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European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice

Commission européenne pour l'efficacité de la justice

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Part 2

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE (CEPEJ)

Horizontal Facility III: Towards a better evaluation of the results of judicial reform efforts in the Western Balkans

"Dashboard Western Balkans"

Data collection: 2025

Report prepared by the CEPEJ for the attention of the European Commission

Part 2 - Beneficiary profile - Albania

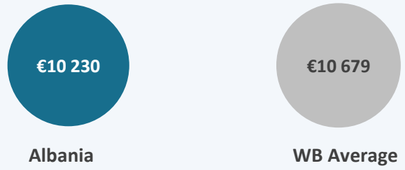
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Executive Summary - Albania in 2025

Population in 2025



GDP per capita in 2025



Average annual salary in 2025

€10 787

WB Average: €13 849

Judicial organisation

In Albania, the reform on the reorganisation of the country's courts (New Judicial Map) has now been fully implemented. In 2025, the judicial system comprised 20 courts organised across three levels: 13 courts of first instance of general jurisdiction, one Court of Appeal of General Jurisdiction, the Supreme Court, and five specialised courts dealing with administrative matters and corruption and organised crime. In addition, specialised chambers or judges exist within courts of general jurisdiction for areas such as commercial and insolvency matters, family and juvenile cases, and domestic violence.

Budget

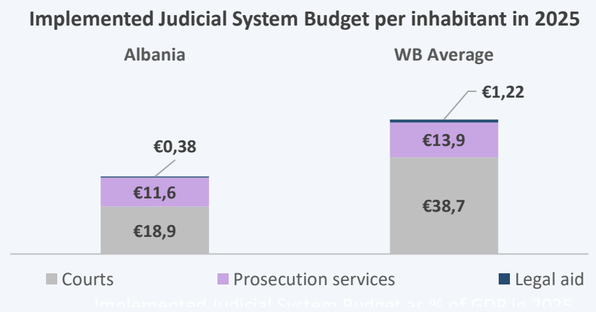
In 2025, Albania spent €73 113 960 on the implemented judicial system budget, corresponding to €30,9 per inhabitant. Although this remains substantially below the WB Average (€53,8), Albania has significantly increased its investment in the judiciary over recent years. Of the total budget, 61,2% was allocated to courts, 37,5% to prosecution services and 1,2% to legal aid. Court expenditure per inhabitant increased from €7,5 in 2019 to €18,9 in 2025 (+152,7%). The legal aid budget also grew substantially following the legal aid reform introduced in 2018, reaching €0,38 per inhabitant in 2025. Nevertheless, Albania continues to record one of the lowest levels of judicial expenditure in the region, both per inhabitant and as a share of GDP (0,30%).

Legal aid

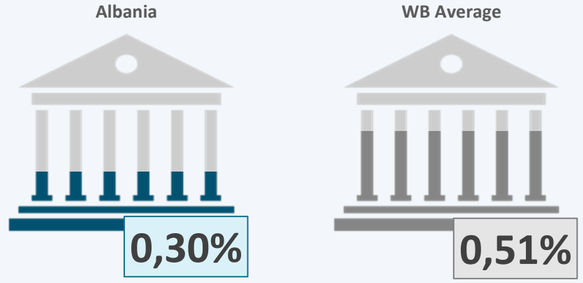
Following the entry into force of Law No. 111/2017 on State Guaranteed Legal Aid, Albania has progressively developed a comprehensive legal aid system covering primary legal aid, secondary legal aid and exemption from court fees and certain enforcement costs. In 2025, legal aid was granted in 6 724 cases, corresponding to 0,28 cases per 100 inhabitants, in line with the WB median. The legal aid budget increased by more than twelve times between 2019 and 2025, reflecting the gradual expansion of the system and sustained public investment in access to justice. Comparisons with the WB Average should, however, be interpreted with caution, as the Albanian legal aid budget does not include the costs of mandatory legal representation before courts.

Budget of the Judicial System

Implemented Judicial System Budget per inhabitant in 2025

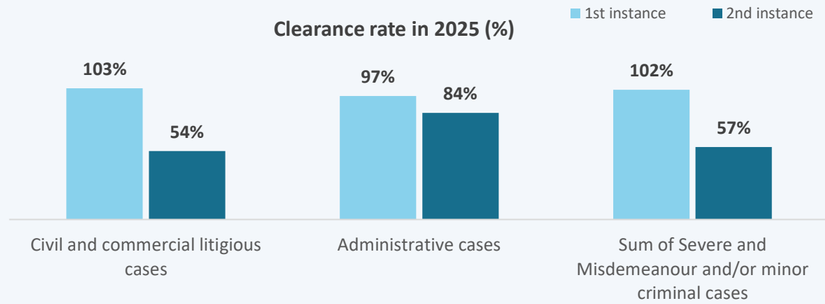


Implemented Judicial System Budget as % of GDP in 2025

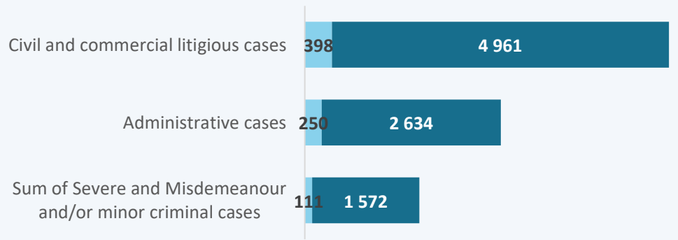


Efficiency

Clearance rate in 2025 (%)



Disposition time in 2025 (days)



Efficiency**

The vetting process has significantly affected the Albanian judicial system over the past years by reducing the number of judges and prosecutors and, consequently, the adjudicatory capacity of courts. However, the gradual appointment of new professionals is beginning to produce positive effects and the 2025 data suggest a slow recovery in court performance. In first instance, criminal cases remain the most efficient category, with a Clearance Rate (CR) of 102% and a Disposition Time (DT) of 111 days, well below the WB Average (213 days). Civil and commercial litigious cases recorded a CR of 103% and a DT of 398 days, while administrative cases showed a CR of 97% and a DT of 250 days. In second instance, administrative cases continued to improve, with the DT decreasing from 8 680 days in 2022 to 2 634 days in 2025 and the CR reaching 84%. However, important challenges remain for civil and commercial litigious cases (CR 54%, DT 4 961 days) and criminal cases (CR 57%, DT 1 572 days). According to the authorities, the improvement in administrative matters is linked to backlog reduction measures and the increase in the number of judges assigned to these courts.

Public prosecution

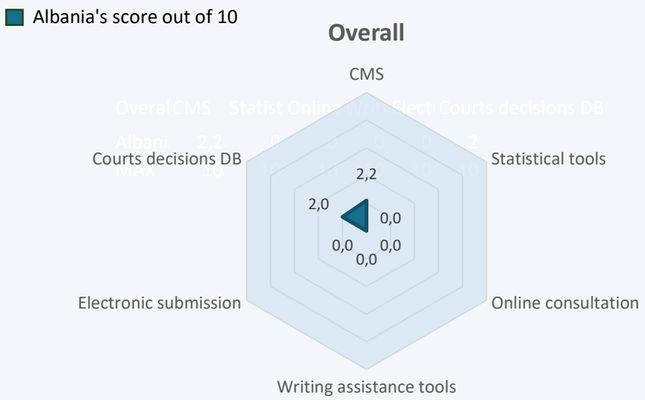
In Albania, the public prosecution service is part of the judicial power but enjoys functional independence guaranteed by the Constitution and by the High Prosecutorial Council. In 2025, prosecution offices received 27 048 incoming criminal cases (1,14 per 100 inhabitants) and processed 20 352 cases (0,86 per 100 inhabitants), while 22 825 cases remained pending at the end of the year. Of all processed cases, 51% were brought before courts, 48% were discontinued and 1% were concluded through a penalty or a negotiated measure. The prosecutor plays a central role throughout criminal proceedings, directing investigations, supervising the judicial police, deciding on the initiation or dismissal of proceedings and representing the accusation before courts.

**The CEPEJ has developed two indicators to measure court's performance: clearance rate and disposition time.

Clearance Rate (CR) is the ratio obtained by dividing the number of resolved cases by the number of incoming cases in a given period, expressed as a percentage. It demonstrates how the court or the judicial system is coping with the in-flow of cases and allows comparison between systems regardless of their differences and individual characteristics. Its key value is 100%. A value below 100% means that the courts were not able to solve all the cases they received and, as a consequence, the number of pending cases increases. A CR above 100% means that the courts have resolved more cases than they received (they have resolved all the incoming cases and part of the pending cases) and, as a consequence, the number of pending cases decreases.

Disposition Time (DT) is the indicator that calculates time necessary for a pending case to be resolved and estimates the lengths of proceedings in days. It is a ratio between the pending cases at the end of the period and the resolved cases within the same period, multiplied by 365 days. More pending than resolved cases will lead to a DT higher than

ICT Deployment indices (scale 0-10)



The six ICT deployment indices (CMS, Courts decisions DB, Statistical tools, Writing assistance tools, electronic submission and online consultation) range from 0 to 10 points. Their calculation is based on the features and on deployment rates reported. The methodology for calculation provides points for each feature in each case matter. They are summarised and multiplied by the deployment rate as a weight. In this way, if the system is not fully deployed, the value is decreased even if all features are existing.

ICT tools

The Albanian judiciary operates within a common ICT strategic framework coordinated by the Justice Technology Centre and the High Judicial Council. Courts currently rely on three case-related IT systems: the Integrated Case Management Information System (ICMIS), used by 18 of the 20 courts, the ArkIT system, used by two courts, and the FTR/RDA system for the digital recording of hearings. The coexistence of these systems has resulted in fragmented workflows, limited interoperability and a relatively low level of digitalisation. In 2025, Albania achieved its highest ICT score in the area of court decisions databases, while no statistical tools, online consultation services, electronic submission systems or writing assistance tools were reported. To address these limitations, the High Judicial Council has launched the implementation of a new unified Case Management System, JURONIX, which will progressively replace the existing systems and enable fully digital case files and greater interoperability.

Training

In 2025, Albania spent a total of 4 988 657 € on the training of judges and prosecutors, corresponding to 2,11 € per inhabitant, considerably above the Western Balkans average of 0,88 € and the highest value recorded in the region. Since 2019, the budget has increased by 315,9%, reflecting the importance attached to strengthening judicial capacities in the context of the ongoing justice reform. The School of Magistrates is responsible for the initial and continuous training of judges, prosecutors and other justice professionals. Judges and prosecutors are required to attend at least five training days per year and failure to comply may lead to disciplinary consequences. In 2025, judges attended on average 4 training activities and prosecutors 4,9, both above the regional average.

ADR

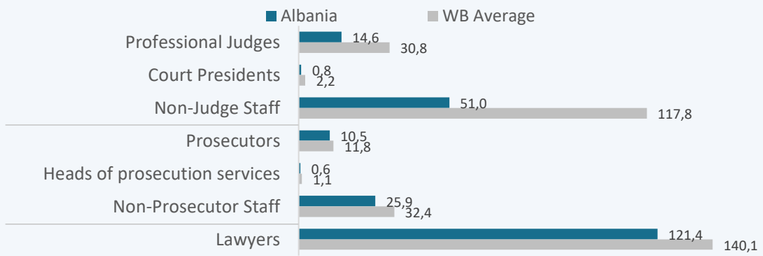
In Albania, mediation is voluntary and is regulated by the Law on Mediation adopted in 2011. It may be used at any stage of proceedings if the parties freely agree to it and is available for civil, commercial, labour, family, consumer, intellectual property and certain criminal disputes. Although mediation is not mandatory, courts and other competent authorities are required to inform and guide parties on the possibility of resolving disputes through mediation. In 2025, Albania had 141 accredited mediators, corresponding to 6 mediators per 100 000 inhabitants, equal to the WB median. Court-related mediation services are provided exclusively by private mediators, and legal aid may also be granted for mediation procedures.

ECHR

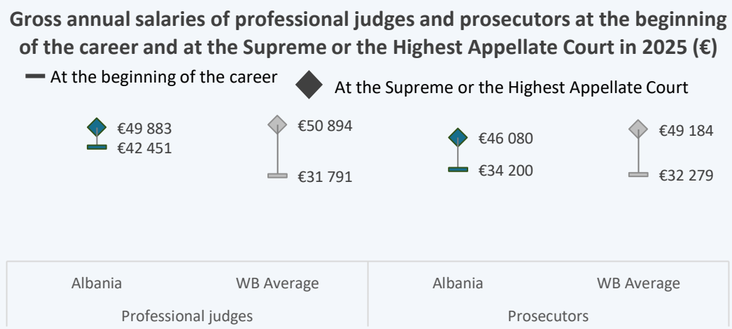
In 2025, 169 applications concerning Albania were allocated to a judicial formation of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), compared to 156 in 2024. In the same year, the Court delivered 12 judgments finding at least one violation, down from 18 in 2024. Ten of these judgments concerned Article 6 of the Convention, including two related to the length of proceedings. Albania promotes awareness of ECHR case law through judicial training, annual reports to Parliament and the publication of ECHR jurisprudence on official judicial websites.

Professionals of Justice

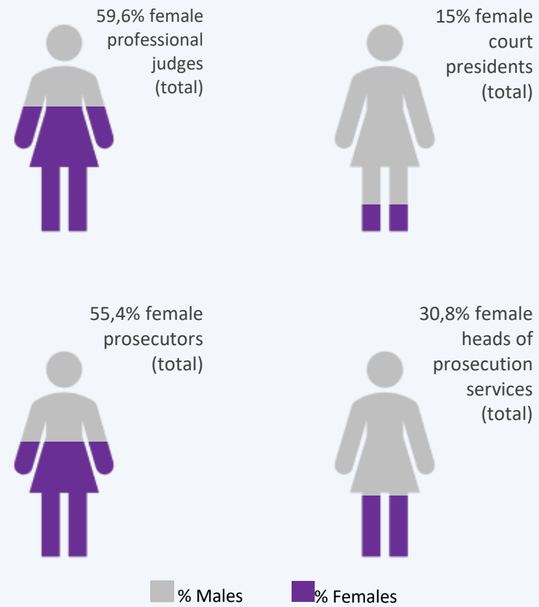
Total number of professionals per 100 000 inhabitants in 2025



Gross annual salaries of professional judges and prosecutors at the beginning of the career and at the Supreme or the Highest Appellate Court in 2025 (€)



Gender Balance



Professionals and gender balance

In 2025, Albania had 14,6 professional judges and 10,5 prosecutors per 100 000 inhabitants, both figures remaining below the Western Balkans averages of 30,8 and 11,8 respectively. This is largely linked to the long-term effects of the vetting process, which has significantly reshaped the judiciary since 2016. Nevertheless, the number of judges increased by 25,9% compared to 2019, while the number of prosecutors remained broadly stable (+0,3%). Albania also had 1 205 non-judge staff (51,0 per 100 000 inhabitants) and 613 non-prosecutor staff (25,9 per 100 000 inhabitants), both below the regional averages. Women represented 59,6% of professional judges and 55,4% of prosecutors, but remained underrepresented in leadership positions, accounting for only 15,0% of court presidents and 30,8% of heads of prosecution services.

Reforms

Albania continues to consolidate the justice reform launched in 2016, with the institutions created by the reform now fully operational and progressively strengthening their practices and institutional capacities. A major ongoing reform concerns the digitalisation of the judiciary: the High Judicial Council has launched the development of JURONIX, a new unified Case Management System that will gradually replace the existing platforms and improve interoperability, standardisation and end-to-end digital case management. In parallel, the Special Parliamentary Committee for Deepening Reforms for Good Governance, Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption for Albania 2030 in the European Union continues its work to further strengthen the justice sector and support Albania's EU accession process.

Kosovo is not included in the calculation of summary statistics*

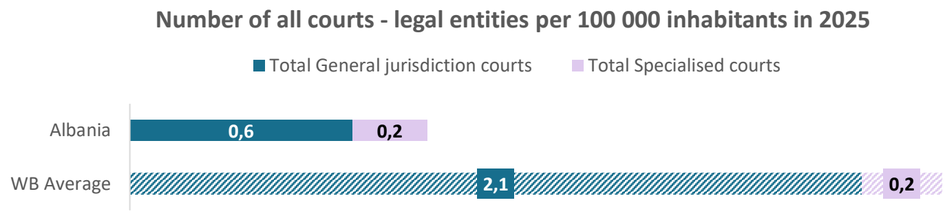
* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

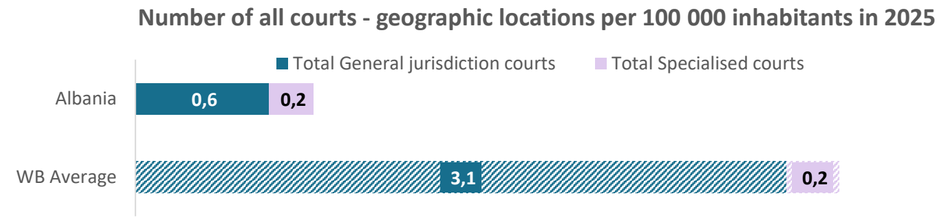
Judicial organisation in Albania in 2025 (Indicator 2.0)

The Albanian judicial system is composed of courts of general jurisdiction and specialised courts. Following the implementation of the new judicial map, the system comprises 20 courts organised across three levels: 13 courts of first instance of general jurisdiction, one Court of Appeal of General Jurisdiction and the Supreme Court, together with five specialised courts dealing with administrative matters and corruption and organised crime. The Supreme Court is organised into three chambers (civil, criminal and administrative) and acts as the highest court for both general and specialised jurisdictions.
The specialised court structure includes two Administrative Courts of First Instance (Tirana and Lushnje), the Administrative Court of Appeal, and the Special Courts of First Instance and Appeal for Corruption and Organised Crime. In addition, specialised chambers or judges exist within courts of general jurisdiction for areas such as commercial and insolvency matters, family and juvenile cases, and domestic violence.
Under the new judicial map, all courts correspond to a single geographic location. Courts are grouped into three categories according to their size and competence, with Tirana hosting the largest concentration of courts, including all appeal courts and the specialised courts.

• Number of courts - legal entities

		Number of courts - legal entities in 2025			Number of courts - geographic locations in 2025		
		Absolute number	Per 100 000 inhabitants	WB Average per 100 000 inhabitants	Absolute number	Per 100 000 inhabitants	WB Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total number of all court (1 + 2)		20	0,8	2,3	20	0,8	3,3
General jurisdiction	Total General jurisdiction courts (1)	15	0,6	2,1	15	0,6	3,1
	1st instance	13	0,6	1,6	13	0,6	2,6
	2nd instance	1	0,0	0,4	1	0,0	0,4
	Highest instance	1	0,0	0,1	1	0,0	0,1
Specialised courts	Total Specialised courts (2)	5	0,2	0,2	5	0,2	0,2
	1st instance	3	0,1	0,2	3	0,1	0,2
	2nd instance	2	0,1	0,0	2	0,1	0,0
	Highest instance	0	0,0	-	0	0,0	-





The Supreme Court is organized into three panels, namely the Criminal Chamber, the Civil Chamber and the Administrative Chamber. Cases of the specialized courts for organized crime and corruption are adjudicated by the Criminal Chamber. Meanwhile, cases of administrative jurisdiction are adjudicated by the Administrative Chamber of the Supreme Court.
Article 3 of law no. 98/2016 “On the organization of the judicial power in the Republic of Albania” foresees: Types of courts
1. Judicial power is exercised by the Supreme Court, as well as by the courts of appeal and the courts of first instance, which are established by law.
2. Courts of general jurisdiction are courts of general jurisdiction of first instance and courts of general jurisdiction of appeal. Courts of general jurisdiction of first instance may have branches.
3. Special courts are: a) administrative courts of first instance and the Administrative Court of Appeal; b) the Special Court of First Instance and Appeal for the trial of criminal offences of corruption and organised crime.
4. The Supreme Court adjudicates cases of general and special jurisdiction.
According to the new judicial map the number of courts – geographic locations is 14. In reference to decision 147, dated 29.03.2023 of the HJC “For determining the categories of courts”, is provided as below:
The first or otherwise high category of courts is located in Tirana. This includes The High Court, Court of Appeal of General Jurisdiction, Special Court of Appeal for Corruption and Organized Crime, The Administrative Court of Appeal, Court of First Instance of the General Jurisdiction of Tirana, Special Court of First Instance for Corruption and Organized Crime, Administrative Court of First Instance of Tirana.
The second or otherwise middle category, includes courts of first instance of the general jurisdiction of the districts Durrës, Elbasan, Fier, Korçë, Shkodër, Vlorë, Berat, Lezhë; as well as the Administrative Court of First Instance of Lushnje.
The third or lower category of courts, includes courts of first instance of the general jurisdiction of the districts Dibër, Gjirokastër, Kukës, Sarandë.

Specialised courts are: 1.Special Court of Appeal for Corruption and Organized Crime; 2.Administrative Court of Appeal; 3.Special Court of First Instance for Corruption and Organized Crime; 4.Administrative Court of First Instance of Tirana; 5.Administrative Court of First Instance of Lushnja.

• Specialised courts

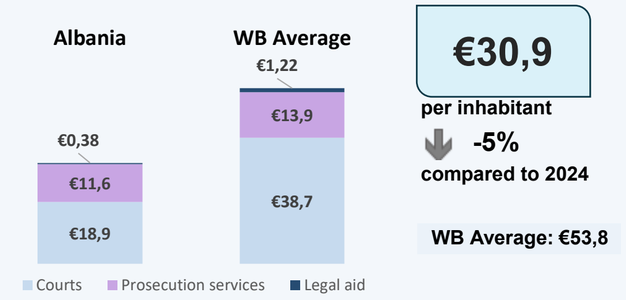
Areas of law concerned by the specialisation in 2025	Specialised courts (legal entities)	Specialised chambers and/or judges
Commercial and insolvency		✓
Labour		
Family		✓
Rent and tenancies		
Enforcement of criminal sanctions		
Administrative	✓	
Juvenile		✓
Domestic violence		✓
Economic crime		
Corruption	✓	
Organised crime/terrorism	✓	
Cybercrime and internet related disputes		
Environment		
Immigration/asylum		
Other		

Types of courts
1. Judicial power is exercised by the Supreme Court, as well as by the courts of appeal and the courts of first instance, which are established by law.
2. Courts of general jurisdiction are courts of general jurisdiction of first instance and courts of general jurisdiction of appeal. Courts of general jurisdiction of first instance may have branches.
3. Special courts are:
a) administrative courts of first instance and the Administrative Court of Appeal;
b) the Special Court of First Instance and Appeal for the trial of criminal offences of corruption and organised crime.
4. The Supreme Court adjudicates cases of general and special jurisdiction.
The Civil Procedure Code of the Republic of Albania provides in Title III on special trials. In reference to Article 320 of the Civil Procedure Code, special sections are created within the composition of the courts of first instance for the trial of commercial disputes and bankruptcy proceedings; as well as disputes related to minors and family.
The Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Albania, in article 13, point 4, provides that the trial of minors is conducted by the relevant sections established by law. These sections also try adult defendants accused of committing criminal offenses to the detriment of minors.
In line with this, the Juvenile Criminal Justice Code in its article 27 provides on the competence to try juvenile justice cases as follows:
1. A minor in conflict with the law is tried by the juvenile sections, established in the district courts, according to the provisions of the legislation in force on the organization of the judicial power in the Republic of Albania.
2. The sections are also competent for the trial of adult defendants accused of committing criminal offenses against minors as victims.
3. The judge assigned to try the minor in these sections must be specialized and trained in juvenile criminal justice.

4. When a minor has committed a criminal offense together with an adult, he shall be tried in the juvenile sections of the district courts, applying the provisions of this Code, with the exception of the cases provided for in Article 80, paragraph 1, of the Code of Criminal Procedure.
5. A person over the age of 18, but not more than 21 years, who is accused of having committed a criminal offense when he was a minor, shall be tried by the juvenile section. 6. The jurisdiction of the juvenile section of the district courts shall end when the minor reaches the age of 23.
In compliance with the legal obligation as cited above, in all courts that adjudicate cases involving minors, judges have been appointed for the trial of minors who are specialized and trained in juvenile criminal justice.
In reference to the above, from the High Judicial Council, based on articles 147, point 1, and 147/a, point 1, letter “ë” of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania, article 23, point 7 of law no. 98/2016 “On the organization of the judicial power in the Republic of Albania”, as well as articles 61, point 2, letter “ë”, 97, point 1, letter “c” of law no. 115/2016 “On the governing bodies of the justice system”, has adopted decision no. 408, dated 15.07.2025 “On the approval of the rules on the criteria and procedures for the establishment of sections and panels”.

Budget of the judicial system in Albania in 2025 (Indicator 1)

Implemented Judicial System Budget per inhabitant



€30,9

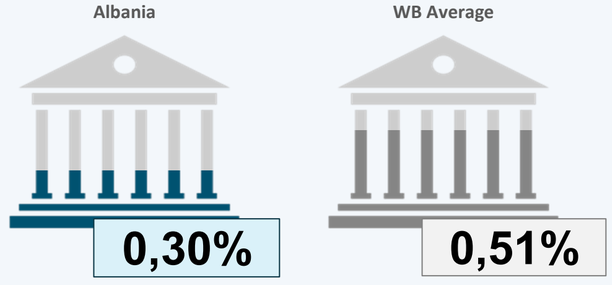
per inhabitant

-5%

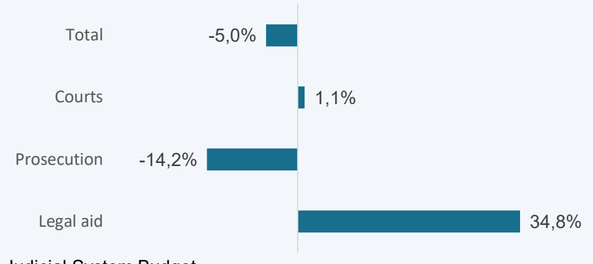
compared to 2024

WB Average: €53,8

Implemented Judicial System Budget as % of GDP



Variation of the JSB per inhabitant between 2024 - 2025



JSB = Judicial System Budget

The Judicial System Budget (JSB) is composed by the budget for courts, public prosecution services and legal aid. In 2025, the implemented JBS for Albania was €30,9 per inhabitant, which is substantially lower than the WB Average (€53,8). This amount reflects a -5% decrease compared to 2024. Within this budget, €18,9 was allocated to courts, €11,6 to prosecution services, and €0,38 to legal aid. For the WB Average, the corresponding allocations were €38,7, €13,9, and €1,22 respectively. As a share of the gross domestic product (GDP), Albania dedicated 0,3% of its total economic output to the judicial system, which was considerably lower than the WB Average of 0,51%. These figures illustrate that Albania invests less in its judicial system per inhabitant and as a share of GDP compared to WB Average, but marked increases in the budgets of the courts and legal aid between 2024 and 2025.

• Budget allocated to the judicial system (courts, prosecution services and legal aid)

In 2025, the implemented judicial system budget reached €73 113 960. The judicial system budget amounted to €30,9 per inhabitant, substantially below the WB Average of €53,8. With respect to economic output, the judicial system budget accounted for 0,30% of GDP in 2025, compared to the regional average of 0,51%. This share decreased by 0,12 percentage points compared to 2024.

Most of the judicial system budget was devoted to courts, which received 61,2% of the total, followed by prosecution services (37,5%) and legal aid (1,2%). The implemented budget for courts amounted to €44 760 443, corresponding to €18,9 per inhabitant, compared to €38,7 for the WB Average. Court expenditure per inhabitant increased by 152,7% since 2019 and by 1,1% compared to 2024.

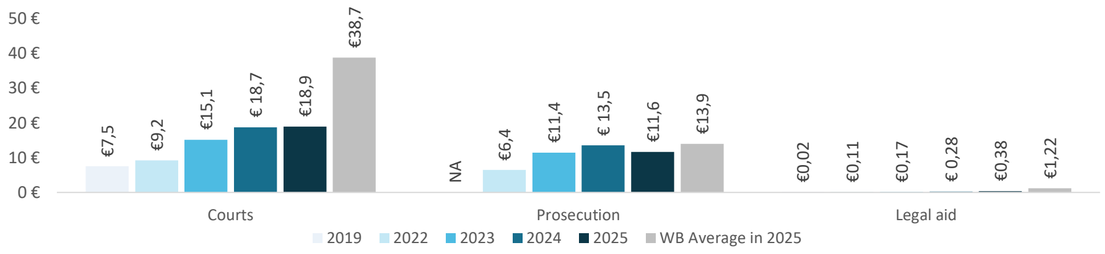
The prosecution saw an implemented budget of €27 446 143 (€11,6 per inhabitant vs the regional average of €13,9). This budget category declined marginally from 2024 (-14,2%). Morevoer, the prosecution's share of GDP was 0,11%, compared to the WB Average of 0,13%.

Meanwhile, the implemented budget for legal aid reached €907 374, equivalent to €0,38 per inhabitant, remaining below the WB Average of €1,22. However, legal aid expenditure increased substantially over the period, rising by 1 532,1% since 2019 and by 34,8% compared to the previous year.

Judicial System Budget	Judicial System Budget in 2025		Implemented Judicial System Budget per inhabitant				Implemented Judicial System Budget as % of GDP			
	Approved	Implemented	Per inhabitant in 2025	WB Average in 2025	% Variation between 2019 - 2025	% Variation between 2024 - 2025	As % of GDP	WB Average in 2025	Variation (in ppt) 2019 - 2025	Variation (in ppt) 2024 - 2025
Total	€ 78 034 685	€ 73 113 960	€ 30,9	€ 53,8	NA	-5,0%	0,30%	0,51%	NA	-0,120
Courts	€ 49 215 932	€ 44 760 443	€ 18,9	€ 38,7	152,7%	1,1%	0,19%	0,36%	0,03	-0,058
Prosecution	€ 27 761 569	€ 27 446 143	€ 11,6	€ 13,9	NA	-14,2%	0,11%	0,13%	NA	-0,062
Legal aid	€ 1 057 184	€ 907 374	€ 0,38	€ 1,22	1532,1%	34,8%	0,004%	0,012%	0,003	0,000

PPT = Percentage points

Evolution of the implemented judicial system budget per inhabitant between 2019 and 2025 (€)



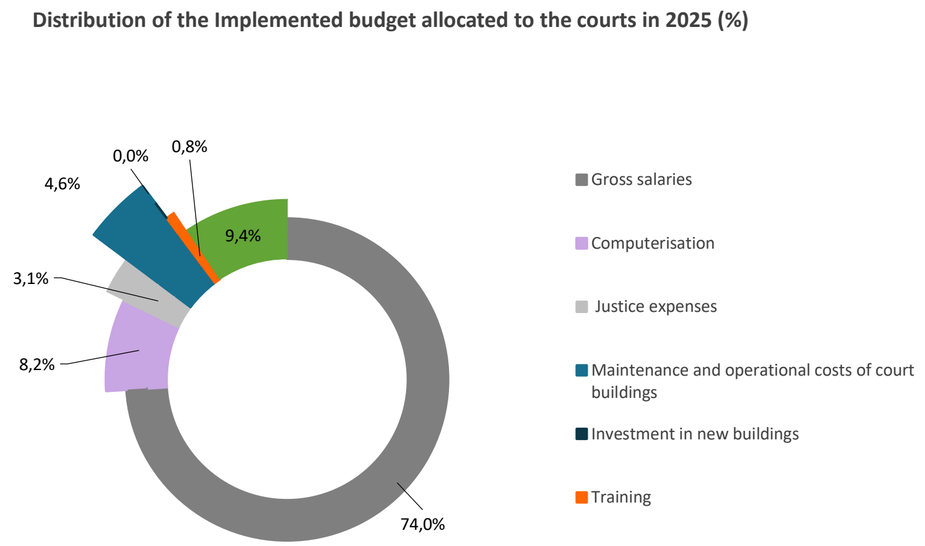
The increase in the legal aid budget over recent years is mainly explained by the opening of primary legal aid service centres throughout the country, amendments to the legislation on employees' salaries and the resulting increase in staff remuneration within the state-guaranteed free legal aid system. In addition, part of the budget is devoted to secondary legal aid, including the remuneration of lawyers and experts providing legal assistance.

Comparisons with the WB Average should be interpreted with caution, as the Albanian legal aid budget does not include the costs of mandatory legal representation before courts, which are included in the legal aid expenditure of several other Western Balkans beneficiaries.

• Budget allocated to the functioning of the courts - Categories

In 2025, Albania spent €44 760 443 on the implemented budget for courts. The largest share of the implemented court budget (74,0%) was allocated to gross salaries, highlighting the importance of personnel costs within the judiciary. The second largest category was the "other" category, which represented 9,4% of the total budget. Computerisation accounted for 8,2% of the implemented court budget, while maintenance and operational costs of court buildings represented 4,6%. Justice expenses made up 3,1% of the budget and training accounted for 0,8%. No expenditure was reported for investment in new buildings.

	2025		% Variation between 2019 and 2025		% Variation between 2024 and 2025	
	Approved budget	Implemented budget	Approved budget	Implemented budget	Approved budget	Implemented budget
Total (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7)	49 215 932 €	44 760 443 €	121,6%	109,8%	6,6%	-0,1%
1. Gross salaries	33 516 848 €	33 120 098 €	NA	NA	-2,0%	-1,3%
1.1 Salaries of professional judges	NA	NA				
1.2 Salaries of non-judge staff	NA	NA				
1.3 Salaries/remunerations of other judges	NA	NA				
2. Computerisation (2.1 + 2.2)	NA	3 662 235 €	NA	NA	NA	7,4%
3. Justice expenses	NA	1 365 410 €	NA	NA	NA	263,2%
4. Maintenance and operational costs of court buildings	NA	2 043 200 €	NA	NA	NA	-23,0%
5. Investment in new buildings	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP
6. Training	NA	366 477 €	NA	NAP	NA	NAP
7. Other	NA	4 203 023 €	NA	NA	NA	-12,2%



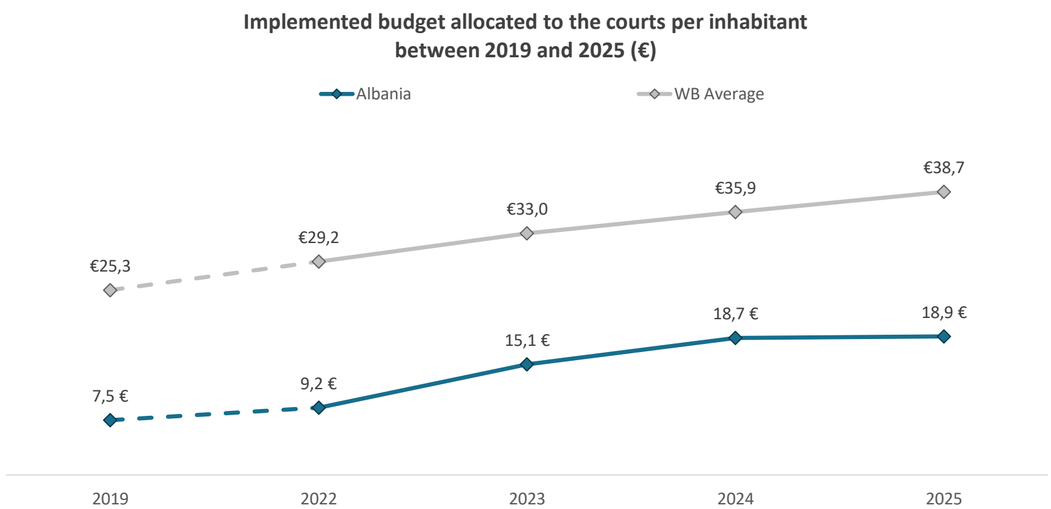
The amount reported under justice expenses increased compared to the previous cycle due to the inclusion of additional expenditure items that had not previously been reported, such as costs related to experts, psychologists and lawyers. This category includes travel and subsistence expenses, notification costs, as well as fees for experts, psychologists, lawyers and translators.

The "other expenses" category comprises office service costs (stationery, office supplies and toners), transportation services, maintenance and operational costs (including the execution of court decisions, taxes and duties, banking commissions, diplomatic passports and transfers to individuals for assistance), as well as investment expenditure related to the reconstruction of existing buildings, the purchase of office furniture and transport vehicles.

When reviewing the trend over time, Albania's implemented budget for courts per inhabitant increased from €7,5 in 2019 to €18,9 in 2025, representing an overall growth of 152,7%. The increase was particularly marked between 2022 and 2024, although the implemented budget remained broadly stable between 2024 and 2025 (+1,1%).

Throughout the period, Albania's court budget per inhabitant remained below the WB Average, which reached €38,7 in 2025. In the reference year, Albania spent €18,9 per inhabitant on courts, corresponding to less than half of the regional average.

The analysis shows that, despite the significant increase in court expenditure over recent years, Albania continues to invest considerably less in courts than most other Western Balkans beneficiaries.



• Budget allocated to the functioning of all public prosecution services - Categories

In 2025, Albania spent €27 446 143 on the implemented budget for public prosecution services. The largest share of this budget (78,3%) was allocated to gross salaries, highlighting the substantial proportion of expenditure devoted to staff costs. The second largest category was prosecution expenses, which accounted for 8,0% of the total budget and include expenditures directly related to prosecutorial activities.

Moreover, the "other" category represented 5,7% of the implemented budget, while maintenance and operating costs of the premises accounted for 5,6%. Computerisation represented 1,0% of the total budget and investment in new buildings 1,4%. No expenditure was reported for training.

	2025		% Variation between 2019 and 2025		% Variation between 2024 and 2025	
	Approved budget	Implemented budget	Approved budget	Implemented budget	Approved budget	Implemented budget
Total (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7)	27 761 569 €	27 446 143 €	NA	NA	-23,9%	-15,2%
1. Gross salaries	21 746 764 €	21 481 426 €				
1.1 Salaries of public prosecutors	11 062 323 €	10 886 365 €				
1.2 Salaries of non-public prosecutor staff	10 684 442 €	10 595 061 €				
1.3 Salaries/remunerations of professionals with similar duties to those of public prosecutors	NAP	NAP				
2. Computerisation	NA	275 461 €				
3. Prosecution expenses	NA	2 195 805 €				
4. Maintenance and operating costs of the premises	NA	1 545 301 €				
5. Investment in new buildings	NA	375 171 €				
6. Training	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP
7. Other	NA	1 572 979 €				

The "other" category includes office supplies and stationery, transportation expenses, per diem allowances, other operational expenses, taxes and duties, membership fees in international prosecutors' organisations, economic assistance for employees and other investment expenditures, such as the purchase of vehicles, air conditioners and office furniture.

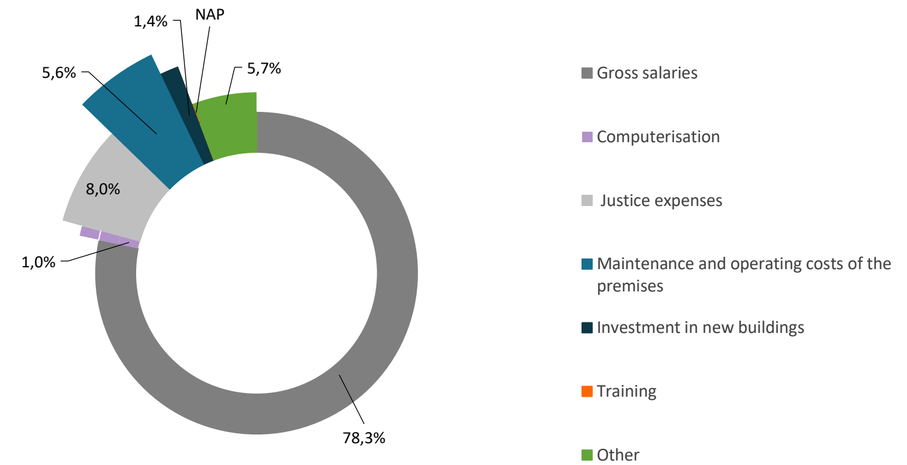
Legal amendments adopted in 2023 following Constitutional Court Decision No. 35 generated additional financial obligations for the General Prosecution Office, mainly related to the settlement of salary arrears for magistrates and judicial police officers. These obligations were primarily reflected in the 2024 budget, resulting in a temporary increase in expenditure. Consequently, the decrease observed between 2024 and 2025 does not reflect an actual reduction in salaries, but rather the normalisation of expenditure following the exceptional increase recorded in 2024.

Looking at the trend over time, Albania's implemented budget for public prosecution services increased from €8,4 per inhabitant in 2022 to €11,6 in 2025. After a sharp increase between 2022 and 2024, when the budget reached €13,2 per inhabitant, expenditure declined by 14,2% in 2025.

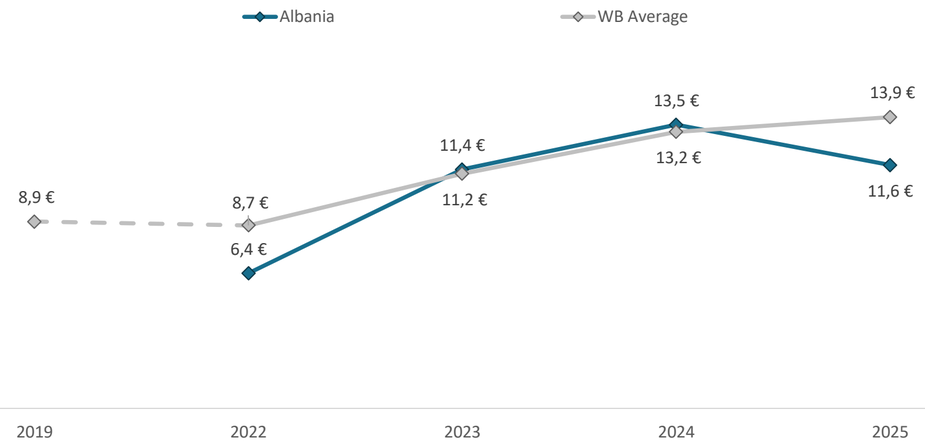
Compared with the regional average, Albania's budget for public prosecution services remained below the WB Average in most years. The only exception was 2024, when Albania slightly exceeded the regional average (€13,2 compared with €13,0 per inhabitant). In 2025, the budget amounted to €11,6 per inhabitant, compared with €13,9 for the WB Average.

Overall, the trend shows that Albania has significantly increased its investment in public prosecution services over recent years. However, following the exceptional expenditure recorded in 2024, the budget returned to levels below the regional average in 2025.

Distribution of the Implemented budget allocated to all public prosecution services in 2025 (%)



Implemented budget allocated to all public prosecution services per inhabitant between 2019 and 2025 (€)



• Budget received from external donors

The percentages represent an estimate of the ratio between external donations and respective budget. The percentage is calculated in relation to the total implemented budget of each category. However, this does not mean that the external funds cover a percentage of the budget, since donations are not included in the judicial system budget.

	Absolute value	Calculated as %
Courts	NAP	NAP
Prosecution services	NAP	NAP
Legal aid	NAP	NAP

Professionals and Gender Balance in judiciary in Albania in 2025 (Indicators 2)

Professional Judges

14,6

per 100 000 inhabitants

+25,9%

compared to 2019

WB Average: 30,8



59,6% female judges (total)

Prosecutors

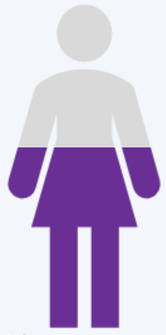
10,5

per 100 000 inhabitants

+0,3%

compared to 2019

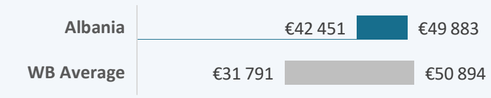
WB Average: 11,8



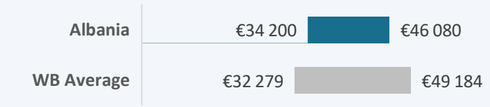
55,4% female prosecutors (total)

Salaries of judges and prosecutors

Professional judges - Gross annual salaries at the beginning of the career and at the Supreme or the Highest Appellate Court in 2025 (€)



Prosecutors - Gross annual salaries at the beginning of the career and at the Supreme or the Highest Appellate Court in 2025 (€)



In 2025, Albania had 14,6 professional judges per 100 000 inhabitants and 10,5 prosecutors per 100 000 inhabitants. Both figures were below the WB Average of 30,8 and 11,8, respectively. More than half of professional judges and prosecutors were women (WB Average was 65,6% and 56,6%, respectively).

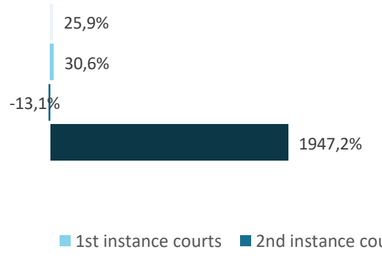
• Professional Judges

Professional judges in 2025

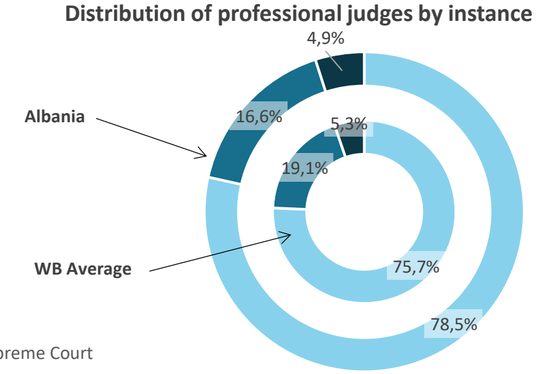
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	WB Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	344	100,0%	14,6	30,8
1st instance courts	270	78,5%	11,4	23,2
2nd instance courts	57	16,6%	2,4	6,0
Supreme Court	17	4,9%	0,7	1,6

For reference only: the 2024 EU median is 23,4 judges per 100 000 inhabitants.

% Variation of no. of professional judges per 100 000 inh. 2019 - 2025



Distribution of professional judges by instance in 2025 (%)



In 2025, the total number of professional judges in Albania was 344. This number translated to a ratio of 14,6 judges per 100 000 inhabitants, which was remarkably lower than the WB Average of 30,8.

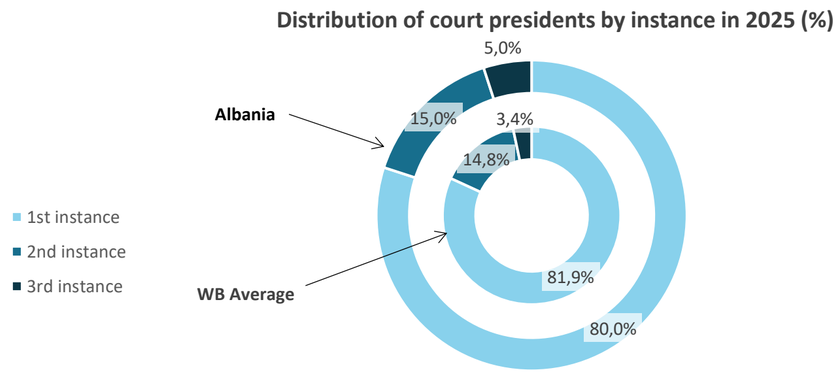
When examining the trends over the past 6 cycles, there has been an increase in the number of professional judges. Since 2019, the number of professional judges per 100 000 inhabitants rose by 25,9%.

Looking at the distribution of the professional judges by instance, 78,5% of judges are assigned to the first instance courts. This is 2,8 percentage points higher than the WB Average (75,7%).

• Court presidents

	Court presidents in 2025			
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	WB Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	20	100,0%	0,8	2,2
1st instance courts	16	80,0%	0,7	1,8
2nd instance courts	3	15,0%	0,1	0,3
Supreme Court	1	5,0%	0,04	0,07

In 2025, Albania had a total of 20 court presidents. This figure corresponds to 0,8 per 100 000 inhabitants and was remarkably lower than the WB Average of 2,2.

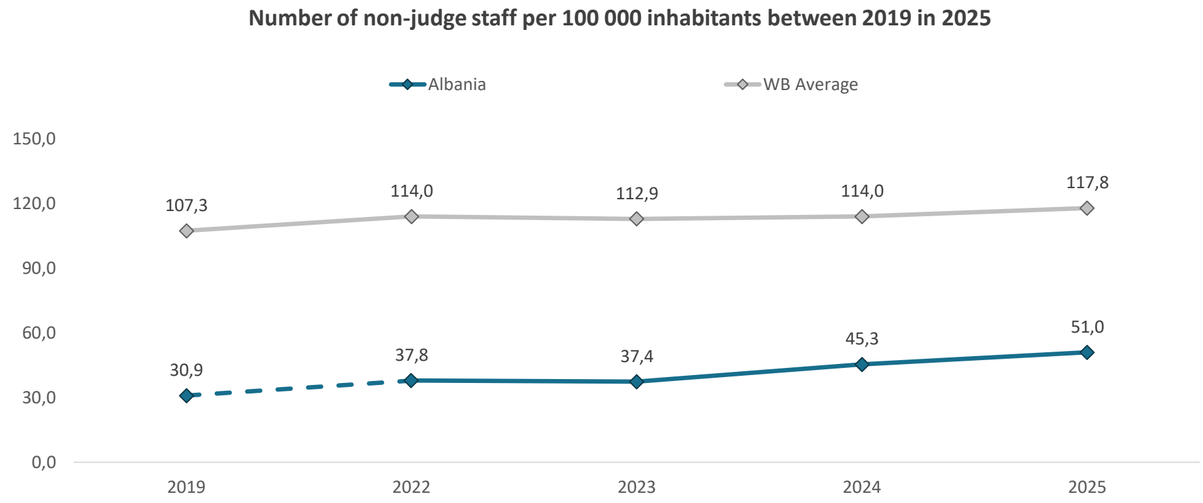


Role of court president:

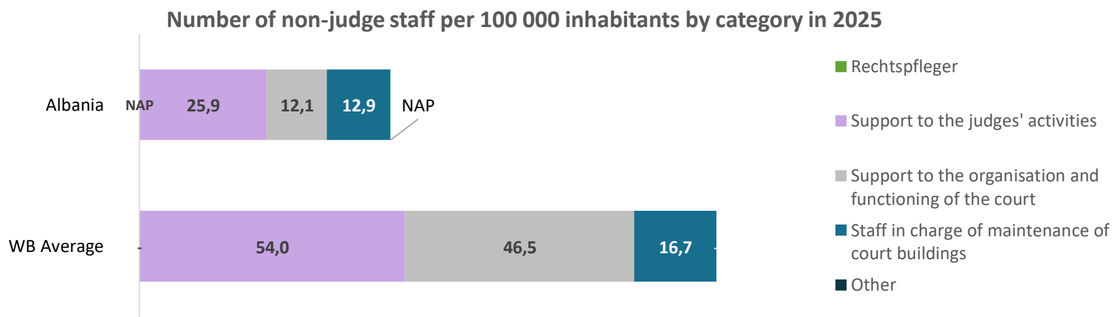
According to Article 37 of Law No. 98/2016 on the Organisation of the Judicial Power, the President of the Court is responsible for the overall management of the court. The President represents the court, supervises judicial ethics and discipline, oversees the functioning of the judicial administration through the Chancellor, chairs the General Meeting of Judges, guarantees the implementation of the decisions of the High Judicial Council and ensures access to and proper use of the case management system. They also exercise any other non-judicial duties provided by law or by decisions of the High Judicial Council.

• Non-judge staff

	Number of non-judge staff by category in 2025			
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	WB Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	1 205	100,0%	51,0	117,8
Rechtspfleger	NAP	NAP	NAP	-
Support to the judges' activities	613	50,9%	25,9	54,0
Support to the organisation and functioning of the court	287	23,8%	12,1	46,5
Staff in charge of maintenance of court buildings	305	25,3%	12,9	16,7
Other	NAP	NAP	NAP	-



In 2025, the total number of non-judge staff was 1 205, which represents 51 per 100 000 inhabitants. This figure marks a 12,5% increase compared to 2024, when non-judge staff totaled 45,3 per 100 000 inhabitants. Over the longer period from 2019 to 2025, the total number of non-judge staff per 100 000 inhabitants soared remarkably by 65%.
The largest group of non-judge staff were those supporting judges' activities, accounting for 51% of the total, followed by staff in charge of maintenance of court buildings, who represented 25%.

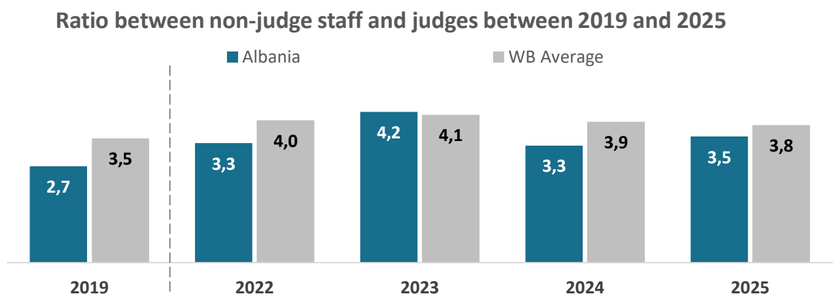


• Ratio between non-judge staff and professional judges

In Albania, the ratio of non-judge staff per professional judge was 3,5 in 2025, whereas the WB Average was 3,8. This increased since 2019.

	Ratio in 2025		% Variation 2019 - 2025
	Albania	WB Average	Albania
Total	3,5	3,8	31,0%

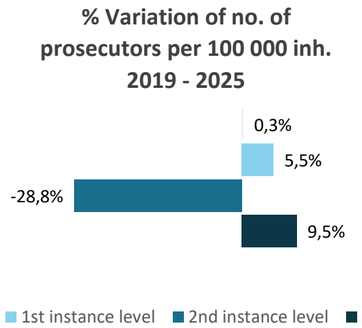
For reference only: the 2024 EU median ratio of non-judge staff per judge is 3,3.

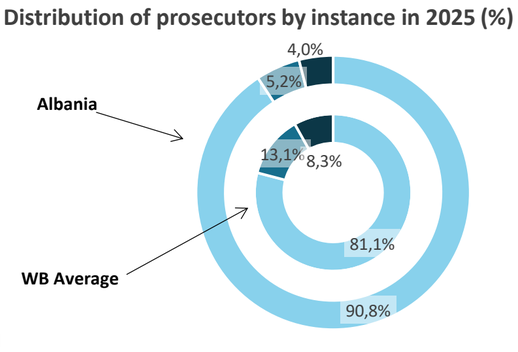


• Prosecutors

	Number of prosecutors by instance in 2025			
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	WB Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	249	100,0%	10,5	11,8
1st instance level	226	90,8%	9,6	9,4
2nd instance level	13	5,2%	0,6	1,8
Supreme Court level	10	4,0%	0,4	1,0

For reference only: the 2024 EU median is 11,4 prosecutors per 100 000 inhabitants.





In 2025, Albania had 249 prosecutors in total, which equates to 10,5 per 100 000 inhabitants. This figure was lower than the WB Average of 11,8).

Over the period between 2019 and 2025, the total number of prosecutors per 100 000 inhabitants no significant change by 0,3% .

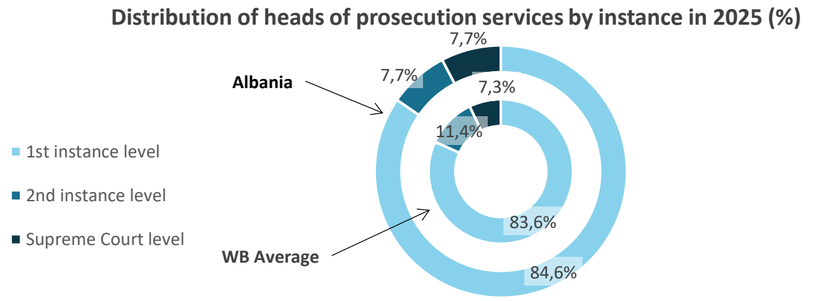
Looking at the distribution of the prosecutors by instance, 90,8% of prosecutors are assigned to the first instance courts. This is 9,6 percentage points higher than the WB Average (81,1%).

Albania has a specialised prosecution office for corruption and organised crime (SPAK), which exercises criminal prosecution before the specialised first instance and appeal courts, as well as before the Supreme Court. In 2025, it employed 20 prosecutors, including 6 women.

• Heads of prosecution services

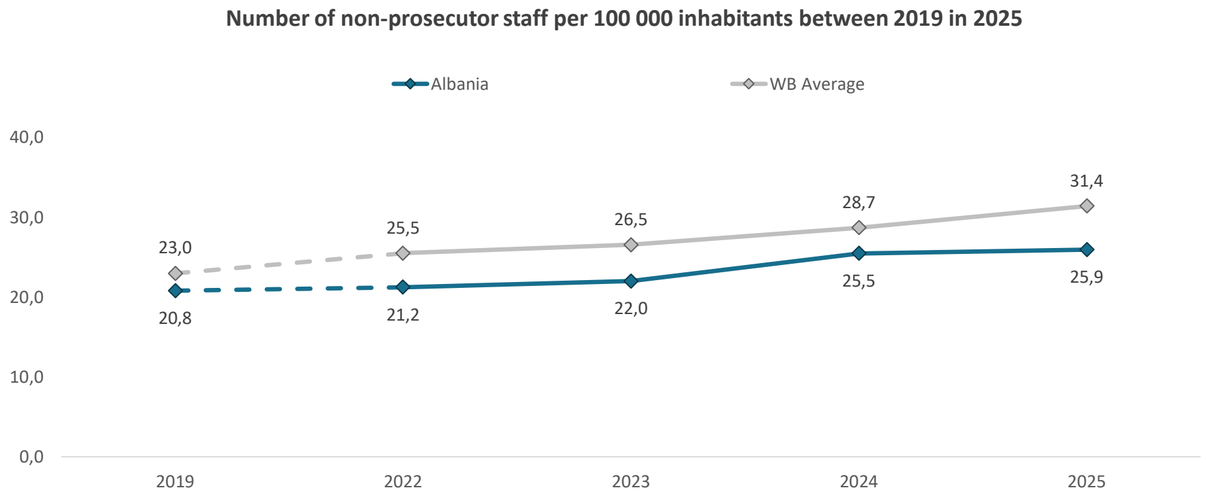
	Heads of prosecution services in 2025			
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	WB Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	13	100,0%	0,6	1,1
1st instance level	11	84,6%	0,5	0,9
2nd instance level	1	7,7%	0,0	0,2
Supreme Court level	1	7,7%	0,04	0,07

In 2025, Albania had a total of 13 heads of prosecution services, corresponding to 0,6 per 100 000 inhabitants. This figure was remarkably lower than the WB Average of 1,1.



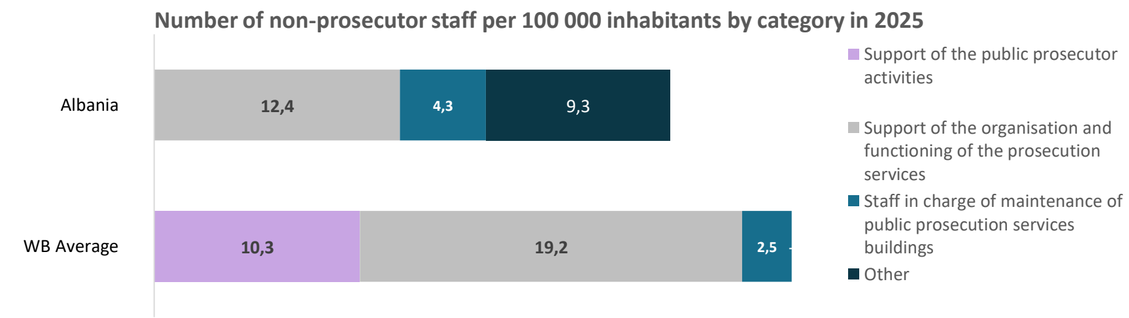
• Non-prosecutor staff

	Number of non-prosecutor staff by category in 2025			
	Absolute number	% of the total	Per 100 000 inhabitants	WB Average per 100 000 inhabitants
Total	613	100,0%	25,9	31,4
Support of the public prosecutor activities	NAP	NAP	NAP	10,3
Support of the organisation and functioning of the prosecution services	292	47,6%	12,4	19,2
Staff in charge of maintenance of public prosecution services buildings	102	16,6%	4,3	2,5
Other	219	35,7%	9,3	-



In 2025, the total number of non-prosecutor staff was 613, corresponding to 25,9 per 100 000 inhabitants. This figure represents a 1,8% increase compared to 2024, when non-prosecutor staff totaled 25,5 per 100 000 inhabitants. Over the longer term, from 2019 to 2025, the total number of non-prosecutor staff rose by 25%.
The largest category of non-prosecutor personnel consisted of those supporting the organisation and functioning of the prosecution services, accounting for 48% of the overall staff. This was followed by staff other, who represented 36%.

In the category “Other” are included the Judicial Police Officers in the prosecution offices of general jurisdiction. The organic number of non-prosecutorial staff is 641 employees; therefore, the difference between 613 and 641 refers to vacant positions

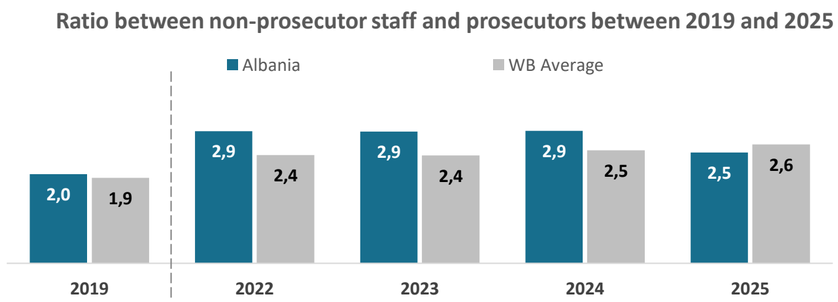


• Non-prosecutor staff and Ratio between non-prosecutor staff and prosecutors

In Albania, the ratio of non-prosecutor staff per prosecutor was 2,5 in 2025, whereas the WB Average was 2,6. This ratio increased since 2019.

	Ratio in 2025		% Variation 2019 - 2025
	Albania	WB Average	Albania
Total	2,5	2,6	24,3%

For reference only: the 2024 EU median ratio of non-judge staff per judge is 1,1.



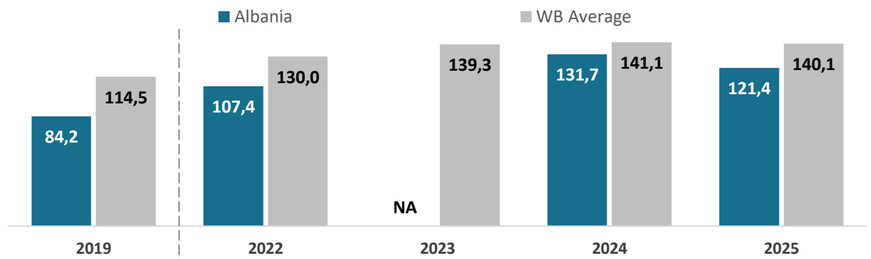
• Lawyers

	Number of lawyers in 2025			% Variation 2019 - 2025
	Absolute number	Per 100 000 inhabitants	WB Average per 100 000 inhabitants	Albania
Total	2 870	121,4	140,1	44,2%

For reference only: the 2024 EU median is 138,7 lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants.

In 2025, there were 121,4 lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants, a figure that was lower than the WB Average of 140,1. The number of lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants increased by 44,2% between 2019 and 2025.

Number of lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants between 2019 and 2025



Legal representation in courts exclusively exercised by lawyers in 2025

	First instance	Second instance	Third instance
Civil cases			
Dismissal cases			
Criminal cases – Defendant			
Criminal cases – Victim			
Administrative cases			

Yes, always
Yes, in some cases
No/NAP

The Code of Civil Procedure of the Republic of Albania, in Article 22, stipulates that litigants may defend themselves, except in cases where representation is mandatory.

Chapter 2 provides for legal representation. Articles 96 and 96/a regulate in detail representation before courts. According to the legal provisions in force, representation by a lawyer is mandatory before the Supreme Court of the Republic of Albania.

The Code of Criminal Procedure, in Article 6, stipulates that the defendant has the right to defend himself or herself with the assistance of a lawyer. Article 58 provides that the victim has the right to choose a lawyer and, where appropriate, to receive free legal assistance. Mandatory representation in criminal cases is provided for in Article 49 of the Code.

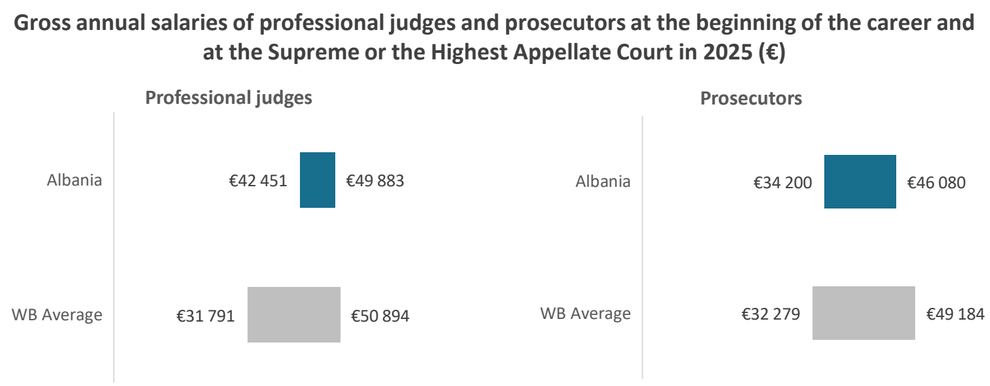
Representation in administrative cases is regulated by the relevant provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure.

• Salaries of professional judges and prosecutors

In 2025, the salary of a professional judge at the beginning of his/her career was €42 451 which saw a remarkable increase by 99,9% since 2019. The ratio of the starting salary of professional judges to the annual gross average salary in Albania was 3,9, which was significantly higher than the WB Average (2,4). At the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Court, judges in Albania earned 17,5% more than at the start of their careers (€49 883), which represents a smaller increase compared to the WB Average of 55,1%.

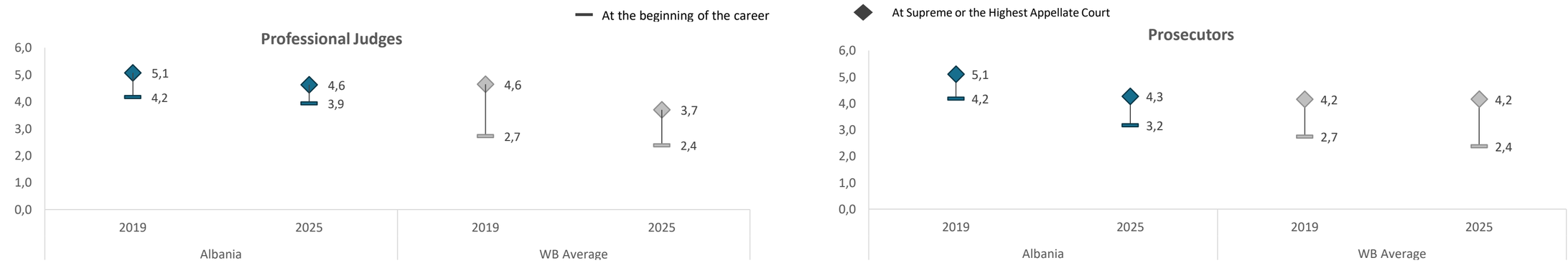
Similarly, the salary of a public prosecutor at the beginning of his/her career was €34 200 which saw a remarkable increase by 60,5% since 2019. The ratio of the starting salary of prosecutors to the annual gross average salary in Albania was 3,2, which was significantly higher than the WB Average of 2,4. Prosecutors serving at the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Courts earned salaries that were 34,7% higher than at the entry level (€46 080), a percentange increase that was significantly lower than the WB Average increase of 51,1%.

		Salaries in 2025 (absolute values)			Ratio with the average gross annual salary	
		Gross annual salary in €	% Variation 2019 - 2025	Net annual salary in €	Albania	WB Average ratio
Professional judge	At the beginning of his/her career	42 451	99,9%	30 714	3,9	2,4
	Of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Court	49 883	93,1%	38 532	4,6	3,7
Public prosecutor	At the beginning of his/her career	34 200	60,5%	25 225	3,2	2,4
	Of the Supreme Court or the Highest Appellate Court	46 080	77,2%	33 234	4,3	3,6



For reference only: the 2024 EU median for the ratio of judges and prosecutors' salaries with average gross annual national salary is:

- professional judges' salary at the beginning of career: 1,8
- professional judges' salary at the Supreme or the Highest Appellate Court: 4,3
- prosecutors' salary at the beginning of career: 1,7
- prosecutors' salary at the Supreme or the Highest Appellate Court: 3,5



Law No. 96/2016 "On the Status of Judges and Prosecutors" provides for the following benefits:
Article 16 – Reward for skills;
Article 17 – Home loan;
Article 21 – Supplementary pension and other benefits;
Article 22 – Inviolability of the salary and other financial benefits of magistrates.
The changes in magistrates' salaries in recent years are mainly the result of the new salary scheme introduced by Law No. 33, dated 25 May 2023, amending Law No. 96/2016, as well as Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 325, dated 31 May 2023, approving the salary structure, salary levels and other salary increments for public officials and civil servants.
The slight decrease in salaries expressed in euro in 2025 is due to exchange rate fluctuations, specifically the depreciation of the euro against the national currency (Albanian Lek). It does not reflect any actual change in nominal salary levels, which remained unchanged during the reference period.

• Performance and evaluation of judges and public prosecutors

	Judges	Prosecutors
A mandatory formal evaluation system regulated by law	✓	✓
An optional formal evaluation system	✗	✗
An informal evaluation system (e.g., discussions with superiors, peer review)	✗	✗
Evaluation based on quantitative criteria	✓	✗
Evaluation based on qualitative criteria	✓	✓

Judges and prosecutors in Albania are subject to regular ethical and professional performance evaluations throughout their careers. The High Judicial Council and the High Prosecutorial Council are responsible for the evaluation of judges and prosecutors respectively. The evaluation system aims to assess professional performance, support career development based on merit, identify training needs and contribute to improving the quality and efficiency of the justice system.

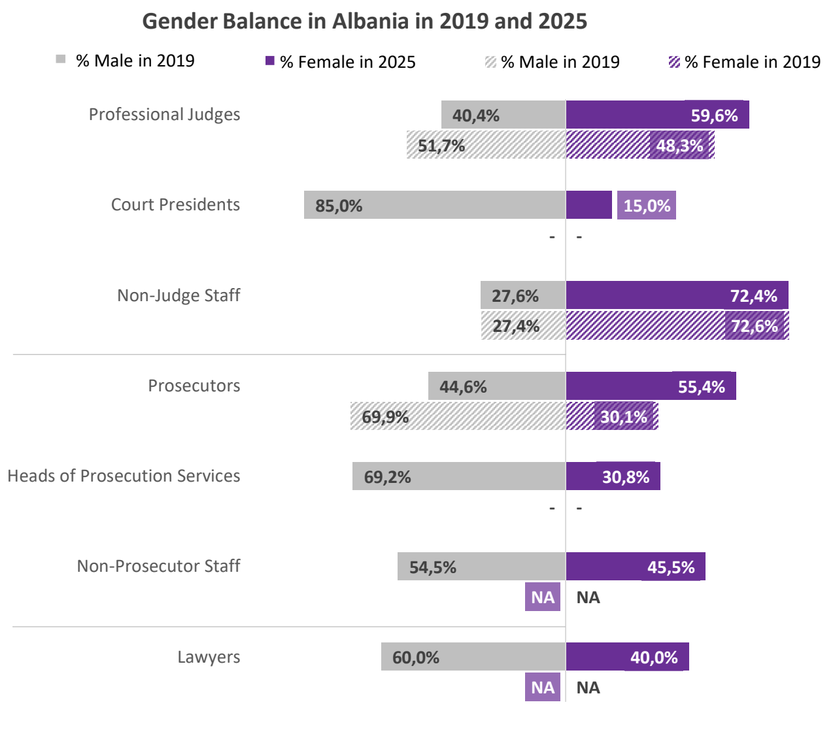
Judges: The High Judicial Council carries out the ethical and professional evaluation of judges through its Ethics and Professional Activity Evaluation Commission. According to Law No. 96/2016, judges are evaluated every three years during the first 15 years of their career and every five years thereafter. Court presidents are evaluated at least once during their mandate and no later than six months before its expiry. Magistrates serving as members of the High Judicial Council are subject to a specific evaluation regime.

Prosecutors: The High Prosecutorial Council is responsible for the ethical and professional evaluation of prosecutors and heads of prosecution offices. According to Law No. 96/2016 and the Regulation on the Ethical and Professional Assessment of Prosecutors (Decision No. 95/2022), evaluations are based on four main criteria: professional skills, organisational skills, ethics and commitment to professional values, and personal skills and professional commitment. The evaluation supports career development based on merit, identifies training needs, recognises professional expertise and contributes to improving the organisation and performance of prosecution services.

Gender Balance

	% Female in 2025		Variation of the % females between 2019 - 2025 (in ppt)
	Albania	WB Average	Albania
Professional Judges	59,6%	65,6%	11,3
Court Presidents	15,0%	47,6%	
Non-Judge Staff	72,4%	71,6%	-0,2
Prosecutors	55,4%	56,6%	25,3
Heads of Prosecution Services	30,8%	47,5%	
Non-Prosecutor Staff	45,5%	68,7%	NA
Lawyers	40,0%	38,2%	NA

PPT= Percentage points



For reference only: the 2024 EU medians on gender are among professionals are as follows: 63% women judges; 77% women non-judge staff; 63% women prosecutors; 79% women non-prosecutor staff; and 48% women lawyers.

In 2025, the percentage of female professional judges was 59,6%, which was lower than WB Average (65,6%). With a presence of 15%, the number of female court presidents in Albania was remarkably lower than the WB Average of 47,6%. Moreover, the percentage of female non-judge staff was 72,4%.

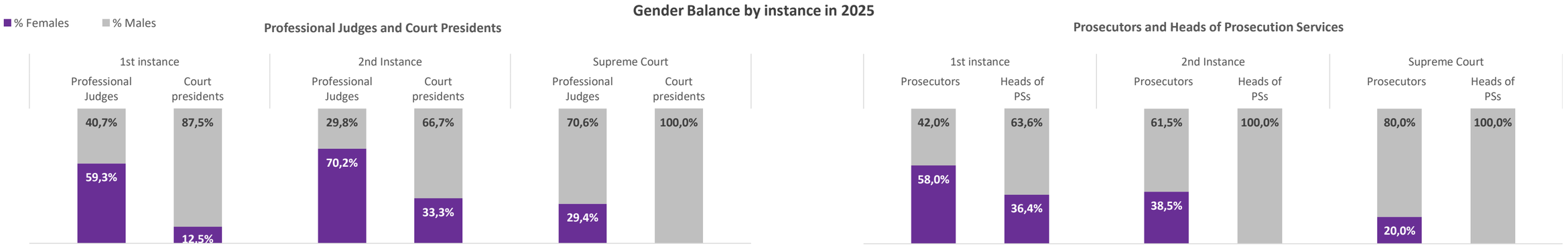
Also, the percentage of female prosecutors was 55,4% (lower than the WB Average of 56,6%).The number of female heads of prosecution services (30,8%) was remarkably lower than the WB Average (47,5%). Moreover, the percentage of female non-prosecutor staff was 45,5%.

Finally, the percentage of female lawyers was 40%, which was higher than WB Average (38,2%).

The court presidents, heads of prosecution services, non-prosecutor staff and lawyers were the only categories with less than 50% of female presence.

	Professional Judges % Female		Court presidents % Female		Prosecutors % Female		Heads of Prosecution Services % Female	
	Albania	WB Average	Albania	WB Average	Albania	WB Average	Albania	WB Average
1st instance	59,3%	66,2%	12,5%	46,8%	58,0%	57,1%	36,4%	49,3%
2nd instance	70,2%	65,3%	33,3%	47,6%	38,5%	51,6%	0,0%	43,8%
Supreme Court	29,4%	62,6%	0,0%	53,3%	20,0%	42,7%	0,0%	58,3%

While women represent the majority of professional judges at first (59,3%) and second instance (70,2%), their share drops sharply at the Supreme Court level (29,4%). The gender imbalance is even more pronounced among court presidents and heads of prosecution services, where no woman held the position at the Supreme Court level in 2025. These figures suggest that women remain underrepresented in the highest leadership positions of the Albanian justice system.

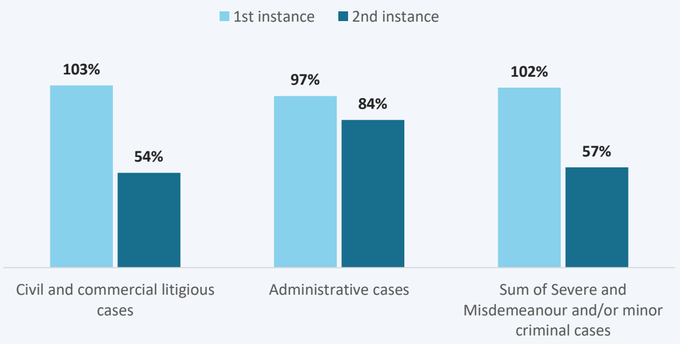


• Gender Equality Policies

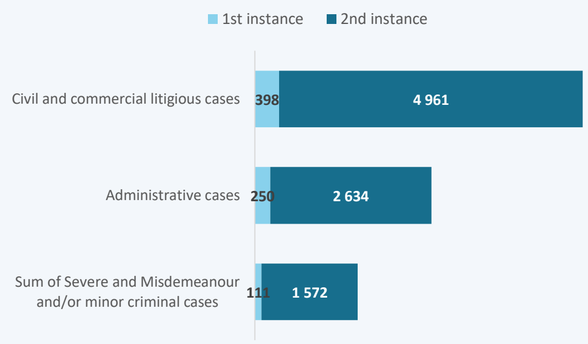
The criteria for the recruitment of new judges are provided for in Articles 28 and 32 of Law No. 96/2016, while the criteria for promotion are provided for in Article 48. In both provisions, the guarantee of gender equality is not provided for as a criterion.

Efficiency in Albania in 2025 (Indicators 3.1 and 3.2)

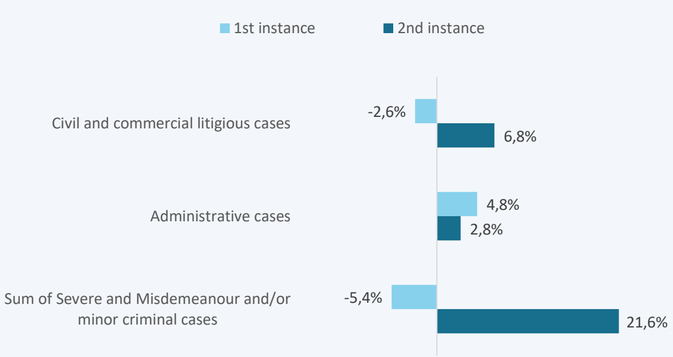
Clearance Rate in 2025



Disposition Time in 2025 (in days)



% Variation of pending cases at the end of year between 2024 and 2025



In 2025, the highest Clearance rate (CR) for Albania was calculated for the first instance Civil and commercial litigious cases, with a CR of 103%. However, it seems that Albania was not able to deal as efficiently with the second instance Civil and commercial litigious cases (CR of 54%). With a Disposition Time of approximately 111 days, the first instance sum of the Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases were resolved faster than any other type of cases.

Compared to 2024, the pending cases at the end of year increased for the second instance sum of the Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (21,6%), whereas they decreased for the first instance sum of the Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases by -5,4%.

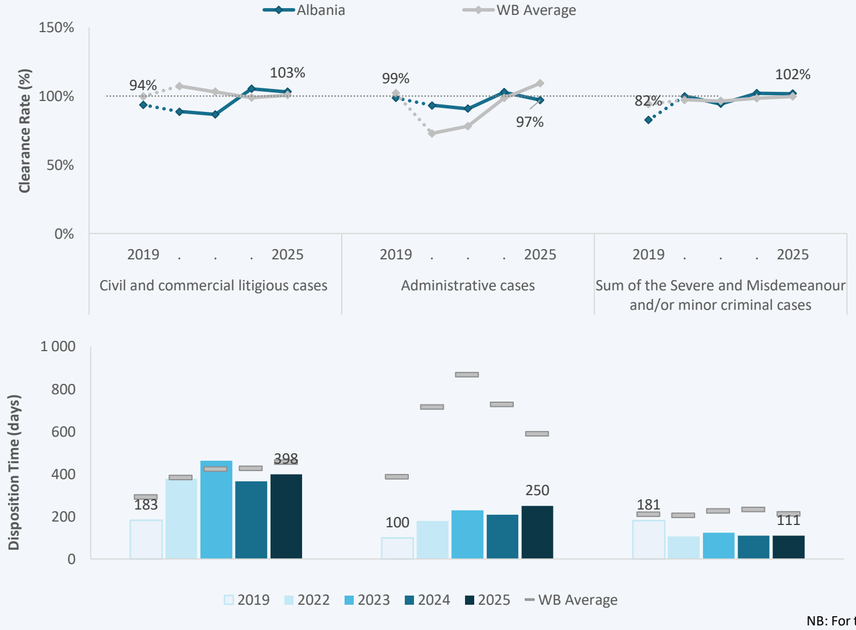
In Albania, the vetting process has significantly affected the judicial system over the past years by reducing the number of judges and prosecutors and, consequently, the courts' adjudicatory capacity. However, the gradual appointment of new professionals is beginning to produce positive effects, and the 2025 data suggest a slow recovery in court performance.

In first instance, performance remained relatively stable for civil and commercial litigious cases. The Clearance Rate (CR) slightly decreased from 103% in 2024 to 94% in 2025, while the Disposition Time (DT) increased from 365 to 398 days. Administrative cases continued to show good performance, with a CR close to 100% throughout the period and a DT of 250 days in 2025, despite a gradual increase over recent years. Criminal cases remained the most efficient category: the CR exceeded 100% in 2025 and the DT remained low at 111 days, well below the WB average.

In second instance, the situation is more heterogeneous. Administrative cases recorded a remarkable improvement compared to previous years: the DT fell from 8 680 days in 2022 to 2 634 days in 2025, while the CR increased from 24% in 2019 to 84% in 2025. According to the authorities, this improvement is linked to the reduction of the backlog and to the increase in the number of judges assigned to administrative courts. Nevertheless, the DT remains considerably above the WB average. Civil and commercial litigious cases continue to face important challenges, with a CR of only 54% in 2025 and a DT of 4 961 days. Criminal cases also show persistent difficulties: despite a slight reduction in DT from 1 661 days in 2024 to 1 572 days in 2025, the CR remained low at 57%.

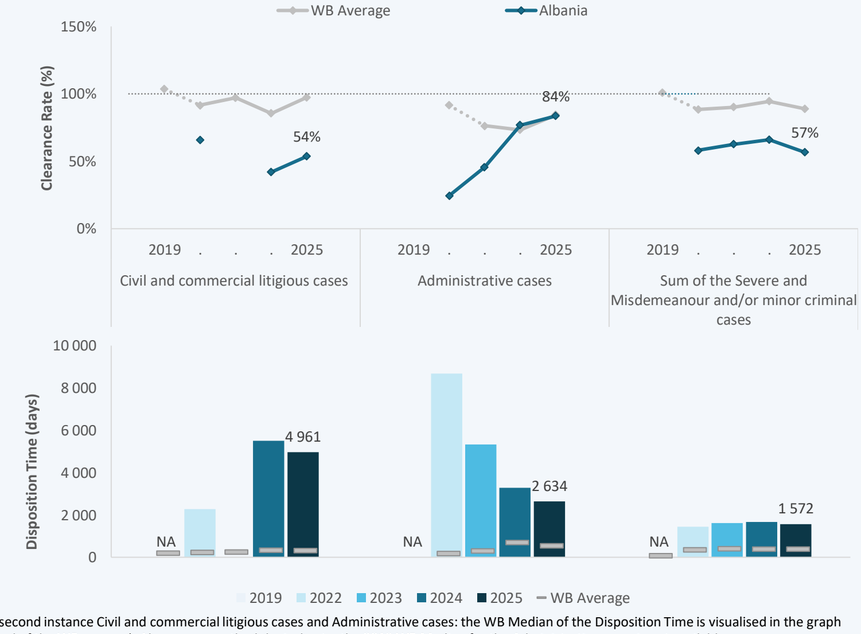
First instance cases

Clearance rate (%) and Disposition Time (days) for first instance cases from 2019 to 2025



Second instance cases

Clearance rate (%) and Disposition Time (days) for second instance cases from 2019 to 2025



NB: For the second instance Civil and commercial litigious cases and Administrative cases: the WB Median of the Disposition Time is visualised in the graph above (instead of the WB average). Also, as per methodological note, the 2019 WB Median for the Administrative cases is not available.

• First instance cases - Other than criminal law cases

1st instance cases in 2025 (absolute values)		Albania (2025)				% Variation between 2024 and 2025			
		Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		45 633	47 152	36 701	7 746	-13,6%	-15,2%	-4,0%	93,9%
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	18 728	19 286	21 038	5 975	-8,7%	-10,7%	-2,6%	145,3%
2	Non-litigious cases	13 680	15 041	6 867	411	-23,7%	-21,8%	-16,5%	902,4%
3	Administrative cases	13 225	12 825	8 796	1 360	-8,0%	-13,1%	4,8%	-10,4%
4	Other cases	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP

In 2025, the incoming civil and commercial litigious cases were 18 728 (0,79 per 100 inhabitants vs the WB Average of 2,36). They decreased by -8,7% between 2024 and 2025. The resolved cases were 19 286 (0,82 per 100 inhabitants) and they decreased by -10,7%, compared to the previous year. In 2025, the number of resolved cases was higher than the incoming cases. As a consequence, the civil and commercial litigious pending cases at the end of 2025 were less than in 2024. Indeed, the 2025 Clearance rate for this type of cases was 103% (above the WB Average of 101%). This decreased by -2,3 percentage points compared to 2024.

The Disposition Time for civil and commercial litigious cases was approximately 398 days in 2025 (below the WB Average of 457 days). This increased by 9,1% over the 2024-2025 period.

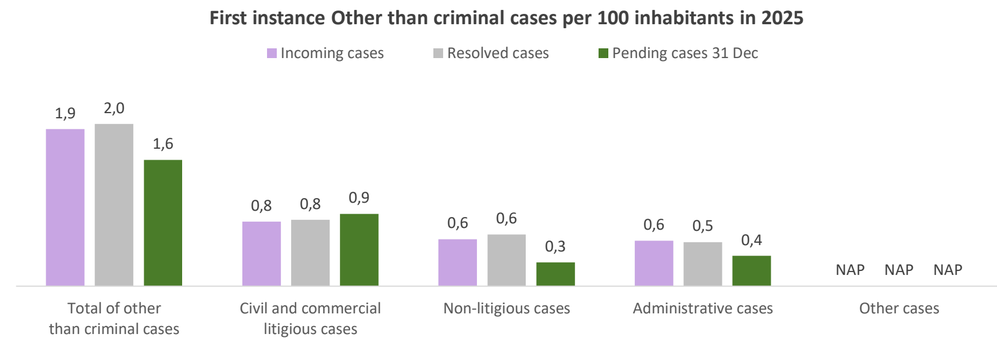
The incoming administrative cases were 13 225 in 2025 (ie 0,56 per 100 inhabitants vs the WB Average of 0,6). They decreased by -8% compared to the previous year.In 2025, the resolved cases were 12 825 (0,54 per 100 inhabitants, below of the WB Average of 0,75). Between 2024 and 2025, the number of resolved administrative decreased by -13,1%. The number of incoming cases was thus higher than the resolved cases. As a consequence, the administrative pending cases at the end of 2025 were more than in 2024 and the Clearance rate for this type of cases was 97% (below the WB Average (109%). The CR decreased by -5,8 percentage points compared to the previous year.

Finally, the Disposition Time for administrative cases was approximately 250 days in 2025. This has increased by 20,6% compared to 2024 and it was below the WB Average (590 days).

The increase in the number of first instance civil and commercial litigious cases pending for more than two years, from 2 436 in 2024 to 5 975 in 2025, can be explained by a combination of factors. These include judicial vacancies within the court system, the accumulation of backlog, the prioritisation of categories of cases subject to urgent deadlines, and the complexity of cases requiring multiple hearings and procedural steps. Procedural delays, such as postponed hearings, difficulties in notifying the parties and delays in the preparation of expert reports, also contributed to the longer duration of proceedings.

1st instance cases in 2025 (per 100 inhabitants)		Incoming cases			Resolved cases			Pending cases 31 Dec			Pending cases over 2 years		
		Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		1,9	<	10,8	2,0	<	11,5	1,6	<	14,2	0,33	<	10,85
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	0,8	<	2,4	0,8	<	2,4	0,9	<	3,0	0,25	<	1,01
2	Non-litigious cases	0,6	<	7,5	0,6	<	7,9	0,3	<	9,8	0,02	<	9,22
3	Administrative cases	0,6	<	0,6	0,5	<	0,8	0,4	<	1,4	0,06	<	0,62
4	Other cases	NAP		0,7	NAP		0,7	NAP		0,03	NAP		-

Key: > Higher than the WB Average; = Equal to the WB Average; < Lower than the WB Average



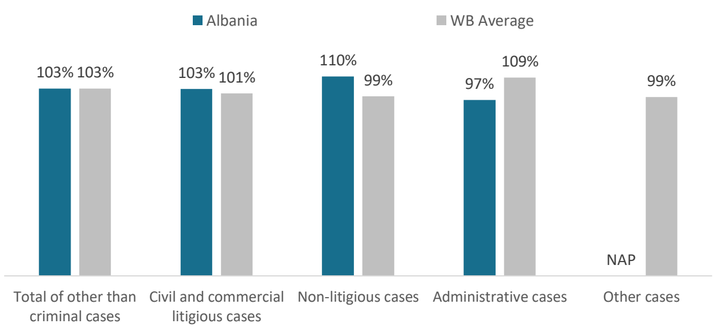
For reference only: the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Incoming first instance Civil and Commercial litigious cases per 100 inhabitants: 1,8;
- incoming first instance Administrative cases per 100 inhabitants: 0,4.

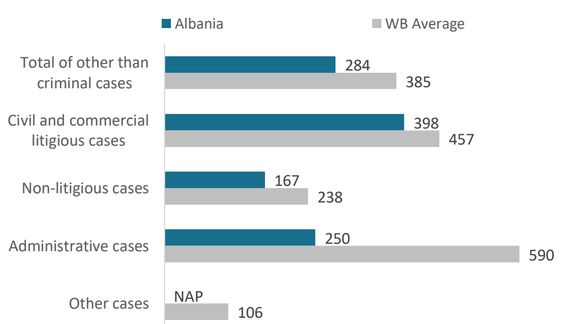
1st instance cases Clearance Rate (CR) and Disposition Time (DT) in 2025		CR (%)		DT (days)		% Variation 2024 - 2025	
		Albania	WB Average	Albania	WB Average	CR (PPT)	DT (%)
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		103%	103%	284	385	-1,9	13,2%
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	103%	101%	398	457	-2,3	9,1%
2	Non-litigious cases	110%	99%	167	238	2,7	6,8%
3	Administrative cases	97%	109%	250	590	-5,8	20,6%
4	Other cases	NAP	99%	NAP	106	NAP	NAP

PPT = Percentage points

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median for the first instance Civil and Commercial litigious cases was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 97,8%; - Disposition time: 248 days.

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median for the first instance Administrative cases was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 96,5%; - Disposition time: 327 days.





• First instance cases - Criminal law cases

1st instance cases in 2025 (absolute values)		Albania (2025)				% Variation between 2024 and 2025			
		Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		10 047	10 223	3 097	267	-79,8%	-79,2%	-75,1%	-30,6%
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases (1+2)		10 047	10 223	3 097	267	-5,7%	-5,9%	-5,4%	24,2%
1	Severe criminal cases	8 565	8 679	2 382	232	2,5%	6,6%	-4,6%	34,9%
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	1 482	1 544	715	35	-35,3%	-43,3%	-8,0%	-18,6%
3	Other cases	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP

In 2025, the incoming severe and misdemeanour criminal cases were 10 047 (0,43 per 100 inhabitants vs the WB Average of 4,11). They decreased by -5,7% between 2024 and 2025. The resolved cases were 10 223 (0,43 per 100 inhabitants). Between 2024 and 2025, they decreased by -5,9%. The number of resolved cases was thus higher than the incoming cases. As a consequence, the severe and misdemeanour criminal pending cases at the end of 2025 were less than in 2024. Indeed, the 2025 Clearance rate for this type of cases was 102% (above the WB Average of 99,6%). This decreased by -0,3 percentage points compared to 2024.

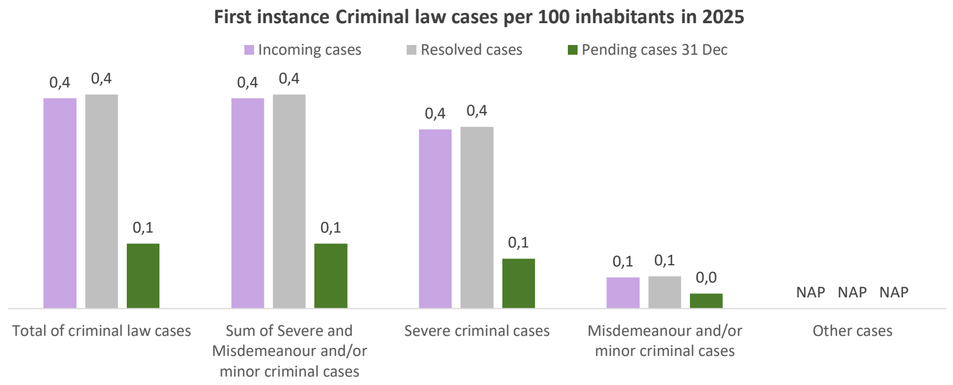
The Disposition Time for severe and misdemeanour criminal cases was approximately 111 days in 2025 (below the WB Average of 213 days). This increased by 0,5% over the 2024-2025 period.

The decrease in the number of incoming criminal misdemeanour cases, as well as the reduction in the number of resolved cases, may be explained by a combination of legal, institutional and social factors.
According to the authorities, law enforcement bodies, particularly the police, increasingly rely on administrative measures, such as fines, thereby reducing the number of cases brought before courts. At the same time, courts tend to prioritise the adjudication of criminal offences considered to be of greater social harmfulness, while the substantial caseload of other criminal and civil matters may affect the capacity to process criminal contravention cases.
In addition, the authorities point to broader social and demographic developments, including a decrease in the number of complaints and reports concerning criminal contraventions, as well as migration and demographic changes, which may have contributed to the decline in the volume of incoming and resolved cases.

1st instance cases in 2025 (per 100 inhabitants)		Incoming cases			Resolved cases			Pending cases 31 Dec			Pending cases over 2 years		
		Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		0,4	<	4,3	0,4	<	4,3	0,1	<	2,6	0,01	<	0,07
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (1+2)		0,4	<	4,1	0,4	<	4,1	0,1	<	2,6	0,01	<	0,07
1	Severe criminal cases	0,4	<	0,5	0,4	<	0,5	0,1	<	0,3	0,01	<	0,06
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	0,1	<	3,6	0,1	<	3,6	0,0	<	2,3	0,00	<	0,02
3	Other cases	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-

For reference only: for the first instance Total Criminal law cases, the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Incoming cases per 100 inhabitants: 1,7.

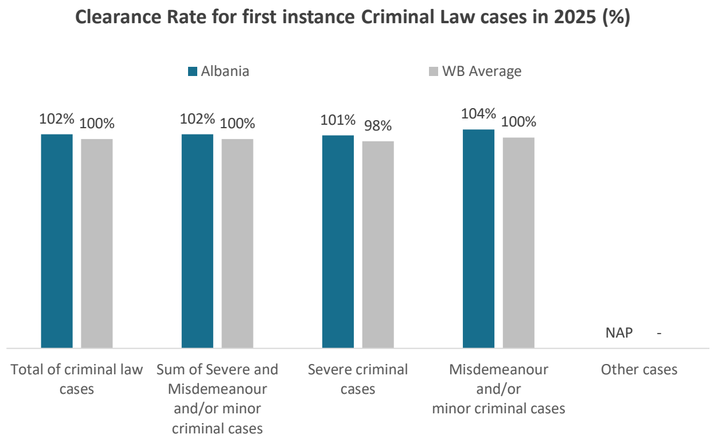
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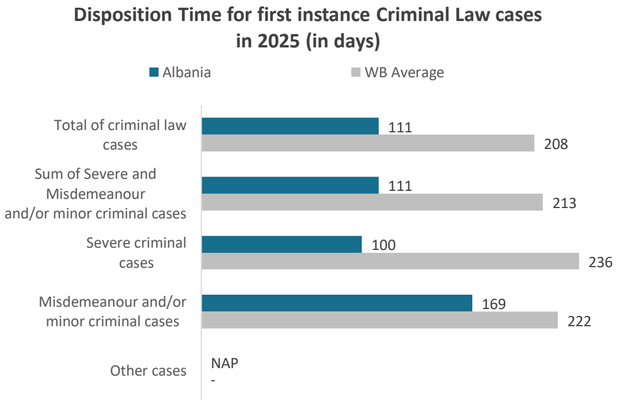


1st instance cases Clearance Rate (CR) and Disposition Time (DT) in 2025		CR (%)		DT (days)		% Variation 2024 - 2025	
		Albania	WB Average	Albania	WB Average	CR (PPT)	DT (%)
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		102%	100%	111	208	3,1	19,8%
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (1+2)		102%	100%	111	213	-0,3	0,5%
1	Severe criminal cases	101%	98%	100	236	4,0	-10,5%
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	104%	100%	169	222	-14,8	62,4%
3	Other cases	NAP	-	NAP	-	NAP	NAP

PPT = Percentage points

For reference only: for the first instance Total Criminal law cases, the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 98,8%; - Disposition time: 128 days.





• Second instance cases - Other than criminal law cases

2nd instance cases in 2025 (absolute values)		Albania (2025)				% Variation between 2024 and 2025			
		Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		10 235	8 063	54 149	36 986	8,6%	24,4%	4,2%	1,5%
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	3 374	1 809	24 588	17 249	-7,5%	18,3%	6,8%	2,1%
2	Non-litigious cases	2 794	2 855	5 031	2 210	20,8%	24,3%	-1,2%	2,2%
3	Administrative cases	4 067	3 399	24 530	17 527	17,4%	27,8%	2,8%	0,7%
4	Other cases	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP

In 2025, the incoming civil and commercial litigious cases were 3 374 (0,14 per 100 inhabitants vs the WB Average of 0,9). They decreased by -7,5% between 2024 and 2025. The resolved cases were 1 809 (0,08 per 100 inhabitants). Between 2024 and 2025, they increased by 18,3%. The number of resolved cases was thus lower than the incoming cases. As a consequence, the civil and commercial litigious pending cases at the end of 2025 were more than in 2024. Indeed, the 2025 Clearance rate for this type of cases was 54% (below the WB Average of 97%). This increased by 11,7 percentage points compared to 2024.
The Disposition Time for civil and commercial litigious cases was approximately 4 961 days in 2025 (above the WB Average of 1210 days). This decreased by -9,7% compared to 2024.
The incoming administrative cases were 4 067 in 2025 (ie 0,17 per 100 inhabitants vs the WB Average of 0,15). They increased by 17,4% compared to the previous year. The resolved cases were 3 399 (0,14 per 100 inhabitants, above of the WB Average of 0,13). Between 2024 and 2025, the number of resolved administrative increased by 27,8%. The number of incoming cases was thus higher than the resolved cases. As a consequence, the administrative pending cases at the end of 2025 were more than in 2024 and the Clearance rate for this type of cases was 84% (below the WB Average (84%). The CR increased by 6,8 percentage points compared to the previous year.
Finally, the Disposition Time for administrative cases was approximately 2 634 days in 2025. This has decreased by -19,6% compared to 2024 and it was above the WB Average (1027 days).

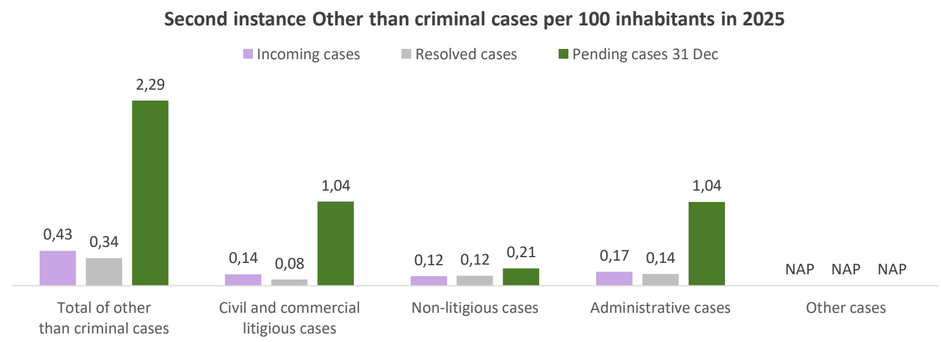
For administrative cases, the improvement in court performance is mainly linked to the reduction of the backlog of pending cases. According to the authorities, courts have focused their efforts on decreasing the number of pending cases, which has resulted in a higher number of resolved cases. In addition, the increase in the number of judges between 2024 and 2025 has enhanced adjudicatory capacity and contributed to faster case processing.

Regarding second instance criminal cases, the increase in the number of incoming cases may be explained by a more frequent use of the right to appeal against first instance decisions, as well as by the growing number of complex criminal cases, which tend to generate a higher number of appeals.

2nd instance cases in 2025 (per 100 inhabitants)		Incoming cases			Resolved cases			Pending cases 31 Dec			Pending cases over 2 years		
		Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		0,43	<	1,07	0,34	<	1,12	2,29	>	1,30	1,57	>	0,77
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	0,14	<	0,90	0,08	<	0,98	1,04	>	0,96	0,73	>	0,56
2	Non-litigious cases	0,12	>	0,07	0,12	>	0,07	0,21	>	0,08	0,09	>	0,04
3	Administrative cases	0,17	>	0,15	0,14	>	0,13	1,04	>	0,37	0,74	>	0,25
4	Other cases	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-

Key: > Higher than the WB Average; = Equal to the WB Average; < Lower than the WB Average

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Incoming Second instance Civil and Commercial litigious cases per 100 inhabitants: 0,2;
- incoming Second instance Administrative cases per 100 inhabitants: 0,1.

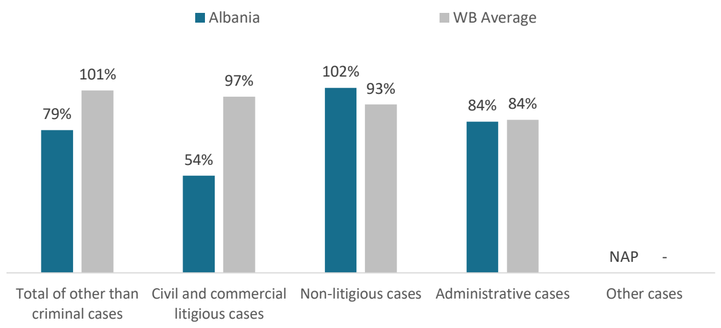


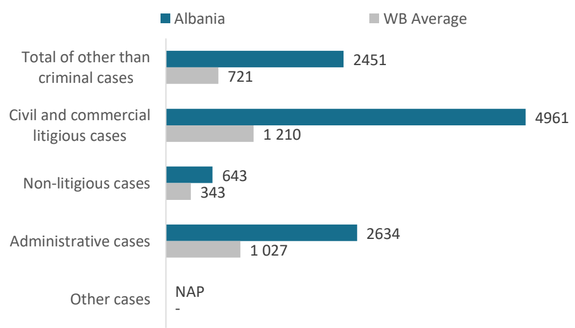
2nd instance cases Clearance Rate (CR) and Disposition Time (DT) in 2025		CR (%)		DT (days)		% Variation 2024 - 2025	
		Albania	WB Average	Albania	WB Average	CR (PPT)	DT (%)
Total of other than criminal law cases (1+2+3+4)		79%	101%	2 451	721	10,0	-16,2%
1	Civil and commercial litigious cases	54%	97%	4 961	1 210	11,7	-9,7%
2	Non-litigious cases	102%	93%	643	343	2,9	-20,5%
3	Administrative cases	84%	84%	2 634	1 027	6,8	-19,6%
4	Other cases	NAP	-	NAP	-	NAP	NAP

PPT = Percentage points

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median for the Second instance Civil and Commercial litigious cases was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 100,8%; - Disposition time: 207 days.

For reference only: the 2024 EU Median for the Second instance Administrative cases was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 98,4%; - Disposition time: 339 days.





• Second instance cases - Criminal law cases

2nd instance cases in 2025 (absolute values)		Albania (2025)				% Variation between 2024 and 2025			
		Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases 31 Dec	Pending cases over 2 years
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		5 435	3 081	13 270	6 948	-34,7%	-52,1%	-2,4%	-6,3%
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (1+2)		5 435	3 081	13 270	6 948	49,5%	28,4%	21,6%	14,5%
1	Severe criminal cases	5 188	2 330	12 532	6 424	47,2%	5,9%	29,5%	18,4%
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	247	751	738	524	124,5%	295,3%	-40,6%	-18,5%
3	Other cases	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NA	NA	NA	NA

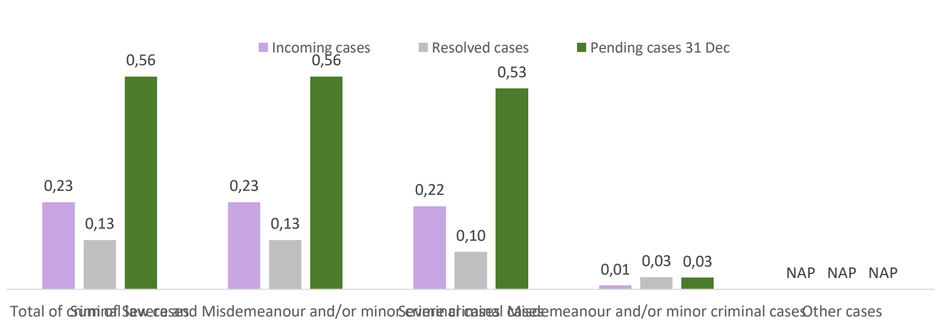
In 2025, the incoming severe and misdemeanour criminal cases were 5 435 (0,23 per 100 inhabitants vs the WB Average of 0,48).They increased by 49,5% between 2024 and 2025. The resolved cases were 3 081 (0,13 per 100 inhabitants). Between 2024 and 2025, they increased by 28,4%. The number of resolved cases was thus lower than the incoming cases. As a consequence, the severe and misdemeanour criminal pending cases at the end of 2025 were more than in 2024. Indeed, the 2025 Clearance rate for this type of cases was 57% (below the WB Average of 88,8%). This decreased by -9,3 percentage points compared to 2024.

The Disposition Time for severe and misdemeanour criminal cases was approximately 1 572 days in 2025 (above the WB Average of 395 days). This decreased by -5,3% compared to 2024.

2nd instance cases in 2025 (per 100 inhabitants)		Incoming cases			Resolved cases			Pending cases 31 Dec			Pending cases over 2 years		
		Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average	Albania		WB Average
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		0,23	<	0,48	0,13	<	0,45	0,56	>	0,21	0,29	>	0,10
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (1+2)		0,23	<	0,48	0,13	<	0,45	0,56	>	0,21	0,29	>	0,10
1	Severe criminal cases	0,22	<	0,25	0,10	<	0,21	0,53	>	0,18	0,27	>	0,09
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	0,01	<	0,23	0,03	<	0,24	0,03	<	0,04	0,02	>	0,01
3	Other cases	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-	NAP		-

Key: > Higher than the WB Average; = Equal to the WB Average; < Lower than the WB Average

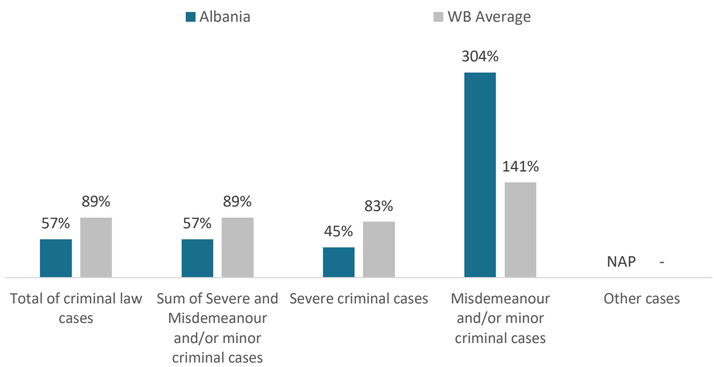
For reference only: for the second instance Total Criminal law cases, the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Incoming cases per 100 inhabitants: 0,1.

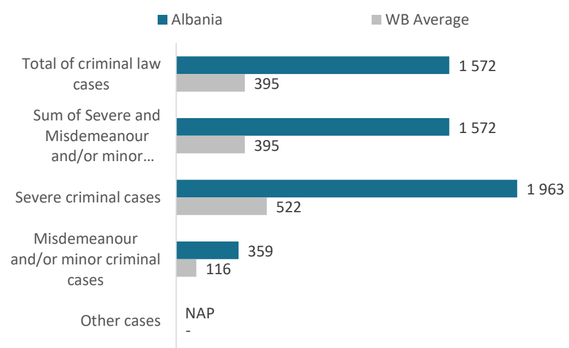


2nd instance cases Clearance Rate (CR) and Disposition Time (DT) in 2025		CR (%)		DT (days)		% Variation 2024 - 2025	
		Albania	WB Average	Albania	WB Average	CR (PPT)	DT (%)
Total of criminal law cases (1+2+3)		57%	89%	1 572	395	-20,6	103,5%
Sum of Severe and Misdemeanour and/or minor criminal cases (1+2)		57%	89%	1 572	395	-9,3	-5,3%
1	Severe criminal cases	45%	83%	1 963	522	-17,8	22,8%
2	Misdemeanour and / or minor criminal cases	304%	141%	359	116	131,3	-85,0%
3	Other cases	NAP	-	NAP	-	NAP	NAP

PPT = Percentage points

For reference only: for the second instance Total Criminal law cases, the 2024 EU Median was as follows:
- Clearance rate: 99,5%; *- Disposition time: 121 days.*





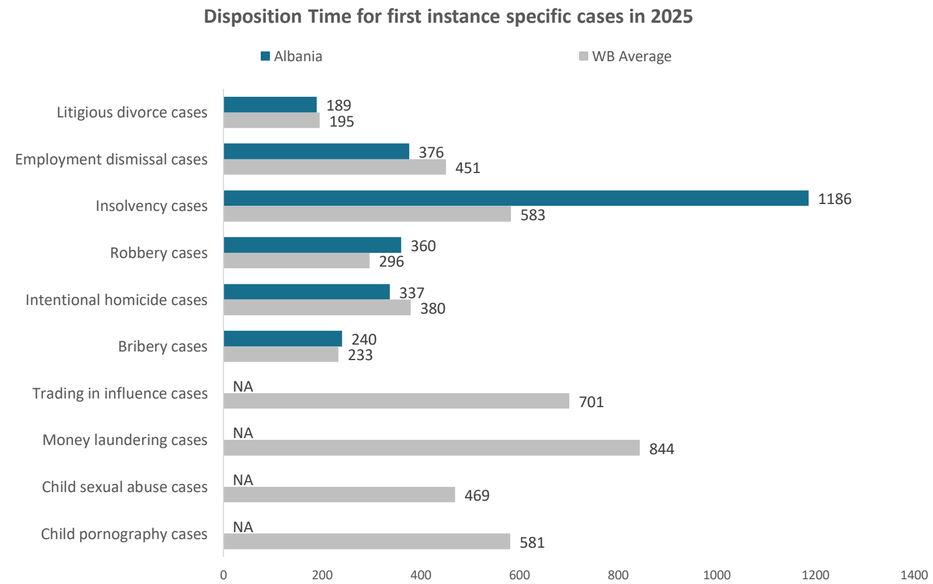
• Specific category cases

	Average length of proceedings (in days)							
	2025				% Variation between 2024 and 2025			
	First instance	Second instance	Third instance	Total	First instance	Second instance	Third instance	Total
Civil and commercial litigious cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Administrative cases	250	2 634	641	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Criminal cases (severe and misdemeanour)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

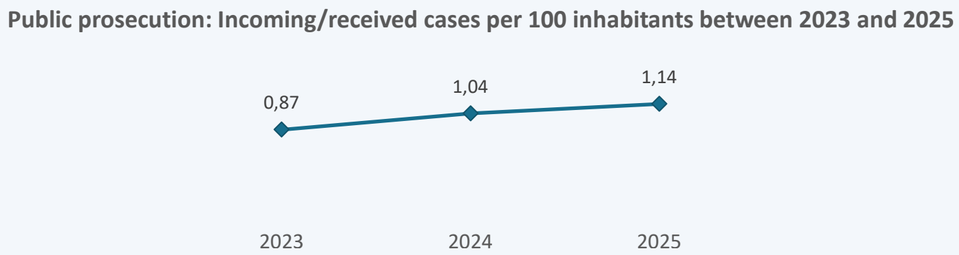
The average length of cases corresponds to the average length of resolved cases at a certain instance within the reference year.

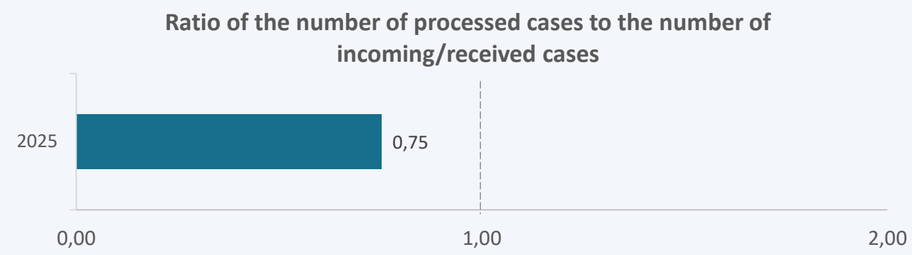
The average length of proceedings for civil, administrative and criminal cases overall is calculated using the following formula:
(total number of pending cases at the end of the year / total number of resolved cases during the year) × 365.
For civil and commercial litigious cases, the requested data on the average length of proceedings (Disposition Time – DT) at first and second instance could not be provided, as their calculation would not accurately reflect the actual situation. In the absence of a breakdown into sub-categories, the analysis has been carried out at the level of the civil section as a whole, in accordance with the CEPEJ methodology. Under this approach, the DT indicator amounts to approximately 297 days at first instance and 2 318 days at second instance.
Similarly, for criminal cases (severe criminal offences and misdemeanours), the requested DT at first and second instance could not be calculated separately, as the resulting figures would not accurately reflect the actual situation. Therefore, in line with the CEPEJ methodology, the analysis has been conducted for the criminal section as a whole. Under this approach, the DT indicator amounts to approximately 87 days at first instance and 920 days at second instance.

First instance specific cases in 2025						CR (%)		DT (days)	
	Albania								
	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. year	Incoming cases	Resolved cases	Pending cases on 31 Dec ref. year	Pending cases older than 2 years from the date the case	Albania	WB Average	Albania	WB Average
Litigious divorce cases	4477	6 518	7 244	3 751	68	111%	103%	189	195
Employment dismissal cases	1436	900	1 150	1 186	182	128%	105%	376	451
Insolvency cases	18	16	8	26	13	50%	91%	1186	583
Robbery cases	73	76	75	74	2	99%	109%	360	296
Intentional homicide cases	75	77	79	73	7	103%	103%	337	380
Bribery cases	19	44	38	25	2	86%	98%	240	233
Trading in influence cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	108%	NA	701
Money laundering cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	67%	NA	844
Child sexual abuse cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	101%	NA	469
Child pornography cases	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	79%	NA	581



Public Prosecution in Albania in 2025 (Indicators 3.1.1)





Albania was not able to distinguish between criminal cases where the perpetrator is known and those where the perpetrator is unknown. In 2025, the public prosecution services in Albania received 1,1 incoming first instance cases per 100 inhabitants (where the perpetrators where known and unknow), processed 0,9 cases per 100 inhabitants, and had 1 cases per 100 inhabitants pending at the end of the year. Between 2023 and 2025, the incoming/received cases in the public prosecution offices increased substantially from 0,87 to 1,14 per 100 inhabitants. The general trend over these years stayed relatively stable. Additionally, in 2025, the ratio of the number of processed cases to the number of incoming cases was 0,75.

Status of public prosecution services

In Albania the public prosecution office is part of the judicial power but enjoys functional independence.

According to Article 148 of the Constitution, the Prosecution Office exercises criminal prosecution and represents the accusation before courts on behalf of the State. It is an independent body responsible for ensuring the coordination and control of its activities while respecting the internal independence of prosecutors in carrying out investigations and prosecutions.
The independence of the prosecution service is further strengthened by Article 149 of the Constitution, which establishes the High Prosecutorial Council as an independent governing body responsible for guaranteeing the independence, accountability, discipline, status and career of prosecutors. Moreover, prosecutors exercise their functions independently and are protected against any unlawful internal or external influence from public or private authorities.
The prosecution service has its own budget, which forms a separate item within the State budget and is proposed and administered by the Prosecutor General. In addition, the Special Prosecution Office and the Special Investigation Unit responsible for investigating corruption, organised crime and other serious offences operate independently from the Prosecutor General.

Different authorities involved in a pre-trial stage of criminal proceedings

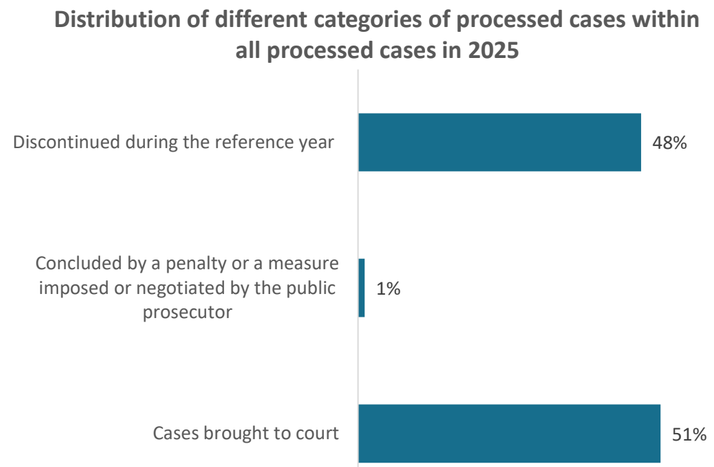
	Police	Public prosecutor	Investigating judge	Judge	Other
Receive a complaint	✓	✓	NAP	NAP	NAP
Initiate investigation	✓	✓	NAP	NAP	NAP
Conduct investigation	✓	✓	NAP	NAP	NAP
Supervising investigation		✓	NAP	NAP	NAP
Dismiss a case at the pre-trial stage	NAP	✓	NAP	NAP	NAP
Bring a case to court	NAP	✓	NAP	NAP	NAP
Decide an alternative to prosecution	NAP	✓	NAP	NAP	NAP
Close a case by imposing or negotiating a penalty or measure	NAP	✓	NAP	NAP	NAP

According to the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Albania, the prosecutor plays a central and leading role in the criminal process, from the moment information about a criminal offence is received until the case is brought before the court. The prosecutor conducts criminal prosecution and represents the accusation before the court on behalf of the State. The prosecutor directs and controls preliminary investigations, supervises the activity of the judicial police, and is entitled to carry out any investigative action deemed necessary for establishing the acussation.
In this context, the prosecutor is the authority that decides on the initiation or non-initiation of criminal proceedings, the dismissal of the case or the charges, as well as on requesting that the case be brought to trial, in accordance with the cases and criteria provided by law. The prosecutor may also conclude cooperation agreements with collaborators of justice, reach agreements on the admission of guilt and the determination of the sentence, or submit a request to the court for the approval of a penal order. The prosecutor initiates where the law does not require a complaint by the victim, criminal prosecution ex officio.
The prosecutor exercises his or her functions independently, in accordance with the rules provided by law. Prosecutors of first instance exercise these functions during preliminary investigations and first-instance proceedings, and by prosecutors of appeal and the High Court in appealed cases. With regard to the judicial police, the Criminal Procedure Code establishes a clear relationship of functional subordination. The judicial police are obliged to become aware of criminal offences, prevent further consequences, identify perpetrators, and conduct investigations; however, all investigative actions are carried out under the orders and delegation of the prosecutor. Judicial police officers act as auxiliary bodies in support of the exercise of criminal prosecution.
The judicial police are accountable to the prosecutor for the activities carried out during criminal proceedings, are obliged to carry out the tasks assigned by the prosecutor, and must promptly inform the prosecutor of the results of the actions undertaken.
The prosecutor is therefore the authority that leads, supervises, and takes the key decisions throughout the criminal process, while the judicial police perform auxiliary and executive investigative functions under the functional authority of the prosecutor. This framework ensures a balance between the efficiency of investigations, procedural legality, and the independence of the prosecutor in the exercise of his or her constitutional and legal functions.

