

CONTACT AIR FRANCE TO STOP THE DEPORTATIONS UNDER THE UK-FRANCE DEAL

#STOPDEPORTATIONSAIRFRANCE

(version française ci-dessous)

The Home Office is set to deport a number of our friends to France from **Monday 15th September - on AIR FRANCE flights.**

We know that **deportations are set to be undertaken by Air France from the UK to France on Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th September.** Not all of the exact flight times are currently known.

All those being deported were detained in the UK upon arrival under the cruel '1 in 1 out' scheme put in place this August between the UK and French governments. They are being threatened with deportation from next week.

Please contact Air France URGENTLY to tell them to STOP THE FLIGHT: they do not need to be - and should not - be complicit in this violence.

You can use the scripts below to help you.

- 1) Phone Script
- 2) Email Script
- 3) Social media

- 1) **Phone Script: call Air France on +44 207 660 0337 (UK) or +33 1 41 56 78 00 (France)**

When you call, press 1 for English, 2 for French. Then wait, ignoring the rounds of automated options, and waiting until the hold music, and you will eventually be put through to an Air France agent.

There are two ways of navigating a call.

You can either go in straight with this message:

“There are multiple people on flights from the UK to France next week who are being removed from this country against their will. Their removal is cruel. They came to Britain seeking safety, and none of them have had the chance to receive protection in the UK. Their deportations are wrong and should not be happening. The pilot does not have to fly them on their plane, it is within the airline and pilot’s rights to refuse to fly people being deported on their plane.”

OR

(If you know the specific flight details) You can insist on speaking to senior people (e.g. chief pilot, flight supervisor, anyone with power to stop the flight) out of concern for welfare of the passenger(s) on the flight and not disclose it is regarding a deportation until necessary.

We currently know of flights scheduled on Tuesday 16th September and Wednesday 17th September. Flights that we know of are:

- **(TODAY): Air France flight AF 1581 departing London Heathrow (LHR) (Terminal 4) at 11.30 on Tuesday 16th September, arriving at Paris Charles de Gaulle (CDG).**
- **Air France flight AF 1781 departing London Heathrow (LHR) (Terminal 4) at 15.20 on Wednesday 17th September, arriving at Paris Charles de Gaulle (CDG) Terminal 2E at 17.40.**

Things Air France staff might say and how you can respond:

1. "This is a matter for the home office": **Emphasize that deportation against a persons will is violent, abusive and oppressive.**
2. "There's nothing we can do": Emphasize that **the person you are talking to has the power to change the situation and does not have to be complicit in the harm of the Home Office.**
3. "We are obliged by policy/law/the government/another higher authority to carry deportees.": **Airlines (and pilots) can refuse to fly any passenger if, for example, they believe it may be disruptive – as someone in distress, being removed by force might well be. It is violent to remove someone by force, and dangerous for their wellbeing. On the airplane, legally (under the Montreal and Tokyo Conventions) the pilot has the ultimate say.**

Let them know that their management is unlikely to thank staff for neglecting to act on concerns raised before the deportation, if a flight is disrupted. It is also against international law to return someone to a place where they might suffer inhuman or degrading treatment or cruelty. Please, don't be complicit - you don't have to be.

- 2) **Email script:** Air France email - airfrance.en.uk@airfrance.fr, contact.en.us@airfrance.fr and contact@airfrance.fr

Feel free to copy and paste the template below. However, the more personalised the email, the better.

Example text

Dear Air France,

Your airline is complicit in the cruel deportations of a number of people on flights next week.

These deportations are wrong and should not be happening, causing further distress and suffering to people who have already made traumatic journeys, and endangering rather than saving lives.

Flights currently scheduled include the **Air France flight AF 1781 departing London Heathrow (LHR) at 15.20 on Monday 15th September and Wednesday 17th September.**

It is within the airline and pilot's rights to refuse to fly. The pilots do not have to fly these people on this plane.

Deportation **against a person's will is violent, abusive and oppressive.** You have the power to change this situation and not be complicit in the harm and endangerment of these peoples' lives.

We implore you to stand up for these people's rights today. Do not deport our friends!

You as an airline are not obliged by law or the government to carry deportees - **airlines can refuse to fly any passenger if, for example, they believe it may be disruptive – as someone in distress, being removed by violent force might well be. It is violent to remove someone by force, and dangerous for their wellbeing.**

On the airplane, legally, under the Montreal and Tokyo Conventions, the pilot has the ultimate say.

Your management is unlikely to thank staff for neglecting to act on concerns raised before the deportation, if a flight is disrupted.

In addition, is against international law to return someone to a place where they might suffer inhuman or degrading treatment or cruelty, which our friend is risking.

Thank you for your time. Do not be complicit.

Best wishes,

[Your name]

3) **For Instagram, Twitter, and generally social media: We want to flood their social media!** Please feel free to use some of the example text below (feel free to personalise!), share our images and tag **@AirFrance** - in posts, stories, or comments.

- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/airfrance/> @AirFrance
- X/Twitter: <https://x.com/airfrance> / @AirFrance
- TikTok: <https://www.tiktok.com/@airfrance>

Use the hashtag #STOPDEPORTATIONS AIRFRANCE to spread the word

.@AirFrance is aiding the cruelty of the British and French governments in their barbaric deportation deal on multiple flights next week. Call them on +44 207 660 0337 and tell them to refuse to fly! Visit this link for script and more info!

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qscosKmqUQplqttyK0EE15w11eXy-l-5PoehA070v8/edit>

#STOPDEPORTATIONS AIRFRANCE

.@AirFrance there are multiple asylum seekers set to be forcibly deported from Britain on your planes next week. You have a choice not to participate in this cruel, inhumane practice; we implore you to make the right choice. Refuse to be complicit!

#STOPDEPORTATIONS AIRFRANCE

Deporting people who have made dangerous, traumatic journeys to seek safety in Britain is morally unconscionable. @airfrance you should not be complicit in the cruelty of deportations! It is within the right of the pilot and the airline to refuse; put people over profit and say no to deportations! #STOPDEPORTATIONS AIRFRANCE

The Britain-France deportation deal is inhumane and cruel, and will only endanger lives, not save them. @AirFrance you have the power to prevent this and refuse to fly anybody against their will! #STOPDEPORTATIONS AIRFRANCE

The cruel, violent British government is attempting to deport people against their will who have sought safety in this country. @AirFrance you do not need to be complicit in this inhumane treatment - do the right thing and refuse to fly! #STOPDEPORTATIONS AIRFRANCE

Air France contacts

Social media

Instagram: @airfrance / <http://instagram.com/airfrance>

Twitter: @airfrance / <https://twitter.com/AirFrance>

Facebook: Air France / <https://www.facebook.com/airfrance/>

Telephone:

- Air France London office: +44 20 766 00 337
- Air France Paris office: +33 1 41 56 78 00

Email: contact@airfrance.fr

airfrance.en.uk@airfrance.fr