



# **BULLETIN OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF STATE PROSECUTOR**

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**In the edition of this Bulletin, the activities of the  
OCSP for AUGUST 2024 are reflected**

## **Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi and Ambassador De Riu discuss the advancement of cooperation in the field of the rule of law**

*Prishtina, July 3, 2024 –*

The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi received in a meeting the Ambassador of the Republic of Italy to Kosovo, His Excellency Antonello De Riu.



Promoting bilateral cooperation between the Italian and Kosovar justice institutions in the exchange of mutual practices in combating all forms of crime, consolidating the independence of the prosecutorial system, finding modalities of interaction in building the professional capacities of the State Prosecutor through various programs and projects in the field of criminal justice by the Italian state, as well as the challenges of implementing the justice reform process covers some of the core issues that were discussed at the joint meeting between the Acting Chief State Prosecutor and the Italian Ambassador.



In this context, the parties agreed to advance mutual cooperation aimed at strengthening the

rule of law and combating crime as effectively as possible.

In the end, Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, thanked the Ambassador of the Republic of Italy in Kosovo, his Excellency, Antonello De Riu, for the interest and support that the Italian state has given and continues to give in different forms and ways to the institution of the State Prosecutor.

**The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, addressed to the Ambassador of the United States of America, His Excellency Mr. Jeffrey M. Hovenier**

**July 2024**

Your Excellency, Ambassador Hovenier,

Allow me, on behalf of the State Prosecutor's Institution, to extend my warmest congratulations to you, the staff of the US Embassy in Kosovo and all the American people on Independence Day.

As you mark the 248th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, we in Kosovo celebrate and value our enduring and lifelong friendship and partnership with the United States of America (USA).

Together with you, today we celebrate all the nations and individuals who believe in the fundamental values of democracy that have defined America.

The Republic of Kosovo and its institutions, especially those of justice, highly appreciate the continuous support and assistance that the state and the American people have provided and continue to provide for the strengthening of strong and stable institutions that contribute to strengthening the rule of law and moving our state forward towards Western integration.

We are proud of the strong ties between our peoples and institutions and look forward to our partnership and cooperation being permanent.

**Sincerely,**

**Basim Kelmendi**

**Acting Chief State Prosecutor**



**Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi praised the engagement of the Resident Legal Counsel at the US Embassy, John C. Hanley, on the empowerment of justice and rule of law institutions in the Republic of Kosovo**

**Prishtina, July 10, 2024 –**

The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, received in a farewell meeting the Resident Legal Counsel at the American Embassy in Kosovo, Mr. John Hanley, who in this meeting was accompanied by Resident Legal Counsel, Mr. Erin Cox and Senior Legal Counsel at OPDAT, Mr. Etrur Maloku.



On this occasion, Acting Chief State Prosecutor Kelmendi highly appreciated the commitment and professional contribution of Mr. Hanley who has given in various forms to justice institutions, especially to the State Prosecutor in building professional capacities, helping to strengthen

institutional integrity and strengthening the rule of law in the Republic of Kosovo.



At the end of the meeting, Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, as a sign of respect and gratitude, has given to the Resident Legal Advisor at the US Embassy in Kosovo, Mr. Besim Kelmendi. John Hanley, the coat of arms of the State Prosecutor, wished him success in his new professional engagements.

**The Head of the Office for Asset Restitution held a working meeting with the officials delegated by the law enforcement institutions in this office**

**Prishtina, July 12, 2024 –**

Head of the Office for the Recovery of Assets - Prosecutor of the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor Mr. Bahri Hyseni, together with the officials delegated by the law enforcement institutions in this office, held a working meeting. The meeting was also attended by international partners who support the work of this office.

During this meeting, it was discussed about the finalization of the Standard Action Procedures for the Office for the Restoration of Assets, specifically the descriptions and responsibilities that emerge from the Regulation on the Establishment of the Office for the Restoration of Assets and the signing of a memorandum for the functionalization of this Office have been finalized for each institution.



These standard operating procedures, which have been drafted in accordance with EU asset recovery documents and standards, will be of assistance to all prosecutors in need of the assistance of the Office for Recovery Assets.

**Acting Chief State Prosecutor Kelmendi together with Chairman Hajdaraj hosted in a meeting the Director of the Academy of European Law (ERA), Mr. Jean-Philippe**

**Prishtina, July 15, 2024 –**

Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, together with the Chairman of the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council (KPC), Mr. Ardian Hajdaraj and with the Director of the Kosovo Academy of Justice, Mr. Enver Fejzullahu, received in a meeting the Director of the European Law Academy (ERA), Mr. Jean-Philippe, with collaborators.



The purpose of today's meeting was to discuss the implementation of joint projects and the intensification of the activities of the European Law Academy, in order to increase the capacities of

the prosecutorial system for the implementation of EU law.

Initially, Chairman Hajdaraj informed Mr. Jean-Philippe about the needs of the prosecutorial system in the field of professional capacity building, emphasizing that the prosecutorial system consists of new prosecutors and that specific trainings are welcome, especially those related to the topics of efficient fight against corruption, money laundering, cybercrimes and organized crime.



During the discussions, it was requested that the online trainings organized by the ERA be attended by prosecutors and, at the same time, to use the training materials published on the website of this European Academy.

The European Law Academy (ERA) programs assist the Western Balkan countries with capacity building training, training and training regional prosecutors and judges in the implementation of EU law.

**Acting Chief State Prosecutor Kelmendi visited the warehouse of the Agency for the Administration of Seized or Confiscated Assets**

***Prishtina, July 17, 2024 –***

At the invitation of the National Coordinator for Combating Economic Crime, Mr. Shqipdon Fazliu, Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi, together with members of the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council (KPC), prosecutors of the SP, members of the Kosovo Judicial Council (KJC) and representatives of other law enforcement

institutions as well as the Resident Legal Advisor at the US Embassy in Kosovo, Erin Cox, during today's visit to the warehouse of the Agency for the Administration of Seized or Confiscated Assets (AMSCA).



The purpose of this visit was to look closely at the work and functioning of this agency in the administration of seized and confiscated property which have been used for the commission of various criminal offenses or have benefited from criminal offenses.

On this occasion, representatives of the respective institutions held joint discussions on the findings in the field (warehouse) and the next steps to be taken regarding the seized and confiscated assets found under the administration of AMSCA.

**Message from the Acting Chief State Prosecutor Kelmendi Mr. Besim Kelmendi, on the occasion of the International Day of Criminal Justice**

***Prishtina, July 17, 2024 –***

Dear Citizens,

Dear representatives of local and international institutions,

Dear representatives of the media and civil society organizations,

On the occasion of marking the International Day of Criminal Justice, I would like to confirm the institutional commitment of the State Prosecutor in effectively combating all forms of crime and

strengthening the rule of law in the Republic of Kosovo.

During our daily work in investigating, prosecuting and bringing to justice persons who have committed criminal offenses, the State Prosecutor ensures equal and objective treatment for all persons without discrimination on national, religious, gender, racial, political beliefs or social position.

The State Prosecutor is independent and impartial in the exercise of his function, respecting the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, local laws, international conventions and the highest standards of positive law.



Responsibility and accountability of all persons who have committed criminal offenses, protection of victims of crime, strengthening of international legal cooperation in the criminal field, advancing the principle of accountability and increasing public trust through increasing institutional transparency are the main objectives of the work and engagement of the State Prosecutor during the realization of the constitutional and legal mandate.

In this virtue, the State Prosecutor remains committed to cooperation with all international partners in preventing and combating crime and protecting human rights and freedoms.

**Basim Kelmendi**

**Acting Chief State Prosecutor**

**Standard Procedures for the Operation of the Office for the Recovery of Assets are signed**

**Pristina, July 24, 2024 –**

The Acting Chief State Prosecutor Mr. Besim Kelmendi in the presence of the Head of the Office for Recovery of Assets, State Prosecutor Mr. Bahri Hyseni and representatives of law enforcement institutions that are part of this office such as the Kosovo Police, Financial Intelligence Unit, Agency for Management of Confiscated and Seized Assets, Tax Administration of Kosovo and Kosovo Customs have signed today the Standard Action Procedures for the Office for Asset Restitution, which functions within the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor.



In this case, the Acting Chief State Prosecutor Kelmendi emphasized that with the signing of these procedures, the legal infrastructure for the full functioning of the Office for the Recovery of Assets is being completed, procedures that will serve all prosecutors in cases where there is room for the recovery of assets.



The Standard Operating Procedures describe the methods and procedures to be followed for the most efficient functioning of the Office of Asset Restoration, in order to provide assistance and advice to state prosecutors as well as international

partners in cases of asset restitution and local and international cooperation.

The signing ceremony was also attended by international partners from the US Embassy, the UK Embassy, the EU Office and the UNDP Office in Kosovo.

### **Acting Chief State Prosecutor Kelmendi requests from the chief prosecutors the highest efficiency in dealing with cases of seized and confiscated assets**

**Prishtina, August 23, 2024** – The Acting Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Besim Kelmendi has held a regular collegium with all the chief prosecutors of the country's prosecution offices, representatives of the prosecution offices and prosecutors of the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor, which was also attended by representatives of the US Embassy in Kosovo.

Acting Chief Prosecutor Kelmendi has discussed the reports of the country's prosecution offices regarding the results of prosecutors on cases related to seized and confiscated assets which have been used to commit various criminal offenses or have been profited from criminal offenses, which are located in the repository of the Agency for the Administration of Seized or Confiscated Assets (AMSCA).



In this regard, the Acting Chief State Prosecutor has requested from the Chief Prosecutors of the Prosecution Offices the highest efficiency in dealing with these cases in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and

other laws in force, where, among other things, the possibility of selling seized and confiscated vehicles or their use in accordance with the legislation in force is foreseen, all this in order to prevent the consequences that can be made to the state budget due to the inadequate action of the prosecutors.



Also discussed at the meeting was the possibility of participation of state prosecutors in the trainings of the European Law Academy (ERA), as well as other professional issues.

### **Cooperation between the Office of Asset Recovery and Eulex is discussed**

**Prishtina, 30 July 2024** – The Head of the Office for Recovery of Asset (ORA), the Prosecutor of the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor, Mr. Bahri Hyseni, hosted in a meeting the EULEX Thematic Monitor on Criminal Offenses of Corruption, Mr. Albert Effendi van Nunen Karioen.

The main topic of this meeting between the ORA Head and the EULEX Monitor was the discussion and information on the tasks and responsibilities of the Office for Recovery of Asset as well as the coordination of work with law enforcement actors and international partners.

On the other side, Mr. Karionen pledged that he is ready to help and give his contribution in providing advice and finding best practices for the most efficient functioning of the Office for Recovery of Assets which functions within the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor.

