



KOSOVO SPECIALIST CHAMBERS
DHOMAT E SPECIALIZUARA TË KOSOVËS
SPECIJALIZOVANA VEĆA KOSOVA

CASE INFORMATION SHEET

Case No.
KSC-BC-2020-04/KSC-CA-2024-03

Specialist Prosecutor versus:



Pjetër Shala

Current stage:
END OF APPEAL

ACCUSED/CHARGES

Pjetër Shala

Date of birth: 17/09/1963

Position(s) during the period covered by the indictment:

- A member of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) stationed in a former metal works factory in Kukës, Albania. According to the indictment, this factory also served as a site for the detention and interrogation of persons suspected of having collaborated with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and Serbia or of failing to support the KLA.

Description of charges

This case concern the acts of Pjetër Shala at the KLA base in Kukës between approximately 17 May and 5 June 1999.

The indictment alleges that in this period Pjetër Shala and certain other KLA soldiers, police and guards shared a common purpose to interrogate and mistreat detainees at the factory. The common purpose involved the crimes specified on the right. According to the indictment, the victims of these crimes were all FRY citizens, who did not actively take part in hostilities.

Modes of responsibility

Joint criminal enterprise
Direct commission
Aiding and abetting

Counts

1. Arbitrary detention (war crimes)
2. Cruel treatment (war crimes)
3. Torture (war crimes)
4. Murder (war crimes)

CONVICTIONS/REPARATIONS

Trial Judgment, 16 July 2024

The Trial Panel found Pjetër Shala guilty of the war crimes of arbitrary detention, torture and murder (counts 1, 3 and 4) while he was acquitted of cruel treatment (count 2). Regarding the specific modes of liability, Shala was found guilty of those three counts as part of the joint criminal enterprise.

Sentence: 18 years' imprisonment

Reparations order, 29 November 2024

The Panel ordered P. Shala to pay a sum of **€208,000** as compensation for the physical, mental and material harm inflicted on the victims of the crimes for which he was convicted.

Appeal Judgment, 14 July 2025

The Appeals Panel affirmed Shala's conviction for counts 1, 3 and 4 but granted, in part, three grounds raised by Shala in his appeal and reduced his sentence.

Sentence: 13 years' imprisonment

TIMELINE

Following his arrest in Belgium, Shala was transferred to the Detention Facilities of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers in The Hague on 15 April 2021.

On 19 April 2021, he pleaded not guilty to all charges in the indictment.

The trial commenced on 21 February 2023 and lasted until 17 April 2024.

On 16 July 2024, the Trial Panel found Shala guilty and sentenced him to a prison sentence of 18 years.

The Reparation order in respect of victims was pronounced on 29 November 2024. The Panel ordered P. Shala to pay a sum of €208,000 as compensation for the physical, mental and material harm inflicted on the victims of the crimes for which he was convicted.

P. Shala appealed the trial judgment and the KSC President accordingly assigned the Court of Appeals Panel to deal with the appeal. The SPO did not appeal the judgment.

P. Shala also appealed the Reparation Order and the same Panel was assigned to adjudicate this appeal.

On 14 July 2025, the Appeals Panel reduced the sentence from 18 to 13 years of imprisonment.

CASE STATISTICS

Pre-trial period length	22 months 6 days
Number of trial days in court	44
Number of witnesses in court	10 (SPO), 2 (Victims' counsel), 10 (Defence)
Number of written testimonies/reports	7 (SPO), 4 (Defence)
Number of participating victims	8
Total time before Basic Court	39 months
Appeal case length	10 months and 13 days

WHO IS WHO IN THIS CASE

PRE-TRIAL JUDGE



Judge Nicolas Guillou

TRIAL PANEL I



Judge Mappie Veldt-Fogla (Presiding Judge)



Judge Roland Dekkers



Judge Gilbert Bitti



Judge Vladimir Mikula (Reserve Judge)

COURT OF APPEALS PANEL



Judge Michèle Picard (Presiding Judge)



Judge Kai Ambos



Judge Nina Jørgensen

SPECIALIST PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE (LEAD COUNSEL)



Filippo De Minicis



Sarah Clanton

DEFENCE TEAM (LEAD COUNSEL)



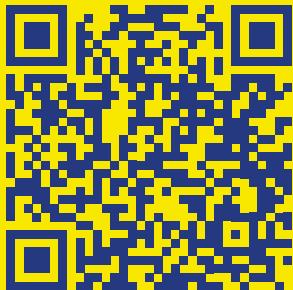
Jean-Louis Gilissen

VICTIMS' COUNSEL



Simon Laws

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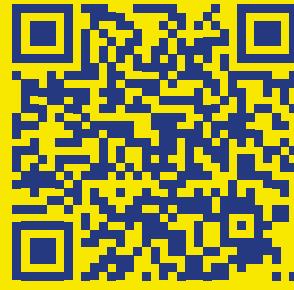
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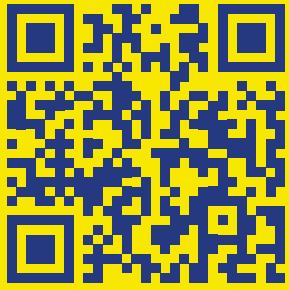
Court Calendar



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