

**(Coat of Arms)**  
**REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**  
**SPECIAL PROSECUTION OFFICE AGAINST CORRUPTION AND ORGANIZED**  
**CRIME**

Prot.No.818

Tirana, 03.09.2024

**ORDER**

No. 818, *dated 03.09.2024*

**ON THE APPROVAL OF THE DOCUMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PLAN 2024 – 2027**  
**AT THE SPECIAL PROSECUTION OFFICE AGAINST CORRUPTION AND**  
**ORGANIZED CRIME**

Pursuant to Article 148/dh of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania; Article 15, point 2, letter “e” of Law No. 95/2016, “On the Organization and Functioning of Institutions to Combat Corruption and Organized Crime”, as amended; Article 42 of Law No. 97/2016, “On the Organization and Functioning of the Prosecutor's Office in the Republic of Albania”, as amended; as well as Law No. 44/2015, “Code of Administrative Procedures of the Republic of Albania”;

**I HEREBY ORDER:**

1. Approval of the document “*Strategic Plan 2024–2027*” of the Special Prosecution Office Against Corruption and Organized Crime, as per the attached text, which forms an integral part of this Order.
2. The relevant structures of the Special Prosecution Office are hereby charged with the implementation and monitoring of this Order.
3. The Directorate of Human Resources, Documentation and Services, and the Directorate of Information Technology are tasked with notifying and publishing this Order on the official website of the Special Prosecution Office Against Corruption and Organized Crime.

This Order shall enter into force immediately.

**HEAD OF PROSECUTION OFFICE**

**Altin Dumani**  
(signature) (seal)

**SPAK**  
**SPECIAL STRUCTURE AGAINST CORRUPTION AND**  
**ORGANIZED CRIME**

**STRATEGIC PLAN**

**2024-2027**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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## Introduction

The Strategic Plan of the Special Prosecution Office Against Corruption and Organized Crime (Special Prosecution Office) outlines the institution's key objectives and priorities for the three-year period 2024–2027. The Plan is centered on strengthening the fight against corruption, organized crime, money laundering, electoral crimes, and terrorism, with a focus on increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of criminal prosecution in these areas.

Through the implementation of this Strategic Plan, the Special Prosecution Office seeks to substantially enhance its investigative capacities and deepen international cooperation to effectively address complex and evolving forms of criminality, particularly high-level corruption and the operations of organized criminal groups.

A key pillar of this Plan is the emphasis on transparent cooperation with the media, recognizing that public trust is essential to the credibility and impact of the institution.

This Strategic Plan has been developed in coordination and alignment with the following national and institutional strategies:

- Integrated Justice Sector Strategy 2024–2030;
- Cross-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption 2024–20302024–20302024–2030;
- National Strategy against Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism 2024–2030.

Through this Strategic Plan, the Special Prosecution Office envisions a strengthened focus on financial and asset investigations, by conducting specialized inquiries aimed at identifying and prosecuting individuals involved in money laundering and related criminal offenses. A key objective of this initiative is to limit the influence and expansion of criminal groups and corrupt public officials, through proactive measures such as the seizure and confiscation of proceeds derived from money laundering activities.

In drafting this Strategic Plan, the Special Prosecution Office has carefully aligned its institutional priorities with national and international strategic obligations, including commitments arising from international conventions and Albania's EU integration process. By doing so, the Office contributes to both regional and global security efforts in preventing and countering organized crime, corruption, money laundering, and terrorism—whether originating in Albania or perpetrated by Albanian nationals abroad. In this context, the Special Prosecution Office plays a pivotal role in ensuring national and international security.

This Strategic Plan forms an integral component of the broader institutional strategic framework of the Special Prosecution Office, which also includes the Public Communication Strategy, the Human Resources Strategy, the Training Plan (categorized by staff groups), and the ICT & Cybersecurity Strategy.

The Plan sets forth clear goals, specific objectives, and detailed implementation measures, alongside performance indicators and monitoring mechanisms for each component. It is underpinned by a comprehensive analysis, which includes a risk assessment for the successful achievement of the identified priorities.

In summary, this Strategic Plan serves as a guiding framework to enhance and coordinate the efforts of the Special Prosecution Office in combating corruption, organized crime, money laundering, and terrorism.

## **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The Special Prosecution Office against Corruption and Organized Crime officially commenced operations on December 19, 2019, following the appointment of its first eight (8) prosecutors. Earlier, the High Prosecutorial Council (HPC), by Decision No. 10/1 dated January 7, 2019, had approved the filling of fifteen (15) vacant prosecutor positions through a promotion procedure. In 2020, five (5) additional prosecutors were appointed on January 31, May 21, and July 14. Consequently, during its first year of operation, the Special Prosecution Office functioned with thirteen (13) prosecutors—two fewer than the approved number.

Due to the unavailability of National Bureau of Investigation (BKH) investigators at the time, and in accordance with Article 40/2 (Transitional Provisions) of Law No. 25/2019 “*On the Organization and Functioning of the Judicial Police*”, judicial police functions were temporarily carried out by 13 officers from the former Serious Crimes Prosecution Office. During this initial phase, only the Director of the BKH had been appointed.

The Office faced several challenges in 2020, including:

- an incomplete prosecutorial staff,
- lack of an operational BKH structure,
- inadequate working premises (operating temporarily within the Special Court’s facilities), and
- the blockage of the activity caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite these constraints, the workload at the start of 2020 was substantial. The Special Prosecution Office handled 588 criminal proceedings involving 746 individuals under investigation, of which 204 cases were inherited from the former Serious Crimes Prosecution

Office and 384 were newly registered by SPAK itself. The 2020 Progress Report officially recognized the full operationalization of the Special Anti-Corruption and Organized Crime Structure (SPAK).

In 2021, SPAK continued strengthening its institutional capacity, including the full appointment of its prosecutorial staff, the gradual integration of BKH investigators, and the expansion of its administrative support services. The number of prosecutors rose from 13 to the full complement of 15. In September 2021, the first cohort of 28 BKH investigators—selected from a pool of 572 applicants—formally began their duties.

The selection process for BKH investigators, which involves four rigorous stages, was time-consuming and resource-intensive. A major role in this process was played by the Special Commission for Asset and Background Verification, composed of two prosecutors and one special judge. This complex process benefited from the support of international partners, including ICITAP and OPDAT (USA), and EURALIUS and PAMECA (EU).

That same year, SPAK’s criminal jurisdiction expanded to include asset investigations under Normative Act No. 1, dated January 31, 2020, “*On Preventive Measures within the Framework of Strengthening the Fight against Terrorism, Organized Crime, Serious Crimes and Consolidating Public Order and Security*”. In 2021 alone, 25 asset seizure requests and 72 asset confiscation requests were filed under this framework.

The office’s caseload increased to 715 criminal proceedings, comprising 352 carried over from 2020 and 363 newly registered cases. Notably, 2021 marked the establishment of close cooperation with key national institutions such as:

- the General Prosecution Office,
- the State Police,
- the General Directorate for the Prevention of Money Laundering,
- the Internal Affairs and Complaints Service (Ministry of Interior),
- the State Intelligence Service,
- the Supreme State Audit, and
- the High Inspector of Justice.

Additionally, SPAK began building international partnerships with law enforcement agencies from Italy, the United States, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, the United Kingdom, France, and with EUROJUST, EUROPOL, and other international actors.

## **Institutional Growth and Operational Workload: 2022–2023**

The workload for 2022 remained considerable, with the Special Prosecution Office investigating 712 criminal proceedings, of which 455 were carried over from previous periods and 257 were newly registered during the year.

By this time, following three years of operation, SPAK had developed a clearer institutional vision, along with an improved understanding of performance indicators and the challenges posed by the complexity of high-level corruption and organized crime. These offenses had grown increasingly sophisticated. Notably, investigations revealed that Albanian criminal groups had deepened their cooperation with international criminal organizations, including networks in drug-producing countries. Additionally, money laundering schemes had begun to extend into offshore jurisdictions, posing significant investigative and coordination challenges for SPAK in cooperation with international law enforcement bodies.

A key challenge in 2023 remained the strengthening of capacities to combat money laundering—particularly in light of Albania’s inclusion on the FATF/MONEYVAL "grey list" in February 2020. To address this, SPAK appointed the first 8 investigators of its Financial Intelligence Sector in 2023.

Institutional consolidation also progressed, with the staffing of 18 prosecutors (including one temporarily appointed in 2023) and the addition of 60 BKH investigators. This expansion in human resources translated into tangible results. Investigations initiated ex officio increased by at least 56% in 2022, while 24 criminal proceedings were launched against 25 former senior officials between 2020 and 2022. Cases related to organized crime also saw a marked increase, with a 139% rise in registered proceedings in 2022 compared to the previous year. The number of joint investigation teams (JITs) rose by 22%, indicating a strengthened international cooperation framework. Nonetheless, 2022 presented several ongoing challenges, including: Delays in the resolution of pending cases, Inability to secure extradition of organized crime figures from the United Arab Emirates, and Insufficient infrastructure, which hindered recruitment of financial and technical experts due to substandard working conditions.

Throughout 2023, SPAK focused on comprehensive investigations targeting Albania’s most influential criminal organizations and on advancing high-profile corruption cases involving former senior officials. A strategic priority during this period was to enhance SPAK’s institutional efficiency, marked by the implementation of a new investigative approach and policy alignment through sublegal acts and joint instructions with the BKH.

As part of this effort, the Financial Investigation Sector was formally established, with its first 12 investigators significantly raising investigative standards. The strengthening of this capacity played a decisive role in Albania’s removal from the MONEYVAL grey list in October 2023, contributing to increased seizures and confiscations of illicit assets and enhancing SPAK’s participation in FATF-related reporting and working groups.

Progress was also made on infrastructure, with the acquisition of an additional building currently under furnishing and internal organization.

Despite staffing levels remaining unchanged during this period, the caseload continued to rise. In 2023, SPAK handled approximately 750 criminal proceedings involving 570 individuals, representing a 16% increase from the previous year. Other key performance indicators also improved: 41% increase in ex officio investigations, 8% increase in organized crime-related cases, and 20% increase in corruption-related cases.

The Special Prosecution Office also achieved significant results across the judiciary. In 2023, the Court of First Instance for Corruption and Organized Crime recorded a 53% increase in guilty verdicts compared to 2022, with similar positive trends observed in the Special Court of Appeal and the High Court.

At the same time, SPAK began preparations to manage a forthcoming institutional responsibility: the transfer of powers from the Public Commissioner, as mandated by Article 179/b, point 8 of the Constitution, effective December 31, 2024. This transfer entails representing the state in approximately 30 ongoing cases before the Special Appeal Chamber (AC) until its constitutional mandate ends in June 2026. The Head of SPAK is expected to attend approximately 150 hearings during this period—potentially more depending on case complexity.

This anticipated increase in responsibilities requires legal amendments to expand SPAK's human resources, a reform that will demand significant institutional commitment throughout 2024.

## **Strategic Planning Methodology and Process**

Following four years of operational activity, the Special Prosecution Office has established a well-defined institutional identity and developed a clearer understanding of its organizational needs, priority areas, and the optimal allocation of human resources to enhance effectiveness in achieving its legal mandate.

The methodology behind the Strategic Plan reflects a comprehensive and inclusive approach. It takes into account recommendations from multiple sources, including:

- The European Commission's Progress Reports,
- Monitoring reports of the Council of Europe,
- Reports by international law enforcement agencies,
- U.S. Department of State reports,
- Recommendations from the Albanian Assembly and Council of Ministers,
- Civil society assessments, and
- Internal institutional analyses

More specifically, the methodology is grounded in key reference documents such as the two European Commission reports from 2023: a) the *Screening Report* dated July 20, 2023, and b) the *Progress Report* dated November 8, 2023;

as well as formal recommendations provided to the Special Prosecution Office by the Assembly and the Council of Ministers for the same year.

These recommendations have been carefully examined and incorporated into the institution's overarching strategic framework, which comprises several core strategies:

- the Institutional Strategic Plan,
- the Public Communication Strategy,
- the Human Resources Strategy and Employee Training Plan,
- the ICT and Cybersecurity Strategy, and
- the Risk Management Strategy.

All of these strategic documents are scheduled for formal adoption by the end of 2024.

The planning methodology follows an interdisciplinary approach, integrating elements of strategic analysis, project management, and international best practices in the criminal justice field. This enables a structured and adaptable framework for effective implementation.

For each strategic area, a sector-specific analysis has been conducted, defining goals, objectives, recommended actions, and a detailed work plan aligned with priority sectors.

In addition to data-driven analysis and document-based review, the planning process included consultations with SPAK staff, ensuring a broad range of perspectives and reinforcing objectivity in shaping the strategy for the planning period.

## **ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS**

This Strategic Plan is structured around several key elements that define the strategic goals and objectives of the Special Prosecution Office. It outlines the required steps, resources, and timelines necessary to achieve these goals, along with a built-in monitoring mechanism to assess implementation progress. This internal oversight framework enables the institution to anticipate, respond to, and address both anticipated and unforeseen challenges in a timely manner.

In drafting this document, the Special Prosecution Office has taken into consideration its institutional strengths and weaknesses, as well as the potential risks and challenges that may emerge during the implementation period. These essential elements ensure that the Strategic Plan is not only applicable and practical but also guided by measurable indicators and aligned with the institution's legal mandate and purpose.

## **VISION**

The Special Prosecution Office carries out criminal prosecution in full independence, as guaranteed by the Constitution and the law. It is committed to combating the culture of impunity by upholding the highest international standards in the fight against public corruption, organized crime, and money laundering.

## **MISSION**

Article 148 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania defines the role of the Special Prosecution Office: to investigate and prosecute offenses related to corruption, organized crime, and other criminal matters falling under Article 135, paragraph 2, of the Constitution.

The Special Prosecution Office is firmly dedicated to prosecuting corruption and organized crime impartially and uncompromisingly, delivering justice, promoting transparency, and fostering a legal environment in which the rule of law enhances public trust and accountability.

## **PRINCIPLES**

The Special Prosecution Office operates on the basis of the following fundamental principles: hierarchy, accountability, legality, objectivity, impartiality, effectiveness, non-discrimination, and cooperation.

These core values underpin the institution's work and ensure a fair, professional, and effective response in service of justice and the rule of law.

- In the exercise of their duties, Special Prosecutors act and make decisions independently, in accordance with the principles of legality, objectivity, and impartiality, and based on instructions issued by the Head of the Prosecution Office in accordance with the law.
- The law guarantees prosecutors the necessary independence and autonomy to perform their functions without unlawful influence—whether internal or external, public or private.

## **KEY PRIORITIES**

- The mandate and functions of the Special Prosecution Office are defined by Law No. 95/2016, “On the Organization and Functioning of Institutions for Combating Corruption and Organized Crime,” as amended (hereinafter referred to as “Law 95/2016”). The Office carries out its duties through special prosecutors and dedicated support sectors, in full compliance with this law. Investigators and judicial police officers from the National Bureau of Investigation (BKH) operate under the direction and control of SPAK prosecutors.
- The Special Prosecution Office is responsible for investigating criminal offenses enumerated in Article 75/a of the Criminal Procedure Code (hereinafter “CPC”), as well as

other offenses committed exclusively by individuals specified in Article 135, paragraph 2, of the Constitution.

In summary, pursuant to Article 75/a of the CPC, the Special Prosecution Office conducts:

1. Any crime committed by structured criminal group, criminal organization, terrorist organization and armed gang pursuant to the provisions of this Code.
2. Criminal charges against the President of the Republic, Speaker of Parliament, Prime Minister, member of the Council of Ministers, judge of the Constitutional Court and the High Court, General Prosecutor, High Justice Inspector, Mayor, member of the parliament, deputy minister, member of the High Judicial Council and High Prosecutorial Council, and directors of independent and central institutions defined in the Constitution or in law.
3. Criminal charges against above former officials, when the offence was committed on duty.

# SWOT ANALYSIS

## Strengths, Difficulties, Opportunities and Threats

### Institutional Strengths

**Independence:** The Special Prosecution Office enjoys full constitutional and legal independence from other institutions, allowing it to carry out investigations autonomously and without interference from external bodies.

**Specialization:** The Special Prosecution Office, together with the National Bureau of Investigation (BKH), is composed of a carefully selected and specialized team, dedicated to handling criminal offenses and subjects falling within its exclusive jurisdiction.

**International Cooperation:** The Special Prosecution Office maintains close cooperation with international and partner-country law enforcement agencies, facilitating effective coordination and timely exchange of information.

**Access to Databases:** The Office has direct access to most national databases, which allows for rapid retrieval of critical information for criminal, financial, and asset-related investigations.

**Infrastructure:** The Special Prosecution Office is supported by a high-quality technical and operational infrastructure, including advanced investigative tools and specialized software, particularly for financial and property-related criminal investigations.

### Difficulties

**Lack of Specialized Support Staff:** Managing a high volume of complex cases requires experienced legal and analytical staff. However, the absence of legal provisions for support roles makes staffing a slow and challenging process. The lack of dedicated legal assistance and analytical units may hinder the Office's ability to manage its caseload effectively.

**Management of Deferred Cases:** The backlog of deferred cases remains a significant challenge, reflecting a heavy workload and high case complexity. These cases often involve sophisticated financial operations, wide geographic reach, and mobile witnesses, making their resolution time-consuming. The effectiveness of prosecutors may be reduced due to the extended time elapsed since the criminal acts occurred, which may not meet public expectations for timely justice.

**Technical Communication with the Public:** Given the highly technical nature of SPAK's mission and investigations, effectively communicating its work to the public presents difficulties.

**Complex legal and financial investigations** can be hard to understand for non-expert audiences, which can affect public perception despite the transparency efforts of the institution.

## Threats

**Sophisticated political pressure:** The complex political landscape poses a risk that legal changes affecting the functioning of the Special Prosecution Office may be exploited for political purposes. Such actions could exert undue pressure on the institution or undermine its ability to effectively fulfill its mission.

**Media Attacks and Public Manipulation:** Prosecutors involved in high-profile corruption cases—particularly those targeting senior public officials—are often subject to targeted media attacks. These campaigns aim to undermine the independence and integrity of the investigative process and influence public opinion in ways that may favor the accused. Given its mandate and legal limitations, the Special Prosecution Office has limited ability to respond publicly, relying instead on the outcomes of investigations and court proceedings—a process that naturally takes time.

**Leakage of Investigative Information:** Attempts by criminal groups and corrupt officials to gain access to confidential investigative data represent a serious threat to the integrity and security of ongoing investigations. Such breaches could compromise the effectiveness of law enforcement efforts and endanger the personnel involved.

**Lack of Referrals by State Institutions:** The limited number of criminal case referrals from public institutions, along with insufficient institutional cooperation, poses an additional challenge. These gaps may hinder the investigation and prosecution of offenses committed by public officials, weakening the overall impact of the anti-corruption framework.

## Opportunities

**Legal Changes:** Amendments to the organic law governing the Special Prosecution Office could enable the institution to expand and reinforce its investigative and analytical capacities, addressing evolving criminal trends more effectively.

**Expanded International Cooperation:** Strengthening cooperation with international partners can enhance information exchange and facilitate joint efforts to combat cross-border crime, particularly in areas such as organized crime, money laundering, and terrorism.

**Public Awareness:** Raising public awareness through engagement with the media, civil society, and the public—including interviews, press conferences, and outreach events—can increase understanding of SPAK’s role and foster greater public support in the fight against corruption and impunity.

**Upgrading Technological Capacities:** The timely adoption and integration of new investigative technologies and software can significantly improve SPAK’s efficiency and effectiveness in managing complex criminal investigations.

## **Strategic Aims**

The strategic aims define the long-term direction and institutional orientation of the Special Prosecution Office. They serve as a guiding framework for its activities and contributions to strengthening justice and upholding the rule of law in Albania.

The primary strategic aims of the Special Prosecution Office are:

1. Combating impunity for corruption, organized crime, terrorism, and cybercrime;
2. Intensifying the investigation of money laundering offenses;
3. Safeguarding institutional integrity;
4. Strengthening public trust in the rule of law;
5. Enhancing the operational efficiency of the Special Prosecution Office;
6. Expanding international cooperation in criminal justice matters;
7. Improving standards for investigating electoral crimes.

## **Strategic Objectives**

To support the achievement of these long-term aims, the Special Prosecution Office has identified the following strategic objectives:

- Strengthening criminal investigation capacities;
- Enhancing expertise in financial, asset-related, and cybercrime investigations;
- Advancing counter-terrorism financing investigations;
- Deepening the investigation of money laundering activities;
- Issuing bylaws and sublegal acts to support anti-money laundering measures;
- Ensuring the highest legal standards of institutional integrity;
- Expanding and improving support structures for operational and analytical functions;
- Enhancing international cooperation and technical assistance;
- Reducing the backlog of unresolved cases;
- Promoting transparency and public communication;
- Developing and implementing an effective case management system;
- Applying a preventive approach to the investigation of electoral crimes.

These objectives are designed to enable the Special Prosecution Office to successfully pursue its mission in the fight against corruption, organized crime, and other serious criminal offenses.

Through the consistent implementation of these objectives, the institution aims to contribute meaningfully to strengthening democratic governance and the rule of law in Albania.

## **STRATEGIC GOALS, SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES, AND MEASURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

<b>Goal 1</b>	<p><b>Combating Impunity for Corruption, Organized Crime, Terrorism, and Cybercrime</b></p> <p>The Special Prosecution Office is committed to being an effective institution in the fight against corruption, organized crime, terrorism, and cybercrime. This includes the identification, investigation, prosecution, and successful conviction of individuals and entities falling within its jurisdiction, thereby reducing impunity and strengthening the rule of law.</p>
<b>Objective 1</b>	<p><b>Improving Criminal Investigation Capacities</b></p> <p>Given that a significant number of BKH investigators are currently assigned to interception duties, the appointment of additional investigators remains a key objective to be achieved by 2027. Furthermore, to enhance inter-institutional coordination at the national level, the establishment of a Judicial Police Services Section within the BKH is planned as a priority in the near future.</p>

### **Implementation Measures for the Objective 1.**

1. Initiation of recruitment procedures for new staff and investigators.
2. Incorporation of strategic objectives into institutional planning and operational workflows.
3. Initiation of appropriate legal proceedings in line with identified offenses.
4. Enhancement of the quality and professionalism of financial investigators and expert witnesses.
5. Strengthening the organizational and operational capacity of investigative structures to ensure greater effectiveness.

<p><b>Goal 2</b></p>	<p><b>Money Laundering Investigation</b></p> <p>The Special Prosecution Office is committed to integrating financial and asset investigations into every criminal case, with the objective of significantly increasing the identification, seizure, and confiscation of proceeds derived from money laundering.</p>
<p><b>Objective 2</b></p>	<p><b>Strengthening Capacities for Financial, Property, and Cyber Investigations</b></p> <p>The Special Prosecution Office will enhance its technical and human resources, aiming to improve its analytical capabilities and subject-matter expertise. This development will also extend to digital investigations, through the specialized training of financial investigators and the adoption of advanced technologies for the analysis of financial transactions and property-related data.</p>

**Implementation Measures for Objective 2:**

1. Conduct **specialized training** for financial investigators, as outlined in the *Employee Training Plan by Category*.
2. Strengthen cooperation with international experts to exchange experiences and best practices.
3. Acquire specialized software tools for financial and cyber investigations and build staff capacity for their effective use.

