Alert No. 51/2023 Deutsche Welle Journalist Emilia Milcheva Targeted by Police and Vazrazhdane Party

On February 7, 2023, Mrs. Emilia Milcheva, a reporter at "Deutsche Welle", took photos with her cell phone of an individual and their personal data while the latter was in process of signing a petition in favour of conducting a Referendum for the preservation of the Bulgarian Lev.

Acting on a signal, two police officers from the Capital Directorate of Internal Affairs – District Management 4, arrived at the location where the signing took place. Based on Art. 64 of the Law on the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the police officers issued a written order restricting Mrs. Milcheva from publishing the personal data. The reporter deleted the video material in the presence of the police officers.

A report was filed on the case. The conduct of the procedures was videotaped with official police camera.