

Unclassified

Section Chief- NATO

Foreign Minister- France

DIPLOMATIC UPDATE

Tuesday, 24 November 2020

1430 UTC

Subject: French Lawmakers give green light for controversial security bill

Status: Moderate

Event: A piece of controversial legislation is set to go before the French senate in January. The legislation makes it illegal to share images of law enforcement officers for “malicious purposes”, and if broken, violators are subject to either a 45,000Euro fine or one year prison time. This was proposed by President Macron's party and has been heavily criticized by the media and human rights advocates, many were gathered in the streets this past weekend to protest. Protesters claim this is a direct threat to the freedom of the press and that this will result in much less police accountability. Those who support the bill claim that by exposing who law enforcement officers are, they are more of a target to terrorist attacks and hinders the efficiency of law enforcement stopping terrorism.

Action: No action necessary

Estimated Cost: