

Working Visit of the judges of the Constitutional Court of Albania to Bari, Italy

From 22 to 24 July 2026, a delegation of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Albania, headed by the President of the Court, Ms Fiona Papajorgji, is conducting a working visit to Bari, Italy. The delegation is composed of the judges Marsida Xhaferllari, Sonila Bejtja, Sandër Beci, Ilir Toska, Genti Ibrahimi, Marjana Semini, and Asim Vokshi.

The visit is focused on strengthening the institutional and academic cooperation between the Constitutional Court of Albania and Italian academic, regional, and local institutions. It will also provide an opportunity to exchange views on matters relating to Albania's European perspective, constitutional justice, and the longstanding historical and institutional ties between the two countries.

On the first day of the visit, 22 July 2026, the delegation held an institutional and academic meeting entitled **"Albania in Europe: Procedural and Substantive Aspects,"** hosted by the Department of Economics and Finance of the University of Bari "Aldo Moro." The event brought together members of the University's academic staff, researchers, and doctoral candidates.

The meeting opened with welcoming remarks by Professor Cosimo Pietro Guarini, Delegate of the Rector of the University of Bari "Aldo Moro"; Professor Laura Serlenga, Head of the Department of Economics and Finance; and Dr. Fiona Papajorgji, President of the Constitutional Court of Albania.

The thematic session was moderated by Professor Vittorio Teotonico, a faculty member of the Department of Economics and Finance at the University of Bari "Aldo Moro" and Dean of the Faculty of Economics at the Catholic University "Zoja e Këshillit të Mirë" in Tirana.

In her address, President Papajorgji emphasized the particular significance of the meeting, which is being held for the second consecutive year and is intended to develop into a lasting forum for dialogue and reflection between those who interpret and apply the Constitution and those who study, teach, and analyze its development through academic research.

She further noted that engagement with the academic community is of fundamental importance to the Constitutional Court, as dialogue with scholars contributes to a deeper understanding of developments in constitutional law and enables the Court to address the challenges of European integration with greater awareness and insight.

Presentations during the session were delivered by the President of the Constitutional Court and by Justices Sonila Bejtja and Genti Ibrahimi. The discussions focused primarily on the procedural and substantive dimensions of Albania's European integration process, the legal and constitutional challenges associated with that process, and the role of academic and judicial institutions in strengthening the rule of law.