



PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Ref. ID-02-226

Strasbourg, 16 April 2020

Mr. Matjaž GRUDEN
Director
Directorate of Democratic Participation
Directorate General of Democracy
Council of Europe

Dear Mr Gruden,

I am writing you regarding alert n° 29/2020, published on the Platform to Promote the Protection of Journalism and Safety of Journalists on 19 March 2020 regarding the Bulgarian newspaper editor Slavi Angelov who was severely beaten in attack by masked men in central Sofia.

Please allow me to convey to you the following information, provided by the authorities of the Republic of Bulgaria:

With regards to the case of the Bulgarian journalist Slavi Angelov, pre-trial proceedings have been initiated by the competent authorities. It is in the interest of the proper investigation of the case that detailed information should not be provided at this stage, in order not to hinder the effective search for the perpetrators of this serious crime. The Bulgarian judicial and law enforcement authorities have been involved in this case from the very first moment since receiving the signal and are working tirelessly to solve the crime and bring the responsible persons to justice. The Prosecutor General, the Minister of the Interior, as well as Bulgarian politicians have condemned the attack. The Prosecutor General, who is personally supervising the case, defined the assault as an “affront to stateship”. Upon completion of the investigation, the necessary additional information will be disclosed.

I would like to request your kind assistance in publishing the above information on the Platform, forwarding it to the relevant partner organisations and in keeping me informed about their position and reaction.

I am looking forward to our future fruitful cooperation and remain at your disposal for any further clarifications.

Sincerely yours,


Katya TODOROVA

Ambassador