



BULLETIN OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF STATE PROSECUTOR

NOVEMBER 2024

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In the edition of this Bulletin, the activities of the OCSP for NOVEMBER 2024 are reflected

Acting Chief State Prosecutor and EULEX Head of Mission speak on rule of law issues

Prishtina, 7 November 2024 – The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi received in a meeting the Head of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX), Giovanni Pietro Barbano, with collaborators.



Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi and Head of Eulex, Mr. Barbano had constructive and substantive discussions on issues of common interest, including the importance of advancing mutual cooperation in institutional processes, the need to preserve the independence of the judiciary including the prosecutorial system, as well as the establishment of coordination on issues related to strengthening the rule of law in the Republic of Kosovo.



Highly appreciating the commitment of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo in monitoring the work of the prosecutorial system, Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi emphasized that

EULEX remains one of the most important partners of the State Prosecutor's Institution.

The Acting Chief State Prosecutor and the Ambassador of the United Kingdom appreciate the mutual cooperation

Prishtina, 12 November 2024 - The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, hosted in a meeting the Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Kosovo, Mr. Jonathan Hargreaves, accompanied by the Head of the Rule of Law Division, Ms. Margaret Belof, and Policy Enforcement Officer in the Rule of Law Sector at the British Embassy, Altina Besimi.



Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi and Ambassador Hargreaves had open and productive discussions on topics of common interest, including achievements, challenges and efforts to overcome them in the function of institutional consolidation, as well as the positive impact that international partners have, including the United Kingdom in the processes within the prosecutorial system.



Highly appreciating the role and support of Great Britain provided to the justice institutions, the Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, emphasized that the close and mutual cooperation with the British Embassy will continue in the future, in order to advance the work of the State Prosecutor's Institution in order to strengthen the rule of law in the Republic of Kosovo.

Acting Chief State Prosecutor received in a meeting the OSCE Regional Project Manager for the Monitoring of Judicial Processes, Mr. Kahramon Sanginov

Prishtina, 19 November 2024 – Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi received in a meeting the OSCE Regional Project Manager for the Monitoring of Judicial Processes, Mr. Kahramon Sanginov.



During this meeting, they discussed topics of interest to the prosecutorial system and citizens of the Republic of Kosovo, as well as the possibilities of organizing activities that affect the professional capacity building of prosecutors.

The Acting Chief State Prosecutor Mr. Besim Kelmendi praised the assistance and support that the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has given and continues to give to the State Prosecutor's Institution, expressing readiness for the cooperation to be deepened in the future.



Acting Chief State Prosecutor hosted students of law faculties in a meeting

Prishtina, 19 November 2024 – Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi hosted a group of students of law faculties, young lawyers of the Legal Clinic of the Kosovo Institute of Justice.

During this visit, the students were informed by the Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi on the role, responsibilities and duties of the State Prosecutor within the justice system.



Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi informed the participants about the manner of functioning, organizational structure and competencies of the State Prosecutor, in general and specifically about the competencies of the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor, about the challenges and achievements of this institution, as well as about all procedural actions that prosecutors undertake during the stages of the investigation, the filing of

the indictment until the sending and representation of accusatory acts in court.

They were also informed about the competencies of the special offices operating within the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor, such as: the Office for Advocacy and Assistance to Victims, the Interception Liaison Unit and the Office for the Restitution of Assets.



The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi also answered the questions of the students regarding the issues that they were interested in being informed, which related to the daily work of the State Prosecutor, where they exchanged joint professional conversations in the field of criminal justice.



In the end, Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi thanked the students for visiting the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor, wishing them success in their professional journey as young lawyers, whereby he encouraged them to contribute professionally to the justice institutions in the future.

Acting Chief State Prosecutor participated in the launch of the guide for measuring the sentence by the Supreme Court

Prishtina, 22 November 2024 – The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi attended the ceremony of launching the guide for sentencing by the Supreme Court.

During his speech at the ceremony, Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi emphasized that the adoption of the guide for sentencing is one of the most important steps that the justice system can take in harmonizing the practices in sentencing.



For this purpose, the Chief State Prosecutor has issued a mandatory instruction, which clarifies the role and contribution of the State Prosecutor in measuring the sentence.

Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi emphasized that such an obligation has already been formalized even more with the recent amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure, according to which the prosecutor is given the opportunity to propose the height of the sentence, therefore he announced that in any case when there are meetings with chief prosecutors and prosecutors, he called on them to consider this guide as a more valuable tool for their work.



Next, the Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi affirmed that this guide enables the implementation of the law in a fair and balanced way, because every action of the State Prosecutor should be in accordance with the principles of justice, the laws in force and the standards of this guide, adding that this is not a simple task, but it is a great responsibility that requires unconditional commitment for everyone.



At the end of his speech, Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi thanked the Supreme Court, the Department of Justice at the US Embassy - OPDAT and all those who helped finalize this major project.

The Acting Chief State Prosecutor discusses with the Chief Prosecutors the handling of cases of international legal cooperation

Prishtina, 26 August 2024 – The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi has held a regular collegium with all the chief prosecutors of the country's prosecution offices, representatives of the prosecution offices and prosecutors of the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor, which was also attended by representatives of the US Embassy in Kosovo.

