the competent institution, notifying you as well.





**HOW LONG DOES HIJ TAKE TO HANDLE MY COMPLAINT?**

After the receipt of the complaint has been confirmed, the High Inspector of Justice has a period of 3 (three) months from its receipt, to review it, to obtain information and analyze it, in order to confirm the veracity of the claims.

The review determines if the complaint satisfies the requirements set by the law to be admissible. But due to the workload in proportion to the human resources that HIJ currently has available, this process may require more time, as the HIJ follows an approved methodology for reviewing each complaint according to criteria related to:

date of submission;

typology or urgency of treatment,

the limitation periods of the complaint.

After the initial review of the complaint, the High Inspector of Justice may decide:

to archive the complaint, since it does not meet one or more criteria of admissibility;

to verify the allegations in the complaint when there is incomplete or unclear evidence, from different sources (other bodies; with the subject of the disciplinary investigation; the head of the body where the magistrate exercises his duties, etc.) or to request clarifications or other documentation by the complainant;

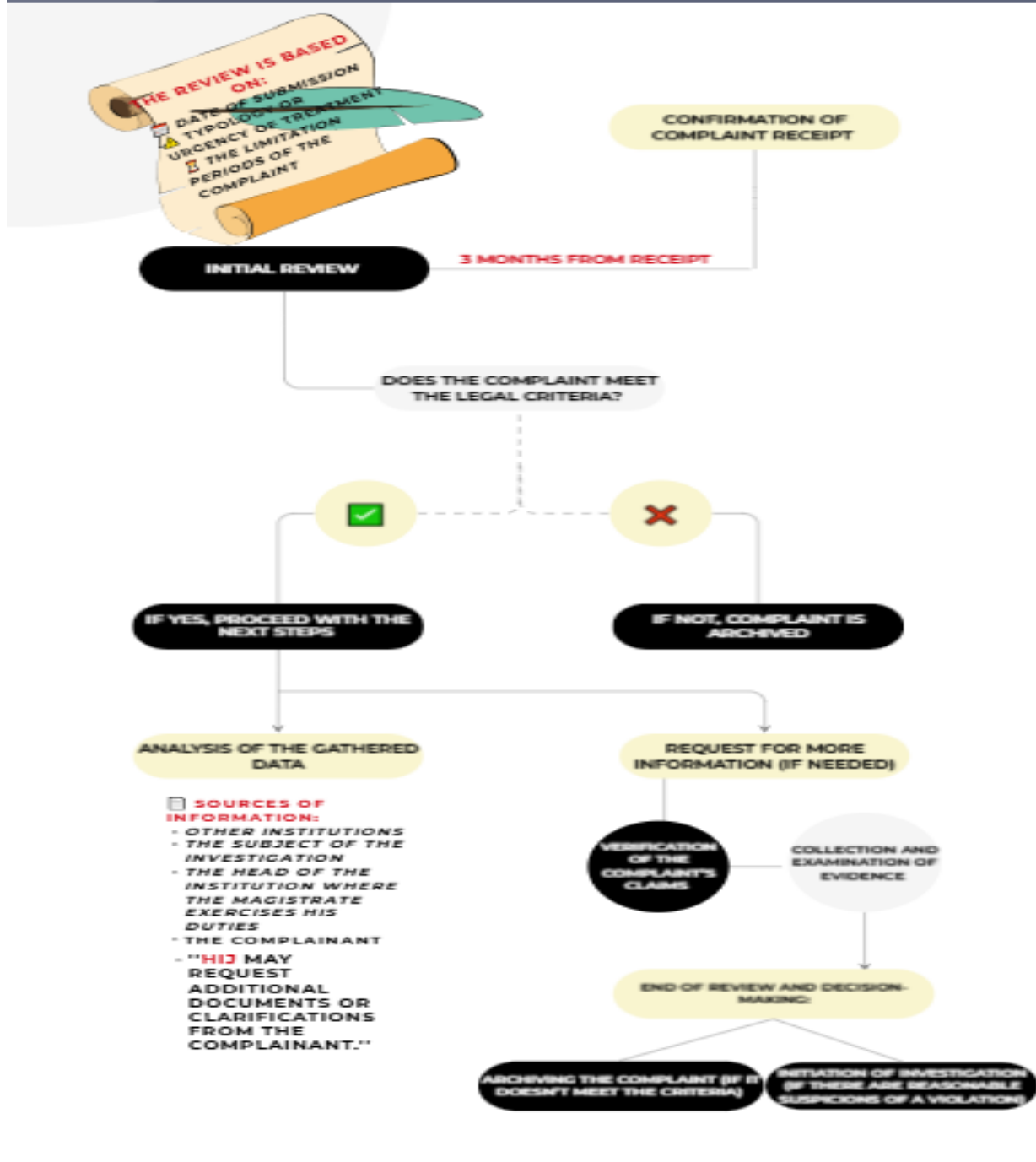
to start the investigation when, after analyzing the evidence, there are reasonable doubts that the violation may have been committed.

