

# More on Control Risks

SUEPO understands that the company [Control Risks](#) has been commissioned by the EPO to **investigate** staff members who are elected representatives of the Staff Committee and/or Staff Union. The following articles report on the activities of this company:

- Spiegel Online, [The Dark Side of Power: German Corporate Spying Scandal Widens](#)

*“the government agents were [...] interested in the role **Control Risks** may have played in the Deutsche Telekom wiretapping affair. The scandal has [dominated the public debate](#) in the worlds of business, politics and the media for more than two weeks.”*

*“It is already clear that Telekom also hired **Control Risks**, which in turn subcontracted some of its assignments to a company called Desa. Desa, which is run by two former informants for the East German secret police, the Stasi, has also completed assignments for other prominent clients.”*

*“Moreover, it is clear that **Control Risks** worked for other German corporations, like Lufthansa and Deutsche Post. And, more recently, it was revealed that the two security firms were not the only ones that investigated a journalist from the newspaper Financial Times Deutschland (FTD)”*

- Spiegel Online, [Attack on Customer Data: Lufthansa Admits Spying on Journalist](#)

*“[...] news broke that the security firm **Control Risks**, working for Deutsche Telekom, spied on a journalist from the Financial Times Deutschland newspaper.”*

- The Guardian, [Watching the detectives](#)

*“But probably the creepiest tale to come out of the investigation is that in 2000 Deutsche Telekom hired a British private security company called **Control Risks** to get to the bottom of who was behind leaks to Tasso Enzweiler, at the time the chief reporter for Financial Times Deutschland. **Control Risks** in turn hired Desa Investigation & Risk Protection - a Berlin detective agency set up by two former Stasi agents who worked for a department responsible, among other things, for spying on western journalists - which sent employees to follow Enzweiler around the clock for two weeks.”*

- Financial Times, [From guard dogs and fences to business intelligence](#)

*“After making its name in hostage and crisis negotiation through the 1970s, London-based **Control Risks** has branched out to offer something close to a full risk management service for its clients. It has roughly 700 staff and annual revenues of about \$250m and is one of the sector's bigger players.*

*Security services in Iraq account for about a third of the company's turnover, but revenues have been falling of late. Anticipating the decline, **Control Risks** has been seeking to expand its consultancy and investigation businesses.”*