• Public prosecution: first instance criminal cases

Albania was not able to distinguish between criminal cases where the perpetrator is known and those where the perpetrator is unknown. Therefore, the table below shows cases in which it is not possible to differentiate between known and unknown perpetrators.

Public prosecution: 1st instance criminal cases in 2025			Absolute number in 2025	Per 100 inhabitants
1	Pending cases on 1 Jan. ref. Year		22 400	0,95
2	Incoming/received cases		27 048	1,14
3	Processed cases (3.1 + 3.2 + 3.3)		20 352	0,86
	3.1	Discontinued during the reference year (3.1.1 + 3.1.2 + 3.1.3)	9 726	0,41
		3.1.1. Discontinued by the public prosecutor due to the lack of an established offence	2 922	0,12
		3.1.2 Discontinued by the public prosecutor for reasons of opportunity	NAP	NAP
		3.1.3 Discontinued for other reasons	6 804	0,29
	3.2	Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor	227	0,01
	3.3	Cases brought to court	10 399	0,44
4	Pending cases on 31 Dec. ref. year		22 825	0,97



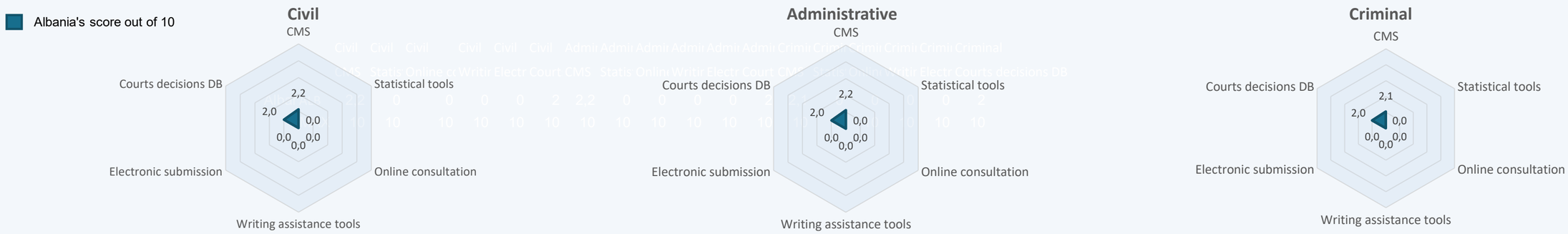
Regarding categories such as suspended, transferred, joined/split or reopened cases, these are treated dynamically within the prosecution case management system and do not necessarily represent a definitive exit from the caseflow. Consequently, they are not always recorded as processed cases, as their procedural status may change during the reference year. For example, cases initially dismissed may subsequently be returned by the court for further investigation, while cases sent to trial may be remitted during the preparatory hearing phase for additional investigative actions and therefore re-enter the active caseflow. In line with the agreed methodology, these categories may be reported under “discontinued for other reasons” in order to ensure horizontal consistency of the data.

The dismissal of charges or cases is regulated by Articles 328 and 329/a of the Criminal Procedure Code. Upon completion of the preliminary investigation, the prosecutor may decide to dismiss a charge or a case, or request its dismissal by the preliminary hearing judge, in situations such as the absence of a criminal offence, lack of evidence, extinction of criminal liability, or other grounds provided by law. The persons concerned must be notified of the dismissal and have the right to access the file and lodge an appeal.

The prosecutor also plays a central role in negotiating and initiating penalty orders and guilty plea agreements. The data reported under these categories refer exclusively to the requests submitted by prosecutors to the court and not to the final judicial decisions. Penalty orders are regulated by Articles 406/a to 406/ç of the Criminal Procedure Code and may be requested for misdemeanours where imprisonment is not considered appropriate. Guilty plea agreements are regulated by Articles 406/d to 406/f and may be concluded for offences punishable by up to seven years of imprisonment, subject to judicial approval.

Information and communication technology tools in Albania in 2025 (Indicator 3.3)

The six ICT deployment indices (CMS, Courts decisions DB, Statistical tools, Writing assistance tools, electronic submission and online consultation) range from 0 to 10 points. Their calculation is based on the features and on deployment rates reported. The methodology for calculation provides points for each feature in each case matter. They are summarised and multiplied by the deployment rate as a weight. In this way, if the system is not fully deployed, the value is decreased even if all features are existing.



In 2025, the maximum overall score among the six ICT indexes is achieved in Albania by the CMS index (2,2), while the index for court decisions databases scored of 2,0 out of 10 across civil, administrative and criminal matters. The CMS index remained limited, reaching 2,2 out of 10 in civil and administrative matters and 2,1 in criminal matters, reflecting the availability of only a few core functionalities. No statistical tools, online consultation services, electronic submission systems or writing assistance tools were reported for any type of case. Overall, Albania's ICT landscape remains characterised by a relatively low level of digitalisation, with court decisions databases representing the most developed component of the system.

Albania's judicial system operates within a common ICT strategic framework coordinated by the Justice Technology Centre and the High Judicial Council (HJC). At present, courts rely on three main case-related IT systems. The Integrated Case Management Information System (ICMIS), used by 18 of the 20 courts, supports case registration, procedural tracking, scheduling, case allocation and basic reporting. The ArkIT system is used by two courts and provides case registration and document management functionalities, while the FTR/RDA system is used for the digital recording of court hearings. The coexistence of these systems has resulted in fragmented workflows, limited interoperability and a low level of end-to-end digitalisation.

To address these challenges, the HJC has launched the implementation of a new unified Case Management System, JURONIX, which will progressively replace ICMIS and ArkIT and integrate the FTR/RDA system. The new platform aims to standardise judicial workflows across all courts, enable fully digital case files, improve interoperability with other justice institutions and strengthen security, auditability and data quality. The current CMS solutions have been developed incrementally over time through regular functional and technical upgrades, but are now considered to have reached their structural and technological limits.

• Electronic case management system

SentenceThe CMS is deployed in almost all Albanian courts, with deployment rates between 95% and 100% and usage rates ranging from 75% to 95% across civil, administrative and criminal matters. The system provides a limited set of functionalities, including random case allocation, anonymisation of decisions, identification of cases across instances and electronic signatures. No differences were reported among the three case categories. Nevertheless, interoperability with prosecution services and external registers is not available, and several advanced functionalities, such as AI-based tools, electronic transfer of cases and active case management dashboards, have not yet been implemented.

	Deployment rate	Usage rate	Centralised and/or interoperable CMS databases	Active case management dashboard	Random allocation of cases	Case weighting	Identification of a case between instances (unique or linked id number)	Electronic transfer of a case to another instance/court	Anonymisation of decisions to be published	Interoperability with prosecution system	Interoperability with other systems (civil register, tax register, insolvency register)	Remote access for telework	Access to closed/resolved cases	Advanced search engine	AI-based categorization and allocation of incoming cases	AI-based case analysis tool	Protected log files	Electronic signature	Storage of the electronic evidence file	Other special functionality
Civil	95-100 %	75-95 %			✓				✓				✓	✓						
Administrative	95-100 %	75-95 %			✓				✓				✓	✓						
Criminal	95-100 %	75-95 %			✓				✓				✓	✓						

A CMS for public prosecution services does not exist.

• Database of court decisions

The database of court decisions covers civil, administrative and criminal cases at all court instances. The deployment rate ranges from 75% to 95% across all case categories and instances.

	1st instance													
			Functionalities											
	Percentage of decisions published	Modalities of publication	AI anonymisation	Manual anonymisation	Free public online access	Link to the case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR)	Open data	Advanced search engine	AI-based (LLM) exploration tool	Machine-readable content	Structured content	Metadata	European Case Law Identifier (ECLI)	Other special functionality
Civil	75-95 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database			✓									
Administrative	75-95 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database			✓									
Criminal	75-95 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database			✓									

	2nd instance													
Civil	75-95 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database			✓									
Administrative	75-95 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database			✓									
Criminal	75-95 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database			✓									

	Highest Instance													
Civil	75-95 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database			✓									
Administrative	75-95 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database			✓									
Criminal	75-95 %	Published online (public website) and in an internal database			✓									

Court decisions are published online through public websites and are also stored in internal databases. The database covers civil, administrative and criminal matters at first, second and highest instance levels, with deployment rates ranging from 75% to 95%.

The only functionality reported is the possibility to access decisions free of charge online. No anonymisation tools, metadata, advanced search engine, open data, machine-readable content, ECLI identifiers or AI-based exploration tools were reported. Overall, the database provides public access to court decisions but offers limited functionalities compared with the regional average.

• Statistical tools

in Albania, statistical tools are not developed.

	Deployment rate	Functionalities								Data available for statistical analysis								
		Integration/connection with the CMS	Business intelligence software	Generation of predefined statistical reports	Generation of customised statistical reports	Internal page and/or dashboard	External page with statistics (public website)	Real-time data availability	Automatic consolidation of data at the national level	Other special functionality	Case flow data (number of incoming, resolved, pending)	Age of a pending case	Length of proceedings	Number of hearings	Cases per judge	Case weights	Number of parties in a case	Indicator of appeal	Result of the appeal
Civil	NAP																		
Administrative	NAP																		
Criminal	NAP																		

• Writing assistance tools

In Albania, the writing assistance tools are not developed in courts.

	Deployment rate	Functionalities						
		Templates	Automatically generated text	AI generated proposal for a decision and/or reasoning	AI for summarization of documents	Speech-to-text	Electronic signature	Other special functionality
Civil	NAP							
Administrative	NAP							
Criminal	NAP							

• Electronic submission of cases

In Albania, electronic submission of a case is not possible.

	Deployment rate	Usage rate	Electronic or paper			Submitted by:				Data integration	
			Paper submission is still possible	Paper submission is not possible anymore (electronic submission is the only way)	Double submission (paper must accompany the electronic submission)	Public prosecutor (only for criminal)	Lawyer	Party not represented by a lawyer	Other	The data are electronically transferred to the Case Management System (CMS)	The data are manually re-entered in the CMS
Civil	NAP	NAP									
Administrative	NAP	NAP									
Criminal	NAP	NAP									

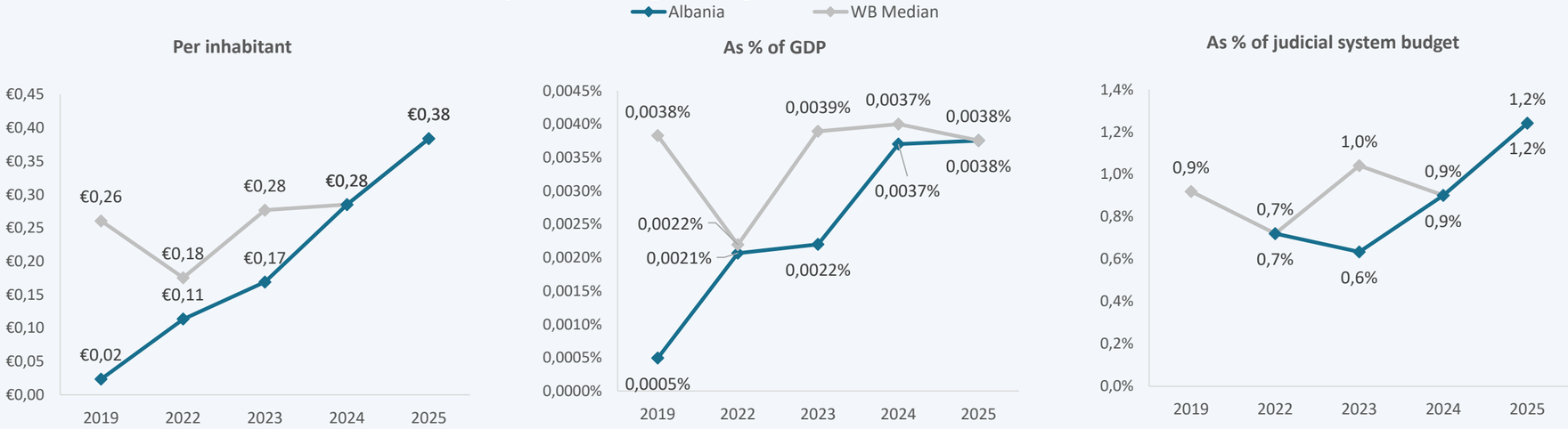
• Online consultation

In Albania, online consultation of a case is not possible.

	Deployment rate	Usage rate	Content						Access				Consultation format		
			Case status	Documents	Notifications	Events/calendar	Court decision	Other	Public prosecutor (only for criminal)	Lawyer	Party not represented by a lawyer	Other	Electronic access at the court premises	Electronic access from any location	Other
Civil	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP		NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP
Administrative	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP		NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP
Criminal	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP

Legal Aid in Albania in 2025 (Indicator 4)

Total implemented budget for Legal Aid between 2019 and 2025



Number of cases for which LA has been granted in 2025

0,28

per 100 inhabitants

WB Average: 0,28

WB Average: 0,28

In 2025, the implemented budget for legal aid spent by Albania was €907 374. Between 2019 and 2025, it more than doubled from €0,02 to €0,38 per inhabitant. Over the same period, the trend indicates a significant upward movement in the amount allocated per inhabitant. Compared to the WB Median, which stood at €0,38 in 2025, Albania's value was the same as the regional reference point.
Moreover, the implemented budget for legal aid as a percentage of GDP had a remarkable increase, starting at 0,0005% in 2019 and reaching 0,0038% in 2025. This value was the same as the WB Median of 0,0038%, indicating a comparable national investment relative to economic output.
Looking at legal aid as a share of the judicial system budget, the percentage had a significant increase from 0,72% in 2022 to 1,2% in 2025. In 2025, the share was the same as the WB Median of 1,2%.

• Organisation of the legal aid system (1/2)

Legal aid guaranteed by the state constitutes a core pillar of access to justice in the Republic of Albania. A dedicated legal framework was first introduced in 2008, enabling the establishment of a specialised public body responsible for the provision of free legal aid. The system was fundamentally reformed within the framework of the justice reform, resulting in a comprehensive and modern legal aid scheme aligned with European Union standards.
The current system is based on Law No. 111/2017 on State Guaranteed Legal Aid, which entered into force on 1 June 2018. The law regulates the organisation, administration, forms, and procedures of state-guaranteed legal aid, with the objective of ensuring effective protection of fundamental rights and access to justice. Its constitutional basis is grounded in Article 42(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania, while Decision No. 7/2013 of the Constitutional Court has recognised state-guaranteed legal aid as an integral component of the right to due process. The law is complemented by a package of sub-legal acts regulating operational aspects of legal aid delivery.
The legal aid system is centrally coordinated by the Directorate of Free Legal Aid (DFLA) and provides three main forms of assistance:
Primary legal aid, consisting of legal information, counselling, and assistance prior to judicial proceedings, is delivered through a nationwide network of 20 Primary Legal Aid Service Centers operating in Tirana, Durrës, Elbasan, Lushnjë, Berat, Fier, Vlorë, Pogradec, Gjirokastër, Lezhë, Shkodër, Dibër, Kukës, Korçë, Tropojë, Mat, Pukë, Kurbin, Kavajë and Përmet. These centres ensure territorial coverage, including areas affected by the implementation of the new judicial map, where courts of first instance have been closed. Primary legal aid is also provided by authorised non-profit organisations and legal clinics within higher education institutions, operating under the supervision and coordination of DFLA.
Secondary legal aid consists of legal representation by an advocate in judicial proceedings (criminal, civil, and administrative). Representation is provided by advocates included in a dedicated list approved by the National Chamber of Advocates, based on court decisions granting legal aid. Courts are required to decide on legal aid requests within statutory deadlines, ensuring timely access to representation.
In addition, the system provides for exemptions from court fees and court costs, as well as exemption from the obligation to prepay enforcement fees, as regulated by law.
Overall, the Albanian legal aid system is organised as a multi-layered, state-coordinated mechanism, combining public service centres, cooperation with civil society and academia, and court-based decision-making, with the aim of ensuring effective, timely, and nationwide access to justice.

• Organisation of the legal aid system (2/2)

Legal aid is applied to:

	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
Representation in court	✓	✓
Legal advice, legal assistance and other legal services	✓	✓

Under Law No. 111/2017, state-guaranteed legal aid is provided in three forms: (i) primary legal aid, (ii) secondary legal aid and (iii) exemption from court fees, court expenses and certain enforcement fees.
Primary legal aid includes legal information, counselling, mediation advice, assistance in drafting documents, representation before administrative bodies and other forms of legal support not constituting secondary legal aid.
Secondary legal aid consists of legal representation and defence before courts in civil, administrative and criminal matters. In criminal proceedings, the legal aid scheme applies only where mandatory defence under the Criminal Procedure Code does not apply.

State-guaranteed legal aid in Albania covers both criminal and non-criminal cases and includes legal representation before courts as well as legal advice, assistance and other legal services.
Primary legal aid includes the provision of information on the legal system and legal acts, legal counselling, advice on mediation and other alternative dispute resolution methods, assistance in drafting documents required to initiate proceedings before public authorities or to request secondary legal aid, representation before administrative bodies, and all other forms of legal support not constituting secondary legal aid. Primary legal aid is mainly provided through service centres, NGOs and legal clinics.
Secondary legal aid consists of the preparation of legal acts necessary to initiate court proceedings, legal counselling, representation and defence before courts in administrative, civil and criminal matters. In criminal proceedings, however, secondary legal aid is provided only in cases where mandatory defence under the Criminal Procedure Code does not apply. Court representation is provided by advocates appointed upon a court decision. The system is coordinated by the Directorate of Free Legal Aid in accordance with Law No. 111/2017.

Criteria for granting or refusing legal aid

	Criminal cases	Other than criminal cases
Legal aid granted based on the financial situation	✓	✓
Legal aid may be refused for cases lacking merit, such as frivolous actions or those with no reasonable chance of success	✓	✓

Legal aid in Albania is granted or refused on the basis of financial and statutory criteria applicable to both criminal and non-criminal cases.
According to Articles 12 and related provisions of Law No. 111/2017, legal aid is granted when the applicant demonstrates insufficient income and assets to cover the costs of legal assistance or representation.Legal aid may be refused or discontinued when the legal request is manifestly unfounded, abusive or lacks legal grounds, when the applicant does not meet the statutory eligibility criteria, or when false or misleading information has been provided in the application.
The system is implemented and coordinated by the Directorate of Free Legal Aid, while decisions on granting or refusing legal aid, particularly secondary legal aid, are taken by the competent courts in accordance with the law.

Legal aid is automatically granted

	Status of the recipient	Category of the case
Legal aid automatically granted	✓	✓

Under Law No. 111/2017, automatic entitlement to legal aid based on the status of the applicant applies to specific categories of beneficiaries, irrespective of their income or assets. These categories include, inter alia, victims of domestic violence, victims of trafficking or sexual abuse, children, persons with disabilities, persons subject to involuntary mental health treatment, beneficiaries of social protection schemes and victims of discrimination.
Automatic legal aid based on the category of the case does not apply under Law No. 111/2017. However, mandatory defence in criminal proceedings, as provided for by the Code of Criminal Procedure, ensures legal representation in specific categories of criminal cases. In such situations, legal aid is granted automatically in accordance with criminal procedural law. Secondary legal aid under Law No. 111/2017 covers the drafting of legal acts and the provision of legal counselling, representation and defence before courts in administrative, civil and criminal matters, except where mandatory defence under criminal procedural law applies.

Timeframes of the procedure for granting legal aid

	Criminal cases (days)	Other than criminal cases (days)
Maximum duration prescribed in law/regulation	5	5
Actual average duration	30	30

Primary legal aid is provided immediately upon request, whether submitted orally or in writing. Where necessary, legal counselling may be extended for additional days. In practice, primary legal aid is provided immediately after the request is submitted and, where additional counselling is required, the duration may be extended by up to two days. For secondary legal aid, the time limit for deciding on a request depends on the stage of the proceedings: the court must decide within 5 days when the application is submitted before the initiation of judicial proceedings; during the preliminary actions or preparatory session when the request is submitted together with the statement of claim; or according to the applicable procedural legislation when the request is submitted during judicial proceedings. According to Article 22(9) of Law No. 111/2017, the Directorate of Free Legal Aid may appeal against a decision granting legal aid only when it considers that the request is manifestly unfounded or abusive. The ordinary rules and time limits governing appeals against final decisions apply, while a further recourse to the High Court is not permitted. According to the practice reported by the beneficiary, the period between the submission of a request for secondary legal aid and the notification of the court's decision granting or refusing legal aid is approximately one month.

• Implemented budget for legal aid

	Implemented budget for legal aid in €				Total implemented budget for legal aid per inhabitant		Total implemented budget for legal aid as % of GDP		Total implemented budget for legal aid as % of the judicial system budget	
	Total (a+b)	% Variation 2019 - 2025	Cases brought to court (a)	Cases not brought to court (b)	Albania	WB Median	Albania	WB Median	Albania	WB Median
Total (1+2)	€907 374	1255,3%	€215 592	€691 782	€0,38	€0,38	0,0038%	0,0038%	1,2%	1,2%
In criminal cases (1)	NA	NA	NA	NA						
In other than criminal cases (2)	NA	NA	NA	NA						

In 2025, the total implemented budget for legal aid, which covers both cases brought to court and those not brought to court, stood at €907 374. There has been a remarkable increase in the legal aid budget, with a 1 255,3% rise from 2019 to 2025.

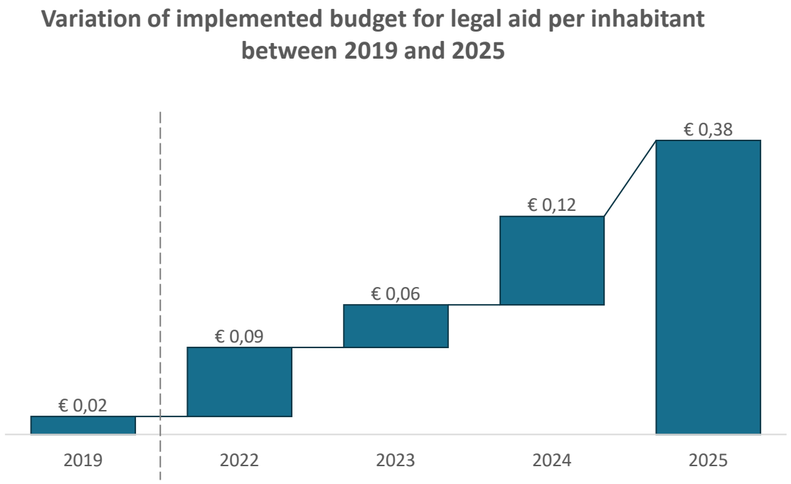
When evaluating the budget on a per capita basis, the amount dedicated to legal aid in 2025 was €0,38 per inhabitant. In Albania, the legal aid budget does not include expenditure for mandatory legal representation in court. As a result, the reported legal aid figures are not fully comparable with the WB average, which may include such expenditure where it is reported under legal aid in line with CEPEJ methodology.

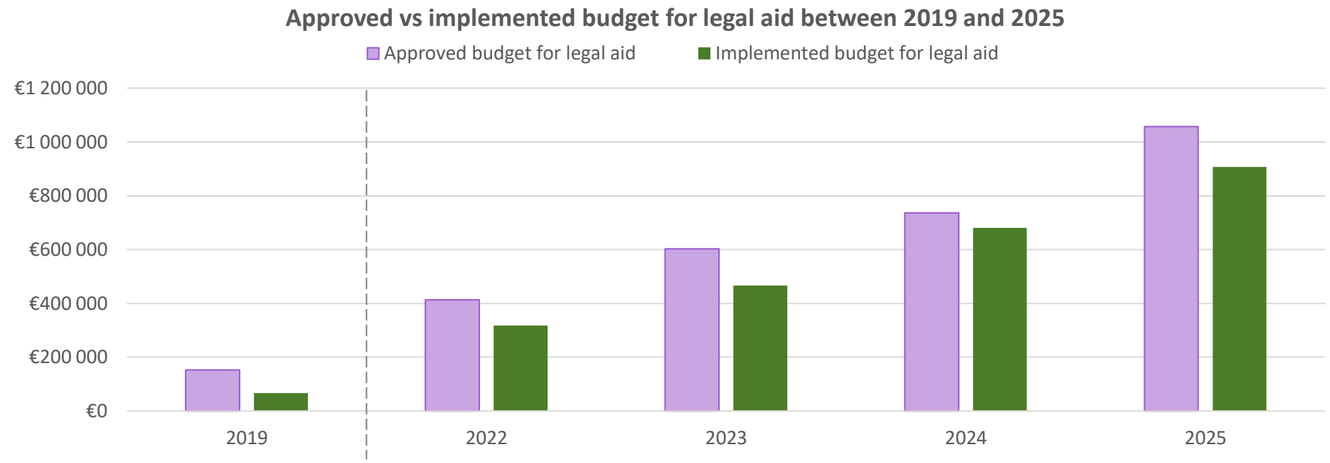
Examining the legal aid budget as a proportion of the GDP, the figure stood at 0,0038%. This percentage was the same as the WB Median of 0,0038%.

Additionally, the portion of judicial system budget set aside for legal aid was 1,2%, the same as the WB Median of 1,2%. Over the period between 2019 and 2025, the trend of this percentage stayed relatively stable.

Comparisons with the WB Average should be interpreted with caution, as the Albanian legal aid budget does not include the costs of mandatory legal representation before courts, which are included in the legal aid expenditure of several other Western Balkans beneficiaries.

The increase in the Approved and Implemented Legal Aid (LA) budget is mainly due to the increase in the salaries of the employees working within the system of state-guaranteed free legal aid. This adjustment was made in line with the broader public administration salary policy and has directly affected the overall budget allocated and implemented for legal aid.

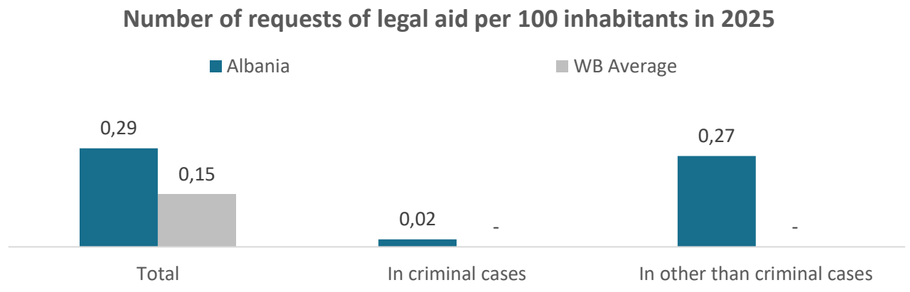




The increase in the legal aid budget over recent years is linked to the legal aid reform introduced in 2019, which significantly expanded the scope of state-guaranteed legal aid and led to a gradual increase in public investment in this area. According to the authorities, the opening of primary legal aid service centres throughout the country, the remuneration of lawyers and experts providing secondary legal aid, and changes in the legislation governing employees' salaries have all contributed to the growth of the budget. In 2025, the increase was mainly driven by the rise in salaries of employees working within the state-guaranteed legal aid system, in line with the broader public administration salary policy. Comparisons with the WB Average should be interpreted with caution, as the Albanian legal aid budget does not include the costs of mandatory legal representation before courts, which are included in the legal aid expenditure of several other Western Balkans beneficiaries.

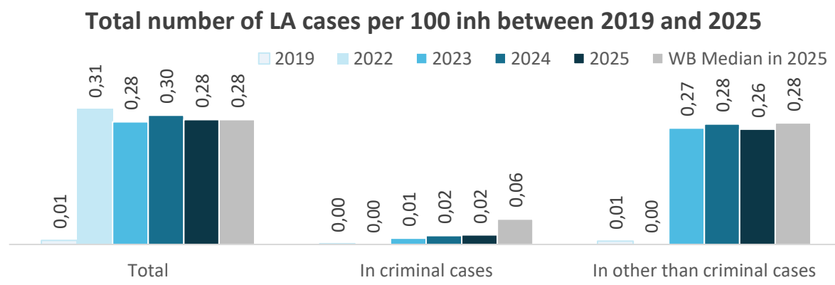
• Number of request for legal aid and number of cases for which legal aid has been granted

	Number of requests of legal aid				
	Total (a+b)			Cases brought to court (a)	Cases not brought to court (b)
	Absolute number	Per 100 inh.	WB Average		
Total (1+2)	6 787	0,29	0,15	924	5 863
In criminal cases (1)	513	0,02	-	46	467
In other than criminal cases (2)	6 274	0,27	-	878	5 396



In 2025, the number of requests for legal aid was 6 787, corresponding to 0,29 requests per 100 inhabitants. This was significantly higher than the WB Average. The number of requests in criminal cases were 513, and in the other than criminal cases were 6 274. The total requests for legal aid in cases brought to court were 924, whereas the total requests for cases not brought to court were 5 863.

