

# 25 Organisations Demand Fundamental Rights-Based Approach to E-Evidence Legislation



## News

Thomas Wahl

In a [joint letter of 14 September 2020](#), a coalition of 25 organisations calls on the members of the EP's LIBE Committee to ensure that forthcoming legislation on e-evidence contains procedural safeguards for journalists, doctors, lawyers, social workers, etc. The signatories, which include professional associations, media organisations, civil society groups, social services organisations and technology companies, demand that e-evidence legislation must contain explicit legal safeguards against law enforcement abuses and political prosecution. These should include:

- Active involvement of judicial authorities from the executing State and, where applicable, the affected State;
- Powers of these judicial authorities to review a production or preservation order based on their own national legal framework, and subsequently to validate or reject the order before an online service provider can execute it;
- No "auto-execution" after a certain period of time had lapsed.

The letter also points out that respect for basic human rights is even more important at a time when some Member States are suffering a serious degradation of the rule of law and democratic principles, thus compromising European values.

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ISSN: 1862-6947

<https://eucrim.eu>

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The project is co-financed by the [Union Anti-Fraud Programme \(UAFP\)](#), managed by the [European Anti-Fraud Office \(OLAF\)](#).



Co-funded by  
the European Union