## February 16, 2024



## **Press Release**

The Public Commissioner was present today at the Appeal Chamber to continue the judicial review of the appeal filed against the Decision no. 651/2023, of the Independent Qualification Commission, pertaining to the assessee, Mr. Urim Buci, acting prosecutor at Dibër District Prosecution Office.

Upon confirming the attendance of the involved parties in the hearing, the presiding judge announced the filing of a public denunciation to the Appeal Chamber and forwarded it to the parties to become acquainted with the content.

The Public Commissioner at the request of the presiding judge, provided her opinion related to the above-mentioned denunciation, evaluating that the appeal grounds are sufficient to investigate the appeal.

The assessee stated that it was not necessary to open an investigation concerning this denunciation, referring to and subsequently submitting the practice of the alleged case in the complaint.

The adjudication panel, after withdrawing to the deliberation chamber, decided not to investigate the denunciation newly filed to the Appeal Chamber.

The hearing then proceeded with the presentation of the final conclusions.

The Public Commissioner, adhering to the appeal grounds and the submissions presented in the hearing of February 8, 2024, based also on the recommendation of the international observers, determined that even after examining the case in the Appeal Chamber, the assessee failed to prove the opposite of the appeal grounds. At the end of the conclusions, the Public Commissioner requested to the panel the amendment of decision no. 651/2023, of the Independent Qualification Commission, and the dismissal from office of the assessee, Mr. Urim Buci.

During his objections, the assessee stated that the Public Commissioner's final conclusions lacked a solid foundation and requested the reconfirmation in office from the panel.

The adjudication panel, after becoming acquainted with the final conclusions of the parties, closed the judicial review and withdrew to the deliberation chamber for the announcement of the final decision scheduled on February 26, 2024, at 15:00.

Pursuant to point 1, 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: <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.