

26, Avenue de la Forêt Noire 67000 STRASBOURG Tél: 03 90 22 15 88

No. 387-4/2020

Strasbourg, 19 October 2020

Dear Mr Gruden,

Please find attached the information by the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Serbia sent in response to the following Alerts published on the Platform for the Safety of Journalists and Protection of Journalism of the Council of Europe:

- on the attacks and obstruction of journalists and media workers while covering Belgrade, Novi Sad and Niš protests (on 15 July 2020),
 - on the assault on journalist Saša Mikić (on 25 June) and
 - on the threat to journalist Jeton Ismaili's family (on 20 August).

Yours sincerely,

Aleksandra Đurovi Ambassador

Mr Matjaž Gruden
Director of the
Directorate of Democratic Participation
Strasbourg

Subject: Platform to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists – alert concerning threats to the family of journalist Jeton Ismaili, *Reply*.

With reference to the alert published on the Council of Europe Platform to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists concerning the threats to the family of journalist Jeton Ismaili on 13 August 2020 in the village Veliki Trnovac, the Ministry of the Interior informs you as follows:

On 13 August 2020, after threats and insults to the family of the editor of the "FOLonline" portal, Jeton Ismaili were reported, the police officers of the Ministry of the Interior used police powers stipulated by the Law on Police and the Criminal Procedure Code to establish all the facts and circumstances.

On 14 August 2020, after consultations and acting upon the requests of the competent prosecutor's office, police officers of the Ministry of the Interior filed criminal charges against two suspects because there were grounds for suspicion that they committed a criminal offense of endangerment of safety under Article 138 paragraph 3 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia.