
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

News Review

Pegasus: Activists 'spied on'

The story

It's alleged human rights activists and politicians around the world may have been monitored using a mobile phone spyware intended to target criminals and terrorists.

A group of investigative journalists claims the Pegasus software, which has been sold to countries including Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, has been widely misused. The software firm NSO strongly denies that and is considering legal action.

Key words and phrases

targets

chooses something to attack or pay attention to

- The business has targeted a 5% increase in profits this year.
- The footballer hit the target. The ball went straight into the goal.

hack

get unauthorised access into a system or computer

- The computer system was hacked and personal data was stolen.
- Here's a great life hack - Put coffee grounds in the fridge to remove the smell.

rogue

describes behaviour that is unexpected or damaging

- Trade restrictions were enforced after the rogue state tested a nuclear missile.
He's a loveable rogue: very charming, but you can't trust him!