

**EXPLANATION FROM THE SLOVENIAN POLICE REGARDING THE CASE NUMBER
114/2020 OF THE PLATFORM FOR THE PROTECTION OF JOURNALISM AND SAFETY
OF JOURNALISTS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

In relation to the above case of the Platform for the Protection of Journalism and Safety of Journalists of the Council of Europe and the alleged criminal complaints filed against two journalists of the Radio Television Slovenia (RTV Slovenia), Mrs Miša Molk and Mrs Mojca Šetinc Pašek, we are informing you that criminal or minor offence proceedings have not been instituted against the above journalists.

Proceedings were initiated based on a crime report from Mrs Blažena Kandolf of 18. 7. 2020, sent to the police e-mail address. According to the crime report, some persons had participated in an unlawful demonstration, where they failed to wear face masks. The persons participating in the protest included two journalists of RTV Slovenija, Mrs Mojca Šetinc Pašek and Mrs Miša Molk. The crime report of the alleged offence was forwarded to the Ljubljana Center Police Station for further investigation.

During the proceedings it was established that on 15. 7. 2020 the two journalists had taken part in a non-notified protest titled "Za svobodo medijev" (*"For the freedom of the media"*). Based on the above crime report, the police officers conducted an interview with Mrs Mojca Šetinc Pašek on 15. 9. 2020. Information was collected with a view to establishing any violation of the Public Assembly Act and the Ordinances of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on Measures to Prevent the Spread of Covid-19 that were in force at the time. It was established that Mrs Miša Molk and Mrs Mojca Šetinc Pašek did not violate the Public Assembly Act and the relevant ordinances, as they maintained a safe distance and wore face masks. No measures were imposed on them.

Subsequently, Mrs Mojca Šetinc Pašek filed a request with the Ljubljana Center Police Station for information on the person having filed the crime report. The Ljubljana Center Police Station provided her with the requested information on 13. 10. 2020.

The Ministry of the Interior and the Police strongly reject any violence and other hostile acts against journalists and in the event of such occurrences always take measures in accordance with the existing regulations.