

July 4, 2023

## **Press Release**

The Public Commissioner was present today at the Appeal Chamber initiating the judicial review of the appeal filed against Decision no. 621/2023, of the Independent Qualification Commission, for the assessee, Mr. Erarbër Madhi, judge at Administrative Court of First Instance, Tirana.

During the verification of the parties' presence in the hearing, the presiding judge informed that the Public Commissioner, Mrs. Irena Nino, the appellant, would be represented in the hearing by the Public Commissioner Mr. Florian Ballhysa, due to the lack of her attendance at today's hearing.

The hearing then continued with the submissions of the parties.

The Public Commissioner, Mr. Florian Ballhysa, stated that the Public Commissioner, Mrs. Irena Nino stands to the appeal grounds, which are mainly related to the asset assessment criterion, and therefore requested the adjudication panel to amend the decision no. 621/2023 of the Independent Qualification Commission and the dismissal from office of the assessee, Mr. Erarbër Madhi.

Through his legal representative, the assessee claimed the opposite of the appeal grounds, requesting the panel to administer new documents in the quality of evidence and to be provided time to make available a document that proves the income of the related person, enabled by the collaboration with NATO.

The assessee then answered the questions addressed by the international observer and by one of the adjudication panel's members.

After consulting in the consultation chamber, the adjudication panel decided to administer in the quality of evidence the acts filed by the assessee and to provide time for him to enable several documents, as requested by him, thus the panel decided to adjourn the following hearing on July 19, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Pursuant to point 1, Article 16 of the regulation of the Institution of Public Commissioners, the appeal is published on the official website of this institution: <u>http://ikp.al/ankime</u>

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".

The Public Commissioners represent the public interest during the transitional process of reevaluation of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania.