

Massola

(nationality: DRC, age: 34)

Hello, my name is Massola and I live in Italy. I spent 5 years in Italy because my father was assassinated in Africa since he was a politician. Afterwards, I fled to Brazzaville. There is a man who worked with my father, who brought me here to Italy.

I requested political asylum. Before, it was very difficult to get accepted, but now that there's the war it's not. To return to my country now... well not now, but one day I'm going to find a job there and I'm going to go back. The situation in the country is too difficult now because there is war. We pray to God because if the war ends my family will finally be fine. Another thing: I did: elementary, higher education and university.

I have a wife and a child. I pray to God that they come here. My father was murdered in prison. I was at home. They sent a soldier who came to our house. Now, it is too difficult for my family to work there. We pray to God because my child is at university. She's still there with my wife, who has a small business there. It is difficult to make a living to eat there. I send them some of the money that I make here.

What do you have to do for family reunification?

To bring my wife and my daughter, I will make the invitation: the invitation is a request for the marriage certificate. Afterwards, I will ask for the documents on house residence, pay slip, rent, employment contract and financial assistance. After I get these documents, I will send them to the Congo Embassy.

How much does it cost to come to Italy?

Now less, a plane ticket costs 750€ at the moment.

And political dissidents, do they get killed?

When there is a regime change there, all the men who work with the old president are killed. There is no democracy there. My father was killed together with his friends and the president.

And how is the president now?

The president now is good, but there is still the war. There is war because France, the US, the UK and Canada exploit our lands for minerals, to make computers and phones.

And what about China and Russia?

No China and Russia support us. There is war because of Western countries, because they want our resources for free. And many people are dying, 15,000 died so far.

However, not all work in the mines. People work in factories, restaurants and in the agricultural sector too. But now it's difficult to find employment. The new president says he will create more employment opportunities. Let's hope.

Where do women work?

They work in restaurants, cleaning, but there they don't pay as well as they do here. Many women also go to university, it costs about 350€ a year. Now the new president said that if the war stops, we will stop paying for education. Let's hope the war ends soon.