

# SESSION REPORT (79<sup>th</sup> session, January 2015)

During its session in January 2015, the <u>Human Rights Advisory Panel</u> (the Panel) adopted four Opinions concerning four complaints. There remain 84 complaints pending before the Panel. Complete statistics are available here in <u>English</u>, <u>Albanian</u> and <u>Serbian</u>. Below are summaries of the adopted Opinions; the full texts will be published on the Panel's webpage in approximately a month's time.

### Spasa MARKOVIĆ v. UNMIK (case no. 227/09)

The complainant is the widow of Mr Veljko Marković, who disappeared from his workplace in Prishtinë/Priština on 9 February 1999. On 17 December 2010, the mortal remains of Mr Veljko Marković were returned to the complainant.

The Panel concluded that United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) failed to carry out an effective investigation into the disappearance and killing of Mr Veljko Marković, in violation of the procedural obligation under Article 2 (right to life) of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). The Panel also found that by its behaviour UNMIK contributed to the complainant's distress and mental suffering, constituting a violation of the substantive obligation of Article 3 of the ECHR (prohibition of inhumane or degrading treatment).

# Blagica NIČIĆ v. UNMIK (case no. 228/09)

The complainant is the sister of Mr Stanojko Mladenović, who disappeared on 21 June 1999. Since that time, his whereabouts have remained unknown.

The Panel concluded that UNMIK failed to carry out an effective investigation into the disappearance of Mr Stanojko Mladenović, thus violating the procedural limb of Article 2, ECHR, and that by its behaviour, UNMIK contributed to the complainant's distress and mental suffering, constituting a violation of Article 3 of the ECHR.

# Biljana KUZMANOVIĆ v. UNMIK (case no. 262/09)

The complainant is the wife of Mr Đorđe Kuzmanović. The complainant stated that, on 21 June 1999, her husband was abducted by KLA members from their family house in Gjakovë/Đakovica. His mortal remains were discovered in 2002 and subsequently returned to his family on 23 May 2003.

The Panel concluded that UNMIK failed to carry out an effective investigation into the abduction and killing of Mr Đorđe Kuzmanović. There has accordingly been a violation of Article 2, procedural limb, of the ECHR.

### Verica ILIĆ v. UNMIK (case no. 303/09)

The complainant is the mother of Mr Jasmin Lukačević. She stated that her son was abducted on 19 April 1999 in Podujevë/Podujevo area. Since that time her son's whereabouts have remained unknown.

The Panel concluded that UNMIK failed to carry out an effective investigation into the disappearance of Mr Jasmin Lukačević, in violation of the procedural obligation under Article 2 of the ECHR. The Panel further found that by its behaviour UNMIK contributed to the complainant's distress and mental suffering, constituting a violation of Article 3 of the ECHR.

# **Earlier Opinions Now Published**

The Panel has now published on its website the following opinions, which had been adopted by the Panel during its **77**<sup>th</sup> session, in November **2014**:

Ljliana MITROVIĆ, Danijela KRSTIĆ, Slobodanka KRSTIĆ, Snežana SIMONOVIĆ and Jeremija ŠULJINIĆ v. UNMIK (case nos 144/09, 158/09, 209/09, 210/09, 258/09 and 276/09)

The Panel concluded that, in so far as this investigation is attributable to the UNMIK authorities, there has been no violation of Article 2, procedural limb, and Article 3 of the ECHR.

The full text of the opinion can be accessed here in English, Albanian and Serbian.

## Vuksan BULATOVIĆ v. UNMIK (case no. 166/09)

The Panel concluded that UNMIK failed to carry out an effective investigation into the abduction and disappearance of Mr Radovan Bulatović; there has accordingly been a violation of Article 2, procedural limb, of the ECHR. The Panel further found that, by its behaviour, UNMIK contributed to the complainant's distress and mental suffering, constituting a violation of Article 3 of the ECHR.

The full Opinion of the Panel can be accessed here in English, Albanian and Serbian.

This report is a document produced by the Panel's Secretariat. It does not bind the Panel. Decisions, opinions and further information about the Panel can be found on <a href="https://www.unmikonline.org/hrap">www.unmikonline.org/hrap</a>

The Panel was set up in Prishtinë/Priština by the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) in 2006 to deal with alleged violations of human rights.