

23
Feb 2018

▲ Lvl. 1

Resolved

Serbia

n° 64/2016

Alert created on: 20 Jun 2016

Radio Journalist and Presenter Found Dead in Home

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ Unknown

CATEGORY  ▶ Attacks on physical safety and integrity of journalists

PARTNER: Index, AEJ, EFJ/IFJ

Journalist and radio host Luka Popov from northern Serbia was found dead in his home in Srpski Krstur on Friday 17 June 2016. According to Serbian daily Blic, Popov's body was found with visible injuries and he had been presumably "tortured and murdered". The police are currently investigating the circumstances behind the death.

The Serbian Journalist associations NUNS and UNS, and journalist association of Vojvodina DNV have urged the authorities to thoroughly investigate the circumstances around the journalist's death. The OSCE has condemned the murder. The OSCE's representative on freedom of the media, Dunja Mijatović, said that the investigation "must be carried out in a swift and thorough manner." "The authorities must do their utmost to bring the perpetrators of this horrific murder to justice." Luka Popov was the host of radio programs in the towns of Coka and Novi Knezevac.

RESOLVED

23 Feb 2018: On 21 June 2016, following the arrest of three individuals who confessed to the murder of Popov during an attempted burglary not related to his journalistic activities, the partners of the Platform declared this case to be "resolved", concluding that it was no longer an active threat to media freedom.

UPDATES

21 Jun 2016: Following a swift investigation, three people have been arrested in connection with the crime.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



- ➔ UNESCO Director-General urges investigation into murder of broadcast journalist Luka Popov in Serbia
- ➔ Statement from NUNS (Independent Journalists' Association of Serbia) (in Serbian).
- ➔ Statement from UNS (Journalists' Association of Serbia) (in Serbian).
- ➔ Report published on the Mapping Media Freedom Platform: "Serbia: Radio journalist and presenter found dead in home".

FOLLOW-UPS



23 Feb 2018 | Commissioner for Human Rights: 'Concerted efforts needed to protect media freedoms in Serbia'

- ➔ Excerpt from the Commissioner's report on his follow-up visit carried out from 19 to 22 February 2018

OSCE **20 Jun 2016** | OSCE Representative welcomes arrests following murder of journalist in Serbia, praises police swift action.

- ➔ Statement from the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

OSCE **17 Jun 2016** | OSCE media freedom representative condemns murder of journalist in Serbia, calls on authorities for swift and thorough investigation.

- ➔ Statement from the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media