



Hello to all Gambians living in Baden-Württemberg and Germany,

many Gambian refugees live in fear of being deported to The Gambia. And that is why they do not hand in their papers and do not follow the summons to the Gambian delegation (in Karlsruhe). But then our authorities react very quickly: **You will very likely be banned from working!** Social benefits are reduced, in some cases to only 151 Euros a month.

We want to give you information that could help you to make your mind up.

Who we are

The Gambia-Helfernetz is an email network. More than 450 people have registered with their email address. There are mainly people from Baden-Württemberg, but also from Bavaria, Bremen and other places. They are full-time helpers from Caritas, AWO and many other institutions. There are many volunteers who support Gambian refugees. They are also lawyers.

All these people tell us what experiences they have - with deportations, with "Duldung" (temporary leave to remain) and other things. People in the Helferkreis Breisach collect this information, summarize it and send newsletters with this information to all 450 people in the network. We are also advised and supported by the Flüchtlingsrat "Refugee Council" Baden-Württemberg.

The German state demands that every foreigner helps to clarify his identity. This is a law in Germany: A foreigner who lives here has to tell who he is. By the way: for security reasons, every state in the world wants to know who is on its territory.

At the latest when your asylum procedure is finished, for example because the court has decided and you do not get the right to asylum, the German state demands your cooperation to clarify your identity. You are asked to present papers and to follow the summons to the Gambian delegation.

Many Gambians are afraid that they will be deported when their identity, name and origin have been verified. Is this the case?

"Ausbildungsduldung" (temporary leave to remain for vocational training)

Whoever is doing a vocational training can apply for permission to remain in Germany for the duration of this training. Those who successfully complete the training and find employment in the job which they trained in can get another 2 years of residence permit. **These people have the assurance not to be deported for 3 to 5 years! (Please inform yourself exactly about the conditions!)**

New! Anyone who is **apprenticing for a helper profession** (e.g. nursing assistant for the elderly) can also ask for "Duldung" for vocational training, if they have signed a contract to an apprenticeship in a fully qualified profession afterwards. The "Duldung" for vocational training can already be applied if you do an **Einstiegsqualifikation** (entry qualification, EQ) followed by vocational training! (Please get detailed information!)

But: If you don't cooperate in showing your identity and don't bring any papers or don't go to the Gambian delegation, it is very likely that you will be banned from working! Then you will not be able to continue your training. **And you no longer have any protection against deportation!**

We strongly advise: Do an entry qualification (EQ) or vocational training!

Bring your birth certificate (Ask a lawyer or social worker, if not possible at all)

Go to the Gambian delegation.

Apply for an "Ausbildungsduldung" as soon as possible!



What should those who have a job but are not in training do?

Everyone must decide for themselves. We can only provide you with information that could help you perhaps to make your decisions better.

You have to know that:

- Anyone who does not cooperate in identifying themselves will very likely be banned from working. **You lose your jobs!**
- After the social benefits can be reduced down to 151 Euro. **You no longer have a decent life in Germany.**

The law in Germany allows the authorities such punitive measures. Only in exceptional cases can a lawyer do something about it.

Another important information: New chances for people with a permanent job:

Next year (2020) there will be a new law:

“Beschäftigungsduldung” (temporary leave to remain for work / employment)

It won't be easy to get this kind of “Duldung”. Please inform yourself exactly about the conditions.

You must have had a permanent job for 1 ½ year or longer and work at least 35 hours a week.

You have to be in “Duldung” for at least one year after the rejection of the asylum application.

You have to help actively that your identity can be confirmed.

Whoever gets “Beschäftigungsduldung” is protected from deportation for 2 ½ years. After that you can apply for the residence permit!

Deportations:

- Even if you don't hand in the papers, this won't protect you from being deported! Gambians have already been returned to The Gambia who did not show any papers or who did not present themselves to the Gambian delegation.
- From January to June 2018, 51 Gambians were deported from Germany to Gambia.
- About 12,000 Gambians are living in Baden-Württemberg. In the 1st half of 2018, 27 Gambians were deported from Baden-Württemberg. We do not yet have official figures in the 2nd half of year 2018, but we assume that another 30 Gambians have been deported from Baden-Württemberg.
- The Republic of The Gambia has agreed to take back its citizens if they have been sentenced by a German court.

Everyone has to make up his own mind:

- **If you cooperate in clarifying your identity, it will be easier for the German state to deport you. There is a risk, but that does not mean necessarily that you will be actually deported!**
- **If you present the birth certificate and go to the Gambian delegation, you can go on working and have an acceptable life. Maybe you can further apply for “Ausbildungsduldung” or “Beschäftigungsduldung”.**

Show this leaflet to your social worker or a person you trust. Talk to them about your problem!

If this information seems helpful to you, pass it on to your Gambian brothers and sisters!

Gambians who have an e-mail address can also join our network writing an e-mail to gambia@helferkreis-breisach.de

Everyone in the network is anonymous. The others do not see who has registered. Our information is mostly in German. However, important information is also translated into English.

