

Représentation Permanente de la République de Croatie auprès du Conseil de l'Europe

Strasbourg, 11 October 2017

Dear Mr Gruden,

Following your message of 19 September 2017 and the information on the alert with regard to Croatia that has been submitted to the Platform for the Safety of Journalists and Protection of Journalism by the partner organisations, I have the honour to convey to you the response of the Croatian authorities in respect of the submitted alert.

I would be very much obliged if you could provide for uploading of the response by the Croatian authorities to the Platform and its distribution to the partner organisations.

Sincerely yours,



Miroslav Papa
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Mr. Matjaž Gruden
Director
Directorate of Policy Planning
Secretariat General
Council of Europe

Information provided by the Croatian authorities regarding the alert submitted to the CoE's Platform to Promote the Protection of Journalism and Safety of Journalists

With reference to the alert of 19 September 2017 concerning the protest of members of the far-right Autochthonous Croatian Party of Right (A-HSP) in front of the weekly newspaper Novosti's office, when a copy of the magazine of the Serb National Council in Croatia was burnt, the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia informs that the Zagreb Police District is conducting inquiries in coordination with the State Attorney's Office.

Following the event which took place on 12 September 2017, the police expanded the criminal investigation, which had previously been initiated in coordination with the relevant State's Attorney Office after the occurrence of an identical incident on 2 September 2017.

Upon completion of the criminal investigation, as a result of the collected facts and conducted inquiries, on 14 September 2017, the Municipal State's Attorney Office in Zagreb filed a criminal charge against Mr Dražen Keleminec for the criminal offence of "Public Encouragement of Violence and Hatred" as defined in Article 325, paragraph 1 of the Criminal Code.