



Ms. Ylva Johansson,

European Commissioner for Home Affairs

Ms. Catherine De Bolle,

Executive Director of Europol

Brussels, 12th January 2024

Dear Commissioner,

Dear Director,

On ninth of November 2023, Mr. Alejo Vidal-Quadras, co-founder of the political party VOX, former Chair of the Partido Popular in Catalonia and former Vice-president of the European Parliament, survived an assassination attempt when a gunman shot at him in the head in Madrid. This tragic event, although fortunately not fatal for our dear Alejo, deeply shocked all good-willed Spaniards, as well as many of our colleagues here in the Parliament.

While the police continue their investigation into the incident, the mind or minds behind the attack remain unknown, and the prime suspect for the shooting is the French-Tunisian hitman Mehrez Ayari, sought by the National High Court of Spain.

In spite of this, Pedro Sánchez's government has decided against including Ayari in the Europol and Interpol lists of most wanted. Instead, Spanish authorities have prioritised the capture of a 71-year-old man wanted for a murder that took place in 2003, whose name, rather than Ayari's, has consequently been added to Europol and Interpol lists.

Thus, Mr. Sánchez appears to be dismissing the seriousness of this attempt on Alejo's life, i.e. an opposition member, and to disregard the urgency for apprehending the hitman who carried it out, in order to uncover the mind or minds behind.



Moreover, the Europol list of most wanted is managed by ENFAST (European Network on Fugitive Active Search Teams). It is noteworthy that ENFAST, which has been under a Spanish presidency since FAST Spain took charge of the project in 2021, has not included Ayari in the Europol list on its own initiative.

For all of the above, we, the under-signed MEPs, urge you to secure, possible—whether in coordination with FAST Spain and the Spanish Ministry of the Interior or not—the inclusion of Ayari’s name into the aforementioned list.

We remain faithful of your good judgement of this issue.

Sincerely yours,

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. JORGE BUXADÉ | 15. ERNŐ SCHALLER-BAROSS |
| 2. HERMANN TERTSCH | 16. IZABELA-HELENA KLOC |
| 3. MARGARITA DE LA PISA | 17. JACEK SARYUSZ-WOLSKI |
| 4. MAZALY AGUILAR | 18. JEAN-PAUL GARRAUD |
| 5. ÁDÁM KÓSA | 19. KINGA GÁL |
| 6. ANDOR DELI | 20. LADISLAV ILCIC |
| 7. ANDREA BOCSKOR | 21. LÁSZLÓ TRÓCSÁNYI |
| 8. BALÁZS HIDVÉGGHI | 22. LIVIA JÁRÓKA |
| 9. CRISTIAN TERHES | 23. MARIE DAUCHY |
| 10. DOMINIK TARCZYNSKI | 24. MILAN ZVER |
| 11. EDINA TÓTH | 25. MIRIAM LEXMANN |
| 12. EMMANOUIL FRAGKOS | 26. PATRICIA CHAGNON |
| 13. ENIKŐ GYŐRI | 27. TAMÁS DEUTSCH |
| 14. ERIC MINARDI | 28. GYÖRGY HÖLVÉNYI |