

Mr. Matjaž Gruden Director Directorate of Democratic Participation Council of Europe

Strasbourg, 16 December 2024

Dear Director,

In relation to the alert No. 167/2024, "La Sexta Team Threatened and Insulted Online" of the Platform to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists, I have the honour to convey to you the following comments.

Having carried out the appropriate verifications within the scope of action of the Spanish National Police Corps, the *Guardia Civil* and the *Mossos d'Esquadra* (autonomous police forces of Catalonia) there is no record of the existence of the possible criminal complaint referred to in alert No. 167/2024.

With regard to the actions taken, from a criminal procedural point of view, since the conduct described is a semi-public offence, police investigations are only carried out when the persons allegedly aggrieved present a police or judicial complaint, or upon request from the Public Prosecutor's Office.

In any case, the Government of Spain strongly condemns all actions against the work of journalists and freedom of expression, and has the utmost confidence in the rule of law and in the justice system, so that these events can be clarified.

I seize the opportunity to convey to you the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Juan Ignacio Morro