

**26 May 2022**

### **Press Release**

The Public Commissioner was present today at the Appeal Chamber while continued the judicial review of the appeal filed against the Decision no. 241/2020, of the Independent Qualification Commission, for the assessee, Mrs. Irena Gjoka, judge, at the First Instance Court for Serious Crimes, at present the Special Court of First Instance for Corruption and Organized Crime.

After verifying the presence of the parties in the hearing, the presiding judge invited the Public Commissioner to present the appeal grounds.

The Public Commissioner sustained all the appeal grounds, while requested to be reviewed by the Appeal Chamber, and pursuant to Article 66, point 1, letter "b" of Law no. 84/2016, at the end of the review of the case in the public hearing, to decide the amendment of the decision no. 241/2020 of the Independent Qualification Commission, and the dismissal from office of the assessee, Mrs. Irena Gjoka.

The assessee and her legal representative, in her objections of the appeal grounds, deposited new evidence, wherefore sought to be administered in view of the request for the reopening of the judicial investigation.

The adjudication panel, after being consulted in the deliberation room, decided to administer in the quality of evidence the new acts filed by the assessee at the Chamber, which have not been previously administered from the Independent Qualification Commission.

Subsequently, after the Public Commissioner, at the request of the presiding judge, stated that her position regarding the probative value of the acts administered in the Chamber, would be expressed during the final conclusions, and after the parties affirmed that they had no other procedural requirements, the panel decided to close the judicial review and adjourned the hearing on May 31, 2022, at 14:00 p.m., thereby to present the final conclusions.

Pursuant to paragraph 1, of Article 16, of the regulation of the Institution of Public Commissioners, the appeal and the elements of the case are published on the official website of this institution: <http://ikp.al/ankime>

The Institution of Public Commissioners has been established and operates under Article 179/b and the Annex of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania and Law No. 84/2016, "On the Transitional Re-evaluation of Judges and Prosecutors in the Republic of Albania".

Public Commissioners represent the public interest during the transitional process of re-evaluation of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania.