

Your Excellency the President of the European Council, Mr. António Costa

Ref. nº02/Maputo-MZ-Elections/2025

Subject: Appeal for Intervention in Defense of Democracy and Human Rights in Mozambique

Excellency

As representatives of civil society working on human rights and democratization in Mozambique, we are addressing you to draw your attention to the deep political and electoral crisis that has arisen in the country following the 7th General and Legislative Elections held on 9 October 2024.

As you know, over the last two and a half months, Mozambique has seen an unprecedented level of public protest on a daily basis throughout its territory, as a result of the widespread fraud and irregularities detected in the last elections, made possible by the connivance of state institutions and government officials. Popular dissatisfaction worsened following the announcement of the official results by the Constitutional Council, which, in addition to reflecting the popular vote expressed in the ballot boxes, go against all the jurisprudence previously produced by this body with regard to compliance with the law and, above all, its competences.

Faced with the situation, the response of the government and other state authorities against the population has been extremely reprehensible, marked by serious human rights violations, including murder, torture and enforced disappearances, attacks that have been constantly broadcast around the world. The state authorities have reduced political dissent to acts of vandalism, criminality and terrorism, depriving demonstrators of their human dignity and political rights. Members of civil society and opposition politicians are regularly intimidated and threatened with death, and many have been killed in recent weeks.

In these two and a half months of demonstrations, around **290 people have lost their lives, 80% of whom have been shot with firearms by the police, 596 of whom have been shot, 4,201 arrested, more than 3,000 injured and more than 20 missing.**

There were several calls for political dialogue before the Constitutional Council announced the results, which could have prevented the more than 140 deaths in three days, but unfortunately this was not taken as a priority. The various meetings held by the current President of the Republic, with no agenda and without creating the conditions for key players in political society to take part in them, have only served to deceive the international community and prolong the crisis.

It is in this worrying context, with the disputed inauguration of the candidate chosen by the Constitutional Council approaching, that we urge you to take energetic and urgent action to

play a prominent role in the current crisis, demonstrating your commitment to human rights and democracy in Africa, as you have done for other countries elsewhere, and not waiting for the situation to escalate before taking an assertive stance.

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We are counting on your role in helping to restore the electoral truth that the Mozambican people are crying out for. Likewise, your intervention will be crucial to avoid a new escalation of violence in the coming days, and you must support inclusive political dialogue for a sustainable solution that takes into account the interests of the Mozambican people.

We look forward to a swift and positive response from you, for the benefit of peace, development and hope for the Mozambican people.

With high esteem and consideration,

Sincerely, On behalf of Mozambican Civil Society



(Wilker Dias, Director da Plataforma DECIDE)

The image shows a handwritten signature in blue ink over a blue stamp. The stamp contains the text "CENTRO DE INTEGRIDADE PÚBLICA" and "MOÇAMBIQUE" with a logo consisting of the letters "CIP" in a stylized font.

Edson Robert de Oliveira Cortês

Presidente do Consórcio Mais Integridade

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