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Media freedom versus anti terrorism legislation

Written question No. 643 to the Committee of Ministers

by Mr Nikolaj VILLUMSEN, Denmark, Group of the Unified European Left

The British authorities have put pressure on the newspaper *the Guardian* to hand over the files which Edward Snowden has given to the newspaper. In addition, the authorities have detained David Miranda at Heathrow Airport for several hours; Mr Miranda being the partner of the Guardian journalist Glenn Greenwald who was the first to write about Edward Snowden's revelations of the US National Security Agency's mass surveillance.

Mr Villumsen,

To ask the Committee of Ministers,

Does the Committee of Ministers find the behavior of the British authorities in the two cases consistent with the United Kingdom's commitments to secure media freedom?

Does the Committee of Ministers agree that anti terrorism legislation should not violate fundamental freedoms as media freedom and freedom of expression?

