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## Debate on freedom of the press and SLAPPs

On October 6, 2023, our counsel [Claire Filliatre](#) took part in the “**Defamation /SLAPPs: How far does freedom of the press go?**” debate at the Press Club of Lyon and its region.

SLAPPs (Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation) are defined as a form of harassment and intimidation used against those involved in “*protecting the public interest*”. Their purpose is to censor, intimidate and silence critics by burdening them with the cost of a legal defense until they abandon their criticism or opposition.

Panelists also included Mrs. Ilana Cicurel Member of the European Parliament, Mr. Jacques Trentesaux, co-founder and managing editor of Médiacités, and Nicolas Barriquand, editor-in-chief of Médiacités Lyon.

For more information on SLAPPs, please read Claire’s article entitled [European Commission’s call for action to combat SLAPPs against journalists and human right defenders](#).

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