

Faure Gnassingbé
Présidence de la République du Togo
Lomé
TOGO

Twitter: @FEGnassingbe
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Dear President,

Rachad Maman was a student and youth pro-democracy protestor. On the morning of 20 September 2017, he was shot in the chest in Bafilo north of Togo when police fired live bullets at a group of peaceful protestors. Rachad Maman together with his father was taking part in a peaceful demonstration calling for constitutional reforms in Togo including an introduction of a two-term limit for the presidency, and the resignation of President Faure Gnassingbé. He died from his injuries two days later on 22 September 2017. He was 14 years old at the time of his death. The family filed a lawsuit on 26th October 2017 to seek justice and reparation for the killing of Rachad.

Please ensure that prompt, thorough and impartial criminal investigation is conducted into the death of Rachad Maman and that anyone suspected to be responsible is brought to justice in a trial that meets international standards. I also urge you to provide reparation to Rachad Maman's family for his killing.

I call on you to prohibit the deployment of military armed forces in public order situations and amend laws regulating the use of force to bring them in line with international standards. Please ensure that Togolese security forces do not use stun grenades, tear gas and other chemicals against peaceful protesters in a way that violates international standards, and that policing of demonstrations complies with international law enforcement standards.

Yours sincerely,

Copy:

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