

April 2025 | No. 48

# NEWSLETTER

## HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE

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Inspektori i Lartë i Drejtësisë



@ILD\_Albania



Inspektori i Lartë i Drejtësisë

### THE HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE HELD A WORKING VISIT TO LONDON



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



### THE HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE HELD A WORKING VISIT TO LONDON

The High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani, held a working visit to London to the justice institutions dealing with the inspection and disciplinary process of magistrates and to the British Foreign Office. Mr. Metani was accompanied by a team from HIJ and by the Ambassador of Albania to the United Kingdom, Mr. Uran Ferizi.

At the H M Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate (HMCPSI), the High Inspector of Justice was hosted by the Chief Inspector, Mr. Anthony Rogers.

The two interlocutors focused on sharing good practices between institutions and the role that the inspection process has in the efficiency of the justice system for promoting transparency and impartiality, in the service of public trust.

Further, Mr. Metani and the delegation accompanying him held working sessions with the team of the HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate (HMCPSI). Deputy Chief Inspector Ms. Lisa Morris gave a presentation on the HMCPSI Service. The inspection process, thematic inspections and follow-up inspections were present-





ed by Senior Legal Inspector Mr. Colin Dar- The recommendations and impact of the  
roch and the Legal Inspector Ms. Leanne inspections were addressed by Mr. Rogers  
Townsend. and Ms. Morris, responding to the HIJ  
team's interest in aspects of the work and





comparison with the Albanian model.

At the meeting held at the Judicial Conduct Investigations Office (JCIO), the HIJ team was briefed by the Operational Director Mr. Simon Parsons and the Head of Case-work at this office, Ms. Kim Webb, on all aspects of the work on investigating the conduct of British judges on behalf of the Minister of Justice and the Head of Judiciary in the United Kingdom.

Similarities in the disciplinary investigation process, types of disciplinary violations and punitive measures against judges were discussed extensively during the meeting by the High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Metani, and Mr. Parson and Ms. Webb from Judicial Conduct Investigations Office.

Part of the High Inspector of Justice's visit to London was also a meeting at the British Foreign Office with the Head of Western Balkans Department. (Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office), Ms. Madeline Knox.

After giving a presentation on the functions and role of the HIJ in the justice system, Mr. Metani praised the United Kingdom's continued support for the rule of law and Albania's European integration.

Ms. Knox noted that the relationship with Albania is very important for the United Kingdom, which has invested in this because it considers it an important partnership for the future.

Mr. Metani and Ms. Knox shared Albania's progress in priority areas such as the fight



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against corruption, the rule of law and public trust in the justice system.

The High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani and the HIJ delegation were welcomed at the Albanian Embassy in London by Ambassador, Mr. Uran Ferizi. After thanking the Ambassador for his support in organizing this visit, Mr. Metani was informed by Mr.

Ferizi about the work of our Embassy in protecting the interests of Albania and Albanians living in the United Kingdom, as well as the British contribution to the progress of our country.





PHOTOS FROM THE HIJ WORKING VISIT TO LONDON







### **HJC ACCEPTS THE REQUEST OF HIJ REGARDING THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING AGAINST JUDGE A.XH.**

The High Judicial Council accepted the request of the High Inspector of Justice for disciplinary proceeding with the measure “Public reprimand” against magistrate A.Xh., who is a judge at the Court of First Instance of General Jurisdiction Kukës, related to the disciplinary violation considered as a repeated or serious violation of the rules of solemnity, the rules of conduct in relations with other magistrates. The disciplinary investigation by HIJ has been initiated on the basis of the review of the information reflected in the minutes of a general meeting of judges of September 2024, during which debates were held on several work processes in the court.

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**From the legal analysis of the facts established during the disciplinary investigation, the High Inspector of Justice has concluded that magistrate A. Xh., in her capacity as a member of the judging panel, violated the**  
**B. rules of conduct with other magistrates, (who were part of the panel),**  
**C. during a court public hearing.**

From the legal analysis of the facts established during the disciplinary investigation, the High Inspector of Justice has concluded that magistrate A. Xh., in her capacity as a member of the judging panel, violated the rules of conduct with other magistrates, (who were part of the panel), during a court public hearing. This behavior of the magistrate was continuous throughout the hearing, undermining the trust in justice of the parties present at the hearing, discrediting the position, integrity of the magistrate and subsequently the reputation of the court.

The investigation report notes that the disciplinary violation by the magistrate was committed with direct intent, this also being confirmed by the statements given by the magistrate herself during the disciplinary investigation.

The report highlights as a mitigating circumstance the fact that the magistrate has ad-

mitted that her behavior in the presence of the parties, in that public hearing, was not in accordance with ethics and that she should not have had that behavior in the presence of the parties. On the other hand, the magistrate has no previous disciplinary measure and has little professional experience, since the violation was committed in the first year of her work as a judge.

The High Inspector of Justice concludes that the behavior and actions of magistrate A. Xh., in this case are assessed as a “minor disciplinary violation” and proposed to the High Judicial Council the imposition of the disciplinary measure “Public reprimand” for judge A.Xh., provided for by article 105 point 1 letter “b” and article 107 of law no. 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania”, as amended, a request that was unanimously accepted by the members of the High Judicial Council.

**The investigation report notes that the disciplinary violation by the magistrate was committed with direct intent, this also being confirmed by the statements given by the magistrate herself during the disciplinary investigation.**





### **HJC PARTIALLY ACCEPTS THE REQUEST FOR DISMISSAL FROM OFFICE OF JUDGE A. LL.**

The High Judicial Council partially accepted the request of the High Inspector of Justice regarding the disciplinary proceeding against magistrate A. LL., judge at the Court of First Instance of General Jurisdiction in Shkodra, by assigning the measure "Suspension from duty for 6 months".

The High Inspector of Justice had proposed to the High Judicial Council the disciplinary measure "Dismissal from office" for magistrate A. LL., because of the actions/inactions that constitute failure to properly fulfill the duty, in violation of the civil and criminal procedural deadlines for the reasoning of the judicial decision, as well as

failure to initiate civil cases, continuously exceeding the deadlines beyond all logic. The disciplinary investigation of the HIJ against the magistrate has been initiated based on 11 filed complaints raising allegations related to the failure of properly fulfilling the duty and violation of civil and criminal procedural deadlines. During this investigation, the HIJ inspectors have also identified other facts which have been added to the investigation that has been initiated.

In many cases, since the registration of cases and their assignment to the judge, a number of inactions have been identified

**The investigation report highlights that respecting court and reasoning deadlines is of fundamental importance for guaranteeing the right to due process, and subsequently the right to a reasonable deadline.**

for a period of over 3 years. About 64% of civil cases for the year 2021 and 90% for the years 2022 and 2023 have surpassed their legal deadline regarding reasoning of the decision or submission of the case (decisions of the type mainly concerning confirmation of a legal fact for recognition of the truthfulness or marriage dissolution, recognition of ownership or division of property.) Decisions not submitted in 2023 constitute 43% of decisions beyond the legal deadline.

The investigation report highlights that respecting court and reasoning deadlines is of fundamental importance for guaranteeing the right to due process, and subsequently the right to a reasonable deadline. Such delays undermine the right of subjects to a due process of law, infringing on the right to a reasoned decision and to appeal, significantly damaging the integrity of justice and public trust in it.

The judge's actions/ inactions were carried

out at least with repeated and continuous carelessness in the form of negligence, where in some cases, caused damage to investigative procedures. The judge has significantly damaged the integrity of justice and public trust in it, even though she has 24 years of experience (an indicator of very good knowledge of exercising her duty with discipline).

After the investigation which was based on the voluminous materials administered and reviewed, the High Inspector of Justice came to the conclusion that the actions/inactions of the judge constitute a "Very serious disciplinary violation", provided for by article 102, point 1, letters "d" and "dh" of the law "On status" and proposed to the High Judicial Council the imposition of the disciplinary measure "Dismissal from office" for judge A. Ll., (a request that was partially accepted by the High Judicial Council, which imposed another measure for the judge, that of suspension from office for 6 months).

**The judge's actions/ inactions were carried out at least with repeated and continuous carelessness in the form of negligence, where in some cases, caused damage to investigative procedures. The judge has significantly damaged the integrity of justice and public trust in it, even though she has 24 years of experience (an indicator of very good knowledge of exercising her duty with discipline).**





### **HPC PARTIALLY ACCEPTS THE HIJ REQUEST FOR DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST MAGISTRATE K.LL.**

The High Prosecutorial Council has decided to partially accept the request of the High Inspector of Justice for disciplinary proceedings against magistrate K.LL., by imposing the measure "Temporary salary reduction of 20% for a period of 3 months", despite the proposal of the HIJ for "Temporary salary reduction of 40% for a period of 1 year", while fully accepting the proposal of the HIJ for the measure "Dismissal from the office of the chairman".

