## <u>Reply of the Government of Bulgaria to alert No. 74/2024 BIRD Journalists Sued for</u> <u>Defamation over Report</u>

With regard to the claim filed by Mr. Kalin Stoyanov against Mr. Dimitar Stoyanov and Mr. Atanas Chobanov, a civil case No. 3234/2024 has been started in the Sofia City Court.

By order of the reporting judge, copies of the plaintiff's claim and the related annexes were sent to the defendants. In the period 14-17 May 2024, responses to the claim were received by Mr. Stoyanov and Mr. Chobanov pursuant to Art. 131 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Upon completion of the procedure for exchange of documents, the reporting judge should schedule the case in an open court session. Currently, no date has been set for holding a hearing concerning the above-mentioned case.

Sofia, 10 June 2024