



Dimitrios Papadimoulis

Vice-President of the European Parliament

To the attention of:

Ms. Roberta Metsola

President of the European Parliament

cc:

Mr. Manfred Weber

President of the EPP Political Group in the European Parliament

Ms. Iratxe García Pérez

President of the S&D Political Group in the European Parliament

Mr. Stéphane Séjourné

President of the Renew Europe Political Group in the European Parliament

Ms. Ska Keller and Mr. Philippe Lamberts

Co-Presidents of the Greens/EFA Political Group in the European Parliament

Mr. Ryszard Legutko and Mr. Raffaele Fitto

Co-Presidents of the ECR Political Group in the European Parliament

Ms. Manon Aubry and Mr. Martin Schirdewan

Co-Presidents of the GUE/NGL Political Group in the European Parliament

1 August 2022

Subject: Attempt of illegal surveillance of MEP and leader of PASOK - Movement for Change Nikos Androulakis by Predator spyware system

Dear President Metsola, Dear Roberta,

I write to you after the revelation, following a security check by the competent EP services, of the attempt of illegal surveillance of MEP and leader of PASOK - Movement for Change Nikos Androulakis, by Predator spyware system, in Greece, which constitutes a serious breach of democracy and rule of law. My letter comes in continuation of N. Androulakis' relevant letter to you on 26 July, given of the enormous importance of this matter and the urgent actions needed.

Since 29 July there have been numerous reports in the international press worldwide (see annex with relevant articles), regarding these revelations. Especially in this case, the illegal

surveillance targeted the leader of the third biggest political party in Greece, in a very sensitive period of internal elections within his party.

This enormously worrying event is coming after relevant revelations of illegal surveillance of various personalities, including MEPs by the Pegasus system in some member-states (please see my letter to you on 21 April) and of journalist Thanasis Koukakis by Predator system in Greece. In the latter case, the Director of the Greek National Intelligence Service admitted on 29 July that there was indeed a surveillance initiated by its Service.

In addition, the European Commission, in its 2022 Rule of Law Report on Greece, has also expressed its concerns regarding spyware surveillance of journalists and allegations for monitoring by national intelligence services and its spokesperson recently characterized such practices, as unacceptable.

These illegal practices endanger democracy, protection of private life and freedom of expression and violates basic fundamental rights.

Given the particular political gravity of these revelations, the Parliament should take concrete measures against these undemocratic methods, as well as to continue being the guarantor of democracy, transparency and democratic accountability, protecting in a concrete way all EU citizens, including politicians and journalists.

Therefore, I would like to kindly request:

(I) the EP Bureau and the Conference of Presidents to urgently discuss this important matter in their next meetings, so their members to be fully informed and decide on necessary actions;

(II) the relevant Parliament and EU services, such as ITEC and CERT, to inform the Parliament bodies on their investigation and analysis results according to security protocols, and to detect, identify and reveal the sources of the illegal surveillance by Predator and Pegasus spyware systems;

(III) the Parliament, in close cooperation and coordination with the Commission and all relevant EU Institutions, as well as the member-states, to take all necessary additional actions for the prevention and termination of these illegal practices.

I rest assured that personally You and the Parliament services will enhance your efforts in order to continue ensuring that politicians, journalists, activists and citizens alike feel protected and safe to conduct all parts of their parliamentary duties, professional activities, and citizen's rights, freely expressing their views. In a period, when the Rule of Law is being increasingly challenged, concrete actions by all are urgently needed.

Thank you for your kind cooperation and consideration

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'H. K.', written in a cursive style.

ANNEX

International articles regarding the illegal surveillance of MEP and leader of PASOK Movement for Change Nikos Androulakis by Predator spyware system

https://www.nytimes.com/2022/07/27/world/europe/eu-spyware-predator-pegasus.html?fbclid=IwAR2jHl6IRDvadMmJZ8-d4gOGx5dmivTtHtK7f_-Jq53WXXVM9GZcGMbb6_0

https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/news/eu-commission-alarmed-by-new-spyware-case-against-greek-socialist-leader/?fbclid=IwAR0d_nooFzQtq6k8FomawHVQOsPfEeFirsr2pz7d30R7M7vXkOygF03jHxk

<https://www.thenationalherald.com/pasok-leader-files-complaint-over-attempted-phone-bugging/?fbclid=IwAR3CELpOf1GOQu1QJ0NuRH5dD45BlmSWuua1BG3Q-pNvDIOd732NAT0XbR8>

https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/greek-socialist-leader-files-complaint-over-attempted-phone-bugging-2022-07-26/?fbclid=IwAR2b0bPFM4Go24ICkFhIWSwQjOPmIV4eEhaxEZ_gvq9kctHyUDnSKNfIE

<https://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/grece-enquete-pour-tentative-d-espionnage-du-telephone-du-chef-du-parti-socialiste-20220726?fbclid=IwAR24mBW1OpnetRtvsM5JRd5B0mH2PBPq5yE8chVXnTyhewlhQ2vo7GyJtyw>

https://www.euronews.com/2022/07/27/us-greece-politician-spying?fbclid=IwAR2QfdBefsrZRCMMgbpXvFyotD_-mjfvHEj8IXEMwAy_fs3THDH3hB4JvtI

<https://www.politico.eu/newsletter/brussels-playbook/orban-under-fire-energy-deal-fudge-mbs-in-europe/?fbclid=IwAR0zfYChmfg4M5wDeqIF82q71DMoan75aRYLSLSOwGC3XSR3rUVmhy9auSQ>