

Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber)

Appeal Number: IA/31136/2014

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THE IMMIGRATION ACTS

Heard at Manchester Piccadilly On 5 November 2015

Decision and Reasons Promulgated On 20 November 2015

Before

DEPUTY UPPER TRIBUNAL JUDGE BIRRELL

Between

MJAFTONI MEKOLLARRI
ADRIATIK MEKOLLARI
ELSEIT MEKOLLARI
ADELIO MEKOLLARI
(ANONYMITY DIRECTION NOT MADE)

Appellants

And

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT

Respondent

Representation:

For the Appellant: Mr J Holt counsel instructed by Joyya Law Associates Solicitors

For the Respondent: Mr A McVitie Senior Home Office Presenting Officer

DECISION AND REASONS

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Introduction

1. I have considered whether any parties require the protection of an anonymity direction. No anonymity direction was made previously in respect of these Appellants. Having considered all the circumstances and evidence I do not consider it necessary to make an anonymity direction.

- 2. The Appellants are all Albanian nationals the first two Appellant are a husband and wife and the third and fourth Appellants are their two sons aged 18 and 12.
- 3. This is a resumed hearing in a case where the Appellants had applied for leave to remain on the basis of their family and private life and their applications had been considered under Appendix FM paragraph 276ADE and under Article 8 outside the Rules. The applications were refused in a decision letter dated 18 July 2014. They appealed that decision and at a hearing where it was conceded that the Appellants could not meet the requirements of the Rules their appeal was allowed under Article 8 in a decision of First-tier Tribunal Judge Dickenson promulgated on 29 October 2014. The decision to allow the appeal under Article 8 outside the Rules was appealed and came before Deputy Upper Tribunal Judge Pickup on 2 March 2015. He found an error of law in the decision finding that the Judge did not conduct a 'fair and balanced approach to the pros and cons of the proportionality assessment; it was heavily weighted in favour of the claimants.'

Preliminary Issue

4. Mr Holt accepted that his instructing solicitors had not auctioned the clear directions of Deputy Upper Tribunal Judge Pickup in that they had not provided any additional evidence in documentary form and served it on the Tribunal 7 days before the hearing. He indicated he did not ask for an adjournment but that he would attempt to address the issues relating to the fourth Appellant who was the only one who was now a child as the third Appellant had turned 17 in the period of adjournment.

The Law

- 5. The burden of proof in this case is upon the Appellants and the standard of proof is upon the balance of probability.
- 6. As the Appellants are in the United Kingdom and the only matter in issue is an Article 8 assessment the relevant date for the assessment is the date of hearing
- 7. It is now generally accepted that the new Rules do not provide in advance for every nuance in the application of Article 8 in individual cases. At para 30 of <u>Nagre</u>, Sales J said:
 - "30. ... if, after the process of applying the new rules and finding that the claim for leave to remain under them fails, the relevant official or tribunal judge considers it is clear that the consideration under the Rules has fully addressed any family life or private life issues arising under Article 8, it would be sufficient simply to say that; they would not have to go on, in addition, to consider the case separately from the Rules. If there is no arguable case that there may be good grounds for granting leave to remain outside the Rules by reference to Article 8, there would be no point in introducing full separate

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consideration of Article 8 again after having reached a decision on application of the Rules."

- 8. This was also endorsed by the Court of Appeal in <u>Singh and Khalid</u> where Underhill LJ said (at para 64):
 - "64. ... there is no need to conduct a full separate examination of article 8 outside the Rules where, in the circumstances of a particular case, all the issues have been addressed in the consideration under the Rules."
- 9. More recently the Court of Appeal in <u>SS Congo [2015] EWCA Civ 387</u> stated in paragraph 33:

