

Maintal, 10th July 2025

We struggle for

- equally good medical treatment for people from all backgrounds

- social and just working conditions for all healthcare professions

- solidarity support for participatory healthcare movements internationally

- unrestricted medical care for refugees

We criticize

- the commercialization of medicine

- the lobbying of the device and pharmaceutical industry

- any form of two-tier medicine

We are

- physicians

- dentists

- psychotherapists

- medical students

Association of Democratic Doctors Germany fears forced treatment of Maja T., who is imprisoned in Hungary

Maja T. is on hunger strike for over a month to protest the inhuman prison conditions in Hungary, where German authorities unlawfully extradited Maja T. a year ago. The non-binary German citizen, who was arrested in Berlin in December 2023, is accused of having attacked members of the far-right scene in Budapest together with other anti-fascists. The court case in Budapest, which has been accompanied by severe harassment, has been ongoing since February of this year. If convicted, Maja T. could face up to 24 years in prison in Hungary, which is known for failing to uphold human rights standards, particularly with regard to the justice system and the particular risk to Maja T. as a non-binary and anti-fascist person.

More than a week ago, Maja T. was transferred to a prison hospital approximately 260 km away from Budapest. According to reports, doctors there threatened to ignore Maja T.'s Patient Decree and are considering to force-feed, to perform a stress ECG and to implant a pacemaker due to bradycardia. We regard these partially invasive measures to be extremely dangerous in the least.

Furthermore we want to draw attention to the *Malta Declaration*, which was adopted in 1991 by the World Medical Association, of which the Hungarian Medical Association is also a member. Among other things it was agreed: "Hunger strikers should not forcibly be given treatment they refuse. Applying, instructing or assisting forced feeding contrary to an informed and voluntary refusal is unjustifiable."

The ethical obligation of doctors in prison contexts is also explicitly addressed: "Physicians attending hunger strikers can experience a conflict between their loyalty to the employing authority (such as prison management) and their loyalty to patients. In this situation, physicians with dual loyalties are bound by the same ethical principles as other physicians, that is to say that their primary obligation is to the individual patient."

We call on our Hungarian colleagues to respect Maja T.'s dignity and will. We also welcome the call by many German politicians from the Left, the Greens and the Social Democrats for Maja T. to be returned to Germany.

Christiane Bachelier from the board of the Association of Democratic Doctors points out: "The German government must act immediately. It is unacceptable that people are being extradited in cloak-and-dagger operations and then subjected to violations of their fundamental rights such as solitary confinement, which is clearly defined as torture, and that Maja T. is now threatened with even worse coercive measures. The suspicion arises that the extensive inaction of the German authorities regarding this case is politically motivated."