

## Call for Protests on 06. February 2006 in Berlin

S-Bahn Station Pankow 12:30 pm > rally at the Togolese embassy > rally at the Auswärtiges Amt and demonstration

# Togo: From dictatorship through weapons to dictatorship through ballot boxes and weapons

13.01.1963 – until death (Eyadema Gnassingbe)

07.02.2005 – until death? (Faure Gnassingbe)

After the death of his father on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2005, through a coup d'état backed by the military, he was appointed as the president.

Under the pressure of the African Union and the International Community Faure Gnassingbe Eyadama had first renounced from the presidency until the expiration of his father's mandate and announced elections within 60 days. But one day after his father's death, he suddenly ignored the amendments of the elected constitution to replace the transitional president.

Finally, on 25. February 2006, he resigned from his position of the transitional president and announced his candidature for the presidential elections. The president of the National Assembly couldn't resume his office, because he was chased away and hold up at the border to Benin for a long time by the Togolese military.

Gnassingbe declared himself elected based on the controversial election of 24. April 2005. The opposition criticized strongly the illegitimacy of these elections and there were struggles among supporters of the opposition and the Togolese army. This fights led according to the Togolese League of Human Rights (LTDH) to the death of 800 oppositionals. France, represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, declared contentment with this situation. Every time the issues are the same:

Weakening the watchfulness of the International Community, hindering organisations which act for free and transparent elections, hiding the continuity of the regime and isolating the democratic opposition.



Europe is accountable for the drama that is taking place in Togo since the 07.02.2005, as it is Europe that has been installing violent regimes and dictatorships in Africa for decades. Europe is tied to Togo through Defense Agreement signed on 10. Juli 1963 and the Technical-Military Cooperation Agreement ratified on 29. March 1973. Its troops have been beating down demonstrations of the Togolese people for decades. The weapons which hurt and kill demonstrators are European weapons and bullets, used by soldiers and police who have been educated by European militaries, on the basis of the Cooperation Agreement.

In reaction to this situation we invite everyone with a

human conscience and the organisations to defense human rights and take part in the protests:

- 1. against the dynastic dictatorship under Faure Eyadema**
- 2. against the murderous cooperation of Europe with dictatorial regimes in Africa**
- 3. against German Deportation politics to Togo**

Contact: "Internationale Kampagne gegen die Diktatur in Togo und anderen Afrikanischen Ländern"

C/o: Brigittenstr. 5, 20359 Hamburg, Tel/Fax +49-(0)40-43 18 90 37 /8; mail: [free2move@nadir.org](mailto:free2move@nadir.org)

Further informations: [www.thecaravan.org](http://www.thecaravan.org)

**Donations are urgently needed:**

Antirassistische Initiative Berlin; Bank für Sozialwirtschaft; Kto: 30 39 600; BLZ: 100 205 00; Key word: Togo-Kampagne

# We are human beings, we want to live. We don't want to be in prisons again. We need to be free!

We had to leave our country several years ago, when it still suffered from the dictatorship of the president Eyadema. Everyone who stood against it, no matter if he was organized politically or just a human being who couldn't stand the dictatorship any more, has been persecuted, beaten up, arrested; many were killed. We, who had to leave our country illegally with the help of our friends, came to Germany because we hoped to find asylum. During the two years or more, that we have been in Germany, we had to watch helplessly the son of president Eyadema being pushed to power after his father's death.

In an article of the Nordkurier from 31.05.2005 "269 Togolesian Asylum Seekers are summoned to a 'arraignment'" it reads: "What happens after the arrival with a refugee, is not in control of German authorities. For the German bureaucracy things are settled then." This statement is for us, who seek asylum in Germany, a disaster. We shall leave Germany in a new danger we have been running from. With our application for asylum in Germany we brought ourselves in a new danger, because here we are threatened by deportation to the country where we were taken away our basic human rights.



But the German authorities treat us like we wouldn't tell the truth; they treat us like people who are to leave Germany immediately. The true situation in our country is not covered but glossed over. According to the assessment of German authorities, everything is peaceful in Togo. We have different informations from countrymen and –women, friends and family; but no authority will talk to us, because our applications are generally rejected by the Bundesamt. On the one side Togolese refugees in Ghana and Benin received "Humanitarian Aid", on the other side Togolese people residing in Germany are simply deported. For us Togolese there is, apart from few exceptions, no asylum in Germany.

**Where shall we go? We can't go back to our homeland!**

The Bundesministerium doesn't give asylum for us African people, because in their consideration we are not entitled to seek asylum.

**We claim a general deportation stop for all Togolese asylum seekers in Germany, until there will finally democratic elections and a government rules our country, which guarantees the implementation of human rights and makes a democratic development in our country possible.**

From a press release of Togolese refugees in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

**The togolese regime oppositional Adzrakou Komi Anani is on a hunger strike since 16<sup>th</sup> of January in the deportation prison in Bützow.** He is fighting against the deportation which is violating the human rights. On 2<sup>nd</sup> of February because of his critical health situation he was brought to the hospital in Bützow where he is now still under arrest. **The Togolese regime oppositional Alassane Moussbaou was kidnapped in a secret night operation from the hospital station in the prison and deported to Togo.** He was also on Hunger strike. There was a written order that his lawyer should not be informed. In the last week of April there is a mass deportation from Hamburg directly to Lomé. A brought public is demanding a general and immediate stop of deportations, the immediate release and the protection of Mr. Anani and the safe return of Mr. Moussbaou to Germany.

**Support our fight for our rights! Look up [www.thecaravan.org](http://www.thecaravan.org)**