The High Inspector of Justice initiated a disciplinary investigation against magistrate K. LL, in his capacity as Head of the Prosecutor's Office at the Court of First In-

stance of General Jurisdiction Saranda, based on 6 complaints from a prosecutor in the same institution, for actions and conduct that constitute disciplinary violations by the above mentioned magistrate.

The disciplinary investigation conducted by the HIJ, concluded that the actions and inactions of Mr. LL. constitute a failure to fulfill, in his capacity as head of the office, the obligations set forth in the law, in particular, the duties related to the case management system. The investigation found repeated violations of the rules of conduct in relations with other magistrates. The violation disciplinary action noted in the report, was committed with direct intent and

there is a risk that its negative impact will extend to the prosecution office as a whole, constituting a risk of recurrence of events that reduce the integrity of the prosecution office.

The disciplinary measure “Public reprimand” has been imposed to the magistrate for a previous violation by the HPC, on 30.01.2025, for actions and inactions that constitute unjustified failure to fulfill functions during the investigation, leading to unjustified delays in procedural acts, and not fulfilling the duties assigned by the courts, leaving the investigative file without action for a period of over 2 years.

During the submissions before the HPC, HIJ noted that at the time of filing the request for the initiation of disciplinary proceedings, prosecutor K.LI. was exercising the same duty as at the time of the alleged violation. He currently does not exercise his duties either as Head of the Prosecution office or as a prosecutor, because the Special Court for Corruption and Organized Crime has imposed the personal security measure “Suspension of exer-

cising a public duty or service” on this magistrate, as a suspect for the criminal offense of “Passive corruption of judges, prosecutors and other justice officials” provided for by article 319/ç of the Criminal Code.

In conclusion, the HIJ proposed to the HPC the imposition of the disciplinary measure “Temporary salary reduction of 40% for a period of 1 year” on magistrate K. LI, for the disciplinary violation provided for by article 102, point 1 letter “I”, as well as article 102, point 2, letter “dh”, of Law No. 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania”, as amended, as well as a measure of additional disciplinary measure “Dismissal from the office as the chairman”, provided for by article 108 and article 112, point 2, letter “b” of law no. 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania”, as amended. The first request was partially accepted by the High Prosecutorial Council, which set the measure “Temporary salary reduction of 20% for a period of 3 months” and fully accepted the request of the HIJ for the additional measure “Dismissal from the office as chairman” for magistrate K.LI.

**HIJ proposed to the HPC the imposition of the disciplinary measure “Temporary salary reduction of 40% for a period of 1 year” on magistrate K. LI, for the disciplinary violation provided for by article 102, point 1 letter “I”, as well as article 102, point 2, letter “dh”, of Law No. 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania”, as amended, as well as a measure of additional disciplinary measure “Dismissal from the office as the chairman”.**





### **HJC ACCEPTS THE HIJ REQUEST FOR DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS FOR MAGISTRATE B.SH.**

In today's session, the High Judicial Council has accepted the request of the High Inspector of Justice for disciplinary proceedings with the measure "Public reprimand" against judge B.SH., deputy chairman of the Administrative Court of First Instance of Vlora.

This disciplinary investigation dates back to 2021 and was suspended by the HJC in 2022 due to the re-evaluation process, to which magistrate B.SH. was undergoing. The investigation against the judge was initiated based on continuous complaints to the HIJ by the chancellor, with allegations that the magistrate in the position of deputy chairman of the Administrative

Court of First Instance of Vlora, was being obstructive in the exercise of legal duties, preventing the normal functioning of the court.

The disciplinary investigation conducted by the High Inspector of Justice concluded that B.SH. has allowed the non-implementation, without justified reasons, of the decision issued by the High Judicial Council regarding the court chancellery, and has repeatedly, during two meetings of the Judicial Council, failed to respect the legal and sub-legal provisions regulating the organization and functioning of the courts.

