To: National Criminal Agency
   Police Force of the Slovak Republic
   Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic

   Request not to engage in any activity that seeks prosecution of the organisers and
   protesters ‘For a Decent Slovakia’

November 14, 2018
Leipzig, Germany

Dear Mr Peter Hraško, Mr Milan Lučanský and Ms Denisa Saková

We write to you on behalf of the European Centre for Press and Media Freedom and Reporters
Without Borders. Since February 2018, when investigative data journalist Jan Kuciak
assassinated, we have closely monitored press and media freedom in Slovakia.

We have been informed that the National Criminal Agency and the police have interrogated
the organisers of “For a Decent Slovakia” (Za slušné Slovensko) protests based on an
anonymous criminal complaint that alleges they are “being paid” by George Soros.

We are shocked to learn that your institutions have engaged in criminal proceedings against
the brave young people who are requesting justice for the assassination of journalist Ján
Kuçiak and his partner. These are unacceptable actions that go against every basic national
and international standard on the right to protest and the right to seek justice for the
assassination of a journalist.

The sole aim of these criminal proceedings is to intimidate and scare the organisers and
journalists.

We urge you not to proceed further with the interrogation of “For a Decent Slovakia” organisers
and protesters. Instead of intimidating those who are seeking justice on behalf of Ján Kuciak,
your organisations should ensure an environment where the right to protest and the right to
freedom of expression are guaranteed.

We welcome a written commitment that you will not engage in any activity that seeks
prosecution of organisers, protesters and journalists in Slovakia.

With best wishes,

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