



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË
PARLIAMENT

Parliamentary Group of Democratic Party

No. 161 Prot.

Tirana, 31 March 2026.

Subject: Request for attention and monitoring the upcoming decision of the Supreme Court.

To: **Mrs. Nancy VANHORN**
Charge d'affaires of U.S. Embassy in Albania
Mr. Silvio GONZATO
Ambassador of EU Delegation in Albania
Mrs. Giulia RE
Head of Council of Europe Office in Albania
Mr. Michel TARRAN
Head of OSCE Presence in Albania
Mr. Karl BERGNER
Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Albania
Mr. Nicholas ABBOTT
Ambassador of the United Kingdom in Albania
Mrs. Catherine SUARD
Ambassador of the Republic of France in Albania
Mr. Marco ALBERTI
Ambassador of the Republic of Italy in Albania

Your excellencies,

Through this letter, we would like to express our concern regarding recent developments in the justice system in Albania, specifically the convening of the United Colleges of the Supreme Court on April 9, to review matters related to the security measure of “pre-trial detention” (arrest in prison). This is a personal initiative of the chairman Sokol Sadushi, without legal justification of its grounds.

This initiative comes at a delicate moment for the fight against corruption in the country, where a number of high-level officials and former officials are currently under investigation or subject to security measures for serious charges, including corruption and abuse of office. At present, the only high-ranking official in office who is in prison is the Mayor of Tirana, Erion Veliaj. Also this decision may affect several high-profile figures of organized crime who are currently incarcerated.

At the same time, recent public statements by senior representatives of the executive branch, including the Prime Minister, have expressed criticism toward the use of “arrest in prison” and the broader

practice of pre-trial detention. These statements have raised additional concerns regarding the possible perception of influence or pressure on judicial institutions at such a sensitive time.

There is a reasonable public concern that a new or more lenient interpretation of this security measure could lead to changes in the status of detained individuals, including high-profile political and organized crime figures. Such a development could significantly affect public trust in the independence of the judiciary and the seriousness of efforts to combat corruption at the highest levels.

The fight against corruption and the accountability of high-level officials are essential pillars for Albania's European Union integration process. Any effort that undermines the fight against corruption, the work of the Special Anti-Corruption Prosecution (SPAK), or the proper prosecution and punishment of high-ranking political figures, would also risk undermining the country's European integration path.

In this context, we kindly call upon you to:

- Closely monitor the process and decision-making of the United Colleges of the Supreme Court;
- Encourage transparency and adherence to international rule of law standards;
- Support Albanian institutions in ensuring an impartial, independent, and consistent justice system.

Public trust in the justice system is a key element for democratic stability and Albania's European integration. For this reason, any decision with broad impact should be grounded in strong legal principles and safeguarded from any perception of political influence.

We thank you for your continued attention and commitment to strengthening the rule of law in Albania.

Respectfully,
Gazment BARDHI



Chairman of DPA Parliamentary Group