Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

**Doc. 15203**
16 December 2020

# Safeguard citizens' rights against domestic political espionage

**Reply to Written question**[1]: Written question No. 752 (Doc. 15138)
Committee of Ministers

1. In response to the Honourable member's question, the Committee of Ministers recalls that the Council of Europe has adopted a number of binding human rights instruments to protect the rights to freedom of expression and the respect for private and family life. These include the European Convention on Human Rights (ETS No. 005) and its Protocols, the Convention for the Protection of Personal Data (ETS No. 108) and its Additional Protocol (ETS No. 181) and the Convention on Cybercrime (ETS No. 185) and its Protocol concerning the incrimination of racist and xenophobic acts (ETS No. 189). These instruments have been signed and ratified by Spain.

2. The Committee also recalls that any person subject to the jurisdiction of a member State may as a last resort, after exhausting the remedies available at national level, apply to the European Court of Human Rights if he or she considers himself or herself to be a victim of a violation of these rights.

1. Adopted at the 1391st meeting of the Ministers' Deputies (8 December 2020).