

STOP DEPORTATIONS

We all move - for work or studies, to be with our loved ones. For safety or opportunity, or just for fun. Moving is part of being human, it is essential to our freedom. But every year, the Dutch government deports thousands of people against their will.

This is a violent attack on freedom of movement. Every single day, people are arrested in the middle of the night, detained and deported. People who have just arrived at Schiphol, children who were born here, or people who have lived here for decades.

We will not tolerate these inhumane policies. There are ways to fight back. Let's stop deportations!

Support the struggle! Donate here:

<https://migreat.org/en/donatie>



Sub pages:

- Sub page 1: How to stop a deportation

The vast majority of deportations from the Netherlands take place on commercial flights. When you arrive at the departures lounge, check from the window if you can see a van and somebody being forcibly escorted into the plane through the back door.

SEE IT

People being deported are usually in the back row of the airplane, surrounded by two or three escorting military police officers in plain clothes or suits. The person being deported may be hand- or body-cuffed or otherwise restrained, and there are cases where people are forcibly placed horizontally on the seats. A jaw fixation might be placed to prevent the person from screaming or talking. Once you have reasonable grounds to suspect that an individual is being deported, go over and try to find out if the person wants to stop the deportation.

SAY IT

The next step is to indicate to the other passengers and cabin staff that you are shocked to learn that someone is on the flight against their will. **Don't cause too much disturbance yet, the police are still in charge and they can easily take you off the flight at this point if they suspect you are going to make a scene.**

STOP IT

From the moment the doors are closed, the passenger safety instructions have been given and the plane prepares for takeoff, the pilot is in charge and

has the ultimate say in whether the person being deported remains on the flight. **This is the right moment to step up your protest.**

Earlier, you sat down as instructed and fastened your seat belt. **Now you stand up again and state that you will only sit down if the deportation is stopped.**

Some tips and guidelines:

- The plane cannot take off unless all passengers are seated
- Delay and unrest may make the pilot decide to stop the deportation. Missing the time-slot for the plane to depart will not be appreciated by the airline; it is expensive and passengers will be affected.
- Ignore the police and crew who will ask you to sit down and will try to convince you that all legal procedures have been followed
- Ignore any comments from passengers who get mad at you for delaying the flight. Try to find passengers who are supportive. Also prepare yourself for passengers who utter racist rubbish.

You will not always succeed in stopping the deportation. You may be taken off the flight, you may be held by police for a couple of hours and fined for disobeying a police order. But you stood up and did something. **The more often airlines experience resistance, the more likely they are to stop participating in deportations.**

Read more and see past actions and workshops here: <https://migreat.org/en/the-movement/77/stop-deportations>