

21

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⚠ Lvl. 2

State  
replied

Ukraine

Alert created on: 27 Jun 2018

## Two Russian Journalists Barred from Entering Country

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ State

CATEGORY ⓘ ▶ Harassment and intimidation of journalists

**PARTNER:** Index, EFJ/IFJ

On 26 June 2018, Ukraine has denied entry to two Russian journalists who were planning to attend a conference on freedom of speech in Kyiv, the Institute of Mass Information reported. The two journalists were named as Russia Today Middle East bureau chief Paula Slier and Rossiya 24 presenter Evgeny Primakov. Slier wrote on Twitter that she had intended to take part in a conference on freedom of speech organised by the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe. According to Ukrayinska Pravda, a spokesman for the Ukrainian border guard service said that Slier had been detained on her arrival at Kyiv's Boryspil airport on a flight from Vienna and banned from entering the country, as in 2016 she had been banned from Ukraine for five years as someone who posed a security risk to the country. The spokesman added that Slier would be sent back to Vienna. Evgeny Primakov, who had also been planning to attend the OSCE conference, was also told that he posed a threat to Ukraine's security and was being denied entry to the country for five years, the Russian news agency TASS reported. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Harlem Désir, expressed regret over the banning of Slier and Primakov from Ukraine, writing on Twitter that all OSCE participating States should facilitate free travel for journalists across the region.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ▼

➦ Mapping Media Freedom: "Two Russian journalists barred from entering Ukraine"

➦ Tweet by Harlem Désir

### STATE REPLIES ▼

Reply from the Government of Ukraine



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