

08

Feb 2018

▲ Lvl. 1

State
replied

France

Alert created on: 07 Apr 2017

French Journalists and Magistrates Subject to Death Threats

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ Non-state

CATEGORY ⓘ ▶ Attacks on physical safety and integrity of journalists

PARTNER: RSF, CPJ, EFJ/IFJ, Index

On 6 April 2017, French independent newspapers 'Le Canard Enchaîné' and 'Mediapart' received death threat letters accompanied with a 22 calibre long rifle bullet from a group called "Epuration 2J". Posted from Marseille, those letters are intended to warn journalists of both newspapers : "Vigilance and protection don't last Ad Vitam... This day/We will be there/For you/or/one of your relatives".

The anonymous letter addressed to Mediapart shows a coffin marked with the letters E-P, recalling the initials of the newspaper's founder Edwy Plenel, and the sentence "Judges and journalists all the same". A similar letter was sent to 'Le Canard Enchaîné' and four magistrates. According to Mediapart, Eliane Houlette, chief of the national financial prosecutor's office and three judges in charge of the investigation on the "Fillon" case (french presidential candidate) were targeted.

The public prosecutor's office in Paris launched an inquiry for "death threats".

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ▼

- ➦ CPJ report: "French outlets Mediapart, Le Canard enchaîné receive threatening letters"
- ➦ Report published on the Mapping Media freedom platform: "France: Mediapart and Le Canard enchaîné receive death threats"

STATE REPLIES ▼



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➔ Letter from the Permanent Representation of France to the Council of Europe (in French only)