

Absender

H.E. Teneng Mba Jaiteh  
Ambassador of the Republic of Gambia  
Avenue Franklin D. Roosevelt 126,  
B-1050 Brussels, Belgium.

Date:

Your Excellency,

it has been almost five years that the present administration under President Adama Barrow took over in Gambia thus putting an end to more than twenty years under dictatorship during which the rule of law was suspended. The changeover of power has been welcomed all over the world. This is also the case in my country, in Germany where a lot of your fellow countrymen migrated to during the Jammeh years.

Though a lot of changes, e.g. the removal of high-ranking officials of the old regime in the army, police, law-courts, have been appreciated I have learnt that a number of oppressive laws passed during the years of dictatorship are still in power. Just to give a few examples: the laws that regulate assemblies, public demonstrations and the freedom of the press. In addition capital punishment is still existent and death penalties have been handed out over the past few years. Another point concerns the impunity of public servants who are responsible for misconduct and breaking the law while in office.

I beg you to pass this message over to your government and also to the leaders of parliamentary groups in your country - connected with the appeal to revise these oppressive laws before the end of this parliament. Furthermore I would like to express my sincere hope that the recommendations expected from the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparation Commission – though postponed – will be implemented by any Gambian government.

Sincerely yours,