"In our judgment, even though a test of exceptionality does not apply in every case falling within the scope of Appendix FM, it is accurate to say that the general position outside the sorts of special contexts referred to above is that compelling circumstances would need to be identified to support a claim for grant of LTR outside the new Rules in Appendix FM. In our view, that is a formulation which is not as strict as a test of exceptionality or a requirement of "very compelling reasons" (as referred to in MF (Nigeria) in the context of the Rules applicable to foreign criminals), but which gives appropriate weight to the focused consideration of public interest factors as finds expression in the Secretary of State's formulation of the new Rules in Appendix FM. It also reflects the formulation in Nagre at para. [29], which has been tested and has survived scrutiny in this court: see, e.g., Haleemudeen at [44], per Beatson LJ. "

10. As this is a case involving a child I have also taken into account Zoumbas v SSHD UKSC where it was held that there was no "irrationality in the conclusion that it was in the children's best interests to go with their parents to the Republic of Congo. No doubt it would have been possible to have stated that, other things being equal, it was in the best interests of the children that they and their parents stayed in the United Kingdom so that they could obtain such benefits as health care and education which the decision-maker recognised might be of a higher standard than would be available in the Congo. But other things were not equal. They were not British citizens. They had no right to future education and health care in this country. They were part of a close-knit family with highly educated parents and were of an age when their emotional needs could only be fully met within the immediate family unit. Such integration as had occurred into United Kingdom society would have been predominantly in the context of that family unit. Most significantly, the decision-maker concluded that they could be removed to the Republic of Congo in the care of their parents without serious detriment to their well-being". It was also held that there was no "substance in the criticism that the assessment of the children's best interests was flawed because it assumed that their parents would be removed to the Republic of Congo.It was legitimate for the decision-maker to ask herself first whether it would have been proportionate to remove the parents if they had no children and then, in considering the best interests of the children in the proportionality exercise, ask whether their well-being altered that provisional balance. When one has regard to the age of the children, the nature and extent of their integration into United Kingdom society, the close family unit in which they lived and their Congolese citizenship, the matters on which Mr Lindsay relied did not create such a strong case for the children that their interest in remaining in the United Kingdom could have outweighed the considerations on which the decision-maker relied in striking the balance in the

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proportionality exercise (paras 17 and 18 above). The assessment of the children's best interests must be read in the context of the decision letter as a whole."

- In Azimi-Moayed and others (decisions affecting children; onward appeals)[2013] 11. UKUT 197(IAC) (Blake J) the Tribunal held that (i) The case law of the Upper Tribunal has identified the following principles to assist in the determination of appeals where children are affected by the appealed decisions: (a) As a starting point it is in the best interests of children to be with both their parents and if both parents are being removed from the United Kingdom then the starting point suggests that so should dependent children who form part of their household unless there are reasons to the contrary; (ii) It is generally in the interests of children to have both stability and continuity of social and educational provision and the benefit of growing up in the cultural norms of the society to which they belong; (iii) Lengthy residence in a country other than the state of origin can lead to development of social cultural and educational ties that it would be inappropriate to disrupt, in the absence of compelling reason to the contrary. What amounts to lengthy residence is not clear cut but past and present policies have identified seven years as a relevant period; (iv) Apart from the terms of published policies and rules, the Tribunal notes that seven years from age four is likely to be more significant to a child that the first seven years of life. Very young children are focussed on their parents rather than their peers and are adaptable; (v) Short periods of residence, particularly ones without leave or the reasonable expectation of leave to enter or remain, while claims are promptly considered, are unlikely to give rise to private life deserving of respect in the absence of exceptional factors. In any event, protection of the economic well-being of society amply justifies removal in such cases.
- 12. In <u>EV (Philippines)</u> and <u>Others v SSHD [2014] EWCA Civ 874</u> it was held that despite finding, in a family's appeal against a decision to remove them, that the best interests of the children lay in continuing their education in the United Kingdom with both parents also remaining in the United Kingdom, the Tribunal had been entitled to find that the need to maintain immigration control outweighed the children's best interests.
- I am obliged in this case to take into account Section 117B of the Nationality, 13. Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 (as amended by the Immigration Act 2014) which sets out the public interest considerations that I must have regard to in determining proportionality. I will therefore also take into account the provisions of section 117B (6) in relation to qualifying children. If a child is a qualifying child for the purposes of section 117B of the 2002 Act as amended, the issue will generally be whether it is not reasonable for that child to return. Although R (on the application of Osanwemwenze) v SSHD 2014 EWHC 1563 was not specifically concerned with section 117B it has some relevance in terms of the *reasonableness* of a child leaving the UK. In this case, the claimant's 14-year-old stepson from Nigeria had been in the United Kingdom for more than 7 years and had leave to remain in his own right. It was held that this was an important but not an overriding consideration and it was reasonable to expect the claimant's family including the stepson to relocate to Nigeria. The parents had experienced life there into adulthood and would be able to provide for the children and help them to reintegrate. In AM (S 117B) Malawi [2015] UKUT 260 (IAC) (Ockelton) the Tribunal held that when the question posed by s117B(6) is the same question posed in relation to children by paragraph 276ADE(1)(iv), it must be posed and

