

HIJ HELD A WORKING VISIT TO LONDON

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The High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani, conducted a working visit to London, where he held meetings with representatives of justice institutions, other public institutions and a community of British-Albanian professionals.



HIJ in numbers

Out of 139 cases reviewed, 64 decisions were rendered:
51 archiving decisions after initial review
13 archiving decisions after verification

19 verification decisions

1 decision for the initiation of disciplinary investigation
for 1 magistrate (1 judge)

The citizen at HIJ

During February 2026:

- welcomed **41 complainants**, which were present personally at the premises of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice;
- has had **39 phone calls** from citizens, who requested information on the stage of their complaints or information on completing the complaint form;
- **24 requests** for information were received.



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HIJ HELD A WORKING VISIT TO LONDON



The High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani, conducted a working visit to London, where he held meetings with representatives of justice institutions, other public institutions and a community of British-Albanian professionals. The visit aimed to build and strengthen professional relations between Albania and the United Kingdom in the field of justice, through the exchange of ideas and best practices, in order to increase the efficiency and quality of the justice system in Albania.

At the invitation of the British-Albanian Lawyers Association (BALA) in London, Mr. Metani participated in the event organized in the form of a conversation with the High Inspector of Justice, under the auspices of the Head of BALA, Ms. Brikena Muharremi and the Ambassador of Albania in London, Mr. Uran Ferizi. At the beginning, Mr. Metani made a presentation of the role and functions of the institution he leads, as well as the work carried out during these first six years of duty.

Further, the High Inspector of Justice, Artur Metani, responded to the high interest of the participants, addressing issues ranging from concrete aspects of the institution's work, such as the reviewing of complaints, the investigation and disciplinary proceedings of judges and prosecutors, or inspections in courts and prosecution offices, to the interest in the current dynamics of the justice system and the independence of magistrates.

Based on the high interest of law students and young lawyers, Mr. Metani announced his willingness to welcome them to HIJ office in Tirana, both in professional internship programs and in employment opportunities.

During this working visit, the High Inspector of Justice was hosted at the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom by the Justice of the Supreme Court Dame Vivien Rose (Lady Rose) and former Judge Sir Stephen John Irwin, Chairman of the Slynn Foundation. The conversation focused on the practice of the British Supreme Court on the process of investigating judicial conduct, as well as the Albanian model of the High Inspector of Justice, sharing ideas on the possibility of cooperation and professional exchanges.

Mr. Metani and the delegation accompanying him were welcomed in the British Parliament by MP Martin Vickers, Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Albania and Kosovo in the British Parliament. During the meeting, Albania's progress in the integration processes and institutional reforms for the rule of law were discussed, and the continued support of the United Kingdom and the will to strengthen bilateral cooperation were underlined.

Part of the visit was also a meeting at the Embassy of Kosovo in London, where the HIJ delegation was received by Ambassador Mr. Ilir Kapiti. The good practice of cooperation and exchange of experiences between the justice institutions of Albania and Kosovo was at the center of the conversation, in function of strengthening the institutional capacities of the two countries.

The visit of the High Inspector of Justice and the delegation that accompanied him, was organized by Open Gov Hub Albania.

HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE
NEWSLETTER





MONITORING JUDICIAL EFFICIENCY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS, HIJ APPROVES INSPECTION CALENDAR FOR 2026



The High Inspector of Justice approved, at the General Meeting of Inspectors, on January 30, 2026, the inspection plan for prosecution offices and courts for 2026.

Thematic and institutional inspections that will continue during 2026 will be the instrument with which the High Inspector of Justice will measure the efficiency of justice in the country, while this year, in a dedicated manner, the implementation of recommendations given by previous inspections will also be monitored.

At the General Meeting of Inspectors, an analysis of data on the type of claims of complainants, citizens or institutions until December 2025, as well as the claims of complaints treated with decision-making during 2025. According to the data, the largest part is occupied by claims for unfair decision-making, claims for trial delays,

delays in investigative activity and delays in the delivery of judicial decisions.

At the General Meeting of Inspectors, it was noted that during 2025, (according to the previous practice), the High Inspector of Justice has sent requests regarding inspection topics for the inspection plan for 2026, to justice institutions, such as the Prosecutor General, the High Judicial Council, the High Prosecutorial Council, the Minister of Justice and the Albanian Chamber of Advocacy.

At the General Meeting of Inspectors was evaluated the commitment of the three institutions that have submitted proposals for thematic or institutional inspections, where specifically the Prosecutor General has proposed 2 inspection topics, the High Prosecutorial Council has proposed 4 inspection topics and the Minister of Justice has proposed 5 inspection topics.

After discussions on the data of the complaints submitted, the proposals received from the three justice institutions, as well as the priorities of the work of the HIJ, (also for the comprehensive geographical covering of the inspections in courts and prosecution offices), the General Meeting of Inspectors approved a total of 9 inspections to be carried out during 2026, specifically 8 thematic inspections and 1 institutional inspection. What is special this year is the approval of 2 thematic inspections on the follow-up of the recommendations of previous inspections.

From the processing of complaints from citizens and institutions, the duration of civil court proceedings, the announcement and reasoning of court decisions, compliance with detention deadlines, the processing of referrals and criminal reports against state police and prison employees for mistreatment, the inspection calendar for 2026 contains:

- The thematic inspection “On the procedure for announcing and reasoning of judicial decisions” which will be carried out at the Court of First Instance of General Jurisdiction of Korça for the period 01.04.2025-30.06.2025. This inspection, proposed by the Minister of Justice, will be carried out during the period 16.02.2026 – 30.09.2026.
- Thematic inspection “Processing of referrals and criminal reports against state police and prison police employees regarding torture, ill-treatment, arbitrary actions or violence of any kind” which will be carried out in all prosecution offices in the country for the period 01.01.2025 – 31.12.2025 The inspection, proposed by the Prosecutor General, will be carried out during the period 16.02.2026 – 02.12.2026.
- The thematic inspection “On the duration of civil judicial proceedings with opposing parties” which will be carried out at the Court of First Instance of General Jurisdiction of Elbasan for the period 01.04.2025- 30.06.2025. The inspection proposed by the Minister of Justice, will be carried out during the period 16.02.2026 – 30.10.2026
- Thematic inspection “Respecting detention deadlines in the context of the termination of security measures during the investigation phase” will be carried out at the Prosecution Office at the Court of First Instance of General Jurisdiction of Tirana for the period 2023-2025. This inspection, proposed by the High Prosecutorial Council, will be carried out during the period 16.02.2026 – 30.10.2026
- Thematic inspection “Allocation of cases by draw, as well as checking of electronic system reports”, which will be carried out for the period 01.01.2025-31.12.2025, in the Courts of First Instance of General Jurisdiction Gjirokastër, Lezhë and Vlorë. The inspection at these courts will be carried out during the period 16.02.2026 – 10.12.2026.
- Thematic inspection “On the practice and reasons for the replacement of prosecutors for the period 01.01.2025-31.12.2025”. The inspection will be carried out in all prosecutorial offices during the period 16.02.2026 – 21.12.2026.
- Institutional inspection “Infrastructure and circulation of documentation”, will be carried out at the Court of Appeal of General Jurisdiction for the period 01.04.2025 – 30.06.2025. The inspection will be carried out during the period 16.02.2026 -30.10.2026
- In particular, during 2026, two inspections were approved to follow up on the recommendations of previous inspections, specifically:
 - Follow-up thematic inspection on the recommendations of the thematic inspection approved with report no. 56/29, dated 29.12.2023 for “Conditional release” in all courts and prosecution offices for the period 16.02.2026 – 30.10.2026
 - Follow-up thematic inspection on the recommendations of thematic inspections approved with reports no. 608/4, dated 22.04.2024 and no. 2495, dated 09.09.2025 “On the assignment of cases by draw in the prosecution office”, will be carried out in all prosecution offices for the period 16.02.2026 – 31.07.2026. The inspection will be carried out during the period 16.02.2026 – 30.09.2026

HIJ CONCLUDES THE VERIFICATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2024 AMNESTY LAW



The High Inspector of Justice has concluded the ex officio verification regarding the implementation of Law no. 33/2024 “On Granting Amnesty”, based on the data collected during this verification from courts and prosecution offices, as well as on information reported by several media outlets concerning issues related to the application of this law.

The initiative of the HIJ aimed to ensure the correct and effective implementation of the purpose of criminal amnesty laws, in line with the principle of humanism in criminal justice, as well as the rehabilitation and social reintegration of convicted persons, in accordance with the standards established by the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights.

In this context, the High Inspector of Justice collected data from the General Directorate of Prisons on potential issues identified during the implementation of the law, particularly regarding the reasoning of court decisions; the issuance of enforcement orders by prosecutors; and other matters related to the activity of magistrates. Subsequently, an ex officio verification was initiated concerning the activity of magistrates in the enforcement of final court decisions, along with controls carried out in several prosecution offices and courts regarding the issuance of enforcement orders and the reasoning of court decisions.

At the conclusion of the verification, several issues were identified:

- Confusion in the interpretation of provisions related to the initiation of enforcement by the prosecutor;
- Lack of immediate action following the receipt of the abbreviated decision for the issuance of the enforcement order;
- Differing interpretations and applications of criminal procedural provisions regarding the pronouncement of summarized decisions by courts;
- Identification of time discrepancies between the date of the final court decision and its transmission;
- Inconsistencies between the date of registration of the decision in the prosecution office secretariat, the date of receipt by the prosecutor, and the date of the accompanying transmission letter of the enforcement order;
- Failure to record, in the internal delivery registers, the date on which the prosecutor received and administered the enforcement of transmitted and registered final court decisions.

The High Inspector of Justice analysed the activities of the courts and prosecution offices identified during the verification in relation to the legal framework governing the enforcement of criminal decisions and constitutional jurisprudence, highlighting issues that should be taken into consideration by the Court of Appeal of the General Jurisdiction, the Prosecution Office attached to the Court of Appeal of the General Jurisdiction, as well as all courts of first instance of the general jurisdiction and their respective prosecution offices.

The High Inspector of Justice emphasizes the necessity of respecting statutory deadlines and ensuring coordination among the institutions responsible for the enforcement of criminal decisions, in order to guarantee the recognition and effective implementation of the rights granted to all categories of persons, whether in pre-trial detention or convicted, in accordance with the relevant legislation. At the same time, increased attention is required from prosecution offices, courts, and penitentiary institutions when amnesty laws are adopted, to ensure rigorous compliance with legal requirements and procedural deadlines, so as to avoid adverse consequences for the enjoyment of rights and benefits provided by such laws.

The High Inspector of Justice notes that the issues identified through the verification of the practical application of the Law “On Granting Amnesty” by courts and prosecution offices should be subject to discussion and appropriate follow-up, respectively, within the General Assembly of Judges and by the heads of prosecution offices.

Finally, the High Inspector of Justice informs that, depending on the needs of the system, legal obligations, the most frequent issues identified through complaints, the institutional work priorities, and available institutional capacities, it will assess the conduct of a thematic inspection at the Court of Appeal of the General Jurisdiction, courts of first instance of the general jurisdiction, prosecution offices attached to courts of first instance of the general jurisdiction, and the Prosecution Office attached to the Court of Appeal of the General Jurisdiction, focusing on the procedures and time limits for the enforcement of criminal court decisions.

FEBRUARY OF HIJ IN NUMBERS

During February 2026, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice administered **210 complaints** which were submitted by **208 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 139 cases reviewed, 64 decisions were rendered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· 51 archiving decisions after initial review· 13 archiving decisions after verification	<p>19 verification decisions</p>	<p>1 decision for the initiation of disciplinary investigation for 1 magistrate (1 judge)</p>

COMPLAINT PROCESS AT HIJ

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 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, in the section "How complaints are accepted".



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.



HJC PARTIALLY ACCEPTS REQUEST OF HIJ FOR DISCIPLINARY MEASURES AGAINST JUDGE SH.L.



The High Judicial Council has partially accepted the request of the High Inspector of Justice for a disciplinary measure against magistrate Sh. L., regarding repeated delays in the disclosure of judicial decisions. The proposal of the HIJ for the imposition of the disciplinary measure “Temporary salary reduction of up to 40 percent, for a period not exceeding one year”, was partially accepted, the disciplinary violation being acknowledged and the disciplinary measure “Public reprimand” being imposed on the judge.

The disciplinary investigation against Sh.L., a judge at the Court of First Instance, General Jurisdiction of Saranda, was initiated based on 12 complaints for delays in the disclosure of reasoned decisions by the judge, disciplinary violations provided for by article 102, point 1, letter “d” of law no. 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania”, as amended.

The voluminous investigation report of the HIJ inspectors, with two joint proceedings and an additional subject of investigation for the judge, identified repeated delays in the disclosure of decisions exceeding the legal deadline of up to 4 years, decisions belonging to the period of 2021, 2022, 2023. The report of HIJ inspectors report concluded that actions/inactions were taken by the magistrate in violation of the civil and criminal procedural deadlines for the reasoning of the judicial decision, exceeding the deadlines beyond any logic, where the failure to comply with the legal deadlines does not appear as an isolated episode, but as a repeated pattern in three consecutive years and in proportions outside any legal and professional standard regarding deadlines.

The systematic and repeated delay beyond these deadlines constitutes a clear indicator of non-compliance with functional responsibilities.

Despite the magistrate’s submissions regarding the workload and the state of the judicial system, the analysis of the situation showed that he has not fully and consistently fulfilled the legal and functional obligations imposed on him for the reasoning and timely delivery of judicial decisions.

The investigative report notes that the judge’s disciplinary violation has resulted in failure to timely obtain the expected product from the adjudication of a particular case, delays in exercising the right to appeal or even significant delays in the execution of the judicial decision, as a result of the failure to reason the decisions in a timely manner, i.e. a denial of justice.

Taking into account the limited 5 years of experience in the system, the High Inspector of Justice concluded that the actions/inactions undertaken by magistrate Sh.L. constitute a “Serious disciplinary violation” and proposed to the High Judicial Council the imposition of the disciplinary measure “Temporary salary reduction of up to 40 percent, for a period not longer than one year”, provided for by article 105, point 1, letter “c”, section “i” and article 108 of law no. 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania”, as amended. The High Council of Justice partially accepted the disciplinary violation and imposed the measure “Public reprimand” against judge Sh. L.

HIJ PARTICIPATES IN THE INTER-INSTITUTIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN ALBANIA



The High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani, participated in the National Convergence Roundtable on Climate and Environmental Justice, organised by the French Development Agency and Expertise France, with the participation of heads of public institutions, experts and representatives of civil society from the fields of justice and the environment. The event's main objective was to strengthen access to climate and environmental justice and to enhance inter-institutional cooperation.

Statement of the High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani

Good morning, everyone and thank you for the invitation,

Allow me to express my appreciation and high regard for this inter-institutional roundtable on Climate and Environmental Justice in Albania, organised by the Expertise France Project, which also presented a draft action plan with concrete objectives.

I feel particularly comfortable at this roundtable, firstly due to my professional background and personal interest in environmental law, and secondly because of the institution I represent and the work we have carried out in relation to this issue. I must note that over six years of activity, the Office of the High Inspector of Justice has not received a single complaint against judges or prosecutors concerning environmental matters. Likewise, no institution has submitted any request or referral for a thematic or institutional inspection by the High Inspector of Justice regarding the handling of environmental crime by courts or prosecution offices. The underuse of these constitutional referral mechanisms by institutions or other actors is regrettable.

The High Inspector of Justice has gone further than that. It has been an active participant in the European Commission project "Cooperation in Environmental Protection through National Justice Inspection Authorities" (COPEIJ). This project brought together representatives of the French General Inspectorate of Justice, the General Inspectorate of the Italian Ministry of Justice, the Portuguese Judicial Council, the Romanian Judicial Inspectorate, and the Office of the High Inspector of Justice of Albania, members of the European Network of Justice Inspection Services (RESIJ), under the coordination of Expertise France.

For two consecutive years, from 2022 to 2024, through this project, the national inspection services of five RESIJ member states were engaged in the framework of the new European Union Directive of 11 April 2024 on the protection of the environment through criminal law. The project encouraged reflection on ways to improve environmental justice, develop resources, particularly procedural ones, promote convergence of national strategies to combat environmental crime and enhance coordination among competent services at both national and European levels.

I am pleased to note that the draft action plan presented today by Expertise France, with concrete objectives and steps, aligns with the findings and recommendations made by the Office of the High Inspector of Justice in the Albania report produced within the framework of the COPEIJ project.

Environmental justice means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all individuals in the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies, as well as the equitable distribution of environmental benefits.

The Constitution of the Republic of Albania recognises and guarantees the right of every person to be informed about the state of the environment and the measures undertaken by state authorities for its protection. In parallel, the State bears a constitutional obligation to take all necessary measures to ensure a clean and healthy environment, in the interest of society as a whole.

These constitutional obligations are further specified in key legislative acts, including the Criminal Code of the Republic of Albania, which provides criminal-law protection of the environment by criminalising unlawful acts and conduct that cause environmental harm. Albanian criminal legislation has been harmonised with EU Directive 2008/99/EC “On the protection of the environment through criminal law”, serving as a mechanism to raise awareness among stakeholders, punish illegal activities, and prevent the commission of environmental criminal offences.

Furthermore, the regulatory legal framework in the field of environmental protection, largely aligned with the European Union *acquis communautaire*, together with the ratification of multilateral environmental agreements and accession to international conventions, demonstrates the importance Albania attaches to international cooperation on environmental protection issues.

Nevertheless, despite this normative progress, the main challenges relate to the effective implementation of this framework in practice. A significant number of legal and sub-legal acts are not accompanied by regular monitoring and evaluation reports, making it difficult to accurately measure their real effectiveness.

In many cases, environmental legislation proves to be more advanced than the administrative, financial and institutional capacities of the structures responsible for its implementation. This mismatch is reflected in the lack of sustainable progress in key areas such as environmental liability, environmental inspection and the punishment of environmental crime. As a result, law enforcement often remains formal and reactive rather than preventive and systematic.

The European Union, in its progress reports on Albania, notes an increase in investigations into environmental crimes, while emphasising the need to strengthen environmental protection, particularly in the approval of private investments and in safeguarding the integrity of protected areas and habitats of specific species. This assessment indicates that progress remains partial and fragile.

The current criminal policy, focused primarily on fines, often proves ineffective, especially when offenders belong to socio-economically vulnerable groups. In such cases, fines are not only unaffordable but also incapable of fulfilling their deterrent function. Consequently, criminal policy should be reviewed and oriented not only towards punishment but also towards education, rehabilitation, and the prevention of reoffending.

Albania’s European integration process, particularly the negotiation of (Chapter 23) “Judiciary and Fundamental Rights” and (Chapter 27) “Environment and Climate Change”, requires transformative action based on the rule of law and the protection of environmental rights. However, merely aligning domestic legislation with the EU Directive “On the protection of the environment through criminal law” is not sufficient to protect and promote environmental justice.

The adoption of legislative amendments must be accompanied by the necessary mechanisms to enable: increased awareness among institutions and the general public regarding the range of environmental crimes; initial and continuous training of magistrates on environmental criminal offences and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Union; strengthened cooperation and information exchange between administrative authorities, the judiciary, and the prosecution service; involvement of subject-matter experts in adjudicating environmental cases; and the use of criminal and administrative policies that not only punish but also prevent and restore environmental damage.

The fundamental objective of environmental legislation must remain prevention, followed by administrative sanctions and, as a last resort, criminal punishment. Achieving this objective requires not only a harmonised legal framework but, above all, functional institutional capacities, effective criminal policies, and a comprehensive approach that combines control, punishment, and education. Only in this way can we speak of effective promotion of environmental justice that serves future generations.

Thank you very much.



THE HIGH INSPECTOR OF JUSTICE CONDUCTED A WORKING VISIT TO NORTH MACEDONIA



The High Inspector of Justice, Mr. Artur Metani, together with a delegation from the Office of the High Inspector of Justice, conducted an official visit to Skopje, where he held working meetings with representatives of the Council of Public Prosecutors, the Judicial Council, the State Commission for the Prevention of Corruption and the Supreme Court of the Republic of North Macedonia.

During these meetings, the importance of joint engagement at the regional conference “Justice Inspection Services and the Challenges of Integration”, held in Tirana on 25–26 September 2025 with the support of the OSCE, was emphasized. The conference was assessed as an important step towards strengthening inter-institutional cooperation in addressing professional challenges, with the aim of enhancing the role of justice institutions in safeguarding the integrity of the judicial system and increasing public trust.

At the Council of Public Prosecutors, Mr. Metani was received by the President of the Council, Mr. Bashkim Besimi, Vice-President Ms. Marjana Ilieska and Council Member Mr. Ermon Neziri. Discussions focused on concrete opportunities to deepen cooperation through the exchange of experiences and expertise, as well as strengthening human capacities in support of consolidating the rule of law.

Subsequently, Mr. Metani and the HIJ delegation held a meeting at the Judicial Council of the Republic of North Macedonia, where they were received by the President, Mr. Aleksandar Kambovski, along with members of the Council.



During the meeting, the organisation of the regional conference in Tirana was commended as a successful experience that merits continuation in the future. Mr. Metani responded to the interest expressed by Council members by providing clarifications on specific aspects of the overall activity of the HIJ, as well as on the procedures and standards applied in disciplinary proceedings.

In the meeting with the President of the State Commission for the Prevention of Corruption, Mr. Adem Chuchulj, whom Mr. Metani congratulated on his appointment, the importance of strengthening inter-institutional cooperation to enhance integrity and transparency within the justice system was highlighted.

The HIJ delegation also met with the President of the Supreme Court of the Republic of North Macedonia, Mr. Afrim Fidani, where discussions addressed shared institutional challenges and opportunities for strengthening professional cooperation.

“Effective communication, the exchange of experiences, and the open discussion of professional challenges significantly strengthen the role of justice institutions in protecting the integrity of the judicial system and enhancing public trust. Moreover, these efforts are essential in supporting the ongoing European Union integration process,” Mr. Metani stated.

The HIJ delegation also included representatives from the OSCE Presence in Albania, Ms. Luljeta Krasniqi and the OSCE Mission to Skopje, Mr. Arben Ajrulaj.





ILD INSPECTION UNIT TRAINING ON METHODS OF PROFESSIONAL REFLECTION AND ETHICAL DILEMMAS



The Inspectors Unit and the Unit of Assistant Inspectors of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice participated in the two-day training on methods of professional reflection and ethical dilemmas, organized by the Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (SSR) with two experts from the center, Ms. Anne Tahapary and Ms. Floor Boekhorst.

“The training is part of the HIJ practice of strengthening professional capacities, the topic of professional reflection and ethical dilemmas are important components for the inspection and disciplinary process of magistrates, said, among other things, at the start of the training, the High Inspector of Justice” Mr. Artur Metani, thanking the Dutch embassy and government for the early cooperation with the Office of the High Inspector of Justice. “The methods of professional reflection and the analysis of ethical dilemmas transform the work of the High Inspector of Justice, not simply in the narrow disciplinary punitive aspect, but in a constructive, educational and preventive process, ensuring judicial independence, strengthening public trust and promoting impartial and high-quality justice. The goal is to create a high ethical and professional culture in the justice system, where the sense of accountability is part of the consciousness of magistrates and not an external factor.” noted Mr. Metani.



In her welcoming speech, the Chargé d’Affaires of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Albania, Ms. Asli Cetinel said among other things that: “With the Netherlands support through the MATRA project ‘Enhancing Judicial Integrity in Albania’, implemented by the Dutch Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (SSR), this training empowers inspectors and assistant inspectors to strengthen ethical professionalism as part of Albania’s broader journey toward reinforcing the rule of law and institutional capacity.”

The training began with the presentation of the theoretical framework on existing international and legal standards and continued with an introduction to professional reflection methods and ethical dilemmas, where inspectors and assistant inspectors were introduced to a series of methods that can be used to discuss ethical issues, professional and personal dilemmas that may occur in a work environment.

The practical part of the training continued with concrete exercises on moral dilemmas, interviews, consultation with colleagues, etc.





THE GENERAL MEETING OF INSPECTORS PLEDGES TO IMPLEMENT THE METHODOLOGY FOR THE VERIFICATION OF ASSETS



The General Meeting of Inspectors reviewed and approved the draft “Methodology for verification of assets”, drafted by experts of the EU4Justice project.

The drafting of such a methodology has been driven by the phases of the integration processes that our country is undergoing, with the ultimate aim of addressing the critical gaps identified for Chapter 23 “Judiciary and Fundamental Rights”. This process, launched in 2022, has progressed with the joint position of the European Union (Brussels, 11 October 2024), based on the Accession Conference with Albania (AD 5/22 CONF-ALB), in cooperation with the competent bodies leading the coordination of policies for this process, as defined in a series of internal inter-institutional strategic documents, as well as political commitments within the framework of accession, requiring also the engagement of the High Inspector of Justice in reviewing internal working practices in order to integrate the high standards followed by the bodies of the transitional re-evaluation process.

For this matter, the High Inspector of Justice has addressed a request for technical assistance to the International Monitoring Operation and the EU4Justice project, with the aim of aligning the working methodology with best European practices.

With the assistance of international partners, experts of the International Monitoring Operation and EU4Justice, the draft methodology for the verification of assets has been finalized, in relation to which a two-day training was organized with the participation of an expert of the EU4Justice project and the participation of inspectors, assistant inspectors and members of the Cabinet of the Office of the High Inspector of Justice.

The General Meeting of Inspectors examined and assessed this technical and guiding document, enriched with practical examples, and committed to applying this methodology as far as possible in the exercise of the competences provided for by the legislation in force for the investigative and verification activity of the legal criteria of candidates for non-magistrate inspectors, in compliance with the provisions of Article 124/1 of Law no. 96/2016 “On Status”, as amended, and within the framework of verifying the fulfilment of the legal conditions of candidates for inspectors pursuant to Article 209 of Law no. 115/2016 “On the Governance Institutions of the Justice System”, as amended, and Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 536, dated 25.7.2019 “On establishing the conditions for the High Inspector of Justice for the verification of the fulfilment of legal conditions and criteria, the verification of integrity and assets of non-magistrate candidates for the position of inspector”.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISIONS

Even during the month of **February 2026**, 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.



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: elis.kuci@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.

*During **February 2026**, at the Office of High Inspector of Justice, **24 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 IN TWITTER

Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur...
@ILD_Albania

I had a very interesting exchange today with [#MartinVickers](#) MP, the chairman of the joint parliamentary friendship group with Albania 🇲🇰 and Kosovo 🇰🇲 on Albania's progress and the United Kingdom's support. [#HIJ](#) 🇲🇰 🇬🇧 🇰🇲



From ild.al

Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur...
@ILD_Albania

Always a pleasure to engage with legal professionals about the role of the [#HIJ](#) in the justice system in 🇲🇰. Thank you to the British Albanian Lawyers Association (BALA) 🇲🇰 for the invitation and Ambassador [@UranFerizi](#) for the hospitality. Interest&ideas for cooperation.



From ild.al

Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur...
@ILD_Albania

Monitoring the implementation of recommendations made by the [#HIJ](#) in previous inspections and the efficiency of the judiciary 🇲🇰. Calendar of HIJ inspections in courts and prosecutor's offices for 2026 📅



From ild.al

Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur...
@ILD_Albania

Verification on the implementation of the amnesty law. The initiative of the [#HIJ](#) aimed to ensure the correct and effective implementation of the purpose of criminal amnesty laws. [#HIJ](#) [#amnesty](#) [#verification](#) 📌



From ild.al

Inspektori i Larte i Drejtesise Artur...
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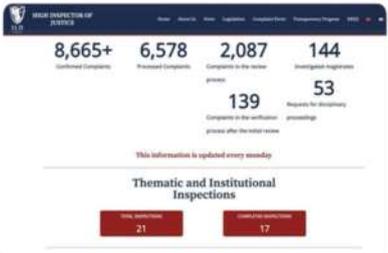
An impressive exchange of ideas&practices with Dame Vivien Rose (Lady Rose) judge at the Supreme Court of the 🇬🇧 & Sir Stephen John Irwin, a former judge&the head of the Slynn Foundation, on the independence of judges, their professional challenges, opportunities for cooperation.



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