

# SURVEILLANCE MEASURES AND THE RIGHT TO INTEGRITY

---

Since the last review of Sweden, a great amount of new legislation has been enacted regarding the use of secret surveillance measures, such as interception and surveillance of electronic communications, secret camera surveillance, bugging and secret data surveillance. Two years ago, preventive surveillance was introduced, enabling law enforcement to use secret coercive surveillance measures, such as telephone interception, camera surveillance, and data reading, also against individuals not suspected of crime. Several other legislative proposals that would expand police use of camera surveillance and technology for automatic facial recognition are underway.

To comply with international human rights standards, it is necessary that the use of such measures is proportionate. However, no compounded evaluation of the aggregated consequences on human rights of the new and proposed legislation has been made. This despite warnings from the Swedish Parliamentary Ombudsmen that repeated criminal policy reforms may impede legal consistency and jeopardize rights protection. Both the Göta Court of Appeal and Svea Court of Appeal have encouraged the Government to conduct an evaluation, stating that a lack of review increases the risk of errors in the application of the legislation, which can lead to undue invasions of privacy as well as a lack of transparency, and thus greater difficulty in regulating the application of the law.

The Swedish Commission on Security and Integrity Protection is responsible for supervising the use of secret surveillance by law enforcement. However, they have yet to receive additional resources corresponding to the new legal mandates for law enforcement.

## Recommendation

- Conduct a thorough review of the proportionality and compounded effects of the new legislation introduced in the area of secret and preventative secret surveillance, to ensure protection of the right to integrity of the person.
- Allocate necessary financial resources to the Swedish Commission on Security and Integrity Protection to enable them to efficiently investigate illegal use of secret surveillance measures.



← READ OUR  
FULL REPORT

If you have questions or are curious to learn more,  
reach out to us on [legal@crd.org](mailto:legal@crd.org).