

To: National Criminal Agency  
Police Force of the Slovak Republic  
Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic

**Request not to engage in any activity that seeks prosecution of the organisers and protesters ‘For a Decent Slovakia’**

November 14, 2018  
Leipzig, Germany

Dear Mr Peter Hraško, Mr Milan Lučanský and Ms Denisa Saková

We write to you on behalf of the European Centre for Press and Media Freedom and Reporters Without Borders. Since February 2018, when investigative data journalist Jan Kuciak was assassinated, we have closely monitored press and media freedom in Slovakia.

We have been informed that the National Criminal Agency and the police have interrogated the organisers of “For a Decent Slovakia” (Za slušné Slovensko) protests based on an anonymous criminal complaint that alleges they are “being paid” by George Soros.

We are shocked to learn that your institutions have engaged in criminal proceedings against the brave young people who are requesting justice for the assassination of journalist Ján Kuciak and his partner. These are unacceptable actions that go against every basic national and international standard on the right to protest and the right to seek justice for the assassination of a journalist.

The sole aim of these criminal proceedings is to intimidate and scare the organisers and journalists.

We urge you not to proceed further with the interrogation of “For a Decent Slovakia” organisers and protesters. Instead of intimidating those who are seeking justice on behalf of Ján Kuciak, your organisations should ensure an environment where the right to protest and the right to freedom of expression are guaranteed.

We welcome a written commitment that you will not engage in any activity that seeks prosecution of organisers, protesters and journalists in Slovakia.

With best wishes,

Flutura Kusari  
Legal advisor

The European Centre for  
Press and Media Freedom  
kusari@ecpmf.eu  
www.ecpmf.eu

Pauline Adès-Mével  
Head of EU-Balkan desk

Reporters Without Borders  
padesmevel@rsf.org  
www.rsf.org