**The review determines if the complaint satisfies the requirements set by the law to be admissible. But due to the workload in proportion to the human resources that HIJ currently has available, this process may require more time, as the HIJ follows an approved methodology for reviewing each complaint according to criteria related to.**



HOW LONG DOES HIJ TAKE TO HANDLE MY COMPLAINT?  
(GRAPHICALLY)

How long does **HIJ** take to handle my complaint?



## WHAT REQUIREMENTS MUST THE COMPLAINT SATISFY SO THAT HIJ CAN ACCEPT IT?

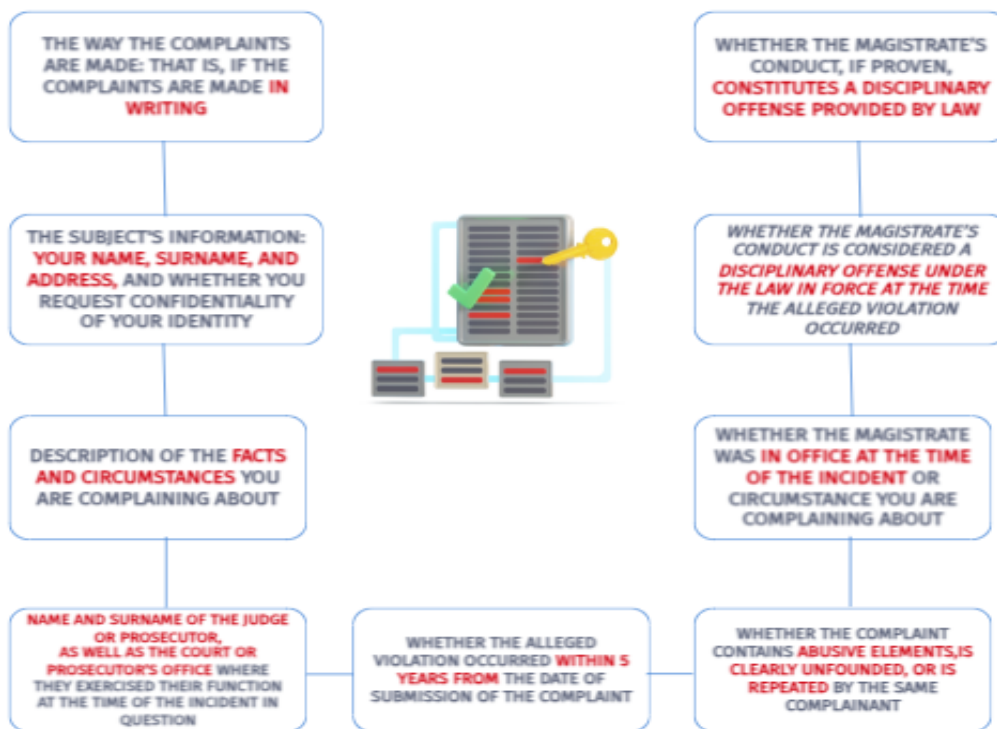
- The law provides several criteria for the admissibility of the complaint. Therefore, the High Inspector of Justice first examines the complaint in terms of fulfilling these criteria:
- The way the complaints are made: that is, if the complaints are made in writing;
- The subject information: your name, surname and address, as well as whether you require the confidentiality of your identity;
- The description of the facts and circumstances about which you complain;
- The name and surname of the judge or prosecutor, as well as the court or prosecutor's office where he/she exercised the function, at the time when the allegation about which you are complaining occurred;
- If the alleged violation occurred within 5 years from the submission of the complaint;
- If there are no abusive elements in the content of the complaint, the complaint is not clearly unfounded or repeated by the same complainant;
- The conduct of the magistrate, who was on duty at the time when the allegation about which you complain occurred;
- The conduct of the magistrate, provided as a disciplinary offense by the law in force, at the time when the alleged offense occurred;
- The conduct of the magistrate which, if proven to have been committed, constitutes a disciplinary offense provided by the law.

