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FRONT MATTER

EUROPEAN AND LONDON-BASED STRATEGY FOR BAMILÉKÉ REPARATORY JUSTICE

Historical Evidence, Ancestral Authority, International Organisation, Government-in-Exile, Legal Accountability and the Verifiable Delivery of Reparations

A Comprehensive Historical, Constitutional, Legal and Institutional Strategy

Prepared for

GEORGE T. NOMEN

Proposed by

REPARATION NATION LIMITED

With reference to

IBIS — DEVELOPING ARCHITECTURE FOR INTERNATIONAL REPARATORY JUSTICE

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PRELIMINARY PUBLICATION NOTICE

This document has been prepared for consideration by George T. Nomen and interested individuals, families, traditional authorities, community organisations, historians, legal specialists and institutions concerned with the historical experiences of Bamiléké communities and the pursuit of reparatory justice.

It proposes a coordinated European and London-based approach to historical research, ancestral evidence, institutional consultation, constitutional development, international engagement and the possible administration of reparatory remedies.

The proposal considers the historical significance of the former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens, London, and the relationship between the Free French movement and Cameroon during the Second World War.

It also examines George T. Nomen's interest in the establishment of a Bamiléké government-in-exile.

The document does not establish such a government or claim that one has been recognised.

It does not confer political authority upon George T. Nomen, Reparation Nation Limited or any proposed council beyond authority independently established through appropriate procedures.

The document identifies historical matters requiring further investigation, including George's account concerning Ngantcha, reported killings, ancestral lands and a suspected French colonial administrative order dating from approximately 1933.

These family-specific allegations have not yet been independently verified through the relevant primary historical records.

The document should therefore be understood as a strategic and research proposal rather than a completed historical adjudication or legal opinion.

Its proposed institutions, conference arrangements, research programmes and administrative systems remain subject to consultation, appropriate authorisation, practical feasibility and applicable law.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Item	Information
Full title	European and London-Based Strategy for Bamiléké Reparatory Justice
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Proposed by	Reparation Nation Limited
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FOREWORD

The history of European colonial administration in Cameroon raises profound questions concerning ancestral authority, territorial rights, political legitimacy, historical responsibility and the relationship between states and the communities subjected to their rule.

For affected individuals and families, these questions are not necessarily confined to academic history.

They may concern the identity of ancestors, the circumstances of their deaths, changes to traditional institutions, the loss of ancestral lands and the continuing consequences of historical decisions.

George T. Nomen has described such concerns in relation to his family and the history of Bamiléké communities in Cameroon.

He is seeking to establish evidence concerning his ancestors and to examine the possibilities for pursuing accountability and reparatory justice.

His investigations include questions surrounding a person identified as Ngantcha, alleged interference with traditional authority, the reported deaths of family members and a possible French colonial administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933.

The historical evidence relating to these specific matters remains to be assembled and examined.

Nevertheless, the proposed investigation raises a wider institutional question.

How might individuals, families and communities affected by colonial administration organise themselves internationally to investigate their history, establish legitimate representation, engage relevant governments and pursue the delivery of reparatory remedies?

The question has particular significance in the context of George's interest in establishing a government-in-exile.

He has drawn attention to the historical example of the Free French movement, which operated from London during the Second World War.

The former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens provides a distinctive historical location from which to examine the development of political institutions operating beyond their claimed territorial base.

Cameroon's rallying to Free France in August 1940 provides an additional connection.

Yet the historical analogy must be examined carefully.

The circumstances of Free France were not identical to those of contemporary Bamiléké communities.

A government-in-exile cannot acquire legitimacy or international recognition solely through historical comparison or its own declaration.

Questions concerning traditional institutions, community consent, constitutional authority, territorial rights and international law require independent examination.

For that reason, the strategy developed in this document does not begin by assuming that a government-in-exile should immediately be proclaimed.

It begins with historical evidence, consultation and the identification of legitimate authority.

It then considers the organisational arrangements that might assist interested and appropriately authorised participants.

These could include an international congress, a provisional reparatory justice council, a federation of participating institutions, a research foundation or another structure emerging from consultation.

The proposed London conference would provide a forum in which these questions could be examined.

Its value would depend not upon the announcement of an impressive constitutional title, but upon the quality of its evidence, participation, decisions and subsequent work.

The strategy also recognises that the pursuit of reparatory justice must be distinguished from the delivery of reparations.

A historical acknowledgment is not necessarily a remedy.

A declaration is not automatically a legal obligation.

An agreement is not the same as an allocation.

An allocation is not the same as a transfer.

A transfer to an intermediary does not automatically establish that the intended beneficiary has received the relevant resources.

These distinctions inform the examination of IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice and Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence.

Both frameworks are considered as possible means of organising and monitoring the administration of reparatory justice.

They do not replace historical evidence, legal rights or legitimate representative authority.

The ultimate purpose of the proposed initiative is therefore practical.

It is to develop a process through which relevant historical facts may be established, legitimate participation organised, appropriate claims examined and agreed remedies administered transparently.

The strategy does not presume its conclusions.

It proposes the means through which responsible conclusions and actions might become possible.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ES.1 The Strategic Opportunity

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative arises from the intersection of three historical and institutional considerations.

The first is the history of German and French colonial administration of Cameroon and its effects upon affected communities.

The second is the historical relationship between London, Free France and Cameroon during the Second World War.

The third is the contemporary need for legitimate and accountable mechanisms through which historical grievances can be investigated and appropriate remedies pursued.

George T. Nomen's family history provides an initial focus for examining these questions.

His account concerns the alleged treatment of ancestors during European colonial administration, including questions surrounding Ngantcha, traditional succession, ancestral territory and reported deaths.

A suspected French administrative decision from approximately 1933 is among the principal documentary targets.

These matters require independent historical investigation before specific conclusions concerning responsibility or entitlement can be advanced.

The proposed initiative would connect that investigation with a broader process of international consultation.

London could serve as an initial meeting location because of its documented association with the Free French movement and its accessibility to historical, legal and institutional resources.

The purpose would not be to remove authority from communities in Cameroon.

It would be to support those communities through coordinated research, discussion and appropriately authorised international cooperation.

ES.2 The Historical Foundation

Germany established colonial rule over Kamerun in 1884.

Following the First World War, the former German colony was divided between French and British administration.

The League of Nations mandate arrangements became particularly relevant to French administration during the period surrounding the suspected 1933 order.

The Second World War introduced a further historical connection.

General Charles de Gaulle established the Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens, London, in 1940.

French-administered Cameroon rallied to Free France during August of that year.

The relationship provides an important subject for historical examination.

It connects African territorial participation in the Free French movement with later questions concerning France's colonial administration and the struggle for independence.

The 2025 Franco-Cameroonian historical commission has added substantial research concerning French involvement in repression of independence and opposition movements between 1945 and 1971.

However, George's suspected 1933 administrative intervention falls outside the principal period examined by that commission.

Further archival research is therefore necessary.

ES.3 George T. Nomen's Historical Investigation

The immediate research objective is to establish the historical circumstances affecting George's ancestors.

The proposed investigation will seek to identify Ngantcha, establish the relevant genealogical relationships, determine the ancestral chiefdom and reconstruct the historical position of traditional authority.

It will also seek the suspected French administrative instrument, investigate reported killings and examine the history of ancestral lands.

The principal archival research institutions include the Archives nationales d'outre-mer in France, the National Archives of Cameroon and the German Federal Archives.

Additional sources may include diplomatic archives, military collections, historical newspapers, League of Nations reports, traditional records and oral testimony.

An evidence register should distinguish authenticated documents, reported family accounts, historical hypotheses and questions remaining unresolved.

The investigation should preserve contradictory evidence as well as supporting evidence.

Its purpose is to establish what occurred.

ES.4 The London Conference

An international conference in London could provide a forum for consultation among interested Bamiléké communities, traditional authorities, diaspora organisations, historians, lawyers and other relevant participants.

The conference could examine historical research, colonial accountability, representative authority, constitutional options, reparatory claims and possible methods of delivering remedies.

A lawful historical ceremony associated with 4 Carlton Gardens could provide a symbolic opening.

The substantive conference should take place at a suitable venue.

No conference date, venue, funding arrangement or delegation should be treated as confirmed until the appropriate decisions and commitments have actually been made.

The conference should produce an accurate record of participants, historical papers, decisions and unresolved questions.

Its success should be judged according to the useful work it authorises and the reliability of its procedures.

ES.5 Government-in-Exile and Institutional Alternatives

The proposal to establish a Bamiléké government-in-exile requires separate constitutional and legal consideration.

The historical precedent of Free France is relevant but not conclusive.

A contemporary governmental claim requires examination of its source of authority, relationship to the Republic of Cameroon, relevant communities, territorial basis and international legal position.

The strategy therefore considers several institutional alternatives.

A provisional reparatory justice council could coordinate limited activities if properly authorised.

An international congress could provide a forum for collective discussion.

A voluntary federation could enable participating traditional institutions to cooperate while preserving their distinct authority.

A research organisation could undertake documentary investigation without claiming governmental status.

The appropriate institutional outcome should emerge from informed consultation.

No organisation should claim authority over communities that have not authorised it.

ES.6 International Legal Strategy

Potential legal avenues require specialist examination.

The relevant issues include the identification of claimants and alleged responsible parties, the law applicable at the time of the historical events, jurisdiction, limitation periods, sovereign immunity, standing and available remedies.

The International Court of Justice does not permit individuals or ordinary private associations to bring contentious cases directly against states.

The historical seriousness of an alleged wrong does not automatically remove jurisdictional obstacles.

Consequently, litigation should be treated as a possibility requiring careful professional assessment rather than as a guaranteed route to compensation.

Other potential forms of historical accountability may include archival disclosure, acknowledgment, restitution, memorialisation, cultural cooperation and negotiated remedies.

These should be examined according to their actual legal and institutional foundations.

ES.7 Reparation Nation Limited and IBIS

Reparation Nation Limited could provide appropriately agreed strategic, research, conference and administrative support.

Such support would not automatically confer community representative authority.

The proposed IBIS framework could be examined as a means of maintaining distinctions between identity, membership, representation, recognition, evidence, obligations and delivery.

The Identity Engine must remain distinct from the Five-Factor Engine.

Neither technical component should be treated as automatically establishing legal standing, traditional authority or reparatory entitlement.

Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence could provide an additional method for recording commitments, resources, beneficiaries and verified outcomes.

These tools should remain subordinate to legitimate institutional decisions and applicable law.

ES.8 Implementation and Safeguards

The initial implementation programme would concentrate upon establishing the historical evidence and consulting relevant people and institutions.

The first thirty days would focus upon defining the research questions, organising available evidence and preparing targeted correspondence.

The first ninety days would concentrate upon archival enquiries, genealogy, consultation and preliminary conference planning.

The first one hundred and eighty days would aim to produce an informed feasibility assessment covering historical research, community participation, legal questions, organisational readiness and potential funding.

A conference should proceed only when sufficient authority, resources and safeguards have been established.

The proposed initiative should include independent historical review, legal scrutiny, financial accountability, complaints procedures, safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism, privacy protection and verifiable document control.

These are substantive requirements rather than optional administrative additions.

ES.9 Recommended Immediate Decision

The immediate recommendation is that George T. Nomen and Reparation Nation Limited examine whether they wish to cooperate upon a defined historical research and consultation programme.

The initial agreement should be limited to activities they are competent to authorise.

It should not establish a government-in-exile, transfer ancestral rights or imply representation of all Bamiléké communities.

The next priority should be to identify Ngantcha and the ancestral locality, search for the suspected 1933 administrative instrument and develop relationships with appropriately relevant historians, archives and traditional institutions.

The proposed London conference should be developed through a separate feasibility and consultation process.

The government-in-exile question should remain open for informed examination.

The ultimate objective is to establish a legitimate, evidence-based process capable of progressing from historical investigation towards appropriately authorised and verifiable reparatory outcomes.

PRINCIPAL FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

No.	Principal conclusion	Recommended action
1	George's family account identifies serious historical questions requiring verification	Establish a structured evidence dossier
2	The suspected 1933 French order remains an unverified research target	Search official publications and administrative correspondence

3	The ancestral chiefdom must be identified before territorial and succession conclusions can be reached	Undertake genealogy and local historical consultation
4	France, Germany and Cameroon hold potentially relevant records	Coordinate jurisdiction-specific archival enquiries
5	London possesses a documented Free France historical connection	Explore a lawful commemorative ceremony
6	The Free France precedent does not automatically establish a modern government's legitimacy	Commission constitutional and international legal analysis
7	Existing Bamiléké communities and institutions must be consulted	Establish voluntary and verifiable representative mandates
8	Litigation may face substantial legal obstacles	Obtain specialist advice before commencing proceedings
9	Reparatory commitments require accountable administration	Examine IBIS and Shipping Intelligence within authorised scope
10	The conference should not precede adequate consultation and feasibility work	Adopt staged implementation and decision gates

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READER'S GUIDE

The document is organised to move from historical context towards practical institutional implementation.

Sections One and Two establish the European historical and geographical foundations of the proposal.

Sections Three and Four examine London as a conference location and the constitutional question of a government-in-exile.

Section Five concerns George T. Nomen's ancestral historical investigation.

Section Six examines international governmental, diplomatic and research engagement.

Section Seven develops the proposed conference arrangements.

Section Eight presents a possible declaration and constitutional framework.

Section Nine examines IBIS and the administration of reparatory justice.

Section Ten analyses legal feasibility and possible remedies.

Section Eleven considers strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and institutional risks.

Section Twelve consolidates the strategy into an implementation programme.

The appendices then provide the supporting evidence, research registers, historical chronology, source directory, terminology, standard documents and methodological safeguards.

The glossary should be consulted where terms such as sovereignty, customary authority, mandate, representation, recognition and reparatory entitlement may possess different meanings.

The archival evidence register is especially important for understanding which family-specific records have been identified and which remain outstanding.

The reader should not interpret a proposed template, draft resolution or constitutional clause as evidence that it has already been adopted.

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Appendix H — Evidence Standards, Research Methodology, Legal Limitations, Institutional Safeguards, Document Control and Publication Protocol

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STATEMENT OF RESEARCH LIMITATIONS

The document brings together historical context, possible legal frameworks, institutional options and a proposed research programme.

Not all underlying evidence has been obtained.

The particular family history described by George T. Nomen remains under investigation.

The identity of Ngantcha, the alleged succession changes, the suspected 1933 administrative instrument, the reported killings and the claimed ancestral land consequences require further verification.

The existence of archives containing potentially relevant material should not be confused with the discovery of documents establishing those allegations.

The proposed legal arguments remain subject to professional advice.

The conference arrangements and constitutional structures remain proposals.

The institutional contact directory identifies possible correspondents, not organisations confirmed as partners.

Any illustrations reproduced in a later edition must be checked for authenticity, accurate captions and applicable permissions.

The document should be revised when reliable historical, legal or institutional evidence becomes available.

STATEMENT ON COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION AND CONSENT

The proposed initiative does not presume that all Bamiléké individuals, families, chiefdoms or diaspora organisations share a single constitutional or reparatory position.

Participation should be voluntary and appropriately authorised.

Traditional institutions should be approached through legitimate channels.

Where a delegate claims representative authority, the nature and scope of the mandate should be established.

Consultation does not constitute automatic consent.

Historical research does not confer political sovereignty.

Membership of a proposed organisation does not automatically confer citizenship or authority over other people.

The proposed London conference should provide a forum for examining these questions without predetermining their outcome.

STATEMENT ON ANTI-BLACK RACISM AND INSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS

The historical experiences and reparatory interests of Black African communities require institutional processes capable of fair, independent and accountable decision-making.

The proposed initiative should therefore seek demonstrable safeguards against anti-Black racism, institutional racism and other unlawful discrimination.

This requirement applies to the proposed initiative itself and should inform its enquiries concerning participating or supporting institutions.

The existence or absence of particular safeguards must be established through evidence.

The raising of questions about safeguards does not, by itself, constitute an accusation or finding of wrongdoing against an organisation or individual.

No accusations, allegations, assumptions, assertions of misconduct or conclusions about particular institutions should be attributed to Reparation Nation Limited unless expressly stated and supported.

The objective is to establish processes in which affected communities can participate with confidence that decisions will be documented, reviewable and subject to appropriate accountability.

STATEMENT ON REPARATORY DELIVERY

The purpose of reparatory justice should not be confused with the announcement of reparations.

A promise is not delivery.

An announcement is not a transfer.

A commitment is not necessarily an enforceable obligation.

An allocation is not receipt.

Receipt by an intermediary is not necessarily receipt by the intended beneficiary.

Receipt is not equivalent to independently verified receipt.

The proposed IBIS and Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence frameworks are considered as possible methods of maintaining these distinctions.

Their use would require appropriately authorised decisions, reliable evidence, institutional safeguards and lawful handling of information.

No reparatory outcome should be described as completed merely because it has been promised or recorded within an administrative system.

FINAL PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

The purpose of this document is to establish a responsible starting point for an international initiative concerned with historical accountability and reparatory justice.

It proposes that George T. Nomen's ancestral investigation should proceed through evidence-based historical research.

It proposes that relevant traditional institutions and communities should be consulted before claims of collective representation are made.

It proposes that London's historical association with Free France could provide a meaningful setting for an international conference.

It proposes that the government-in-exile question should be examined rather than presumed resolved.

It proposes that legal claims should be assessed by appropriately qualified specialists.

It proposes that any institution eventually established should possess clearly defined authority, proper safeguards and accountable administrative arrangements.

It proposes that the delivery of reparations should be distinguished from declarations and commitments.

The document is therefore not intended merely to make a historical or political argument.

It is intended to establish the practical foundations through which historical evidence, legitimate authority, legal responsibility and verifiable delivery may be connected.

Its governing principle is that historical truth must be established, representative authority must be legitimate, obligations must be identifiable and reparatory outcomes must be verifiable.

END OF FRONT MATTER

BEGIN MAIN BODY — SECTION ONE

A EUROPEAN AND LONDON-BASED STRATEGY FOR BAMILÉKÉ REPARATORY JUSTICE

A Proposal for Historical Accountability, Collective Organisation, International Representation and the Verifiable Delivery of Reparatory Justice

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Proposed strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Discussion and Strategic Development Document — Not an Adopted Policy or Declaration of Governmental Authority

SECTION ONE

THE HISTORICAL OPPORTUNITY: WHY LONDON, WHY EUROPE AND WHY NOW?

1.1 Introduction

This document proposes that George T. Nomen and interested members of the Bamiléké people of Cameroon consider the establishment of a coordinated, European-based initiative for historical accountability, institutional development and the delivery of reparatory justice.

The immediate proposal is to examine the feasibility of convening an International Bamiléké Conference for Reparatory Justice in London, bringing together Bamiléké traditional authorities, descendants of people affected by colonial rule, diaspora organisations, historians, legal specialists, archivists, community representatives and other interested parties.

The proposed conference would provide an organised forum for examining historical evidence, identifying affected communities, establishing legitimate forms of representation, developing international relationships and considering the institutional arrangements necessary to pursue reparatory justice.

Among the possibilities to be examined would be the creation of a Bamiléké provisional council, international reparatory justice authority, representative congress or government-in-exile.

The proposal does not presume that a government-in-exile is necessarily the appropriate institutional arrangement. Nor does it presume that George T. Nomen, any existing organisation or any conference participant already possesses authority to represent the Bamiléké people collectively.

Rather, the central proposition is that legitimate authority should be established through an identifiable, transparent and appropriately authorised process.

The purpose is to move beyond the expression of historical grievances towards the systematic examination of evidence, recognition of rights, lawful representation, pursuit of remedies and eventual delivery of reparatory justice.

London is proposed as a potentially significant location because of its historical role during the Second World War, particularly in relation to General Charles de Gaulle, the Free French movement and the political reconstruction of France following German occupation.

Europe is proposed as a broader operational region because significant parts of the documentary history, governmental responsibility, archival infrastructure, academic research and potential diplomatic engagement relating to German and French colonial administration are located within European jurisdictions.

This creates an opportunity to connect the historical geography of colonial responsibility with the contemporary geography of evidence, representation and reparatory justice.

1.2 George T. Nomen and the Need for a Structured Historical Investigation

George T. Nomen has described a family history involving French colonial intervention in Cameroon, the killing of ancestors, interference with traditional authority, the loss or reorganisation of ancestral lands and the continuing consequences of those events.

He has identified Ngantcha as a relative whose history may be relevant to the investigation.

George has also referred to a French colonial arrêté, believed to date from approximately 1933, which may contain information concerning administrative decisions affecting his family, ancestral community or traditional authorities.

These accounts provide important starting points for historical investigation. However, a distinction must be maintained between personal testimony, inherited family history, oral tradition, contemporary historical scholarship, colonial administrative records and legally established facts.

The purpose of the proposed strategy is not to dismiss family testimony because documentary corroboration has not yet been obtained. Equally, it is not to treat an allegation as conclusively established before the necessary investigation has been undertaken.

Instead, the strategy proposes a structured process through which the relevant evidence can be identified, preserved, compared, evaluated and presented.

The historical investigation should seek to answer several fundamental questions.

Who were George T. Nomen's ancestors, and what was their recognised position within the relevant community before the disputed colonial interventions?

What traditional, customary, territorial or political authority did they exercise?

Which German, French or other colonial authorities intervened in those arrangements?

What legal or administrative instruments were used?

What happened to the people who previously held authority over the affected lands or communities?

Were individuals removed from office, imprisoned, displaced, killed or otherwise deprived of recognised rights?

Were replacement authorities appointed or recognised by colonial administrators?

What happened to the ancestral lands, and how were the consequences transmitted across subsequent generations?

Which records survive, where are they located, and who controls access to them?

Finally, what legal, political, administrative or reparatory remedies might be available today?

These questions require an investigation that extends beyond one family while retaining the ability to examine individual family histories in detail.

George's investigation could become an illustrative case through which methods of historical reconstruction, evidence preservation, claimant identification and reparatory justice administration are developed and tested.

It must not, however, be assumed that his family circumstances are identical to those of every Bamiléké community.

The Bamiléké comprise multiple communities and traditional chiefdoms with distinct histories, institutions and territorial relationships. Any proposed international strategy must respect these distinctions rather than impose a single historical narrative or political claim upon all Bamiléké people.

1.3 The Colonial History That Makes a European Strategy Relevant

The history of the Bamiléké people cannot be examined independently of the successive European colonial administrations imposed upon Cameroon.

Germany established a protectorate over Kamerun in 1884, during the period of European imperial expansion associated with the Berlin Conference of 1884–1885.

Following Germany's defeat in the First World War, its colonial possessions were redistributed. Cameroon was divided principally between French and British administrative control, subsequently formalised through League of Nations mandates.

French administration therefore operated within a political and territorial framework substantially shaped by earlier German colonial rule and the postwar redistribution of colonial territories.

The relevant historical investigation must recognise that responsibility for particular actions cannot simply be attributed to one European state without examining the relevant period, authority, decision and evidence.

German administration, French administration, British administration and subsequent Cameroonian governmental actions must be distinguished where they are relevant.

The French-administered territory later experienced substantial political conflict, particularly in relation to the Union des Populations du Cameroun (UPC), anti-colonial movements and campaigns for independence.

French and Cameroonian authorities carried out military and security operations during the 1950s and 1960s. The resulting history of killings, repression, displacement and political violence has been the subject of continuing historical investigation and public controversy.

On 28 January 2025, a joint Franco-Cameroonian historical commission presented research into France's role and involvement in the repression of independence and opposition movements in Cameroon between 1945 and 1971.

This research constitutes an important development because it demonstrates that substantial historical examination has already taken place through a process involving researchers and official Franco-Cameroonian cooperation.

It does not follow that every family claim has been investigated, every document disclosed, every disputed issue resolved or every potential reparatory obligation established.

The commission's principal period of investigation was 1945–1971.

Consequently, a colonial arrêté dating from approximately 1933 would require a separate examination of earlier French administration, even where the commission's historical background and archival references may assist.

A European strategy should therefore investigate both the relationship between earlier colonial administrative actions and later political violence, and the need to preserve their distinct legal and historical characteristics.

Principal research reference: Franco-Cameroonian Commission, historical research report on France's role and involvement in the repression of independence and opposition movements in Cameroon, 1945–1971, presented January 2025.

Research access: https://www.sciencespo.fr/histoire/fr/actualites/cameroun-1945-1971/

1.4 London and the Free French Historical Precedent




A TOUS LES FRANÇAIS
VIVE LA FRANCE!
GENERAL
CHARLES DE GAULLE
President of the
French National Committee
set up
the Headquarters of the
Free French Forces
here in
1940



5

The symbolic foundation of the proposed London strategy arises from the events of June 1940.

Following Germany's military defeat of France, General Charles de Gaulle travelled to London and called for continued resistance.

On 18 June 1940, de Gaulle delivered his historic appeal through the BBC, urging French people and military personnel to continue the struggle.

London subsequently became the principal centre of the Free French movement.

One of the locations associated with this history was 4 Carlton Gardens, London, which served as the headquarters of Free France.

The building is now commemorated for its association with de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

The historical importance of this location extends beyond the personal biography of one military officer.

It represents an episode in which political and military organisation outside a state's principal territory contributed to the development of alternative claims to national authority, international recognition and eventual governmental reconstruction.

The Free French movement was not simply a collection of displaced individuals expressing dissatisfaction with the political situation in France.

It developed institutions, international relationships, military capacities, administrative structures and claims to political legitimacy.

Those claims were contested and evolved over time.

Free France did not immediately become the universally recognised government of France merely by establishing its presence in London.

Its authority was developed through political organisation, participation in the war, relationships with Allied governments and subsequent institutional developments.

This distinction is especially important for the proposed Bamiléké initiative.

The historical experience of Free France may provide useful lessons concerning organisation, external representation, collective purpose and recognition.

It does not automatically establish a legal precedent entitling a contemporary Bamiléké organisation to claim sovereign or governmental authority.

Nevertheless, the contrast is historically meaningful.

During the Second World War, London provided a base from which French representatives organised their struggle against the occupation of France.

In the present context, London could provide a peaceful and lawful meeting place in which Bamiléké representatives examine the historical conduct of French colonial authorities and organise the pursuit of reparatory justice.

The proposed symbolism is therefore not that the circumstances of Free France and the Bamiléké people are legally or historically identical.

It is that a location associated with France's own struggle for liberation could provide a setting for examining the consequences of French colonial rule upon another people.

The historical comparison should encourage serious examination rather than rhetorical equivalence.

Historical references:

English Heritage — Charles de Gaulle Blue Plaque: https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/blue-plaques/charles-de-gaulle/

Fondation de la France Libre: https://www.france-libre.net/

1.5 Cameroon and the Free French Movement: A Particularly Important Historical Connection

The proposed symbolism becomes more significant when the historical relationship between Cameroon and Free France is examined.

On 27 August 1940, French-administered Cameroon rallied to the Free French movement.

This was part of the broader consolidation of Free French authority within French-administered territories in Africa.

Cameroon and other territories subsequently contributed personnel, resources and strategic support to the Free French war effort.

This history raises questions deserving careful examination.

What role did African territories and populations play in enabling Free France to continue its struggle?

What material, military and political contributions were made by Cameroonian people?

How were those contributions recognised?

What political expectations, rights or obligations arose from the relationship between Free France and the African territories that supported it?

How does that wartime history relate to France's subsequent colonial policies, including the repression of independence and opposition movements in Cameroon?

These questions should not be answered through assumption.

In particular, the rallying of French-administered Cameroon to Free France must not automatically be interpreted as evidence of unanimous voluntary support by all Cameroonian communities.

The role of colonial administrators, military personnel, African soldiers, traditional authorities and civilian populations must be examined separately.

Nor should the participation of Cameroon as a territory be taken as proof that particular Bamiléké families or communities supported specific Free French activities.

Those facts require independent evidence.

Nevertheless, the historical connection is substantial enough to justify including Cameroon and Free France as a principal subject of the proposed London conference.

The conference could commission a research paper examining the relationship between wartime African contributions to Free France, subsequent French colonial repression and contemporary debates concerning historical accountability.

This would provide a stronger intellectual foundation than merely pointing to the former Free French headquarters and drawing a symbolic comparison.

It would connect the proposed conference with a specific historical relationship requiring investigation.

1.6 The Proposal to Occupy the Former Free French Headquarters

During preliminary discussions, George T. Nomen raised the possibility of taking a dramatic symbolic action involving the former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens.

One possibility discussed was occupying or squatting the building.

The motivation behind that proposal appears to be to draw public attention to the historical relationship between Free France, London and the Bamiléké people's pursuit of reparatory justice.

This document recognises the potential communicative force of the historical location but proposes that the objectives be examined independently of any particular tactic.

Physical occupation would introduce questions concerning ownership, access rights, trespass, criminal liability, policing, public safety and the possible impact upon residents or other lawful occupants.

An occupation could also shift public discussion away from the historical and reparatory questions and towards a dispute concerning the premises.

Before any public event, the current ownership, occupation and access arrangements at 4 Carlton Gardens should be verified.

There is no need for the proposed initiative to obtain possession of the building in order to refer accurately to its established historical significance.

A properly organised public declaration, commemorative visit, authorised ceremony, filmed historical presentation or conference associated with the site could communicate the historical argument without asserting a right to occupy it.

The proposal should therefore examine the following possibilities as distinct methods of using the historical location:

First, a peaceful and lawful gathering near 4 Carlton Gardens, subject to applicable public-order and public-space requirements.

Second, an application to the relevant property controller for permission to hold an authorised ceremony or historical presentation.

Third, a formal historical statement explaining why the Free French headquarters is relevant to the proposed Bamiléké reparatory justice conference.

Fourth, a commemorative activity connecting the historical date of 18 June 1940 with the contemporary questions being examined.

Fifth, a separate conference hosted at a suitable London venue, allowing extended deliberation, research presentations, participation and institutional decision-making.

The historical location would consequently serve as a point of reference, not necessarily the operational headquarters of the proposed initiative.

A further distinction must be maintained between symbolic actions designed to attract attention and institutional arrangements designed to deliver lasting results.

Public attention can contribute to historical awareness.

However, reparatory justice also requires documentary evidence, properly identified rights holders, lawful or otherwise legitimately authorised representatives, accountable administration, defined remedies, resources and verifiable delivery mechanisms.

The proposed London strategy should examine how symbolic activities can support these substantive requirements rather than substitute for them.

1.7 Why a European Base May Have Practical Advantages

Although London provides a particularly interesting historical setting, the proposed initiative should not be limited to London.

The historical investigation concerns actions undertaken by European colonial administrations and subsequently recorded within administrative, diplomatic, military and other institutional systems.

Relevant documentary materials may be located in France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Cameroon and other countries.

France is particularly important because it exercised colonial administrative authority over much of Cameroon and because the investigation concerns French decisions, colonial legislation, administrative appointments, security operations and the continuing responsibility of French institutions.

Germany is relevant because of its earlier colonial administration of Kamerun and its role in establishing or reorganising political and territorial relationships during the colonial period.

The United Kingdom is relevant because of British administration of part of Cameroon, the wider history of European colonial diplomacy and London's historical relationship with Free France.

Belgium and other European locations may have additional relevance where researchers, diaspora organisations, archives, international institutions or potential conference participants are based. However, specific archival holdings and jurisdictional connections should be verified before operational priorities are assigned.

A European network could provide the capacity to coordinate investigations across multiple jurisdictions while maintaining direct relationships with Bamiléké communities in Cameroon.

The proposed structure must not allow a European diaspora organisation to displace or override the authority of affected communities within Cameroon.

Its legitimate function would be to support, facilitate and carry out responsibilities that have been appropriately authorised.

This distinction is central.

A European headquarters may provide administrative convenience.

It does not itself establish ownership of ancestral rights, entitlement to reparations or political authority over communities situated elsewhere.

The purpose of European organisation should therefore be to create additional capacity for the affected people, not to create a new layer of unaccountable representation.

1.8 From Historical Recognition to Reparatory Delivery

Historical recognition, although important, is not identical to reparatory justice.

A government may acknowledge that wrongful actions occurred without providing remedies to those affected.

A historical commission may publish extensive research without establishing a procedure through which descendants can register, document or pursue individual and collective claims.

An organisation may issue a declaration demanding reparations without possessing any mechanism for identifying the people entitled to receive them.

Funding may be announced without being transferred.

Resources may be allocated without reaching intended beneficiaries.

A compensation scheme may distribute money without resolving disputes concerning ancestral land, cultural destruction, traditional authority or intergenerational consequences.

For these reasons, the proposed strategy should distinguish between the recognition of historical events and the operational delivery of reparatory justice.

IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — is proposed for examination as a possible framework through which such distinctions can be organised.

Its relevance would be to help structure questions concerning identity, membership, representation, recognition, historical evidence, claims, responsibilities, resources, administration and verified delivery.

The objective would not be to assume that IBIS already possesses authority over Bamiléké claims.

It would be to invite interested participants to assess whether its architecture could assist in organising a transparent and accountable reparatory process.

The Bamiléké initiative could provide an opportunity to examine how a documented historical grievance might progress through successive stages of investigation, verification, institutional representation, negotiation, implementation and confirmation of delivery.

The programme would need to distinguish among:

A historical allegation and a documented event.

An individual family history and a collective historical experience.

An affected person and a legally or otherwise appropriately recognised claimant.

A person identified through historical or community records and a person authorised to act on behalf of others.

An organisation claiming representation and an organisation possessing a demonstrable mandate.

A declaration of responsibility and an enforceable obligation.

A promise of reparations and an actual transfer of reparatory value.

A transfer of value and its verified receipt by the intended beneficiary.

These distinctions would be essential to preventing historical justice from becoming another process in which institutions speak on behalf of affected people without being answerable to them.

1.9 The Role of Existing Bamiléké Organisations

The proposed London initiative should begin by examining existing Bamiléké representative, cultural, historical and diaspora organisations.

The All Bamiléké Convention in North America is especially relevant because of its demonstrated capacity to convene large diaspora gatherings, including the conference held in Atlanta in November 2019 and the convention organised in the Chicago area in September 2026.

These gatherings indicate the existence of organisational networks capable of mobilising participants across national boundaries.

The existence of such networks should be treated as an opportunity for dialogue and cooperation rather than evidence that a new London organisation should claim authority over them.

Similarly, organisations concerned with documenting colonial violence, including La'akam and the International Museum of the Bamiléké Genocide, may possess experience, testimony, research relationships or documentary resources relevant to the proposed investigation.

Their actual records, governance arrangements, research capacities and willingness to collaborate would need to be established through direct engagement.

Traditional Bamiléké authorities and affected communities in Cameroon would require particular consideration because of their relationships with ancestral territory, customary institutions and the specific history of colonial intervention.

