## **Loyalist Threats against Journalists in Northern Ireland**

On 8 May 2020 media reported that the Police Service of Northern Ireland had warned the owner of the Sunday Life and Sunday World newspapers of a threat to their journalists from a loyalist paramilitary group. On 22 May 2020 media reported that the paramilitary group had subsequently issued a statement through intermediaries to clarify that no threat existed against journalists. A free, independent media is the cornerstone of democracy in the UK. Journalists play a vital role in our democracy and must be free at all times to do their jobs without fear of violence. The Police Service of Northern Ireland works tirelessly to prevent crime and harm to individuals, including journalists, and to detect those who commit crime and bring them before the courts.