

**October 26, 2023**

### **Press Release**

The Public Commissioner was present today at the Appeal Chamber as continued the judicial review of the appeal filed against Decision no. 595/2022, issued by the Independent Qualification Commission, for the assessee, Mr. Arbër Çela, who holds the position of judge at Shkodër Judicial District Court.

Following the verification of the parties' presence in the hearing, the presiding judge requested the Public Commissioner's stance over the acts recently filed by the assessee to the Appeal Chamber, which were argued in the previous hearing due to the fact that were not filed in the proper legal form.

The adjudication panel after the approval stance of the Public Commissioner related to these acts, on a spot-consultation decided to administer them in the quality of evidence and invited the parties to present their final conclusions.

The Public Commissioner, adhering to the written submissions filed during the hearings held in the Appeal Chamber, also evaluating the documents and evidence provided by the assessee and after the reopening of the judicial investigation, concluded that there was no evidence to prove the opposite of the appeal grounds regarding the asset and proficiency assessment criterion. At the end of the final conclusions, the Public Commissioner requested the amendment of decision no. 595/2022, of the Independent Qualification Commission and the dismissal from office of the assessee, Mr. Arbër Çela.

The assessee, through the legal representative, objected to the conclusions of the Public Commissioner and requested the panel for his reconfirmation in office.

The adjudication panel, after becoming acquainted with the final conclusions of the parties, withdrew to the consultation chamber to take the final decision, which will be announced on November 3, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

In accordance with Article 16, Point 1 of the Institution of Public Commissioners' regulations, the appeal and elements of the case are published on the official website of the institution, which can be accessed at <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".

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