The London initiative should therefore investigate the possibility of cooperation among existing organisations rather than beginning by assuming that the Bamiléké people lack organisation.

The relevant question is whether existing institutions possess the necessary authority, resources, international relationships and operational arrangements to pursue the particular historical and reparatory objectives under consideration.

Where gaps exist, the conference could examine how those gaps might be addressed through cooperation, institutional development or the creation of additional mechanisms.

1.10 The Central Strategic Proposition

The central proposition of this document is that London could serve as the founding location for a structured international process through which Bamiléké individuals, communities and authorised representatives examine the historical consequences of European colonial rule and consider the institutions required to pursue reparatory justice.

The former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens would provide a historically significant setting for explaining why London has been selected.

The relationship between Cameroon and Free France would provide a substantive historical subject for investigation.

France, Germany, the United Kingdom and other relevant European jurisdictions would provide possible centres for archival research, legal examination, diplomatic engagement and institutional cooperation.

Existing Bamiléké organisations would provide potential relationships through which representation, participation and community authorisation could be examined.

George T. Nomen's historical investigation could provide a concrete case for developing research methods and testing proposed administrative arrangements.

IBIS could be examined as a possible architecture for organising the identification, administration and delivery of reparatory justice.

A London conference could bring these elements together without prejudging its conclusions.

The proposed conference would not need to declare the immediate establishment of a government-in-exile in order to be significant.

Its initial achievement could be the creation of an agreed international process through which the participants determine what authority is necessary, who is entitled to

exercise it, how that authority should be obtained, and what its responsibilities and limitations should be.

If the participants subsequently conclude that a provisional council, government-in-exile or another political institution is necessary, the proposal should be examined through an appropriately authorised process supported by historical, legal and institutional research.

The guiding principle would be that a claim to reparatory justice must ultimately be connected to a mechanism capable of delivering that justice to the people entitled to receive it.

1.11 Conclusion to Section One

The proposal for a European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative rests upon the convergence of historical circumstances and contemporary institutional opportunities.

London has an established place in the history of Free France.

Cameroon has a documented historical relationship with the Free French movement.

European archives and institutions may contain important evidence concerning colonial actions affecting Bamiléké communities.

Existing Bamiléké diaspora organisations demonstrate capacities for international mobilisation.

Contemporary historical investigations, including the Franco-Cameroonian commission's work, provide substantial research upon which further investigation may be built.

George T. Nomen's family history raises specific questions concerning ancestral authority, land, colonial administration, violence and intergenerational consequences that deserve careful documentary examination.

These considerations justify serious exploration of a London conference without requiring a premature commitment to any particular political or institutional outcome.

The central task is to convert the historical opportunity into an organised programme capable of establishing facts, clarifying rights, determining legitimate representation, developing lawful and accountable institutions and pursuing verifiable reparatory outcomes.

London would provide the historical setting.

Europe would provide part of the operational geography.

Bamiléké communities and their authorised representatives would determine the legitimacy and purpose of the initiative.

The historical evidence would establish what can responsibly be claimed.

The resulting institutions, if appropriately established, would provide the means through which those claims could be pursued.

The objective is not merely to commemorate historical injustice, but to examine how the consequences of that injustice can be addressed through legitimate, accountable and verifiable reparatory processes.

END OF SECTION ONE

Next: Section Two — The European Historical Geography of Bamiléké Reparatory Justice: France, Germany, Britain, Colonial Archives, Governmental Responsibility and Potential Institutional Partners.

SECTION TWO

THE EUROPEAN HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF BAMILÉKÉ REPARATORY JUSTICE

France, Germany, Britain, Colonial Archives, Governmental Responsibility and Potential Institutional Partners







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Three European archival centres relevant to investigating the colonial history of Cameroon: the French Overseas National Archives, the German Federal Archives and the United Kingdom's National Archives.

The following section is written for direct inclusion in the proposal.

SECTION TWO

THE EUROPEAN HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF BAMILÉKÉ REPARATORY JUSTICE

2.1 Introduction: Europe as a Geography of Historical Evidence and Responsibility

The proposal to develop a European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative must be founded upon a clear understanding of the historical relationships between Cameroon and the European states involved in its colonisation, administration and subsequent political development.

Europe is relevant not simply because colonial powers originated there, but because many of the decisions, instructions, reports, diplomatic communications and legal instruments associated with the administration of Cameroon were produced, transmitted, approved or preserved within European governmental systems.

The historical evidence required to investigate colonial interventions affecting Bamiléké communities may therefore be distributed across several national archival collections.

This creates a practical challenge. A descendant attempting to reconstruct the history of an ancestral community may need to obtain documents from institutions situated thousands of kilometres apart, operating under different national laws, administrative procedures, cataloguing systems and languages.

The proposed European strategy would seek to overcome this fragmentation through coordinated historical research, archival access, evidence management and international cooperation.

France, Germany and the United Kingdom require particular attention because of their respective roles in the colonial history of Cameroon.

However, the investigation must not treat Europe as the exclusive repository of historical truth.

Bamiléké communities themselves possess oral histories, genealogical knowledge, traditional institutions, accounts of ancestral territories and records of community succession that may be indispensable to establishing what occurred.

Archives in Cameroon may also contain original documents that are not preserved in Europe.

The objective is therefore to connect European documentary evidence with African historical knowledge, rather than permit colonial records alone to determine the interpretation of African history.

The proposed strategy should be based upon a principle of evidential equality: relevant evidence should be examined according to its origin, reliability, context and corroboration, rather than accepted or rejected solely because it was produced by a colonial official or preserved through an African community.

This approach is particularly important where the disputed historical events concern the replacement of traditional authorities, the dispossession of landholders or the disruption of customary institutions.

In such circumstances, colonial records may document the decisions of colonial authorities without accurately describing the rights or objections of the people affected.

A European research network should therefore be established with the express purpose of identifying the relevant records, obtaining access to them, reconstructing their historical context and comparing them with evidence held by the affected communities.

2.2 France: The Principal Jurisdiction for Investigating the Disputed 1933 Arrêté

France occupies a central position in George T. Nomen's proposed historical investigation because his account identifies French colonial administrative actions as responsible for particular interventions affecting his ancestors.

George has referred to an *arrêté* believed to date from approximately 1933.

An *arrêté* is a formal administrative order or decision made by an authority empowered to issue such an instrument.

Under French colonial administration, such orders could concern numerous matters, including administrative organisation, appointments, territorial arrangements and the implementation of colonial policies.

However, the precise legal meaning of any particular *arrêté* depends upon the authority issuing it, the powers available to that authority, its wording, its date and its relationship with the wider legal framework.

The word *arrêté* does not itself establish that a wrongful act occurred.

It is therefore essential to obtain the actual instrument before drawing conclusions about its legal or historical significance.

The investigation must seek to establish whether an order was made concerning Ngantcha, another named ancestor, a particular traditional authority or a defined Bamiléké territory.

It must then determine whether the order concerned appointment, removal, recognition, territorial reorganisation, land administration or some other matter.

If a relevant order is located, the original French text should be preserved and translated accurately.

The investigation should also establish whether the order was published in an official bulletin, entered into administrative registers, communicated to local officials, challenged by affected persons or subsequently amended or revoked.

An isolated order may not explain why a decision was taken or how it was implemented.

Correspondence preceding and following the order may be equally important.

Reports written by colonial district officers, governors, military officials or administrative intermediaries could establish the factual circumstances surrounding the decision.

The investigation should therefore seek the administrative file associated with any relevant order, rather than treating the published instrument as the entire evidential record.

2.2.1 The French Overseas National Archives

The Archives nationales d'outre-mer, commonly known as ANOM, are located in Aix-en-Provence, France.

ANOM preserves substantial archival collections concerning the history of French colonial administration.

These include records produced by ministries responsible for colonial affairs and certain records transferred from colonial territories.

Its holdings include administrative correspondence, governmental records, historical maps, photographs and other materials potentially relevant to colonial governance.

For George's investigation, ANOM represents an important research destination, although it cannot be assumed that the precise 1933 document is held there.

The French archival authorities distinguish between different categories of colonial records, including records relating to governmental sovereignty and records concerning ordinary territorial administration.

The latter may include materials relating to civil status, land registration, property, judicial administration and local government.

Such records were not necessarily transferred to France following independence.

Some may remain in Cameroon.

Consequently, the research programme must avoid the mistaken assumption that every French colonial record concerning Cameroon is located in France.

A preliminary archival enquiry should identify which catalogues, administrative series and territorial collections are most relevant to the Western Region of Cameroon and the communities associated with George's family history.

The enquiry should include variations in the spelling of personal names, chiefdoms, villages and territorial designations.

This is important because the same African name or location may have been recorded differently by German officials, French officials, missionaries, cartographers and later researchers.

Any archival response should identify the particular catalogues consulted, the search terms used, the date ranges examined and the reasons a record could or could not be located.

The proposed investigation should maintain a permanent record of these enquiries.

A negative search result would not automatically establish that an order never existed. It might indicate that the relevant records are uncatalogued, held elsewhere, filed under an unexpected name, inaccessible or lost.

Equally, the investigation must not presume the existence of a particular order simply because it would explain an inherited family account.

The documentary position must remain open until the available evidence has been examined.

2.2.2 French Diplomatic Archives

The French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs maintains diplomatic archives that may complement the collections held by ANOM.

The ministry has confirmed that records originating from French colonial administrations sometimes passed through embassies and consulates following independence and were subsequently transferred to diplomatic archival repositories.

Such records may include diplomatic correspondence, reports concerning political developments, communications about colonial territories and records concerning Franco-Cameroonian relations.

The research programme should therefore examine whether the French Diplomatic Archives preserve materials associated with the relevant administrative period, traditional authorities, political disputes or subsequent claims.

The Centre des Archives diplomatiques de Nantes is one of the institutions whose collections should be examined.

However, the existence of French colonial material within diplomatic archives does not establish that the specific information required by George is held there.

An initial written enquiry should request guidance concerning the correct collections and access procedures.

2.2.3 French Military and Defence Archives

Where an investigation concerns alleged killings, military expeditions, arrests, punitive operations or the deployment of colonial security forces, civilian administrative records may be insufficient.

Military and defence records could provide additional evidence concerning the identity of units, their commanders, operational instructions, reported engagements, casualties and communications with civilian colonial authorities.

The Service historique de la Défense should therefore be considered as another potential research institution.

The relevant question would be whether military or related records exist concerning the particular location and period under investigation.

A request should not simply ask for evidence of atrocities in Cameroon generally.

It should identify the ancestral community, approximate dates, known individuals, suspected administrative decisions and any specific military events established through preliminary research.

The investigation must also distinguish between events occurring under German administration, French mandate administration and later French or Cameroonian authority.

This distinction will be essential in any subsequent legal analysis.

2.3 Germany: The Earlier Colonial Administration and the Reconstruction of Traditional Authority

Germany established its colonial protectorate over Kamerun in 1884.

German administration continued until the territory was conquered by Allied forces during the First World War.

The subsequent partition and redistribution of the territory introduced new administrative boundaries and transferred authority to British and French administrations.

The German period is relevant to George's investigation because colonial relationships affecting land, traditional leadership and territorial administration may have developed before the French decisions he seeks to investigate.

A family dispute apparently originating in the 1930s might involve arrangements first introduced or modified under German colonial rule.

This possibility must be investigated rather than assumed.

For example, records may show how particular traditional authorities were recognised by German administrators, how territorial boundaries were described, which persons colonial officers treated as legitimate rulers and what administrative changes occurred before the First World War.

The investigation should seek to establish the historical position of the relevant community immediately before the transfer from German to French administration.

This could help determine whether the French authorities maintained an existing administrative arrangement, altered it or introduced a new one.

It might also reveal whether traditional succession or landholding arrangements were recorded differently by successive administrations.

2.3.1 The German Federal Archives

The Bundesarchiv, Germany's Federal Archives, holds important collections concerning the German colonial administration.

The principal central-government colonial collection includes the records of the Reichskolonialamt, identified as archival collection R 1001.

The Bundesarchiv has made substantial portions of these records digitally accessible.

The records cover matters including colonial government, administrative structures, relations with local populations, military activity, economic policy and colonial infrastructure.

The German Federal Archives also identifies records relating specifically to the administration of Kamerun, including holdings within the R 175 collections.

These include materials concerning colonial government, regional administration, courts and military structures.

Particularly significant is the fact that the Bundesarchiv has identified the survival of German colonial records in the National Archives of Cameroon.

The availability of records in both Germany and Cameroon presents an opportunity for comparative archival reconstruction.

Documents produced within Cameroon may have been transmitted to Berlin, summarised in official correspondence or preserved locally.

Where parallel records survive, they may assist researchers in reconstructing the sequence of administrative decisions.

The proposed European programme should therefore establish direct research links with the Bundesarchiv and the appropriate archival authorities in Cameroon.

2.3.2 German Colonial Maps and Territorial Records

Historical maps may be particularly relevant where the investigation concerns ancestral lands.

The German colonial administration generated geographical and administrative information concerning Kamerun.

Such records may include territorial boundaries, settlement names, routes, administrative districts and descriptions of land use.

However, a colonial map does not necessarily establish lawful ownership or accurately reproduce precolonial territorial relationships.

Maps should be treated as historical evidence requiring interpretation.

They may demonstrate how colonial administrators understood, represented or attempted to regulate territorial arrangements.

They may also expose discrepancies between administrative claims and customary systems of landholding.

Any attempt to reconstruct George's ancestral lands should therefore compare colonial cartography with community testimony, traditional territorial knowledge, later French maps, land registration documents and contemporary geographical information.

A historical map should never be used on its own to declare that a specific family currently owns particular land.

The aim would be to reconstruct the history of territorial control and identify the evidence required for any subsequent claim.

2.4 Britain: London as the Institutional and Archival Coordination Centre

The United Kingdom is relevant to the proposed strategy for three distinct reasons.

First, Britain administered part of Cameroon following the First World War.

Second, British governmental and diplomatic archives contain information concerning Cameroon, the postwar colonial settlement and subsequent political developments.

Third, London possesses the historical connection with Free France upon which the symbolic element of the proposed conference would be based.

These three considerations should be examined separately.

The symbolic importance of London does not automatically make British institutions responsible for particular French colonial decisions.

Similarly, the existence of British archival records concerning Cameroon does not establish that those records contain direct evidence relating to George's ancestors.

The case for establishing a London coordination centre therefore rests upon its potential usefulness for international communication, organisation, research, legal consultation and the convening of participating communities.

2.4.1 The National Archives at Kew

The National Archives at Kew holds British governmental records, including colonial and diplomatic materials relating to the Cameroons.

The archives have identified records within several collections, including Colonial Office and Foreign Office series.

Of particular interest are materials concerning British administration, Nigeria, the Cameroons, territorial arrangements, constitutional developments and the transition towards independence.

The National Archives has also published research concerning its holdings relating to Cameroons and Togoland.

These records demonstrate the potential importance of examining more than one European national archive.

For example, British authorities may have produced reports concerning French-administered Cameroon, diplomatic negotiations, political developments or the changing position of the territory.

Such records could provide evidence independent of French colonial administrative accounts.

However, independence must not be confused with impartiality.

British officials operated within their own colonial and diplomatic interests.

Their records should be examined critically, just as French and German records should be.

The proposed London research programme should use the National Archives' online Discovery catalogue to identify relevant record series before requesting copies or arranging physical inspection.

Each research request should identify a specific historical question.

The programme should avoid unnecessary expenditure on archival copying where catalogue descriptions do not sufficiently establish the likely relevance of a document.

Before paying for reproduction, the researchers should seek available descriptions, indexes, file-level information or other means of determining whether the material is reasonably likely to answer the question being investigated.

Where inspection is necessary, the relative costs of travel, professional research assistance and document reproduction should be considered.

This is particularly important where funds are being contributed by affected families or community organisations.

2.4.2 London and the Legacy of Free France

The historical significance of London provides an additional dimension that distinguishes the proposed initiative from an ordinary research project.

General Charles de Gaulle's establishment of the Free French movement in London demonstrates that political organisation outside a state's territory can acquire historical significance.

However, the proposed Bamiléké initiative must be careful not to misrepresent the nature of that precedent.

Free France developed during an international military conflict involving the defeat and occupation of France.

Its representatives claimed to continue the struggle on behalf of France, and their authority developed through wartime organisation and international relationships.

A Bamiléké reparatory justice organisation would operate under substantially different political and legal circumstances.

The existence of a historical parallel would not establish that a proposed Bamiléké government-in-exile would enjoy statehood, diplomatic recognition or governmental immunity.

It would be necessary to examine the status of the Bamiléké communities involved, the nature of the authority being claimed and the legal consequences of any proposed institutional structure.

Nevertheless, London could provide an appropriate setting in which these questions are publicly and carefully considered.

The symbolic significance of 4 Carlton Gardens could be incorporated into a conference programme without treating physical possession of the building as a necessary objective.

A peaceful historical ceremony, an authorised visit, a commemorative statement or a recorded declaration could provide a public reference point.

The substantive conference could then take place at a venue suitable for participation, discussion, research presentations and institutional deliberation.

This would establish a separation between historical symbolism and the practical work required to develop reparatory justice mechanisms.

2.5 Cameroon Must Remain Central to the Research and Representation Process

A London or European strategy would be incomplete if it failed to establish strong relationships with institutions and communities in Cameroon.

This is not simply a question of courtesy or international cooperation.

The people whose historical rights are under investigation may live in Cameroon, exercise traditional authority there, possess relevant records or maintain connections to ancestral territories.

The proposed programme must therefore provide mechanisms through which their knowledge, consent, rights and interests are incorporated into decision-making.

Cameroon's National Archives are a particularly important institution.

French archival authorities themselves identify the National Archives of Cameroon as a relevant repository for documents concerning the country's history.

The German Federal Archives also records the existence of surviving German colonial administrative material in Cameroon.

The investigation should therefore be organised as a multi-jurisdictional process rather than a sequence of European research visits.

Its principal historical reconstruction should involve consultation with the affected ancestral community.

The evidence programme should seek to identify traditional leaders, recognised family representatives, elders, local historians and individuals possessing knowledge of relevant succession histories and ancestral territorial relationships.

Such consultation must not assume that one individual possesses exclusive authority to speak for every person affected.

Disagreements between families or traditional institutions should be documented rather than suppressed.

Where accounts conflict, the investigators should identify the points of agreement, the points of disagreement and the evidence needed to clarify them.

The objective would be to produce an evidence record that can withstand critical examination and support appropriate future decisions.

2.6 A European Archive Coordination Network

The proposed initiative should consider establishing a European Archive Coordination Network as an operational function of the London conference.

This network would not need to become a separate legal organisation immediately.

Initially, it could consist of authorised researchers and volunteers working under agreed procedures.

Its responsibility would be to identify relevant archival collections, submit enquiries, organise document acquisition and maintain an accessible research register.

The network should distinguish between records already located, records believed to exist, records awaiting inspection and records whose existence remains unconfirmed.

Every document obtained should be recorded with its archival reference, issuing authority, original date, physical or digital source, language and circumstances of acquisition.

Where copies are supplied by third parties, the provenance of those copies should be recorded.

Translations should be linked to the original document and should identify the translator and any significant uncertainties.

The programme should also preserve a record of rejected hypotheses, unsuccessful searches and corrections.

This would reduce the risk of researchers repeatedly pursuing the same inaccurate information or presenting an unsupported claim as an established fact.

The archive coordination process should include safeguards concerning sensitive personal information, access to family records and the preservation of original evidence.

Not every document supplied by a family should automatically enter the public domain.

Public historical transparency must be balanced against privacy, community consent, legitimate confidentiality and the need to protect vulnerable individuals.

This is particularly important if the research produces information concerning living descendants, disputed family relationships, sensitive territorial claims or allegations against identifiable persons.

The proposed network should ultimately be capable of producing a structured historical dossier for each relevant family, community, event or administrative decision.

Each dossier should contain a clear explanation of the historical question under investigation and the evidence supporting or contradicting the relevant claims.

2.7 The 2025 Franco-Cameroonian Commission as an Institutional Precedent

The Franco-Cameroonian commission that presented its work in January 2025 provides an important contemporary institutional reference.

The commission examined the role and involvement of France in the repression of independence and opposition movements in Cameroon between 1945 and 1971.

Its research component included French and Cameroonian researchers and produced a substantial historical report.

The existence of the commission demonstrates that France and Cameroon have already participated in an officially recognised process of historical research concerning colonial repression.

This development is relevant to a future Bamiléké conference because it provides an identifiable research programme, published scholarly work and individuals with experience investigating the relevant historical period.

However, the commission should not be assumed to have accepted every characterisation of the historical events advanced by campaigners, nor to have established the legal liability of France for every individual allegation.

The report's conclusions, sources, methodology and limitations should be examined carefully.

The proposed conference could invite relevant researchers to explain the findings and identify the areas requiring further investigation.

Particular attention should be paid to whether the commission's archival references lead to earlier records concerning administrative interventions in the 1920s and 1930s.

The conference could also consider whether a supplementary research process is needed to investigate periods and questions falling outside the commission's principal remit.

In George's case, this would include the alleged 1933 administrative intervention and any earlier history necessary to understand it.

A distinction should be maintained between requesting additional research, seeking formal historical recognition and pursuing legally enforceable remedies.

These objectives may overlap, but they are not interchangeable.

2.8 Identifying Potential Governmental Responsibility

The proposed European strategy must distinguish historical involvement from present-day legal responsibility.

The fact that a state exercised colonial authority does not, without further analysis, establish that a contemporary court will recognise a particular claim or award compensation.

Any legal case would require examination of the relevant acts, attribution to an identifiable authority, the law applicable at the time, the law governing present claims, jurisdiction, limitation periods, standing, available remedies and possible immunities.

The investigation may involve France, Germany, Cameroon or other institutions depending upon the particular acts being examined.

The responsibility of a colonial official should not automatically be treated as identical to that of every subsequent government.

Equally, changes in governmental arrangements do not necessarily eliminate every possible question of state responsibility.

These matters require specialist legal analysis.

The proposed conference should therefore avoid declaring that a particular government is legally liable before the relevant evidence and legal arguments have been examined.

Instead, it should develop a structured process through which potential responsibility can be investigated.

The historical evidence should establish what happened.

The legal investigation should establish which rules and remedies may apply.

The institutional programme should establish who has authority to bring claims or negotiate on behalf of affected persons.

The reparatory delivery framework should establish how any agreed or ordered remedies would reach the people entitled to them.

These are separate but interconnected tasks.

2.9 The European Diplomatic Dimension

An organised European presence could support communication with governments, embassies, international organisations, universities, historical institutions and civil society bodies.

London could function as an initial coordination centre while relationships are developed in France and Germany.

However, diplomacy should not be confused with recognition of sovereign authority.

A government may agree to meet representatives of a community organisation without recognising that organisation as a government.

A university may participate in a historical conference without endorsing every political objective advanced by its organisers.

An archive may provide research assistance without accepting the validity of a reparations claim.

The proposed initiative should therefore accurately describe each institutional relationship.

Letters of support, meeting invitations, research agreements and memoranda of understanding should be recorded according to their actual terms.

No expression of interest should be presented as formal recognition unless the relevant institution has explicitly provided such recognition.

The conference could develop an international engagement protocol establishing how invitations are issued, who may speak on behalf of the organisers and what authority individual representatives possess.

This would reduce the risk of misunderstandings and strengthen confidence in the integrity of the process.

2.10 The Question of a Government-in-Exile

The proposal to examine a Bamiléké government-in-exile raises substantial historical, legal and political questions.

A government-in-exile is generally understood as an authority claiming to continue or represent governmental functions while operating outside the territory over which it asserts authority.

However, the legal and political circumstances surrounding such institutions vary considerably.

Some governments-in-exile have claimed to continue pre-existing states.

Others have represented national liberation movements, displaced political authorities or disputed territorial entities.

Their international standing has depended upon matters including legitimacy, recognition, state continuity, territorial circumstances and the position of other governments.

A Bamiléké conference would therefore need to consider whether the proposed institution would claim to represent an existing state, a historical polity, a traditional kingdom, a people seeking self-determination, a federation of communities or a voluntary association of claimants.

These possibilities have different implications.

The Bamiléké people are not a single undifferentiated political institution.

The historical position of individual chiefdoms, traditional authorities and communities would need to be understood before any common governmental structure could responsibly be proposed.

The conference should therefore examine whether its objectives could be achieved through an international reparatory justice council or authorised representative body without immediately claiming governmental or sovereign status.

If participants nevertheless wish to consider a government-in-exile, the question should be examined formally through historical, constitutional and international legal research.

The investigation should establish what authority could legitimately be claimed, how that authority would be obtained, how dissenting communities would be treated and what mechanisms would ensure accountability.

It should also determine the legal implications of operating from the United Kingdom and engaging with Cameroon, France and other states.

No institution should claim to possess authority that has not been demonstrated.

The principle must remain that representation requires an identifiable source of legitimacy and a clear statement of its scope.

2.11 The Relationship Between the European Network and IBIS

IBIS could be examined as a potential framework for organising the proposed network.

Its central relevance is the distinction between identifying affected people, establishing membership, determining representation, recording claims and administering reparatory outcomes.

A European archive network might establish that a particular historical event occurred.

That finding would not automatically determine which living individuals are entitled to claim a particular remedy.

A family genealogy might identify descendants of an affected ancestor.

That identification would not automatically establish that every descendant has authorised the same representative.

A traditional authority might possess legitimate responsibilities concerning a particular territory.

That authority would not necessarily extend to every personal claim arising from events affecting the territory.

A representative organisation might obtain consent from participating members.

That consent would not establish a mandate over non-participating communities.

These distinctions must be preserved.

The proposed initiative should therefore examine the development of separate but connected processes for historical evidence, identity, membership, representation, claims, remedies and delivery.

IBIS could be used to test how those processes might function.

Participation in such testing would not require anyone to surrender existing rights or accept unverified claims concerning their identity or ancestry.

The European network should also distinguish the existence of a reparatory obligation from the resources available to meet it.

A historical claim may concern land, money, cultural property, institutional recognition, access to records, restoration of authority or other remedies.

Different forms of reparatory justice would require different administrative mechanisms.

The proposed programme should not assume that monetary compensation is the only possible remedy.

2.12 Proposed European Operational Structure

For the purposes of initial discussion, the European strategy could be organised around four complementary functions.

The London coordination function would support conference organisation, international correspondence, research management, legal consultation and the development of institutional proposals.

The French research function would focus on colonial administrative records, the alleged 1933 arrêté, French governmental archives, the history of repression and possible legal or diplomatic engagement.

The German research function would examine the earlier colonial period, traditional authority, territorial records, maps and the continuity or alteration of colonial administrative arrangements.

The Cameroon community and evidence function would support the participation of affected families, traditional authorities, local historians, archives and other relevant institutions.

These functions need not be geographically exclusive.

Researchers in London may examine digitised German records.

Researchers in Cameroon may obtain French archival information.

French historians may assist with sources held in Germany.

The purpose of the structure is to allocate responsibilities clearly without creating unnecessary institutional divisions.

Each function should report to an agreed coordinating mechanism accountable to the participants who have authorised its work.

The arrangement should remain provisional until the proposed conference has considered and adopted any permanent governance structure.

2.13 Immediate European Research Priorities

The first stage should be directed towards establishing a reliable documentary foundation.

George T. Nomen should prepare a detailed chronology of his family history, identifying all known names, relationships, locations and events.

The chronology should distinguish dates supported by contemporary documents from approximate dates derived from family recollection.

The name Ngantcha should be investigated with particular care.

The research should record possible alternative spellings and establish which individual or individuals are being identified.

The relevant ancestral chiefdom, village and territory should be identified as precisely as possible.

The suspected 1933 arrêté should then become the subject of a coordinated archival enquiry in France and Cameroon.

Where appropriate, earlier German records should be examined to establish the previous administrative and territorial position.

The research programme should also examine the 2025 Franco-Cameroonian commission report for references to the relevant communities, colonial administrative systems and archival collections.

These activities should produce an initial evidence dossier suitable for review by historians and legal specialists.

The dossier should distinguish established facts from unresolved questions.

It should identify the missing records and explain why each is relevant.

It should also establish an estimated budget for further research.

No substantial litigation strategy should be adopted solely on the assumption that the historical allegations will necessarily be established.

Likewise, uncertainty about eventual litigation should not prevent legitimate archival research, community consultation or historical investigation from proceeding.

2.14 Conclusion to Section Two

The European geography of Bamiléké reparatory justice is not limited to the countries that exercised colonial power.

It also encompasses the institutions that preserve relevant records, the researchers capable of interpreting those records, the legal systems through which claims may be

examined and the international relationships through which organised communities may seek recognition and remedies.

France is particularly relevant to the investigation of the alleged 1933 administrative intervention and subsequent French colonial actions.

Germany provides an essential earlier historical context through its administration of Kamerun and the surviving documentation concerning colonial governance.

Britain offers relevant archival material, historical connections and the potential organisational advantages of a London-based initiative.

Cameroon remains indispensable because it is the location of the affected communities, ancestral territories, traditional institutions and potentially crucial original evidence.

A properly structured European strategy would connect these locations through a coordinated programme of research, community participation, institutional development and legal examination.

The proposed London conference could provide the foundation for that coordination.

Its purpose would not be to establish authority through symbolism alone.

It would be to determine what evidence exists, who has legitimate authority to act, which institutions should be approached, what remedies may be available and how the resulting process can be made accountable to the people whose historical rights are at issue.

The guiding proposition is that the historical fragmentation of evidence and authority should not be permitted to prevent affected people from investigating their history and pursuing appropriate remedies.

The European strategy should therefore seek to transform dispersed historical records into an organised evidential foundation, dispersed communities into a legitimate forum for cooperation, and unresolved historical claims into clearly defined processes capable of examination and, where justified, reparatory delivery.

Supporting research references for Section Two

These verified sources can be retained as an illustrated reference appendix when assembling the complete document.

Research institution	Evidence and relevance	Source

French Overseas National Archives (ANOM)	Colonial administrative records, ministerial files, maps and certain land-related records	ANOM collections  Archives nationales d’outre-mer
French Diplomatic Archives	Additional colonial and diplomatic records, including material transferred from former overseas administrations	Diplomatic collections France Diplomatie
German Federal Archives	Reichskolonialamt R 1001 and colonial Kamerun records in the R 175 series	German colonial records  The Federal Archives
UK National Archives	British Cameroons records, including FCO 141/1595–1694 and related Colonial Office series	Cameroon archive guide National Archives
National Archives of Cameroon	Relevant records retained in Cameroon, including colonial administrative material	Archive directory  Archives nationales d’outre-mer
Franco-Cameroonian Commission	Published investigation of repression between 1945 and 1971	Commission research report  Sciences Po

A particularly important archival finding

The French Overseas National Archives identifies Cameroon land-registration material from 1950–1956 in its 9 DPPC collection, but warns that original deeds and other land records may have remained locally. This reinforces the need to investigate the Cameroon archives directly for George's suspected 1933 events.



Archives nationales d’outre-mer

END OF SECTION TWO

Next — SECTION THREE: The London Conference Strategy — Convening the Bamiléké People, International Participation, Traditional Authorities, the Symbolism of 4 Carlton Gardens, Conference Governance, the London Declaration and the Possible Foundation of a Bamiléké Provisional Reparatory Justice Institution.

SECTION THREE

THE LONDON CONFERENCE STRATEGY: FROM HISTORICAL SYMBOLISM TO COLLECTIVE ORGANISATION AND INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Convening the Bamiléké People, International Participation, Traditional Authorities, the London Declaration and the Possible Establishment of a Provisional Reparatory Justice Institution

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework for consideration: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Strategic Proposal for Discussion — No Governmental or Representative Authority Is Presumed




A TOUS LES FRANÇAIS
VIVE LA FRANCE!
GENERAL
CHARLES DE GAULLE
President of the
French National Committee
set up
the Headquarters of the
Free French Forces
here in
1940



7

Historical references for the proposed London conference: the former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens, the nearby de Gaulle memorial and the wartime Free French movement.

3.1 Introduction: Why a Conference Rather Than a Demonstration Alone?

The proposal to convene an International Bamiléké Conference for Reparatory Justice in London arises from a fundamental distinction between drawing public attention to a historical grievance and developing the institutions necessary to address that grievance.

Public demonstrations, commemorations, declarations and symbolic actions can serve important purposes. They can communicate a historical argument, encourage collective participation, challenge public indifference and draw attention to matters that might otherwise remain insufficiently examined.

However, historical injustice cannot be resolved through symbolism alone.

Where a community seeks recognition of ancestral rights, investigation of historical killings, restitution of land, acknowledgment of colonial responsibility or the delivery of other reparatory remedies, sustained institutional work may be required.

This work can involve identifying affected people, obtaining historical records, reconstructing genealogies, establishing historical facts, evaluating legal rights, determining legitimate representation, engaging governments and negotiating or administering remedies.

The proposed London conference would provide an opportunity to begin organising these activities within a transparent and internationally accessible framework.

Its purpose would not merely be to announce that Bamiléké people have suffered historical injustice. Its purpose would be to examine how relevant claims can be investigated, represented, pursued and, where appropriate, translated into concrete reparatory outcomes.

The conference would also provide an opportunity to examine the question of collective political organisation raised by George T. Nomen.

George has considered the possibility of establishing a Bamiléké government-in-exile, drawing upon the historical example of General Charles de Gaulle and the Free French movement in London during the Second World War.

This proposition deserves serious consideration, but it must be distinguished from the establishment of an ordinary diaspora association, cultural organisation or international campaign.

A government-in-exile implies claims concerning governmental authority, legitimacy, territorial relationships and political representation. These questions cannot be settled merely by adopting the title.

A carefully organised international conference could create a legitimate forum for investigating those questions without predetermining their answers.

The central strategic proposition is that London should become a place where historical evidence, traditional knowledge, institutional expertise and community participation are brought together to examine the practical requirements for reparatory justice.

3.2 The Proposed Conference Title and Identity

The working title is:

INTERNATIONAL BAMILÉKÉ CONFERENCE FOR REPARATORY JUSTICE — LONDON

An accompanying historical theme could be:

From the Headquarters of Free France to the Organisation of Bamiléké Reparatory Justice.

The title should communicate the purpose of the gathering without claiming that a new government or representative authority has already been established.

The conference could eventually acquire a distinctive visual identity incorporating elements of Bamiléké cultural heritage, historical references to Cameroon and London, and the principle of collective justice.

However, its symbols should be developed through consultation.

The organisers should avoid appropriating the insignia of traditional chiefdoms, historical authorities or existing organisations without permission.

Similarly, the use of official governmental titles, flags or emblems should not imply state recognition or political authority that does not exist.

The proposed conference should initially describe itself as an international gathering for historical investigation, institutional discussion and reparatory justice.

