

**Statement of the Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic
to the Council of Europe to the alert submitted
to the Platform to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists
on 26 February 2018 entitled „ Slovak Investigative Journalist Killed at Home“**

Further to the previous communication, I would like to provide a new information on a recent development concerning the investigation of the murder of the investigative journalist Ján Kuciak and his fiancée Martina Kušnírová.

On 21st October 2019 the Special Prosecutor's Office filed charges against Marián Kočner and another three persons in the murder case of investigative reporter Ján Kuciak and his fiancée Martina Kušnírová. Tomáš Szabó, Miroslav Marček, Alena Zsuzsová and Marián Kočner are accused of committing a particularly serious crime of murder and other crimes.

This development is a result of an intensive investigation by law enforcement authorities of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with international partners.