**Objective 2.1: Strengthening Investigations against Terrorist Financing**

To improve the quality of investigations into terrorist financing, the Special Prosecution Office will focus on enhancing human capacity and strengthening cooperation with both domestic and international law enforcement agencies.

**Implementation Measures for Objective 2.1:**

1. Organize training sessions and refresher seminars for prosecutors and investigators, in collaboration with the Kosovo Anti-Terrorism Bureau, to address advanced forms of terrorist financing.
2. Improve the quality of information exchange and cooperation between investigative and financial authorities at both national and international levels.

3. Explore opportunities for collaboration with the banking and financial sector to enhance preventive investigations and secure specialized access to financial data of subjects under investigation.
4. Develop **joint risk analyses** with national law enforcement agencies on emerging trends and practices in terrorist financing.

## **Objective 2.2: Preventive Approach in the Fight against Money Laundering**

An additional priority is to adopt a preventive approach to money laundering investigations by proactively monitoring various economic activities, particularly in sectors vulnerable to money laundering. This approach aims to identify and mitigate financial crimes before they occur.

### **Implementation Measures for Objective 2.2:**

1. Establish partnerships with private financial institutions to leverage their resources and expertise for the timely identification and investigation of suspected money laundering activities.
2. Develop close relationships with international financial institutions to facilitate the exchange of relevant financial data.
3. Enhance cooperation with the Financial Intelligence Agency, including the designation of contact points and the promotion of in-depth analysis of money laundering typologies by that institution.

## **Objective 2.3: Issuance of By-Laws on Property and Financial Investigations**

The Special Prosecution Office will draft bylaws to help standardize and unify investigative practices in the areas of financial and asset investigations.

### **Implementation Measures for Objective 2.3:**

1. Establish a working group of prosecutors and financial investigators tasked with preparing a general guideline for financial and property investigations.
2. Seek cooperation with international assistance projects to ensure alignment with best practices in the development of these bylaws.

<p><b>Goal 3</b></p>	<p><b>Protection of Institutional Integrity</b></p> <p>The Special Prosecution Office is committed to upholding the highest legal standards of institutional integrity, ensuring that all investigations and prosecutions are independent, transparent, and conducted with full respect for human rights.</p>
<p><b>Objective 3</b></p>	<p><b>Implementation Measures for Ensuring Institutional Integrity:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actively participate in legal reforms and discussions concerning the status and independence of special prosecutors.</li> <li>• Promote internal dialogue during prosecutors' meetings on maintaining the highest human rights standards during investigations, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ protection of privacy,</li> <li>○ safeguarding the rights of victims,</li> <li>○ ensuring the right to legal defense, and</li> <li>○ upholding the principles of fair trial.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The achievement of this objective is essential to reinforcing public confidence in the work of the Special Prosecution Office and maintaining its institutional credibility.</p>

### **Implementation Measures for Objective 3: Protection of Institutional Integrity**

1. The Special Prosecution Office will submit legal proposals aimed at safeguarding the status and career security of special prosecutors after the conclusion of their mandate.
2. It will take a proactive role in ensuring the physical protection and professional dignity of its personnel, through enhanced communication and cooperation with the relevant state authorities.
3. In accordance with the law, the Special Prosecution Office has designated a Coordinator for Personal Data Protection, responsible for monitoring the implementation of data protection procedures. The coordinator is expected to attend relevant training sessions, conduct legal and procedural analyses on emerging issues, and provide recommendations for corrective measures.
4. The Office will conduct more frequent internal analyses on the use of personal security measures, with the aim of strengthening institutional standards and consistency. While the decision to apply such measures rests with the case prosecutor and the court, SPAK will work to ensure their effective and justified application.

<p><b>Goal 4</b></p>	<p><b>Strengthening Public Trust in the Rule of Law</b></p> <p>One of the key goals of the Special Prosecution Office is to enhance public confidence in the rule of law by effectively combating impunity for organized crime and high-level corruption. This objective is closely linked to transparency, accountability, and the institution’s ability to communicate its work clearly and consistently to the public</p>
<p><b>Objective 4</b></p>	<p><b>Strengthening Transparency and Public Communication</b></p> <p>Increasing transparency and improving communication with the public is a strategic priority for the Special Prosecution Office. Ensuring the public is accurately informed about the Office’s mission, activities, and results is essential to maintaining credibility and public support.</p>

**Implementation Measures for Objective 4:**

1. The Special Prosecution Office will develop a comprehensive communication strategy, with support from international experts. This strategy will be based on an assessment of the institution’s first four years of public communication experience and aligned with international best practices.
2. The Office has already initiated an “off-the-record” communication practice with journalists. This will continue in a more formalized and protocol-based manner. To support this, the Office plans to define clear internal rules for such media interactions, including the preparation of a preliminary meeting calendar to ensure consistent engagement.
3. The Special Prosecution Office will diversify its communication methods by incorporating press conferences, interviews, podcasts, seminars and workshops with civil society, and engagement through social media platforms, aiming to reach broader audiences and foster public understanding of its work.
4. A dedicated working group will be established to manage the official public communication channels more efficiently, ensuring increased transparency and timely responses to public and media inquiries.
5. The Special Prosecution Office has also foreseen the establishment of a Sector for Reporting to the European Union (EU). This structure will enhance the quality of reporting as part of the Albanian state’s periodic obligations within the EU integration process. The creation of this sector is a priority and will be supported by a detailed plan to develop the necessary human resources.

<p><b>Goal 5</b></p>	<p><b>Increasing the Efficiency of the Special Prosecution Office</b></p> <p>The Special Prosecution Office aims to enhance its overall effectiveness by maintaining a balance between the quality of investigations and their timely completion, ensuring that the law is applied fairly, equally, and promptly.</p>
<p><b>Objective 5</b></p>	<p><b>Enhancing Institutional Support Structures</b></p> <p>In support of this objective, the institution will invest in expanded support structures, particularly in the areas of criminal, financial, and property investigations, as well as in managing administrative appeals related to the magistrates’ re-evaluation process, under the authority of the Head of the Special Prosecution Office.</p>

**Implementation Measures for Objective 5:**

1. Establish a Legal Support Structure and provide targeted training for legal advisors, to assist prosecutors in complex legal and procedural matters.
2. Strengthen analytical capacities, which will support not only criminal investigations but also the strategic planning and policy development of the institution.
3. Create a digital library for internal use, designed to assist prosecutors and legal staff by providing centralized access to legal resources, case law, procedural guidelines, and analysis tools essential for effective case handling and institutional learning.

**Objective 5.1: Reduction of Backlogged Cases**

Recognizing the importance of addressing case backlogs, the Special Prosecution Office will develop a dedicated strategy to reduce the number of carried-over (pending) cases. This strategy will include a comprehensive analysis of existing files, the establishment of a priority scale based on case significance, progress monitoring mechanisms, and the allocation of additional human resources to support resolution efforts.

**Implementation Measures for Objective 5.1:**

1. A joint working group will be established, composed of international experts and specialized staff of the Special Prosecution Office, to design a long-term strategy for reducing case backlog and ensuring sustainable case flow management.

## Objective 5.2: Establishment of a Case Management System

The introduction of a case management system is a key objective aimed at enhancing institutional effectiveness and optimizing human resource utilization. This system will enable real-time monitoring of case progress, improve workflow coordination, and ensure transparent, accountable case handling.

### Implementation Measures for Objective 5.2:

1. The Special Prosecution Office has initiated close cooperation with international assistance projects to develop and implement a dedicated case management system, which is expected to become operational during the 2025–2026 period.

<p><b>Goal 6</b></p>	<p><b>Strengthening International Cooperation</b></p> <p>The Special Prosecution Office recognizes international cooperation as a key tool in the fight against corruption, organized crime, money laundering, and terrorism. Through enhanced partnerships, information exchange, and coordinated operations with international law enforcement agencies and partner institutions, the Office aims to increase the effectiveness of cross-border investigations.</p>
<p><b>Objective 6</b></p>	<p>To improve the use of mutual legal assistance mechanisms and strengthen international operational cooperation.</p> <p>This objective includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signing bilateral and multilateral cooperation agreements with partner agencies;</li> <li>• Expanding contact networks with law enforcement institutions in jurisdictions where Albanian criminal groups are active;</li> <li>• Enhancing coordination with specialized anti-corruption and organized crime structures across the region.</li> </ul>

### Implementation Measures for Objective 6: Strengthening International Cooperation

1. The Special Prosecution Office will pursue a proactive policy of expanding direct contacts with law enforcement agencies in countries where Albanian organized crime activity is prevalent, with the aim of building a robust and reliable international cooperation network.
2. The Office will work to enhance coordination with counterpart institutions in the region, in order to develop and implement joint strategies for the prevention and combatting of organized crime, terrorism, and money laundering across borders.

<p><b>Goal 7</b></p>	<p><b>Improving the Standards for Investigating Electoral Crimes</b></p> <p>For the period 2024–2027, the Special Prosecution Office aims to improve the quality, transparency, and effectiveness of investigations into electoral crimes. The objective is to ensure that the electoral process is fair and free from criminal influence, particularly from organized crime and corruption.</p>
<p><b>Objective 7</b></p>	<p><b>Strategic Focus:</b></p> <p>Adopting a preventive approach to electoral crime investigation to enable rapid and effective responses, while preserving the integrity of democratic processes.</p>

**Implementation Measures for Objective 7:**

1. Enhance investigative capacities within the Special Prosecution Office to enable the efficient and effective investigation and prosecution of electoral crime cases.
2. Promote public awareness and civic education on the role of the Special Prosecution Office and the importance of public cooperation in preventing and reporting electoral offenses.
3. Strengthen coordination and cooperation with the State Police, electoral authorities, civil society, and media, to ensure a proactive and united front in preventing criminal acts related to elections.
4. Prevent external interference and manipulation of the electoral process through real-time monitoring and rapid institutional response to suspicious activities and reported cases.

**IMPLEMENTATION, REPORTING, MONITORING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

To ensure that this Strategic Plan effectively supports the objectives of the Special Prosecution Office, it is essential that the document remains operational and adaptable. This requires the Plan to be subject to continuous review and adjustment by the implementing structures, in alignment with progress made and evolving institutional needs.

The Strategic Plan will serve as a guiding instrument for implementation mechanisms, allowing for timely reflection and integration of necessary changes based on the level of achievement of its defined objectives.

To support this, the Special Prosecution Office will establish a dedicated Coordination Unit for Monitoring and Evaluation, responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan. Each sector of the institution will define, in accordance with its operational responsibilities, the

appropriate tools and methodologies for monitoring and assessing progress toward the institution's strategic goals.

The Coordination Unit will be composed of: the Head of the Anti-Corruption Section, the Head of the Organized Crime Section, and the Chancellor of the Special Prosecution Office.

Meetings of the Coordination Unit will be convened and organized by the Chancellor.

In collaboration with the Coordination Unit, the relevant sectors and internal structures of the Special Prosecution Office will carry out continuous monitoring of progress, review strategic priorities, and, when necessary, adapt implementation efforts. These structures will also be responsible for collecting and analyzing data related to implementation performance, and may propose adjustments to the Plan, including new indicators and improved measurement tools, as needed.

## **MONITORING OF STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

To ensure timely and effective monitoring of the Strategic Plan, the Special Prosecution Office will apply a **structured process** focused on tracking the fulfillment of objectives through clearly defined performance indicators. Each responsible sector will establish quantitative and qualitative indicators to measure the efficiency and effectiveness of implemented actions.

This monitoring process will concentrate on the achievement of planned results and key activities, offering a transparent overview of all strategic goals and objectives. Each sector will be responsible for the implementation and continuous monitoring of relevant measures, supported by effective data collection systems and reporting mechanisms. These will track progress in areas such as staff contributions, cooperation with national institutions, and assistance received from international partners.

In coordination with the Monitoring and Evaluation Coordination Unit, each sector will integrate the following elements into its monitoring approach:

- Performance indicators, both qualitative and quantitative, aligned with each strategic and specific objective;
- Timelines, broken down into key action items within the framework of the institution's annual planning cycle;
- Forecasts of financial resources, informed by past operational intensity, previous budgetary experience, and a distinction between funded and unfunded institutional needs.

## **PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**

The evaluation process of the Strategic Plan comprises two key stages: the annual review and the final evaluation.

The annual review will assess progress in implementing the yearly work plans and the fulfillment of the Strategic Plan’s objectives and expected results. This process will be led by Heads of Sectors, in collaboration with the Coordination Unit, and will involve a comparative analysis against previous performance periods.

The review will:

- Identify areas requiring improvement;
- Highlight emerging challenges and strategic gaps;
- Assess alignment between actual results and initial expectations.

Findings from the annual review will help ensure that the institution remains aligned with its strategic goals and can adapt as needed to changing operational or legal contexts.

The final evaluation represents a comprehensive assessment of all elements outlined in the Strategic Plan. It will analyze:

- The degree of achievement of planned results;
- The relevance and impact of the strategy in light of evolving institutional and legal contexts;
- The overall contribution of the Strategic Plan to the mission and long-term goals of the Special Prosecution Office.

This final review will inform future strategic planning and provide valuable insights into institutional performance, lessons learned, and opportunities for improvement.

## **ACHIEVEMENT INDICATORS**

The achievement indicators of the Special Prosecution Office will be used to assess progress in fulfilling the 12 specific objectives and their 37 corresponding measures, and to evaluate the overall effectiveness of Strategic Plan implementation. These indicators will provide a clear, measurable, and objective overview of the results achieved, ensuring accountability and transparency in the institution’s performance.

								<b>Total</b>
<b>Aims</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Measures</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>37</b>

The indicators outlined in this Strategic Plan are designed to measure the extent to which the 7 strategic goals of the Special Prosecution Office are being fulfilled, through the implementation of their respective objectives. The Plan defines seven initial performance indicators, which may be revised based on institutional progress and evolving priorities.

**Defined Performance Indicators:**

- i. **Progressive increase in the number of corruption cases referred to court;**
- ii. **Progressive increase in the number of organized crime cases referred to court;**
- iii. **Progressive increase in the number of requests submitted for asset seizure and confiscation;**
- iv. **Progressive increase in the number of seizures executed, in proportion to seizure requests, within criminal proceedings;**
- v. **Progressive increase in the volume and effectiveness of international cooperation;**
- vi. **Progressive increase in media engagement and public communication activities;**
- vii. **Reduction of the case backlog by at least 35%.**

**TIMELINES**

The timelines defined in the Strategic Plan of the Special Prosecution Office are a critical component for guiding the achievement of its strategic objectives. Given the dynamic and evolving nature of this Plan, the timeframes presented in the implementation table are considered indicative and subject to periodic review and adjustment.

The Coordination Unit, in collaboration with the Head of the Special Prosecution Office and the respective Section Heads, is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of all planned measures. This includes ensuring that any necessary updates or deadline adjustments are made promptly and effectively.