A formal statement of purpose could explain that the initiative seeks to investigate the historical treatment of Bamiléké communities under European colonial administration, examine the rights and interests of affected people, and consider accountable institutions capable of pursuing appropriate remedies.

The conference should be open to the participation of relevant historical researchers, legal specialists and institutional representatives, while reserving questions of community representation and collective decision-making for appropriately authorised participants.

This distinction between participation and representation is essential.

A historian may contribute valuable evidence without possessing authority to represent an affected family.

A legal expert may explain available remedies without possessing authority to determine which remedies the community should pursue.

An interested supporter may attend proceedings without acquiring membership of a Bamiléké representative institution.

The conference's constitution and participation rules should preserve these differences.

3.3 Establishing a Preparatory Committee

Before any public conference is announced as a representative gathering, the organisers should establish a preparatory committee.

Its purpose would be to develop the proposal, identify potential participants, obtain preliminary advice and produce a transparent framework through which the conference could be convened.

George T. Nomen could be invited to participate in this process as the person whose historical investigation and institutional proposals have contributed to the initiative.

Reparation Nation Limited could be considered as a potential convening or administrative partner, subject to agreement.

Neither participation nor organisation of the event would automatically confer authority to represent the Bamiléké people.

The preparatory committee should be explicitly temporary.

Its authority should initially extend only to the preparation and organisation of the conference, management of agreed resources and communication with potential participants.

It should not claim the power to appoint a Bamiléké government, dispose of ancestral rights, enter binding agreements on behalf of unrepresented communities or determine who is entitled to reparations.

Its founding terms should identify its participants, responsibilities, decision-making procedures, financial arrangements and arrangements for reporting to the wider community.

The committee should also adopt a conflict-of-interest policy.

This is important because the proposed conference could attract individuals and organisations with different historical interpretations, political objectives, territorial interests or potential claims to representation.

Conflicts should be declared rather than treated as evidence of wrongdoing.

Decisions concerning participation, expenditure and institutional partnerships should be recorded and capable of subsequent examination.

The committee's first responsibility should be to consult existing Bamiléké organisations rather than assume that a new initiative must replace them.

3.4 Engagement with Existing Bamiléké Organisations

The International Bamiléké Conference should be developed through dialogue with existing community and diaspora organisations.

The All Bamiléké Convention in North America provides an important organisational reference.

Its gatherings, including the Atlanta convention in November 2019 and the Chicago-area convention in September 2026, demonstrate the existence of established diaspora networks and experience convening international participants.

However, the proposed London conference would have a different initial focus.

Rather than concentrating primarily upon cultural continuity, diaspora networking and general community development, its specific purpose would be the investigation and organisation of reparatory justice.

The organisers should therefore explore whether the existing convention networks would be interested in supporting a specialised European conference.

Cooperation could involve sharing organisational experience, facilitating introductions, identifying historians and community representatives, contributing to conference discussions or jointly examining institutional proposals.

The preparatory committee should also engage organisations involved in documenting the history of colonial repression, including La’akam and the International Museum of the Bamiléké Genocide.

Such organisations may have relevant research experience, survivor testimony, archival references and relationships with academic institutions.

These possibilities require direct verification and discussion.

The existence of an organisation's historical work does not mean that it has endorsed the London conference or agreed to participate.

All proposed partnerships should therefore be described as invitations until confirmed.

Particular attention should be given to traditional Bamiléké authorities, including relevant chiefdoms and councils.

The proposed conference must recognise that historical authority, customary legitimacy and ancestral territorial rights may be distributed across different traditional institutions.

It must not assume that one chiefdom or diaspora organisation possesses authority over all others.

The challenge is to create a forum in which these institutions can participate without surrendering their distinct identities or responsibilities.

3.5 Who Should Be Invited?

The conference's participants should reflect the different kinds of knowledge, authority and responsibility required to investigate and pursue reparatory justice.

Traditional authorities and representatives of affected Bamiléké communities would contribute knowledge concerning ancestral lands, customary institutions, political succession and the historical consequences of colonial intervention.

Descendants and family representatives would contribute testimony, genealogical information, family documents and accounts of intergenerational consequences.

Bamiléké diaspora associations would contribute organisational experience, community networks and international perspectives.

Historians and archivists would assist in identifying documentary records, evaluating sources and reconstructing historical events.

Legal specialists would examine jurisdiction, state responsibility, ancestral land rights, potential remedies and questions concerning legitimate representation.

Researchers familiar with the 2025 Franco-Cameroonian historical commission could explain its findings, methods and limitations.

Representatives of French, German, British and Cameroonian institutions could be invited to contribute where appropriate, without any presumption that their attendance constitutes endorsement of particular claims.

Human rights organisations, cultural institutions, universities and reparations researchers might contribute relevant expertise.

The conference should also provide for the meaningful participation of women, young people and descendants who are not currently represented through established traditional or diaspora institutions.

The purpose of broad participation would be to ensure that the conference can examine the full range of historical and contemporary issues.

It would not mean that every participant possesses an equal mandate to make decisions on behalf of every affected community.

The conference rules should explain the distinction between observers, invited specialists, community participants, authorised delegates and persons entitled to vote on specific resolutions.

3.6 London as the Physical Location

en.wikipedia.org

The proposed conference would derive part of its historical identity from 4 Carlton Gardens in Westminster.

English Heritage confirms that the building housed most departments of the Free French movement after de Gaulle established its headquarters there in July 1940.

The building's commemorative plaque identifies its association with the headquarters of the Free French Forces. An adjacent memorial inscription recalls de Gaulle's appeal of 18 June 1940.



English Heritage

This provides an established historical basis for associating the proposed conference with the location.

The preparatory committee should consider organising a lawful commemorative ceremony or historical statement near the building.

The event could include a factual explanation of the Free French movement, Cameroon's historical relationship with Free France and the purpose of the proposed Bamiléké conference.

The location should not be presented as evidence that the contemporary Bamiléké initiative possesses the same authority as the Free French movement.

Its significance is commemorative and comparative.

The organisers could also seek permission to hold an authorised event within the building if its current owner or occupier is willing to consider such a request.

However, the conference should not depend upon obtaining that permission.

Alternative venues should be considered for the substantive proceedings, taking account of accessibility, conference facilities, security, interpretation, transport and costs.

The conference could take place elsewhere in central London while incorporating an organised visit to Carlton Gardens.

This would preserve the historical connection without making the use of one particular property a condition of success.

3.7 The Question of Squatting or Occupying the Building

The possibility of occupying or squatting 4 Carlton Gardens was raised during preliminary discussion as a potentially dramatic symbolic action.

The proposed strategy should distinguish the intended political or historical message from the method used to communicate it.

The apparent objective is to demonstrate that a building once associated with the political organisation of a displaced French movement could now become a symbolic focal point for Bamiléké people seeking historical accountability.

Physical occupation is not necessary to make that argument.

An unauthorised occupation could introduce disputes about access, property rights, police involvement, civil proceedings and potentially criminal liability, depending upon the circumstances.

It could also complicate relationships with institutions whose cooperation may be sought.

A peaceful gathering, historical ceremony, formal declaration, authorised conference or public presentation could communicate the symbolic connection while allowing the organisers to concentrate upon the evidence and institutional questions they wish to raise.

The conference should therefore examine lawful public activities rather than assume that possession of the building has strategic or legal significance.

Westminster City Council publishes procedures for organised outdoor events and filming. The necessary permissions, safety arrangements and notice periods should be confirmed against the event's actual scale and activities before arrangements are finalised.



Westminster City Council

+1

The guiding distinction is between occupying property and establishing legitimate institutional capacity.

The proposed initiative's long-term objectives concern the latter.

3.8 Designing the Conference Programme

The initial proposal is for a three-day conference, preceded where practicable by a separate historical or commemorative activity.

The duration should be sufficient to permit substantive discussion without imposing unnecessarily high costs upon participants.

The programme should not be organised solely around speeches.

It should provide opportunities for presenting evidence, questioning researchers, considering institutional alternatives and examining specific decisions.

The first day would concentrate upon history and evidence.

The second day would concentrate upon representation, rights and institutional possibilities.

The third day would concentrate upon the development of a collective programme, proposed resolutions and responsibilities for subsequent work.

The organisers should circulate substantive background papers before the conference.

These should include a historical chronology, an account of the proposed London symbolism, a summary of the relevant Franco-Cameroonian research, a preliminary archival research plan and an explanation of the institutional options under consideration.

Participants should be able to submit corrections and additional evidence before the conference begins.

Where competing historical interpretations exist, the programme should provide opportunities for examination rather than adopting one interpretation without adequate investigation.

3.9 Day One: Historical Evidence, Colonial Administration and Ancestral Claims

The first day would examine the historical foundations of the proposed reparatory justice initiative.

Proceedings could begin with presentations concerning Bamiléké history, the organisation of traditional chiefdoms, the German colonial period and the subsequent transition to French administration.

The programme should then examine colonial administrative decisions affecting traditional leadership, territorial arrangements and landholding.

A dedicated research session could consider the role of arrêtés and other French administrative instruments.

George T. Nomen could present the historical questions arising from his family account, including the identity of Ngantcha, the alleged interference with ancestral authority, the reported deaths of relatives and the search for the suspected 1933 administrative order.

His presentation should distinguish inherited testimony from records already obtained.

This distinction would allow researchers to identify the documents needed to corroborate, clarify or challenge particular elements of the account.

A further session could address the French and Cameroonian repression of independence and opposition movements during the period investigated by the 2025 historical commission.

Participants should be encouraged to examine connections between earlier colonial administrative policies and later political repression while avoiding unsupported assumptions about direct causation.

The first day should conclude by identifying a set of agreed research questions and determining which institutions or researchers may be able to assist.

Its principal outcome would be a preliminary historical research agenda.

3.10 Day Two: Representation, Political Authority and the Government-in-Exile Question

The second day would examine the institutional question that gives the proposed conference much of its distinctive significance.

What kind of organisation, council or authority might be required to coordinate Bamiléké reparatory justice internationally?

The proceedings should begin by establishing the distinction between cultural identity, traditional authority, membership of an organisation, representation of claimants and governmental authority.

These categories must not be treated as interchangeable.

A person may identify as Bamiléké without belonging to a particular association.

A member of an association may not have authorised its leadership to pursue legal claims on their behalf.

A traditional chief may exercise recognised customary authority without possessing authority to represent unrelated communities.

A diaspora congress may organise an international gathering without acquiring the powers of a sovereign government.

The proposed institutional structure must reflect these distinctions.

The conference should then examine the historical and legal meaning of a government-in-exile.

The experience of Free France could provide a case study, but comparative examples should also be considered so that no single precedent determines the conclusions.

Relevant legal specialists should examine state continuity, political recognition, self-determination, the status of traditional polities, community mandates and the legal implications of operating from the United Kingdom.

The objective would be to identify the conditions under which different forms of representative institution could be legitimately established.

Participants should then consider whether a provisional Bamiléké reparatory justice council, rather than a claimed government-in-exile, could initially perform the necessary functions.

This possibility would allow the initiative to undertake authorised historical research, coordinate representation and develop international relationships without prematurely asserting sovereign status.

The conference should not require agreement upon a single institutional model before the evidence and governance questions have been examined.

3.11 Day Three: A London Declaration and an Agreed Programme of Work

The third day would focus upon matters on which participating delegates may be capable of reaching agreement.

A proposed London Declaration could set out the historical concerns motivating the conference, the principles governing its work, the institutions it wishes to engage and the next steps that participants agree to undertake.

It should avoid presenting unverified historical allegations as established findings.

It should also avoid declaring that the conference represents every Bamiléké person unless an adequate mandate has been demonstrated.

The declaration should identify its signatories and the capacity in which each has signed.

A traditional authority may sign on behalf of a particular institution.

An individual may sign in a personal capacity.

An association may sign pursuant to its own authorised procedures.

These different forms of endorsement should be recorded accurately.

The conference could adopt resolutions authorising further research, establishing a temporary coordination mechanism, arranging future consultation and developing proposals for a permanent representative institution.

It might also adopt a resolution requesting formal engagement with French, German, British and Cameroonian governmental or archival institutions.

No declaration should commit absent communities or individuals to legal obligations without their authorisation.

The resulting document would be a record of the conference's actual decisions, not a substitute for community consent.

3.12 A Proposed Bamiléké London Declaration

The preparatory committee could circulate a draft declaration before the conference.

The document might begin by recognising the historical experiences of Bamiléké communities under successive European colonial administrations and the importance of investigating the effects of those administrations upon ancestral authority, territory, political life and family histories.

It could affirm the importance of preserving historical evidence, recognising the rights of affected communities and ensuring that descendants can participate meaningfully in the investigation of their ancestral histories.

It could acknowledge the symbolism of London as the location from which Free France organised its wartime activities and the historical relationship between Cameroon and the Free French movement.

It should expressly distinguish that symbolism from any claim that the conference has inherited the legal authority of Free France.

The declaration could then affirm that reparatory justice requires more than historical acknowledgment.

It requires the examination of historical responsibility, recognition of affected persons and communities, consideration of appropriate remedies and the development of transparent procedures for administering and verifying outcomes.

The declaration could establish the intention to develop a coordinated research and institutional programme while reserving questions of permanent representation and governmental status for future authorised deliberation.

Its strength would lie in the clarity of the commitments undertaken and the ability to demonstrate subsequent progress.

A declaration that establishes a functioning programme may have enduring practical significance even without an immediate claim to governmental authority.

3.13 The Possibility of a Provisional Bamiléké Reparatory Justice Council

One institutional possibility for consideration is the establishment of a Provisional Bamiléké Reparatory Justice Council.

Such a council would initially operate as an accountable coordinating body rather than a purported sovereign government.

Its authority would derive from the individuals, communities and organisations that have expressly authorised it.

Its founding instrument should describe the scope and limits of that authority.

The council could be given responsibility for coordinating archival research, maintaining a register of authorised claims, facilitating legal advice, communicating with relevant institutions and reporting progress to participating communities.

It could also develop recommendations concerning the long-term institutional arrangements required for reparatory justice.

The council should not automatically assume ownership of claims or authority to negotiate their settlement.

Specific authorisation would be required where it acts on behalf of individuals, families or communities.

The founding arrangements should include procedures for appointing or electing representatives, determining terms of office, resolving disputes, managing finances and removing officeholders.

Accounts and significant decisions should be recorded and made accessible to the people to whom the council is accountable, subject to legitimate confidentiality.

Its provisional status should be genuine.

The institution should have a defined review process and should not become permanent merely because its founders continue to occupy their positions.

The conference could determine whether it wishes to create such a council immediately, establish a temporary working group to design it, or defer the question pending further consultation.

3.14 Traditional Authorities and the Principle of Non-Displacement

Any proposed international institution must respect the existence of Bamiléké traditional authorities.

The creation of a London-based organisation should not be treated as a transfer of ancestral authority from Cameroon to Europe.

Traditional authority may be founded upon customary succession, historical institutions and relationships with particular communities or territories.

A European conference cannot simply replace those arrangements through a majority vote among diaspora participants.

The proposed initiative should therefore adopt a principle of non-displacement.

Its purpose would be to support legitimate traditional and community structures, not to extinguish them.

Where historical claims concern the removal or replacement of traditional authorities under colonial rule, the question of legitimate succession may itself be disputed.

In such cases, the conference should not declare the rightful holder of authority without an appropriate evidential and community-based process.

Researchers can assist in reconstructing the historical record.

Legal specialists can explain relevant laws.

Community institutions must be afforded the opportunity to determine how they wish to address the findings.

This approach would help prevent a reparatory justice initiative from reproducing the very forms of imposed representation or administrative control that it seeks to investigate.

3.15 The Role of George T. Nomen

George T. Nomen's potential role should be considered in relation to his historical investigation, community relationships and willingness to contribute to the proposed initiative.

His efforts to obtain French colonial records concerning his ancestors provide a concrete basis for discussing the need for coordinated historical research.

His proposal concerning a government-in-exile also introduces an institutional question deserving examination.

However, the conference should not assume that he possesses general authority to represent every Bamiléké community.

Nor should it place upon him responsibilities that require resources, expertise or mandates not yet obtained.

George could initially be invited to act as a founding participant in the preparatory process, a contributor to the historical research programme and a proposer of institutional options.

His family investigation could be developed as an initial research case, with appropriate safeguards concerning consent, accuracy and the handling of sensitive information.

Any subsequent representative or official role should be determined through the adopted governance procedures.

This would protect both George and the initiative from uncertainty concerning the nature and scope of his authority.

3.16 The Role of Reparation Nation Limited

Reparation Nation Limited could be considered as a potential supporting organisation for the proposed conference.

Its contribution would need to be defined through an agreed arrangement with the conference organisers.

Possible responsibilities could include preparing strategic documentation, assisting with international correspondence, supporting conference administration, coordinating public information and developing a structured reporting process.

Its role should be clearly distinguished from that of an authorised Bamiléké representative institution.

Reparation Nation Limited should not present itself as possessing authority over Bamiléké historical claims, traditional institutions or reparatory entitlements.

Its possible contribution would be organisational and technical, subject to the decisions of the relevant participants.

This distinction would permit cooperation without creating confusion over the ownership of the initiative or the rights of affected communities.

3.17 IBIS and the Conference's Institutional Development

The conference could include a substantive presentation concerning IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice.

The purpose would be to explain how the proposed architecture could assist with the organisation of complex reparatory justice processes.

Its potential relevance includes the identification of affected persons, distinction between identity and membership, verification of representative authority, recording of historical claims, organisation of evidence and monitoring of reparatory commitments.

The conference should not be asked to accept IBIS merely because its proponents are involved in organising the event.

Participants should be able to examine its assumptions, procedures, limitations and safeguards.

An illustrative demonstration could use fictional or appropriately anonymised records to show how a historical claim might progress from an initial allegation to documentary investigation, authorised representation, consideration of remedies and verification of any eventual delivery.

Any actual family information should be used only with appropriate authorisation and safeguards.

The conference could appoint an independent working group to assess whether IBIS would be suitable for further testing.

Such an assessment should identify both its potential benefits and any technical, legal, governance or privacy concerns requiring attention.

This would allow institutional architecture to be evaluated as a practical tool rather than promoted as a predetermined solution.

3.18 Conference Governance and Decision-Making

The legitimacy of the conference will depend substantially upon the rules through which decisions are made.

The preparatory committee should publish proposed participation and voting procedures sufficiently early for prospective participants to review them.

The rules should explain who may attend, who may submit evidence, who may speak and who may participate in particular decisions.

It may be appropriate to establish different participation categories.

For example, invited historians and legal specialists could contribute expertise without voting on community representation.

Authorised delegates could participate in decisions within the scope of their mandates.

Individuals attending in a personal capacity could express their views without automatically acquiring authority to bind a wider community.

The organisers should establish procedures for verifying delegated authority.

These procedures must be proportionate and respectful.

They should not require unnecessary disclosure of sensitive family or identity information.

Decisions should be recorded with the wording of the motion, the eligible decision-makers, the method used, the outcome and any formally recorded objections.

Where a matter is too significant to be settled at the conference, a resolution could refer it for further consultation.

A decision to explore a government-in-exile should not be presented as equivalent to a decision establishing one.

Likewise, a decision to prepare a council's constitution should not be presented as proof that the council has already received a mandate.

Accurate institutional records would help protect the legitimacy of the process.

3.19 Safeguards Against Discrimination and Institutional Abuse

The proposed conference should establish clear safeguards against discrimination, exclusion, intimidation and abuse of authority.

These should include explicit consideration of anti-Black racism and institutional racism, particularly because the initiative concerns the historical treatment of African communities under colonial administration.

The existence of these risks should be addressed through preventative safeguards rather than assumptions concerning the intentions of particular individuals or institutions.

A written equality and conduct policy should apply to organisers, participants, contractors and representatives.

There should be accessible procedures for reporting concerns, obtaining independent review and challenging decisions that may have been affected by unfair treatment.

The organisers should distinguish disagreements about historical evidence or institutional proposals from discriminatory conduct.

Participants should be able to challenge claims, question authority and express dissent without being treated as opponents of reparatory justice.

The conference should also protect against financial conflicts, the unauthorised use of personal information and the misuse of representative titles.

Any organisation seeking to administer funds or claims should be subject to appropriate financial and governance safeguards.

The objective would be to create a process in which affected people can participate with confidence that their rights and interests will not be subordinated to unaccountable institutions.

3.20 Funding and Financial Accountability

The conference would require a financial plan proportionate to its ambitions.

Potential expenditure could include venue hire, accessibility arrangements, interpretation, travel assistance, accommodation, research materials, insurance, technical equipment, documentation and professional advice.

The organisers should prepare a preliminary budget before seeking financial contributions.

Funding sources should be disclosed, including any material conditions attached to contributions.

The acceptance of funds should not confer authority upon a donor to determine historical conclusions, appoint community representatives or control reparatory claims.

Where funding is offered by institutions whose historical conduct may be under examination, the potential conflict should be addressed transparently.

The conference should also distinguish the costs of organising the gathering from the costs of subsequent archival research or legal proceedings.

Participants should not be led to believe that a contribution to conference expenses constitutes an investment in a future compensation payment.

No return, award or settlement should be promised unless there is a properly established basis for it.

Financial reporting should identify money received, expenditure incurred and any remaining resources.

If a permanent institution is subsequently established, it should adopt its own financial governance arrangements.

3.21 Media, Public Communication and Historical Accuracy

The historical symbolism of London may attract public interest.

The preparatory committee should therefore develop a communications policy before public announcements are made.

Public statements should explain that the proposed initiative concerns historical investigation, collective organisation and the exploration of reparatory justice mechanisms.

The organisers should distinguish established historical facts from allegations requiring further evidence.

The confirmed association of 4 Carlton Gardens with Free France may be stated as historical fact.

The details of George's family history should be presented as matters under investigation to the extent that independent evidence remains outstanding.

The proposed government-in-exile should be described as an institutional possibility under consideration, not as an existing recognised authority.

Public communications should avoid suggesting that participation by a government official, historian or established organisation amounts to endorsement of conclusions that the participant has not accepted.

The conference should appoint authorised spokespersons and publish procedures for correcting inaccurate statements.

Where proceedings are recorded, participants should receive appropriate information about filming, publication and the treatment of personal data.

The purpose of media coverage should be to communicate the work accurately and make its outcomes accessible for public scrutiny.

3.22 Conference Documentation and Preservation

The conference should produce a permanent record.

The record should include invitations, published background papers, the programme, the names and stated capacities of participating organisations, research presentations, adopted resolutions and the final declaration.

Where participants submit evidence, the organisers should distinguish documents intended for public circulation from material supplied confidentially.

The proceedings should be minuted, and important decisions should be recorded in a form capable of later verification.

Where possible, presentations could be made available through an online archive with appropriate permissions.

The resulting conference archive would have several purposes.

It would allow absent community members to examine what occurred.

It would provide a basis for subsequent institutional work.

It would assist future researchers in understanding how claims and proposals developed.

It would also reduce the risk of subsequent disagreement about what the conference actually decided.

Corrections should be preserved with the original record rather than silently replacing it.

This principle would be particularly important if the conference eventually creates a provisional council or other representative institution.

3.23 The Conference as a Beginning Rather Than an Endpoint

The proposed conference should not be judged solely by attendance numbers, publicity or the adoption of a declaration.

Its substantive achievements would depend upon whether it creates a reliable foundation for further work.

That foundation might include the establishment of a historical research programme, agreement upon archival priorities, identification of participating communities, adoption of transparent governance procedures and development of a mechanism for continuing consultation.

The conference might also commission specialist legal research concerning reparatory claims and possible institutional structures.

It could establish arrangements for regular reporting and future meetings.

Where major disagreements remain unresolved, the conference should record them openly and establish procedures for further consideration.

A decision to defer a question pending better evidence or wider consultation may be a responsible outcome.

The conference should not be compelled to produce a government-in-exile or permanent institution merely to justify the event.

Its legitimacy would be strengthened if participants could demonstrate that their decisions followed adequate examination and appropriate authorisation.

3.24 Proposed Implementation Sequence

The initial implementation could take place through five stages.

During the first stage, George T. Nomen and interested supporting organisations would develop a common discussion paper identifying the historical questions, the proposed London symbolism and the objectives of a conference.

During the second stage, preliminary approaches would be made to existing Bamiléké organisations, traditional authorities, historians and relevant research institutions.

The purpose would be to establish whether there is sufficient interest to proceed and identify any major concerns requiring attention.

During the third stage, an appropriately constituted preparatory committee would develop the programme, participation procedures, proposed budget, governance safeguards and draft declaration.

During the fourth stage, the conference would be convened in London, accompanied where practicable by a lawful historical gathering or commemorative event associated with 4 Carlton Gardens.

During the fifth stage, any authorised working groups or provisional bodies would implement the conference's resolutions and report regularly on progress.

The actual timetable should be determined by the availability of participants, funding and the completion of necessary preparatory work.

It should not be driven solely by the desire to associate the event with a particular commemorative anniversary.

The quality of preparation, legitimacy of participation and clarity of outcomes are essential considerations.

3.25 Conclusion to Section Three

The proposed International Bamiléké Conference for Reparatory Justice would provide a means of connecting historical research, community participation and institutional development.

London offers a distinctive historical setting because of its association with Free France and General Charles de Gaulle.

The former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens provides an identifiable site through which that history can be communicated.

However, the proposed conference's importance would not depend upon acquiring possession of the building or replicating the political circumstances of the Second World War.

Its significance would arise from its capacity to bring together people and institutions able to investigate historical claims, clarify legitimate representation and examine the means through which appropriate reparatory justice may be pursued.

The possible establishment of a government-in-exile should be treated as a serious constitutional and political question, requiring substantial historical, legal and community examination.

An international reparatory justice council or other provisional institution may provide an alternative through which authorised work could begin without making premature claims to sovereign authority.

The conference should preserve the ability of participating communities to determine their own institutional future.

George T. Nomen's historical investigation could provide an initial focus for the research programme, while Reparation Nation Limited and IBIS could be considered for supporting organisational and technical roles.

The final arrangements should emerge from transparent consultation and proper authorisation.

The proposed conference would therefore seek to achieve something more durable than a symbolic occupation, a public protest or a declaration of grievance.

It would seek to establish a documented, accountable and internationally connected process through which historical questions can be investigated and potential reparatory remedies pursued.

The central strategic objective is to ensure that historical evidence, community legitimacy and institutional capacity develop together.

A conference organised upon these principles could become the foundation for a continuing Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative without confusing historical symbolism with legal authority or political aspiration with verified institutional achievement.

The historical significance of London could provide the opening. The authority of participating communities, the quality of historical evidence and the integrity of the institutions established would determine what follows.

Supplementary research: 4 Carlton Gardens and conference administration



Historical location confirmed

English Heritage records that number 4 housed the principal Free French departments, while number 3 was associated with de Gaulle's private office. This distinction should be preserved in the conference's historical materials.

English Heritage

Outdoor event arrangements

Westminster Council's published notice periods are 10 working days for small events without statutory licences, one month for certain licensed events, and at least three months for events involving road closures or over 499 people. The council also warns of current application delays.

Friday, 09 October 2026 09/10/2026 21:15:42

Westminster City Council

Initial council enquiry

eventsandfilming@westminster.gov.uk

Westminster outdoor-event guidance

END OF SECTION THREE

NEXT — SECTION FOUR: THE GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE QUESTION — Historical Precedents, Bamiléké Traditional Sovereignty, Self-Determination, International Recognition, Provisional Government Structures, Legal Risks and the Institutional Alternatives Available to George T. Nomen.

SECTION FOUR

THE GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE QUESTION: HISTORICAL PRECEDENTS, BAMILÉKÉ SOVEREIGNTY, SELF-DETERMINATION AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE INSTITUTIONS

An Examination of Political Authority, International Recognition, Traditional Governance, Legal Status and Institutional Alternatives for the Delivery of Reparatory Justice

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Research and Strategic Discussion Document — No Claim to Governmental Authority or International Recognition Is Made







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4.1 Introduction: What Would a Bamiléké Government-in-Exile Actually Represent?

The proposal advanced by George T. Nomen to consider the establishment of a Bamiléké government-in-exile raises one of the most significant questions within the proposed European and London-based reparatory justice strategy.

At its centre lies a fundamental problem concerning political authority.

If European colonial powers displaced traditional authorities, reorganised ancestral territories, imposed administrative systems and interfered with the political institutions of Bamiléké communities, what institutions might legitimately represent the affected people today?

The question is not answered merely by determining whether historical injustices occurred.

Historical wrongdoing, political representation, legal responsibility and the delivery of reparatory justice are separate matters requiring distinct forms of evidence and authority.

An individual may establish that an ancestor was unlawfully removed from a traditional position without automatically acquiring authority to govern the entire community.

A family may demonstrate ancestral rights to particular territory without necessarily acquiring authority over unrelated families or neighbouring communities.

An international association may organise descendants and supporters without becoming a sovereign government.

Equally, the absence of a presently recognised government-in-exile does not mean that affected people cannot organise themselves, appoint representatives, demand access to historical records or pursue lawful remedies.

These distinctions should form the foundation of the proposed investigation.

The purpose of this section is therefore to examine the government-in-exile concept as a serious institutional possibility, rather than treating it either as an established entitlement or as an inherently impossible proposition.

The investigation considers the historical example of Free France, the character of traditional Bamiléké political organisation, international law concerning self-determination, the recognition of governments and states, and the institutional arrangements that could support reparatory justice.

It also examines whether an alternative form of provisional authority might perform the functions sought by George without requiring an immediate claim to statehood or international recognition.

The central issue is not simply what an organisation should be called.

It is what authority the organisation can legitimately exercise, on whose behalf it can act, which responsibilities it can undertake and how its actions can be verified and challenged.

4.2 What Is a Government-in-Exile?

A government-in-exile is generally understood as a political authority that operates outside the territory of the state it claims to govern or represent.

Historically, governments-in-exile have arisen in circumstances involving military invasion, foreign occupation, forced displacement, revolutionary change, disputed political succession and the loss of effective territorial control.

Some have claimed to continue the government of an already recognised state.

Others have claimed authority over territories or political communities whose international status was disputed.

The legal position of such bodies has varied considerably.

International recognition may affect their ability to act on behalf of a state, engage diplomatically, conclude treaties, control state property or exercise other governmental functions.

However, the adoption of the title government-in-exile does not itself create those powers.

International legal scholarship distinguishes between authorities recognised as governments and bodies that claim governmental status without obtaining recognition.

Stefan Talmon's Recognition of Governments in International Law: With Particular Reference to Governments in Exile examines these distinctions, including international representation, jurisdiction, privileges and immunities.

An important conclusion for the proposed Bamiléké initiative is that a political organisation may operate internationally and undertake legitimate activities without possessing the legal status of a government.

It may conduct research, establish membership arrangements, seek diplomatic meetings, represent consenting claimants and negotiate agreements within the limits of its authority.

Such activities should not be confused with exercising sovereign governmental powers.

The proposed London conference must therefore determine which activities actually require governmental authority and which could be undertaken by an appropriately constituted representative organisation.

This distinction is essential because the institutional form should serve the substantive objective of reparatory justice.

The objective should not be subordinated to the pursuit of a title whose legal consequences have not been established.



Oxford Academic

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4.3 The Historical Example of Free France







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The establishment of Free France in London during the Second World War provides the principal historical inspiration for George's proposal.

In June 1940, France suffered military defeat by Nazi Germany.

General Charles de Gaulle travelled to London and called for continued resistance.

On 18 June 1940, he made his historic broadcast through the BBC.

The movement that subsequently developed organised military forces, international relationships and political institutions.

On 28 June 1940, the British government recognised de Gaulle as the leader of the Free French. Recognition of his leadership was not identical to immediate recognition of a fully constituted alternative French government.

Free French institutions developed progressively. The French National Committee, the French Committee of National Liberation and ultimately the Provisional Government of the French Republic emerged at different stages.

The historical process therefore involved institutional development, rather than the instantaneous creation of a government through declaration.

The French presidency's official historical account confirms the progression from de Gaulle's wartime appeal to the Free French movement and subsequent governmental arrangements.



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This history is relevant to the Bamiléké proposal in several respects.

First, it demonstrates that political organisation outside a national territory can form part of a wider historical process involving contested authority and institutional development.

Second, it demonstrates that international relationships and external support can influence the practical activities available to a political movement.

Third, it illustrates the importance of differentiating political leadership, military organisation, diplomatic engagement and recognised governmental authority.

Fourth, it demonstrates that the institutional character of a movement may evolve in response to changing political and historical circumstances.

However, the differences between Free France and the proposed Bamiléké initiative must be expressly recognised.

Free France claimed to continue the authority of an existing internationally recognised French state during wartime occupation.

A contemporary Bamiléké body would need to establish the basis upon which it claimed authority, the people and territory concerned, and its relationship with the internationally recognised Republic of Cameroon.

The analogy is therefore instructive but not determinative.

It provides a historical model for examining institutional organisation and international representation.

It does not automatically confer comparable legal standing upon a Bamiléké government-in-exile.

4.4 The Historical Character of Bamiléké Political Authority

One of the most important issues for the proposed conference is that the Bamiléké people have historically been organised through multiple traditional chiefdoms rather than a single centralised Bamiléké state.

Scholarly research describes numerous territorial and political units associated with the Bamiléké region.

A 1976 study published in the Journal des Africanistes describes approximately one hundred territorial units commonly identified as chiefdoms, each with its own historical development, chiefly lineage and institutional structures.

The study also describes the importance of councils of notables and established relationships between traditional leadership and community organisation.



Persée

This history has major implications for George's proposal.

It means that the conference cannot simply assume that a central Bamiléké government existed before colonial intervention and can now be reconstituted without further historical examination.

The relevant investigation must determine whether the proposed institution is intended to restore a particular traditional polity, establish a voluntary federation of chiefdoms, coordinate claims across multiple communities or claim political authority over the Bamiléké people collectively.

These possibilities involve different forms of legitimacy.

The historic autonomy of individual chiefdoms raises questions concerning the appropriate method of consultation and representation.

For example, a conference attended by delegates from some chiefdoms could not automatically claim authority over all other chiefdoms.

Nor could an organisation established by members of the diaspora automatically replace the institutions through which communities in Cameroon exercise traditional authority.

A provisional international council could nevertheless be established by consenting participants for defined purposes.

Its legitimacy would depend upon the scope of those participants' authorisation.

A voluntary federation could also be considered, provided that its constitution respects the rights of participating communities and does not impose obligations upon non-participants.

The central principle should be that collective organisation does not require the erasure of distinct historical political identities.

4.5 The Problem of Colonial Recognition and the Replacement of Traditional Authorities

George's account raises a specific question concerning the relationship between colonial administration and traditional political legitimacy.

He has described circumstances in which a relative identified as Ngantcha may have been removed or replaced through French colonial intervention.

The precise facts remain subject to historical verification.

Nevertheless, the underlying institutional question is important.

What happens when a colonial authority recognises, appoints or removes a traditional chief?

Does colonial administrative recognition determine legitimate customary succession?

Can the holder of colonial administrative office be distinguished from the holder of traditional authority?

If colonial administrators intervened in customary succession, what legal or historical consequences might continue after independence?

The answers cannot be assumed to be uniform across all Bamiléké communities.

Some customary institutions may have retained substantial continuity, while others may have experienced significant changes under successive colonial administrations.

The investigation must examine the relationship between the relevant traditional institutions and the administrative powers exercised by German, French and subsequent Cameroonian authorities.

Modern Cameroon also regulates traditional chiefdoms through state law.

Cameroonian governmental planning documentation describes the system established under Decree No. 77/245 of 15 July 1977 concerning the organisation of traditional chiefdoms, including their classification into administrative categories and their relationship with state administration.



Minepat

This produces a distinction between customary historical legitimacy and contemporary legal recognition by the Cameroonian state.

Both may be relevant, but they are not necessarily identical.

A person claiming ancestral authority would need to establish the relevant customary and genealogical facts.

The effect of contemporary Cameroonian law would then require separate examination.

A European-based institution could assist with historical research and the preservation of evidence.

It should not purport to settle disputed traditional successions simply by issuing declarations from London.

The determination of such matters may require community consultation, historical investigation and consideration of applicable law.

4.6 Restoring a Historical Institution Versus Creating a New Institution

A critical conceptual distinction must be established between restoring an institution and creating one.

Restoration implies that a historical institution existed, possessed an identifiable form of authority and was subsequently displaced, suppressed or otherwise prevented from functioning.

Creation involves establishing an institution that did not previously exist in the proposed form.

A modern Bamiléké international council may be a new institution even if it draws upon traditional political principles.

A federation of chiefdoms may represent a new arrangement between existing traditional institutions.

An organisation claiming to restore a particular ancestral government would need evidence concerning the prior existence, structure, authority and succession of that government.

These distinctions have important implications for public statements.

If the conference establishes a new international organisation, it should say so.

If it seeks to restore a historical institution, it should identify that institution and the evidence supporting its continuity.

If it proposes a government-in-exile, it should explain the authority from which the governmental claim is derived.

The conference should not describe an entirely new organisation as the continuation of a historical government unless a defensible basis for that claim has been established.

Such precision would reduce future disputes concerning legitimacy and authority.

4.7 The Right of Peoples to Self-Determination

International law recognises self-determination as an important principle.

Article 1(2) of the Charter of the United Nations identifies respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples among the purposes of the organisation.

Common Article 1 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights provides that peoples have the right of self-determination and may freely determine their political status and pursue economic, social and cultural development.

The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights also recognises self-determination.

These provisions are relevant to the proposed Bamiléké conference because they provide a legal and conceptual framework for examining collective rights and political participation.

However, self-determination should not automatically be interpreted as conferring an unconditional right upon every cultural or ethnic community to establish a separate sovereign state.

International law distinguishes between different forms of self-determination.

Internal self-determination may concern participation, cultural autonomy, political arrangements and the ability of a people to pursue its development within an existing state.

External self-determination concerns the determination of international political status and may arise in particular circumstances, including decolonisation.

The relationship between self-determination, territorial integrity and claims to secession is complex and requires specialist examination.

The proposed conference should therefore distinguish a demand for historical reparations from a demand for autonomy, self-government or independence.

These objectives may be connected in some circumstances, but they are not legally interchangeable.

It would be possible for an authorised Bamiléké organisation to pursue historical accountability and reparatory justice without demanding the creation of a separate state.

Equally, participants may wish to examine whether historical evidence raises wider questions concerning political autonomy or collective rights.

Those questions should be investigated openly and separately.

The conference should avoid adopting a constitutional objective before determining whether the affected communities wish to pursue it and what legal basis may exist.

The underlying principle is that collective rights should not be asserted by an organisation that has not established its authority to represent the relevant collective.

Primary reference: Charter of the United Nations, Articles 1 and 2.



United Nations

4.8 The African Charter and the Rights of Peoples

The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights is particularly relevant because it combines individual rights with provisions concerning the collective rights of peoples.

Article 19 addresses equality among peoples and rejects domination of one people by another.

Article 20 recognises the right of peoples to existence and self-determination.

Article 21 concerns the disposal of wealth and natural resources, including questions involving dispossession and compensation.

Article 22 recognises the right of peoples to economic, social and cultural development.

These provisions deserve examination in relation to the historical experiences described by George and other Bamiléké descendants.

If ancestral territories were reorganised, traditional authorities displaced and resources removed under colonial administration, the historical investigation may raise questions concerning collective rights, cultural continuity and reparatory remedies.

However, the Charter's provisions should not be presented as automatically establishing a successful legal claim against France or Germany.

The jurisdiction of the relevant legal institution, the identity of the respondent, the applicable period, the legal obligations involved and the procedural requirements would all need examination.

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights have different functions and procedural arrangements.

A proposed application would require specialist advice regarding jurisdiction, admissibility, standing and the available remedies.

The African Charter nevertheless provides a framework for examining collective rights beyond monetary compensation alone.

It raises questions about ancestral authority, cultural institutions, land, resources and the capacity of affected communities to participate in decisions concerning their future.

These questions should be incorporated into the conference's legal research programme.

4.9 The Difference Between People, Nation, State and Government

The proposed strategy must avoid treating four important concepts as identical.

A people may possess a common historical, cultural, linguistic or social identity.

A nation may be understood as a community possessing a collective historical or political consciousness, although the meaning of the term varies across contexts.

A state is a legal and political entity possessing attributes relevant to international law, generally including territory, population, government and the capacity for international relations.

A government is an institution or collection of institutions exercising governmental authority.

The existence of a people does not automatically establish that it constitutes a separate sovereign state.

The existence of traditional authorities does not necessarily establish a single central government over every community sharing a cultural identity.

A modern association may claim to represent a people without becoming a government.

These distinctions are especially relevant because Bamiléké identity extends across numerous historically distinct traditional communities.

The proposed London initiative could seek to represent consenting Bamiléké descendants in reparations matters without claiming to constitute a new sovereign state.

Alternatively, it could develop a constitutional proposal for a federation of traditional communities.

If participants seek international recognition as a state or government, substantially different legal and political questions arise.

The conference must therefore establish the nature of the proposed collective before selecting its institutional form.

4.10 The Montevideo Criteria and the Problem of Statehood

The Montevideo Convention on the Rights and Duties of States of 1933 identifies four commonly discussed criteria for statehood: a permanent population, a defined territory, government and capacity to enter into relations with other states.

These criteria have influenced international legal discussions concerning statehood.

They do not mean that an organisation automatically becomes a state merely by declaring that it satisfies them.

The United Kingdom has referred to these criteria in its own explanations of state recognition, including a parliamentary answer published on 26 February 2020.



UK Parliament

For the proposed Bamiléké initiative, the territorial question would require particular attention.

What territory would the proposed government claim to represent?

Would that territory correspond to a particular traditional chiefdom, a historical federation or a larger Bamiléké region?

How were the relevant boundaries historically established?

What relationship would those boundaries have to contemporary administrative boundaries within Cameroon?

Would the proposed institution seek sovereign jurisdiction over the territory, or would it seek only to represent consenting communities in negotiations over historical claims?

These are distinct questions.

Historical evidence of ancestral landholding is not necessarily evidence of a right to establish a new internationally recognised state.

Similarly, possession of a diaspora headquarters in London would not satisfy a claim to effective territorial government over land in Cameroon.

The capacity to maintain relationships with foreign organisations should also be distinguished from the international legal capacity of a sovereign state.

An ordinary association may correspond with governments, negotiate agreements within its legal competence and participate in international events without possessing sovereign treaty-making authority.

The conference should therefore commission legal analysis before adopting language implying that the proposed institution satisfies criteria for statehood.

4.11 The United Kingdom's Policy on Recognition

A particularly important finding concerns the United Kingdom's own policy.

Since 1980, the United Kingdom has followed a policy of recognising states rather than issuing formal recognition of governments as a separate routine practice.

The policy was explained in Parliament by Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington on 28 April 1980.

The United Kingdom continues to determine the nature of its dealings with particular authorities according to the circumstances, rather than treating every governmental recognition question as requiring a formal declaration.

This is directly relevant to the proposed London strategy.

UK Parliament API

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A Bamiléké body established in London should not assume that it could obtain a formal British certificate of recognition as a government-in-exile.

Nor should a meeting with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office be presented as governmental recognition.

The British authorities may engage with community organisations, researchers or representatives without acknowledging them as sovereign governments.

The proposed initiative should therefore distinguish diplomatic access from diplomatic status.

It should also recognise that registration as a company, charity or other legal organisation within the United Kingdom would not confer governmental authority.

An incorporated body may possess legal personality for specified purposes, including entering contracts, employing staff or holding property.

That is different from exercising sovereign powers.

The organisers should determine which legal form, if any, would be appropriate for the operational functions proposed.

The choice should be made according to governance needs, tax and reporting obligations, financial accountability and the scope of lawful activities.

A government-in-exile claim should not be used as a substitute for ordinary legal and administrative compliance.

4.12 International Recognition Must Be Distinguished from International Engagement

International engagement can take several forms.

An organisation may receive correspondence from a government department.

Its representatives may be invited to attend an academic conference.

It may participate in consultations with international institutions.

It may receive funding, research assistance or public expressions of support.

It may also receive invitations to discuss historical claims or submit evidence.

None of these activities necessarily constitutes recognition of governmental authority.

The proposed initiative should maintain accurate records distinguishing the type and significance of each institutional relationship.

If a government agrees to discuss colonial archival access, that agreement should be recorded as cooperation concerning archives.

If a university agrees to support historical research, the relationship should be described as academic cooperation.

If an international organisation permits participation in a consultation, the exact capacity of participation should be identified.

An initiative can develop substantive institutional relationships without describing them inaccurately as diplomatic recognition.

International recognition of governments remains a complex and contested area of international law, involving questions of effective control, legitimacy, state continuity and the conduct of other states.



Cambridge Core

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For George, the practical question is whether the authority he seeks is actually required to achieve the immediate objectives.

Historical documentation, access to archives, authorised claimant representation and the development of reparatory justice mechanisms may be possible without governmental recognition.

If a governmental claim is subsequently pursued, it should be based upon a clearly defined constitutional proposal and appropriate legal research.

4.13 The Question of Representation: Who Authorises Whom?

Perhaps the most important question facing the proposed initiative concerns representation.

Who possesses authority to establish a Bamiléké government-in-exile, provisional council or international reparatory justice institution?

There are several possible sources of authority.

An individual may authorise another person to act in relation to a particular legal or administrative claim.

A family may agree upon representatives for matters concerning family property, historical records or collective interests.

A traditional authority may appoint delegates within the scope of its own legitimate powers.

An association may authorise representatives through its constitution.

Multiple communities may agree to create a joint institution.

These forms of authority must not be confused.

A family authorisation does not establish a mandate over an entire chiefdom.

A chiefdom mandate does not necessarily establish authority over neighbouring chiefdoms.

A diaspora association's membership does not automatically encompass all descendants of a particular ancestry.

The conference should therefore develop an explicit authorisation framework.

Every representative mandate should identify the authorising person or institution, the scope of authority, any limitations, the period of validity and the procedure through which the mandate can be reviewed or withdrawn.

Where authority is disputed, the dispute should be recorded.

No representative should claim exclusive authority over persons or communities whose consent has not been established.

The resulting institution could accommodate different mandates for different purposes.

For example, a researcher might be authorised to obtain archival records, while a legal representative might possess separate authority to pursue a specified claim.

An international council might be authorised to organise conferences without acquiring authority to negotiate the surrender or settlement of ancestral rights.

Such arrangements would permit cooperation without sacrificing institutional clarity.

4.14 Identity, Membership, Recognition and Representation within IBIS

The IBIS architecture provides a conceptual framework for examining these distinctions.

Identity, membership, recognition and representation must be treated as separate matters.

A person may possess a Bamiléké identity through ancestry or community affiliation.

That identity does not necessarily establish membership of a particular organisation.

Membership of an organisation does not automatically establish authority to represent other members.

Recognition of an individual's identity does not necessarily establish recognition of a territorial or historical claim.

Similarly, recognition of a historical claim does not automatically establish that one organisation possesses authority to negotiate its settlement.

The proposed London initiative could use IBIS to examine these distinctions through a structured administrative process.

Such a process might begin by recording the existence of an individual, family or community claim.

The relevant identity and historical evidence would then be examined according to an agreed methodology.

Membership of any representative organisation would be separately recorded.

Representative mandates would identify the authority granted and the matters to which that authority applies.

Historical findings and reparatory claims would be maintained as distinct records.

Any subsequent commitment, allocation or delivery of reparatory resources would be separately documented.

The precise technical arrangements would require further design, testing and safeguards.

IBIS should not be presented as already capable of determining legitimate traditional succession or resolving every possible legal dispute.

Its potential role is to organise information, responsibilities and processes so that important distinctions are not lost.

The proposed Bamiléké institution would remain responsible for obtaining appropriate authority and acting within its legitimate powers.

4.15 What Might a Provisional Bamiléké Reparatory Justice Council Actually Do?

An authorised provisional council could potentially perform useful functions without claiming sovereignty.

It could commission historical research and coordinate archival enquiries.

It could maintain a register of cases submitted by consenting individuals, families and communities.

It could facilitate the collection and preservation of testimony.

It could appoint researchers and seek legal advice.

It could communicate with French, German, British and Cameroonian institutions.

It could organise conferences and publish research reports.

It could develop proposals concerning reparatory remedies.

It could facilitate negotiations where it possesses the necessary authority.

It could report publicly upon the progress of its activities.

These functions are administrative, representative and organisational.

They do not inherently require sovereign governmental powers.

A council undertaking such work should maintain clear financial accounts, transparent decision-making procedures and appropriate safeguards for personal and community information.

It should also establish a mechanism through which affected people can challenge errors or unauthorised decisions.

The council's authority would be limited to the matters expressly entrusted to it.

This would permit practical work to begin while wider constitutional questions remain under examination.

The council could subsequently consider whether circumstances justify developing a different institutional form.

Such a decision would require fresh consideration of legitimacy, law and community consent.

4.16 Institutional Models Available for Consideration

The proposed conference should compare several possible models without treating any one of them as the inevitable outcome.

Institutional model	Potential authority	Principal legal or governance question
International Bamiléké Congress	Authority conferred by participating delegates and organisations	Who is entitled to participate and vote?
Provisional Reparatory Justice Council	Defined mandates from consenting families, communities and organisations	How are mandates established and controlled?
Federation of Traditional Authorities	Authority delegated by participating traditional institutions	How is each chiefdom's distinct authority preserved?
International Claims Commission	Authority to examine submitted claims under agreed procedures	Who appoints commissioners, and are findings binding?
Government-in-exile	Claim to exercise governmental authority outside the relevant territory	What historical, constitutional and international legal basis supports the claim?
Cultural and Historical Foundation	Legal authority under its governing constitution and applicable domestic law	Can the institution pursue its intended activities independently and accountably?

These models are not necessarily mutually exclusive.

A congress could establish a provisional council.

The council could commission an independent historical investigation.

Traditional authorities could form an advisory or representative chamber.

A separate legal entity could manage administrative resources and employ staff.

However, overlapping institutions should not create uncertainty about who is responsible for particular decisions.

Each institution should possess a defined purpose, scope of authority and accountability mechanism.

The constitutional design should follow the responsibilities that need to be performed.

4.17 A Possible Federated Bamiléké Structure

Given the historical diversity of Bamiléké chiefdoms, a federated institutional model deserves consideration.

Such a structure could permit participating traditional authorities and communities to cooperate internationally without surrendering their separate institutions.

The federation might operate through a congress of authorised representatives.

Each participating community would identify the scope of the authority delegated to the congress.

The congress could establish a coordinating council responsible for shared activities.

The council's powers would be limited by the founding agreement.

Matters concerning the rights of an individual community would remain subject to that community's authorisation.

Participation should not imply that the federation has acquired ownership of ancestral lands, cultural property or historical claims.

A federation might agree to undertake collective archival research or issue joint statements while reserving legal claims and territorial matters for the affected communities.

The practical advantage of examining this model is that collective cooperation can be distinguished from the concentration of authority.

However, any federation would need procedures for determining membership, participation, dispute resolution, withdrawal and the amendment of its constitution.

It should also consider how diaspora descendants participate in relation to traditional authorities based in Cameroon.

These are questions for consultation, not matters that can be settled solely by an organising committee in London.

4.18 Could a Bamiléké Institution Exist in London Before Formal Political Recognition?

Yes, provided its activities are lawful and its institutional claims accurately reflect its actual legal status.

A Bamiléké research organisation, congress, provisional council or representative association could potentially be established in London without recognition as a sovereign government.

Such an organisation could organise meetings, carry out research, appoint officers, employ researchers, correspond internationally and represent consenting participants within the limits of its authority.

Whether it should be incorporated, and in what form, would depend upon its proposed activities and the applicable legal requirements.

The institution would remain subject to the laws of the United Kingdom where those laws apply.

Calling itself a government-in-exile would not automatically provide diplomatic immunity, immunity from taxation, exemption from ordinary legal requirements or authority to exercise governmental jurisdiction.

Nor would the use of ministerial titles necessarily create corresponding public powers.

The proposed conference should therefore distinguish between internal organisational titles and governmental offices recognised under domestic or international law.

A director responsible for archival research may be entirely capable of performing that function without being described as a minister of archives.

An authorised international representative may communicate with governments without claiming ambassadorial status.

Titles should clarify responsibilities rather than create confusion concerning legal authority.

The proposed institution should establish its operational credibility through its conduct, records, governance and ability to fulfil its stated responsibilities.

4.19 The Relationship with the Republic of Cameroon

Any proposal involving governmental authority or political representation must examine the relationship between the proposed institution and the Republic of Cameroon.

Cameroon is an internationally recognised sovereign state.

The Bamiléké communities whose interests are under discussion are situated principally within its territory, although substantial populations and descendants live abroad.

The proposed conference should therefore identify whether its objectives concern historical research, cultural rights, ancestral land claims, traditional authority, constitutional reform, self-government or separate statehood.

The legal and political implications differ significantly.

A programme seeking historical evidence and reparatory remedies may be capable of engagement with Cameroonian institutions.

A claim seeking to replace or supersede existing governmental authority raises additional issues concerning constitutional law, sovereignty and international relations.

The conference should not assume that the pursuit of reparatory justice necessarily requires confrontation with the Cameroonian state.

Nor should it assume that the interests of every affected Bamiléké community are identical to those of state institutions.

An organised process should allow differences to be identified, examined and addressed through appropriate channels.

Where the investigation concerns allegations of historic or continuing wrongdoing by Cameroonian authorities, those allegations should be evaluated according to the relevant evidence and law.

The proposed institution's position concerning Cameroon should be determined through properly authorised decisions, not through the unilateral declaration of one participant.

4.20 Historical Reparations and the Question of Sovereignty

One potential source of confusion is the assumption that sovereignty must be established before reparations can be pursued.

That is not necessarily correct.

Individuals, families, communities, associations and states may possess different forms of legal standing depending upon the claim and the forum in which it is pursued.

A claim concerning the ownership of property may involve different rights from a claim concerning a violation of human rights.

A demand for historical acknowledgment may be advanced through political or diplomatic engagement without necessarily constituting a judicial claim.

A proposal for collective reparations may involve a negotiated arrangement or dedicated programme.

The relevant question is which rights, obligations and remedies are being asserted, and who has authority to pursue them.

A government-in-exile would not automatically overcome difficulties concerning jurisdiction, limitation periods, historical evidence or the applicability of contemporary legal rules to events occurring under colonial administration.

It would also not automatically establish that reparations are owed.

The legal basis of each claim would still require examination.

For George's investigation, the immediate priority remains establishing the historical facts concerning his ancestors, Ngantcha, the relevant traditional authority, ancestral lands and the suspected 1933 administrative decision.

These findings would help determine which legal and institutional routes merit further consideration.

The constitutional structure of the proposed initiative should support this investigation rather than distract from it.

4.21 Institutional Safeguards Against a New Form of Dispossession

The purpose of reparatory justice is to address historical wrongs and their consequences.

Any institution created to pursue that purpose should therefore avoid reproducing practices that deprive affected people of control over their identities, rights, property or representation.

This risk is particularly relevant where historical complaints concern imposed administrative authority or the replacement of traditional leaders.

A new international organisation should not acquire broad powers over ancestral claims merely because it has organised a successful conference.

Individuals and communities should understand the consequences of any authorisation they provide.

They should be able to inspect records concerning them, correct inaccuracies and challenge actions taken without permission.

The institution should distinguish between a mandate to investigate a claim and a mandate to settle that claim.

Authority to collect historical evidence should not be treated as authority to transfer land rights or accept compensation.

Authority to negotiate should not automatically include authority to conclude a binding agreement.

Any settlement that compromises individual or collective rights should be subject to the necessary approvals.

The institution should also establish safeguards concerning discrimination, conflicts of interest, financial misconduct, coercion and the suppression of dissent.

Historical status, professional qualifications or organisational prominence should not exempt representatives from accountability.

The proposed constitutional arrangements should make clear that officeholders exercise delegated responsibilities rather than possess ownership of the people or claims they represent.

4.22 A Proposed Constitutional Research Programme

Before the conference adopts any governmental proposal, it should commission a dedicated constitutional research programme.

That programme should examine the historical organisation of Bamiléké traditional chiefdoms and the extent to which colonial intervention affected their autonomy and succession.

It should investigate whether any relevant traditional polity possessed governmental structures that could be described as continuing, interrupted or displaced.

It should examine the legal status of traditional chiefdoms under contemporary Cameroonian law.

It should also review international law concerning self-determination, statehood, governments-in-exile and the recognition of political authorities.

Comparative historical examples should be used to illuminate the possible institutional arrangements, not to imply that the legal circumstances are identical.

The research should evaluate whether a provisional council, federation or other representative body could perform the proposed reparatory functions without claiming sovereign governmental status.

It should then examine what additional requirements would arise if participants nevertheless wished to establish a government-in-exile.

The programme should produce a written report identifying established facts, competing interpretations, unresolved issues and the implications of each institutional option.

Its authors should disclose relevant affiliations and conflicts of interest.

The report should be made available for consideration by participating communities before any constitutional decision is adopted.

4.23 Proposed Decision-Making Sequence for the London Conference

The institutional question should be approached through a series of clearly distinguished decisions.

The first decision would concern whether participating organisations and individuals wish to establish an ongoing international process for Bamiléké reparatory justice.

The second would concern the historical and legal questions requiring investigation.

The third would concern the scope of authority that participating communities are prepared to delegate.

The fourth would concern the administrative structure needed to perform the authorised work.

The fifth would concern whether a provisional institution should be established.

The sixth would concern the conditions under which permanent constitutional arrangements could be considered.

The seventh would concern whether a government-in-exile, federation or alternative political body merits further formal consideration.

Each decision should be recorded separately.

The adoption of one proposal should not be misrepresented as the adoption of another.

For example, a resolution authorising research into a government-in-exile would not itself create such a government.

A resolution establishing a research council would not confer sovereignty.

A declaration expressing support for self-determination would not automatically determine the territorial or constitutional form through which that principle should be exercised.

This decision-making sequence would allow the initiative to develop without requiring premature agreement upon every major political question.

4.24 A Practical Institutional Development Roadmap

Phase One — Historical and Legal Investigation

Establish the archival and genealogical evidence, identify relevant traditional institutions and commission specialist legal advice.

Phase Two — Community Consultation

Engage affected families, traditional authorities, Bamiléké associations and diaspora organisations. Identify actual mandates rather than presumed representation.

Phase Three — London Congress

Examine institutional models, consider constitutional principles and adopt only those resolutions supported by the participants' demonstrated authority.

Phase Four — Authorised Provisional Institution

Establish any approved temporary body with published powers, governance rules, financial safeguards and reporting obligations.

Phase Five — Constitutional Determination

Examine, through a separately authorised process, whether the long-term institution should remain a reparatory justice council, develop into a federation or pursue some other governmental arrangement.

4.25 Conclusion to Section Four

The proposal to establish a Bamiléké government-in-exile introduces important questions concerning historical sovereignty, traditional authority, international law and collective representation.

The historical example of Free France provides a meaningful basis for examining how political institutions operating outside their principal territory may develop structures, relationships and claims to legitimacy.

However, the legal and historical circumstances of Free France cannot simply be transferred to the Bamiléké people.

The existence of multiple Bamiléké traditional chiefdoms creates a need to examine the historical and contemporary distribution of authority.

The right of peoples to self-determination provides a relevant international legal framework, but it does not automatically settle questions of statehood, territorial sovereignty or governmental recognition.

Similarly, the establishment of an organisation in London would not itself confer governmental powers.

These matters require historical evidence, constitutional analysis, legal advice and community authorisation.

The proposed London conference could provide a forum in which the relevant issues are carefully examined.

A provisional reparatory justice council, voluntary federation or other representative institution could potentially perform important functions while wider constitutional questions remain unresolved.

The immediate objectives would include coordinating historical research, preserving evidence, identifying authorised claimants, developing international relationships and examining available remedies.

Any subsequent proposal for a government-in-exile should arise from a separate and properly authorised constitutional process.

The central lesson is that historical injustice may create compelling reasons to investigate political authority, but an effective reparatory justice institution must demonstrate the legitimacy of the authority it claims to exercise.

George T. Nomen's proposal should therefore be treated as an invitation to investigate the restoration, reconstruction or creation of legitimate representative institutions.

It should not be reduced to a dispute over political titles or the occupation of a historically significant building.

The more consequential task is to determine how Bamiléké people and their authorised institutions could organise the evidence, representation, resources and administration required to pursue reparatory justice.

London could provide the setting for beginning that process.

IBIS could be examined as a possible framework for maintaining the necessary distinctions between identity, membership, historical claims, recognition, representation and delivery.

The outcomes would ultimately depend upon the evidence obtained, the law applicable and the decisions of the communities concerned.

Research sources for Section Four

These publications provide the principal legal and historical foundation for the section.

1. French Presidency — Charles de Gaulle and Free France. Official historical chronology concerning Free France and its institutional development.

2. Stefan Talmon — Recognition of Governments in International Law. Oxford University Press, 2001. Legal analysis of governments-in-exile, recognition, jurisdiction and international representation.

3. United Nations Charter. Particularly Articles 1 and 2 concerning self-determination and international relations.

4. La structure parentale dans une chefferie Bamiléké du Ndé au Cameroun. Journal des Africanistes, 1976. Historical research into the organisation of Bamiléké chiefdoms.

5. UK Parliament — Recognition of Governments, 28 April 1980. Statement explaining the United Kingdom's policy of recognising states rather than governments.

6. UK Foreign Office — Criteria for Statehood, February 2020. Parliamentary explanation referencing the Montevideo criteria.

7. Recognition of Governments and the Prohibition of Intervention. American Journal of International Law, published December 2025. Contemporary discussion of recognition, legitimacy and effective control.

END OF SECTION FOUR

NEXT — SECTION FIVE: THE HISTORICAL EVIDENCE STRATEGY FOR GEORGE T. NOMEN — Ngantcha, the Suspected 1933 French Arrêté, Ancestral Land, Traditional Succession, Colonial Killings, French and German Archives, Genealogy, Documentary Verification and the Construction of an Internationally Usable Historical Evidence Dossier.

SECTION FIVE

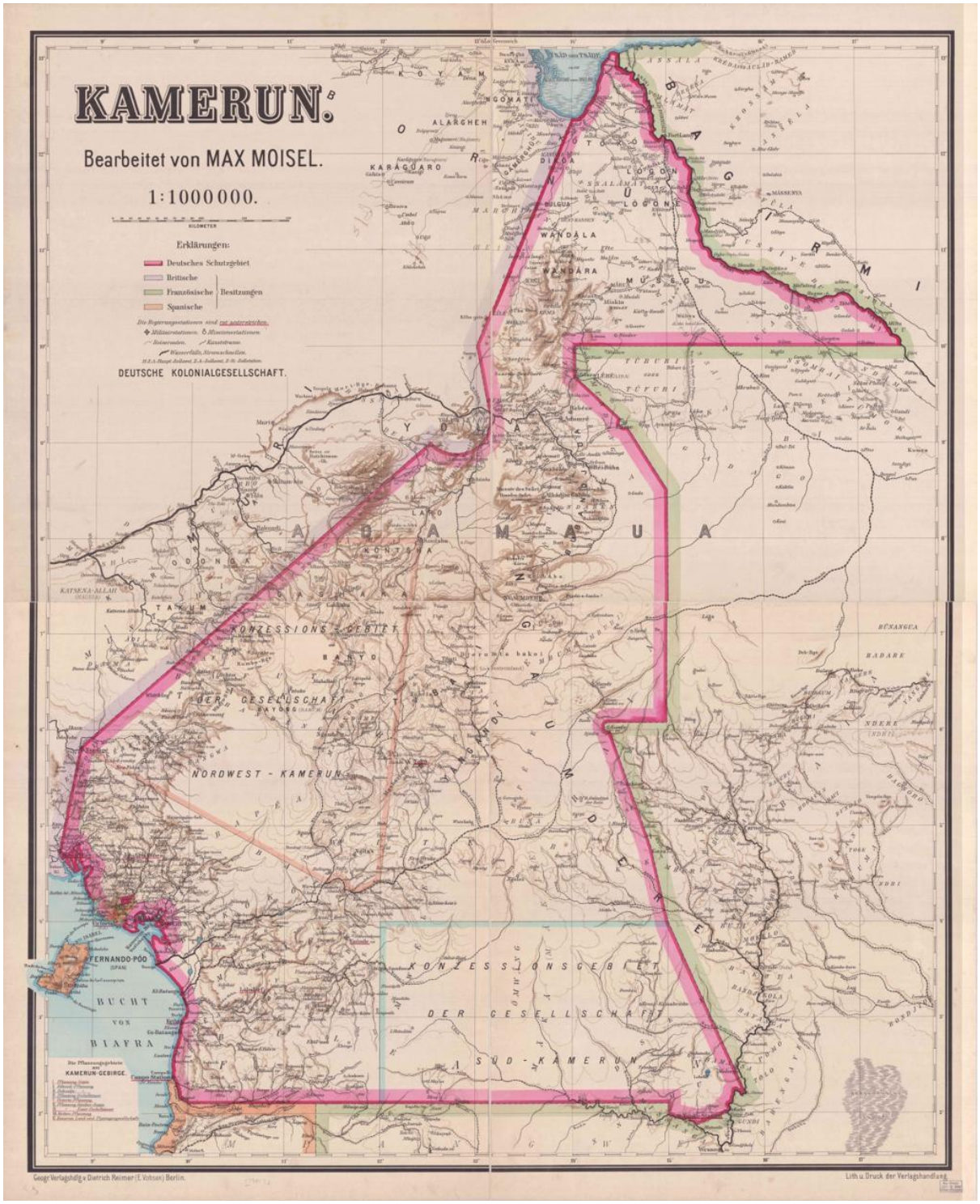
THE HISTORICAL EVIDENCE STRATEGY FOR GEORGE T. NOMEN

Ngantcha, the Suspected 1933 French Arrêté, Ancestral Lands, Traditional Succession, Colonial Killings and the Construction of an Internationally Usable Historical Evidence Dossier

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Historical Research and Evidence Development Proposal — Allegations and Family Accounts Remain Subject to Verification







8

Research locations and materials relevant to a coordinated investigation: Cameroon's National Archives, the French Overseas National Archives and surviving German colonial records.

5.1 Introduction: From Family Memory to a Documented Historical Case

George T. Nomen's efforts to investigate the treatment of his ancestors under colonial administration provide a concrete starting point for the proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative.

His investigation concerns questions of considerable historical importance: the possible killing of family members, interference with traditional political authority, the reorganisation or dispossession of ancestral lands, the installation or recognition of replacement authorities, and the long-term consequences for descendants.

George has identified a person known as Ngantcha as a relative whose historical position may be central to the investigation. He has also referred to a French colonial administrative arrêté believed to date from approximately 1933.

The precise nature of that instrument, its issuing authority, its contents and its relationship to the events described by George have not yet been established through a verified original document.

This uncertainty does not make the investigation speculative or unnecessary. It means that the first substantive objective must be to reconstruct the historical facts through an organised process capable of being independently examined.

The proposed evidence strategy must distinguish between what George knows through personal experience, what has been transmitted through family or community testimony, what can be established through contemporary documents, and what remains to be investigated.

The historical case should not begin by assuming that French officials committed every act attributed to them. Equally, it should not assume that the absence of an immediately accessible colonial document disproves a family account.

Historical inquiry requires both the preservation of testimony and the critical examination of available evidence.

This is especially important where allegations concern authorities that exercised substantial administrative and military power over colonised populations.

The records produced by those authorities may contain admissions, explanations, justifications, omissions, disagreements or deliberate misrepresentations.

They must be examined in their original historical context and compared with other available sources.

The purpose of this section is to establish an evidence-development programme capable of supporting historical research, legal examination, community consultation and the proposed London conference.

The programme should ultimately produce a structured historical dossier identifying the relevant persons, events, institutions, locations, documents, uncertainties and possible consequences.

It should provide a foundation for determining which claims can responsibly be advanced and which additional investigations are necessary.

5.2 Establishing the Historical Identity of Ngantcha

The investigation should begin with the identity of Ngantcha.

George has indicated that Ngantcha was a relative associated with the historical events under investigation.

Before researchers can locate the relevant colonial records, the investigation must establish the person's fullest known name, alternative spellings, approximate dates of birth and death, family relationships, traditional position and geographical location.

Names recorded by German or French colonial administrators may not correspond precisely to contemporary spellings.

A name may have been abbreviated, transliterated, written phonetically or recorded with a title that was subsequently mistaken for part of the person's identity.

The same individual might therefore appear under several different names in colonial records.

Conversely, different individuals may have borne similar names.

The investigation must avoid assuming that every archival reference to Ngantcha concerns George's relative.

Each possible identification should be examined through associated details, including location, family relationships, dates, office and relevant events.

Particular attention should be given to whether Ngantcha was a traditional ruler, successor, member of a ruling lineage, landholding authority or another person whose status brought him into contact with colonial administration.

These possibilities must remain open until supported by evidence.

If Ngantcha occupied a recognised position within a traditional chiefdom, the investigation should seek records identifying the institution, its succession procedures and the individuals who held authority before and after the disputed intervention.

The objective would be to establish an identifiable historical person whose circumstances can be distinguished from those of other people bearing similar names.