**At the end of the investigation, the HIJ, taking into consideration, among other things, the nature of the disciplinary violation, the existence of mitigating circumstances related to the violations for the first time, the cooperation of the magistrate during the investigation, as well as the active assistance to eliminate or reduce the consequences of the violation, reached the conclusion that the actions/inactions undertaken by the Deputy Chairman of the Administrative Court of First Instance of Vlora, B.Sh., constitute a disciplinary violation.**

The undertaking of these actions by the magistrate is noted in the HIJ report, constitutes a failure to fulfill the duty of the deputy chairman, who is responsible for the smooth running and functioning of the court as an institution, and has created confusion over the exercise of the powers of the chancellery, which is responsible for the management of judicial administration. On the other hand, the non-implementation without reasonable reasons by him as the head of a decision issued by the High Judicial Council is considered as unprofessional behavior, which discredits the position of the head of a court and the image of the judge in particular.

At the end of the investigation, the HIJ, taking into consideration, among other things, the nature of the disciplinary violation, the existence of mitigating circum-

stances related to the violations for the first time, the cooperation of the magistrate during the investigation, as well as the active assistance to eliminate or reduce the consequences of the violation, reached the conclusion that the actions/inactions undertaken by the Deputy Chairman of the Administrative Court of First Instance of Vlora, B.Sh., constitute a disciplinary violation provided for by Article 102, point 1, letters "g" and "gj" of Law No. 96/2016 "On the Status of Judges and Prosecutors in the Republic of Albania", as amended, specifically, as "Minor Disciplinary Violation".

The High Inspector of Justice proposed to the HJC the imposition of the disciplinary measure "Public Reprimand" against Judge B.Sh., a request that was accepted by the High Judicial Council.

**The High Inspector of Justice proposed to the HJC the imposition of the disciplinary measure "Public Reprimand" against Judge B.Sh., a request that was accepted by the High Judicial Council.**



### HIJ ADDRESSES SITUATION REGARDING THE INCREASING NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS

High Inspector of Justice Mr. Artur Metani convened a working meeting with the Inspectors Unit and the Assistant Inspectors Unit to discuss the review of internal work processes and the efficiency increase for reviewing complaints in the office of the High Inspector of Justice.

The Directorate of Drafting of Acts and Legal Services presented statistical data on complaints received and reviewed over the years, the current distribution of complaints and the process of their review, with emphasis on the significant increase in the number of complaints observed in the first 4 months of 2025.

The discussions focused on the analysis of concrete data and internal work processes, as well as effective ways to process a high number of complaints within this year, in order to prevent situations of overload and the creation of a backlog of complaints.

Given that HIJ has a low number of inspectors, (less than half of the number approved according to the organizational structure), in this working meeting it was assessed as necessary to take other measures to maximize efforts to handle a higher number of complaints, in order to avoid the creation of a backlog.





“The review of inherited complaints has been a process that has exceeded the normal workload of the HIJ, for the available human resources, but thanks to the regulatory, administrative and structural measures undertaken, the results have been visible and measurable.

Now we must prevent the creation of an institutional stock, in the conditions of an increase in the number of complaints and the lack of change in human resources, which remains low.” said Mr. Metani.

Discussions on the work methodology brought to light the problems encountered in the complaint reviewing processes and possible options were addressed to increase the efficiency of the processing of

