

Cameroon solidarity campaign of DSA

Key messages

- The so-called “[Anglophone crisis](#)” is rooted in colonial history. Unlike Francophone Cameroun, Southern Cameroons or Ambazonia as it is now called, has never been a colony of France but of the United Kingdom. The two countries have distinct boundaries, different cultures and histories.
- The narrative that both should make up one country has been fraudulently promoted by the UK, France under the patronage of the UN, to illegally exploit the natural resources of Ambazonia. The UN gentleman agreement requires neocolonialism to be based on consensus between the allies.
- In 1960 France granted its Camerounian colony independence. Britain opted for a referendum in February 1961 giving anglophone Cameroonians the choice of joining Nigeria or the newly formed Republic of Cameroon (France’s former colony). The anglophone Cameroonians opted in that referendum to form a federation with French Cameroon and soon found the terms of that union were violated. The promise of equality was never kept, with the English-speaking minority facing widespread discrimination and repression. *The ongoing crisis is about decolonisation, not secession.*
- Cameroon is one of 14 African countries colonized by France (Cameroun was mandated to France as a UN Trust territory). Despite formal independence, the French colonial power has never left. Like other colonial powers, France continues to exploit and oppress its former colonies through authoritarian proxy regimes (like that of Paul Biya), “development aid” and the extraction of oil, timber, aluminium, gold, bauxite etc by northern multinationals like Total, Bolloré and Bouygues. The poverty, hunger, atrocious violence and corruption in Cameroun is directly related to France’s ongoing colonial oppression.
- The Ambazonian liberation struggle, the country’s growing decolonization movement, challenges the present-day colonial reality in the English-speaking regions of the territory. It isn’t a secessionist struggle, but a legitimate popular and youth-led movement for decolonization.
- The Ambazonian liberation movement is a call to action to liberate the former UN trust territory called Southern Cameroons from foreign occupation by French Cameroon. In 2016 students and lawyers took to the streets to protest the imposition of The French education/legal system to replace their anglo-saxon education and the common law systems. These protests were met with excessive force by the Cameroun military using helicopters to shoot and kill unarmed civilians. For close to five years young people have been demanding justice and a correction of the collusion between former colonial occupants and the UN, that denied them their independence.
- If successful, the Ambazonian revolution could spark a movement for genuine sovereignty in the wider region.
- Ambazonians who continue to resist assimilation, occupation and colonialism have faced killing, torture, kidnapping, pillaging and forced displacement by the Camerounian military, while the international community watches on. France has signed military cooperation with Cameroun contracting Israeli and American firms to train the Biya regime’s militia called the BIR (Battalion d’Intervention Rapide). Despite this atrocious crackdown, the Ambazonian land protectors who have stood up to protect their land and defenceless populations have shown great steadfastness, perseverance and creativity.

- The liberation movements focus their imagination and practice on projects for recovering Indigenous knowledge of regenerative and communal living, demonstrating living alternatives and a viable path towards a self-determined future.
- The people of Ambazonia need to be acknowledged and heard in their struggle to liberate themselves from foreign occupation. They need foreign support, international recognition and solidarity in their efforts of decolonization.

Summary:

The continued colonisation of the Ambazonian territory and the killing of its people by the Camerounian government with support from France and other countries who are actively supporting the violence in order to continue resource extraction, is one of the worst atrocities happening on the planet right now. The situation demands the attention and awareness of the global community and international media. The world cannot continue to allow Cameroun and France to continue their human rights abuses. If All humans have the right to life, dignity and self determination as declared by the United Nations and ratified by all governments.

Essential terms to use:

- Ambazonian liberation movement
- Ambazonian decolonization movement
- Ambazonian land protectors
- Ambazonian right to self-determination

Hashtags: #Ambazonia #LandProtectors #DecolonizeCameroon #DecolonizeAfrica

* NB Martin & Koh: Some more explanation.

It's important to distinguish that the Cameroun (with **OU**) is the UN Trust territory that was entrusted to the French to prepare for independence but which France turned to sign a Continuation of Colonization Pact and administer until today as one of its territories. This is the Cameroun that is registered in the UN after it gained its independence in 1960.

Cameroon (Southern Cameroons) UN Trust Territory entrusted to the British was prepared for independence through the [UN Trusteeship Council](#). The object of trusteeship was to prepare the lands for eventual independence. The United Nations approved the Trusteeship Agreements for British Cameroons and Britain ruled through indirect rule as part of Nigeria. But the territory was forced to join Cameroun against its will. While Cameroun & Nigeria gained their independence 1960, Southern Cameroons was refused its independence and later forced to join Cameroun in 1961 when the UK supported France to march in its troops and occupy the territory illegally. There was no legal Document (Treaty of Union) in accordance with UNGA **RES 1608(XV) paragraph 5**, (Wikipedia), and until today we are still seeking to restore our statehood and independence from the UN. The British Southern Cameroons was renamed as [Ambazonia](#) (from Amba Bay) to distinguish it from the Fraud republic called Cameroun which has distinct boundaries with Ambazonia. Ambazonia/Southern Cameroons was a UN trust Territory from 1946 Handed over by the Berlin conference following the defeat of Germany German Kamerun was split into smaller territories part of which are in Nigeria, Gabon & Equatorial Guinea.