	Number of cases for which legal aid has been granted					Amount of LA granted per case (€)		
	Total (a+b)			Cases brought to court (a)	Cases not brought to court (b)	Total	Cases brought to court	Cases not brought to court
	Absolute number	Per 100 inh.	% Variation 2019 - 2025					
Total (1+2)	6 724	0,28	2 899,0%	861	5 863	€134,9	€250,4	€118,0
In criminal cases (1)	506	0,02	950,6%	39	467	NA	NA	NA
In other than criminal cases (2)	6 218	0,26	3 432,0%	822	5 396	NA	NA	NA

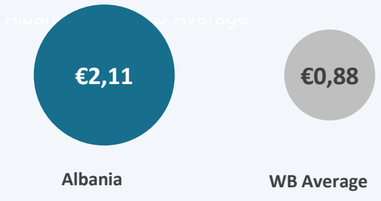


In 2025, the number of cases for which legal aid was granted was 6 724, which was 2899% more compared to 2019. The number of criminal cases were 506, and the other than criminal cases were 6 218. The total cases brought to court were 861, while the total cases not brought to court were 5 863. On average, the amount granted per legal aid case was €134,9.

Comparisons with the WB Median should be interpreted with caution, as the Albanian legal aid budget does not include the costs of mandatory legal representation before courts, which are included in the legal aid expenditure of several other Western Balkans beneficiaries.

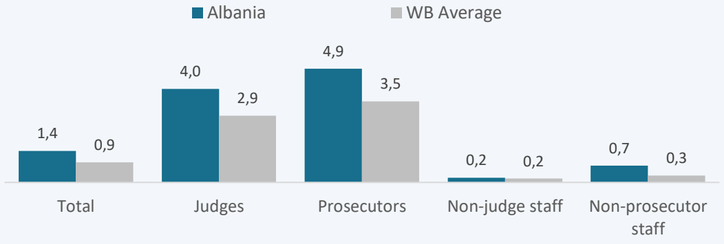
Training of judges and prosecutors in Albania in 2025 (Indicator 11)

Total budget for training per inhabitant



Average number of live training participations per professional

Please see the definition of the indicator on page 2.



Average number of participants per delivered training



The total budget for training of judges and prosecutors in Albania was € 2,11 per inhabitant, higher than the WB Average of € 0,88 per inhabitant.

In 2025, a total of 3 283 participants - including 1 384 judges and 1 221 prosecutors - took part in 416 live training sessions held in-person, hybrid or via video conferences. Regarding the internet-based trainings (not-live), 2 trainings were provided on the e-learning platform of the training institution for judges and prosecutors, whereas 3 trainings was completed by justice professionals on other e-learning platforms such as HELP, EJTN, and the UN. The total number of participats was 0 for the institutional platform and 48for the external platforms. There were 0 participants in internet-based trainings. This shows that the participation on live trainings is higher than the participation in internet-based trainings.

On average, each judge in Albania attended 4 live trainings in 2025, which was higher than the WB Average (2,9). Each prosecutor participated in an average of 4,9 live trainings, more than the WB Average (3,5).

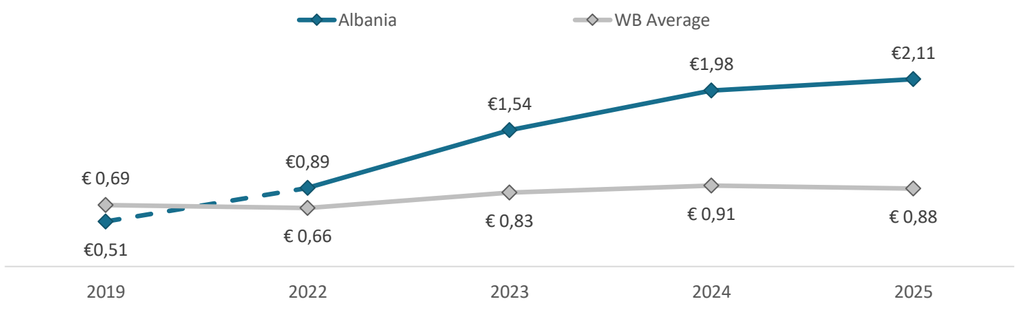
Additionally, both judges and prosecutors in Albania are required to attend a minimum of 5 days of in-service compulsory training.

• Budget for training

This part analises the budget of training institution(s) for judges and prosecutors but also the budgets of courts and prosecutions dedicated to training (when applicable)

	Absolute Number	Per inhabitant		% Variation 2019 - 2025	% Variation 2024 - 2025
		Albania	WB Average		
Total (1 + 2 + 3)	€4 988 657	€2,11	€0,88	315,9%	6,4%
(1) Budget of the training institution(s)	€4 622 180				
(2) Budget of the courts allocated to training	€366 477				
(3) Budget of the prosecution allocated to training	NAP				

Evolution of the Total Training Budget per inhabitant from 2019 to 2025



In 2025, Albania spent a total of €4 988 657 on the training of judges and prosecutors, corresponding to €2,11 per inhabitant. This amount was considerably higher than the WB Average of €0,88 per inhabitant and represented the highest value recorded among the Western Balkans beneficiaries. Between 2019 and 2025, the training budget per inhabitant increased by 315,9%, reflecting the importance attached to strengthening judicial capacities in the context of the ongoing justice reform. Compared with 2024, the budget further increased by 6,4%, confirming the sustained investment in judicial training.

One judicial training institution covers the training of the categories of judges, prosecutors, non-judge staff, non-prosecutor staff.

• Number of in-service live trainings and participants

Organisation of the trainings (number, duration and average number of participants on trainings)

	Live (in-person, hybrid, video conference) trainings (2025)						
	Number of delivered trainings	Delivered trainings in days	Number of participants	Average duration of trainings in days		Average number of participants per delivered training	
				Albania	WB Average	Albania	WB Average
Total	416	446	3 283	1,1 <	1,2	7,9 <	14,4
Judges	163	173	1 384	1,1 <	1,2	8,5 <	11,8
Prosecutors	123	133	1 221	1,1 <	1,3	9,9 <	10,1
Non-judge staff	56	59	239	1,1 <	1,5	4,3 <	15,2
Non-prosecutor staff	74	81	439	1,1 =	1,1	5,9 >	2,8

CEPEJ distinguishes these types of trainings:
"A live" training shall be understood as a training conducted in real time. This means that both trainers and participants are physically present in one location or several locations assisted with information technology (digital tools).
"Internet-based" trainings are all trainings that take place over internet, irrespective of the format of the training (such as trainings via specifically designed LMS - Learning Management System platforms, webinars, podcasts and other forms of downloadable lectures and self-learning digital tools). The internet-based training shall be understood as e-training that is implemented according to participant own pace and time of training.

Key: > Higher than the WB Average
= Equal to the WB Average
< Lower than the WB Average

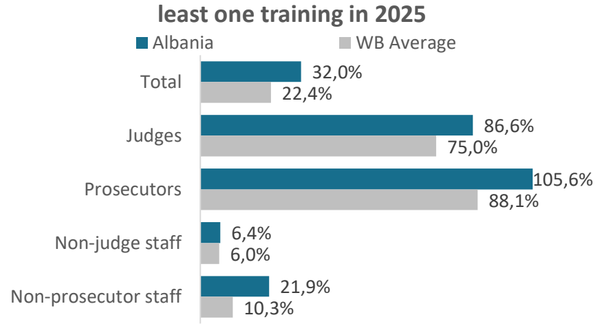
In 2025, the average duration of trainings of both judges and prosecutors in Albania was 1,1 days (while the WB Average was 1,2 and 1,3 days, respectively).

Number of trainings available for non-judge and non-prosecutor staff is equal to the number of training delivered because there are no training activities that are repeated.

Indicators on training participation: Number of training participations per professional and unique participants

	Average number of live training participations per professional		Professionals attending at least one training (unique participants)		
			Number	% of total professionals by category	
	Albania	WB Average		Albania	WB Average
Total	1,4 >	0,9	772	32,0% >	22,4%
Judges	4,0 >	2,9	298	86,6% >	75,0%
Prosecutors	4,9 >	3,5	263	105,6% >	88,1%
Non-judge staff	0,2 <	0,2	77	6,4% >	6,0%
Non-prosecutor staff	0,7 >	0,3	134	21,9% >	10,3%





Average number of live training participations per professional

This indicator is calculated as follows: the number of participants in live trainings is divided by the number of professionals for that category. For example, the WB Average for judges is 3,4. This means that, on average, each judge in the region participated to 3,4 live trainings. This indicator should also be analysed together with the indicator on percentage of professionals attending training,shown in the table as well. Indeed, this analysis allows to better understand how long a professional was trained on average and if all were trained.

Looking at the average participations on live trainings, the highest average was for prosecutor (4,9 live training participations per prosecutor). Hence, compared to the other professionals, Albania gave priority to the trainings for prosecutor, like the rest of the region (the WB Average number of participations per prosecutor on live trainings was 3,5).

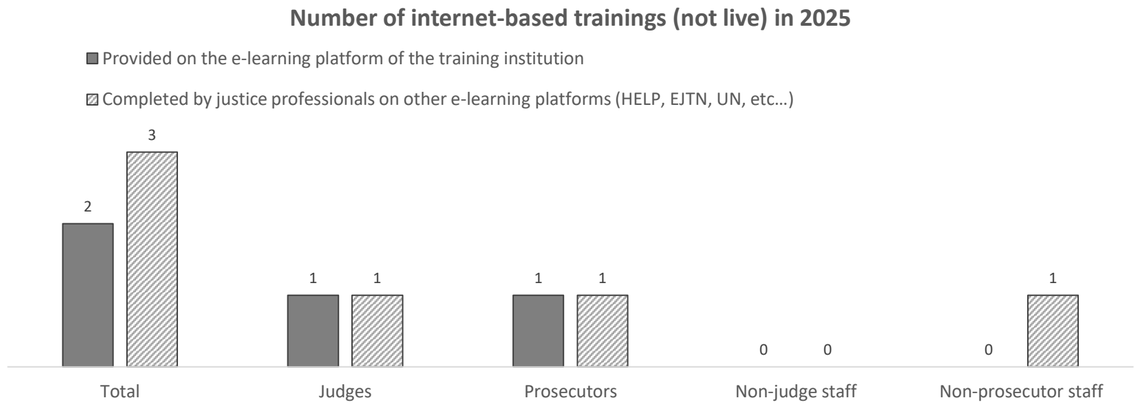
In 2025 the highest priority for live training was given to the training of Prosecutors (4,9 participations on trainings per prosecutor). At the same time, the percentage of prosecutor attending at least one training was 105,6%.

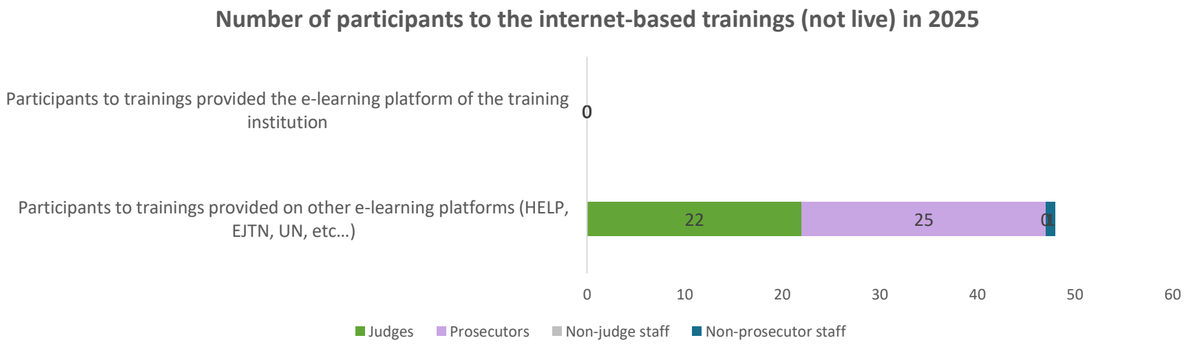
Participation shall be understood as one attendance of a person to a training.

• Number of in-service internet-based trainings and participants

	Number of internet-based trainings (not live) in 2025			
	Provided on the e-learning platform of the training institution		Completed by justice professionals on other e-learning platforms (HELP, EJTN, UN, etc…)	
	Number of trainings	Number of participants	Number of trainings	Number of participants
Total	2	0	3	48
Judges	1	0	1	22
Prosecutors	1	0	1	25
Non-judge staff	0	0	0	0
Non-prosecutor staff	0	0	1	1

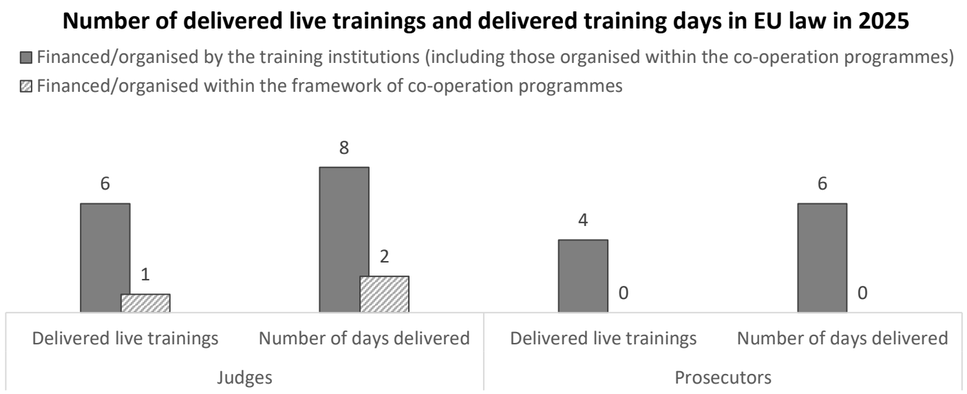
In 2025, Albania offered a limited number of internet-based training activities. Two online courses were made available through the e-learning platform of the School of Magistrates, although no participant completed them during the reference year. In addition, three online trainings organised on external platforms, such as HELP, EJTN or UN programmes, involved 48 participants in total, including 22 judges, 25 prosecutors and one member of the non-prosecutorial staff. The data suggest that Albania continues to rely primarily on live training activities, while the use of online learning remains relatively limited.





• Number of EU law training courses and participants

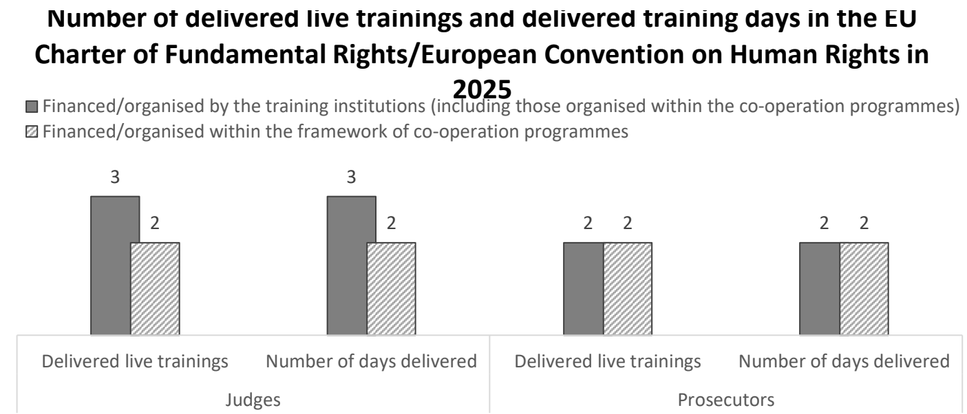
	Training in EU law			
	By the training institutions for judges and prosecutors		Within the framework of co-operation programmes	
Live trainings (2025)	**Judges**	**Prosecutors**	**Judges**	**Prosecutors**
Number of delivered live trainings	6	4	1	0
Number of days delivered	8	6	2	0
Number of participants	53	66		
Internet-based trainings (2025)				
Number of available trainings	0	0	0	0
Number of participants	0	0		



In 2025, judges in Albania received a total of 6 live trainings in EU law, including 1 delivered within the framework of co-operation programmes. Prosecutors received 4 live trainings in total, including 0 delivered within the framework of co-operation programmes. Judges participated in 8 training days with 53 participants, while prosecutors took part in 6 training days with 66 participants. No internet-based trainings were available for either group.

The EU law trainings delivered in 2025 covered a broad range of topics related to European judicial cooperation and the application of EU legislation. The courses addressed, inter alia, judicial cooperation in criminal matters, the fight against corruption in the EU, international child abduction, the European Arrest Warrant and its components, the main principles of EU law, and European consumer protection law. Both judges and prosecutors participated in most of these trainings, while the course on the general principles of EU law was delivered specifically to judges.

	Training in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights/European Convention on Human Rights			
	By the training institutions for judges and prosecutors		Within the framework of co-operation programmes	
Live trainings (2025)	**Judges**	**Prosecutors**	**Judges**	**Prosecutors**
Number of delivered live trainings	3	2	2	2
Number of days delivered	3	2	2	2
Number of participants	18	46		
Internet-based trainings (2025)				
Number of available trainings	0	0	0	0
Number of participants	0	0		



In 2025, judges in Albania received a total of 3 live trainings in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights/European Convention on Human Rights, including 2 delivered within the framework of co-operation programmes. Prosecutors received 2 live trainings in total, all delivered within the framework of co-operation programmes. Judges participated in 3 training days with 18 participants, while prosecutors took part in 2 training days with 46 participants. No internet-based trainings were available for either group.

The trainings related to the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) focused on the application of the ECtHR case law in corruption investigations and on conflicts of interest involving magistrates in the light of domestic legislation and the ECtHR jurisprudence. Two training activities on corruption investigations were organised for both judges and prosecutors, while one training on conflicts of interest was delivered specifically to judges.

• Type of trainings

		Types of training	
		Judges	Prosecutors
	Initial training	Compulsory for all	Compulsory for all
In-service training	General	Compulsory for all	Compulsory for all
	Specialised judicial functions	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some
	Management functions of the court	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some
	Use of computer facilities in courts	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some
	On ethics	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some
	On child-friendly justice	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some
	On gender equality	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some
	On prevention of corruption	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some
	On conflicts of interest	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some
	Other	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some

Judges and prosecutors in Albania are subject to compulsory continuing training under Law No. 96/2016 on the Status of Judges and Prosecutors. Magistrates are required to attend at least 5 days of training per year and at least 30 days over a five-year period, while the maximum duration is set at 40 days per year and 200 days over five years. Compliance with these requirements is taken into account in the professional and ethical evaluation carried out by the High Judicial Council and the High Prosecutorial Council. Unjustified failure to attend the required number of training activities constitutes a disciplinary violation and may result in disciplinary measures, including compulsory attendance of specified professional training programmes. In addition, prosecution offices have prosecutors specially trained in domestic and sexual violence. In 2025, 7 prosecutors received specialised training on domestic violence and 2 prosecutors on sexual exploitation of minors.

• Minimum number of compulsory trainings

	Initial compulsory training		In-service compulsory trainings	
	Minimum number of trainings	Minimum number of days	Minimum number of trainings	Minimum number of days
Judges	NAP	NAP	NAP	5
Prosecutors	NAP	NAP	NAP	5

Initial compulsory training is organised as a teaching programme delivered in teaching hours rather than in training sessions. The programme follows the academic calendar, starting on the first Monday of October and ending at the end of May of the following year. Therefore, no minimum number of training days is prescribed. As regards in-service compulsory training, Law No. 96/2016 requires magistrates to attend at least 5 days of training per year. The legislation establishes a minimum number of training days rather than a minimum number of training activities.

• Quality of judicial training

Albania identifies (collects information about) future in-service training needs via:

Target audience itself	✓	Relevant judicial institutions	✓
Previous participants in trainings	✓	Ministry of Justice	✓
Trainers	✓	Other (The assessment of training needs is a	✓
Courts/prosecutor's offices	✓		

Future in-service training needs are assessed annually through a participatory process coordinated by the School of Magistrates. Training topics may be proposed by magistrates, state lawyers, judicial police officers, the High Judicial Council, the High Prosecutorial Council, the Ministry of Justice, national and international partners, as well as internal and external trainers of the School. The suggestions collected through the evaluation forms completed after each training activity are also taken into account. The draft annual training calendar is then circulated among the beneficiaries, who express their interest in the proposed topics. The final training programme is approved on the basis of the needs identified and the demand expressed by participants. In-service training activities, including seminars, workshops and round tables, are systematically evaluated immediately after delivery through questionnaires completed by both participants and trainers, covering the quality of the training activities, materials, trainers and overall organisation.

The result of the training evaluation process is used:

To prepare a training evaluation report with recommendations	✗	To suppress a training course	✗
To improve the training course which, according to the report, needed improvements	✓	To introduce a new course	✓
To replace the trainers that failed to meet expected learning outcomes/were negatively evaluated	✓	Other	✗

Alternative Dispute Resolution in Albania in 2025 (Indicator 9)

Legal aid for court-related mediation or related mediation provided free of charge	✓
Mandatory informative sessions with a mediator	✗
Mandatory mediation with a mediator	✗

Mediators

6,0

per 100 000 inhabitants

WB Median: 6,0



59,6% female mediators

Total number of court-related mediations

Number of cases for which the parties agreed to start mediation	NA
Number of finished court-related mediations	NA
Number of cases in which there is a settlement agreement	NA

In Albania, legal aid for court-related mediation or related mediation provided free of charge could be granted. The judical system does not provide for mandatory mediation. Also, there are no mandatory informative sessions with a mediator. In 2025, the number of mediators was 6 per 100 000 inhabitants, which was the same as the WB Median. The majority of the mediators were women (59,6%). The number of court-related mediations is not available.

• Court-related mediation procedures

Court related mediation is the mediation which includes the intervention of a judge, a public prosecutor or other court staff who facilitates, directs, advises on or conducts the mediation process. For example, in civil disputes or divorce cases, judges may refer parties to a mediator if they believe that more satisfactory results can be achieved for both parties. In criminal law cases, a public prosecutor (or a judge) can refer a case to a mediator or propose that he/she mediates a case between an offender and a victim (for example to establish a compensation agreement). Such mediation may be mandatory either as a pre-requisite to proceedings or as a requirement of the court in the course of the proceedings.

Mediation in Albania is voluntary and is governed by Law No. 10 385 of 24 February 2011 on Mediation in Dispute Resolution. Mediation may be used at any stage of the proceedings if the parties freely agree to it, regardless of whether the dispute has already been brought before a court or another competent authority. It is available for civil, commercial, labour, family, intellectual property and consumer disputes, as well as for disputes between public administration bodies and private entities. In criminal matters, mediation is available for offences prosecuted upon complaint of the injured party and in other cases expressly provided for by law. Although mediation is not mandatory, courts and other competent authorities are required to inform and guide parties on the possibility of resolving disputes through mediation. Furthermore, if the parties have agreed in writing that mediation constitutes the first means of dispute resolution, the court cannot examine the case before this condition has been fulfilled.

• Other ADR methods

Mediation other than court-related mediation	Arbitration	Conciliation (if different from mediation)	Other ADR
✓	✓	✗	✗

In Albania, under the law of Arbitration (Law no 53 /2023) is crated the Permanent Institution of Arbitration, with Decision of Tirana Court no 1943 date 19.09.2024

• Mediators and court-related mediations

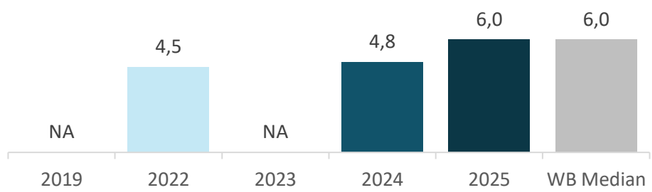
Requirements and procedure to become an accredited or registered mediator:

The activity of mediation may be carried out either by a natural person or a legal entity, subject to prior licensing and registration in the Register of Mediators. The mediator's license is granted on a nominative and individual basis to each person who fulfills the legal requirements for licensing and registration as a mediator.
Law No. 10385, dated 24 February 2011 "On Mediation in the Resolution of Disputes", as amended, stipulates under Article 5 the conditions that must be satisfied in order to be certified as a mediator.
The requirements for licensing as a mediator are as follows:
1. An Albanian citizen shall cumulatively fulfill the following conditions in order to be licensed as a mediator:
a) Must have completed second-cycle (Master's level) studies in accordance with the legislation on higher education;
b) Must have attained the age of 28;
b/1) Must possess no less than three years of professional experience;
c) Must not have been convicted of intentional criminal offences by a final and binding court decision;
ç) Must have successfully passed the mediator qualification examination upon completion of the initial training program.
Point (a) of Article 5 of Law No. 10385, dated 24 February 2011, as amended, refers to "second-cycle study programs" without prescribing a specific academic background. Nevertheless, mediators handling cases involving the interests of minors are required to possess appropriate qualifications and specialization in the relevant fields and, preferably, hold degrees in psychology, law, or social work. Likewise, mediators dealing with disputes of a commercial nature should possess the relevant qualifications and specialization and, preferably, hold degrees in law, economics, or engineering.
One of the principal requirements is the successful completion of the mediator qualification examination following the completion of the initial training program.
The initial and continuous training programs for mediators are provided at least once per year by the National Chamber of Mediators. The initial training may also be delivered by accredited higher education institutions, provided that their programs receive prior approval from the Ministry of Justice.
Upon completion of the initial training program, the mediator qualification examination is administered. This examination is organized at least once per year by the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the National Chamber of Mediation.
Upon successfully completing both the initial training program and the qualification examination, the mediator is entitled to submit the required documentation to the Minister of Justice for the issuance of the mediator's license.
The Minister of Justice shall, within 45 days from the submission of the licensing application, grant licenses to applicants who meet the conditions set forth in Article 5 of this Law for the exercise of mediation activity. Such licensed individuals shall subsequently be registered with the tax authorities in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

Accredited/registered mediators for court-related mediation			% Variation between 2019 and 2025
Absolute number	Per 100 000 inhabitants	WB Median per 100 000 inhabitants	
141	6,0	6,0	NA

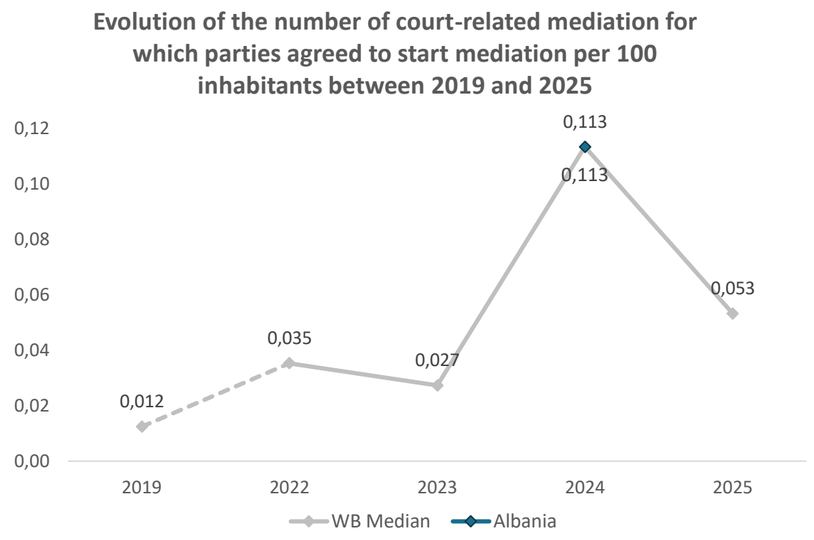
For reference only: the 2024 EU median is 19,2 mediators per 100 000 inhabitants.

Accredited/registered mediators for court-related mediation per 100 000 inhabitants between 2019 and 2025



In 2025, the total number of mediators in Albania was 141.The number of mediators per 100 000 inhabitants was 6, which is the same as the WB Median.

	Number of court-related mediations			Providers of court-related mediation services			
	Number of cases for which the parties agreed to start mediation	Number of finished court-related mediations	Number of cases in which there is a settlement agreement	Private mediator	Public authority (other than the court)	Judge	Public prosecutor
Total (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5+ 6)	NA	NA	NA				
1. Civil and commercial cases	NA	NA	NA	✓	✗	✗	✗
2. Family cases	NA	NA	NA	✓	✗	✗	✗
3. Administrative cases	NA	NA	NA	✓	✗	✗	✗
4. Labour cases incl. employment dismissals	NA	NA	NA	✓	✗	✗	✗
5. Criminal cases	NA	NA	NA	✓	✗	✗	✗
6. Consumer cases	NA	NA	NA	✓	✗	✗	✗
7. Other cases	NA	NA	NA				



Court related mediations are provided by private mediators.

In Albania, it is possible to receive legal aid for court-related mediation or receive these services free of charge.

Law No. 10 385 of 24 February 2011 "On Mediation in Dispute Resolution", as amended, regulates mediation procedures and establishes the cases in which mediation is encouraged or parties must be informed about this possibility.

In family disputes, including divorce, child custody and parental responsibilities, courts often require parties to attend an informative session on mediation before proceeding with litigation. Mediation is also encouraged in disputes concerning alimony, property division and visitation rights.

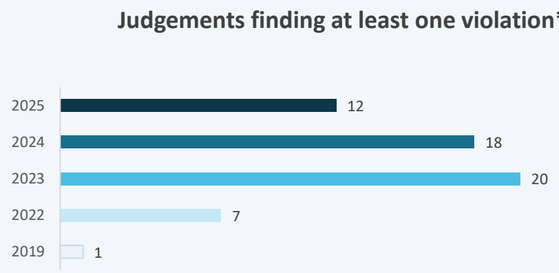
In commercial disputes, particularly those related to contractual obligations and business partnerships, parties may be required to attend mediation sessions before resorting to court proceedings. Similarly, labour disputes, such as wrongful termination or discrimination cases, often involve mediation as a first step before judicial proceedings.

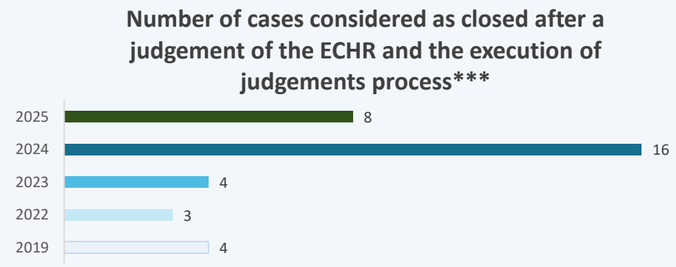
In civil matters, some disputes concerning compensation claims, property conflicts and contractual disagreements may require an informative session on mediation as an alternative means of dispute resolution.

In criminal matters, mediation is available in the cases provided for by Articles 59 and 284 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, covering respectively 13 and 11 categories of offences.

European Convention on Human Rights in Albania in 2025 (Indicator 10)

European Convention on Human Rights – Article 6 – Right to a fair trial (extract):
In the determination of his civil rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal established by law. Judgment shall be pronounced publicly but the press and public may be excluded from all or part of the trial in the interests of morals, public order or national security in a democratic society, where the interests of juveniles or the protection of the private life of the parties so require, or to the extent strictly necessary in the opinion of the court in special circumstances where publicity would prejudice the interests of justice.





• ECHR

Follow-up at national level to the established violations by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR)

Raising awareness	
ECHR case law is part of judge's and public prosecutors' training	✗
Publication of the ECHR case law on official judicial internet pages	✓
Annual report before the Parliament on ECHR case law	✓
Integration of the ECHR case law in the annual courts' report	✓
Other	✗

Information / dissemination of the ECHR decisions within the judicial system	
Within the Ministry of Justice	✗
Within other public institutions	✓
Within courts	✓
Within higher instance courts only	✓
Within public prosecution services	✓
Other	✗

The right to claim damages before national courts (besides the just satisfaction due by the State)	
The right to claim damages before national courts (besides the just satisfaction due by the State)	✗
The right to have the case reopened before national courts	✓
Request for annulment of the national court's judgment	✓
Other	✗

Dissemination of the ECHR case-law is also carried out within public institutions when a case raises issues that are relevant to the mandate or activities of a specific institution.

Number of applications to the ECHR, number of judgments, and number of cases considered as closed after a judgement of the ECHR

		2019	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications allocated to a judicial formation of the Court**		88	85	133	156	169
Judgements finding at least one violation**		1	7	20	18	12
Judgements finding at least one violation of the Article 6 of the ECHR	Right to a fair trial (1)	0	2	10	3	10
	Length of proceedings	0	1	3	5	2
	Non-enforcement	0	1	2	7	0

	2019	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of cases considered as closed after a judgement of the ECHR and the execution of judgements process***	4	3	4	16	8

** Source: ECHR
(1) Figures in this line may include conditional violations.
*** Source: Department for the Execution of Judgments of the ECHR

In 2025, the applications allocated to a judicial formation** for Albania were 169 (13 more than the previous year). The judgements by the ECHR finding at least one violation for Albania were 12; whereas they were 18 in 2024.The number of cases considered as closed after a judgement of the ECHR and the execution of judgements process was 8 in 2025; whereas they were 16 in 2024.

Appointment, recruitment and promotion of judges and prosecutors in Albania in 2025 (Indicators 12 and 13)

Judges

Description of the specific procedure of recruitment

According to Law 96/2016 "On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania", as amended, any person who meets the criteria of article 28 thereof, has the right to apply and be admitted to the initial training for magistrates at the SoM, through an open examination for all candidates who meet the criteria of preliminary assessment of candidates

The recruitment of judges is conducted in cooperation between the School of Magistracy and the High Judicial Council . An important step is the process of verification of assets and integrity, carried out by the Council in accordance with the provisions in points 2 to 6 of Article 32 of Law 96/2019, as amended . Article 86 of Law No. 115/2016 "On the governance bodies of the justice system in the Republic of Albania", as amended
More detailed provisions regarding the above procedure can be found in Decision No. 75, dated 23.05.2019, "On the procedure for verifying the legal conditions and criteria for the recruitment of candidates for judges, for the career development of judges, and for the appointment of judges of the Supreme Court", issued by the High Judicial Council.

Authority competent during the entry selection (via judicial Academy)

Judicial/Prosecutorial Council

In Albania, there exists the possibility for non pre-selected judge candidates to appeal to this decision via Judicial Academy. The body is competent to decide on appeal is the Court.

Candidates for appointment to the High Court in Albania who are not judges have the right to appeal after their application is reviewed and assessed by the High Judicial Council. The Council issues a reasoned, ranked proposal in line with legal criteria, and decisions on appointments are appealable in accordance with the law. Likewise, candidates excluded from the eligible list by the School of Magistracy may use legal remedies provided by Law No. 115/2016 and related acts. All final appointment decisions are published on the Council's official website. For further details, see Article 49 of the Law on the Status of Judges and Prosecutors and information available at: https://euralius.eu/index.php/en/library/albanian-legislation/send/86-status-of-judges-and-prosecutors/198-law-on-the-status-of-judges-and-prosecutors-en

Eligibility

JA	Pre-conditions:	JA **
✓	Basic law studies	✓
✓	Advanced law studies (masters or PhD)	✓
	Judicial exam/bar exam	
✓	Average grades in education	✓
✓	Years of work experience	✓
✓	Relevance of previous work experience	✓
✓	Citizenship	✓
	Age	
✓	Clean criminal record	✓
✓	Foreign language knowledge	✓
✓	Entry test / exam	✓
✓	Other	✓

** JA = Via Judicial Academy

Prosecutors

Description of the specific procedure of recruitment

According to Law 96/2016 "On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania", as amended, any person who meets the criteria of article 28 thereof, has the right to apply and be admitted to the initial training for magistrates at the SoM, through an open examination for all candidates who meet the criteria of preliminary assessment of candidates.

In addition to the above criteria, in the Law "On the status of judges and prosecutors", as amended, it is stipulated that candidates must meet other criteria such as:
- the lack of disciplinary measures in force;
- should not be members of political parties in the at the time of candidacy;
- they must not be a member or associate of State Security prior to 1990 and;
- have not been an associate, informant, or intelligence agent.

Candidates for judicial or prosecutorial positions in Albania must have a clean criminal record, meaning they must not have been convicted of an offense that would damage the reputation of the office or public trust, regardless of rehabilitation. Additional criteria include not having been removed from office or had a professional license revoked for disciplinary reasons (even if expunged), no current disciplinary measures, not being a member of a political party at the time of application, and not having been linked to State Security or secret services prior to 1990. (Article 28, Law on the Status of Judges and Prosecutors, as amended).

Authority competent during the entry selection (via judicial Academy)

Judicial/Prosecutorial Council and Judicial Academy

In Albania, there exists the possibility for non pre-selected prosecutor candidates to appeal to this decision via Judicial Academy. The body is competent to decide on appeal is the Judicial Academy and the Court.

According to Article 30/5 of the Law "On the status of judges and prosecutors," candidates not included in the pre-selected list after the School of Magistrates' preliminary assessment have the right to appeal in line with the Law on Governance Institutions of the Justice System. The School completes and publishes a final assessment report each year, listing applicants who meet the criteria. Appeals from excluded candidates follow the general administrative procedure and are submitted to the first instance administrative court.

Judges

The vetting process takes place before candidates start the School of Magistrates. It is conducted after they have been selected as winners in the entrance exam. If a candidate fails the vetting, they are dismissed and cannot enrol in the School of Magistrates.

Other: The vetting process.

Selection

JA	Criteria	JA
✓	Results/score from Judicial Academy training Additional testing for non-Academy graduates	✓
	Relevance of previous work experience	✓
	Duration of previous work experience	✓
	Interview evaluation	
	Performance appraisal (from previous employer)	
✓	Other	✓
	Automatic selection of each successful candidate from the Judicial Academy / Every pre-selected experienced candidate outside the Judicial Academy	

Authority competent during the entry selection (both via or without Judicial Academy)

Judicial Council and Judicial Academy

Prosecutors

Article 28, of the Law on the status of judges and prosecutors

Article 28 of the Law on the Status of Judges and Prosecutors in Albania sets out that candidates for admission to the School of Magistrates must have full legal capacity, be Albanian citizens, hold a law degree with required qualifications, have at least three years of relevant professional experience, a clean criminal record, no past disciplinary dismissal or current sanction, no political party membership at the time of application, and no prior links to State Security or secret services. After passing the entry exam, candidates must also undergo integrity and asset verification by the relevant Council; a negative result leads to rejection. To be appointed as a judge or prosecutor after training, students must graduate with at least 70% of the maximum possible score, receive “good” marks in each internship assignment, and pass further background and asset checks.

Authority competent during the entry selection (via judicial Academy)

Judicial/Prosecutorial Council and

According to Article 32/2, of the “On the status of judges and prosecutors”, as amended, the process of verifying the integrity and assets of the candidates for prosecutors who pass successfully the entry exam, is realised from the High Prosecutorial Council who requests reporting from the competent institutions for the verification of integrity and assets and any other exceptional cause, from the High Inspectorate of Declaration and Control of Assets and Conflict of Interest, the prosecution offices, tax and customs administration bodies, the National Bureau of Investigation, state intelligence services, as well as any disciplinary body that has supervised the discipline in the previous employment relations of the candidates.

Appointment

Judges

Authority competent for the final appointment

Judicial Council

Has a right to appoint some and reject some among the selected (proposed)

According to Article 35 of Law 96/2016, graduates of the School of Magistrates in Albania can be appointed as judges or prosecutors (magistrates) if they have achieved at least 70% in initial training, received “good” marks in each assignment during the third-year internship, and passed asset and background checks by the relevant Council. Graduates may apply for appointment within two weeks of the publication of the graduates’ list, specifying their preferred courts or prosecution offices. The Council must appoint qualified applicants within one month or reject those who do not meet the criteria. Applications can be deferred for justified reasons, as regulated by the Council.

In Albania, there exists the possibility for non-selected judge candidates to appeal to this decision.

The Court is competent to decide on the appeal

Integrity is part of the selection process in three moments. The first control, made by the School of Magistrates, is if the candidate fulfil the criteria for admission to initial training, two of which consist in integrity: they must have never been criminally convicted by a final decision and they must have never been dismissed from office for disciplinary reasons and are not subject to a current disciplinary sanction.
The second control is made with the psychological and mental health assessment, which is part of the recruitment exam. This assessment is also focused in the approach of the candidates to corruption, ethics, etc. And the third control is made by the Councils, after the applicants have successfully passed the two phases and the psychological and mental health assessment. The Councils shall request for each applicant, information from competent institutions for the verification of assets and background check regarding any other disqualifying grounds from the High Inspectorate for the Declaration and Audit of Assets and Conflict of Interest, prosecution office, financial, tax and customs authorities, National Bureau of Investigation, state intelligence institutions and any disciplinary authorities having supervised the discipline in the labour relations of the candidate.

In Albania, judges are appointed to office for an undetermined period, until the compulsory retirement at the age of 67. There is no probation period for them.

According to Article 64 of Law No. 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania,” the status of a magistrate ends upon resignation, verified ineligibility or incompatibility, reaching the retirement age (67 for most magistrates, with a possible extension to 70 upon request, and 70 for High Court judges), dismissal due to disciplinary liability, or confirmed inability to perform duties. Judges of the High Court have a fixed term of nine years (without re-appointment) and must retire at 70, regardless of years in service. The Council or High Court issues a formal decision ending the magistrate’s status prior to retirement.

Prosecutors

Authority competent for the final appointment

Judicial/Prosecutorial Council

Has a right to appoint some and reject some among the selected

Under Article 35 of the Law on the Status of Judges and Prosecutors, graduates of the Judicial Academy in Albania can be appointed as magistrates if they attain at least 70% in initial training, receive “good” marks in all third-year professional assignments, and pass a renewed integrity and asset check by the Council. The Council may appoint, reject, or, for justified reasons, defer the appointment to the following year for applicants who meet these criteria, making decisions within one month after the graduates’ list is published.

In Albania, there exists the possibility for non-selected prosecutor candidates to appeal to this decision.

The Court is competent to decide on the appeal

Candidates who are refused appointment as magistrates in Albania have the right to appeal the decision of the Council to the Administrative Court of Appeal within 15 days of notification. The appeal does not suspend the execution of the decision, and the court must rule within two weeks, with its decision being final. The Council’s appointment decision becomes final if no appeal is filed, if the court dismisses the appeal, or when a final court judgment is issued. If the court annuls the Council’s decision, the Council must review and implement the court’s

Integrity checks through:

✓ Criminal records	✓
✓ Disciplinary proceedings and sanctions	✓
Intelligence investigation	✓
Integrity assessment test	
✓ Psychological assessment	
Other	

Information referres to the phase after the completion of the Magistrates' School and the appointment of prosecutors by the High Prosecutorial Council. A psychological assessment is carried out by the Magistrates' School for the admission of aspirants for prosecutors to that school.

In Albania, prosecutors are appointed to office for an undetermined period, until the compulsory retirement at the age of 67. There is no probation period for them.

According to Article 64/1, the Law no. 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania”, as amended, the prosecutor’s mandate may terminate also in cases when: the prosecutor has resigned; when are established conditions of ineligibility and incompatibility in the exercise of function; reaches the age of old-age pension; is dismissed from the function for disciplinary responsibility; when is established the fact of inability to perform the duty. Based on paragraph 5 of the same Article The magistrate retires on old age at the age of 67. The magistrate, at his request, may remain in office until the age of 70. The request to remain in office shall be submitted no later than 6 months before reaching retirement age. The status of the magistrate shall end when he reaches the age of 67 or the age of 70, in cases where he has requested to remain in office until this age. The Council shall declare by decision the end of the status of the magistrate, no later than two weeks before the end of the relevant month.

Promotion

Judges

Authority competent for the promotion

Judicial/Prosecutorial Council

Promotion to higher or specialized judicial and prosecutorial positions in Albania is governed by Article 48 of Law No. 96/2016. The Council publicly announces vacancies, and candidates may apply for up to three positions. Only those who have completed asset and background checks and have no disciplinary sanction in force may proceed. Eligibility requires two consecutive professional evaluations. Candidates are ranked based on these evaluations, relevant professional experience, and seniority. The Council promotes top-ranked candidates through a transparent procedure, with all promoted judges required to have successfully completed the vetting process.

For promotion to higher courts in Albania, eligible candidates are ranked primarily based on two consecutive performance evaluations, with preference given to those with “Excellent” grades or recent relevant secondments and Council membership. If several candidates have the same top evaluation, further ranking considers a Council-approved scoring scheme, then specific professional experience for the position, and finally seniority as a magistrate or jurist. Only those who have no disciplinary sanction in force and have successfully completed the vetting process are eligible, with their professional, organizational, and ethical qualities assessed according to the Council’s established evaluation scheme.

Procedure

Competitive test / Exam	
Previous individual evaluations	✓
Other procedure(s) (interview or other)	✓
No special procedure	

Criteria

Years of experience	✓
Professional skills (and/or qualitative performance)	✓
Performance (quantitative)	✓
Subjective criteria (e.g. integrity, reputation)	✓
Other	✓
No criteria	

Prosecutors

Authority competent for the promotion

Judicial/Prosecutorial Council

The promotion of prosecutors to higher or specialized positions in Albania is regulated by the Law on the Status of Judges and Prosecutors and supported by specific Council Regulations.

The High Prosecutorial Council publicly announces promotion openings, including requirements and documentation. Eligible candidates may apply for up to three vacancies and must have no disciplinary measures in force, a positive asset and integrity verification, and, for certain roles, satisfy security conditions including consent for monitoring bank accounts and telecommunications.

The promotion procedure involves three stages: checking legal eligibility, ranking qualified candidates, and final promotion decisions. Ranking prioritizes two previous performance evaluations, with advantages for recent command, delegation, or Council experience; if candidates are tied, relevant professional experience and then seniority are considered. For special prosecutor posts, a dedicated commission conducts additional evaluations, interviews, and verification, including a mandatory review of assets and image.

The Council makes final appointments through open and transparent processes, and for heads of special offices, candidates must also present leadership platforms and are elected by Council vote. In the absence of suitable candidates for head positions, temporary appointments are made.

In Albania, the decision on the promotion of judges could be appealed.

The Court is competent to decide on the appeal

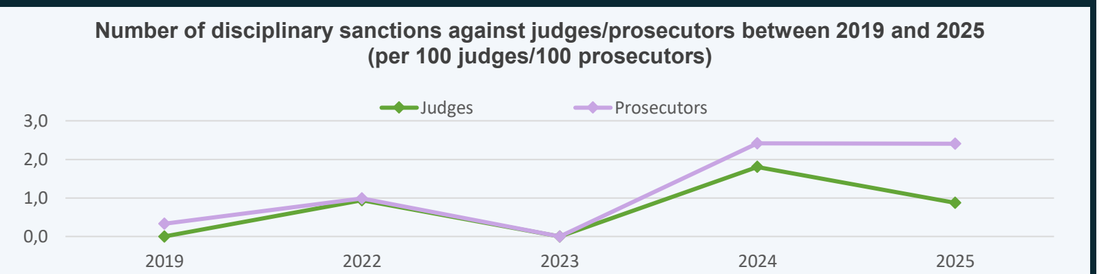
A judge has a right of appeal against a decision on promotion within 5 days from the notification of the decision of the Council. The appeal does not suspend the implementation of the decision. The competent court shall decide within two weeks as of the appeal day. The decision of the competent court shall be final. A Council’s decisions, on an judge’s promotion to a position in accordance, becomes final if: a) No appeal is lodged within the appeal period; b) An appeal is lodged on time and the court has decided to dismiss the case or reject the appeal; c) An appeal is lodged on time and, on its basis, a final court decision has been rendered. In cases where the court allows the appeal and repeals the Councils’ decision, the latter shall, within two weeks of the notification of the court decision, revise the decision on the promotion, to the necessary extent for implementing the decision of the court. The competent court is Tirana Administrative First Instance Court

In Albania, the decision on the promotion of prosecutors could be appealed.

The Court/prosecution office is competent to decide on the appeal

Accountability in Albania in 2025 (Indicator 14)





• Promotion of integrity and prevention of corruption

Legal provisions guaranteeing the independence of judges and prosecutors

In Albania, the independence of judges and prosecutors is guaranteed by the Constitution and a Special law.

Article 3 of Law No. 96/2016, as amended: A magistrate shall exercise the function independently, on the basis of assessment of facts and interpretation of the law, in accordance with his intrinsic conviction, free of any extraneous influences, direct or indirect, from any side or for any reason

Based on the article 149 of the Constitution, The High Prosecutorial Council guarantees the independence, accountability, discipline, status and career of the prosecutors of the Republic of Albania.Article 3 of Law No. 96/2016, as amended: A magistrate shall exercise the function independently, on the basis of assessment of facts and interpretation of the law, in accordance with his intrinsic conviction, free of any extraneous influences, direct or indirect, from any side or for any reason

Number of criminal cases and sanctions against judges and prosecutors in 2025

	Number of initiated cases	Number of completed cases	Number of sanctions pronounced
Judges	NA	NA	NA
Prosecutors	3	NA	NA

Measures to prevent corruption

	Gift rules	Specific training	Internal controls	Safe complaints mechanisms	Other	No mechanism in place
Judges	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Prosecutors	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗

High Inspectorate for Declaration and Control of Assets and Conflict of Interest periodic declarations.

For the latest GRECO Evaluation Report on Prevention of corruption in respect of judges and prosecutors, please click here:
https://www.coe.int/en/web/greco/evaluations/round-4

Integrity of court staff

In Albania, legislation provides for various breaches of integrity in respect of court staff, including conflicts of interest, unauthorized disclosure of confidential or sensitive information on court cases and procedures and breaches of Codes of Conduct.

Training on ethics and prevention of corruption

	Training on ethics	Training on prevention of corruption
Judges	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some
Prosecutors	Compulsory for some	Compulsory for some

Code of Ethics

In Albania, there exists a Code of Ethics applicable for both judges and prosecutors.

For judges, there exists an institution/body giving guidelines and/or opinions on ethical questions of their conduct. Its members are only judges. Its guidelines and/or opinions are publicly available and, in 2025, it provided 1 guidelines/opinions.
For prosecutors, there exists an institution/body giving guidelines and/or opinions on ethical questions of their conduct. Its members are only prosecutors . Its guidelines and/or opinions are publicly available and, in 2025, it provided 0 guidelines/opinions.
The Ethics Advisor, appointed for a five-year term (with reappointment allowed once), is selected from experienced and qualified judges or prosecutors. The Ethics Advisor provides confidential advice upon request regarding ethical conduct, may seek the Council's opinion on general ethical issues (not tied to specific persons), develops and updates an informative manual on ethical questions based on international standards, ensures initial and ongoing training on ethics in collaboration with the School of Magistrates, and must submit at least an annual written report to the Council. For prosecutors, the Ethics Advisor is also required to maintain confidentiality and not share information with other governing prosecutorial bodies responsible for inspection and evaluation.

The Ethics Advisor has prepared a manual on ethical dilemmas regarding the conduct of judges during and outside of their duties.

According to Article 182, of the Law no. 115/2016, "On the governance institutions of the justice system", as amended, the High Prosecutorial Council appoints an Ethics Advisor from among the prosecutors who meet the legal requirements to be a prosecutor of the General Prosecutor's office and who has experience and knowledge on ethics issues. The Ethics Advisor serves for a period of 5 years, with the right to re-election only once.

Recusal of judges

In Albania, there exists a procedure to effectively challenge a judge (recusal), if a party considers that the judge is not impartial.

Total number of initiated procedures	NA
Total number of recusals pronounced	NA

Under the Albanian Criminal Procedure Code (with similar provisions in civil and administrative codes), parties may request the disqualification of a judge on grounds such as prior involvement in proceedings, family or personal relations, having an interest in the case, or prior expression of opinion on the case. Judges are obliged to withdraw in cases of personal interest, close relations with parties, legal conflicts, prior advisory or participatory roles, or other concrete reasons for partiality. Disqualification requests are submitted to the court chairman, who decides or assigns another judge by lot if the request is valid; higher court chairs decide for their respective lower courts. Parties must submit detailed, timely requests—generally at the announcement of the judge or soon after learning relevant information. Decisions on dismissal requests are made by other judges or panels from the same court, with appeals allowed alongside the final decision. The judge involved may respond in writing, but cannot participate in the decision pending the outcome. Recusal requests against judges deciding on recusals are not accepted, and adjudication continues, but the challenged judge is suspended from deciding until the issue is resolved.

Transparency in distribution of court cases

Organisation of the distribution of court cases	
Automatic allocation	
Random allocation	✓
Other type of allocation	
Specific allocation for priority cases	
Possibility to exclude a judge from the allocation	
All interventions on the system irreversibly logged / registered	✓

In Albania, court cases are, in principle, randomly allocated by a computer algorithm. There are no exceptions to the general method allocating of priority cases.The system does not anticipate situations in which a judge could be excluded from the allocation of cases. Finally, the system provides for all alterations to the allocation process to be logged/registered. This ensures adherence to the rules and maintains transparency in the distribution of cases.

Every intervention made while distributing cases by electronic lot is logged in the system, this means a third party can audit in every moment the procedure of the lot, and see if it has been done according to the rules in place. Whenever the workload of a judge is considered disproportionate compared to the average, the judge in question is excluded from the random distribution of the cases, by an internal order issued by the president of the court.

Decision of the High Judicial Council No. 554, dated 29.12.2022 “ON THE DIVISION OF COURT CASES BY LOTTERY”, provides in detail on the procedure for dividing cases by lot.
Decision No. 724, dated 07.12.2023 “ON THE REDISTRIBUTION OF COURT CASES BY LOTTERY”, provides in detail on the procedure for the redistribution of cases by lot.

	Reasons for reassigning a case	Number of reassignments
Conflict of interest declared by the judge or by the parties	✓	NA
Recusal of the judge or requested by the parties	✓	NA
Physical unavailability (illness, longer absence)	✓	NA
Other		NA

Method to reassign a case	
Automatic allocation	
Random allocation	✓
By discretion of a president of a court	
Other	

In Albania, the reassigment of cases is required to be reasoned in all circumstances.

• Disciplinary procedures against judges/prosecutors

Judges

In Albania, the Judicial Council is the authority with disciplinary powers over judges.

According to article 61, paragraph 2, letter “b”, of law no. 115/2016 ““On governance institutions of the justice system”, as amended, The High Judicial Council shall assume the following competences in the plenary meeting: b) decides on the disciplinary measures on judges of all levels.

In reference to Law 115/2015 “ON THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM” and in implementation of the Law 96/2016 "On the Status of Judges and Prosecutors in the Republic of Albania", the High Judicial Council is responsible for imposing disciplinary measures and suspension.

The High Inspector of Justice is the state authority responsible for verifying complaints, investigating disciplinary violations, and initiating disciplinary proceedings against judges and prosecutors of all levels, members of the High Judicial Council, members of the High Prosecutorial Council, and the Prosecutor General, as well as for conducting institutional inspections of courts and prosecution offices, in accordance with Article 194, paragraph 1, of Law no. 115/2016.

Who is authorised to initiate of a disciplinary proceedings

Relevant Court / Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior	
High Court (Supreme Court) / Prosecutor General (State public prosecutor)	
Judicial Council / Public Prosecutorial Council	
Disciplinary court	✗
Disciplinary body	✓
Parliament	
Executive power	
Other	
This is not possible	

Prosecutors

In Albania, the authorities with disciplinary powers over prosecutors are the High Prosecutorial Council and High Inspector of Justice.

According to article 159, paragraph 2, letter “b”, of law no. 115/2016 ““On governance institutions of the justice system”, as amended, The High Prosecutorial Council shall assume the following competences in the plenary meeting: b) decides on the disciplinary measures on prosecutors of all levels

The High Prosecutorial Council of Albania is responsible for deciding on and imposing disciplinary measures for prosecutors at all levels. When there are reasonable grounds to suspect disciplinary misconduct, the High Inspector of Justice submits a report and investigation file to the Council, which then reviews all facts and evidence. The Council may either reject the case if the alleged facts did not occur or do not constitute misconduct, or uphold the allegations and impose one or more disciplinary measures, in accordance with the relevant laws and constitutional provisions.

The High Inspector of Justice is a constitutional institution in Albania, empowered by Article 147/d of the Constitution and Article 194 of Law no. 115/2016 “On the governance institutions of the justice system.” The High Inspector is responsible for verifying complaints, investigating disciplinary misconduct, and initiating disciplinary proceedings against judges and prosecutors of all levels, the Prosecutor General, and members of both the High Judicial Council and High Prosecutorial Council. Additionally, the High Inspector conducts institutional inspections of courts and prosecution offices, in accordance with procedures defined by law.

A judge may present an argumentation in hearing and written submission. He/she has also the possibility to appeal against the disciplinary decision.

The Appel Chamber, Constitutional Court is the authority competent to decide on the appeal

Article 141 of Law No. 96/2016 provides that during disciplinary proceedings in Albania, magistrates (judges or prosecutors) have the right to access their case file (unless it endangers legal interests, the functions of the deciding body, or the purpose of the proceedings), be informed of their rights when proceedings begin, submit a written defence, attend hearings, present evidence and witnesses, be represented, and recover legal costs if no sanction is imposed. The Council may request their participation or submission of evidence, and all parties have a right to be notified of any decision within 5 days.
Law 96/2016 “ON THE STATUS OF JUDGES AND PROSECUTORS” in Article 141 provides on "The rights and obligations of the parties during disciplinary proceedings"; in Article 142 provides on "The disciplinary hearing".
According to Article 140 of the Constitution of Albania, judges are disciplinarily liable under the law and may be dismissed by the High Judicial Council for serious professional or ethical misconduct or upon final conviction for a crime. The Council may also suspend a judge if the judge is subject to arrest, becomes a defendant for an intentional serious offense, or if disciplinary proceedings are initiated. The decision on dismissal may be appealed to the Constitutional Court.
Article 147 of Law 96/2016 provides that magistrates have the right to appeal disciplinary decisions to the competent court, while the High Inspector of Justice may also appeal Council decisions on disciplinary matters. The Appeal Chamber hears appeals against disciplinary sanctions imposed by the High Judicial Council, while the Constitutional Court reviews appeals related to dismissal decisions.

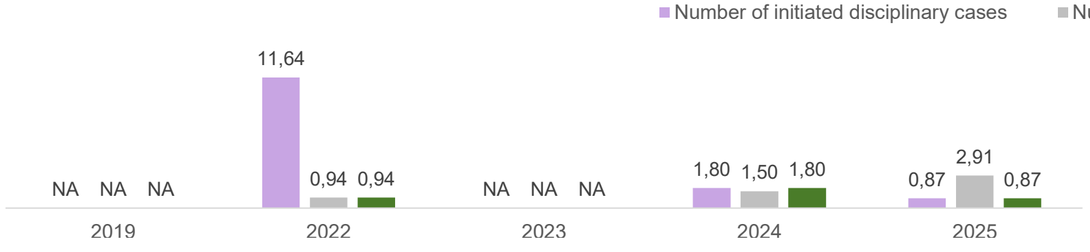
A prosecutor may present an argumentation in hearing and written submission. He/she has also the possibility to appeal against the disciplinary decision.

Constitutional court is the authority competent to decide on the appeal

With regard to the investigation according to article 129 of law no 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania“, as amended, the magistrate shall be a party in the proceedings upon the opening of the investigation and shall be provided with access to the file to the extent that it is consistent with this scope of the investigation. The High Justice Inspector may request the magistrate to submit information, documents or any evidence necessary for the investigation. The High Justice Inspector shall notify the concerned magistrate or his/her representative within five days after taking the decision on archiving the complaint, on opening of investigation, on widening or changing the scope of investigation and or on closing the investigation.

