



Claude Moraes  
Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Petr Ježek  
Chair of the Special Committee on Financial crimes, Tax evasion and Tax avoidance

Subject: Request for a joint LIBE/TAX3 Hearing on the investigation into Daphne Caruana Galizia's assassination

Brussels, 2nd of May 2018

Dear Claude,  
Dear Peter,

As you know, on 30th November and 1st December 2017, I chaired a European Parliament ad hoc Delegation that was sent to Malta following the assassination of investigative journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, on October 16th.

Last week, I wrote a letter to outgoing Director of Europol, Mr. Rob Wainwright, requesting an informative report from Europol on the scope and duration agency's involvement and assistance in the criminal inquiry led by Maltese authorities.

Members of the Delegation were concerned about recent reports coming from the "Daphne Project", a consortium of investigative journalists, suggesting worrying failures in the Maltese Police investigation, namely for absence of follow up of very significant information which could lead to identify who ordered the assassination, not just the suspects of the material placement and detonation of the bomb, who have been arrested.

The NY Times reported that a person with knowledge of the investigation who was not authorized to speak publicly on the matter confirmed that the police were not actively looking into whether the crime had been motivated by Ms. Caruana Galizia's reporting on politicians. The Commissioner of Police, Mr. Lawrence Cutajar, was quoted by the Maltese press as attempting to justify failure in particular to investigate Minister Chris Cardona – pointed out by witnesses who saw him drinking at a bar with one of the suspects already detained – on the grounds of insufficient resources.

The reply from Mr. Rob Wainwright, which I enclose, is extremely worrying. He affirms, in particular, that "the investigation is highly complex and now involves a number of EU Member States, that "new concerns have arisen" in the investigation and that there is "room for improvement in this cooperation [with the Maltese authorities]". Mr. Wainwright, while also referring to Europol's cooperation with the Slovakian authorities in the investigation on the assassination of journalist Ján Kuciak, highlights a limitation of the Europol Regulation, "which obliges Europol to rely on the information provided by the designated national competent authorities, and to report developments in the case, including any matters arising of concern, solely to those authorities."



In light of this, and since the monitoring of the criminal investigation of Daphne Caruana Galizia is within the remit of both committees, I urge you to organise a joint LIBE/TAX3 Hearing to discuss the developments of the criminal inquiry into the assassination. Mr. Wainwright's letter reaffirms my belief that this case is not restricted to Malta, it is a concern for the whole European Union.

I would suggest that the outgoing Director of Europol, Mr. Wainwright, be invited to the hearing, along with the new Europol Director, Ms. Catherine de Bolle. I would also suggest that the current Commissioner of Police in Malta, Mr. Lawrence Cutajar, and Malta's Attorney General, Dr. Peter Grech, be invited, as well as a representative from the Daphne Project consortium of journalists.

Best regards

Ana Gomes

Ana Gomes  
Member of the European Parliament  
Chair of the ad hoc Delegation to Malta