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Date: 18/03/2026

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Meeting: 1563rd meeting (June 2026) (DH)

Item reference: Addendum to an Action Plan (13/03/2026)

Communication from Albania concerning the case of LULI AND OTHERS v. Albania (Application No. 64480/09)

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Les documents distribués à la demande d'un/e Représentant/e le sont sous la seule responsabilité dudit/de ladite Représentant/e, sans préjuger de la position juridique ou politique du Comité des Ministres.

Réunion : 1563^e réunion (juin 2026) (DH)

Référence du point : Addendum au plan d'action (13/03/2026)

Communication de l'Albanie concernant l'affaire LULI ET AUTRES c. Albanie (requête n° 64480/09) (**anglais uniquement**)



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË
STATE ADVOCATE
OFFICE OF GENERAL STATE ADVOCATE

No 2266/1 Prot.

Tirana, on 13.3.2026

To: **Ms. Dimitrina Lilovska – Head of Division**
Department for the Execution of Judgments of the ECHR
DGI - Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law

Council of Europe
67075 Cedex
Strasbourg
France

Ref: On the Execution of ECtHR judgment on “Luli and others group v. Albania”
(Application
No. 64480/09)

Dear Madam,

In the framework of the cooperation between the Government of Albania and the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, the Government hereby submits updated information concerning the execution of individual measures in the group of cases Luli and Others v. Albania (Application No. 64480/09).

In particular, the Government provides updated information regarding the status of the domestic proceedings in the case of Kola v. Albania (Application No. 17766/19), submitted in the context of the execution of the aforementioned group of cases.

Furthermore, the Government provides updated information on the progress achieved in the ongoing judicial re-evaluation (vetting) process.

The Government will submit further updates concerning the other issues raised by the Committee of Ministers as soon as the domestic courts finalize the statistical data for the year 2025.

The Government of Albania remains committed to continuing its close cooperation with the Committee of Ministers and the Department for the Execution of Judgments with a view to ensuring the full and effective execution of the Court’s judgments.

Expressing my highest consideration,

ODISE MOOKA
GENERAL STATE ADVOCATE



DGI

13 MARS 2026

SERVICE DE L'EXECUTION
DES ARRETS DE LA CEDH

A. INFORMATION RELATED TO INDIVIDUAL MEASURES

Application no. 17766/19: **Kola v. Albania**

Following the Supreme Court's decision of 14 January 2022 to quash the judgment of the Shkodra Court of Appeal and remit the case for re-examination due to insufficient reasoning concerning the applicant's life imprisonment sentence, the Shkodra Court of Appeal re-examined the case and delivered a new judgment on 25 November 2022.

In its new judgment, the Court of Appeal upheld the applicant's conviction but amended the first-instance decision as regards the sentence. The court carried out a renewed assessment of the individualisation of the sentence, taking into account the principles governing the determination of criminal liability and sentencing under the Criminal Code, including the requirement of proportionality. In particular, the Court examined the aggravating and mitigating circumstances of the case and assessed the gravity of the offence and the degree of the applicant's criminal responsibility.

On the basis of this analysis, the Court concluded to replace the life imprisonment sentence imposed by the first-instance court with a sentence of 25 years' imprisonment, to be served in an ordinary security prison.

The Court of Appeal also discontinued the criminal proceedings in respect of the charge of unlawful production and possession of hunting and sporting weapons under Article 280 of the Criminal Code, considering that the offence had been amnestied.

Both the applicant and the prosecution subsequently lodged cassation appeals before the Supreme Court. By decision of 19 November 2024, the Criminal College of the Supreme Court dismissed the cassation appeals and upheld the judgment of the Shkodra Court of Appeal. The Supreme Court considered, *inter alia*, that the Court of Appeal had complied with the instructions given in the Supreme Court's previous judgment and had duly reasoned the individualisation of the sentence, while the grounds raised in cassation did not disclose any breach of substantive or procedural criminal law warranting intervention by the Supreme Court.

Accordingly, the domestic proceedings have been concluded.

In light of the above, the Government considers that no further individual measures are required concerning the Kola application from the Bara and Kola case. The general measures addressing the shortcomings identified by the Court in the Luli and Others v. Albania group continue to be examined by the Committee of Ministers within the framework of the ongoing supervision of those cases. The Government therefore respectfully invites the Committee of Ministers to close the examination of the Bara and Kola case.

