

Beat: News

Historic Democrat leader Berisha won't be a member of his party's parliamentary

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USPA NEWS - Historic Democrat leader Berisha won't be a member of his party's parliamentary group until the ruling of the French court

Democratic Party Chairman Lulzim Basha announced in a communication with the media today that Mr. Sali Berisha, a historic leader and former chairman of the first opposition party in Albania, will not be a member of the Democrat parliamentary group in the new parliament until a French court gives a verdict on his lawsuit against US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken. Blinken banned Berisha and immediate family from entering the United States on the grounds of significant corruption. Albania's first President after the collapse of the communism in the early 1990s rejected the allegations as untrue and filed a lawsuit for defamation against Blinken at the Correctional Court of Paris, France.

Berisha also rejected calls to relinquish his MP mandate, saying he has been voted from the Albanian citizens and will be in the new parliament.

However, he will need to be there no longer as a member of the parliamentary group of his party.

Basha said this is a personal battle of Berisha with Blinken and the former President does not wish to draw the party into his war which he decided to fight alone.

"Dear fellow citizens and democrats. I have had the good fortune during these years to lead the DP and face challenges and responsibilities, strong decisions with political and personal costs. During this journey, I have done everything so that in every decision, I have as a guide only the interests of Albania, the DP and the Albanian democrats and citizens, their respect and gratitude", Basha said.

"We have not always managed to achieve what we wanted with our decisions, what the Democrats wanted, but this has never shaken us to realize the mission for which the DP was born, to make Albania like all of Europe. This has not shaken us to do the best for Albanians, and to walk together towards those principles that make us a more pro-American party.

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