

**Reply from the Police and the Special Investigative Service of the Republic of Armenia  
regarding the publication on the Platform for the protection of journalists  
on 20 April 2017**

On April 2, 2017 the prosecutor's office of the Kentron and Nork-Marash administrative districts of Yerevan forwarded to the Kentron division of the Yerevan City Department of the Police of the Republic of Armenia the publication under the heading "A correspondent for Radio Free Europe/Radio Free Liberty's Armenian service was attacked at the campaign office of the Republican Party of Armenia /HHK/" published by the RFE/RL's Armenian service to determine the future course in line with the Articles 180-181 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia.

The article alleged that at 15 Rustaveli Street the journalist of the RFE/RL's Armenian service Sisak Gabrielyan was attacked by a group of people who took his phone, pushed and shoved him, thus causing body harm in the vicinity of the eye.

The received information was registered in accordance with the procedure and relevant materials were prepared.

On April 4, 2017 the prosecutor's office of Kentron and Nork-Marash administrative districts forwarded the prepared materials to the Special Investigative Service of the Republic of Armenia to determine the future course.

After the submission to the Special Investigative Service, the criminal case was launched under n. 13200917. The preliminary investigation established that the journalist of the RFE/RL's Armenian service Sisak Gabrielyan was accredited by the Central Electoral Commission to assure media coverage of the holding of parliamentary elections of April 2nd, 2017.

The preliminary investigation also established that the journalist was victim of an offence committed by two individuals, Mrs Zhulieta Kokolyan and Mr Levon Gasparyan, living in the neighborhood of 15 Rustaveli Street.

The Special Investigative Service charged Mrs Zhulieta Kokolyan and Mr Levon Gasparyan under Article 149, 2<sup>nd</sup> part, paragraph 3 of the Penal Code of the Republic of Armenia. A written undertaking not to leave a place was chosen as preventive measure.

On April 26, 2017 the criminal case was transferred to the court with indictment.