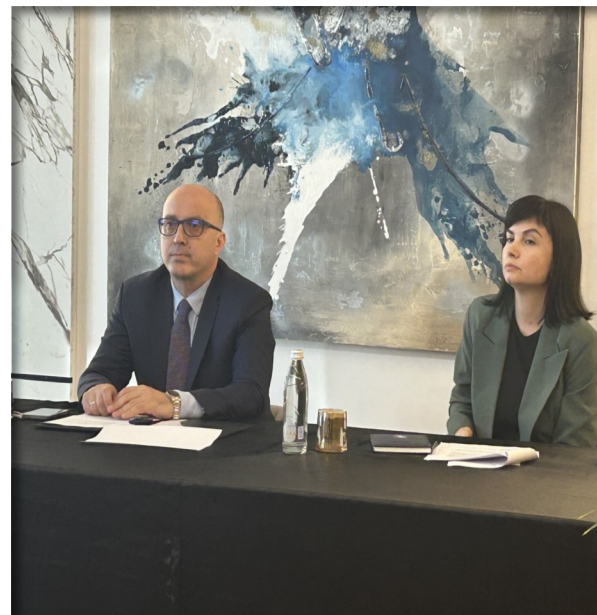




PHOTO FROM THE WORKING MEETING



## APRIL OF HIJ IN NUMBER

During **April 2025**, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice administered **160 complaints which were submitted by 158 citizens and 2 by institution**. 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 198 cases reviewed, 99 decisions were rendered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 71 archiving decisions after initial review</li><li>• 28 archiving decisions after verification</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12 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>• 1 decision for closing the disciplinary investigation for one magistrate (judge);</li><li>• 4 requests for the initiation of disciplinary proceedings concerning four magistrates (3 prosecutors and 1 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 **April 2025**, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice made public announcements of archiving decisions **for 6 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 **April 2025**, the Complaints and Public Relations Sector:
- ⇒ **Welcomed 26 complainants**, who were present personally at the premises of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, and
- ⇒ **Has had 30 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 sent 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 **April 2025**, at the Office of High Inspector of Justice, **28 requests** for information were received, which were processed in all cases within 5 days (the law provides that a response must be returned to the applicant within 10 days).*



## HIJ ON TWITTER

**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur Metani** @ILD\_Albania · Apr 11 · ...  
Very motivated by the working visit to British judicial institutions dealing with the control of magistrates. Similar experiences, similar perspectives on the values of justice and the rule of law. #HIJ 🇷🇺 🇪🇺



From ild.al

1 4 38

**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur Metani** @ILD\_Albania · Apr 10 · ...  
A very insightful meeting with the head of Western Balkans at the Foreign Office 🇬🇧, Ms. Madeline Knox about the rule of law in Albania 🇷🇺 and the important partnership 🇬🇧 🇷🇺 🇪🇺 #HighInspectorofJustice @AlbanianDiplo @UranFerizi



4 4 1,404

**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur Metani** @ILD\_Albania · Apr 9 · ...  
Very interesting sharing of experiences with the Judicial Conduct Investigations Office on the complaints procedure and on the misconduct of judges. #HIJ 🇷🇺 #JCIO 🇬🇧



2 6 249

**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur Metani** @ILD\_Albania · Apr 8 · ...  
Good working meeting with @hmcpsi in London 🇬🇧 We enjoyed presentations and sharing from Chief Inspector Rogers and his team. Confidence remains the primary goal for judicial efficiency. #HIJ 🇷🇺 #HMCPSI 🇬🇧



1 8 115

**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur Metani** @ILD\_Albania · ...  
nimi javor i ankesave në #ILD 🇷🇺  
Ankesa të konfirmuara  
Ankesa të trajtuara  
Ankesa në proces trajtimi  
Ankesa në proces verifikimi  
Agjistratë të hetuar  
Ankesa për procedim disiplinor  
në ild.al

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7,344+  
Confirmed Complaints

5,889  
Processed Complaints

1,455  
Complaints in the review process

161

Complaints in the verification process after the initial review

This information is updated every monday

1 2 119

**Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur Metani** @ILD\_Albania · ...  
nimi javor i ankesave #ILD 🇷🇺  
Ankesa të konfirmuara  
Ankesa të trajtuara  
Ankesa në proces trajtimi  
Ankesa në proces verifikimi pas shqyrtimit fillestar  
Agjistratë të hetuar  
Ankesa për procedim disiplinor  
në ild.al

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7,308+  
Confirmed Complaints

5,875  
Processed Complaints

1,433  
Complaints in the review process

164

Complaints in the verification process after the initial review

This information is updated every monday

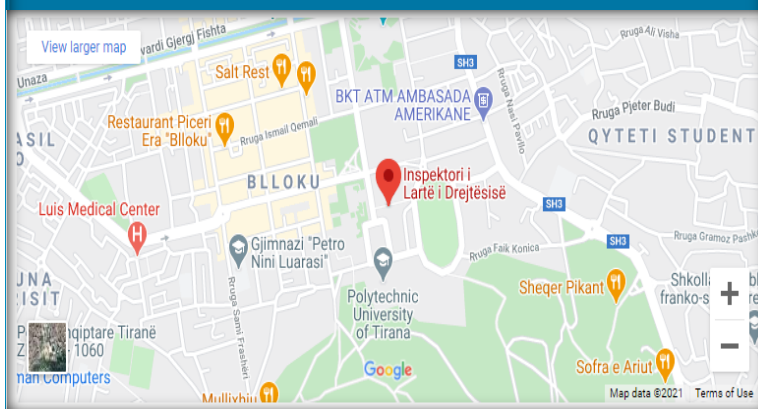
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Spot prezantues ILD  
Prezantimi i Inspektorit të Lartë të Drejtësisë  
@youtube.com

HIJ spot <https://www.youtube.com/watch?>



**Më skano!**