



STATEMENTS BY THE SPOKESPERSON

Statement by the Spokesperson on the end of the term of Specialist Prosecutor David Schwendiman

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We have taken note of the announced end of term of the Specialist Prosecutor David Schwendiman. We thank Mr Schwendiman for his excellent work during the period when the Specialist Prosecutor's Office ("SPO") was created by the Kosovo Law to investigate and prosecute grave transboundary and international crimes which occurred during and in the aftermath of the conflict in Kosovo in 1998, 1999 and 2000.

The European Union continues to be a strong supporter of the work of the Specialist Chambers and the Specialist Prosecutor's Office. They are an important demonstration of Kosovo's commitment to the rule of law, which in turn is a core element for Kosovo's progress on the EU integration path and for the EU engagement with the Western Balkans as a whole. It is particularly important that the Specialist Chambers and the Specialist Prosecutor's Office are able to continue to do their work independently, without any outside interference.

The relevant procedures for the nomination of Mr Schwendiman's successor will be launched swiftly, according to the law, to ensure seamless continuity of work.



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