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answered in the proper context of whether it was reasonable to expect the child to follow its parents to their country of origin <u>EV (Philippines)</u>. It is not however a question that needs to be posed and answered in relation to each child more than once.

Evidence

- 14. On the file I had the Respondents bundle. I had a copy of the reason for refusal letter. The Appellant put in an appeal and a bundle of documents numbered 1-216.
- 15. I heard evidence from the first two Appellants and there were witness statements from them. I indicated to Mr Holt he had leave to ask supplementary questions in so far as they were relevant but the absence of any supporting documentary evidence would be relevant to the weight that could be given to such evidence where it could have been supported. The third and fourth Appellants were not called to give evidence nor were there and witness statements from them.
- 16. Mjaftoni Mekollari adopted her witness statement at page 13 of the bundle. She gave evidence in English.
- 17. She confirmed that the fourth Appellant, her son Adelio, was now 12 years old and was in Year 7 at Prestwich Art College having started at the school on 2 September 2015. Previously he had attended Brentnall Primary School. He was taught in English.
- 18. She confirmed that Adelio spoke Albanian. At home they spoke English and Albanian as this enabled him to speak to his grandmother who could not speak English.
- 19. In relation to education in Albania he would be in year 8 there and when he went into year 9 he would have to do a test in Albanian, similar to a SATS test here in literacy and writing and this test was quite important as if he did not pass it would affect his future education. The test is very complicated and she did not think he could pass it.
- 20. He was very happy at his new school. He had no friends from his primary school but had made new friends. He plays rugby and enjoys swimming.
- 21. They had not discussed returning to Albania with Adelio as they feel it would be too stressful for him. He has previously expressed concerns in relation to his language ability if they returned to Albania and that he has no friends there.
- 22. In relation to her own employment prospects on return to Albania the had worked as an assistant epidemiologist when they lived in Albania as she was a qualified nurse. She had attended a course in relation to nursing the equivalent of a degree. Having spent 9 years in the United Kingdom she would not be able to return to this job as she had qualified under the Communist regime. Nurses now are required to have a degree. Those who qualified like her were able to take a mandatory course to up grade while working. She did not believe anyone would employ her in Albania. In the United Kingdom she had worked as a support worker for people with learning disabilities.

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- 23. In cross examination she stated that nursing was very different in Albania. She said she could not do the same job as she was doing in the UK as you had to be a nurse to do it.
- 24. In relation to the suggestion that people usually came to the United Kingdom to better themselves and utilise their United Kingdom experience in their home country she stated that any qualification obtained in the United Kingdom would not be recognised in Albania.
- 25. She had her mother and two brothers in Albania. Her brothers were both married with big families. They had been back to Albania twice since they came to the United Kingdom.
- 26. By way of clarification to me she confirmed that sate education was free from the age of 6 up to 20. She had to make a contribution to her accommodation as a nurse. She confirmed that both English and French was taught in school.
- 27. Adriatik Mekollari gave evidence through an interpreter and adopted the contents of his witness statement at pages 16-18 of the bundle.
- 28. He confirmed that at home he and Elseit spoke Albanian 90% of the time. Sometimes Elseit had difficulty expressing himself in Albanian. He stated that Adelio would need 10 years for his Albanian to be as good as Elseits. He believed that Adelio stood no chance of success in Albania if they returned there.
- 29. In cross examination he confirmed that if he had to tell Adelio off if he was naughty he did it in Albanian.
- 30. His own English was good enough for work and the street but not for court. He confirmed that he had extended family in Albania.

