

## **PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA NIKOL PASHINYAN'S MESSAGE REGARDING THE PHENOMENON OF HINDERING THE ADVOCATE'S PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (VIDEO)**

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On January 15, 2019, Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan referred to the phenomenon of hindering the advocate's professional activities on Facebook live, he said: (non official translation)

-“On the other hand I give a great importance to, that we around the advocates with such negativity... we don't perceive advocates as personal relatives of potential defendants and as our or society's enemies. It is not a correct perception. What do we want? We don't want vendetta, do we people? We want justice. And, the most important, most important condition and precondition of justice is not only an independent judiciary system, but also the right of the defendant to be protected independently which should be done by a defender. And we have to insure otherwise, otherwise ... look, our country carries on achieving continuous and consistent elevations today in different ratings. If it turns out that for example, justice, in the Republic of Armenia, is implemented based solely on the public opinion, or people randomly decide to block the roads, and they say catch this one and judge him, and give him imprisonment of 10 years, otherwise we won't unblock the roads. You know, our country will appear in a very ridiculous situation in the eyes of the international community, much worse than any dictatorship or any corrupt country”.

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