

# Witness K case "not an act of betrayal": Jose Ramos-Horta

By Linda Mottram on PM

East Timor's former president, Jose Ramos-Horta, is urging the Federal Government to drop its controversial case against a former spy who exposed a secret ASIS operation in his country.

The former spy, known as Witness K, and his lawyer, Bernard Collaery, have been charged with breaching Australia's Intelligence Act over their role in exposing Australia's bugging of East Timorese government buildings during lucrative oil and gas negotiations in 2004.

Mr Ramos-Horta acknowledges that the case is "entirely" a domestic matter for Australia, but says Witness K and Mr Collaery acted on their conscience and that the alleged breach was not an act of betrayal to Australia, as the two nations were not at war.

Duration: 6min 14sec

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