

## **FAX- Campaign against political persecution of Miloud L. Cherif**

To the German authorities involved:

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Miloud Lahmar Cherif is a refugee from Algeria and activist of The VOICE Refugee Forum. He lives in Germany since January 2009 together with his Wife Olesia Lahmar Cherif (Ukrainian), currently living in Meiningen.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of November 2010 Miloud has been controlled by the Federal Police at Erfurt Main Station, as Refugees in Germany are always controlled – just because they look different, their Skin color, hair color, the way they dress ...etc. These racist police controls are “legally” supported by the criminalizing “Residenzpflicht” law, which is selectively depriving asylum seekers of their human right to freedom of movement in Germany as the only country of the EU.

4 months later and on the same day of a demo organized by the refugees against the Zella-Mehlis lager - the very same lager where Miloud used to live before it was closed - on the same day of the Demo Miloud received a letter from Meiningen District Office telling him to pay a 58€ fine for breaking the “Residenzpflicht” rule. The District Office made it very clear that this fine is politically motivated because Miloud was actively engaged for the closure of lager in Zella-Mehlis.

Miloud refuses to pay the fine as a matter of principle because it is an abuse of one of his basic human rights...his freedom of movement and again demanded the abolition of the “Residenzpflicht” law.

End of year 2011 Meiningen District Office asked the Local Court in Meiningen to arrest Miloud to enforce court order by paying the fine. Under pressure of resistance the District Office withdraw its application from the court 2 weeks later. In March 2013 the District Office renewed the thread by submitting a new application to the court for an enforcing arrest of Miloud and to jail him until he pays the fine. The court sent him a warning - Miloud replied with a declaration (<http://thevoiceforum.org/node/3149>).

Miloud can be arrested and jailed any time because of this “Residenzpflicht” accusation, but why should he be criminalized just because he was in Erfurt? What is the crime that Miloud has committed as to be jailed?

**I strongly demand the STOP of this thread!**

**Miloud must be freed from this fine right now!**

**Refugees must have the right to move freely like everybody else!**

**We demand immediate Abolition of “Residenzpflicht” in Germany!**

Yours sincerely .....