

**January 26, 2024**

### **Press Release**

The Public Commissioner was present today at the Appeal Chamber to continue the judicial review of the appeal filed against Decision no 671/2023, of the Independent Qualification Commission. This decision pertains to the assessee, Mr. Ylli Bashaj, who holds the position of prosecutor in the Prosecution Office of the First Instance Court of Tirana General Jurisdiction.

Following the verification of the parties' attendance at the hearing, the presiding judge requested to the litigants to present the final conclusions.

The Public Commissioner, adhering to all the appeal grounds, submissions and positions on the *Findings and Opinions* of the international observers, concluded that the assessee does not achieve a trustable level in the asset assessment criterion, due to inaccurate and insufficient declaration which lacks the legal financial resources. Therefore, at the end of the final conclusions, the Public Commissioner requested the amendment of decision no. 671/2023, of the Independent Qualification Commission, and the dismissal from office of the assessee, Mr. Ylli Bashaj.

The assessee, during the presentation of the final conclusions, claimed the opposite of the Public Commissioner's conclusions, and requested the adjudication panel to uphold the decision of the Independent Qualification Commission, seeking his confirmation in office.

Upon hearing the final conclusions, the adjudication panel deliberated to the consultation chamber, and will reach the final decision which is scheduled to be announced on February 2, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

Based on point 1 of Article 16 of the Institution of Public Commissioners' regulations, the appeal and the elements of the case have been 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.