## WHY WAS MY COMPLAINT ARCHIVED?

- If one or more of the complaint admissibility criteria (see "What are the conditions for accepting the complaint") are not met, then the High Inspector of Justice issues the decision to archive the complaint.
- You will be notified of the decision to archive the complaint and of your right to appeal.

WHAT REQUIREMENTS MUST THE COMPLAINT SATISFY SO THAT HIJ CAN ACCEPT IT? (GRAPHICALLY)

# WHAT REQUIREMENTS MUST THE COMPLAINT SATISFY SO THAT **HIJ** CAN ACCEPT IT?



## WHY HAS MY COMPLAINT BEEN ARCHIVED?

✦ IF ONE OR MORE OF THE ADMISSIBILITY CRITERIA (REFER TO "WHAT REQUIREMENTS MUST THE COMPLAINT SATISFY SO THAT HIJ CAN ACCEPT IT?") ARE NOT FULFILLED, THE HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE ISSUES A **DECISION TO ARCHIVE THE COMPLAINT.**



📧 YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED OF **THE ARCHIVING DECISION** AND OF YOUR RIGHT TO **APPEAL.**



**WHO CAN'T I COMPLAIN TO HIJ ABOUT?**

The HIJ is not a competent authority to review complaints against chancellors, legal assistants, chief secretaries, court secretaries, summoners, other employees of the judicial administration, judicial police officers, lawyers or public or private bailiffs, or other entities participating in an investigative or judicial process. Complaints against these officials must be submitted to the relevant authorities, which are responsible for disciplinary procedures referring to the special law.



## MARCH OF HIJ IN NUMBER

During **March 2025**, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice administered **172 complaints** submitted exclusively by citizens. The Office ensured the standardized confirmation process of receiving complaints for newly submitted complaints in accordance with procedural requirements.

Complaints involving judges and prosecutors were assigned to Inspectors and are currently at different stages of processing, including initial review, archiving, verification, or draft decision issuance.

ARCHIVED	VERIFICATION	DISCIPLINARY PROCESS
<p>Out of 129 cases reviewed, 67 decisions were rendered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 53 archiving decisions after initial review</li> <li>• 14 archiving decisions after verification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 verification decisions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 decision for the initiation of disciplinary proceedings concerning one magistrate (judge)</li> <li>• 2 decisions for closing the disciplinary investigation for one magistrate (judge)</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 being present personally at the Office of the High Inspector of Justice and if necessary, asking assistance by the team of the Complaints and Public relations Office. Within 5 days Upon receiving the complaint, the High Inspector of Justice confirms in writing its receiving.

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 complaints are accepted.**

## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISIONS

Even during the month of **March 2025**, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice made public announcements of archiving decisions **for 9 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.







### *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 **March 2025**, the Complaints and Public Relations Sector:
- ⇒ **welcomed 37 complainants**, who were present personally at the premises of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, and
- ⇒ **Has Had 21 phone calls** from citizens, who requested information on the stage of their complaints or Information on completing the 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 NUMBERS

During **March 2025**, at the Office of High Inspector of Justice, **15 requests** for information were received, which were processed in all cases within 5 days (the law provides that a response must be return to the applicant within 10 days).

HIJ ON TWITTER

Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur Metani reposted

**Marta Kos** @MartaKosEU

Very good meeting with independent justice institutions, which enable safe and secure Albania and Europe.

I commended their commitment to tackle corruption and organised crime and expressed the EU firm support to their role and working methods, in particular to SPAK.

It is important to engage in building independent and functioning judicial system, but even more so to instil respect of the rule of law.

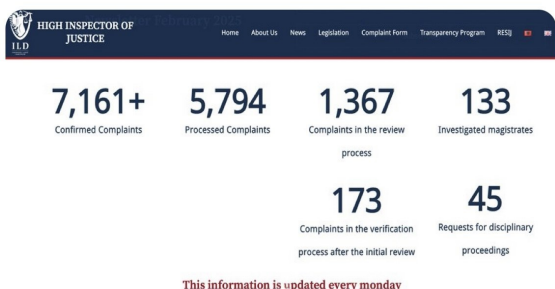
**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur M...** @ILD\_Albania

"The absorption of best practices implemented by vetting serves not only to increase the performance of the justice system, but also to consolidate our best common standards." 🇹🇼



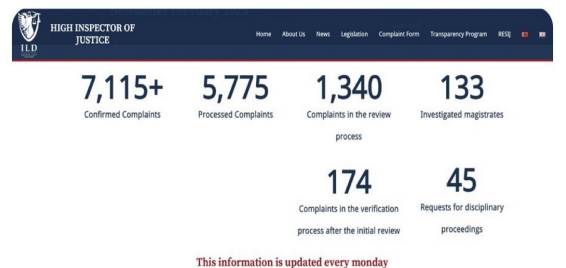
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- 📍 Përpunimi javor i ankesave #ILD ⚖️
- ✅ 7161 të konfirmuara
- ✅ 5794 Ankesa të trajtuara
- ✅ 1367 Ankesa në proces trajtimi
- ✅ 173 Ankesa në proces verifikimi
- 👉 Më shumë [ild.al](http://ild.al)
- 📄 Si të bëj ankesë? 🇹🇼
- [ild.al/sq/si-pranohen...](http://ild.al/sq/si-pranohen...)
- 👉 Duam mendimin tuaj 🇹🇼
- [ild.al/sq/ankete/](http://ild.al/sq/ankete/)



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- 📍 Përpunimi javor i ankesave #ILD ⚖️
- ✅ 7115 të konfirmuara
- ✅ 5775 të trajtuara
- ✅ 1340 në proces trajtimi
- ✅ 174 në proces verifikimi
- 👉 Më shumë [ild.al](http://ild.al)
- ? Keni pasur eksperiencë me ne? 🇹🇼
- [ild.al/sq/ankete/](http://ild.al/sq/ankete/)
- 👉 Si të ankojem në #ILD?
- [ild.al/sq/si-pranohen...](http://ild.al/sq/si-pranohen...)



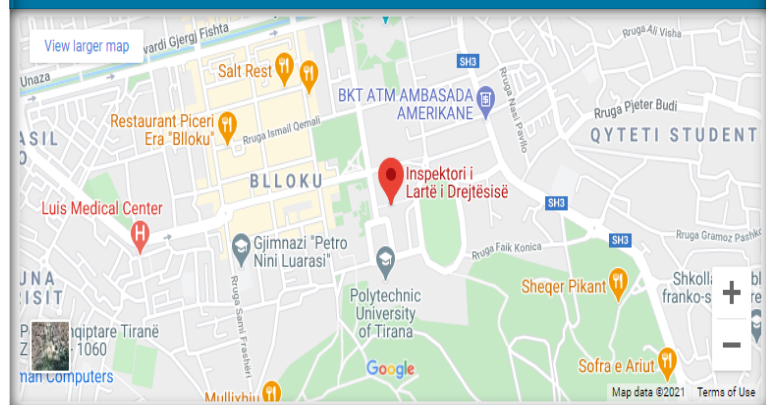


**March 2025**

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**Më skano!**