B. INFORMATION RELATED TO GENERAL MEASURES

C.1 Excessive length of proceedings

- Information on the ongoing judicial re-evaluation (vetting) process.

The vetting process for all judges and prosecutors was finalised in first instance, further strengthening judicial independence and accountability. Due to the Special Appeal Chamber's

full commitment to accelerating the pace of trials, and through the implementation of all necessary organizational, structural, and procedural measures, as well as productive cooperation with the International Monitoring Operation, the Chamber is on track to conclude the consideration of all Re-evaluation Jurisdiction cases before the end of its constitutional mandate in June 2026. This will be achieved while maintaining the standards and quality of proceedings, fully in line with the Chamber's consolidated jurisprudence.

As of 19 January 2026, the Special Appeal Chamber has issued 397 decisions in Re-evaluation Jurisdiction cases. In 2025, the Chamber reviewed and concluded a record number of cases: 97 decisions, compared to 66 decisions announced in 2024.

Currently, 21 cases remain pending and are expected to be decided by June 2026. All of these cases are under trial, with 12 scheduled for public hearings and 9 conducted in camera.

Overview of the activity of vetting bodies until 18 December 2025

Decisions of the Independent Qualification Commission (IQC): 805 in total, out of which:

- 268 dismissals from office; Following decisions of the Special Appeal Chamber (SAC), 26 dismissal decisions of the IQC were modified into confirmations, 1 dismissal decision was modified into suspension from office and further, upon completion of the School of Magistrates (SoM) training program, into confirmation into duty, 2 dismissal decisions were reversed into terminations and 7 such decisions were modified into terminations of the process.
- 367 confirmations in duty; Following decisions of the SAC, 50 of such confirmation decisions of the IQC were modified into dismissals from office, 3 confirmation decisions were modified into suspensions from office out of which 2 were further confirmed in duty after completion of the SoM training program, and 1 confirmation decision was overruled into termination due to resignation. Due to withdrawal of appeal, the SAC dismissed the consideration of the 7 confirmation decisions previously appealed by the Public Commissioners.
- 162 decisions on termination of the vetting proceeding, out of which 113 due to resignation and 49 due to other reasons. Following SAC decisions, 1 termination due to resignation decision was reversed into termination of the process and 3 such decisions were modified to terminations due to appeal withdrawals. 3 termination decisions were modified to the prohibition of appointment of the assessee as a judge or prosecutor of any level, a member of the High Judicial Council or High Prosecutorial Council, High Inspector of Justice or General Prosecutor, for a period of 15 years.
- 8 decisions of suspension from office out of which 6 were afterwards confirmed upon completion of the SoM training program. Following SAC decisions, 1 suspension decision was modified into confirmation and 2 such confirmation decisions were modified into dismissals from office.

Appeals filed by the assesseees and the Public Commissioners (PCs): 412 in total, out of which:

- 295 filed by assesseees;
- 121 filed by the PCs (out which 4 were also filed by the assesseees);
- 25 of the above appeals are still pending.

Decisions of the Special Appeal Chamber (SAC): 387, out of which:

- 282 upholding IQC decisions, including the decision after being reopened in the merits pursuant to Article 494 Civil Procedure Code and resulted in a different vetting outcome, as well as the decisions which became final by IQC ruling due to appeal withdrawals.
- 105 deciding total or partial modification/overruling/termination of IQC decisions, among which in particular:

on 52 occasions the SAC modified confirmation decisions of the IQC including the 2 confirmation decisions after suspension and dismissed the assesseees from office;

on 28 occasions the SAC modified 27 dismissal decisions and 1 suspension decision of the IQC and confirmed the assesseees in duty (including the 1 IQC dismissal decision the SAC confirmed after suspension from office as below);

- on 4 occasions the SAC modified 1 dismissal decision and 3 confirmation decisions of the IQC and suspended the assesseees from office for a one-year period with the obligation to attend the SoM training program. Upon completion of this program, 3 of such decisions were further confirmed in duty.

Final decisions (following exhaustion of national judicial remedies): 778, out of which:

- 334 confirmations in duty;
- 272 dismissals from office;
- 172 terminations of the re-evaluation process (out of which 114 due to resignations).