

MOZAMBIQUE SOVEREIGNTY MORTGAGED

Nyusi opens doors for “Boss” Kagame to collect his political opponent’s refugees in Mozambique

- The Assembly of the Republic should not ratify the agreements on Legal Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition signed by the Governments of Mozambique and Rwanda. It is the least that the highest legislative body and the most representative of Mozambicans can do in defense of the principles and values that guide the Mozambican State, such as solidarity with the struggle of peoples for national liberation and democracy, as established in the Constitution of the Republic. Rwandan citizens who are targeted by the Kigali regime are being persecuted for their struggle for democracy, specifically their diversity of opinions and ways of thinking.



One of the legacies of the sad memory that the current President of the Republic will leave is the mortgage of Mozambique's sovereignty. It is easy to see that Rwanda's military intervention in Cabo Delgado has very high costs, as it implies the partial mortgage of the sovereignty of the Mozambican State. Rwandan troops are responsible for securing the perimeter where Mozambique's biggest strategic economic assets will be deployed, namely the natural gas projects in Palma.

And because one day the foreign military intervention in Cabo Delgado may come to an end, Rwanda has prepared a private security company, ISCO, which should replace the Rwandan troops in protecting the LNG projects. The security of future projects with the potential to transform Mozambique's economic structure will be in the hands of the Rwandan regime, which is to say that part of the sovereignty of the Mozambican state will be controlled by Kigali.

In addition to the security business, Rwanda is profiling companies to carry out civil works and provide goods and services in LNG projects. One example is RADAR SCAPE, a Rwandan construction company that won a US\$800,000 contract to rehabilitate 76 houses in the Quitupo resettlement village, where families removed, from the site where the Rovuma Basin gas projects will be implemented, live; NPD, one of the largest construction companies in Rwanda, joined, at the last minute, the list of companies that in 2022 were bidding to carry out preparatory work on the Mozambique LNG project, led by French company TotalEnergies.

But it is not just in the business area that Rwanda is consolidating its interests in Mozambique. This Tuesday (February 28), the Council of Ministers approved two draft resolutions that open the doors for the Kigali regime to enter and "legally" pursue its political opponents in exile in Mozambique. These are citizens who fled Rwanda due to political persecution and live in Mozambique with refugee status, a condition recognized by the Mozambican state. The same State that today is committed to creating conditions to legalize their hunting and extradition to Rwanda.

The first instrument is the Proposal for a Resolution that ratifies the Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, between the Republic of Mozambique and the Republic of Rwanda, signed in Kigali, Rwanda, on June 3, 2022. This agreement establishes mechanisms to guarantee the widest possible assistance from both parties, under their provisions and respective internal legislation, in the investigation or



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judicial proceedings about offenses whose applicable measure, at the time of the request for assistance, is within the competence of the judicial authorities of the requesting party.

The second instrument is the Proposed Resolution that ratifies the Extradition Agreement, between the Republic of Mozambique and the Republic of Rwanda, signed in Kigali, Rwanda, on June 3, 2022. This agreement establishes the cases and conditions for the extradition of those accused by the courts and those convicted of criminal practices in the respective States and will apply to requests made after it enters into force, even if the crimes committed or the sentences were imposed or committed before that date.

There is no doubt that these two resolution proposals are of more interest to Rwanda than to Mozambique. Indeed, it was no coincidence that the Minister of State responsible for Constitutional and Legal Affairs at the Ministry of Justice, Soline Nyirahabimana, praised the extradition agreement that he had just signed in Kigali, in June 2022, with his Mozambican counterpart Helena Kida, stating that the document reveals an increase in security for the States. "These agreements mean that Rwanda and Mozambique are now safe from criminals, which means our citizens will feel safe"¹.

In fact, these agreements show, once again, that the Government of Mozambique is being very helpful and subservient to the

¹ <https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwanda-mozambique-sign-agreements-reinforce-justice>

wishes of the Rwandan regime. Gradually, the Government of Filipe Nyusi is transforming Mozambique into a satellite State of Rwanda: in addition to ceding part of its sovereignty in the field of security, the State will help Rwanda in the identification, persecution, detention, and extradition of Rwandan citizens living in Mozambique and are wanted by the Paul Kagame regime.

Therefore, the Assembly of the Republic should not ratify the agreements on Legal Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition signed by the Governments of Mozambique and Rwanda. It is the least that the highest legislative body and the most representative of Mozambicans can do in defense of the principles and values that guide the Mozambican State, such as solidarity with the struggle of peoples for national liberation and democracy, as established in the Constitution of the Republic.

Under the terms of paragraph 2 of article 20 of the Constitution, the Republic of Mozambique grants asylum to foreigners persecuted for their struggle for national liberation, democracy, peace, and the defense of human rights. It is more than clear that the Rwandan citizens who are targeted by the Kigali regime are being persecuted for their struggle for democracy, specifically for the diversity of opinions and ways of thinking.

It should be noted that under the Constitution of the Republic, the laws and international conventions to which Mozambique is a signatory, the State must grant asylum to all individuals who are unjustly persecuted because of their opinions. For example, under the terms of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 14, paragraph 1), "every human being who is a victim of persecution has the right to seek and benefit from asylum in other countries".

Some victims of the Kigali regime in Mozambique

Before signing the extradition treaty, the Mozambican government had already been facilitating extrajudicial kidnappings and extraditions of Rwandans targeted by the Kigali regime. For example, on September 13, 2021, Revocant Karemangingo, vice-president of the Association of Rwandese Refugees in Mozambique (ARRM), was shot dead near his residence in Bairro Liberdade, Matola City. Revocant Karemangingo operated as a merchant in many areas and employed more than 200 Mozambicans. As with other murders and forced disappearances of Rwandan refugees in Mozambique, the case of the vice-president of the ARRM was not investigated by the Mozambican authorities and the perpetrators will never be known².

A few days after Revocant Karemangingo's assassination, the Rwandan community residing in Mozambique denounced the existence of a list of 20 Rwandan refugees identified as targets to be eliminated by the death squads of the Government of Paul Kagame. The list was drawn up by the Kigali regime and includes Rwandan refugees who are in Mozambique and other African countries.

A Rwandan refugee who identified himself by the name of Alex, 40 years old, said he arrived in Mozambique in December 2003, after having passed through Congo, Malawi, and Tanzania. Alex said he was stunned when he learned that his name was on that list. "I didn't do anything to be on this list. There is nothing I have done against my country. Even if I had committed a crime, it would be right to submit to a trial. Why can't I be judged? Can Mozambique not help us³", he questioned.

Still in 2021, specifically in May, the



Rwandan community reported the forced disappearance of journalist Ntamuhanga Cassien, who was exiled to Inhaca Island, Maputo City. Cassien, 37 years old, was kidnapped by a group of eight (8) people who identified themselves as PRM agents.

He had refugee status with Identification/Registration Card No. 367-00020491, issued by the National Refugee Institute, on 26 April 2021. Information later circulated that Ntamuhanga Cassien had been extradited to Rwanda to serve a 25-year sentence to which he was sentenced in 2017 for crimes

of conspiracy against the Government and complicity in a terrorist act, in a politically motivated⁴ process.

Now, these atrocities against Rwandan refugees take place under the serene and fearless gaze of the Mozambican authorities, in clear disrespect for the democratic rule of law based on respect for the rights, freedoms, and fundamental guarantees of the citizens under their responsibility, within the scope of protection and promotion of human rights (Articles 1, 3 and 11, paragraph e) of the Constitution of the Republic.

² <https://cddmoz.org/refugiados-ruandeses-denunciam-lista-com-alvos-do-regime-de-kigali-e-pedem-intervencao-do-estado-mocambicano-2/>

³ <https://cddmoz.org/refugiados-ruandeses-denunciam-lista-com-alvos-do-regime-de-kigali-e-pedem-intervencao-do-estado-mocambicano-2/>


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