In this meeting was discussed about criminal cases related to international legal cooperation, challenges for extradition and sending expertise abroad, where Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi has requested that these cases be treated with priority to raise the image of the State Prosecutor towards international institutions and partners.



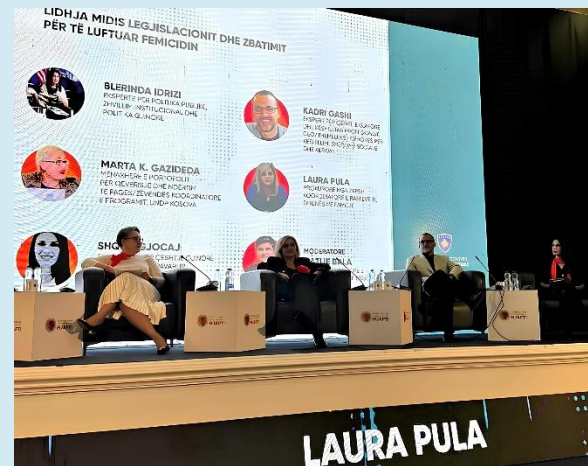
Another important issue that was discussed at this meeting was the raids on the investigative procedures. Also, during this meeting, it was discussed about the joint investigative teams, which are created by the chief prosecutors of the prosecution offices that include complex investigative issues and which require cooperation and relevant expertise from other law enforcement institutions.



Prosecutor Laura Pula, panelist at the Conference "United against violence – Enough!"

Prishtina, 26 November 2024 - In the framework of the marking of the global campaign "16 days of activism against gender-based violence", the prosecutor in the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor, Ms. Laura Pula was part of the panel of the conference "United against violence – Enough!", organized by the Ministry of Justice, which discussed gender violence and domestic violence.

In addressing the Prosecutor Pula in front of the audience, who is also the Coordinator against Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence in the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor, she underlined the great role of the State Prosecutor in dealing with reported violence, providing priority investigation and prosecution in cases of domestic violence and gender-based violence. "The Prosecutorial Council has given priority to these cases since 2018 when it appointed specialized prosecutors to handle cases of domestic violence, which deal only with cases of domestic violence", said Ms. Pula.



In this case, Ms. Pula put her emphasis on analyzing the treatment of cases of gender-based violence, saying that if we analyze cases of domestic murders, then we often find the recidivism factor and the murder of a woman or femicide occurs as the last act of violence experienced by a woman after a systematic violence exercised against her and it will require advocacy and active participation of the whole society to create long-term solutions and to combat these offenses.

Acting Chief State Prosecutor meets representatives of Global Program Combating Illicit Financial Flows (IFF)

Prishtina, November 27, 2024 – The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, hosted representatives of the Global Program Combatting Illicit Financial Flows (IFF), operating

under the German development agency GIZ, led by Ms. Marina Kovačić and Mr. Ilija Bundaleski.

During the meeting, IFF representatives outlined the key focus areas of the program, including addressing illicit financial flows, conducting financial investigations, asset recovery, policy coherence, and enhancing conditions for inter-sectorial, interstate, and interregional cooperation, with a particular emphasis on the Western Balkans.



In this context, Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi briefed attendees on the operationalization of the Asset Recovery Office, underscored the need for deepened collaboration, and emphasized facilitating contact with international partners. Particular focus was placed on areas such as asset recovery, anti-money laundering efforts, and combating the financing of terrorism.

Mr. Kelmendi expressed gratitude to the representatives of the Global Program Combatting Illicit Financial Flows (IFF) for their visit to the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor and reaffirmed his commitment to mutual cooperation in the future.

The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, in honor of the 112th anniversary of the Independence of Albania

Prishtina, 28 November 2024 -

Dear compatriots,

Today, on the occasion of marking the 112th Anniversary of the Independence of Albania, we remember the sacrifice of many generations and honor the ideal and work of all those who in different historical times and periods fought and worked for freedom, independence, identity and national dignity.

November 28 is a blessed day for all of us Albanians.

This day reminds us of our glorious history and the sacrifice of many generations to be together and free.

We also appreciate and rejoice in the achievements of the Albanian people wherever they live and work, especially in the progress achieved towards the Euro-Atlantic path, thus becoming a factor of peace and stability in the region.

God bless the Albanians.



Acting Chief State Prosecutor: Lack of budget for the prosecutorial system hinders the efficiency of the judicial system

Prishtina, 29 November 2024 – The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, participated in the Conference of the Kosovo Judicial Council "Judicial Days".



During his speech, Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi mentioned the challenges of the prosecutorial system, in particular those related to allocating the budget from the executive and legislative power to have a functional and efficient prosecutorial system, whereby he emphasized that as a result of not approving budget requests to increase the number of prosecutors and support staff, the impossibility of holding court hearings within the legal deadlines, due to the disproportionate number of prosecutors and judges, will come to an end.



Further, Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi underlined the positions regarding the advancement of the justice system through institutional cooperation, emphasizing the importance of coordination between the judicial system and the prosecutorial system, to guarantee an efficient and reliable justice in the Republic of Kosovo.

In the end, Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi thanked the judicial system and international partners for their support during the justice reform and maintaining the independence of the justice system.



The conference of the Kosovo Judicial Council "Judicial Days" was organized with the support of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Mission in Kosovo, where on the second day of this court were attended by judges of the criminal field of courts in the Republic of Kosovo.