

06

Dec  
2018  
▲ Lvl. 2

Resolved

France

Alert created on: 21 Nov 2017

## Journalist Caroline Christinaz from “Le Temps” of Geneva Questioned by the Police While on a Reporting Assignment in France

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ State

CATEGORY ⓘ ▶ Harassment and intimidation of journalists

**PARTNER: EFJ/IFJ**

On 11 November 2017 Caroline Christinaz, a journalist for the Geneva desk of daily newspaper “Le Temps”, was sent on a reporting assignment covering the new routes taken by migrants. She was travelling in vehicles that were bringing migrants into France clandestinely when they were stopped at a police roadblock in Col de l’Echelle, in the south of the country. Christinaz was released on the spot, but she was nevertheless asked to report for questioning the following day at Briançon’s police station, where she was interrogated for two hours. Despite showing her press card to the police, her status of journalist working on a story was never accepted by the authorities, who immediately treated her as a suspect in a context of heavy mobilization of law enforcement agents aimed at sending back migrants in the region. The journalist stated that during the interrogation she was the subject of intimidation attempts by the agents and the prosecutor, who interrogated her as if she were a suspect, repeatedly asking her questions aimed at obtaining information on her journalistic sources.

### RESOLVED

**06 Dec 2018:** On 6 December 2018, after consideration of the authorities’ response to this alert, the partner organisations of the Platform declared this case to be “resolved”, concluding that it was no longer an active threat to media freedom.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ▼

- ➡ Statement by the EFJ: “Les syndicats suisses et français dénoncent l’interpellation de la journaliste du Temps”
- ➡ Article published by the “Temps”: “La polémique enfle après l’interrogatoire de la

journaliste du "Temps" à Briançon"

STATE REPLIES



03 Apr 2018 | Reply from the French authorities (in French only)



Letter from the French Permanent Representation to the Council of Europe