

A manifesto denouncing the interfering methods used by Nestlé and Securitas and calling for freedom of speech

In June 2008, Suisse Romande Television (TSR) revealed to the general public that the private company Securitas had been contracted by Nestlé to infiltrate and spy on a study group belonging to the alter-globalist organisation Attac. The group in question was working on a book about Nestlé's policies in areas such as genetic engineering, water, powdered milk and coffee with special emphasis on their attitude towards their employees and to trade unions. In September 2008, a new case of espionage was made public by the TSR. A female Securitas officer had infiltrated the Lausanne Group Against Repression (GAR) which was gathering information on cases of repression and police violence. Recent evidence indicates that these spying activities were carried on well after 2005.

- **We, the undersigned, find it scandalous that private companies should stoop to using such interfering methods. We wish to express our outright condemnation of the espionage carried out by Nestlé and Securitas** against Attac and other alter-globalist organisations. Such activities constitute a grave breach of human rights, in this case the freedoms of speech and association.
- **We, the undersigned, demand that the management of Nestlé and Securitas bring all forms of meddling interference to an immediate end. Rather than sending people to spy on those who criticise them, the agribusiness giant Nestlé would do better to manage its affairs in such a way as to be above criticism.** We, the undersigned, therefore call on Nestlé to respect working people and trade unions all over the world, to guarantee fair prices to producers, to preserve the environment and to ensure the excellent quality of their products.
- **We, the undersigned (national councillors and state councillors), call on the authorities of the Swiss Cantons and the Swiss Federation to bring to light all the details of the Nestlé and Securitas scandal. In addition we urge them to take whatever measures are necessary to effectively protect our right to the freedom of speech and association from the clandestine activities of private companies.**

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