

## **OPEN LETTER**

## PROTECTING TRANSLATORS AND INTERPRETERS WORLDWIDE

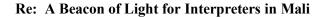


August 2022

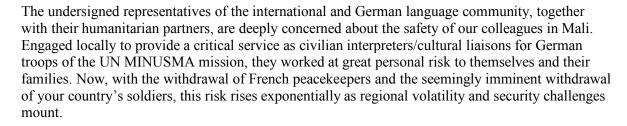
Ms. Christine Lambrecht, Federal Minister of Defense

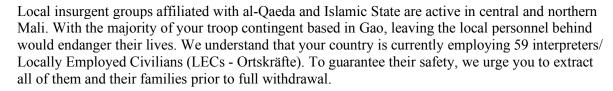
Ms. Annalena Baerbock, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ms. Nancy Faeser, Federal Minister of the Interior and Community



Dear Ministers,





It is imperative that the chaotic exit from Afghanistan not be repeated; a speaker of the Bundeswehr operational command has expressed a similar sentiment. The lives of all LECs must be protected. Moreover, we believe that exhibiting duty of care, coupled with an actionable plan for resettlement, will serve as a beacon to other MINUSMA troop-contributing countries.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maya Hess, President, Red T

Jennifer Fearnside-Bitsios, President, International Association of Conference Interpreters (AIIC)

Linda Fitchett, Chair, AIIC Conflict Zone Group

Alison Rodriguez, President, International Federation of Translators (FIT)

Aurora Humarán, President, International Association of Professional Translators and Interpreters (IAPTI)



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Angela Sasso, President, Critical Link International (CLI)

Christopher Stone, President, World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI)

Bart Defrancq, President, Conférence Internationale Permanente d'Instituts Universitaires de Traducteurs et Interprètes (CIUTI)

Sue-Ann Harding, President, and Cristina Marinetti, Chair of the Executive Council, International Association of Translation and Intercultural Studies (IATIS)

Lucio Bagnulo, Head of Translation and Language Strategy, Language Resource Centre, International Secretariat, Amnesty International

Romana Cacchioli, Executive Director, PEN International

Urtzi Urrutikoetxea, Chair, Translation and Linguistic Rights Committee, PEN International

Genny Brusegan Conte, President, European Forum of Sign Language Interpreters (EFSLI)

Daniela Perillo, President, European Legal Interpreters and Translators Association (EULITA)

Lieven Buysse, President, European Network for Public Service Interpreting and Translation (ENPSIT)

Anne Berres, Regional Secretary, AIIC Deutschland

Norma Kessler, President, Bundesverband der Dolmetscher und Übersetzer e.V. (BDÜ)

John O'Shea, Chair, FIT Europe

Marcus Grotian, Chair, Patenschaftsnetzwerk Afghanische Ortskräfte e.V.

Josef Haslinger, President, and Claudia Guderian, Secretary, PEN-Zentrum Deutschland Günter Burkhardt, Executive Director, PRO ASYL