

November 10, 2025

Dear Supreme Court Presidents,

Let me begin by thanking President Sadushi and the Albanian Supreme Court for being such gracious hosts of the 2025 Chief Justice Conference in Vlora. It was a remarkable event where issues relevant to the region such as the emergence of Artificial Intelligence in the courtroom, public trust in the judiciary, and the challenges of case management were discussed openly among the participating court presidents, and practical solutions were shared.

We extend our sincere condolences to the Albanian judiciary for the courtroom murder of Judge Kalaja last month. Such an abhorrent act is a fundamental attack on judges and judicial independence everywhere, and we all stand firmly with the Albanian judiciary in condemning such violence.

We also want to announce the hosts of the Conference of Chief Justices for the next two years. This was a difficult decision as we were fortunate to have several offers to host from different Supreme Courts in the region. After thoughtful consideration, we are delighted to announce that North Macedonia will host the 2026 Conference on June 22-23, 2026. This will be the first time North Macedonia has acted as host, and we are pleased they are willing to undertake this responsibility. Conference participants should plan to arrive in North Macedonia on Sunday, June 21, 2026. An official save-the-date announcement with additional information will be sent by the North Macedonian Supreme Court in the coming weeks. Please feel free to contact Marina Mileva (marina.mileva@vsrm.mk), who is serving as a focus point for the Supreme Court in its organization of the Conference, with any questions. Marcela Entlichova (Marcela.Entlichova@ceeli.eu) will once again be the CEELI Institute's main point of contact for the Conference.

We are also pleased to announce that the Czech Supreme Court will host the Conference the following year (2027). We will provide more information about that Conference next year.

We very much look forward to seeing you all at the 2026 Conference of Chief Justices.



Robert Strang
Executive Director