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## WhatsApp spyware attack was attempt to hack human rights data, says lawyer

**NSO Group technology reportedly used against lawyer involved in civil case against the Israeli surveillance firm**

**Nick Hopkins and Dan Sabbagh**

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The UK lawyer whose phone was targeted by spyware that exploits a WhatsApp vulnerability said it appeared to be a desperate attempt by someone to covertly find out the details of his human rights work.

The lawyer, who asked not to be named, is involved in a civil case brought against the Israeli surveillance company NSO Group whose sophisticated Pegasus malware has reportedly been used against Mexican journalists, and a prominent Saudi dissident living in Canada.

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