

Priority question for written answer P-005043/2025
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign
Affairs and Security Policy
Rule 144
Francisco Assis (S&D)

Subject: Arbitrary detention of Irish-Togolese dual citizen Abdoul-Aziz Goma in Togo,
and the deterioration of his health

Abdoul-Aziz Goma, an Irish-Togolese dual citizen and human rights defender, has been detained arbitrarily in Togo since December 2018. In September 2025, Parliament adopted an urgent resolution explicitly acknowledging his case.

Mr Goma began a second hunger strike on 8 November 2025, joined by more than 30 others protesting their arbitrary detention. He has since been in and out of hospital, where medical tests have confirmed that his health is deteriorating rapidly and dramatically.

Despite the fact that Mr Goma is eligible for early release given the number of years he has spent in pretrial detention, authorities have not responded to the formal request his lawyers submitted earlier this year. Neither has Mr Goma benefited from a pardon on humanitarian grounds, despite being included in a list of prisoners in poor health to be considered for such a pardon. In early September, an Irish diplomat was refused permission to visit Mr Goma in prison despite having received prior permission to do so.

We fear these are signs that EU action is falling short. Therefore, we ask:

What additional actions are being taken to put pressure on the Togolese authorities to fully implement the actions called for in Parliament's resolution, namely to release Mr Goma immediately and to facilitate his urgent medical evacuation?

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