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Collaboration between politicians and the media: an unethical/double role: the case of Vavrová and Kaliňák

This case study reports about the collusion scandal behind the widespread wiretapping operation of various journalists from leading Slovak media services, conducted by Military Defence Intelligence during the year of 2011. The aim of the report however focuses at the one part of the affair, namely an unprofessional and unethical behaviour (collusion) of one journalist from daily Pravda, whose conversations with the Slovak MP were recorded due to the monitoring practises mentioned above. MP Róbert Kaliňák was apparently trying to persuade Vanda Vavrová to publish discrediting material about his political rival. The study thus largely examines the media's role in politics and ethical issues resulting from trespass of the journalistic agency for objective and impartial reporting about the course of events. Moreover, overall media coverage of this affair is analyzed throughout the study to pinpoint the role of Slovak journalists while facing the controversial behaviour of one of their peers.