A genealogy should then be developed connecting Ngantcha with George T. Nomen through each intervening generation.

Every claimed relationship should be accompanied by its source.

Where documentary evidence is unavailable, the relationship may initially be recorded as supported by oral testimony, subject to further corroboration.

The genealogy should not conceal gaps.

It should identify them.

5.3 Reconstruction of the Nomen Family Genealogy

A reliable genealogical record would provide the foundation for examining the relationship between historical events and living descendants.

The investigation should begin with George himself and work backwards through known family relationships.

For each generation, researchers should seek names, dates, places of birth and death, marriages, parentage, customary family relationships and relevant changes in residence.

The investigation should consider whether changes in spelling, naming practices or colonial registration systems may have affected the available records.

Family testimony should be recorded carefully, identifying the person giving the account, their relationship to the family, how they acquired the information and whether they possess supporting records.

Accounts should initially be preserved separately rather than combined into a single narrative.

This would allow researchers to identify independent corroboration, shared sources of information and genuine differences between recollections.

The proposed genealogical investigation should not assume that European civil registration records provide the only valid evidence of family relationships.

Traditional genealogies, oral histories, community records, marriage arrangements, succession accounts and other historically relevant evidence may contribute to the reconstruction.

However, the evidential significance of each source must be considered in relation to the particular fact it is being used to establish.

A genealogy capable of supporting legal proceedings may require further formal verification beyond that normally undertaken for historical or community research.

This should be determined in consultation with qualified legal and genealogical specialists.

The objective is to establish a traceable relationship between George, his identified ancestors and any historical rights or losses that may be relevant to a reparatory claim.

Such a relationship does not itself establish legal entitlement to compensation, land or political authority.

Those questions require separate examination.

5.4 The Suspected 1933 French Arrêté

The suspected 1933 arrêté should become one of the highest-priority documentary targets.

The investigation must first establish whether the instrument exists.

If it does, researchers must determine its precise date, issuing authority, reference number, title, legal basis and operative provisions.

It is important to distinguish an arrêté from other French administrative instruments.

A colonial administrator might have issued an arrêté, décision, circulaire, instruction or other formal act.

A family account referring to an arrêté may accurately identify the legal form, but the possibility of a differently titled instrument should also be investigated.

The search should therefore extend beyond documents specifically described as arrêtés.

The likely issuing authority must be identified by reconstructing the administrative organisation of French-administered Cameroon during the relevant period.

This could include the Commissioner of the Republic, senior territorial administrators or local authorities acting under delegated powers.

Researchers should identify which officials possessed authority over traditional appointments, removals, territorial administration and related matters during 1933.

The official publication systems used at the time should also be examined.

A relevant act may have been published in a territorial official journal or preserved only within administrative correspondence.

The investigation should search the appropriate official publications for 1933, while extending the initial date range to approximately 1928–1938 to account for uncertainty in family recollection.

It should also examine earlier and later instruments relating to the same community or office.

An order concerning an appointment may have been preceded by correspondence explaining a removal.

A territorial reorganisation may have generated separate administrative records.

A later order may have referred to an earlier decision that is no longer readily identifiable.

The historical reconstruction must therefore consider the surrounding administrative process.

The primary objective is to obtain a complete, legible and authenticated copy of the relevant instrument, together with its archival reference and provenance.

If researchers identify the original document, a transcription should preserve the French wording.

A separate English translation should be prepared, identifying any terms whose legal or customary meaning requires specialist interpretation.

The investigation should not rely solely upon an informal translation or isolated quotation.

5.5 What Must Be Established About the Alleged Replacement of Traditional Authority?

George has described circumstances suggesting that colonial intervention may have displaced an ancestor or altered the recognised succession to traditional authority.

This claim requires the reconstruction of two potentially different systems of authority.

The first is the customary or traditional system through which political leadership and succession operated within the relevant Bamiléké community.

The second is the colonial administrative system through which European officials recognised, appointed, removed or otherwise dealt with traditional leaders.

The two systems may have interacted, but they should not automatically be treated as identical.

A colonial official may have recognised a particular individual for administrative purposes without that recognition conclusively establishing the person's legitimacy under customary arrangements.

Similarly, evidence that a traditional authority was removed from a colonial administrative position does not necessarily establish that all customary authority ceased.

The investigation should therefore establish the position of the relevant ancestor before the alleged intervention.

It should identify the customary succession arrangements and any evidence concerning their operation.

It should determine whether a colonial authority issued a formal decision affecting the position.

If another person was installed or recognised, the identity of that person and the basis of the decision should be investigated.

Researchers should then examine whether the intervention produced lasting consequences for succession, political representation, land administration or the status of descendants.

The objective is to reconstruct the sequence of events rather than impose a predetermined legal characterisation.

Only after the sequence is established should specialists examine whether the acts violated applicable law, customary rights or other recognised obligations.

5.6 The Alleged Killing of George's Father and Grandfather

George has reported that his father and grandfather were killed by colonial forces.

This is among the most serious elements of his account and requires a dedicated investigation.

The initial priority should be to establish the identity of each person, the approximate date and location of death, and the circumstances described in family or community testimony.

Researchers should distinguish between a death known to have occurred, a death attributed to a particular individual or military force, and a death whose precise circumstances remain uncertain.

The evidence may include family testimony, burial information, community histories, civil records, missionary correspondence, administrative reports, court records, military documents and contemporary publications.

The absence of a formal death certificate would not necessarily establish that a death did not occur.

However, where the investigation seeks to attribute responsibility for a killing, the evidence must be sufficient to support that attribution.

Particular attention should be given to the chronology.

If the alleged deaths occurred before 1916, German colonial administration may be relevant.

If they occurred during the French mandate period, French administrative and security records may be relevant.

If they occurred after Cameroon's independence, the identity of the responsible governmental or military authorities would require careful examination.

The investigation must not attribute all historical violence to one authority without establishing when and where the relevant events occurred.

Where the available evidence suggests that an individual was killed in a military or security operation, researchers should seek operational records, local administrative reports, casualty lists and correspondence concerning the incident.

The investigation should also consider whether the death was connected to wider events affecting the community.

It is possible that a family tragedy formed part of a broader political or military episode.

Equally, an incident may have involved circumstances specific to particular individuals.

Both possibilities require examination.

The objective is to establish a credible historical record capable of identifying what occurred, who was affected and what responsibility, if any, can be attributed to identifiable authorities.

5.7 Reconstructing the History of Ancestral Land

The alleged loss, division or reorganisation of ancestral lands requires a separate evidential investigation.

Traditional landholding arrangements may not correspond directly to modern individual property registration.

Rights could be held or exercised through families, lineages, chiefdoms, customary institutions or other communal arrangements.

It would therefore be inappropriate to assume that every ancestral right must appear in the form of an individual registered title.

The investigation should first identify the relevant land geographically.

It should establish the historical names of settlements, chiefdoms, rivers, boundaries and landmarks.

Where possible, oral testimony should be recorded from individuals possessing knowledge of ancestral territorial arrangements.

Historical maps should then be examined to determine how the territory was represented before, during and after colonial administration.

German and French cartographic records may provide important evidence.

However, a map produced by a colonial administration may describe territorial claims or administrative boundaries rather than establish the customary rights of affected communities.

The investigation should therefore compare maps from different periods and sources.

Any alleged division, confiscation, transfer or reallocation of land should be linked to an identifiable historical act where possible.

Researchers should look for administrative orders, surveys, registration documents, land concessions, court decisions, correspondence or other records capable of explaining the change.

The investigation should also examine how the land is presently classified and occupied.

It must distinguish historical rights from contemporary ownership and from any proposed remedy.

Establishing that a family historically exercised authority over land does not automatically resolve questions concerning present title, competing rights or the appropriate form of restitution.

These matters may require consideration of Cameroonian law, customary law, historical agreements and the rights of other people who now live on or use the territory.

A reparatory strategy must therefore seek to address historical dispossession without creating new injustice for other affected individuals or communities.

5.8 An Important Archival Discovery: Some of the Most Relevant Records May Be in Cameroon, Not France

The French Overseas National Archives, known as the Archives nationales d'outre-mer (ANOM), explains that colonial records were divided according to their administrative purpose when former colonial territories became independent.

Documents associated with governmental authority were sometimes transferred to France.

Other documents, particularly those concerning civil status, property, land registration, court administration and local rights, generally remained within the territories concerned.

The actual distribution of records varied considerably.



Archives nationales d’outre-mer

This distinction is particularly important for George's investigation.

If he seeks evidence of a French administrative decision replacing a traditional authority, relevant records may exist in French governmental collections.

However, if he seeks evidence of ancestral landholding, family succession, local disputes or property registration, some of the most significant records may remain in Cameroon.

ANOM's published land-research guidance identifies certain Cameroon land-registration records in collection 9 DPPC covering 1950–1956.

It does not identify Cameroon records for 1933 within that particular collection.

ANOM also explains that original records relating to some forms of property registration remained in local repositories.



Archives nationales d’outre-mer

This does not establish that no French-held 1933 records exist.

It means that the search for a 1933 instrument should not be restricted to that land-registration collection.

The investigation should distinguish between administrative orders, land registration, traditional succession, judicial proceedings and correspondence.

Different documents may have followed different archival routes.

An effective research programme should therefore make parallel enquiries to institutions in France and Cameroon from the beginning.

5.8.1 Cameroon's National Archives



bundesarchiv.de

The Archives nationales du Cameroun are based in Yaoundé.

Their statutory functions include the collection, preservation, cataloguing and communication of records produced or received by public and private institutions.

Their official website also refers to Cameroon's Law No. 2024/001 of 24 July 2024 governing archives.

archivesnationales.cm

The archive's relevance to the investigation is therefore both historical and institutional.

It may preserve records produced locally during German or French administration, together with subsequent documents concerning traditional authorities and land.

The initial enquiry should ask specifically about archival series concerning French administration of the relevant territory during the 1920s and 1930s.

It should request information concerning official journals, administrative appointments, succession disputes, traditional chiefdoms, land surveys and territorial reorganisation.

It should also ask whether relevant records have been transferred to regional or departmental repositories.

A response identifying another institution should be preserved and followed up.

Researchers should not assume that a record is unavailable merely because it is not located in the first archive approached.

5.8.2 The Practical Significance of Archival Fragmentation

The distribution of historical records between Cameroon, France and Germany creates a substantial difficulty for descendants.

An individual may be required to identify and understand multiple administrative systems in order to reconstruct a single sequence of events.

The same historical incident could have generated local correspondence, territorial administrative records, a central government file and later legal proceedings.

Those records may now be separated across different institutions.

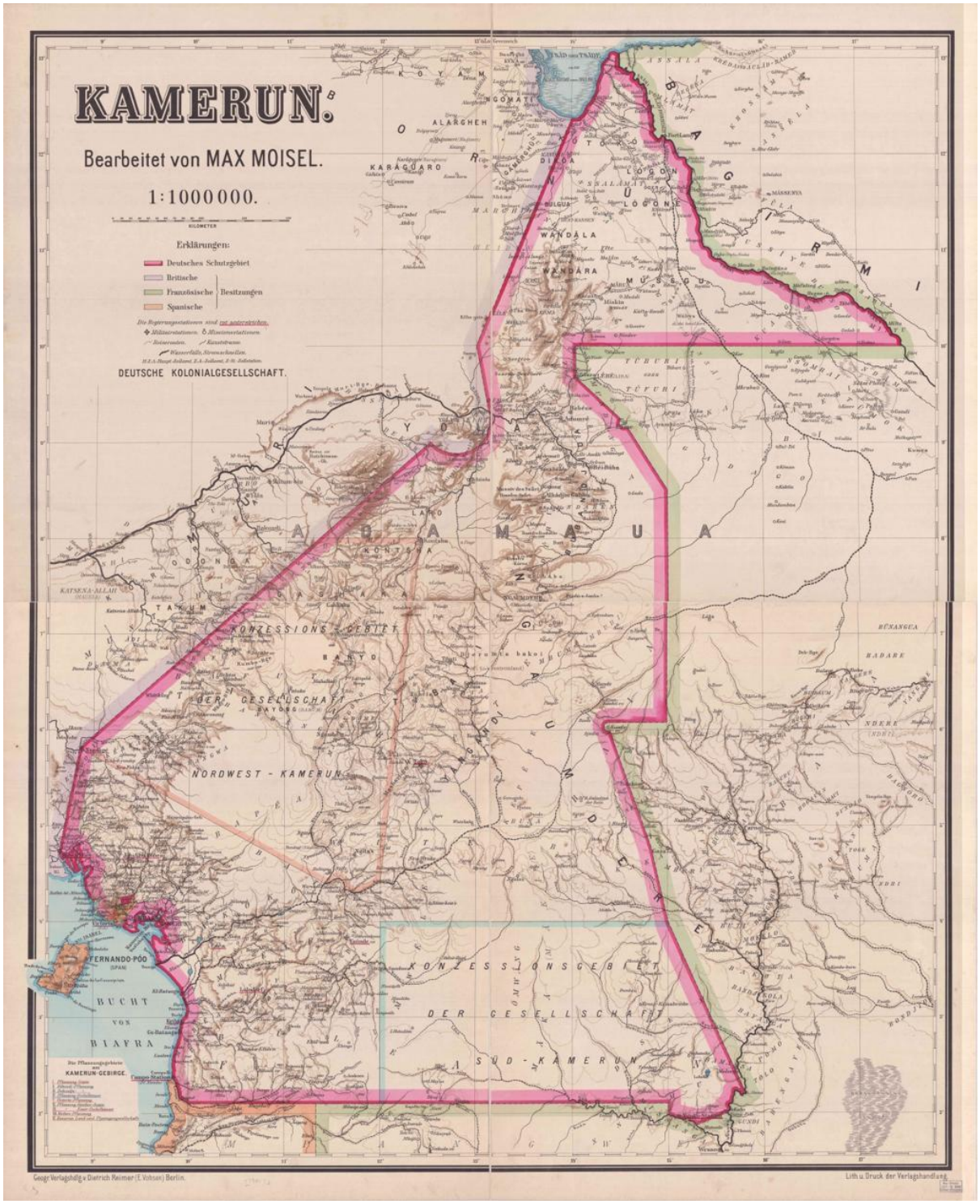
The proposed European strategy should seek to reconstruct the connections between them.

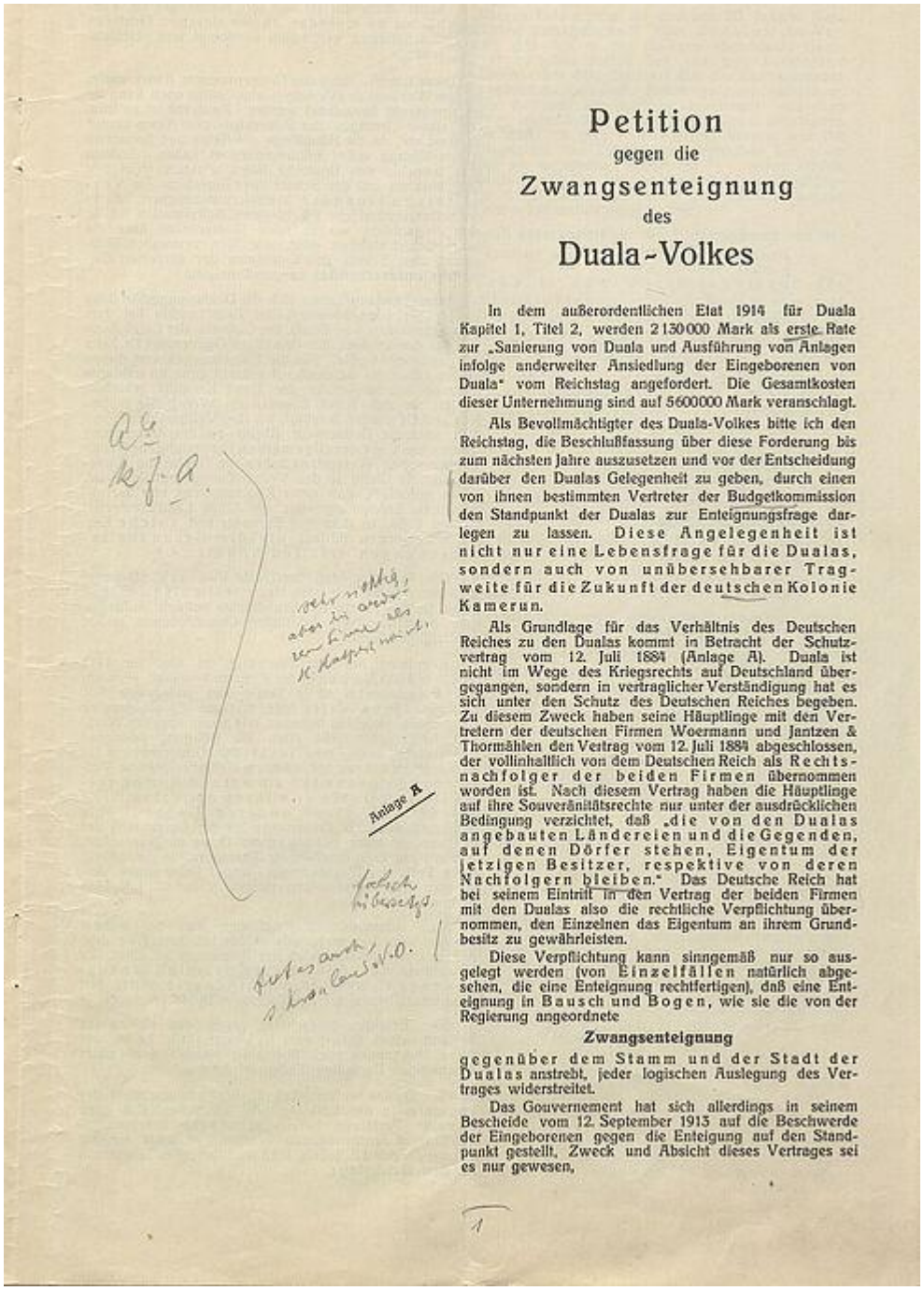
This would involve identifying which offices produced documents, which authorities received copies and where those records may subsequently have been deposited.

Rather than searching for a single decisive document in isolation, the programme should reconstruct the administrative chain.

This is one reason why the proposed London-based initiative could provide practical assistance beyond what an individual family might reasonably be expected to undertake alone.

5.9 Investigating the German Colonial Period


KAMERUN.
Bearbeitet von MAX MOISEL.
1:1000000.
Erklärungen:
Deutsches Schutzgebiet
Britische
Französische
Spanische
Besitzungen
DEUTSCHE KOLONIALGESELLSCHAFT.
KONZESSIONS-GEBIET
DER GESELLSCHAFT
NORDWEST - KAMERUN
SÜD-KAMERUN
FERNANDO-PÓO
BUCHT
VON
BIAFRA
DEUTSCHE
KAMERUN
BERGE



Petition
gegen die
Zwangsenteignung
des
Duala-Volkes

In dem außerordentlichen Etat 1914 für Duala Kapitel 1, Titel 2, werden 2 130 000 Mark als erste Rate zur „Sanierung von Duala und Ausführung von Anlagen infolge anderweiter Ansiedlung der Eingeborenen von Duala" vom Reichstag angefordert. Die Gesamtkosten dieser Unternehmung sind auf 5 600 000 Mark veranschlagt.

Als Bevollmächtigter des Duala-Volkes bitte ich den Reichstag, die Beschlußfassung über diese Forderung bis zum nächsten Jahre auszusetzen und vor der Entscheidung darüber den Dualas Gelegenheit zu geben, durch einen von ihnen bestimmten Vertreter der Budgetkommission den Standpunkt der Dualas zur Enteignungsfrage darlegen zu lassen. Diese Angelegenheit ist nicht nur eine Lebensfrage für die Dualas, sondern auch von unübersehbarer Tragweite für die Zukunft der deutschen Kolonie Kamerun.

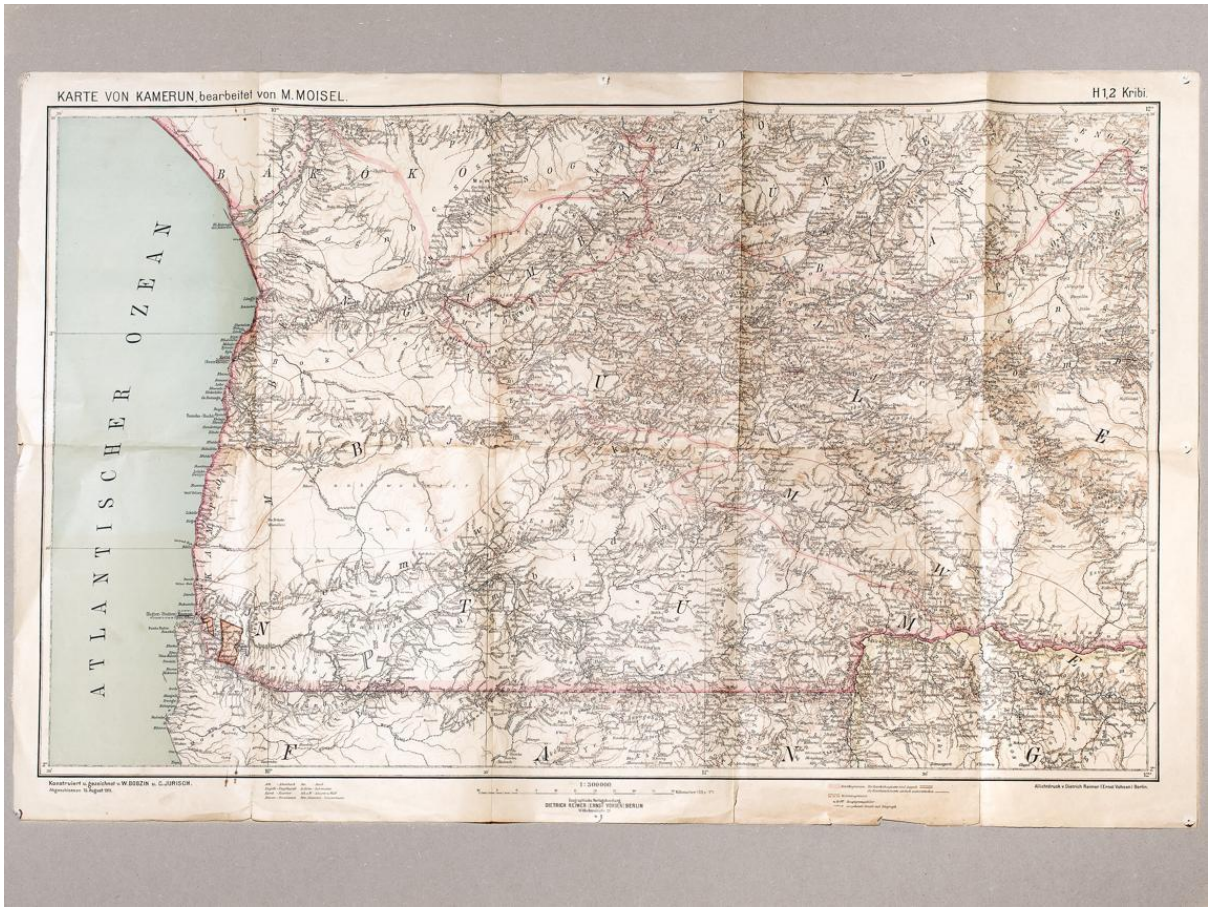
Als Grundlage für das Verhältnis des Deutschen Reiches zu den Dualas kommt in Betracht der Schutzvertrag vom 12. Juli 1884 (Anlage A). Duala ist nicht im Wege des Kriegsrechts auf Deutschland übergegangen, sondern in vertraglicher Verständigung hat es sich unter den Schutz des Deutschen Reiches begeben. Zu diesem Zweck haben seine Häuptlinge mit den Vertretern der deutschen Firmen Woermann und Jantzen & Thormählen den Vertrag vom 12. Juli 1884 abgeschlossen, der vollinhaltlich von dem Deutschen Reich als Rechtsnachfolger der beiden Firmen übernommen worden ist. Nach diesem Vertrag haben die Häuptlinge auf ihre Souveränitätsrechte nur unter der ausdrücklichen Bedingung verzichtet, daß „die von den Dualas angebauten Ländereien und die Gegenden, auf denen Dörfer stehen, Eigentum der jetzigen Besitzer, respektive von deren Nachfolgern bleiben." Das Deutsche Reich hat bei seinem Eintritt in den Vertrag der beiden Firmen mit den Dualas also die rechtliche Verpflichtung übernommen, den Einzelnen das Eigentum an ihrem Grundbesitz zu gewährleisten.

Diese Verpflichtung kann sinngemäß nur so ausgelegt werden (von Einzelfällen natürlich abgesehen, die eine Enteignung rechtfertigen), daß eine Enteignung in Bausch und Bogen, wie sie die von der Regierung angeordnete

Zwangsenteignung

gegenüber dem Stamm und der Stadt der Dualas anstrebt, jeder logischen Auslegung des Vertrages widerstreitet.

Das Gouvernement hat sich allerdings in seinem Bescheide vom 12. September 1913 auf die Beschwerde der Eingeborenen gegen die Enteignung auf den Standpunkt gestellt, Zweck und Absicht dieses Vertrages sei es nur gewesen,



8

Although George's immediate documentary target concerns French administration around 1933, earlier German colonial records may be essential to establishing the historical position that existed before French intervention.

Germany's Federal Archives confirm that the records of the former Reichskolonialamt are preserved under collection R 1001.

The collection consists of nearly 10,000 archival volumes, almost all of which have been made available digitally.

The records include information concerning political decisions, colonial administration, relations with local populations, armed conflicts, infrastructure and missionary activity.

The archives also identify the R 175 collections relating specifically to Kamerun, including colonial government, regional administration, courts and military forces.

Bundesarchiv

The proposed investigation should examine whether these materials include records of the relevant traditional chiefdom, ancestral community or territory.

Historical reports may identify individuals whom German administrators recognised as authorities.

Maps may record the names of territories or settlements.

Administrative correspondence may describe disputes concerning succession or land.

Military reports may provide information concerning interventions affecting particular communities.

These sources could help establish a historical baseline against which later French administrative decisions can be compared.

However, the existence of German records does not mean that German administrative descriptions were accurate or neutral.

They should be compared with community evidence and other independent sources.

5.9.1 A Significant German–Cameroonian Archival Connection

The German Federal Archives report that an archival preservation project was undertaken at Cameroon's National Archives in Yaoundé in 2017.

The work included examination and preservation of German colonial administrative records known as the Fonds Allemand.

The German archives also report that the finding aid for the Cameroon collection was made available online, with a French translation prepared through cooperation involving the Goethe-Institut.

This provides evidence of existing institutional cooperation concerning colonial records.



Bundesarchiv

The proposed initiative could use that established research history as a starting point for enquiries.

The objective would not be to assume that the German project investigated George's ancestors.

It would be to identify whether its inventories, catalogues or preservation work make relevant records easier to locate.

A coordinated request could be submitted to the German Federal Archives and Cameroon's National Archives asking whether documents concerning the identified chiefdom appear in the German colonial collections.

The request should include the known geographical names and possible historical spelling variations.

5.10 The Role of the 2025 Franco-Cameroonian Commission

The report produced by the Franco-Cameroonian commission provides an important contemporary research resource.

The French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs confirmed on 5 February 2025 that the commission had presented its work to the French and Cameroonian presidents.

The research component, directed by historian Karine Ramondy, involved fourteen French and Cameroonian researchers and produced a substantial report concerning French involvement in repression between 1945 and 1971.

France Diplomatie

The published report runs to approximately 1,034 pages and is available through Sciences Po.



Sciences Po

Its relevance to George's investigation is potentially substantial but must be defined carefully.

The commission did not principally investigate every colonial intervention between 1916 and 1945.

Consequently, the existence of its report should not be treated as proof of the alleged 1933 intervention.

Nevertheless, the report includes historical background concerning French administration and the development of political control before 1945.

It may also identify archives, historians, institutions and documents relevant to earlier periods.

The proposed research team should undertake a systematic review of the report.

That review should identify references to Bamiléké chiefdoms, traditional authority, administrative appointments, colonial territorial policies and relevant regions.

It should also examine the report's bibliography and archival references.

Researchers who contributed to the commission could be invited to advise upon the archival methods most appropriate to investigating the earlier period.

The proposed London conference could provide a forum for presenting the results of this review and discussing the need for further historical research.

This would create a connection between George's individual investigation and an existing body of substantial scholarship without misrepresenting the scope of that scholarship.

5.11 Developing a Chronology of the Alleged Events

One of the first practical outputs should be a comprehensive historical chronology.

The chronology should cover the period before German colonial intervention, the German administrative period, the transition to French rule, the alleged 1933 intervention and subsequent events affecting the family.

It should not be limited to dates that George can currently establish with certainty.

Approximate periods may be included, provided that their uncertainty is clearly recorded.

Each event should identify the source upon which it is based.

Where an event is supported by several independent sources, those sources should be recorded separately.

Where sources disagree, the competing accounts should be preserved.

The chronology should also distinguish between an event and a later recollection or publication describing that event.

For example, a family account recorded in 2026 concerning a death believed to have occurred in the 1930s constitutes evidence of testimony given in 2026.

It does not, without further corroboration, establish the precise date or circumstances of the earlier death.

Such distinctions are not intended to diminish oral history.

They are intended to ensure that the evidential value of each source is accurately represented.

The historical chronology should remain open to revision as further records are discovered.

Earlier conclusions should not be silently overwritten.

Corrections should identify what changed, why it changed and which evidence justified the change.

5.12 Establishing a Documentary Evidence Register

The investigation should establish a permanent evidence register.

Each document should receive a unique reference number.

The register should identify the document's title, date, issuing authority, archival institution, reference number, language and format.

It should explain how the copy was obtained.

Where the document is a reproduction, the relationship between the reproduction and the original should be recorded.

The register should identify the specific historical propositions that the document may support.

A document can be relevant without proving every claim associated with it.

For example, an administrative order may establish that a colonial authority recognised a particular person as chief.

It may not establish that the person was legitimate under customary succession arrangements.

A military report may establish that an operation took place.

It may not independently establish the identities of every person killed.

A historical map may establish how an administration represented territorial boundaries.

It may not establish lawful ownership.

The evidence register should therefore include a concise explanation of each document's probative significance and limitations.

Where the document contradicts an existing theory, that contradiction must be recorded.

The purpose is to build a defensible historical record rather than a collection containing only favourable evidence.

5.13 Establishing the Chain of Custody

If George eventually seeks legal remedies, questions concerning the authenticity and provenance of evidence may become especially important.

The investigation should therefore adopt a chain-of-custody procedure from the beginning.

Where an original document is inspected, the researcher should record the institution, archival reference, date of inspection and any restrictions imposed by the custodian.

Where a certified copy is obtained, the certification and issuing authority should be preserved.

Where a digital copy is downloaded, its source and date of acquisition should be recorded.

The original digital file should be retained without alteration.

Working copies may be enhanced for readability or translated, but they should remain clearly distinguishable from the original.

Any significant alteration to a working copy should be documented.

Where technically practical, cryptographic checksums may be recorded to assist with later verification that a digital file has not changed.

The evidence-management system should also preserve the relationship between documents and the claims they are used to support.

An original French document, its transcription, its English translation and any expert commentary should be linked but retained as separate records.

This would assist historians, lawyers and other reviewers in examining the material independently.

5.14 Oral Testimony and Community Historical Knowledge

The proposed investigation should not treat archival documents as the only legitimate sources of historical evidence.

Oral histories may preserve information concerning genealogy, customary succession, displacement, territorial rights and violence that was never recorded accurately by colonial administrators.

The research programme should therefore establish an oral-history component.

Witnesses should be informed of the purpose of the interview, the intended use of their testimony and the arrangements for preserving the recording.

Their consent should be obtained before the material is publicly distributed.

Where interviews concern traumatic events or family disputes, appropriate safeguards should be considered.

Questions should initially be open-ended.

Researchers should avoid supplying witnesses with the answers they wish to obtain.

The interview should distinguish what a witness personally experienced from what was learned through family transmission or other sources.

Where a witness recalls information received from a parent or grandparent, the source and approximate circumstances of that transmission should be recorded.

Independent accounts should be collected before interviewees are shown potentially influencing material, where practicable.

Differences between accounts should not automatically be treated as evidence that one witness is dishonest.

Memory, language, naming conventions, interpretation and the passage of time may produce genuine variation.

Nevertheless, researchers must remain willing to identify errors and contradictions.

The purpose is to preserve historical knowledge while subjecting the resulting evidence to responsible evaluation.

5.15 Historical Mapping and the Reconstruction of Ancestral Territory

The proposed dossier should include a geographical component capable of demonstrating how the relevant territory was described, administered and altered over time.

This would involve reconstructing the ancestral geography of George's family and the community associated with Ngantcha.

The investigation should begin by identifying the specific village, chiefdom, district and region.

Traditional place names should be recorded alongside the names used by colonial administrators.

Where the same location has been known by several names, the relationship between those names should be documented.

Historical German maps should be compared with maps produced during French administration and subsequent Cameroonian governmental periods.

The purpose would be to determine whether identifiable administrative or territorial changes occurred.

A geographical information system could be used to place digitised historical maps alongside contemporary maps.

However, historical map boundaries may be approximate, contested or based upon administrative assumptions.

Researchers must therefore record the uncertainty associated with any reconstructed boundary.

A digitally drawn line should not be presented as a proven ancestral boundary merely because modern mapping software makes it appear precise.

The dossier could eventually include separate maps showing the relevant territory before colonial intervention, under German administration, under French administration and in contemporary Cameroon.

Each map should state its evidential basis and limitations.

The maps would then assist in identifying historical changes requiring legal and community examination.

5.16 Investigating the Alleged Dispossession of Ancestral Authority and Property

The investigation should distinguish between the loss of political authority and the loss of property rights.

A traditional ruler may have exercised responsibilities concerning land administration without personally owning all the land within the territory.

A family may possess customary rights to particular land without exercising general governmental authority.

A colonial administrative decision might affect one form of authority without directly extinguishing the other.

The evidence dossier should therefore examine each alleged loss separately.

Where the claim concerns removal from traditional leadership, the investigation should establish the historical office, succession arrangements, colonial intervention and subsequent institutional consequences.

Where the claim concerns land, the investigation should identify the affected territory, the nature of the relevant rights and the acts through which those rights were allegedly altered.

Where the claim concerns killings, the investigation should establish the relevant persons, circumstances, responsible authorities and consequences for surviving descendants.

Where the claim concerns cultural or institutional destruction, researchers should identify the practices, institutions or community relationships alleged to have been disrupted.

These categories may overlap.

Nevertheless, their evidential and legal requirements differ.

Keeping them distinct would assist in developing an appropriate reparatory programme.

