

Reply of the Albanian authorities to the alert 'Journalist Elvis Hila Obstructed and Detained by Police in Albania'

"The General Directorate of State Police, based on the video published in the media, on June 17, 2020, conducted an investigation related to the case of the journalist Mr. Elvis Hila. The Albanian State Police informs that in the first moments of the intervention and escort of the citizen Elvis Hila, the police officers did not have the opportunity to identify him as a journalist, as Mr. Hila did neither have the identification document clearly placed, nor had the media logo on the camera. Furthermore, Mr. Hila did not introduce himself as a journalist when questioned by the police officers. The escort of Mr. Hila by the police officers was carried out after he had entered the security perimeter of the demolished buildings hit by earthquake of November 2019. No force was used, while Mr. Hila was escorted by Police. When Mr. Hila was identified as a journalist, he was immediately released by Police. Despite of that, for any behaviours of the Police Officers treating Mr. Hila against the State Police Code of Ethics, disciplinary measures have been commenced."