Final Submissions

- 31. On behalf of the Respondent Mr McVitie made the following submissions:
 - (a) The only issue in this case was now whether the Appellants should be allowed leave to remain under Article 8 as they did not meet the Rules.
 - (b) The decision had to take into account the current caselaw which stated that the starting point was that the Appellants were Albanian nationals and their residence in the United Kingdom was always temporary.
 - (c) This was a private life case as their family life would continue in Albania.
 - (d) The statutory position was that little weight should be accorded to the Appellants private life as their status had always been precarious.
 - (e) The Appellants relied on the position of the child Adelio in this case for their appeal to succeed as Elseit was now an adult.
 - (f) He accepted that for Adelio there would be a disruption in his education as although born in Albania he had started his education in the United Kingdom and had never studied in Albania. He argued that this was not uncommon for

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children today. Adelio understood Albanian. There was a functioning education system in Albania and there would be support for him. His parents were a product of that system. He would have the support of his family. There was no evidence before the court to suggest that there would be no support available in Albania or private tutors available. Children are adaptable.

- (g) He reminded the court that no positive benefits can be derived from s 117B.
- (h) He relied on paragraph 60 of EV where the court found:

"That is a long way from the facts of our case. In our case none of the family is a British citizen. None has the right to remain in this country. If the mother is removed, the father has no independent right to remain. If the parents are removed, then it is entirely reasonable to expect the children to go with them. As the immigration judge found it is obviously in their best interests to remain with their parents. Although it is, of course a question of fact for the tribunal, I cannot see that the desirability of being educated at public expense in the UK can outweigh the benefit to the children of remaining with their parents. Just as we cannot provide medical treatment for the world, so we cannot educate the world."

- 32. On behalf of the Appellants Mr Holt made the following submissions:
 - (a) He conceded as he had before the First-tier that the Appellants could not meet the requirements of Appendix FM and paragraph 276 ADE.
 - (b) Adelio met the definition of qualifying child in paragraph 117B(6) and therefore the public interest did not require the removal of his parents unless it was reasonable for Adelio to leave the United Kingdom. He acknowledged therefore that the question was whether it was reasonable for Adelio to leave the United Kingdom.
 - (c) He relied on <u>Azimi-Moyed</u>.
 - (d) Adelio came to the United Kingdom when he was 5 and was now 12 years old. He is therefore putting down social and cultural ties.
 - (e) He acknowledged that the starting point was that his best interest was to stay with his parents and if they were removed he should go with them.
 - (f) There would be significant disruption in Adelios education in that there was a mismatch. He would enter the Albanian system at the end of the primary mode of education. Almost immediately he would have to take a test that would determine the secondary mode of his education. He accepted that he had no independent evidence of the Albanian system.
 - (g) He stated that Adelio could not be punished because their leave was precarious.
 - (h) He suggested that there was a precedent in that Elseit was granted discretionary leave in order to do his A levels and it was the same situation now
 - (i) It was not reasonable for Adelio to leave the United Kingdom therefore it was not in the public interest to remove him.

