## **Press Release**

The Head of the Special Prosecution Office against Corruption and Organized Crime (SPAK), Mr. Altin Dumani, in exercising the powers of the Public Commissioner, authorized Mr. Klodjan Braho, serving as Prosecutor at the Special Prosecution Office against Corruption and Organized Crime (also Chair of the Anti-Corruption Section), to represent him before the Appeal Chamber during the judicial review of the appeal against Decision No. 539/2022, of the Independent Qualification Commission, concerning the assessee Mr. Hysni Mulaj, serving as a prosecutor at the Prosecution Office at the First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction of Tirana.

During the attendance verification, the presiding judge informed that the parties had been notified of the submissions to be presented during the hearing, as well as the stance taken by the assessee in relation to a public denunciation.

Mr. Klodjan Braho, Chair of the Anti-Corruption Section at the Special Prosecution Office, adhering to the appeal grounds, deemed that the assessee fails to achieve a trustable level in the asset assessment and, consequently, does not fulfill the standard of credibility necessary for the confirmation in office, pursuant to Article 59/1 of Law no. 84/2016. Concluding his submissions, Mr. Braho requested the adjudicating panel to amend Decision no. 539/ 2022, of the Independent Qualification Commission and to dismiss from office the assessee, Mr. Hysni Mulaj.

The assessee, through his legal representative, opposed the appeal grounds and, in support of the rebuttals, requested the reopening of the investigation and the admission of new evidence. The assessee also responded to several questions posed by the case rapporteur and the international observer.

Subsequently, the parties presented their positions regarding the public denunciation. The Chair of the Anti-Corruption Section at the Special Prosecution Office assessed that the complaint did not present relevant circumstances for this stage of the proceedings. The assessee confirmed his previously submitted written explanation to the Chamber.

Following deliberation in the consultation chamber, the adjudicating panel decided to open the judicial investigation and admit the documents submitted by the assessee as evidence. The parties were invited to prepare for the presentation of their final arguments at the hearing scheduled for April 7, 2025, at 14:00.

The appeal and element of the case are published on the official SPAK website, in the "Reevaluation Process" section: https://spak.gov.al/

The Head of the Special Prosecution against Corruption and Organized Crime, in accordance with Article 179/b, paragraph 8 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania, has been exercising the powers of the Public Commissioners as of 1 January 2025.