

**Response of the Armenian authorities
with regard to the alert "Attack on Online Portal «Hayeli.am»"**

In relation to the attack of 05 October 2019 on Online Portal «Hayeli.am» a criminal case was initiated (on 06 October 2019) by the Central Police Division of Yerevan City Department on the basis of available video materials (published by Online Portal «Hraparak.am») and on the grounds of Part 1 Article 164 of the Criminal Code of Armenia, concerning the obstruction of the professional and legal work of journalists.

On 07 October 2019, the case was sent to the Investigative Division of Kentron and Nork-Marash administrative districts of Investigative Department of City of Yerevan of the Investigative Committee of Armenia for preliminary investigation. During the preliminary investigation the head of the «Hayeli Press Club» Ms Anzhela Tovmasyan was identified as victim by the law enforcement authorities. Criminal charges were presented to D. Hovhannisyan, M. Manukyan, A. Margaryan, H. Stepanyan on the grounds of Part 1 of Article 164 of the Criminal Code. The aforementioned persons were involved as suspects and signature bond was imposed as a measure of restraint. An expert examination of the damaged door and the adjacent wall of the «Hayeli Press Club» could not establish the market price of the pecuniary damage, since at the time of examination the damaged door was already repaired and the wall - cleaned.

At the time of submission of this information note that the necessary investigatory and other procedural actions are still ongoing, with the aim to provide a comprehensive, complete and objective picture of all the circumstances of the instant case in accordance with the requirements of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia.