

Rt. Hon Jacqui Smith, MP  
Secretary of State for the Home Office  
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Dear Home Secretary

Re: Christian Rodrigue Mbianga –

Christian Rodrigue Mbianga from Cameroon was arrested and detained by Glasgow Immigration on Tuesday 7th October 2008 when he went to report. He is currently in detention facing forced removal to Cameroon on Saturday 11 October 2008 on British Airways flight BA302 06:15hrs and from Paris to Cameroon on Air France flight AF940.

I am familiar with the case. I urge you to review the asylum case of Christian R. Mbianga on human rights and compassionate grounds.

Christian fled Cameroon and sought asylum in UK on 12/3/07 because of his political activities for Social Democratic Front and also because of his position and actions with the political party Cameroon Diaspora Coalition (CDC). Christian suffered when the Cameroonian authorities targeted him as a consequence of his politics. He has been taken to detention and is a victim of torture in Cameroon. Whilst in UK, Christian has been active with his politics by helping CDC leader Brice Nitcheu to organise demonstrations and meetings in protest at the current Cameroon government, which has one of the worst human rights records in the world according to reliable and independent human rights observers. He has been active with his political views whilst in UK – attending several demonstrations against human rights abuses carried out by Cameroon government officials, organising on-line petitions and publicity criticising Cameroon government. Late last year, Christian's family had their home raided by government officials. Christian's father and sister were arrested and taken away for interrogation. They also had their right to travel taken away from them, and were also subjected to beatings. The authorities keep demanding that the family reveal Christian's whereabouts. If he is forced back to his country, he is certainly going to be a target for those officials seeking him out because of his criticisms of the government in Cameroon.

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Please do not deport Christian Mbianga. He will suffer further persecution and human rights abuses if sent back to Cameroon. Since being in Glasgow, Christian has made an effort to integrate into the community. He currently goes to Stow College where he is doing very well with his course and is well-thought of by his tutors and classmates. Christian is also very much an active executive member of CAMASS – Cameroon Association in Scotland. He is law-abiding and has always complied with Home Office reporting procedures. He feels safe and settled here for the first time in his life, and knows that if he is sent back to Cameroon his life will be in danger once the Cameroonian authorities know he is back in the country of Cameroon. As a victim of torture, Christian should not be sent back to his country. He has been receiving psychological counselling for his matters relating to trauma and torture. He bears a lot of physical scarring because of the beatings and torture endured when he was in Cameroon. The UK Home Office should in fact be trying to protect Christian from further abuse and persecution, not condemning him to the risk of detention or death because of his political beliefs and activities.

Don't deport Christian - let him stay in Glasgow where he belongs!

I am requesting to this Honourable Home Secretary ask for immediate release of Christian and to cancel the planned removal due on Saturday 11 October 2008 at 06:15am and to grant him leave to remain in the UK.

Yours sincerely

Name:

Address:

City:

Postcode:

Country:

Date:

Email:

Phone: