

## Legal time limits vs. discretionary limits of administrative judicial review in Albania

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### Abstract

Administrative courts in Albania were established in 2012, as a separate branch of the court system, following enactment of the Law No. 49/2012 "On the Organization and Functioning of the Administrative Courts and Adjudication of Administrative Disputes". One of the main features of the administrative adjudication is the swiftness at which it should be carried out. The law provides carefully for many time limits and procedural deadlines, to achieve such intended effect.

This article focuses specifically on the time limits of concluding (1) the judicial review in administrative courts and 2) on due delivery of the final decision in court secretariat. These two distinct procedural phases constitute 98% of the length of a court case in time terms. The main thesis of this paper is that time limits which are explicitly written and required by the law produce better results in terms of compliance of judges with law and higher efficiency compared to discretionary time limits.

**Keywords:** legal, time, administrative, judiciary, Albania.

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