5.17 The Question of Continuing Harm

Historical events may produce consequences extending across generations.

The killing of an ancestor may affect family succession, inheritance and collective memory.

The removal of a traditional authority may alter the distribution of political influence within a community.

The reallocation of ancestral land may affect livelihoods, residence, cultural practices and the ability of descendants to maintain connections with particular places.

However, a claim of continuing harm should identify the actual consequences alleged rather than assume that every contemporary disadvantage is directly attributable to a particular historical intervention.

The investigation should therefore seek to document the chain connecting historical events with subsequent developments.

Where the original harm concerns land, the inquiry should establish how the territory was subsequently administered, occupied or transferred.

Where the harm concerns political authority, the inquiry should examine the succession of officeholders and any continuing disputes.

Where the harm concerns an individual death, the inquiry should investigate the effect upon surviving family members and their descendants.

The dossier should distinguish established consequences from possible consequences requiring further research.

This is important because the existence of a historical wrong and the availability of a contemporary remedy involve different legal questions.

5.18 Constructing the Legal Evidence Dossier

Once the historical material has been collected and evaluated, it should be reviewed by suitably qualified legal specialists.

The legal dossier should be organised around the claims that the evidence may be capable of supporting.

These could concern historical killings, wrongful administrative acts, interference with traditional authority, property dispossession or other alleged injuries.

For each possible claim, the dossier should identify the proposed claimant, the alleged responsible party, the relevant conduct, the supporting evidence and the remedy being considered.

It should also identify potential legal obstacles.

These may include jurisdiction, sovereign immunity, limitation periods, the temporal application of legal rules, state succession and the standing of descendants.

The legal analysis must consider the law applicable at the time of the events as well as the law governing any proceedings contemplated today.

Modern legal standards cannot automatically be applied retrospectively to every historical act.

Equally, the fact that an act occurred under colonial administration does not mean that all possible legal or political remedies are necessarily excluded.

These questions require detailed specialist examination.

Legal proceedings should not be commenced solely on the expectation that a contemporary court will regard colonial injustice as self-evidently compensable.

An initial legal opinion should identify the factual and legal requirements of each proposed route.

The historical research programme can then seek the evidence most relevant to those requirements.

5.19 Distinguishing Litigation from Other Reparatory Mechanisms

The proposed initiative should not assume that reparatory justice can be delivered only through court proceedings.

Litigation may be appropriate where identifiable legal rights, defendants, jurisdiction and remedies exist.

However, some historical claims may involve serious procedural difficulties or fall outside the competence of a particular court.

Alternative mechanisms may include negotiated settlements, governmental programmes, restitution arrangements, historical recognition, disclosure of archives, cultural restoration, memorialisation and institutional reform.

A family or community may seek more than monetary compensation.

For example, the restoration of historical records or acknowledgment of a displaced traditional lineage could be significant independently of a financial award.

The conference should therefore distinguish between judicial, administrative, political and negotiated forms of remedy.

Where a community wishes to pursue multiple approaches, the relationship between them should be considered carefully.

Any negotiated arrangement should be reviewed for its implications for existing and future rights.

Acceptance of one remedy should not inadvertently extinguish another claim without the informed authorisation of the people affected.

The proposed legal and reparatory strategy should be guided by the rights, circumstances and preferences of the relevant claimants.

5.20 Proposed Structure of George T. Nomen's Historical Evidence Dossier

The eventual dossier should be sufficiently organised for use by historians, archivists, legal specialists and authorised community representatives.

Dossier section	Principal contents	Initial status
1. Identity and genealogy	George, Ngantcha, family relationships and alternative names	Family information requires documentation
2. Ancestral community	Relevant chiefdom, village, traditional institutions and territory	Precise identification required
3. Precolonial authority	Traditional succession and historical political arrangements	Research required
4. German administration	Colonial records, maps, recognised authorities and relevant interventions	Archival search required
5. French administration	Administrative decisions, correspondence and official publications	Archival search required
6. Suspected 1933 arrêté	Original instrument, issuing authority, legal basis and related records	Not yet located or independently verified
7. Alleged killings	Names, dates, locations, circumstances and responsible authorities	Testimony and corroboration required

8. Ancestral land	Historical boundaries, rights, transfers and present circumstances	Mapping and land-record investigation required
9. Subsequent consequences	Changes in succession, land use, family circumstances and community authority	Chronological reconstruction required
10. Legal evaluation	Potential claimants, legal responsibility, jurisdiction and available remedies	Specialist legal opinion required
11. Reparatory objectives	Recognition, restitution, compensation or other remedies sought by authorised claimants	Community consultation required
12. Evidence register	Documents, source references, translations and provenance	Register to be established
13. Corrections and disputes	Conflicting accounts, rejected hypotheses and subsequent findings	Continuous record required

This structure should be treated as a working framework.

It may need to be expanded as evidence emerges.

The dossier should contain a concise executive summary, but the underlying evidence must remain accessible to authorised reviewers.

The summary should not conceal material uncertainty.

5.21 Establishing an Independent Historical Review Process

Before George's case is presented as an established historical claim, the completed evidence dossier should undergo independent review.

The review should involve individuals possessing expertise relevant to the particular questions.

A historian of French colonial Cameroon may be qualified to evaluate administrative records.

A specialist in German colonial history may assist with earlier documentation.

A genealogist familiar with relevant naming and succession practices may help evaluate family relationships.

A historian or knowledgeable community representative may assist with Bamiléké customary institutions.

A lawyer qualified in the relevant jurisdiction may assess legal implications.

No single reviewer should be assumed to possess expertise across all these fields.

The review process should distinguish questions of historical accuracy from questions of legal entitlement.

It should identify which conclusions are supported by primary documents, which are supported by testimony, and which remain provisional.

Where material disagreements arise, dissenting interpretations should be recorded.

The objective is to produce a historical case capable of withstanding scrutiny rather than simply obtaining an endorsement from individuals who already agree with its conclusions.

Independent review would also provide protection against accidental errors that could undermine subsequent proceedings.

5.22 How the Evidence Programme Could Support the London Conference

The proposed London conference could provide an international forum for presenting the initial findings of George's investigation.

However, the conference should not be asked to determine the truth of complex historical allegations through an ordinary vote.

Historical facts must be established through evidence, not popularity.

The conference could instead examine the research programme, identify missing evidence and consider whether participating institutions wish to support further investigation.

George could present his family history as an initial case study.

Researchers could explain the archival questions arising from it.

Traditional authorities and community representatives could contribute relevant historical knowledge.

Legal specialists could explain the requirements for possible claims.

The conference could then consider establishing a historical research working group with responsibility for coordinating the next stage.

Such a working group should not acquire ownership of George's family information merely because it has been presented at the event.

Appropriate consent and access arrangements would be required.

The broader significance of the case would lie in developing an evidence-management method potentially applicable to other affected Bamiléké families and communities.

5.23 The Connection with IBIS and Reparatory Delivery

The proposed evidence programme has a direct relationship with the IBIS architecture.

IBIS distinguishes identity, membership, representation, recognition and delivery.

George's investigation illustrates why those distinctions are necessary.

The identification of Ngantcha as a historical person would not automatically establish George's genealogical relationship to him.

Establishing that relationship would not automatically determine which ancestral rights passed to descendants.

Establishing a historical right would not necessarily identify the person or organisation authorised to pursue it.

Identifying an authorised representative would not establish that a particular government has accepted responsibility.

Recognition of responsibility would not necessarily constitute a reparatory settlement.

An agreed settlement would not itself establish that its promised benefits had been delivered to the intended recipients.

Each development requires a distinct evidential or administrative record.

IBIS could be examined as a framework for maintaining those distinctions.

The proposed investigation should therefore produce records capable of supporting both historical reconstruction and future reparatory administration.

However, the historical evidence must not be forced into predetermined institutional categories before the facts are understood.

The architecture should support the investigation rather than dictate its conclusions.

If the conference subsequently authorises a broader reparatory justice programme, the methods developed through George's dossier could be evaluated for possible use with other claims.

5.24 A Proposed First Ninety-Day Research Programme

The following timetable is illustrative and begins only when George and the proposed research participants agree to proceed.

Days 1–15: Establish the known family evidence

Record George's full account, identify Ngantcha, construct an initial genealogy, establish the relevant ancestral location and create a register of documents already held.

Days 16–30: Prepare targeted archival enquiries

Identify relevant French administrative offices, official publications, German collections and Cameroon archival institutions. Prepare bilingual requests and establish a correspondence register.

Days 31–60: Begin documentary acquisition

Submit archival enquiries, inspect available digital records, obtain relevant documents and record negative responses. Begin systematic comparison of German, French and Cameroonian sources.

Days 61–90: Produce a preliminary research report

Assemble the evidence dossier, identify corroborated and unresolved facts, obtain initial specialist feedback and prepare a research presentation suitable for consultation with Bamiléké organisations and potential conference participants.

The timetable should not be interpreted as a prediction that the necessary records will be located within ninety days.

Archives may require substantial time to respond, and some records may be unavailable or difficult to identify.

The purpose of the first ninety days is to establish a disciplined research operation capable of continuing for as long as necessary.

5.25 Conclusion to Section Five

George T. Nomen's historical investigation provides an opportunity to examine the practical challenges involved in transforming an inherited account of colonial injustice into a documented claim capable of historical, legal and institutional examination.

The alleged events are serious.

They concern the possible killing of ancestors, interference with traditional authority, reorganisation or dispossession of ancestral territory and the continuing consequences of colonial administration.

These matters warrant careful investigation.

However, the strength of any resulting claim will depend upon the quality of the evidence, the accuracy of the historical reconstruction and the legitimacy of the persons authorised to act.

The suspected 1933 French arrêté is a significant investigative lead, but it must be located and examined before conclusions can be drawn about its content or legal consequences.

The identity of Ngantcha, the structure of the relevant traditional authority, the history of ancestral lands and the circumstances of the reported deaths must be independently investigated.

The research should involve archives and historical expertise in Cameroon, France, Germany and other relevant jurisdictions.

It should preserve oral testimony alongside documentary records while distinguishing their respective evidential strengths and limitations.

The eventual dossier should be capable of supporting examination by historians, legal specialists, traditional institutions and authorised representatives.

Its contents should remain open to correction.

The proposed London conference could provide an international forum for explaining the investigation, identifying research partners and developing an organised programme of historical accountability.

George's case could also provide an initial opportunity to examine how IBIS might assist with the administration of evidence, identity, representation, claims and eventual reparatory delivery.

The investigation must nevertheless preserve the distinction between an individual family claim and the collective historical experiences of the Bamiléké people.

A verified finding concerning one family should not automatically be generalised to every community.

Equally, a general historical finding concerning colonial repression should not automatically be treated as proof of a particular family's allegations.

The proposed strategy seeks to connect these levels of investigation without confusing them.

The objective is to move from historical testimony to verifiable evidence, from evidence to appropriately authorised claims, and from recognised obligations to the accountable delivery of reparatory justice.

Research sources and archival contact points for Section Five



1. Archives nationales du Cameroun — Yaoundé

B.P. 1053, Rue 317, Quartier du Lac, Yaoundé III.

Email: archivesnationales.cmr@gmail.com

Official archives websiteAddress confirmed on its official site; email also listed in the French overseas archives directory.

archivesnationales.cm

+1



2. Archives nationales d'outre-mer — Aix-en-Provence

French colonial ministry files, administrative collections, maps and other historical records.

Collections and research guidanceCameroon-related research should distinguish central colonial records from records retained locally.

Archives nationales d’outre-mer



3. Bundesarchiv — Berlin

Relevant holdings: R 1001, R 175 and associated colonial maps.

Email: berlin@bundesarchiv.de

German colonial archival collectionsOfficial inventory and digitisation guidance.

The Federal Archives

+1

4. Franco-Cameroonian Research Commission, 2025

La France au Cameroun (1945–1971), directed by Karine Ramondy.

Access the published research reportUseful for wider historical context, research methods and archival references. It does not independently establish George's alleged 1933 events.

Sciences Po

Friday, 09 October 2026 09/10/2026 21:15:42

END OF SECTION FIVE

NEXT — SECTION SIX: THE EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC AND INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY — Approaching France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Cameroon, Bamiléké Traditional Authorities, Diaspora Organisations, Universities, Human Rights Institutions and Potential Reparatory Justice Partners.

SECTION SIX

THE EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC AND INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Cameroon, Bamiléké Traditional Authorities, Diaspora Organisations, Universities, Human Rights Institutions and International Reparatory Justice Partnerships

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Strategic Research and Consultation Proposal — No Institutional Endorsement, Representative Mandate or Diplomatic Recognition Is Presumed







The three principal European governmental centres that could be approached as part of the proposed strategy are Paris, Berlin and London. These would perform different roles because their historical relationships with Cameroon, present responsibilities and relevant institutional capabilities differ.

A particularly important development occurred in Germany on 27 March 2026, when federal, state and municipal representatives agreed to establish a joint Coordination

Council for the Return of Cultural Property and Human Remains from Colonial Contexts. Its secretariat is to be based within the German Federal Foreign Office. The German government explicitly identified Cameroon among countries developing structures to participate in return processes.



Federal Foreign Office

France has also established an important precedent through its joint historical commission with Cameroon, whose report was delivered to the two presidents in January 2025.

France Diplomatie

These developments provide actual institutional processes that the proposed Bamiléké initiative could investigate, rather than relying solely upon general appeals for historical justice.

6.1 Introduction: From Historical Investigation to International Engagement

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative requires a coordinated programme of diplomatic, institutional, academic and community engagement.

The purpose of such engagement is not simply to obtain public expressions of sympathy for historical suffering.

It is to identify the institutions capable of assisting with historical investigation, archival disclosure, legal analysis, representative organisation and the possible delivery of reparatory remedies.

George T. Nomen's account of the historical treatment of his ancestors, together with his proposal to examine the establishment of a Bamiléké government-in-exile, provides an important starting point.

However, any credible European initiative must distinguish between historical allegations, documented findings, legal claims, political objectives and institutional authority.

The proposed London conference should therefore not begin by demanding that governments recognise a Bamiléké government-in-exile whose constitutional basis, representative mandate and legal status have not yet been established.

Instead, it should seek engagement concerning matters capable of being investigated and addressed through existing institutional arrangements.

These include access to colonial archives, participation by historical researchers, the preservation of ancestral evidence, clarification of governmental responsibilities and consultation concerning appropriate reparatory mechanisms.

The strategy should develop relationships with France, Germany, the United Kingdom and Cameroon, while recognising the distinct historical and contemporary roles of those states.

It should also engage existing Bamiléké organisations and traditional authorities, whose participation may be essential to establishing the legitimacy of any collective initiative.

Relevant universities, archives, museums, human rights institutions and reparatory justice organisations should be approached according to their particular competence.

The guiding principle is that every institution should be asked to contribute something it is capable of providing.

An archive should be asked for records and research guidance.

A university should be asked for historical expertise.

A government should be asked about its own records, responsibilities and applicable policies.

A community organisation should be asked whether it wishes to participate and what mandate it can legitimately provide.

A traditional authority should be approached with proper regard for its distinct historical and institutional position.

A human rights organisation should be asked whether the circumstances fall within its competence.

This division of responsibilities would reduce the risk of symbolic engagement that produces little practical progress.

6.2 The Importance of an Authorised International Engagement Mandate

Before formal approaches are made on behalf of the proposed initiative, the participating organisers should agree upon the authority under which those approaches are undertaken.

George T. Nomen may act in his personal capacity concerning the history of his own family and any matters for which he possesses appropriate authorisation.

Reparation Nation Limited may communicate its interest in organising and supporting reparatory justice initiatives.

Existing Bamiléké associations may act within the authority conferred by their respective constitutions.

Traditional authorities may act within the scope of their customary and legally recognised responsibilities.

These forms of authority must not be confused.

An introductory letter expressing interest in a possible conference should not suggest that a Bamiléké national government or internationally recognised representative authority already exists.

Similarly, an invitation to explore cooperation should not imply that the recipient has accepted any historical allegation or agreed to provide financial support.

The initial correspondence should describe the initiative as being under consideration.

It should explain that the proposed conference is intended to examine historical evidence, participation, representation, possible remedies and institutional development.

Where an organisation subsequently provides formal support, the nature and limits of that support should be recorded.

An institution might agree to supply a speaker without endorsing the conference's conclusions.

It might agree to assist with archival research without accepting legal responsibility for historical events.

It might express support for historical investigation without supporting the creation of a government-in-exile.

These distinctions are essential to the credibility of the proposed process.

6.3 France: Historical Accountability, Archival Disclosure and the 2025 Commission

France would be a central participant in the proposed international engagement strategy.

French authorities exercised colonial administrative power over much of Cameroon following the First World War.

George's investigation concerns alleged actions occurring under that administration, including the suspected 1933 administrative order and the reported treatment of his ancestors.

France is therefore relevant as a source of historical records, a possible subject of historical and legal examination, and a potential participant in discussions concerning acknowledgment and remedies.

The proposed initiative should initially distinguish two historical periods.

The first concerns French administration before 1945, including the suspected 1933 intervention.

The second concerns the repression of independence and opposition movements between 1945 and 1971, investigated by the Franco-Cameroonian historical commission.

These periods may be connected through administrative continuity, institutional practices or historical developments.

However, the findings of a commission principally investigating 1945–1971 should not automatically be treated as proof of particular allegations concerning 1933.

The European initiative should seek to investigate the earlier period while drawing upon the commission's relevant scholarship and archival references.

6.3.1 The Franco-Cameroonian Historical Commission

In January 2025, the joint Franco-Cameroonian commission presented its findings concerning the role and involvement of France in the repression of independence and opposition movements in Cameroon between 1945 and 1971.

The commission was established following an agreement reached by the French and Cameroonian presidents in July 2022.

It comprised historical research and artistic components, with the research directed by Karine Ramondy and the artistic component directed by Blick Bassy.

The French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs publicly described the work as an important stage in the historical examination undertaken by France and Cameroon.

This development creates an identifiable institutional precedent for the proposed Bamiléké initiative.

It establishes that historical investigation into French conduct in Cameroon is not confined to private scholarship or community campaigning.

It has already become the subject of a formal bilateral research process.

However, the completion of a research commission does not necessarily establish that every related question has been resolved.

Nor does it follow that the commission's report has produced a complete framework for receiving and administering reparatory claims by affected families and communities.

The proposed London initiative should therefore examine what further work may be required.

A preliminary letter to the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs could request clarification concerning the continuing institutional arrangements associated with the commission.

It could ask whether there is a designated contact for enquiries concerning historical events outside the commission's principal period.

It could also ask whether researchers investigating French administration in Cameroon during the 1920s and 1930s can be directed towards relevant archival collections.

The correspondence should identify the suspected 1933 arrêté as a specific research lead.

It should not merely demand access to all colonial records without explaining the purpose of the investigation.

6.3.2 A Proposed French Archival Disclosure Programme

The initiative should seek a structured process for identifying and obtaining records concerning French administration of the relevant Bamiléké communities.

This could involve the Archives nationales d'outre-mer, the French Diplomatic Archives, the Service historique de la Défense and relevant Cameroonian archival institutions.

The programme should seek assistance identifying the administrative authorities responsible for traditional chiefdoms and territorial matters during the relevant period.

It should identify official publications in which colonial administrative decisions were recorded.

It should establish whether correspondence concerning Ngantcha, the relevant chiefdom or the disputed ancestral territory survives.

Requests should be sufficiently precise to permit meaningful searches.

Where archives cannot locate particular material, the initiative should ask which collections were examined and whether alternative repositories may hold related records.

The purpose would be to establish an evidence trail rather than simply accumulate refusals or inconclusive responses.

Any disagreement over archival access should be documented accurately and assessed against the applicable French legal and administrative framework.

The proposed initiative should not assume that every historical record can lawfully be disclosed without restriction.

It should nevertheless seek clear explanations for restrictions, available review procedures and possible alternative means of obtaining relevant information.

6.3.3 France and the Question of Reparatory Responsibility

A future claim against France would require substantially more than proof that French colonial administration existed.

It would require identification of relevant acts or omissions, their attribution, applicable legal obligations, competent forums and appropriate remedies.

The proposed engagement should therefore distinguish the request for historical cooperation from any subsequent legal demand.

The initial correspondence could explain that documentary research may inform future questions of historical accountability and reparatory justice.

It should not suggest that the outcome of the investigation has already been determined.

Where evidence establishes particular historical events, the relevant claimants and their authorised representatives could consider whether to seek formal acknowledgment, restitution, compensation or other remedies.

These possibilities should be examined through appropriate legal advice.

The French government's involvement in the 2025 commission provides a basis for requesting further dialogue concerning historical evidence.

It does not, by itself, establish liability for every alleged historical wrong.

6.4 Germany: Colonial History, Historical Research and the Return of Cultural Property

Germany occupies a different position within the proposed strategy.

Its colonial administration of Kamerun preceded the period in which George believes the relevant French administrative intervention occurred.

German records may therefore assist in reconstructing the historical arrangements existing before French administration.

They may also identify earlier interventions affecting traditional authorities, territorial boundaries or community rights.

The German Federal Archives and the National Archives of Cameroon preserve relevant material.

However, German engagement should extend beyond archival research where the evidence warrants broader examination.

Germany has developed institutional policies concerning its colonial history, the provenance of cultural objects and the return of human remains.

These developments demonstrate that historical questions concerning colonial administration are being addressed through governmental, academic and cultural institutions.

6.4.1 Germany's Recognition of Its Colonial History

The German Federal Foreign Office has publicly identified engagement with Germany's colonial past as an important area of governmental work.

Its published material refers to historical research, cooperation with affected countries, dialogue with civil society and the involvement of diaspora representatives.

It has also identified the historical injustice associated with the executions of Rudolf Douala Manga Bell and Adolf Ngoso Din in German Kamerun.

These acknowledgments concern particular historical events and should not be treated as proof of unrelated allegations.

Nevertheless, they demonstrate that official German engagement with colonial wrongdoing is an existing institutional activity rather than merely a proposed possibility.

The London conference could seek participation from researchers and officials familiar with these programmes.

A German historical presentation could examine the administration of Kamerun, the treatment of traditional authorities and the surviving documentary record.

This would provide important context for the subsequent French period.

6.4.2 The German Coordination Council Established in 2026

A significant development occurred in March 2026.

The German Federal Foreign Office announced an agreement to establish a Coordination Council for Returns of Cultural Property and Human Remains from Colonial Contexts.

The agreement brought together federal, state and municipal representatives.

The council is intended to support coordination among German institutions and provide a central governmental contact for relevant international return processes.

Its secretariat is to be established within the Federal Foreign Office.

The announcement specifically referred to Cameroon among countries that had established structures concerned with returns from colonial contexts.

This creates a concrete institutional subject for the proposed European initiative to investigate.

The initial enquiry should establish the operational status of the council, its procedures for receiving enquiries and whether it can advise on matters involving Bamiléké cultural heritage or ancestral objects.

The council's remit must be respected.

An institution concerned with cultural objects and human remains should not be assumed to possess authority over land restitution, compensation for historical killings or recognition of traditional governmental authority.

Nevertheless, the council's work could provide insights into institutional coordination, provenance research and engagement with communities of origin.

These subjects are directly relevant to the wider administration of reparatory justice.

6.4.3 German Academic Cooperation

The German Foreign Office has also supported cooperative research programmes concerning colonial history, including work involving researchers from Cameroon.

The proposed initiative should investigate whether relevant academic partnerships could assist with George's historical research.

A research collaboration might involve locating documents, translating German-language sources, interpreting colonial administrative terminology and comparing German and French records.

Such cooperation would not require a university or researcher to endorse any proposed legal claim.

Its purpose would be to establish historical facts.

The organisers should seek independent scholarly participation and encourage the publication of findings regardless of whether they support the initial allegations.

This would protect the credibility of the investigation.

6.5 The United Kingdom: Convening, Diplomatic Communication and the Historical Symbolism of London

The United Kingdom would perform an important but different role.

London is proposed as the location of the international conference because of its association with Free France, its international accessibility and its potential to support institutional engagement.

The proposed initiative should distinguish the United Kingdom's role as host jurisdiction from any historical responsibility arising from British administration of part of Cameroon.

The fact that the Free French movement operated in London does not establish British responsibility for subsequent French colonial acts.

Equally, Britain's own colonial history may raise distinct questions requiring examination.

The proposed conference should therefore avoid presenting London as a neutral location whose governmental institutions had no colonial interests.

Its relevance should be explained historically and practically.

6.5.1 The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office could be approached concerning the proposed international conference and the historical issues it intends to examine.

The initial approach should not seek recognition of a Bamiléké government-in-exile.

Instead, it could request guidance concerning appropriate institutional engagement, participation by relevant British officials and access to historical or policy expertise.

The letter could explain that the proposed conference intends to investigate the relationship between Cameroon and Free France, the broader colonial historical record, and the development of authorised reparatory justice institutions.

It could also explain that the government-in-exile question will be examined as a constitutional and international legal proposition rather than asserted as an existing reality.

The request should be addressed to the appropriate department rather than assume that a particular minister will personally respond.

The FCDO may be unable or unwilling to participate in the conference.

Such a decision would not invalidate the initiative or prevent independent academic and community engagement.

The organisers should preserve accurate records of every response.

6.5.2 Parliamentary and Academic Engagement

The preparatory committee could invite Members of Parliament, parliamentary researchers and specialists in African history or international law to participate in appropriate capacities.

However, attendance by an elected representative should not be represented as parliamentary endorsement.

Similarly, the conference should distinguish a parliamentary question from an adopted policy of the United Kingdom government.

Academic institutions in London and elsewhere in Britain could be approached concerning historical research, conference facilities and participation by relevant specialists.

Possible areas of expertise include colonial Cameroon, French imperial history, African traditional institutions, international law, archival studies, restitution and historical justice.

Institutions should be selected according to demonstrated expertise rather than assumed political sympathy.

The conference should remain open to responsible academic disagreement.

Its purpose would be to develop knowledge capable of supporting sound institutional decisions.

6.6 Cameroon: The Essential Relationship with the Communities and Institutions Concerned

No European strategy can legitimately substitute itself for the affected communities in Cameroon.

The proposed initiative must therefore establish direct relationships with the relevant Bamiléké traditional authorities, families, community organisations and historical institutions.

These relationships are necessary both for obtaining evidence and for determining the legitimacy of any proposed representative body.

The Republic of Cameroon must also be considered in relation to its contemporary legal and governmental responsibilities.

The proposed conference should therefore distinguish engagement with the Cameroonian state from engagement with traditional authorities and affected families.

The government may possess relevant administrative records, legal powers and diplomatic responsibilities.

Traditional authorities may possess customary relationships with the relevant communities and territories.

Families may possess particular genealogical evidence or claims.

These forms of authority are not interchangeable.

6.6.1 Traditional Authorities

The proposed preparatory committee should identify the chiefdom or chiefdoms directly relevant to George's family history.

It should seek permission to engage the appropriate traditional authorities concerning historical succession, ancestral territory and community knowledge.

The purpose of the initial enquiry should be to explain the research questions and request guidance.

It should not assume that the traditional authorities accept George's account or support a proposed government-in-exile.

Where there is a dispute concerning succession or historical authority, the competing positions should be recorded and examined.

The European initiative should not make appointments to traditional office or declare successors without appropriate authority.

Its role should initially be to facilitate research and consultation.

6.6.2 Cameroonian Governmental Institutions

The proposed initiative could approach the appropriate Cameroonian governmental departments concerning archives, historical research and the status of traditional chiefdom records.

It could also invite relevant institutional participation in the London conference.

Such engagement should be transparent about the subjects being examined.

Where allegations concern actions by historical or contemporary Cameroonian authorities, those allegations should be presented accurately and supported by available evidence.

The organisers should not promise that the conference will refrain from examining inconvenient historical questions in exchange for official participation.

Equally, they should avoid assuming that every Cameroonian institution shares responsibility for every historical act under investigation.

The purpose of engagement should be to clarify facts, applicable responsibilities and possible mechanisms for addressing historical consequences.

6.6.3 The Cameroon High Commission in London

The Cameroon High Commission provides an identifiable point of diplomatic contact within the proposed host city.

An introductory letter could explain the proposed conference, describe its historical and research objectives, and request guidance concerning appropriate Cameroonian institutions.

It could also ask whether the High Commission would be willing to receive a preliminary delegation or identify a suitable contact.

The letter should make clear that the conference is a proposal under consultation and that no governmental authority is being claimed on behalf of the Bamiléké people.

If the proposed initiative later adopts a political position concerning Cameroon's constitutional arrangements, that development would require separate consideration.

The initial approach should remain focused upon the conference's documented objectives and requests for engagement.

6.7 Existing Bamiléké Organisations and the International Diaspora

The proposed conference should not proceed as though the Bamiléké people lack international organisation.

Existing associations have developed community networks, cultural programmes, events and mechanisms for cooperation.

The All Bamiléké Convention in North America offers a particularly relevant example.

Its gatherings demonstrate experience in convening participants across geographical boundaries.

The proposed London conference could seek to understand how these networks are organised and whether they would be interested in contributing to a specialised reparatory justice programme.

The initial enquiry should explain the proposed focus on colonial archives, historical accountability, ancestral land, traditional authority and institutional development.

It should ask whether the relevant organisations have previously undertaken or supported similar work.

It should also seek information concerning their formal governance arrangements and the scope of their representative authority.

An organisation's ability to convene a large cultural gathering does not automatically establish authority to negotiate reparations on behalf of all Bamiléké communities.

Nevertheless, its experience could contribute to the organisation of a broader consultation process.

The proposed initiative should explore cooperation, not automatically competition.

6.8 La'akam and the International Museum of the Bamiléké Genocide

La'akam and the International Museum of the Bamiléké Genocide are relevant because their published work concerns historical memory, colonial violence and the preservation of testimony.

The museum identifies La'akam as its supporting nonprofit organisation.

Its work may therefore provide a connection between community historical knowledge, researchers and wider public education.

The proposed initiative should approach La'akam with a defined set of research questions.

The first would concern whether its collections contain references to the community, chiefdom or family associated with Ngantcha.

The second would concern whether its researchers have investigated French colonial administrative decisions dating from the 1920s or 1930s.

The third would concern whether it holds or knows of testimony relevant to the reported events.

The fourth would concern the methods through which archival research and oral testimony are preserved and evaluated.

The fifth would concern possible participation in the proposed London conference.

Any access to testimony or family records would require appropriate permission.

The proposed initiative should not assume that publicly acknowledging the museum's work provides permission to reproduce all its research materials.

Nor should it assume that La'akam endorses the particular institutional proposals under consideration.

A cooperative relationship should be based upon clearly defined responsibilities, mutual consent and respect for intellectual and community rights.

6.9 Universities, Historians and Independent Research Institutions

Academic cooperation should form a central element of the strategy.

The research required to reconstruct George's ancestral history crosses several areas of expertise.

German colonial administration, French colonial governance, Bamiléké traditional institutions, archival methodology, genealogy, cartography, international law and reparatory justice each require specialist knowledge.

No single institution should be presumed capable of answering every question.

The preparatory committee should therefore develop a research advisory network.

Researchers associated with the Franco-Cameroonian commission would be relevant because of their knowledge of French administration and colonial repression.

Specialists in the earlier mandate period would be required to examine the suspected 1933 intervention.

German colonial historians could assist in reconstructing the pre-French administrative position.

Researchers familiar with Bamiléké customary institutions could assist in understanding traditional succession and territorial relationships.

Legal scholars could examine the available remedies and the constitutional implications of the government-in-exile proposal.

An advisory network should not determine the outcome of the investigation in advance.

Its members should be free to identify weaknesses, inconsistencies and competing interpretations.

The proposed initiative should be prepared to revise its understanding where the evidence requires it.

6.10 African Human Rights Institutions

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights provides an additional institutional avenue for preliminary legal research.

The Commission operates within the African Union human rights system and is concerned with the promotion and protection of rights recognised under the African Charter.

The Charter contains provisions relevant to self-determination, collective rights, development, resources and the rights of peoples.

However, the proposed Bamiléké initiative should not assume that the Commission has jurisdiction to determine every historical claim arising from European colonial administration.

Questions of admissibility, temporal jurisdiction, the identity of the respondent state and available remedies may create substantial difficulties.

The preparatory committee should therefore obtain specialist advice before attempting to submit a formal communication.

An initial enquiry could seek guidance concerning the Commission's procedures, relevant jurisprudence and the distinction between historical reparations questions and contemporary human rights violations.

The conference could also invite an appropriately qualified expert to explain the African regional human rights system.

The purpose would be to inform participants about existing institutional routes, their potential uses and their limitations.

6.11 Engagement with Human Rights and Reparations Organisations

The proposed initiative should also examine relationships with independent human rights organisations and established reparations research networks.

These organisations may offer expertise concerning historical accountability, legal documentation, public reporting and engagement with international institutions.

However, the organisers should avoid assuming that an organisation concerned with human rights generally possesses specialist knowledge of Cameroon or Bamiléké traditional institutions.

A potential partner should be approached with a clear explanation of the assistance being requested.

That might involve reviewing historical research methodology, examining legal obstacles, participating in a conference panel or offering guidance concerning evidence preservation.

Where an organisation declines to participate, the response should be recorded without automatically interpreting it as opposition to reparatory justice.

The goal should be to develop meaningful institutional relationships rather than simply accumulate names for publicity.

6.12 The International Conference Invitation Strategy

The proposed conference should not begin by circulating an identical invitation indiscriminately to every institution.

Different recipients require different information and requests.

Traditional authorities should receive correspondence explaining the historical questions, proposed consultation process and safeguards concerning their authority.

Diaspora organisations should receive information concerning possible participation, representation and cooperation.

Archivists should receive precise research questions and requests for guidance concerning available records.

Historians should receive a summary of the evidence and identify the particular expertise sought.

Governments should receive a formal explanation of the conference's objectives and the institutional matters upon which engagement is requested.

Legal specialists should receive clearly defined questions concerning jurisdiction, standing, international law and remedies.

Potential funders should receive a budget and governance information rather than an unsupported promise of eventual compensation.

This differentiated approach would make correspondence easier for recipients to assess and answer.

It would also reduce the likelihood of misunderstandings concerning the proposed initiative's authority.

6.13 A Formal Institutional Engagement Register

Every approach should be recorded in a central register.

The register should identify the institution, the person or department contacted, the date of correspondence, the specific request made and the response received.

It should record whether the institution has acknowledged receipt, requested additional information, agreed to a meeting, offered assistance, declined involvement or referred the enquiry elsewhere.

Where an institution agrees to participate, the exact nature of its involvement should be documented.

No response should be described as endorsement merely because correspondence has been acknowledged.

Similarly, a referral to another department should not be described as a substantive rejection of the proposal.

Follow-up dates should be recorded and monitored.

A central correspondence register would be particularly important where communications are undertaken by several participants in different countries.

It would reduce duplication and help ensure that commitments are not forgotten.

The register should distinguish confidential correspondence from information authorised for publication.

6.14 The Diplomatic Significance of Historical Symbolism

The London conference's connection with Free France provides a subject suitable for historical dialogue.

The proposed initiative could explain that London became a centre of Free French organisation during the Second World War and that French-administered Cameroon rallied to the Free French movement in August 1940.

These historical events create questions concerning colonial relationships, African contributions to the Free French cause and the treatment of Cameroonian communities under subsequent French administration.

The organisers should avoid presenting the symbolism as proof that France is legally obliged to recognise a contemporary Bamiléké government-in-exile.

Instead, they could invite historical examination of the relationship between France's own struggle for liberation and its colonial governance.

A public historical presentation at or near 4 Carlton Gardens could introduce these questions.

The substantive London conference could then examine the evidence and implications.

This would allow symbolism to support serious investigation without substituting for it.

The initiative should be especially careful to distinguish historical comparisons from assertions of legal equivalence.

The circumstances of wartime France and colonial Cameroon were materially different.

The historical relationship is nevertheless suitable for scholarly and institutional discussion.

6.15 The Proposal for a European Advisory Group

The preparatory committee could establish an international advisory group to assist with the development of the conference.

Its purpose would be to provide access to specialist knowledge rather than exercise authority over Bamiléké communities.

The advisory group might include historians, archivists, legal specialists, conference organisers and individuals with experience in historical restitution.

Members should be appointed according to clearly defined responsibilities.

Their participation should not automatically make them representatives of their employers or professional institutions.

An academic may provide advice in a personal capacity.

A government official may require formal authorisation before participating on behalf of a department.

A community representative may possess a mandate limited to a particular organisation or issue.

These distinctions should be stated in the advisory group's terms of reference.

The group could review conference papers, identify relevant research institutions, advise on archival methods and comment upon legal questions.

It should not possess authority to determine traditional succession, distribute reparations or negotiate away ancestral rights.

Its role should remain advisory unless additional lawful powers are expressly granted.

6.16 The Importance of Protecting the Independence of the Historical Investigation

Diplomatic engagement should not determine historical conclusions.

The purpose of obtaining institutional cooperation is to improve access to evidence and expertise.

It is not to permit governments, donors or conference organisers to decide in advance what researchers must find.

Any research agreement should protect the ability of investigators to publish supported findings, including findings that contradict the expectations of the initiative's founders.

The same principle should apply to family testimony.

George's account should be investigated respectfully, but the investigators must remain able to identify errors or alternative explanations.

A historical research programme that excludes contradictory evidence would undermine its own credibility.

The proposed conference should therefore adopt an independence principle.

Researchers should disclose material conflicts of interest.

Funding arrangements should not condition payment upon particular conclusions.

Draft reports should be subject to appropriate review.

Corrections should be published transparently.

This approach would provide a stronger foundation for any subsequent legal or diplomatic claim.

6.17 Possible European Institutional Partnerships

The proposed initiative could eventually develop several types of formal partnership.

An archival cooperation arrangement might facilitate the identification and reproduction of relevant documents.

An academic research agreement might establish a programme concerning Bamiléké political institutions and colonial administration.

A community consultation agreement might provide procedures for obtaining and preserving testimony.

A legal research arrangement might examine potential remedies and the requirements for authorised representation.

A conference partnership might establish responsibilities concerning organisation, funding and participation.

A technical arrangement might examine whether IBIS could assist with evidence management and the administration of potential reparatory claims.

These arrangements should be documented separately.

A partner agreeing to one activity should not be represented as endorsing all other activities.

Each agreement should identify its purpose, duration, responsibilities, financial implications and procedures for withdrawal.

6.18 European Engagement and the Question of Recognition

A future provisional council or government-in-exile proposal might seek engagement with foreign governments.

The organisers should distinguish recognition of historical facts, recognition of individual rights, recognition of a representative mandate and recognition of governmental authority.

These are separate questions.

A government may recognise that historical atrocities occurred without acknowledging a legal obligation to compensate every descendant.

It may recognise an individual as an authorised representative of a family without recognising that person as a political leader.

It may meet a council representing participating organisations without treating the council as a sovereign government.

It may engage in negotiations concerning cultural restitution without accepting a wider constitutional claim.

The proposed initiative should therefore maintain a record of precisely what each institution has accepted.

Any future request for governmental recognition would require separate constitutional and international legal analysis.

The immediate diplomatic programme need not depend upon such recognition.

6.19 Safeguards Against Institutional Capture

The proposed initiative should consider how its governance arrangements could prevent participating organisations or individuals from acquiring control beyond the authority granted to them.

This concern is especially important because the initiative may eventually concern claims to land, financial reparations, cultural property or traditional authority.

A conference organiser should not automatically become the permanent representative of affected communities.

A funder should not acquire authority to determine historical findings.

A research institution should not assume ownership of family evidence merely because it has assisted with its interpretation.

A technical provider should not acquire control over claimant identities or reparatory entitlements.

A provisional council should not be able to extend its own powers without the consent required under its founding arrangements.

The governance structure should therefore establish clear divisions between research, representation, financial administration, technical systems and independent oversight.

Conflicts of interest should be declared.

Significant decisions should be recorded.

Representatives should remain accountable to the people and institutions that authorised them.

Any process for transferring or settling rights should require explicit and informed authorisation.

The objective is to prevent a movement established to address historical dispossession from creating new forms of institutional dispossession.

6.20 A European Diplomatic Engagement Programme for the First Six Months

The proposed programme should proceed in phases.

During the first month, George T. Nomen and interested supporting organisations should agree upon a preliminary statement of purpose.

This statement should describe the proposed conference, distinguish the historical allegations from verified findings and identify the assistance being sought.

During the second month, initial approaches should be made to Bamiléké traditional authorities, diaspora organisations and historical research partners.

The purpose would be to determine whether sufficient interest exists to justify a wider conference and to identify concerns concerning representation.

During the third month, targeted research enquiries should be submitted to relevant archives in France, Germany and Cameroon.

Preliminary correspondence could also be sent to the appropriate governmental departments to explain the proposed historical investigation.

During the fourth month, the preparatory committee could invite academic and legal advisers to examine the conference programme and institutional proposals.

During the fifth month, the organisers could develop the proposed London Declaration, preliminary conference budget, participation procedures and governance safeguards.

During the sixth month, a decision could be made concerning the feasibility of convening the full conference, taking account of participant interest, available resources and the state of the research programme.

This sequence is illustrative.

It should be adjusted according to actual institutional responses and the needs of affected communities.

The conference should not be announced as internationally representative merely because several prominent individuals have agreed to participate.

Its claims should reflect the mandates actually obtained.

6.21 Proposed Diplomatic Correspondence Principles

All formal correspondence should adopt a consistent standard.

The sender should be clearly identified.

The capacity in which the sender acts should be stated.

The purpose of the correspondence should be explained.

Historical facts should be distinguished from allegations.

Requests should be specific.

Supporting documents should be identified.

Recipients should be asked to respond to the actual questions raised.

Where the correspondence concerns institutional responsibility or safeguards, it should avoid implying that wrongdoing has been established merely because questions are being asked.

The proposed initiative may legitimately seek information concerning institutional safeguards against anti-Black racism, discriminatory decision-making and conflicts of interest.

Such requests should be framed as enquiries concerning existing policies, procedures and accountability arrangements.

An institution should not be accused of discriminatory conduct without an evidential basis.

Equally, the absence of an accusation should not prevent legitimate scrutiny of governance arrangements.

Responses should be retained in their original form.

If an institution answers only part of a request, the outstanding questions should be identified in subsequent correspondence.

A documented and measured approach would support the integrity of the wider initiative.

6.22 The Role of IBIS in International Engagement

IBIS could be examined as an operational framework for recording and managing institutional relationships.

The proposed process might include a register of organisations, authorised representatives, historical evidence, correspondence, commitments and subsequent actions.

A central distinction would be maintained between an institutional promise and its fulfilment.

A government statement supporting historical investigation would not be treated as evidence that an archival search had been completed.

An archive's agreement to examine its holdings would not be treated as evidence that relevant documents had been located.

An invitation to a meeting would not be treated as a negotiated settlement.

A funding commitment would not be treated as evidence that resources had been received.

An agreement to provide reparations would not be treated as proof that the intended beneficiaries had obtained them.

These distinctions reflect the broader IBIS concern with verifiable delivery.

The framework should maintain an evidential record of each stage.

Any technical implementation would require appropriate safeguards concerning accuracy, privacy, access control and the authority of users.

Participation in the proposed London conference should not require automatic acceptance of IBIS.

Its suitability should be evaluated independently.

6.23 A Proposed International Institutional Engagement Report

The preparatory committee should publish a report summarising its engagement activities before the conference.

The report should identify which institutions were approached, what assistance was requested and what substantive responses were received.

It should distinguish confirmed participation from expressions of interest.

It should identify any research agreements, meetings or contributions that have actually been secured.

It should also identify unresolved questions, refusals and areas requiring further investigation.

The report should not use institutional logos or names in a manner suggesting endorsement where none has been granted.

Confidential information should be protected.

The resulting document would allow prospective participants to evaluate the actual state of the initiative.

It would also reduce dependence upon informal claims about international support.

6.24 From Diplomatic Engagement to a Durable International Institution

The long-term objective of the proposed diplomatic strategy is to develop institutional relationships capable of supporting historical accountability and reparatory justice.

Such relationships would need to survive beyond a single conference.

An initial meeting may lead to a research enquiry.

A research enquiry may lead to the discovery of relevant evidence.

Evidence may justify further legal investigation.

Legal investigation may identify possible remedies.

Affected communities may authorise representatives to pursue those remedies.

Negotiations may result in commitments requiring implementation and oversight.

Each stage depends upon the quality of the preceding work.

The initiative should therefore avoid measuring progress solely through public visibility or the number of prominent institutions contacted.

Substantive progress should be assessed according to documented developments.

These might include access to previously unavailable records, verification of historical events, establishment of authorised representative mandates, publication of independent research and the creation of accountable procedures for pursuing remedies.

The resulting institution, if properly authorised, could become an important coordinator of international reparatory justice activity.

Its authority would derive from the people and institutions that have empowered it.

Its credibility would depend upon its transparency, accuracy and effectiveness.

Its continuing purpose would be the pursuit and verification of reparatory outcomes.

6.25 Conclusion to Section Six

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative would require engagement with a range of institutions whose responsibilities, authority and historical relationships differ.

France is central to the investigation of the alleged colonial acts occurring under French administration and to the examination of the continuing research process established through the Franco-Cameroonian commission.

Germany is relevant to the earlier colonial period, the reconstruction of traditional and territorial arrangements, and contemporary institutional programmes concerning colonial cultural property and historical accountability.

The United Kingdom provides the proposed conference's historical setting, an international organisational centre and potential institutional and academic relationships.

Cameroon remains indispensable because the affected ancestral communities, traditional institutions, territories and important historical records are located there.

Existing Bamiléké associations and diaspora networks may contribute organisational capacity and international participation.

Historians, archivists and universities may contribute the specialised knowledge required to examine the evidence.

Human rights institutions may assist in clarifying collective rights and possible legal routes, subject to their jurisdiction and procedures.

Reparation Nation Limited could be considered as a supporting convening organisation, while IBIS could be examined as a possible framework for organising information, authority and delivery.

No participant's role should be assumed.

No institutional relationship should be represented as recognition where recognition has not been provided.

No historical allegation should be presented as conclusively established without sufficient evidence.

The proposed diplomatic strategy should consequently proceed through specific, documented requests for cooperation.

Its purpose should be to develop the relationships necessary to establish historical facts, clarify responsibilities, support legitimate representation and examine the possible delivery of reparatory justice.

The central objective is to transform international interest into accountable institutional cooperation, and accountable institutional cooperation into verifiable historical and reparatory outcomes.

Verified institutional contact register

Friday, 09 October 2026 09/10/2026 21:15:42

The following provides an initial contact register for the document. These are identifiable routes for enquiries, not confirmations that the institutions will participate.

Institution	Contact details or official channel	Proposed enquiry
French Embassy, London	58 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7JT. Tel: 020 7073 1000. Official details	French colonial records and the commission's follow-up work France Diplomatie
German Embassy, London	23 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PZ. info@lond.diplo.de. Official site	German colonial research and restitution coordination  Consular Protection +1
Cameroon High Commission	84 Holland Park, London W11 3SB. info@cameroonhighcommission.co.uk. Official contact	Cameroonian archival institutions and appropriate community or governmental contacts Cameroon High Commission UK
UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office	King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH. FCDO.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk. FCDO	Proposed conference and British historical/diplomatic engagement  GOV.UK

African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights	au-banjul@africanunion.org. Official contact	Procedure, collective rights and jurisdictional guidance  African Commission on Human Rights
La'akam Association	genocidebamileke@gmail.com. Museum and La'akam contact	Testimony, historical research and Bamiléké memory projects  International Museum of the Bamiléké Genocide
International Museum of the Bamiléké Genocide	info@bamilekemuseum.com. Museum	Historical evidence and possible research participation  International Museum of the Bamiléké Genocide
Illinois Bamiléké Association	Official association website	Contact with the All Bamiléké Convention network  ILLINOIS BAMILEKE ASSOCIATION

Additional primary sources for the research appendix

The following official publications are particularly relevant:

- French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs — Franco-Cameroonian Commission, February 2025.
- French Presidency — Commission and archival access, 21 January 2025.

- German Federal Foreign Office — Colonial Return Coordination Council, March 2026.
- German Federal Foreign Office — Addressing Germany's Colonial Past.
- Presidency of Cameroon — Receipt of the Historical Commission Report, January 2025.
- German Federal Archives — Colonial Records Preserved in Cameroon.

END OF SECTION SIX

NEXT — SECTION SEVEN: THE INTERNATIONAL BAMILÉKÉ LONDON CONFERENCE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN — The Preparatory Committee, Venue Selection, Public Historical Ceremony, Conference Programme, Delegates, Invitations, Budget, Funding, Legal Compliance, Publicity, Documentation and an Action-by-Action Timetable.

SECTION SEVEN

THE INTERNATIONAL BAMILÉKÉ LONDON CONFERENCE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Conference Organisation, Historical Ceremony, International Delegates, Funding, Legal Compliance, Publicity, Documentation and the Practical Roadmap from Proposal to Delivery

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Proposed Implementation Framework — Subject to Community Consultation, Organisational Agreement and Necessary Permissions







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7.1 Introduction: Turning the London Proposal into an Operational Programme

The preceding sections have established the historical and institutional considerations underlying the proposal for an International Bamiléké Conference for Reparatory Justice in London.

The proposal connects George T. Nomen's investigation into the treatment of his ancestors with wider questions concerning European colonial administration, traditional Bamiléké authority, historical accountability, international representation and the development of institutions capable of pursuing reparatory justice.

The historical association between London and Free France provides a distinctive symbolic foundation.

The former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens offers a recognised historical location through which the relationship between France's wartime experience and the subsequent treatment of Cameroonian communities can be examined publicly.

However, the success of the proposed initiative should not depend upon occupying that building, staging a dramatic protest or obtaining immediate recognition of a government-in-exile.

Its success should depend upon the establishment of a coherent and accountable process.

This section therefore addresses how the proposed conference could be organised in practice.

It examines the formation of a preparatory committee, consultation with relevant communities, venue selection, event management, public ceremony, international invitations, delegate verification, funding, publicity, documentation, and the responsibilities required to carry the process forward.

The objective is to provide George and interested participants with a plan that can be examined, costed, amended and implemented through clearly defined stages.

The plan must distinguish between a proposal and an authorised decision.

Until the necessary agreements have been obtained, no organisation should claim that the conference possesses authority to represent the Bamiléké people collectively.

Similarly, no external institution should be described as a conference partner until its participation has been confirmed.

The conference should be organised to investigate the historical and institutional questions rather than predetermine their answers.

Its arrangements must respect the independence of Bamiléké traditional authorities, the rights of affected families, the role of existing diaspora organisations and the distinct responsibilities of the various institutions being approached.

The practical challenge is to produce an event capable of generating an enduring programme rather than an isolated occasion.

7.2 Establishing the Founding Discussion Group

The first operational stage should be the establishment of a small founding discussion group.

George T. Nomen could participate as the originator of the government-in-exile proposal and a person pursuing historical evidence concerning his ancestors.

Reparation Nation Limited could participate as a possible supporting organisation with an interest in reparatory justice architecture and the development of institutional arrangements.

Other individuals could be invited according to their knowledge, experience, community relationships or willingness to assist.

The founding group should not be described as a Bamiléké government, national council or authoritative representative body.

Its initial purpose would be to assess the feasibility of convening the conference and to identify the consultation required before formal arrangements are made.

An initial written record should establish the group's participants, the purpose of the discussions, any agreed responsibilities and the limitations of its authority.

It should also distinguish proposals made by individuals from decisions actually agreed by the group.

The first meeting should examine whether the objectives described in this document are sufficiently clear to justify approaching wider Bamiléké organisations.

Any fundamental disagreement should be recorded.

For example, participants may agree that historical research and a London conference are worthwhile while holding different views about the desirability of a government-in-exile.

Such disagreement need not prevent cooperation on matters where agreement exists.

The founding group should adopt a principle that no participant may publicly claim to represent another person or organisation without appropriate authorisation.

This will be especially important during the initial period, when outside institutions may reasonably wish to know who is responsible for the initiative.

7.3 Preparing the Conference Concept Paper

Before extensive external correspondence begins, the founding group should prepare a concise conference concept paper.

The present strategy document would provide the wider research and planning foundation.

The concept paper would be a shorter document explaining the conference's purpose to potential participants.

It should identify the proposed title, location, historical rationale, principal subjects for discussion and intended outputs.

It should explain the relationship between the Free French movement and London, including the relevance of 4 Carlton Gardens.

It should also explain the relationship between French colonial administration and the historical questions raised by George.

The concept paper must expressly state that George's individual family allegations remain subject to documentary investigation.

It should distinguish that investigation from the wider historical research already undertaken concerning repression in Cameroon.

The proposed government-in-exile should be identified as a question for examination, not as an outcome already agreed.

The document should invite comment from existing Bamiléké organisations and relevant traditional authorities.

It should make clear that the conference's constitutional and representative arrangements remain open for consultation.

A preliminary concept paper is particularly important because it allows potential participants to understand the initiative before being asked to commit resources or accept responsibilities.

It also provides a stable document against which later proposals can be compared.

7.4 Consultation Before Formal Organisation

The proposed conference should not proceed directly from an initial concept paper to a public announcement claiming international representation.

A consultation stage is necessary.

The founding group should approach existing Bamiléké organisations, relevant traditional authorities and interested historical research institutions.

The purpose would be to establish whether they consider the proposal relevant, whether they have concerns about its framing and whether they would wish to participate in its development.

The consultation should specifically address the distinction between reparatory justice and political sovereignty.

Some participants may be interested in colonial archives and historical remedies without supporting a government-in-exile.

Others may consider wider questions of self-determination important.

The organisers should not require agreement upon every political question as a condition of participating in historical research.

Consultation should also address whether London is a suitable conference location.

While London possesses historical significance, affected communities may have practical concerns about travel costs, immigration restrictions, language, accessibility and the distribution of decision-making authority.

The possibility of remote participation or parallel consultations in Cameroon should therefore be considered.

The initial consultation should result in a written report identifying expressions of interest, objections, suggestions and unresolved questions.

No absence of response should be counted as agreement.

7.5 Establishment of the Preparatory Committee

Once sufficient interest and an appropriate basis for participation have been established, a formal preparatory committee could be created.

Its authority should be limited to the preparation of the conference.

A written constitution or terms of reference should identify its responsibilities, membership, decision-making procedures, financial arrangements and reporting obligations.

The committee should be empowered to organise meetings, obtain quotations, prepare budgets, issue approved invitations, seek venues and manage agreed preparatory activities.

It should not possess authority to settle ancestral land claims, appoint traditional leaders or claim sovereign governmental status.

Its membership should reflect the functions necessary for organising the event.

The committee could include a coordinator, secretary, treasurer or financial officer, research coordinator, community liaison officer, venue and logistics coordinator, communications officer and safeguarding lead.

These are proposed administrative functions rather than governmental offices.

One person may initially undertake more than one responsibility, provided that appropriate financial and decision-making controls are maintained.

The committee should establish a system for recording decisions and retaining documents.

Significant expenditure should require approval under agreed procedures.

No single individual should be able to incur unlimited obligations on behalf of the organisers.

The committee should also adopt procedures for declaring conflicts of interest.

A member with a personal or financial interest in a proposed supplier should disclose that interest before the relevant decision is made.

The purpose is to create confidence that conference resources are being used for the stated objectives.

7.6 The Practical Role of George T. Nomen

George's involvement could be central to the historical and intellectual development of the conference.

His family investigation provides a concrete example of the difficulties descendants may face when seeking evidence of colonial actions.

His proposal concerning a government-in-exile also provides one of the principal institutional questions for examination.

However, these contributions should not automatically be translated into permanent constitutional authority.

George could initially take responsibility for presenting the background to his investigation, identifying relevant family and community contacts, assisting with historical questions and explaining his institutional proposal.

Where he possesses documentary evidence, he could authorise its examination under agreed conditions.

Where evidence remains unavailable, the conference materials should state that the relevant claims are being investigated.

If George wishes to seek a representative role, the basis and scope of that authority should be established separately.

The preparatory committee should provide him with a clearly defined role and preserve his ability to review how his personal and family information is presented.

The objective should be to ensure that his contribution is properly recognised without creating obligations or claims of authority that have not been agreed.

7.7 The Practical Role of Reparation Nation Limited

Reparation Nation Limited could support the initiative through research, communications, conference planning and administrative documentation.

Its possible involvement should be established through a written agreement.

That agreement should distinguish organisational support from authority over Bamiléké communities or claims.

Reparation Nation Limited could assist in preparing conference papers, maintaining correspondence, documenting commitments and evaluating possible systems for reparatory justice administration.

It could also assist with identifying potential research and institutional partners.

Any financial role should be clearly defined.

Money received specifically for conference purposes should be accounted for separately and used according to the conditions under which it was provided.

Where Reparation Nation Limited incurs expenses, the arrangement for reimbursement should be agreed in advance.

The organisation should not acquire rights over ancestral claims, family records or prospective reparations merely through providing administrative support.

The purpose of its involvement would be to contribute capacity to a process ultimately governed by the participating communities and their authorised representatives.

7.8 A Two-Part London Event

The proposed London initiative could consist of two distinct but connected events.

The first would be a historical ceremony associated with 4 Carlton Gardens.

The second would be the substantive international conference at a suitable meeting venue.

Separating these activities would serve several purposes.

The ceremony could explain the historical symbolism in a concise and accessible way.

The conference could provide the facilities and time needed for research presentations, discussion, translation, delegate participation and institutional decisions.

The arrangements could also be designed to avoid relying upon access to a building whose ownership and occupancy are outside the organisers' control.

The two events should be presented as components of one programme, but each should have its own risk assessment, operational arrangements and responsible organisers.

7.9 The Historical Ceremony at 4 Carlton Gardens







8

English Heritage confirms that General Charles de Gaulle established the headquarters of the Free French Forces at 4 Carlton Gardens in 1940.

Its account distinguishes the principal Free French departments at number 4 from de Gaulle's private office at number 3.

The commemorative plaque at number 4 provides an identifiable historical reference point.

A statue of de Gaulle also stands nearby.



English Heritage

+1

The proposed ceremony could begin with a short explanation of these facts.

A historian or suitably prepared speaker could describe the establishment of Free France in London and Cameroon's involvement in the wider wartime history.

The ceremony could then introduce the questions motivating the proposed conference.

Why were Cameroonian communities subjected to European colonial administration?

What happened to particular traditional authorities and ancestral territories?

What records survive?

What responsibilities might arise from documented historical actions?

What institutions could legitimately pursue reparatory justice on behalf of affected people?

A statement could be read explaining why the organisers selected London and why the former Free French headquarters provides an appropriate historical reference.

The wording should avoid implying that a contemporary Bamiléké organisation possesses the constitutional position or international recognition historically associated with Free France.

A commemorative photograph or authorised recording could preserve the occasion.

The ceremony should be peaceful, lawful and respectful of others using the area.

It should not involve entering private premises without permission, obstructing entrances or installing objects without the necessary authorisation.

A temporary symbolic gathering would serve the historical purpose without requiring possession of the building.

7.10 Westminster Council, Public Order and Event Permissions

The precise legal arrangements would depend upon the nature of the proposed ceremony.

A stationary peaceful protest, an organised public event, a procession and a commercial filming operation can engage different legal and administrative requirements.

The organisers should establish the intended activity before deciding which permissions or notices are required.

Westminster City Council's published event guidance identifies advance application requirements for organised outdoor events.

As updated on 23 July 2026, the council lists a minimum of ten working days for small-scale events not requiring statutory licences, one month for certain events involving licensing requirements, and at least three months for events involving road closures or more than 499 people.

The council currently warns that application demand may require longer lead times than those published.

These periods are not guarantees that permission will be issued.

The official guidance also explains that relevant timescales are calculated from payment of the application fee rather than merely submission of an enquiry.

The Metropolitan Police publishes separate guidance for organisers of public events, demonstrations and processions.

Under government guidance, organisers of a planned public march generally must notify the police in writing at least six days in advance.

A stationary protest does not ordinarily require the same advance notification, although police powers and other applicable legal requirements remain relevant.

The organisers should therefore seek appropriate advice concerning the actual proposed activities.

A formal event requiring the use of public space should not be described as a spontaneous protest merely to avoid the relevant event-management requirements.

Likewise, a peaceful protest should not automatically be assumed to require every permission associated with a licensed commercial event.

The correct legal classification should be established before arrangements are finalised.

The preparatory committee should maintain written records of council correspondence, police liaison and any conditions attached to permissions.

7.11 Selecting the Conference Venue

The substantive international conference should take place at a venue suitable for serious deliberation.

It should not depend upon obtaining access to 4 Carlton Gardens.

The preferred venue should be accessible by public transport and capable of accommodating international participants.

It should provide appropriate meeting rooms, seating, presentation facilities, reliable internet access and arrangements for remote participation.

Interpretation facilities may be necessary, especially for participants who prefer French or English.

The organisers should also consider the requirements of speakers using Bamiléké languages and arrange interpretation where practicable.

The venue should provide suitable access for disabled participants.

Its safety, capacity and evacuation arrangements should be reviewed.

Accommodation and travel considerations should also be taken into account.

The organisers should obtain written quotations from several venues.

The quotations should identify exactly what is included.

Venue hire, technical equipment, furniture, interpretation facilities, staffing, security, catering and cleaning may be priced separately.

A low headline venue price should not be treated as the full conference cost without examining these items.

The venue contract should identify cancellation terms and the responsibilities of both parties.

The preparatory committee should not sign a contract that exceeds its agreed financial authority.

7.12 The Possible Conference Date

The historical date of 18 June deserves particular consideration because of de Gaulle's appeal from London on 18 June 1940.

An anniversary-based event could provide a clear historical reference.

However, the date should not override the practical requirements of international consultation, archival research, funding and venue preparation.

As of October 2026, 18 June 2027 provides one possible future historical anniversary around which planning could be examined.

This should be treated as an option, not a confirmed conference date.

The preparatory committee should consider whether the necessary participants could reasonably be consulted and the programme prepared before that date.

If the evidence, funding or participation arrangements are not sufficiently developed, a later date may be appropriate.

The event's credibility would depend more heavily upon the quality of its preparation than upon its proximity to a symbolic anniversary.

The date should be approved only after consultation with relevant participants and confirmation that a suitable venue is available.

7.13 An International Participation Model

The conference should accommodate different types of participant without confusing attendance with representative authority.

A traditional authority may attend personally or authorise a delegate.

A family may nominate a representative for defined questions concerning its history.

A diaspora association may participate through representatives appointed according to its constitution.

A historian may attend as an independent expert.

A government official may attend in a specified official or personal capacity.

An interested member of the public may attend as an observer.

The conference should establish procedures through which these different capacities can be recorded.

A person should not be presented as an official representative merely because they are prominent, knowledgeable or influential.

Similarly, attendance by a traditional chief should not automatically be interpreted as endorsement of every institutional proposal discussed.

The organisers should publish participation rules in advance.

The rules should explain which sessions are open to observers, which require prior registration and which decisions may be taken only by appropriately authorised participants.

Where a delegate claims authority to represent an institution, the organiser should seek suitable confirmation of that mandate.

The process should be proportionate and should not require unnecessary disclosure of personal information.

If questions arise concerning contested mandates, they should be addressed under an agreed procedure.

No conference vote should be treated as binding upon persons or communities that did not authorise participation in that decision.

7.14 International Invitations and Advance Consultation

The invitation process should proceed in stages.

The first stage would involve exploratory correspondence asking whether relevant individuals and organisations wish to discuss the proposal.

The second would involve circulation of the concept paper and draft programme.

The third would involve formal invitations to participate in the conference, once the necessary organisational arrangements are sufficiently developed.

Invitations should specify the capacity in which the recipient is being invited.

A historian may be invited to present research.

A traditional authority may be invited to participate in a consultation concerning representation.

A diaspora organisation may be invited to contribute its experience.

A government department may be invited to send an observer or provide an institutional presentation.

These are not interchangeable forms of participation.

Each invitation should identify the purpose, proposed dates, expected contribution, arrangements for travel or expenses and whether participation is in person or remotely.

The organisers should avoid publicly listing someone as a confirmed delegate before receiving their agreement.

This is particularly important where the proposed conference concerns sensitive political questions or disputed historical claims.

7.15 Delegates from Cameroon and International Travel

The proposed conference must consider the practical difficulties that some participants may experience travelling to the United Kingdom.

Participants based in Cameroon or other countries may require immigration permission.

The organisers should not assume that an invitation letter guarantees entry to the United Kingdom.

Any invitation should accurately explain the event, the participant's proposed role, the duration of the visit and any financial support being offered.

Participants should be directed to the applicable official visa requirements.

Where funding is available for travel or accommodation, the terms should be documented.

The preparatory committee should avoid making financial commitments that it cannot fulfil.

Remote participation should be considered so that international travel restrictions do not unnecessarily prevent communities from contributing.

However, remote participation also requires appropriate procedures for verifying delegates, recording decisions and managing confidential discussions.

The conference should not allow access to international travel to become the sole determinant of who may participate in decisions affecting ancestral rights.

7.16 Translation, Interpretation and Historical Language

The conference is likely to require both English and French.

French is particularly relevant to the colonial records under investigation and to participants from Cameroon and France.

English is relevant to the proposed London setting and to some international diaspora participants.

Relevant Bamiléké languages may also be important, especially where traditional authorities or community witnesses are participating.

The organisers should consult prospective participants before deciding which interpretation facilities are required.

Historical documents should be presented in their original language wherever possible, accompanied by appropriately prepared translations.

A French administrative term may have a particular legal meaning that is not fully captured by a general English equivalent.

Similarly, a customary title or concept may not correspond precisely to European administrative terminology.

The conference should therefore distinguish translation from legal or historical interpretation.

Where an important translation is disputed, the disagreement should be recorded.

This will be especially important in any discussion concerning Ngantcha, succession to traditional authority and the suspected 1933 arrêté.

7.17 A Proposed Three-Day Conference Programme

DAY

1

Historical Evidence and Colonial Accountability

The first day would examine Bamiléké history, German and French administration, traditional governance, archival evidence, ancestral land and the historical allegations raised by George's investigation. Sessions would distinguish established research from questions requiring further verification.

DAY

2

Representation, Constitutional Questions and Reparatory Remedies

The second day would examine traditional authority, diaspora representation, self-determination, the government-in-exile proposal and alternatives such as an international reparatory justice council or federation. Legal specialists would identify the requirements and limitations of the different arrangements.

DAY

3

Institutional Development and the London Declaration

The third day would consider research priorities, proposed working groups, governance safeguards, institutional partnerships, financing and a draft London Declaration. Decisions would be limited to matters within the authority of the participating delegates.

The programme should permit adequate time for questions and discussion.

Presentations should be circulated in advance wherever practical.

The organisers should avoid allowing ceremonial speeches to displace the substantive sessions needed to produce concrete outcomes.

At the end of each day, the secretariat should publish or circulate an accurate record of provisional findings, unresolved issues and decisions requiring further consideration.

7.18 Conference Research Papers and Background Documentation

The conference should be supported by a collection of research papers prepared before the proceedings.

The papers should include a historical overview of European colonial administration in Cameroon, a review of Bamiléké traditional institutions, an explanation of the Free French historical connection and an assessment of existing archival resources.

A separate paper should examine the 2025 Franco-Cameroonian commission, including its remit, findings, limitations and implications for further research.

George's historical investigation could be presented through a preliminary evidence paper, subject to his authorisation.

Another paper should examine the meaning and legal status of governments-in-exile.

Further papers could address possible reparatory remedies, ancestral land, the rights of peoples, and the administrative requirements of reparatory delivery.

IBIS could be examined in a technical paper distinguishing its proposed functions from the institutional authority required to use them.

These papers should identify their authors, sources and any material limitations.

The conference should allow participants to submit written corrections and alternative interpretations.

Historical findings should not be settled through a vote.

The role of the conference would be to identify what can be established and determine how further investigation should proceed.

7.19 Budget Planning and Financial Feasibility

A preliminary budget is necessary before the organisers solicit funds or commit to a venue.

The budget should distinguish fixed costs, variable costs, optional expenditure and contingency funding.

The following figures are illustrative planning assumptions in pounds sterling. They are not supplier quotations or verified current market prices.

Illustrative cost category	Lower estimate	Upper estimate
Venue hire and facilities	£2,500	£8,000
Audio-visual equipment and hybrid access	£1,000	£4,000
Interpretation and translation	£1,500	£6,500
Travel and accommodation assistance	£3,000	£15,000
Accessibility, safeguarding and event support	£700	£3,000
Insurance and professional advice	£700	£3,500
Documentation, recording and publicity	£800	£3,500
Administration and printed materials	£500	£2,000
Subtotal	£10,700	£45,500
Contingency (15%, rounded)	£1,605	£6,825
Illustrative total	£12,305	£52,325

This range illustrates how materially the overall cost could change according to venue, interpretation and international travel commitments.

The preparatory committee should obtain supplier quotations before adopting an official budget.

The financial plan should distinguish the conference from the longer-term historical research programme.

Archival fees, specialist genealogy, legal opinions and international research travel may generate costs outside the conference budget.

The organisers should also distinguish confirmed funding from pledged or anticipated contributions.

No expenditure should depend upon money that has not been received or contractually secured.

