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## Journalists Beaten by Riot Police During Bucharest Protest

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ State

CATEGORY  ▶ Attacks on physical safety and integrity of journalists

**PARTNER: EFJ/IFJ, AEJ, Index**

Several journalists have been beaten by the Romanian riot police during the violent clashes between the police and anti-government protesters in Bucharest on the evening of 10 August 2018. Romanian gendarmes assaulted and verbally attacked with no reason journalists covering the protest around Victoriei Square, in Bucharest. Cases of physical attacks were reported by journalists Robert Mihăilescu (Hotnews.ro), Cristi Stefanescu (DW) and Vlad Ursulean (Casa Jurnalistului), by photojournalists Ioana Moldovan (Documentaria.ro) and Silviu Matei (Agerpres) and by reporter Cristian Popa and cameraperson Cristi Ban (Digi24 news TV). A camera operator of the Austrian public television operator ORF, Robert Reinprecht, was also beaten by the riot police after the square was cleared. The clashes left 452 wounded, including journalists. The Romanian union of journalists MediaSind issued a statement calling on Romanian authorities to sanction "the gendarmes who acted illegally and those who gave the orders."

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

-  Letter of the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression/UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders/UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity
-  AEJ statement : 'AEJ protests police assaults against journalists at Bucharest mass demonstrations'
-  Mapping Media Freedom report : "Journalists beaten by police at mass rally in Bucharest "
-  Statement of Romanian Journalists' Union MediaSind: "SRJ MediaSind condamă brutalitatea cu care jandarmii au molestat jurnaliștii la protestele din București"

 [Video overview of the violences \(issued by Recorder.ro\)](#)

## STATE REPLIES



**04 Sep 2018** | Reply from the Romanian Government

 [Letter from the Romanian Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe](#)

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 **16 Aug 2018** | Greatly concerned by violence against journalists during recent protests, the OSCE representative calls on authorities to swiftly investigate the incidents.

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