



Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Protocol Department

Report on serious violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives in Sweden 2020-2021 (General Assembly resolution 75/139 of 15 December 2020 “Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives”)

During the last two years the following incidents have occurred involving the protection, security and safety of foreign diplomatic and consular missions and representatives in Sweden.

6 November 2020. A diplomat at the Embassy of Afghanistan in Stockholm was threatened by a man who said he would hit her if he did not get the document he requested about his divorce. The man was identified, and a police report was filed.

21 January 2021. At two different occasions, at the consulate, a perpetrator threatened to assault and to kill a staff member Embassy of Afghanistan. The perpetrator was identified, and an investigation was initiated by the police.

15 July 2020. One or several unknown perpetrators had scribbled the words “no war”, “Alivey criminal and “stop Alivey” on the facade of the building of the Embassy of Azerbaijan in Stockholm and on a car with diplomatic plates. An investigation was never opened due to lack of evidence.

10 February 2020. The sign to the consular reception area of the Embassy of China in Stockholm was vandalized and carved with an “X” mark.

20 December 2020. The façade of the Chinese Consulate-General in Gothenburg was exposed to vandalism by one or several unknown perpetrators. The Embassy Security Police was informed.

8 January 2021. Three diplomatic cars belonging to the Consulate-General of the People’s Republic of China were damaged. One of the cars had its fuel filler cap twisted off, the second had its fuel filler cap tampered with so it could not be closed, and the third car was scratched forcefully near the back wheel below the fuel filler. Furthermore, another car’s diplomatic plate was stolen. New diplomatic licence plates were ordered for the cars and the police authorities were informed.

27 June 2020. A man spray painted on the façade of the building of the Embassy of Iran in Stockholm, during a demonstration. The perpetrator was identified, and an investigation was initiated.

2 July 2021. Violent protests and harassments by demonstration groups against the voters in the presidential election of Islamic Republic of Iran in Gothenburg and Stockholm.

15 July 2020. Two diplomatic registration plates were stolen from a car belonging to the Embassy of Kosovo in Stockholm by an unknown perpetrator. A police report was filed.

22 July 2021. A man threw an electric scooter through the window of the front door of the Embassy of Lithuania in Stockholm, and threatened the Embassy staff, after they informed him that they could not help him to travel back to Lithuania. The perpetrator was arrested by the police and an investigation was initiated.

28 June 2021. A man used a machete to demolish two cars (with diplomatic registration plates) belonging to the Embassy of Morocco in Stockholm. The same man also burned the Moroccan flag on the stairs at the entrance of the

Embassy. The perpetrator was sentenced to eight months prison due to, among other things, the crimes he committed against the embassy.

5 May 2020. One or several unknown perpetrators broke into a car with blue diplomatic registration plates and stole equipment belonging to the Embassy of Peru in Stockholm. An investigation was never opened due to lack of evidence.

26 November 2020. A man called the Embassy of Portugal in Stockholm, after the Embassy of Portugal had filed a report to the Swedish social authorities regarding his children. During the call, the man threatened the staff of the Embassy and told them he would force himself into the Embassy. A police investigation was initiated.

3 December 2020. A perpetrator threatened the personnel at the Embassy of Portugal through an email. He claimed he was heavily armed and ready to use gun violence when needed. The perpetrator had threatened the personnel of the Embassy at an earlier occasion. The security police was informed, and a police investigation was initiated.

10 February 2020. An unknown perpetrator broke into the Embassy of South Africa in Stockholm and stole eight keys to the office in the Embassy. An investigation was initiated.

26 January 2021. Diplomatic plates, belonging to the car of a diplomat at the Embassy of Syria in Stockholm, was stolen. An investigation was never initiated due to lack of evidence.

3 February 2020. Several perpetrators trespassed the property at the permanent residence of the Ambassador of the United States of America to Sweden at two occasions during the same day. The perpetrators tried to steal copper in connection to reconstruction of the property's roof. The perpetrators got caught by the guard and left without the copper. An investigation was initiated.

7 July 2021. A perpetrator armed with a knife trespassed the Embassy of United states of America in Stockholm during night-time. The perpetrator was arrested, the knife was seized, and an investigation was initiated.

23 April 2020. An unknown perpetrator stole the national flag of the Embassy of Zimbabwe in Stockholm. An investigation was never initiated due to lack of evidence.

Moreover, several minor violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives in Sweden were also reported during this period. These incidents include demonstrations without permission, low-level threats, petty thefts and fraud, and some cases of harassment. There have also been a couple of cases involving various kinds of damage on embassy premises and some minor damage to embassy property.