

28

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2018  
▲ Lvl. 2

State  
replied

France

Alert created on: 25 Jun 2015

## French Journalists Victims of Phone Harassment



SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ Non-state

CATEGORY  ▶ Harassment and intimidation of journalists

**PARTNER: EFJ/IFJ**

On 16, 17, 18 June 2015, French journalists Pierre Haski, founder of the information website Rue89, Denis Sieffert, Director of the weekly magazine Politis, and Daniel Schneidermann, founder of the website Arrêt sur Images, were victims of a harassment campaign targeting their private lives. In all three cases, a hacker took control of their private telephone lines and made telephone calls to the police requesting their intervention at the homes of the targeted journalists on the basis of wholly fabricated personal dramatic incidents. According to the targeted journalists, the alleged perpetrator of those actions is the Zionist Franco-Israeli hacker Grégory Chelli, alias Ulcan, who lives in Ashdod, in Israel. A judicial inquiry is already underway concerning Ulcan who is suspected of having caused the premature death of Rue89 journalist Benoît Le Corre's father, in August 2014. The father of Benoît Le Corre died as a result of a heart attack shortly after receiving a phone call informing him about the death of his son. The Paris Prosecutor's office opened a preliminary inquiry into the attacks on Mr. Haski, Mr Sieffert and Mr Schneidermann. The IFJ and the EFJ call on authorities to open judicial proceedings against and to bring to an end the impunity apparently enjoyed by the perpetrator or perpetrators of those harassment operations.


### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

-  National Union of Journalists press release (Syndicat national des journalistes) : 'Des journalistes pris pour cibles : le SNJ interpelle les autorités françaises'
-  IFJ statement : 'Journalists targeted : The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) supports the call from its French affiliates'

### STATE REPLIES




07 Feb 2018 | Reply of the French authorities

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

## RELEVANT COE INSTRUMENTS

**28 Jun 2018** | Factsheet on Harassment and Intimidation of Journalists

 **Overview of the ECHR case law and other relevant Council of Europe resources related to Harassment and Intimidation of journalists**

**DISCLAIMER**

This section presents a non-exhaustive selection of CoE instruments and ECHR case-law. This information is not a legal assessment of the alert and should not be treated or used as such.