
AUSTRIA'S KURZ UNDER SUSPICION FOR BRIBERY AND EMBEZZLEMENT IN CORRUPTION PROBE

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Austrian authorities raided the offices and party headquarters of Chancellor Sebastian Kurz in Vienna on Wednesday amid suspicion that he and his inner circle conspired to embezzle public funds to bribe pollsters and prominent media figures in return for favorable coverage.

The raids marked a significant escalation of prosecutors corruption probe into Kurz, who already faces possible indictment in a separate case involving perjury allegations related to sworn testimony he gave before a parliamentary inquiry last year.

Though some opposition leaders called on the conservative chancellor to resign, the head of Kurzs junior coalition partner, Greens leader Werner Kogler, signaled he would not abandon the alliance as long as it remained capable of governing.

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