This process of continuous review and adaptation is essential to maintain the relevance, flexibility, and operational effectiveness of the Strategic Plan, ensuring it remains aligned with the evolving needs and progress of the institution—particularly in its mission to combat corruption and organized crime.

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

The risk assessment table provides: a description of each identified risk; an estimate of the likelihood and impact level; Preventive or corrective actions that can be undertaken by the Special Prosecution Office to address the risks effectively.

<b>Meaning of color:</b>	<b>Low risk</b>	<b>Medium risk</b>	<b>High Risk</b>
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<b>Risk description</b>	<b>Predicting the level of risk</b>	<b>Preventive measures</b>
<b>1) Political Risk</b>		

Legal Reforms Impacting the Work of the Special Prosecution Office	High	Preventive Approach to Legislative Changes Related to the Functions of the Special Prosecution Office
		Conducting meetings with relevant Parliamentary Groups; Increase institutional meetings with the HPC; Maintaining constant contacts with international
b) Budget cuts and various financial obstacles in meeting the needs of the Special Prosecution Office.	Low	Detailed explanation of the needs of the Special Prosecution Office, exhaustively argued in the annual report and periodic meetings with the Assembly and the HPC;
<b>2) External Risks</b>		
Illegal interference and blackmail by organized crime or high-ranking public officials in an overt or covert manner	High	Building human capacities regarding the physical security of employees of the Special Prosecution Office in cooperation with international partners ;
Coordination with HPC	Low	Conducting periodic meetings with the HPC to discuss emerging issues.
Coordination with other public institutions	Average	Lack of referrals from official institutions on issues related to corruption.
The capacities of the School of Magistrates for the initial and continuous training of administrative staff	Low	Developing joint analyses of needs and opportunities for building human capacities through the School of Magistrates.
Cyberattacks by various actors against the Special Prosecution system	High	Periodic staff awareness of potential cyber risks; Maintaining direct contacts with partner agencies;
<b>3) Internal Risks</b>		

Establishment of the Judicial Police Services Section at the BKH	Low	Planning and timely allocation of human resources to carry out this process; Completion of relevant bylaws.
Recruitment of an additional number of BKH investigators	Low	Immediate analysis of the current capacities of investigators and better profiling of candidates to be accepted.
Completing the staff of financial investigators	Low	• Timely start of procedures, increasing the dynamics of the profile of candidates who will be hired.
The Head of the Special Prosecution Office assumes the powers of the Public Commissioner for the continuation of the transitional re-evaluation process of magistrates on December 31, 2024.	High	Establishing a working group with the Public Commissioner to analyze and prepare timely proposals for the necessary legal amendments; Conducting an analysis of the human resources and workload that this new role will bring for the Head of the Special Prosecution, and reflecting these needs in the institution's staffing and budget for 2025.

## **MEDIUM-TERM BUDGET FRAMEWORK OF THE SPECIAL PROSECUTION OFFICE**

In alignment with its mission, vision, and strategic objectives, the Special Prosecution Office (SPAK) has submitted detailed requests for medium-term budgetary funding. These requests are carefully justified, emphasizing the importance of securing the necessary resources to ensure optimal working conditions for SPAK staff and to enhance the quality and effectiveness of investigations.

During the current planning period, SPAK has made progress in staffing key positions, including special prosecutors, financial investigators, and civil servants. As staffing continues to expand, there is a growing need for increased funding, particularly in the categories of current and capital expenditures.

SPAK's budgetary support and funding requests are structured in accordance with its strategic goals and are categorized into two main components:

- Capital Expenditures (Investments)
- Current Expenses

Approval of the Medium-Term Budget Program (MTBP)

- The approval of the 2024–2026 Medium-Term Budget Program (MTBP) is summarized as follows:
- The approval of the 2025–2027 Medium-Term Budget Program (MTBP) is summarized as follows:

	<b>BOUGET</b>	<b>MTBP 2025-2027</b>		
<b>ARTICLES</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>
Salary (600-601)	1,102,946,000	1,111,496,000	1,111,496,000	1,111,496,000
Other Currents (602-606)	248,467,000	248,117,000	249,117,000	250,117,000
Capital (230-232) Domestic	550,000,000	390,000,000	220,000,000	210,000,000
Foreign Capital (230-232)				
Off -budget				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,901,413,000</b>	<b>1,749,613,000</b>	<b>1,580,613,000</b>	<b>1,571,613,000</b>

## **CAPITAL EXPENDITURES (INVESTMENTS 231)**

The capital expenditures of the Special Prosecution Office (SPAK) for the 2024–2026 medium-term budget are focused on strategic investments that directly support its operational effectiveness, security, and long-term institutional sustainability.

### **Key Areas of Investment:**

- Investments in Long-Term Tangible Assets, including real estate (e.g., buildings, connecting structures such as bridges, and infrastructure improvements);
- Investments in Facility Safety and Security Measures, aimed at protecting SPAK premises and ensuring the physical safety of staff;
- Procurement of Office Equipment, to support administrative and operational needs;
- Acquisition of Operational Equipment and Technical Tools, essential for field operations and investigative functions;
- Investments in Information Technology Infrastructure, including hardware and secure systems;
- Procurement of Specialized Software, Programs, and Professional Licenses, particularly for critical investigative units such as the Command Core Sector and Expertise Sector.

The above investments have been planned and approved in accordance with Council of Ministers Decision No. 535, dated 12.08.2024, *“On the Approval of the Final Expenditure Ceilings of the 2025–2027 Budget Program”*.

A detailed breakdown of these capital expenditures is provided in the following section/table.

DESIGNATION	Implementation for 2023	Plan 2024	Review 2024	SPAK Requests					
				2025		2026		2027	
				T/Final	Additional request	T/Final	Request house	T/Final	request extra
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>	8,435,999	550,000,000	550,000,000	390,000,000	67,551,000	220,000,000	0	210,000,000	0
Purchase of electronic equipment	0	173248.670	173248.670	50,577,000	9,960,000	140,000,000		90,165,442	
Purchase of discount equipment	479,999	101,688.83i	1,000,000	127,409,000	22,591,000	21,745,012		40,000,000	
Purchase Scanners and lights for detecting object lasers		96307200	96307200						
operating room equipment (classified)		9,000,000	9,000,000						
For the consideration of the value of the procedure , the year 2023 (Design study for the re(hue) river)		100,000	100,000						
Construction of the perimeter fence for the new SPAK platform		8380.400	8380.400						
Supervision of works for the object "New perimeter fence construction for SPAK"		180,000	180,000						
Inspection for the object "Construction of a retaining wall for the SPAK wind farm "		50,000	50,000						
Supervision project for the facility "Construction and reconstruction of the new tc SPAK platform"	0	6,000,000	9,031,000						
Construction of a new building and reconstruction of the SPAK building, and purchase of doors for the current building	0	153,140,899	250278.730	208,658,000					
Supervision of the project "Construction and reconstruction of the new SPAK building "		1,920,000	1,920,000	2,760,000					
Inspection for the facility "Construction and reconstruction for SPAK leaves the new building"	0	204,000	204,000	596,000					
Solar panels for electricity					11,000,000				
Services for cybernetic spirit					24,000,000	58254.988		49,834,558	
Vehicle Purchase	7,936,000							30,000,000	
				390,000,000		220,000,000		210,000,000	
<b>Difference (budget ceilings -requests)</b>				-	-	-	-	-	-

During the initial years of SPAK’s establishment and operational activity, the available premises proved insufficient to accommodate the growing number of staff. The lack of adequate space created operational challenges and highlighted the urgent need for new work facilities. In response, the Special Prosecution Office formally addressed this issue with the High Prosecutorial Council (KLP) and the Council of Ministers, seeking the allocation of a new building to ensure optimal working conditions for its personnel.

