

**REGULATION  
ON APPEAL CHAMBER'S MEDIA RELATIONS**

*Approved as per Decision No. 11/1 dated 13.04.2018 of the Meeting of Judges*

Pursuant to Article 179, paragraph 7, Article 179/b of the Annex to the Constitution, and Article 24 of the Law No. 84/2016, "On the transitional re-evaluation of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania", the Meeting of Judges

**D E C I D E D**

**Article 1**

**General provisions on cooperation with the media**

1. The Appeal Chamber (hereinafter AC) will enable journalists to do their work and will facilitate them to do so.
2. A journalist who wishes to use any media facility is required to show his/her press card. A journalist who does not possess a card attesting to their credentials is obliged to sign a media protocol (see attachment). The AC will ask media companies with national signal for accreditation of their employees who will regularly visit the AC premises.
3. The AC will employ a Media and Foreign Relations Coordinator (hereinafter Media Coordinator) who can be reached from 09:00 to 17:00h via telephone or email.
4. The contacts between the AC and the media are run by the Media Coordinator.
5. Information on general topics concerning the re-evaluation of the judges and prosecutors (hereinafter re-evaluation process) will be given via the AC website.
6. Requests for information concerning all topics regarding the re-evaluation process must be addressed to and will be coordinated by Media Coordinator. Requests, should as a rule, be filed electronically.
7. The AC will provide the media with general and up to date information on its website [www.kpa.al](http://www.kpa.al).

**Article 2**

**Information prior to the hearing**

1. The Media Coordinator shall provide the media with technical information on ongoing and upcoming hearings. Any other communication beyond this is done under the responsibility of the AC President.
2. Information on hearings can be obtained a week before the respective session at the earliest.
3. If the media are already aware of the date of a specific hearing, the Media Coordinator can inform the media on factual aspects regarding this hearing.

### **Article 3**

#### **Media actions during the hearing**

1. AC hearings are open and accessible for members of the media.
2. Journalists are permitted to send text messages from their mobile devices during the hearing. The sound on such devices needs to be turned off.
3. The AC's panel President can limit or prohibit such communication if that should in any way impede the investigation and/or the orderly process of the hearing.
4. It is prohibited to make audio and/or audiovisual recordings in the public areas of the AC premises.
5. Journalists who want to make audio (visual) recordings have to request prior permission from the AC Media Coordinator at least 72 hours prior to the time of the session opening. The coordinator may stipulate conditions for the permission.
6. Prior to the hearing, at a moment arranged with the Media Coordinator, journalists have the opportunity to make photo/s.
7. In the interest of an orderly development of the hearing, visual recordings are only allowed from a fixed position in the session room, indicated by the Media Coordinator.
8. In the interest of an orderly development of the hearing, the panel president may rule only a limited number of camera teams will be allowed access in the session room. The Panel President may stipulate as a condition that the media that are granted access participate in pooling arrangements with other media.
9. Journalists, if and when they have obtained the AC's permission, are allowed to make (visual) recordings of the official entrance of the panel in the hearing room and the opening of the hearing session by the panel's president. After that, cameras and microphones are turned off and taken from the hearing room.
10. Only the professional participants in the hearing (for instance, AC's panel members and secretary, the International Observer, the member(s) of the Republican Guard) may be recorded. It is not allowed to audio(visually) record the assessee, his council, witnesses, members of the public and/or any other nonprofessional participant to the hearing.
11. Apart from the recordings mentioned under 3.6 and/or 3.9 it is not allowed to make any (audio)visual recordings on the AC premises.

### **Article 4**

#### **Information with respect to AC's decisions**

1. Audio(visual) media are allowed to take footage of the public announcement of the decision, on the basis of the provisions in Article 3 above.
2. Upon the conclusion of proceedings under each case, the AC shall notify its decision to the assessee. The decision will subsequently be published on the AC website. Thereby, the AC aims to serve the purpose of transparency of the process and at the same time to safeguard the privacy of the assessee.

## **Article 5**

### **Monitoring and compliance with the regulation**

3. The AC will monitor proper implementation of its regulation on media relations.
4. The AC shall take appropriate measures against (members of) the media who do not abide by rules set in this Regulation. In doing so, the AC will consider the nature and severity of the violation.

## **Article 6**

### **Final Provisions**

1. This Regulation enters into force immediately after approval by the Meeting of Judges.
2. This Regulation may be amended by the Meeting of Judges.

## ATTACHMENT

### APPLICATION FOR PRESS FACILITIES

The undersigned:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail account \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

hereby requests access to the various facilities the Appeal Chamber offer to journalists.

This application is for permission to make audio(visual)recordings in the courtroom.

**You must enclose a copy of your proof of identity containing a clearly recognizable photograph.**

These press guidelines offer members of the media insight into the interests at issue in connection with public access to the vetting process and how and by whom these interests are weighed. In addition to the interest of public access, the vetting bodies must also ensure that the privacy of the persons involved, who are present in the vetting premises or whose names are in procedural documents, is safeguarded and not invaded unnecessarily. The vetting bodies assume you have taken note of the content of the Media Guidelines.

The undersigned will ensure the privacy of all persons involved will be respected, whenever necessary under the law.

The vetting bodies reserve the right to exclude the undersigned from using the facilities that are made available in the event he/she violates the rules contained in this protocol.

Signature: