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FIRST SECTION

ECHR-LE14.8bP3 MLA/hl

15 December 2015

Application no. 58170/13 Big Brother Watch and Others v. the United Kingdom

Dear Sirs,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of 31 March 2014, in which you seek leave on behalf of a coalition of five named citizens (Mr Bart Nooitgedagt, Mr Brenno de Winter, Mr Johannes van Beek, Mr Robbert Gonggrijp and Mr Mathieu Papst) and four organisations (the Dutch Association for Criminal Attorneys, the Dutch Association for Journalists, the Internet Society Netherlands and the Privacy First Foundation) to intervene as a third party in the Court's proceedings in the above case (Article 36 § 2 of the Convention).

I should inform you that the President of the Section has granted leave, under Rule 44 § 3 of the Rules of Court, for you to make joint written submissions to the Court on their behalf.

In accordance with Rule 44 § 5, the President of the Section has directed that your submissions, which must not exceed ten pages of typescript, should reach the Court by 9 February 2016. Furthermore, having regard to the nature of a third-party intervention, these submissions should not include any comments on the facts or merits of the case, but address only the general principles involved in the solution of the case. Lastly, I should remind you that submissions must be made in one of the official languages of the Court, English or French (Rule 34 § 4 (a)).

In accordance with Rule 44 § 6, your submissions will be forwarded to the parties, who will be given an opportunity to file written observations in reply.

I enclose, for your information, a copy of the statement of facts prepared by the Registry and the questions to the parties.

Yours faithfully,

Søren Nielsen Section Registrar

Enc.