This need was addressed through Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 378, dated 21.06.2023, *“On the transfer of administrative responsibility to the Ministry of Justice for the Special Prosecution Office and the revocation of ownership rights of the Municipality of Tirana and the*

*company 'Ujësjellës-Kanalizime Tirana' sh.a., over property No. 8/123 in cadastral area 8330.”* Through this decision, SPAK secured additional premises for its staff.

The building transferred to SPAK, initially intended for another institution, requires significant adaptation and internal reconstruction to meet the specific needs of the Special Prosecution Office. Planned modifications include: Creation of offices, conference rooms, training facilities, and specialized spaces for examination, identification, and interrogation, all equipped with audio-video systems; Designation of secure areas for environmental surveillance and interception, as well as storage facilities for investigative tools, weapons, and material evidence; Installation of stationary furniture and IT infrastructure to support day-to-day operations.

To enhance security and streamline internal coordination, a connecting bridge will be constructed to link the current SPAK building with the Special Court of First Instance and Appeal for Corruption and Organized Crime. This will allow secure, unexposed, and timely movement of BKH investigators, financial investigators, and other SPAK staff. The creation of a unified complex for SPAK and the Special Courts will enable integrated functionality and operational synergy.

In collaboration with the Republic Guard, the construction of a perimeter security wall is also planned, establishing a comprehensive perimeter protection system—essential for institutions with high-security responsibilities in the investigation of serious criminal offenses. Additional security infrastructure investments include: Vehicle and personnel scanners at entry points; Anti-drone autonomous systems to prevent aerial threats; A “Check-In” access control system, enhanced surveillance camera network, and improved guard service facilities.

Investments in information technology and cybersecurity are considered critical. SPAK plans to develop a modern datacenter, including secure storage systems for surveillance footage, backup infrastructure, and a dedicated server room built to high-performance standards. These systems will support investigative operations and ensure the integrity and confidentiality of sensitive data.

As SPAK continues to complete its staffing structure—particularly with the addition of 50 Judicial Police Officers of the National Bureau of Investigation—there is an increased need for electronic equipment to support investigative capacity, case management, and performance monitoring. These investments are directly aligned with the objectives of this Strategic Plan, particularly the goal of enhancing criminal investigative capacities, increasing the number of cases sent to court, and reducing the overall number of pending proceedings.

Moreover, under Article 37 of Law No. 10192, dated 03.12.2009, *“On the prevention and suppression of organized crime, trafficking, corruption and other crimes through preventive measures against property,”* the Inter-Institutional Committee for Measures Against Organized Crime, by Decision No. 91, dated 09.03.2023, approved the financing of the SPAK project titled:

“Procurement of Electronic Equipment and Systems to Enhance Cybersecurity and Technological Infrastructure for Field Investigators” Total Value: 169,208,320 ALL . This project includes the procurement of: Tactical monitoring systems; Hardware and software technologies to support field operations; Security infrastructure and digital systems to improve SPAK’s investigative and cybersecurity capacity.

## **OPERATING EXPENDITURES**

With the expansion and consolidation of SPAK’s institutional structure and staff, the need for increased current expenditures has grown significantly. These expenses include: Salaries and social insurance contributions, Performance-based bonuses, Utility costs, Operational expenses necessary for the efficient functioning of the institution.

This increase is directly linked to a series of legal and regulatory changes enacted in 2023, particularly regarding remuneration. These include: Decision of the Constitutional Court No. 35/2022, addressing the base reference salary for magistrates and non-magistrates; Law No. 33/2023, “*On an Amendment to Law No. 96/2016 ‘On the Status of Judges and Prosecutors in the Republic of Albania,’*” as amended; Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 325/2023, “*On the Approval of the Structure and Salary Levels of Civil Servants/Employees, Deputy Ministers and Cabinet Staff in Certain Public Administration Institutions*”; Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 326/2023, “*On the Salaries of Support Employees and Other Specialized Employees in Public Administration Institutions.*”

These legislative changes serve as a further guarantee of financial stability, integrity, and motivation for all SPAK employees in the performance of their official duties.

In addition to personnel-related expenditures, a significant portion of current expenses is allocated to the maintenance of critical operational infrastructure, including: The Electronic Command Core, The Expertise Sector, The IT and Cybersecurity Systems.

These operational costs include: Professional licenses essential for interception and forensic sectors, Maintenance and upgrading of information technology infrastructure, specialized software for digital investigations and forensic expertise, Cybersecurity tools to prevent and mitigate cyber intrusions.

SPAK’s budget forecasts have placed particular emphasis on information technology and cybersecurity, recognizing them as foundational to proactive and technology-driven investigations.

## **ANNEX**

<b>No.</b>	<b>AIMS</b>	<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>MEASURES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>TIMELINES</b>
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1	<p><b>The increase of impunity for corruption, crime organized crime, terrorism and cybercrime:</b> Special Prosecution Office aims to be an effective institution in the fight against corruption, organized crime, terrorism and cybercrime. This includes the identification, prosecution and successful punishment of subjects who are under the jurisdiction of the Special Prosecution Office.</p>	<p><b>Improving criminal investigation capacities :</b> Given that the command core of the interception occupies a considerable number of investigators, the appointment of other BKH investigators is another important objective to be met within 2027. Also, to increase coordination with other institutions in the country, the establishment of the Judicial Police Services Section at the BKH is also envisaged as soon as possible.</p>	<p><b>Measures in implementation of Objective 1:</b> Opening the selection procedure for an additional number of BKH investigators.</p>	2024
			<p>Reflection in the budget of the recruitment of new BKH investigators.</p>	2024 - 2025
			<p>Opening the procedure for hiring officers from the Judicial Police Services.</p>	2024 - 2025
			<p>Increasing the quality of working conditions after the reconstruction of the new additional building, for financial investigators , BKH, updating the facilities for witness interrogation, data storage, etc.</p>	2025 - 2026
			<p>Increasing human capacity in investigating cybercrime within the framework of organized crime and terrorism.</p>	2026
2	<p><b>Intensification of money laundering investigation :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Special Prosecution Office aims to accompany every criminal investigation with a financial and property investigation, with the aim of increasing the number of seizures and confiscations of the proceeds of crime.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengthening capacities for financial, property and cyber investigations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Special Prosecution Office will further develop its technical and human capacities, raising its analytical capacities and the level of expertise, which will also extend to digital evidence investigations,</li> </ul>	<p><b>Measures in implementation of Objective 2:</b></p> <p>1. Specialized training of financial investigators will be carried out, also referring to the " Employee Training Plan" by category.</p>	2024 - 2026
			<p>2. Increase cooperation with international experts to share experiences on similar issues.</p>	2024 - 2026

		including specialized training of financial investigators and the use of technology for the analysis of financial transactions.	3. Obtaining specialized computer programs for financial and cyber investigations and building human capacity in their use.	2027
	<p><b>Strengthening investigations against terrorist financing</b></p> <p>The approach towards increasing the quality of investigations against terrorist financing will be oriented towards building human capacities in relation to increasing the quality cooperation with local and international law enforcement agencies.</p>		<p><b>Measures in implementation of Objective 2.1:</b></p> <p>1. <b>Training and refresher seminars</b> will be conducted with SPAK prosecutors and investigators to identify and investigate the most sophisticated forms of terrorist</p>	2025
2. The quality of information exchange and cooperation between investigative and financial authorities at national and international level will be			2025 - 2026	
3. Possibilities of establishing cooperation with the banking and financial sector will be considered to increase preventive investigations and aim for more specialized access to the financial data of entities under investigation.			2026	
4. Developments of joint risk analyses with national law enforcement agencies on terrorist financing practices will be planned.			2026	
<p><b>Preventive approach to combating against money laundering:</b></p> <p>important objective will also be the preventive approach to investigating money laundering</p>		<p><b>Measures in implementation of Objective 2.2:</b></p> <p>1. Establish partnerships with private financial institutions to use their resources for timely investigation of money laundering indicators.</p>	2026	

		various economic sectors, including sectors that are most affected by money laundering.	2. Building close relationships with international financial institutions for the exchange of financial data.	2026
			3. Increasing effective cooperation with the Financial Intelligence Agency through contact points and more in-depth analyses of money laundering typologies by this institution.	2026
		<b>Issuance of by-laws</b> Preparation of bylaws that will guide the Special Prosecution Office in unifying standards and practices of property and financial investigation.	<b>Measures in implementation of Objective 2.3:</b> 1. Establish a working group composed of prosecutors and financial investigators to prepare a general guideline for financial and property investigations.	2025
			2. Request for cooperation with international assistance projects in the preparation of this guideline.	2024 - 2025
3.	<b>Protection of integrity institutional:</b> Special Prosecution Office aims to maintain the highest legal standards of institutional integrity, ensuring that investigations and prosecutions are independent, transparent, and respectful of and protective of the of	<b>Ensuring the highest legal standards of institutional integrity:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active participation in legal changes that affect the status of the special prosecutor.</li> <li>• Developing discussions at prosecutors' meetings on maintaining the highest standards of respect for human rights during criminal investigations, guaranteeing protection of privacy, care for victims, the right to legal protection and a fair trial.</li> </ul>	<b>Measures in implementation of Objective 3:</b> 1. The Special Prosecution Office will provide relevant legal proposals related to the protection of the status of special prosecutors after the end	2024 - 2025
			2. The Special Prosecution Office will be proactive in relation to the physical protection and dignity of the staff of the Special Prosecution Office, by increasing communication and cooperation with relevant state authorities.	2024

	human rights.	Fulfilling this objective is essential for strengthening public trust in the work of the Special Prosecution Office.	3. The Special Prosecution Office has provided, according to the law, for the position of a coordinator for the protection of personal data, who monitors the implementation of legal procedures for data protection. It is envisaged that the coordinator will attend relevant training and prepare analyses regarding the problems that have arisen and offer solutions to address them.	2024 - 2025
			4. The Special Prosecution Office will increase the number of internal analyses regarding the strategies followed for granting personal security measures, even though this procedural tool is at the discretion of the prosecutor of the case and the court's assessment.	2027
4.	<p><b>Strengthening public trust in the rule of law:</b> An important goal of the Special Prosecution Office is to increase public trust in the rule of law by strengthening impunity for organized crime and corruption of senior public officials.</p>	<p><b>Strengthening transparency and communication with the public:</b> Strengthening transparency with the public is also one of the priorities of the Special Prosecution Office.</p>	<p><b>Measures in implementation of Objective 4:</b></p> <p>1. The Special Prosecution Office will prepare a communication strategy with the assistance of international experts, which will be based on an analysis of 4 years of public communication experience and reference to international best practices.</p>	2024 - 2025
			2. The Special Prosecution Office has already begun an 'off the record' communication practice with news reporters, which is expected to continue in a more protocol-based manner. It is intended to establish some more detailed rules for this form of communication with the media, also establishing a preliminary meeting calendar.	2025

			3. The Special Prosecution Office also plans to include other forms of communication, such as press conferences, interviews, <i>podcasts</i> , seminars and workshops with civil society , social media, etc.	2027
			4. The Special Prosecution Office will also establish a working group to more efficiently administer the official public communication address to increase transparency and facilitate timely communication with the public.	2024
			5. The Special Prosecution Office has envisaged the establishment of a Sector for Reporting to the European Union (EU), which will increase the quality of reporting within the framework of the Albanian state's periodic reports in function of the EU integration process. The establishment of this sector will receive special priority, accompanied by a well-defined plan regarding the building of human capacities.	2025
5.	<p><b>Increasing the efficiency of the Special Prosecution Office:</b> Prosecution Office aims to increase effectiveness by maintaining a balance between the quality of the investigation and the speed of its completion, with the goal of ensuring that the law is applied fairly, equally and in a</p>	<p><b>Adding support structures:</b> Building support capacities in relation to criminal, property and financial investigations, as well as the administrative appeal of the magistrates' re-evaluation process to be carried out by the Head of the Special Prosecution Office.</p>	<p><b>Measures in implementation of Objective 5:</b> 1. Building these capacities will include establishing a Legal Support Structure and training legal advisors.</p> <p>2. Analytical capacities will also be strengthened, which will serve not only investigation but also planning and preparation of the institution's strategies.</p>	<p>2025 - 2027</p> <p>2025 - 2027</p>

	reasonable time for everyone.		3. The establishment of a digital library for internal use is another tool that is planned to be established to assist prosecutors and structures involved in the investigation and legal analysis of cases.	2025 - 2027
		<p><b>Reducing backlogs :</b></p> <p>Due to the importance of this objective, the Special Prosecution Office will prepare a specific strategy for reducing the number of cases carried over, which will include an in-depth analysis of them, determining a priority scale according to the importance of the cases, monitoring their progress and supporting them with additional human resources.</p>	<p><b>Measures in implementation of Objective 5.1:</b></p> <p>1. A joint working group will be established consisting of international experts and specialized staff of the Special Prosecution Office to prepare a strategy that will address this issue for the long term.</p>	2025
		<p><b>Case management system :</b></p> <p>The establishment of a case management system is an important objective that is related not only to increasing effectiveness but also to increasing better human resource management. This system will enable real-time monitoring of the progress of a case investigation (track record).</p>	<p><b>Measures in implementation of Objective 5.2:</b></p> <p>1. The Special Prosecution Office has initiated close cooperation with international assistance projects to establish a special case management system that is expected to be operational within the period 2025 - 2026.</p>	2025 - 2026
6.	<p><b>cooperation international:</b></p> <p>Through international cooperation, the Special Prosecution Office aims to provide support, information and coordination with partner authorities and</p>	<p>Increasing the effective use of mechanisms of mutual legal assistance and international cooperation. This objective includes signing cooperation agreements with partner agencies, expanding the establishment of contacts with law enforcement agencies in those jurisdictions where Albanian organized crime is very active , and more efficient</p>	<p><b>Measures in implementation of Objective 6:</b></p> <p><b>1. A policy of expanding</b> direct contacts with law enforcement agencies in countries where Albanian organized crime activity is high will also be pursued, in order to build a strong cooperation network.</p>	2025 - 2026

	<p>international law enforcement agencies in the fight against corruption, organized crime, money laundering and terrorism.</p>	<p>coordination with similar structures in the region.</p>	<p>More effective coordination with similar structures in the region will be increased to develop and implement joint strategies for the prevention and fight against organized crime, terrorism and money laundering in the region.</p>	<p><b>2026 - 2027</b></p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Improvement of standards of investigation of electoral crimes:</b></p> <p>The goal of the Special Prosecution Office for the period 2024-2027 is to improve the standards of investigation of electoral crimes to ensure a fair, transparent and effective process.</p>	<p>Preventive approach to the investigation of electoral crimes to ensure a rapid and effective response to electoral crime, as well as to prevent the integrity of the electoral process from being undermined by the influence of organized crime and corruption.</p>	<p><b>Measures in implementation of Objective 7:</b></p> <p><b>1.</b> Improving the investigative capacities of the Special Prosecution Office to investigate and prosecute electoral crime cases in an effective and efficient manner.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Raising awareness and educating the public on the importance of cooperation with the Special Prosecution Office and their role in preventing electoral crime.</p>	<p><b>2024 - 2025</b></p> <p><b>2025 - 2027</b></p>

			<p>3. Increasing the effectiveness of cooperation and coordination with the state police, electoral authorities, civil society and the media to prevent criminal offenses in the framework of the parliamentary elections.</p>	<p><b>2025 - 2027</b></p>
			<p>4. Preventing external influence and manipulation of the electoral process through real-time monitoring and rapid intervention in suspicious cases.</p>	<p><b>2025 - 2027</b></p>