

British Espionage Challenge

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LONDON — A British court said Thursday that a lawmaker's assistant accused of spying for Russia can challenge her planned deportation at a hearing scheduled for October.

Yekaterina Zatuliveter, a former staffer for Liberal Democrat lawmaker Mike Hancock, was arrested last month on the grounds that she posed a threat to national security.

The Special Immigration Appeals Commission said Thursday that she would appear at a hearing on Oct. 18 to fight plans to kick her out of Britain.

Government lawyer Jonathan Glasson said witnesses will include an officer from the MI5 spy agency. The public is expected to be excluded during parts of the case discussing suspected Russian espionage. The 25-year-old is free on bail but must inform authorities if she plans to meet anyone other than her family or lawyers.

(AP)

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