



St. Gallen, 6 March 2026

Media Release

regarding judgment of 23 February 2026 in the proceedings F-1190/2025 and F-1897/2025

Fedpol must review entry ban

The Federal Office of Police must review an entry ban and subsequent expulsion ordered against a journalist. The Federal Administrative Court finds that justification was inadequate and documentation incomplete.

The Federal Office of Police (fedpol) imposed a 17-day entry ban against a journalist and ordered his immediate expulsion. In effect, this prevented the journalist from speaking at two events in Zurich on 26 January 2025. The journalist appealed the fedpol decision to the Federal Administrative Court (FAC).

Inadequate grounds and incomplete documentation

In its judgment, the FAC found that fedpol had not fulfilled its obligation to state reason. In ordering the entry ban and expulsion, fedpol relied upon an assessment made by the Zurich cantonal police. The latter stated that, through his X-account, the appellant was disseminating content that could clearly be qualified as antisemitic hate speech, and which legitimized or implicitly encouraged terrorist groups or acts. Fedpol initially held a different assessment, but subsequently changed its view. The reasons for this change of opinion are not specified in the rulings and records. Moreover, fedpol failed to substantiate both the danger posed by the appellant and the urgency of the measures. The Federal Intelligence Service was only consulted on the entry ban, not on the expulsion, and its substantive opinion was not documented. The FAC further found that fedpol had violated its obligation to keep records considering the incomplete documentation. Consequently, the FAC upheld the appeals and referred the case back to fedpol for review.

This judgment is final and may not be appealed to the Federal Supreme Court.

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About the Federal Administrative Court

Located in St. Gallen, the Federal Administrative Court (FAC) was established in 2007. With its staff of 395 employees (334 FTE) and its 79 judges (70 FTE) it is the largest federal court in Switzerland. The Federal Administrative Court has jurisdiction to hear appeals against decisions rendered by Swiss federal administrative authorities. In specific matters, the FAC may grant review on decisions rendered by cantonal authorities. Recourse actions are also reviewed by the Court. The FAC is composed of six divisions. It renders an average of 7,000 judgments every year.