According to Law no. 115/2016 “On the governance institutions of justice system”, as amended, individual administrative acts (decisions) of the High Prosecutorial Council that impose disciplinary measures on prosecutors are appealed to the Constitutional Court.According to article 192, paragraph 1, of Law no. 115/2016 “On governance institutions of the justice system”, as amended, the individual administrative acts imposing disciplinary measures on prosecutors may be appealed against before the Constitutional Court.

Total number of initiated and completed disciplinary cases and number of sanctions pronounced against judges between 2019 and 2025 (per 100 judges)



Including the procedures initiated in the previous years

According to article 138, paragraph 1, of Law no. 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania”, as amended, if there is reasonable doubt that the magistrate has committed a disciplinary misconduct, the High Justice Inspector shall initiate the disciplinary proceeding by submitting the investigation report together with the investigation file. As per article 146, paragraph 2 of law no. no. 96/2016 “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania”, as amended. After having considered all facts and evidence the Council shall either: a) Reject the request for disciplinary proceeding, on the grounds that the facts alleged did not occur or that they do not constitute a disciplinary misconduct; b) Uphold the allegations and impose one or more disciplinary measures

Total number of initiated and completed disciplinary cases and number of sanctions pronounced against prosecutors between 2019 and 2025 (per 100 prosecutors)



In two cases, the request of the High Inspector of Justice for public reprimand was rejected.

Based on Law no. 96/2016, “On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania”, as amended:
Article 101/1
ç) unjustified or repeated failure to perform functions during a trial or investigation;
dh) action, inaction or conduct of a magistrate, which brings unfair benefits or damages to the parties in a judicial process or investigative procedure, contrary to the law;
d) repeated delays or which bring serious consequences or unjustified procrastination of actions and/or procedural acts;
ë) repeated and unjustified delay in starting a court session or procrastination of investigations;
Article 102/2
a) serious or repeated failure to comply with procedural and substantive legislation or incorrect application of procedural and substantive legislation, when established by a higher court;

• Declaration of assets

Declaration of assets for judges and prosecutors

In Albania, the Constitution, the Law regulating the status of judges and a Special law require a declaration of assets by judges. For prosecutors, the Constitution, the Law regulating the status of prosecutors and a Special law require a declaration of assets by them.

Constitution provides that a judge can be an Albanian citizen appointed by the High Judicial Council after graduating the School of Magistrates and after the conduction of a preliminary process of verification of their assets and their background checks, in accordance with the law. Hence, an initial obligation to declare assets, prior to their appointment as judges is provided in the constitution. Further, this obligation is further elaborated in the law on status of judges of prosecutors that provides that judges and prosecutors undergo an assets and background check, prior to their admission to the School of Magistrates, prior to their appointment as judges and prosecutors and every time that they apply for a position at a higher level.

However, please note that the obligation to annually declare their (applicable to judges and prosecutors) assets is provided in a special law, namely law on the declaration and audit of assets, financial obligations of elected persons and certain public officials.

In Albania, under Law no. 9049/2003 (as amended), extensive asset and interest declaration obligations apply to a broad range of justice sector candidates, officials, and related persons. Candidates for positions such as the Constitutional Court, High Justice Inspector, magistrate trainees, judges, prosecutors, specialized courts or prosecution offices, those seeking promotion, and other specified roles must declare all assets and private interests. The declaration must also cover close family members, including spouses, cohabitants, and adult children in the same household. Former family property registered separately is declared by each family member, with their data attached to the main declaration.

Annual periodic declarations must be submitted by March 31 each year, reporting assets, income, sources of creation, and obligations up to December 31 of the previous year, and include changes and new income or expenses above prescribed thresholds. The declaration covers immovable property, movable assets (especially those over 300,000 ALL), shares, securities, bank deposits, cash, debts, income from all sources, gifts (above 10,000 ALL), business activities, family interests, and significant expenditures. Gifts and preferential treatments below the threshold are not declared, nor are small-value multiple gifts from the same source if they do not exceed the stated limit.

Declarations are filed with the High Inspectorate of Declaration and Audit of Assets and Conflict of Interests, which is responsible for verifying accuracy and completeness within two months, unless otherwise specified. If candidates have recently undergone auditing by the Inspectorate with no adverse findings, this is considered sufficient. The Inspectorate can also require ad-hoc or additional declarations and audits, including for related persons, trustees, or those holding property on behalf of the official.

Officials and related persons have a legal obligation for the authenticity of the data. Spouses and adult children sign specific sections of the form and are liable for non-disclosure. For underage children, the declaring official is responsible. Inaccurate or omitted declarations may result in administrative or criminal liability. The Inspectorate is empowered to request and verify a wide range of financial data, ensure completeness of declarations, and communicate with other national authorities if necessary.

In summary, the framework ensures thorough and regular asset declarations for justice system officials and candidates, imposing multi-level personal and family obligations, strict verification, and potential sanctions for omissions or false declarations.

The authority that receives and verifies the declaration is:High Inspectorate of the Declaration and Audit of Assets and Conflict of Interests (HIDAACI).

Article 25/1 of Law no. 9049/2003, as amended, requires a complete audit to verify the authenticity and accuracy of asset and interest declarations for a range of high-level officials in Albania. The audit must be conducted every 2 years for top state officials—including the President, members of Parliament, ministers, constitutional and high court judges, Council members, the Prosecutor General, and related positions; every 3 years for appellate judges, prosecutors, and some other officials; every 4 years for heads or members of state institutions and first instance judges and prosecutors; and every 5 years for other officials not specifically listed. The Inspector General may also order an audit when there is doubt about the truthfulness or accuracy of a declaration or a discrepancy is found. Each audit or administrative investigation must be completed within 6 months, with possible extension under the administrative procedures code.

Previous declarations and declarations compiled through the electronic declaration platform are made public by compiling a request template through the online declaration platform “EACIDS” accessible in the official webpage of HIDAACI. As of the 24th of December 2025 there is also a direct publication registry accessible through the link: https://www.ildkpki.al/publikimi-i-deklaratave-konfidenciale/.

HIDAACI pursues an open and transparent policy with citizens, media and civil society, aiming to strengthen the bridges of cooperation between them and the institution, always in compliance with the requirements of the law “On the right to information” and protection of personal data when receiving and handling requests for information. Asset declaration are made public upon requests, coming from citizen, NGO, Media and for the period, 2014- 2018, approximately 41,261 copies of declaration forms were made publicly available. While from 2019, approximately 10,937 asset declarations were made publicly available. Request can be submitted online or in writing to the appropriate contact point (designated contact point for this purpose) of HIDACCI.

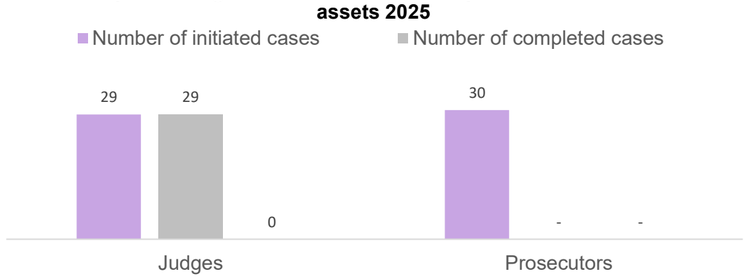
The sanctions for judges and prosecutors foreseen in case of non-declaration of assets (including non-submission of declaration) are: a fine, other criminal sanction and other disciplinary sanction.

Article 40/1 of the law no.9049/2003 provides that “1. Any violation of the obligations set forth in this Law, when it does not constitute a criminal offense, shall constitute an administrative contravention and shall be punishable by a fine, according to the limits specified below: a) For failure to declare before taking office, annually periodically, upon leaving office, or upon request, on time and without good cause, the official or the person related to him, who has the obligation to declare, shall be fined from 200,000 (two hundred thousand) ALL up to 500,000 (five hundred thousand) ALL” Criminal sanction, Article 257/a/1 of the Criminal Code “Refusal for declaration, non-declaration, concealment or false declaration of assets, private interests of elected persons and public employees, or of any other person that is legally binding for the declaration” provides that “The refusal or failure of the elected persons or public servants or any other person being subject to the legal obligation to make the declaration in accordance with the law to declare the assets shall, where disciplinary measures have previously been taken, consist a criminal offence and it shall be punished by a fine or up to 6 months imprisonment”.

Disciplinary sanction , Article 15 of the Law no.9049/2003 provides that “The High Inspectorate of Declaration and Audit of Assets and Conflict of Interests shall convey to the bodies responsible for investigating disciplinary violations a reasoned report accompanied by the documentation related to the verified irregularities pertaining to the declared assets”.

	Judges	Prosecutors
Items to be declared		
Assets	●	●
Financial interests	●	●
Sources of income	●	●
Liabilities	●	●
Gifts	●	●
Other	●	●
Moment for the declaration		
At the beginning of the term of office	●	●
At the end of the term of office	●	●
When there is a significant change in the items	●	●
Other	●	●
Declaration concerning the members of the family		
Spouse	●	●
Partner	●	●
Children (under legal age)	●	●
Adult children	●	●
Other family members	●	●
Same declaration as for the judge/prosecutor	●	●
Declaration of assets verified as regards:		
Timeliness	●	●
Completeness	●	●
Accuracy of the content	●	●
Unexplained financial discrepancies	●	●

Number of proceedings due to violations/discrepancies in the declaration of assets 2025



• Conflict of interest and Accessory functions/activities

Procedures/mechanisms for managing (potential) conflicts of interest in 2025		
Regulations / procedures:	Judges	Prosecutors
On reporting a (potential) conflict of interest	✓	✓
For recusal/withdrawal from a case	✓	✓
On receiving gifts	✓	✓
On combining the profession of a judge/ prosecutor with other functions/professional activities	✓	✓
Other		

In Albania, judges need to an authorisation given by the Judicial Council to perform these accessory activities. Prosecutors need to an authorisation given by Judicial/Prosecutorial Council to perform some of them.

Any official, in the exercise of his powers or in the performance of his public duties on the basis of his recognition and in good faith, is obliged to make a preliminary declaration, case by case, of the existence of his private interests, which may give rise to the a conflict of interest. Declaration of interest case of private interests Submitted every time by the official, when requested by superior or by superior creation. Declaration, as a rule, is required and made in advance. When this it is not possible or when it has not happened, the declaration can be requested and made as soon as possible possible. Self-declaration or declaration upon request is done as a written rule.
2.The magistrate who certifies that there are conditions of conflict of interest shall submit to the court president a request for waiver of the relevant case and allegations.
3.The official cannot accept gifts given to him because of his position by a private individual, natural or legal person when this may give rise to a conflict. Only cases specified by acts of the competent authorities that allow it are excluded acceptance of preferential gifts or treatments for protocol reasons interest of any kind.
4.Law no. 96/2016 date 6.10.2016 art. 9.

Accessory functions / activities	With remuneration		Without remuneration	
	Judges	Prosecutors	Judges	Prosecutors
Teaching	✓	✓	✓	✓
Research and publication	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arbitrator				
Consultant				
Cultural function				
Political function				
Mediator				
Other				

Article 9 of Law no. 96/2016 stipulates that Albanian magistrates may engage in extra-office activities only if such activities uphold the dignity of their function, do not create a perception of bias, do not conflict with office duties, and do not exceed 200 hours per year for remunerated work. Magistrates must obtain Council approval before undertaking any paid extra-office activity, providing details on the nature, duration, and remuneration, as well as information on workload and performance. The Council has three weeks to decide on requests, and if no decision is made, approval is presumed. Non-remunerated activities (such as legal writing, teaching, and representation of the judiciary) require only notification to the court or prosecution chairperson, who reports annually to the Council. Each January, Councils must publish and submit a report on magistrates' remunerated extra-office activities, including compensation details, to asset and tax authorities. The Councils set further detailed rules ensuring equity and proportionality in authorising extra-office activities.

Judges and prosecutors in Albania may engage in extra-office activities only if these are consistent with judicial dignity, do not create perceptions of bias, and do not interfere with core duties; remunerated activities cannot exceed 200 hours per year. Scientific research, writing, and publication without remuneration are permitted. Remunerated activities require prior notification and approval from the Council, including details on the activity, payment, and workload; tacit consent applies if the Council does not respond within three weeks. Non-remunerated activities such as publishing or representing the judiciary require only notification to the chairperson, who reports annually on such activities and hours to the Council. Using the magistrate title in these activities is generally prohibited except for scientific and training work.

The following laws and sub laws are related with the prevention of conflict of interest of prosecutors:
1.Constitution of the Republic of Albania.
2.Criminal Procedure Code.
3.Law "On the status of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania", as amended
4.Law no. 9367 dated 7.4.2005, "On the prevention of conflicts of interest in the exercise of public functions", as amended
5.Decision nr. 26, dated 22.02.2019, "On the activities out of function of the prosecutors", of High Prosecutorial Council
6.Decision no. 32, dated 24.2.2022, "On the approval of the standards of ethics and rules of conduct of the prosecutor", of High Prosecutorial Council
7.Decision no. 407, dated 17.12.2021, "On the approval of the Regulation" On the organization and internal functioning of the High Council of the Prosecution ", of High Prosecutorial Council

	Regulations on the proceedings for:			
	Breaches of rules on conflicts of interest		Sanctions for breaches of the rules	
	Judges	Prosecutors	Judges	Prosecutors
Law on prevention of conflict of interest	✓	✓	✓	✓
Criminal procedure code		✓		
Criminal code				
Civil procedure code				
Civil code				
Code of ethics		✓		✓
Law on judges / public prosecutors (public prosecution)	✓		✓	✓
Law on the Judicial / Prosecutorial Council				
Other		✓		

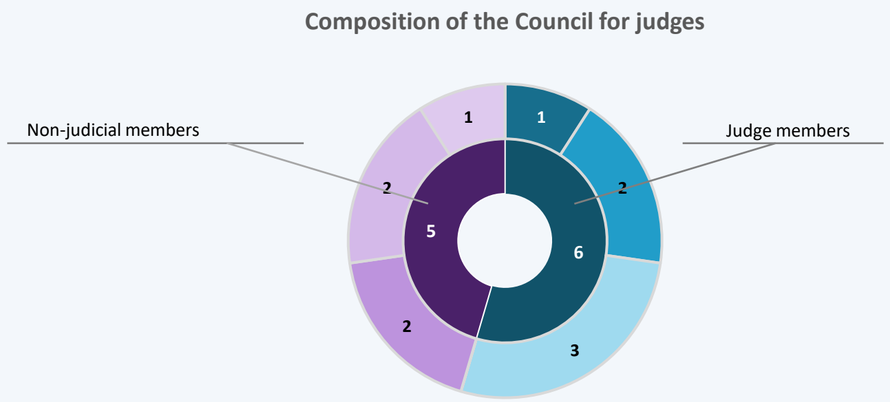
Breaches of incompatibility rules or conflict of interest prevention by judges and prosecutors in Albania constitute disciplinary violations under the Law on the Status of Judges and Prosecutors. Disciplinary misconducts include failure to submit or improper submission of requests for recusal when required, as well as unjustified receipt of gifts, favours, or preferential treatment connected to their official position. According to Law no. 9367/2005 on the prevention of conflicts of interest, violations that do not constitute a criminal offense are considered administrative offenses and are punishable by a fine. The distinction is made between the Law on the Status of Judges and Prosecutors, which regulates disciplinary responsibility, and the law governing the organisation and functioning of prosecution offices.

In the Law “On the status of judges and prosecutors”, as amended, is provided that, breach of the rules of incompatibility or conflict of interest prevention is a disciplinary violation. Also, in the Law no. 9367 dated 7.4.2005, “On the prevention of conflicts of interest in the exercise of public functions”, as amended, is provided that, any violation of the obligations set forth in this law, when it does not constitute a criminal offense, constitutes an administrative offense and is punishable by a fine.

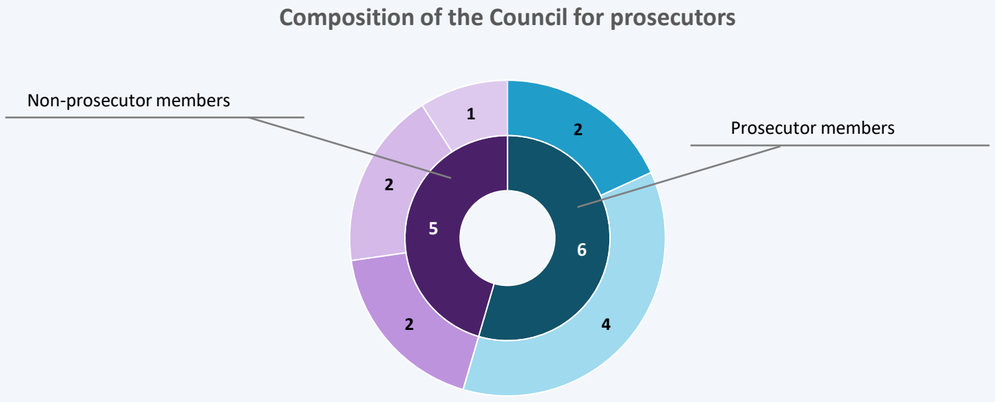
Procedures for breaches of rules on conflict of interest	Judges					Public prosecutors				
	2019	2022	2023	2024	2025	2019	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of initiated cases	NA	NA	18	30	0	NA	NA	8	NA	NA
Number of completed cases	NA	NA	18	30	0	NA	NA	8	NA	NA
Number of sanctions pronounced	NA	NA	0	1	0	NA	NA	0	NA	NA

Under the new constitutional amendments in Albania, judges and prosecutors are undergoing a special vetting process based on three criteria: asset assessment, background assessment, and proficiency assessment. As part of this temporary process, the High Inspectorate for the Declaration and Audit of Assets and Conflict of Interests (HIDAACI) plays a central role by conducting a full audit of asset declarations in compliance with relevant laws. HIDAACI is authorized to collect records and conduct checks with a wide range of public and private entities, both domestically and abroad, concerning assets and financial transactions of candidates and their related persons. For each subject, HIDAACI compiles a comprehensive file containing all declarations, supporting documents, and correspondence, and provides access to international observers upon request. The full audit must be completed within 180 days of the asset declaration submission. Upon completion, the General Inspector of HIDAACI issues a detailed report determining whether the declaration is accurate and legitimate, or if there is a lack of legal sources, undeclared or hidden assets, false statements, or conflict of interest situations. These findings serve as evidence in the subsequent evaluation process.

Council for Judiciary / Prosecutorial Council(s) in Albania in 2025 (Indicator 15)







In Albania, the Council for judges is composed by 11 members, 6 of which are proposed by judge members (3 proposed by the first instance courts, 2 by the second instance courts and 1 by the highest instance courts) and 5 by non-judicial members (2 proposed by the Academic institution(s), 2 by the Bar Association and 1 by the Civil Society Organisations). This suggests that the council is almost equally composed of judge and non-judicial members, with the first instance courts and the Academic institution(s) playing the main role in proposing the judge and non-judicial members respectively.

The Council for prosecutors consists of 6 prosecutor members (4 proposed by the first instance courts and 2 by the second instance courts) and 5 non-prosecutor members. These are proposed as follows: 2 proposed by the Academic institution(s), 2 by the Bar Association and 1 by the Civil Society Organisations. This council is thus almost equally composed of judicial and non-prosecutor members, with the first instance courts having the main influence among nominations for prosecutor members and the Academic institution(s) being the primary source for non-prosecutor nominations.

Section 1, articles 7 to 58 of Law no 115/2016 “For Governing Bodies of the Justice System”, foresees the procedure of appointment of members of the High Judicial Council.

The High Judicial Council of Albania consists of 11 members: six elected by judges from all judicial levels and five lay members elected by the Assembly. The lay members include two advocates, two pedagogues from law faculties or the School of Magistrates, and one representative from civil society. Lay members must have at least 15 years of legal experience, high moral and professional integrity, and must not have held political or high public office in the previous 10 years. Vacancies are publicly announced and candidates are screened by the Secretary General of the Assembly for compliance with constitutional and legal criteria. A parliamentary subcommittee of five (three from the majority, two from the minority) selects the final candidates, requiring at least four votes; if consensus is not reached, selection is by lot. The consolidated candidate list must be approved by a two-thirds Assembly vote; if rejected after three attempts, the list is automatically deemed approved. The Chairperson of the Council is elected from among lay members at the first meeting. Members serve full-time for five years without immediate re-election, and return to their previous positions at term end if possible.

Moreover, the non-judge/non-prosecutor members in the council(s) are subject to some selection criteria.

The remaining five members are non-prosecutors selected by the Assembly from the ranks of lawyers, law faculty professors, and civil society, each with specific eligibility criteria. For the two lawyer positions, candidates must be Albanian nationals with an advanced law degree, at least 15 years of legal experience (including at least 10 as practicing lawyers), a clean criminal and disciplinary record, no recent political positions, and no close family members on the Council. Additional restrictions apply, such as non-involvement with former State Security or intelligence services. For the two faculty positions, candidates must be Albanian nationals with at least 15 years of experience, at least five years as full-time academic staff, hold the academic title of professor or lecturer, and meet similar integrity and independence requirements. The civil society representative must have at least 15 years of legal experience, recognized expertise in justice or human rights, at least five years of relevant work in civil society, and must not have held certain political or professional roles recently. All non-prosecutor members must meet strict standards of moral and professional integrity and independence, ensuring a broad, reputable, and impartial composition of the Council.

Subsection II of law 115/2016 “FOR THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM” provides for the procedure for the election of members of the High Judicial Council by the Bar, specifically:
Article 19 provides for the verification and preliminary evaluation of candidates for members of the High Judicial Council from the legal profession and the conditions for election.
Article 34 provides for professional and moral criteria for ranking candidates.
Subsection III of law 115/2016 “FOR THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM” provides for the procedure for election of members of the High Judicial Council by the Body of teachers of the faculties of law and the school of magistrates, specifically:
Article 36 provides for the election of members of the High Judicial Council from the body of lecturers of the faculties of law and the School of Magistracy.
Subsection IV provides for the procedure for electing the member of the High Judicial Council representing civil society, specifically:
Article 54 provides for the election of the member of the High Judicial Council representing civil society and the conditions for being elected.

• Councils characteristics

Council for Judges

Section 1, articles 7 to 58 of Law no 115/2016 “For Governing Bodies of the Justice System”, foresees the procedure of appointment of members of the High Judicial Council.

As per article 3.4, Law 115/2016 “The member of the High Judicial Council, unless circumstances for early termination of the mandate have been established, shall hold office for 5 years, with no right to consecutive re-election”.

Term of office: 5 years

Only for the first term of the HJC, 5 members will serve a 3-years mandate and 6 members will serve a 5 – years mandate. This, according to Law 115/2016, serves the purpose of diversifying the membership and ensuring continuity for the coming mandates.

Decisions are published after their approval from the Council or after the finalizing their reasoning. https://klgj.al/vendime/ In addition to the publication of reports and reasoned decisions, on the website of the High Prosecutorial Council are published regularly the agenda and detailed announcements after each plenary meeting where are reflected the results of each meeting and the decisions taken by the Council. Also, full audio registering of the plenary meeting is published within 24 hours. The relevant links are below: https://klp.al/category/aktivitete/ https://klp.al/category/seanca-plenare/

Body appointing the members

Judges/ prosecutors members are appointed by:	
✓	Judges/Prosecutors Assemblies
	Other
Non-judge/non-prosecutors members are appointed by:	
	Constitutional Court
✓	Parliament
	Ministry of Justice
	Academic institution(s)
	Bar Association
	Other

Conditions for the term of office

Term of office of members renewable
Full-time position
Members subject to evaluation procedures

Accountability measures

✓	Published activity reports
✓	Published decisions
✓	Reasoned decisions
	Other

Council for Prosecutors

The High Prosecutorial Council in Albania is a collegial body of 11 members, with six prosecutors elected by the General Meeting of Prosecutors from all levels (three from first instance offices, of which at least one must be outside Tirana; two from appellate offices including the Special Prosecution Office, with at least one outside Tirana; and one from the General Prosecutor’s Office). The General Prosecutor announces the call for candidates, verifies eligibility, and organizes elections, which are secret and individual. Complaints regarding procedural violations in the election process (including convening the meeting, candidate verification, voting, and announcement of results) can be submitted to the Administrative Court of Appeal within 5 days. The five remaining members are selected from the legal academia (two), bar association (two), and civil society organizations (one), with candidate vetting involving the Chamber of Advocacy, the People’s Advocate, law faculties, School of Magistrates, and civil society organizations. The final selection of these five members is made by the Assembly, which evaluates the candidates presented by the relevant bodies.

As per article 3.4, Law 115/2016 “The member of the High Judicial Council, unless circumstances for early termination of the mandate have been established, shall hold office for 5 years, with no right to consecutive re-election”.

Term of office: 5 years

Decisions are published after their approval from the Council or after the finalizing their reasoning. https://klgj.al/vendime/ In addition to the publication of reports and reasoned decisions, on the website of the High Prosecutorial Council are published regularly the agenda and detailed announcements after each plenary meeting where are reflected the results of each meeting and the decisions taken by the Council. Also, full audio registering of the plenary meeting is published within 24 hours. The relevant links are below: https://klp.al/category/aktivitete/ https://klp.al/category/seanca-plenare/

Council for Judges

The High Judicial Council shall exercise the following powers:
a) Appoints, evaluates, promotes and transfers judges of all levels;
b) Decides on disciplinary measures on judges of all levels;
c) Proposes to the President of the Republic candidates for judges of the High Court, in accordance with the law;
ç) Approves the rules of judicial ethics and monitors their observation;
d) Directs and manages the administration of the courts with the exception of the management of the information technology structure of the courts, which is regulated upon decision of the Council of Ministers;
h) Proposes and administers its own budget and the budget of the courts;
e) Informs the public and the Assembly on the state of the judicial system;
ë) Exercises other powers defined by law.

Competences of the Council(s)

Council for Prosecutors

In accordance with the Law no. 115/2016 “On the governance institutions of the justice system”, as amended, the High Prosecutorial Council, in the plenary session, exercises the following competencies:
a) appoints, evaluates, promotes and transfers prosecutors of all levels;
b) imposes disciplinary measures on prosecutors of all levels;
c) proposes to the Assembly the candidates for General Prosecutor, in accordance with the legislation in force;
ç) approves the rules for the ethics of prosecutors and supervises them;
d) proposes and administers its budget;
dh) informs the public and the Assembly about the situation of the prosecution;
e) adopts normative bylaws, in implementation of this law or other laws, with a general binding effect on all prosecutors;
ë) approves the acts for the regulation of the internal procedures of the Council;
f) approves the Code of Ethics of the Council;
g) reviews, as the case may be, the decisions of the commissions;
gj) approves non-binding instructions;
h) approves the detailed rules for the functioning of the administration of the Council;
i) approves the composition of the permanent commissions, of the temporary commissions, as well as detailed rules for their functioning.

Competence of the Council(s) in cases of evident breach of independence or impartiality of judges or in cases of pressure on prosecutors

In Albania, the Council for judges is competent in cases of evident breaches of indipendence or impartiality of judges. Moreover, the Council for prosecutors is competent in cases of pressure on prosecutors.
According to Article 185, of the Law “On the governance institutions of the justice system”, as amended, the High Prosecutorial Council may, on its own initiative or on the basis of prosecutors' requests, make public statements in defense of individual prosecutors when it deems that their human rights are at risk of being violated because of the performance of their duties or that the exercise of their legal functions is endangered or may be endangered as a result of the actions or attitudes of any public or private entity.
The justice system in the Republic of Albania is governed based on the principles of independence, accountability, transparency, and efficiency. The Council has the obligation to react publicly and take any legal action to protect the independence or impartiality of a judge.

The Council, ex officio or based on the requests of judges, may make public statements to protect certain judges when it deems that their human rights are in danger of being violated due to the performance of their duty or that the performance of their legal functions is being endangered or may be endangered as a result of actions or positions of any public or private subject.
The magistrate and his/her family shall, during or because of the exercise of the function, benefit specific state protection for life, health and assets. The magistrate who is no longer in the office or has retired shall enjoy this special protection if he/she/requests it, as well as in case of endangerment due to a previous exercise of the function as magistrate. 2. If the life, health or property of the magistrates or the magistrate’s family is endangered, the state shall provide special protection, as well as physical protection, under the criteria and procedures set out by a decision of the Council of Ministers, following a consultation with Councils. According to Article 185, of the Law no. 115/2016 “On the governance institutions of the justice system”, as amended, the High Prosecutorial Council may, on its own initiative or on the basis of prosecutors' requests, make public statements in defence of individual prosecutors when it deems that their human rights are at risk of being violated because of the performance of their duties or that the exercise of their legal functions is endangered or may be endangered as a result of the actions or attitudes of any public or private entity.

Reforms in Albania in 2025

The Albanian justice system continues to be shaped by the comprehensive constitutional and justice reform adopted by Parliament in 2016, which remains the main framework guiding the organisation and functioning of judicial institutions.

In particular, the High Prosecutorial Council was established as an institution that guarantees the independence, accountability, discipline, status and career of prosecutors. It is responsible for the appointment, evaluation, promotion and transfer of prosecutors of all levels, decides on disciplinary measures against prosecutors of all levels, proposes candidates for Prosecutor General to the Parliament, approves the rules on the ethics of prosecutors and supervises their compliance, proposes and administers its budget, informs the public and the Parliament on the state of the prosecution, etc.

Through this reform, also were created other institutions such as the High Judicial Council, the High Inspector of Justice, the Council for Judicial Appointments, and was resised the mandate of the School of Magistrates. This mosaic of institutions has complemented and strengthened the independence and autonomy of the justice system as one of the three branches of government, compared to the previous model. The above institutions are in the phase of implementing the legal provisions adopted with the Justice Reform by consolidating work practices to guarantee the independence, accountability, efficiency and transparency of the justice system.

Also, in 2024, the Assembly of Albania established the special Parliamentary Committee for Deepening Reforms for Good Governance, Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption for Albania 2030 in the European Union. The purpose of the work of this special Committee is to further consolidate the Justice Reform and deepen the implementation of the legal and institutional reform framework by ensuring effective cooperation of justice institutions, allocation of sufficient resources and efficient functioning of the justice sector. The work of this Committee is ongoing and is in the early stages.

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