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Findings

- 33. On balance and taking the evidence as a whole, I have reached the following findings
- 34. The Appellants are a family of Albanian nationals, the first two Appellants are a mother and father who are respectively 43 and 48 years old and their two sons who are the third and fourth Appellants who are18 and 12 years old. The family have been refused leave to remain on the basis of their family and private live which was refused by the Respondent by reference to Appendix FM and paragraph 276ADE and Article 8 outside the Rules.
- 35. Mr Holt conceded at the first hearing of this appeal that he could not challenge the refusal under the Rules as the family did not meet the requirements of Appendix FM in relation to family life nor did they at the time of the application meet the requirements of paragraph 276 ADE.
- 36. The background to this application is that the first Appellant came to the United Kingdom on 24 January 2007 as a work permit holder and she was joined by her husband and two children in September 2007. The third and fourth Appellants were then aged 10 and 3 years old.
- 37. An application for further leave on the same basis was refused in 2011 because they did not meet the Rules but on 17 April 2012 the Appellants were granted discretionary leave to remain until 31st August 2013 to allow Elseit to complete his GCSE examinations in June 2013.
- 38. On 21 August 2013 the Appellants applied for further leave which was refused on 25 September 2013 and following a reconsideration refused again on 21 July 2014. It is that decision that is the subject of this appeal.
- 39. The Appellants concede, as they must, that they cannot meet the requirements of the Rules. Mr Holt argues that it is the circumstances of Adelio that amount to compelling circumstances to justify why those Rules should not be applied in these Appellants case in the usual way. I have determined the issue on the basis of the questions posed by Lord Bingham in Razgar [2004] UKHL 27

Will the proposed removal be an interference by a public authority with the exercise of the applicant's right to respect for his private (or as the case may be) family life?

- 40. I am satisfied that the Appellants enjoy a family life in the United Kingdom as they have lived here together as a family since 2007. I accept that there would be a degree of disruption to that family life if they were required to return to Albania having lived in the United Kingdom for 7/8 years.
- 41. The family enjoy a private life in the United Kingdom as mother and father have both worked here since their arrival and the children have both been in education. The nature and degree of their life beyond work and school I am unable to make findings on as there is no evidence before me of engagement with the wider community or of friendships in the community.

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If so, will such interference have consequences of such gravity as potentially to engage the operation of Article 8?

42. I am satisfied that removal would have consequences of such gravity as potentially to engage the operation of Article 8 given that the threshold of engagement is low.

If so, is such interference in accordance with the law?

43. I am satisfied that there is in place the legislative framework for the decision giving rise to the interference with Article 8 rights which is precise and accessible enough for the Appellants to regulate their conduct by reference to it.

If so, is such interference necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedom of others?

44. The interference does have legitimate aims since it is in pursuit of one of the legitimate aims set out in Article 8 (2) necessary in pursuit of the economic well being of the country through the maintenance of the requirements of a policy of immigration control. The state has the right to control the entry of non nationals into its territory and Article 8 does not mean that an individual can choose where she wishes to enjoy their private and family life.

If so, is such interference proportionate to the legitimate public end sought to be achieved?

- 45. In making the assessment I have also taken into account <u>ZH (Tanzania) (FC) (Appellant) v Secretary of State for the Home Department (Respondent) [2011] UKSC 4 where Lady Hale noted Article 3(1) of the UNCRC which states that "in all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by ... courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration."</u>
- 46. Article 3 is now reflected in section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009 which provides that, in relation, among other things, to immigration, asylum or nationality, the Secretary of State must make arrangements for ensuring that those functions "are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are in the United Kingdom". Lady Hale stated that "any decision which is taken without having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of any children involved will not be "in accordance with the law" for the purpose of article 8(2)". Although she noted that national authorities were expected to treat the best interests of a child as "a primary consideration", she added "Of course, despite the looseness with which these terms are sometimes used, "a primary consideration" is not the same as "the primary consideration", still less as "the paramount consideration".
- 47. Adelio is 12 years old in the first year of his secondary education so I consider that while he has just completed an important step in the education process, his SATS, he is 4 years away from the next significant step sitting his GCSEs. I remind myself that

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at the point when the family were granted discretionary leave based on Elseits circumstances, that was the year immediately before he was due to take his GCSEs which was clearly an important point in his education.

- Adelio speaks English as he has been in education in the United Kingdom since he was 5 years old. I am also satisfied that he speaks Albanian: both parents confirmed it. I noted that he spoke to his grandmother in Albanian and his father confirmed that when he was told off, it was in Albanian. They were clearly anxious to emphasise that he was less able to express himself in Albanian than his older brother which I accept is largely true given first of all the boys respective ages when they left Albania, the age gap between them, and the fact that at the moment the parents have had no incentive to help him to improve his language skills in Albanian. I remind myself that in relation to language he has the significant benefit of being in a household of Albanian speakers who, if they chose, could speak only Albanian to him to assist him in improving his fluency. I note that of course when the family came to United Kingdom Elseit was 10 and not a native speaker of English but appears to have learnt to speak it fluently flourished in the United Kingdom education system and achieved a number of As in his GCSEs including in English. I note Mrs Adelios concerns about her son not having friends in Albania but the same could have been said of Elseit in 2007 when he came to the United Kingdom but that was the choice of his parents at that time.
- 49. There is no independent documentary evidence before me in relation to the quality of the education system offered in Albania and I see no reason to speculate that the United Kingdom education system is inherently superior and certainly neither parent suggested that the system was poor just that it was different. Moreover I again remind myself that the first and second Appellants were products of the Albanian education system and indeed so was the third Appellant when he came to the United Kingdom aged 10 and adapted so well.
- Nor is there evidence in relation to Adelios personality and abilities to show that it 50. would not be in his best interests to return to Albania with his family and be educated there and indeed all of the evidence from his primary school suggests that he is a bright and able boy who I am satisfied could, with the help of a supportive family adapt. The first Appellant in evidence accepted that as the COIS makes clear there is a functioning education system there which is free for all Albanian children. She accepts that in fact both English and French are taught in school. While she is concerned about her sons ability to complete a particular literacy test in year 9 which could be within a year or so of his return that was the only issue she raised about the system in Albania: no issues were raised by either parent about the quality of what was provided. It is a natural tendency for all parents to believe that every test their child takes may decisively impact on their future but there is before me no evidence of the critical importance of this test or that it determines the rest of a child's future in Albania. While the first Appellant is a concerned mother she is not an expert in Albanian education and she has on her own evidence lived out of Albania for some years and things have changed during that period: it was not clear on what basis she made the assertions about the importance of the test she was concerned about. Given that it is accepted that English is taught within the education system there I find it likely that in addition to the support that would be available to Adelio from his family

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there would be support within the school system to assist him in reintegrating through his language skills. I therefore conclude that there is nothing before me to suggest that educationally it would not be in Adelio's best interests to be educated in Albania. I note that in NN (South Africa) & Anor v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2013] EWCA Civ 653 Lord Justice Patten said "Judges are not required to elevate the disruption and inconvenience which inevitably flows from a move abroad to a breach of the child's Article 8 rights."

- 51. I have noted that in addition to speaking Albanian the family have maintained their social and cultural contacts with two family visits since they have been in the United Kingdom. As it was stated in Azimi Moyed on which Mr Holt relies the starting point is it is in the best interests of children to be with both their parents and if both parents are being removed from the United Kingdom then the starting point suggests that so should dependent children who form part of their household unless there are reasons to the contrary. I accept that Adelio has now lived in the United Kingdom for 7 years and will have become integrated into United Kingdom life and culture but this is balanced by the fact that as he is not a British citizen he has no right to live or be educated in the United Kingdom. There is nothing about the period of 7 years that suggests it is a bright line in every case which results in a decision being disproportionate.
- 52. I have reminded myself that Lord Bingham in Razgar stated that in a judgement on proportionality that the ultimate question is, "whether the refusal of leave to enter or remain in circumstances where the life of the family cannot reasonably be expected to be enjoyed elsewhere, taking full account of all considerations weighing in favour of the refusal, prejudices the family life of the applicant in a manner sufficiently serious to amount to a breach of the fundamental right protected by Article 8. If the answer to this question is affirmative, the refusal is unlawful and the authority must so decide."
- 53. Given what is said in Razgar and at section 117B (6) I have therefore assessed whether it would be reasonable to expect the fourth Appellant to be removed from the United Kingdom and for the Appellants to continue their family life in Albania against a factual matrix that includes the facts that this family are not British citizens, they do not meet the Rules and would return together to a country where the parents have lived for the majority of their life and where Elseit has lived for over half of his life.
- 54. I remind myself that the Appellants case is only being considered outside the Rules because they do not meet the provisions of the Rules that are intended to address family and private life. The maintenance of effective immigration controls, of which the Rules are a part, is in the public interest.
- 55. I accept that the first Appellant speaks English to a reasonable degree and although the second Appellant did not speak English before me given that he has worked in the United Kingdom and passed an English test I accept that he speaks English to a limited extent. I accept of course that both the third and fourth Appellants speak English.

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- 56. I accept that the first two Appellants have worked since they have been in the United Kingdom and therefore have not to that extent been a burden on the state. The children have been educated in the United Kingdom which of course carries a cost as would any future education.
- 57. However I remind myself that this case is largely, as Mr McVitie argued, one based on private life given that the family would be returned together to Albania where they could continue to enjoy their family life. There is no evidence of any engagement by the family with the wider community beyond the work and education of the two boys. As indicated above education will be available to the boys in Albania, friends and other social contacts can be made afresh in Albania and old friendships maintained though social media.
- 58. Moreover by virtue of paragraph 117 B (5) I note that little weight should be given to the private life established by this family at a time when their private life was precarious. It was precarious because the family were always here only for so long as they had leave and they had no legitimate expectation that their leave would be renewed. While they were always in the United Kingdom legally I take into account that after the refusal of 25 September 2013 and the eventual grant of discretionary leave it was, if anything, even more precarious and the period of leave that was granted was for a specific time limited purpose to allow Elseit to complete his GCSEs. This Elseit was able to do and he has also completed his A levels .Mr Holt argues that Adelio should not be punished for the fact that his family life in the United Kingdom was precarious but this is not a punishment but a statutory provision that I am obliged to take into account that has no exception for private life established by children.
- Although not necessarily advanced as compelling circumstances the First Appellant suggested that she would have difficulties finding employment on return. Both of the first two Appellants have skills and worked in Albania prior to come to the United Kingdom. The first Appellant suggests that the system of training Nurses has changed since she lived in Albania but again there was no documentary evidence provided about this and nothing to rebut the reasonable suggestion that there would be many in the first Appellant's shoes who had trained under whatever the old system was and there must be in place a system of retraining should the first Appellant wish to work in that field. The second Appellant works as a chef in the United Kingdom and he did not seek to suggest he could not find similar work on his return. They will both have the benefit of further skills learnt in the United Kingdom and the support of their extended family members there. In note that in SS(Congo) and Others [2015] EWCA Civ 387 in relation to one of the appeals Richards LJ said that the fact that the Appellant would lose his job in the United Kingdom if he had to leave to enjoy family life elsewhere and hence would prefer to establish family life here does not constitute compelling circumstances to require the grant of leave outside the Rules: as the authorities make clear, Article 8 does not create a right for married couples to choose to live in a Contracting State.
- 60. Taking all of the factors into account with the best interests of Adelio as a primary factor I am satisfied that it would reasonable for Adelio to Return to Albania with his family.

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- 61. In determining whether the removal would be proportionate to the legitimate aim of immigration control I find that none of the facts underpinning the Appellants life in the United Kingdom taken either singularly or cumulatively outweigh the legitimate purpose of their removal.
- 62. I have considered the issue of anonymity in the present instance. Neither party has sought a direction. The Appellant is an adult and not a vulnerable person. I see no reason to make any direction in this regard.

Conclusion

- 63. On the facts as established in this appeal, there are no grounds for believing that the Appellants removal would result in treatment in breach of ECHR.
- 64. I therefore find that the decision of the Respondent appealed against is in accordance with the law and the applicable Immigration Rules.

Decision

65. The appeals are dismissed.

Signed Date 17.11.2015

Deputy Upper Tribunal Judge Birrell