7.20 Possible Funding Arrangements

The conference could examine several forms of financial support, including voluntary contributions, grants, institutional partnerships, conference registration fees and contributions from participating organisations.

Any funding arrangement must preserve the independence of the historical investigation and the authority of affected communities.

A donor should not acquire the right to determine historical conclusions or appoint representatives merely by providing financial support.

Where a contribution is restricted to a particular purpose, the restriction should be documented.

The organisers should establish a transparent financial account of money received and spent.

If conference registration fees are introduced, the amount, cancellation terms and access arrangements should be published.

The organiser should consider whether fees might exclude important participants, especially descendants or traditional representatives whose financial resources are limited.

Where participation assistance is available, the eligibility criteria should be transparent and applied consistently.

The conference should not market tickets or contributions as investments in future reparations.

No promise of compensation should be made to participants merely because they attend or provide funding.

7.21 Publicity, Media and Historical Communication

The proposed conference would involve historically sensitive issues and potentially disputed political claims.

Its public communications should therefore be carefully prepared.

The principal publicity materials should explain the historical relationship between London and Free France, the European colonial history of Cameroon, the questions concerning Bamiléké ancestral rights and the purpose of the proposed conference.

The organisers should distinguish between the public historical ceremony and the substantive conference.

The historical ceremony could be publicised as an occasion for remembrance, historical education and the introduction of the conference.

The conference itself should be presented as a forum for research, consultation and institutional development.

The organisers should not advertise the formation of a recognised government-in-exile as a settled outcome.

Similarly, public statements should not suggest that all Bamiléké traditional authorities or international organisations have endorsed the initiative.

A press statement should identify which institutions are confirmed participants, which have been invited and which have expressed preliminary interest.

Photographs, footage and historical material should be used with appropriate attribution and permission.

Where the event includes sensitive family testimony, participants should be informed of the intended recording and publication arrangements.

The media strategy should seek accurate public understanding rather than publicity at the expense of historical or institutional credibility.

7.22 A Conference Website and Public Information System

The preparatory committee could establish a dedicated website or conference information page.

Its purpose would be to provide reliable information about the proposed event and distinguish official organisational documents from independent commentary.

The website could publish the conference concept paper, research background, consultation opportunities, confirmed dates, venue information and participation procedures.

It could also maintain an accessible record of participating organisations and the precise capacity in which they are involved.

A separate research section could provide references to public historical sources.

The website should not publish private family records or sensitive genealogical information without appropriate authorisation.

Where individuals submit evidence, the collection process should explain how that information will be used, who may access it and how corrections may be requested.

The organisers should also consider the accessibility of the website, including use on mobile devices and availability in relevant languages.

If IBIS is demonstrated through the conference website, the demonstration should be clearly distinguished from the official conference registration and decision-making systems.

No participant should be required to make a political declaration or accept a particular historical interpretation simply to access public conference information.

7.23 Registration and Delegate Verification

The registration system should distinguish attendance from authorisation.

A person registering to attend the conference does not automatically acquire a vote or representative mandate.

The registration process should therefore ask only for information necessary to administer participation.

Those claiming to be authorised delegates may need to provide additional evidence of their appointment.

Such evidence should be reviewed through an agreed process.

The organiser should avoid collecting unnecessary identity documents or genealogical details.

Where sensitive information is required, its collection, storage, access and eventual deletion should be governed by clear procedures consistent with applicable data protection law.

A record of delegate mandates should identify the authorising body, the scope of the mandate and any limitations.

Disputed mandates should be referred to an appropriate review process.

The conference must not assume that possession of an invitation or registration ticket establishes authority to represent a traditional chiefdom, family or diaspora organisation.

7.24 Conference Safety, Accessibility and Anti-Discrimination Safeguards

The organisers should establish a written safety and conduct policy.

This should address emergency arrangements, safeguarding, accessibility, harassment, intimidation and discrimination.

The historical subject matter may produce emotional or politically sensitive discussions.

Participants should be able to disagree strongly about evidence, representation and constitutional proposals without being subjected to threats or abuse.

The policy should expressly address anti-Black racism and institutional racism.

The presence of safeguards should be demonstrated through actual procedures rather than general statements of principle.

Participants should know how to report concerns, who will consider complaints, what interim measures may be available and how decisions can be challenged.

Where an allegation concerns a member of the organising committee, the procedure should provide for review by someone who is not implicated in the matter.

The organisers should also address potential conflicts concerning traditional authority, family succession and historical claims.

The conference should not allow security or administrative arrangements to be used to suppress legitimate disagreement.

At the same time, freedom of discussion does not require participants to tolerate harassment, threats or discriminatory treatment.

The venue should be assessed for physical accessibility and appropriate support for participants with disabilities.

Conference information should explain how accessibility requirements can be communicated in advance.

7.25 Financial and Organisational Accountability

The preparatory committee should maintain accurate financial and administrative records.

The records should distinguish funds received, commitments made, invoices approved, payments completed and outstanding liabilities.

Financial reporting should be available to the persons or organisations to whom the committee is accountable.

The committee should also preserve minutes of meetings and records of significant decisions.

A public conference may generate goodwill and expressions of interest, but these should not be confused with binding agreements.

The organisers should maintain a register of confirmed commitments.

Where an institution promises to provide a speaker, funding, historical records or another contribution, the commitment should be recorded in the form actually made.

Subsequent delivery should be verified separately.

This principle reflects the wider proposed IBIS approach to distinguishing commitments from implementation.

The same discipline should apply to the conference itself.

7.26 Preparing the London Declaration

A draft London Declaration could be circulated before the conference.

The draft should be presented as a proposal open to amendment.

It should address the importance of historical investigation, the preservation of ancestral evidence, respect for Bamiléké traditional institutions, the rights of affected individuals and communities, and the need for accountable reparatory justice mechanisms.

The declaration could refer to the historical significance of London and Free France.

However, it should not imply that the historical precedent automatically confers governmental authority.

The declaration should also distinguish collective aspirations from binding commitments.

A conference can express an intention to investigate reparatory justice without establishing legal liability.

It can express support for community self-determination without determining the constitutional status of a territory.

It can agree to examine a government-in-exile without thereby establishing one.

The declaration should identify the signatories and the capacities in which they act.

Where a resolution requires further authorisation, this should be expressly stated.

The final document should record exactly what the conference has agreed.

It should not claim unanimous approval where substantial dissent has been recorded.

7.27 Establishing the Post-Conference Implementation Mechanism

A central weakness of many international conferences is the failure to distinguish declarations from completed actions.

The proposed Bamiléké conference should address this problem before it takes place.

The preparatory committee should develop a draft post-conference implementation framework.

That framework would identify the mechanism through which approved decisions will be carried forward.

Possible arrangements include temporary working groups for historical archives, legal research, community consultation, constitutional development and international engagement.

Each working group should have a defined mandate.

Its responsibilities, membership and reporting requirements should be recorded.

Where a provisional reparatory justice council is proposed, its powers should be derived from an appropriately authorised founding instrument.

No working group should acquire authority to settle claims, dispose of land rights or speak for non-participating communities merely because the conference established it.

The implementation framework should distinguish work that can begin immediately from work that depends upon later authorisation.

It should also identify which actions require funding, legal advice or cooperation from external institutions.

7.28 The First Twelve Months: A Proposed Implementation Roadmap

Months 1–2

Founding discussions and concept development

George and interested participants agree on the initial proposal, prepare the conference concept paper, identify relevant Bamiléké organisations and begin consultation without claiming collective authority.

Months 3–4

Preparatory committee and research engagement

Establish the committee's terms of reference, develop the first budget, approach archives and researchers, obtain initial legal guidance and identify potential delegates.

Months 5–6

Conference feasibility and formal arrangements

Review consultation responses, obtain venue quotations, confirm the intended scale, assess funding, begin required event-permission processes and prepare the draft programme.

Months 7–9

Historical papers, invitations and delegate procedures

Prepare conference research papers, verify confirmed participation, develop interpretation arrangements, publish governance and safeguarding procedures, and circulate the proposed London Declaration.

Months 10–11

Conference delivery

Subject to sufficient resources and participation, hold the historical ceremony and international conference. Record resolutions, delegate mandates, research findings and outstanding disagreements.

Month 12

Reporting and institutional continuation

Publish the conference report, account for finances, establish authorised working arrangements and prepare the next operational programme.

This is a proposed planning sequence rather than a fixed timetable.

If participants agree to an earlier event, the programme could be adjusted, provided that essential consultation, legal compliance and financial safeguards are preserved.

If the required participation or resources are not available, the conference may need to be postponed.

The organisers should avoid announcing a date that creates obligations they are not yet capable of meeting.

7.29 A Conference Delivery Register

The organisers should maintain a single delivery register recording progress across the implementation programme.

The register should include the conference's principal workstreams, the person responsible for each, the expected output, the current status and the evidence required to verify completion.

Workstream	Required output	Evidence of completion
Founding group	Agreed preliminary objectives	Written meeting record
Community consultation	Recorded responses and participation interests	Consultation register
Preparatory committee	Adopted terms of reference	Signed or formally approved document

Research programme	Identified archival questions and research responsibilities	Research plan
Venue	Executed venue agreement	Written booking confirmation
Ceremony	Appropriate lawful arrangements	Relevant authorisation or documented compliance review
International participation	Confirmed delegates and speakers	Written acceptances and mandates where required
Budget	Approved and funded expenditure plan	Budget, accounts and funding records
Conference papers	Reviewed research material	Dated papers and source references
London Declaration	Agreed final text	Recorded decision and identifiable signatories
Provisional institution	Authorised founding arrangements, if adopted	Constitutional instrument and appointment record
Conference report	Published proceedings and implementation responsibilities	Final report and supporting records

The register should distinguish between proposals, actions underway, completed tasks and outcomes that have been independently verified.

An invitation sent is not a delegate confirmed.

A funding application submitted is not funding received.

A venue quotation is not a confirmed booking.

A draft declaration is not an adopted resolution.

A working group proposed is not an institution established.

These distinctions should be preserved throughout the initiative.

7.30 The Relationship Between Conference Delivery and Reparatory Justice Delivery

The implementation methods developed for the conference could provide an early test of the broader institutional principles proposed through IBIS.

The organisers would need to identify participants, distinguish membership from representation, establish decision-making authority, record commitments and verify completion.

These are also important functions within reparatory justice administration.

For example, a historical claim may be submitted by a family.

The family must be identified.

The evidence supporting the claim must be examined.

The authority of any representative must be established.

The claim must be distinguished from the remedy being sought.

Any commitment made by a responsible institution must be recorded.

The allocation of resources must be distinguished from their actual transfer.

Receipt by the intended beneficiary must be verified.

The proposed conference would therefore provide an opportunity to examine organisational discipline in a practical setting.

However, conference administration is not equivalent to the determination of legal rights or the distribution of reparations.

IBIS should be evaluated according to the specific functions it is proposed to perform, the safeguards it provides and the willingness of authorised participants to use it.

The institutional programme should remain accountable to the communities concerned.

7.31 Principal Implementation Risks

The preparatory committee should maintain a formal risk register.

Several risks can be identified at the planning stage.

Risk	Possible consequence	Proposed control
Unclear representative authority	Disputed legitimacy of decisions	Mandate verification and transparent participation rules
Unsupported historical claims	Damage to research credibility	Independent historical review and correction procedures
Premature government-in-exile declaration	Legal and institutional confusion	Separate constitutional investigation and authorisation

Unauthorised occupation or event activity	Legal disputes, removal or safety concerns	Lawful ceremony and appropriate advance planning
Insufficient funding	Unpaid liabilities or cancellation	Budget controls and confirmed funding before commitments
Exclusion of Cameroon-based communities	Weak legitimacy and unequal participation	Direct consultation and remote participation arrangements
Internal disagreement	Institutional fragmentation	Recorded dissent, mediation and agreed governance procedures
Misuse of genealogical evidence	Privacy harm or unauthorised claims	Consent, restricted access and clear data responsibilities
Institutional capture	Concentration of authority without accountability	Defined mandates, conflict rules and independent review
Conference without follow-through	Symbolic outcome with little practical development	Approved implementation register and post-conference reporting

The register should be updated as additional risks become apparent.

The existence of risk does not necessarily prevent an initiative from proceeding.

It requires that responsibilities and controls be identified before problems arise.

7.32 Criteria for Proceeding to the Full Conference

Before confirming the full international conference, the organisers should undertake a formal feasibility review.

That review should determine whether the initiative possesses a sufficiently clear purpose, whether consultation has been meaningful, whether the organisational structure is accountable and whether the financial arrangements are credible.

It should also establish whether relevant communities have been given a reasonable opportunity to comment upon the proposal.

The review should not require unanimous agreement across all Bamiléké communities.

However, the organisers must not describe limited participation as universal representation.

It should also examine whether the proposed speakers and researchers are appropriate to the historical subjects being addressed.

An event examining the government-in-exile question should provide serious legal analysis rather than rely solely upon political statements.

An event examining George's family history should distinguish evidence from unresolved allegations.

An event concerning reparatory delivery should explain the practical requirements of administration and verification.

The conference should proceed only with public claims that its organisers can substantiate.

7.33 The First Meeting Between George and Reparation Nation Limited

The proposed strategy could begin with a structured discussion between George T. Nomen and representatives of Reparation Nation Limited.

The meeting should establish the following matters.

First, whether George wishes to pursue the proposed London conference as a collaborative initiative.

Second, whether his principal objective is historical accountability, the establishment of a representative body, a government-in-exile, reparatory justice or a combination of these objectives.

Third, which Bamiléké traditional authorities, families and associations he considers relevant to the initial consultation.

Fourth, what historical evidence he currently possesses concerning Ngantcha, the alleged deaths, ancestral land and the suspected 1933 arrêté.

Fifth, whether he is willing to make relevant evidence available for independent historical examination under agreed conditions.

Sixth, what role he envisages for Reparation Nation Limited.

Seventh, whether he wishes IBIS to be presented as a possible administrative architecture for consideration by conference participants.

Eighth, whether the proposed historical ceremony at 4 Carlton Gardens is an objective he would support independently of any proposal to occupy the building.

Ninth, whether he agrees that the government-in-exile question should be placed before the proposed conference for proper consideration rather than assumed to have been settled.

Finally, the meeting should determine whether a joint preliminary concept paper should be circulated to relevant organisations.

An accurate record should be produced.

No agreement should be inferred merely because a subject was discussed.

7.34 Proposed Immediate Actions Following the First Meeting

If George and the participating representatives wish to proceed, the initial work should concentrate upon actions that do not require substantial financial commitments.

A common statement of purpose should be prepared.

The main historical research questions should be recorded.

Relevant Bamiléké organisations should be identified and approached.

An initial enquiry should be made concerning 4 Carlton Gardens and possible arrangements for a lawful historical ceremony.

Potential conference venues should be researched, but no contractual commitments should be made without appropriate approval.

A preliminary budget should be prepared.

Relevant historians and legal specialists should be identified.

A consultation process should begin concerning representation and the proposed institutional objectives.

The founding group should then review the responses and decide whether a formal preparatory committee should be established.

The sequence should remain manageable.

The organisers should avoid attempting to establish a government, launch litigation, organise an international conference and create a permanent institution simultaneously before the necessary evidence, resources and mandates have been secured.

Each development should build upon the work already completed.

7.35 Conclusion to Section Seven

The proposed International Bamiléké Conference for Reparatory Justice in London requires an operational structure capable of transforming the historical and institutional ideas developed in the preceding sections into practical activity.

The conference should not be approached merely as an opportunity to hold speeches or attract publicity.

Its purpose should be to create a structured process through which affected people, traditional authorities, diaspora organisations, historians, legal specialists and other

relevant participants can examine historical evidence and consider the institutions necessary to pursue reparatory justice.

The association between 4 Carlton Gardens and the Free French movement provides a meaningful historical reference.

A peaceful, lawful ceremony could communicate that symbolism without making physical occupation of the building necessary.

A separate international conference would provide the setting for substantive discussion, research presentations, consultation and authorised decision-making.

The preparatory committee should operate under clear terms of reference and should not claim powers that have not been conferred upon it.

George T. Nomen's family investigation and government-in-exile proposal should be examined seriously while preserving the distinction between personal historical claims and authority to represent the Bamiléké people collectively.

Reparation Nation Limited could contribute organisational and technical support without acquiring ownership of community claims.

IBIS could be examined as a possible framework for coordinating identity, evidence, membership, representation, commitments and reparatory delivery.

The programme should be governed by transparent consultation, accurate documentation, financial accountability and appropriate safeguards.

The London Declaration, if adopted, should identify the decisions actually taken and the persons or institutions authorised to implement them.

A provisional council or other continuing body should be established only where the necessary mandate has been obtained.

The conference's lasting significance would depend upon what follows.

The central practical objective is to establish an organised, authorised and verifiable process capable of carrying historical investigation forward into legitimate representation, consideration of remedies and, where justified, the accountable delivery of reparatory justice.

London would provide the historical setting.

The participating Bamiléké communities would provide the necessary legitimacy.

The historical investigation would provide the evidence.

The institutional framework would provide the organisation.

The implementation programme would provide the means of measuring whether agreed objectives have actually been achieved.

The proposed conference should therefore be understood as the possible foundation of a continuing international reparatory justice process rather than an end in itself.

Operational research and verified reference points

Subject	Verified reference
Free French headquarters	English Heritage — General Charles de Gaulle, 4 Carlton Gardens English Heritage
Historical photographs	Historic England — Exterior photograph Historic England
Westminster event applications	Westminster Council — Event permissions Westminster City Council
Advance application requirements	Westminster Council — Timescales Westminster City Council
Organised filming	Westminster Council — Filming applications Westminster City Council
Marches and public demonstrations	Government guidance on protests and marches GOV.UK
Police liaison and organisers' responsibilities	Metropolitan Police — Event organiser guidance



Metropolitan Police

END OF SECTION SEVEN

NEXT — SECTION EIGHT: THE LONDON DECLARATION AND FOUNDING CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK — A Proposed Declaration of Historical Purpose, Bamiléké Community Rights, Representation, Reparatory Justice, Institutional Safeguards, Interim Authority and a Lawful Pathway Towards Considering a Government-in-Exile.

SECTION EIGHT

THE LONDON DECLARATION AND THE FOUNDING CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR BAMILÉKÉ REPARATORY JUSTICE

A Proposed International Declaration of Historical Purpose, Collective Rights, Legitimate Representation, Institutional Accountability and the Verifiable Delivery of Reparatory Justice

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Draft Constitutional and Institutional Proposal for Consultation — Not an Adopted Declaration or Established Government







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8.1 Introduction: From a Historical Conference to an Enduring Institution

The proposed International Bamiléké Conference for Reparatory Justice in London creates an opportunity to examine whether affected Bamiléké individuals, families, traditional authorities, community organisations and diaspora representatives wish to establish a continuing institutional framework for pursuing historical accountability and reparatory justice.

The preceding sections have examined the historical importance of London, the relationship between Cameroon and the Free French movement, the German and French colonial administration of Cameroon, George T. Nomen's ancestral investigation and the possibility of establishing a Bamiléké government-in-exile.

Those discussions demonstrate that the proposed initiative raises questions extending beyond the organisation of an international conference.

It concerns the relationship between historical evidence and political authority, the rights of ancestral communities, the legitimacy of representation, international legal institutions and the practical delivery of reparatory remedies.

A conference may provide a forum for discussing these matters, but its decisions must be expressed through instruments that accurately identify what has been agreed and by whom.

The proposal therefore envisages two related but distinct documents.

The first is a London Declaration setting out the shared historical concerns, principles and objectives adopted by participating signatories.

The second is a founding constitutional framework establishing the rules through which any authorised provisional institution would operate.

The Declaration would identify the purpose and agreed commitments of its signatories.

The constitutional framework would define membership, representation, delegated powers, responsibilities, accountability and decision-making procedures.

Neither instrument should claim authority over individuals or communities that have not authorised it.

Neither should be treated as proof of international governmental recognition.

The purpose of this section is to develop both instruments as proposals for consultation, amendment and possible adoption.

8.2 Why a Declaration Is Necessary

A declaration can serve several functions.

It can explain why the participating individuals and institutions have assembled.

It can identify the historical circumstances that motivate their concerns.

It can establish shared principles concerning historical research, representation and reparatory justice.

It can record commitments to investigate particular matters.

It can also identify the institutional questions that remain unresolved.

However, a declaration should not be confused with a judicial finding, a treaty, a governmental recognition instrument or proof of sovereignty.

The proposed London Declaration would acquire its immediate authority from the persons and institutions that validly adopt it.

Its scope would depend upon their mandates.

For example, an individual may endorse the Declaration personally.

A traditional authority may endorse it on behalf of a particular institution where authorised to do so.

A diaspora organisation may endorse it through procedures established in its constitution.

A researcher may support the historical investigation without endorsing the political or constitutional proposals.

These distinctions should be recorded accurately.

The Declaration should therefore include a schedule identifying its signatories and the capacities in which they have acted.

A general statement that the Declaration speaks for all Bamiléké people would require evidence of a mandate extending that far.

Until such a mandate exists, the Declaration should identify itself as an instrument adopted by its actual participants.

Its legitimacy would depend upon the integrity of that process rather than the grandeur of its title.

8.3 The Historical Basis of the Declaration

The Declaration could begin by recognising the long history of Bamiléké communities and their traditional institutions.

It could acknowledge that European colonial administration introduced substantial changes to the political and territorial organisation of Cameroon.

Germany established its colonial protectorate over Kamerun in 1884.

Following the First World War, the territory was divided principally between French and British administration.

French administration continued until independence, while the territory experienced further political conflict and repression during the twentieth century.

The Declaration could recognise the importance of investigating the effects of these successive administrations upon traditional authority, landholding, family histories, political participation, cultural institutions and community life.

It could refer to the Franco-Cameroonian historical commission's research concerning repression between 1945 and 1971.

It should distinguish that published research from individual allegations that have not yet been independently verified.

The Declaration could also identify the earlier period of French administration, including the 1920s and 1930s, as requiring further historical examination.

George T. Nomen's investigation could be mentioned as an example of the need for systematic archival research.

However, the Declaration should not determine the historical circumstances concerning Ngantcha, the suspected 1933 arrêté, ancestral lands or reported killings before sufficient evidence has been examined.

Instead, it could commit participating organisations to supporting responsible investigation of such claims where they possess the necessary authority and resources.

This approach would allow the Declaration to address serious historical grievances without replacing investigation with assertion.

8.4 The Significance of London and Free France

The Declaration could include a historical statement explaining why London has been proposed as the location of the conference.

In 1940, General Charles de Gaulle established the Free French movement in London following the military defeat of France.

The movement developed institutional arrangements through which French representatives organised resistance and pursued international recognition.

French-administered Cameroon rallied to Free France in August 1940.

These events provide an important connection between the history of France's wartime liberation and the African territories that contributed to the Free French cause.

The Declaration could state that the proposed London conference draws upon this historical association to examine the consequences of European colonial administration and the means through which affected communities might organise themselves to pursue accountability.

However, the Declaration should explicitly recognise that the historical circumstances of Free France and the proposed Bamiléké initiative are different.

The historical precedent does not automatically establish contemporary sovereign authority.

Its significance lies in demonstrating the importance of institutional organisation, international relationships and the careful development of political legitimacy.

The former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens would serve as a historical reference point.

A peaceful and lawful commemorative statement could be made at or near the location.

The substantive constitutional and reparatory questions would be addressed through the conference and any subsequent authorised institutions.

8.5 The Right to Historical Investigation

A central principle of the proposed Declaration should be that affected people and their descendants may legitimately seek access to historical information concerning their families and communities.

The investigation of colonial history should not be restricted to academic institutions or government-appointed commissions.

Individuals and communities may possess direct interests in records concerning ancestral property, traditional succession, administrative decisions, deaths, displacement and cultural institutions.

The Declaration could therefore support responsible efforts to locate, preserve, interpret and obtain access to relevant historical records.

It could encourage archival cooperation among institutions in Cameroon, France, Germany and the United Kingdom.

It could also support the preservation of oral testimony and traditional historical knowledge.

However, the Declaration should not claim that every historical record is automatically available without restriction.

Questions concerning privacy, preservation, ownership, legal confidentiality and archival access procedures would need to be considered.

The proposed commitment would be to pursue lawful and transparent access, together with appropriate explanations for any restrictions imposed.

Where an archive cannot locate a requested record, researchers should seek information concerning the collections examined and possible alternative repositories.

The Declaration could also support accurate translation and independent historical review.

Its objective would be to make historical investigation systematic, accessible and capable of correction.

8.6 The Right of Communities to Determine Their Representation

The proposed Declaration should recognise that identity and representation are distinct.

The Bamiléké people comprise multiple communities and traditional institutions with distinct histories.

A shared cultural identity does not automatically establish that a single organisation possesses authority over all communities.

Similarly, membership of a diaspora association does not automatically confer authority to negotiate ancestral rights on behalf of every person with Bamiléké ancestry.

The Declaration should therefore recognise the importance of free and informed participation in collective institutional arrangements.

It should affirm that representation requires an identifiable and legitimate source of authority.

Individuals should be able to authorise representatives for defined purposes.

Families should be able to determine how their interests are represented, subject to applicable law and the rights of their members.

Traditional authorities should retain their legitimate responsibilities unless lawfully altered through appropriate processes.

Communities should be able to participate in voluntary arrangements for cooperation without automatically surrendering their distinct institutions.

The Declaration should distinguish the right to participate from an obligation to join.

Non-participation should not be treated as consent.

Dissent should not automatically be interpreted as opposition to reparatory justice.

The legitimacy of a proposed international institution would depend upon the mandates it actually possesses.

8.7 The Principle of Self-Determination

The Declaration could refer to internationally recognised principles concerning the rights of peoples.

The Charter of the United Nations recognises the principle of equal rights and self-determination.

The International Covenants on Human Rights also recognise the right of peoples to self-determination.

The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights contains provisions concerning collective rights, development, resources and self-determination.

These instruments provide a relevant framework for examining questions concerning collective political participation and historical authority.

However, the Declaration should not state that these provisions automatically confer a right upon a proposed Bamiléké organisation to establish a separate sovereign state.

Questions of internal self-determination, autonomy, constitutional status, external self-determination and secession require distinct legal examination.

The Declaration could therefore affirm the importance of exploring the political and institutional rights of affected communities while leaving specific constitutional proposals open for further consultation.

Its purpose would be to provide a framework for informed deliberation.

It should not assume that all Bamiléké communities share a single preferred political outcome.

8.8 The Principle of Reparatory Justice

The Declaration should recognise that historical acknowledgment and reparatory delivery are distinct.

A historical investigation may establish that wrongful conduct occurred.

An institution may acknowledge that finding.

A government may express regret.

A public statement may promise action.

None of these developments necessarily establishes that an affected person or community has received an appropriate remedy.

The Declaration could therefore affirm that the pursuit of reparatory justice requires attention to both recognition and implementation.

Possible remedies may include restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction, guarantees of non-repetition, cultural restoration, archival disclosure and institutional measures.

The applicability of particular remedies would depend upon the facts, relevant rights, applicable law and decisions of authorised claimants.

The Declaration should not promise compensation where no responsible party has accepted an obligation or where no enforceable award or agreement exists.

It should also avoid reducing all reparatory justice to monetary payments.

Ancestral land, political authority, cultural heritage and historical records may raise forms of injury and remedy that cannot be adequately understood through financial compensation alone.

The proposed institution should provide a framework for considering these different possibilities.

8.9 The Principle of Verifiable Delivery

The proposed Declaration could incorporate a principle closely associated with IBIS.

A promise should be distinguished from a commitment.

A commitment should be distinguished from an allocation.

An allocation should be distinguished from a transfer.

A transfer should be distinguished from receipt.

Receipt should be distinguished from verified receipt by the intended beneficiary.

These distinctions would apply to any reparatory programme developed through the proposed institution.

For example, a government announcement concerning historical research would not prove that relevant records had been disclosed.

An agreement to compensate affected families would not prove that compensation had been allocated.

An allocation would not prove that the resources reached the intended recipients.

The proposed institution should therefore develop procedures for documenting each stage of progress.

The objective would be to establish a reliable public record of commitments and delivery while protecting information requiring legitimate confidentiality.

IBIS could be examined as a possible technical and administrative framework for supporting this process.

The Declaration should not require participating communities to accept IBIS without independent examination or appropriate authorisation.

Its proposed principles could be evaluated separately from the software or institutional arrangements through which they might eventually be implemented.

8.10 The Principle of Non-Displacement

The proposed institution should explicitly recognise that its establishment must not create new forms of dispossession.

This is particularly important where the historical claims concern the removal of traditional authorities, the reorganisation of ancestral lands or the interference of external administrators in community governance.

An institution created in London should not assume control over ancestral rights merely because it has attracted international attention.

Its founders should not acquire ownership of community claims.

Its officers should not acquire authority to settle claims beyond the limits of their mandates.

Its technical systems should not determine political legitimacy without appropriate governance procedures.

Its funders should not control historical conclusions.

Its international partners should not acquire authority over traditional institutions simply through participation.

The founding arrangements should therefore protect the continuing rights of affected individuals, families and communities.

Authority must be expressly granted where required.

Its scope must be recorded.

Its exercise must be accountable.

Its withdrawal or modification must be governed by fair procedures.

The institution should exist to serve the people who authorise its work, rather than require those people to surrender their rights in order to participate.

8.11 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism, Institutional Racism and Discrimination

The proposed Declaration should include explicit commitments concerning equality, dignity and institutional safeguards.

Given the historical subject matter, the organisers should pay particular attention to risks of anti-Black racism and institutional racism.

The Declaration should not presume that particular institutions or individuals have engaged in contemporary discriminatory conduct merely because safeguards are being requested.

It should nevertheless recognise that meaningful protection requires more than a general assertion of goodwill.

Any continuing institution should adopt written procedures concerning discrimination, exclusion, conflicts of interest, complaints, independent review and accountability.

Participants should be able to challenge decisions without being threatened or improperly excluded.

Historical disagreement should be distinguished from discriminatory behaviour.

No person should acquire immunity from scrutiny because of professional status, ancestry, traditional position or contribution to the initiative.

The safeguards should extend to financial decisions, access to information, appointment procedures and the selection of representatives.

The effectiveness of the safeguards should be periodically reviewed.

The Declaration could affirm that the proposed institution will not claim that adequate protections exist unless the relevant procedures have actually been established.

8.12 The Draft London Declaration

The following text is proposed as a starting document for consultation.

It should not be circulated as an adopted declaration until the conference or other duly authorised participants have considered and approved its final wording.

DRAFT DECLARATION OF LONDON ON BAMILÉKÉ HISTORICAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPARATORY JUSTICE

Preamble

We, the undersigned individuals, community representatives, traditional authorities, organisations and other participants, acting solely within the authority properly conferred upon us, have assembled in London to examine the historical experiences of Bamiléké communities under European colonial administration and to consider the means through which historical accountability and reparatory justice may be pursued.

We recognise that the history of Cameroon includes successive periods of German, French and British colonial administration, and that the actions of those administrations continue to raise important historical, legal, political and cultural questions.

We recognise that the Bamiléké people comprise multiple communities and traditional institutions possessing distinct histories, territorial relationships and arrangements for legitimate authority.

We acknowledge the historical significance of London as a centre of the Free French movement during the Second World War and the participation of French-administered Cameroon in the Free French cause.

We recognise that this historical connection provides an appropriate subject for reflection and investigation, without establishing any automatic equivalence between the circumstances of Free France and contemporary Bamiléké political or reparatory claims.

We affirm the importance of preserving historical evidence, examining claims responsibly, respecting the authority of affected communities and developing transparent arrangements for the pursuit of reparatory justice.

We therefore adopt, within the limits of our respective mandates, the following principles and commitments.

Article One — Historical Investigation

We affirm the importance of systematic investigation into the history of colonial administration affecting Bamiléké communities.

We support responsible efforts to locate, preserve, translate and examine relevant archival records, oral histories, genealogies, maps and other evidence.

We recognise that historical allegations must be evaluated according to available evidence and that conclusions should remain open to correction where new information emerges.

Article Two — Ancestral Rights and Community Histories

We recognise the importance of investigating historical claims concerning ancestral territories, traditional succession, cultural institutions, displacement, killings and other alleged consequences of colonial administration.

We affirm that such investigations should be undertaken with appropriate participation by the people and communities directly concerned.

Article Three — Legitimate Representation

We affirm that identity, membership, recognition and representation are distinct.

No person or institution shall acquire authority to represent an individual, family or community solely by participating in this initiative.

Representative authority must be established according to the applicable procedures and recorded within its proper scope.

Article Four — Traditional Institutions

We affirm the importance of respecting the distinct histories and legitimate authority of Bamiléké traditional institutions.

Nothing in this Declaration shall be interpreted as automatically transferring their authority to an international organisation or conference.

Article Five — Reparatory Justice

We affirm the importance of examining appropriate remedies for historical wrongs where those wrongs and the relevant responsibilities can be established.

Such remedies may include acknowledgment, restitution, compensation, cultural restoration, disclosure of records and other appropriate measures.

Article Six — Verifiable Delivery

We affirm that announcements, promises, commitments, allocations, transfers and verified receipt must be distinguished.

Any reparatory delivery mechanism developed through this initiative should maintain an accurate record of its obligations, resources, actions and outcomes.

Article Seven — Institutional Accountability

We affirm that any institution established through this initiative must operate under clear rules concerning authority, governance, finances, conflicts of interest and independent review.

Its officers must remain accountable to those who have authorised its work.

Article Eight — Equality and Non-Discrimination

We affirm the importance of safeguards against anti-Black racism, institutional racism and other forms of unlawful discrimination.

Such safeguards should include transparent decision-making, fair procedures for complaints and appropriate mechanisms for independent review.

Article Nine — International Cooperation

We support responsible engagement with relevant institutions in Cameroon, France, Germany, the United Kingdom and other jurisdictions.

Such cooperation should be accurately described and should not be represented as governmental recognition or endorsement where none has been provided.

Article Ten — Constitutional Investigation

We agree that the possible creation of a Bamiléké provisional council, federation, government-in-exile or alternative representative institution requires historical, legal and community examination.

No such institution shall be regarded as possessing authority over non-consenting communities merely by virtue of this Declaration.

Article Eleven — Continuing Work

We support the development of an authorised programme of historical research, consultation, institutional analysis and consideration of reparatory remedies.

The responsibilities of any continuing body shall be established through a separate founding instrument.

Article Twelve — Scope of This Declaration

This Declaration records the commitments of its actual signatories within the limits of their authority.

It does not establish a sovereign state, confer governmental recognition, determine disputed historical claims or create binding obligations for persons or communities that have not authorised them.

Adoption

Adopted in London on a date to be determined, subject to approval through the procedures established for the conference.

Signatories shall be recorded individually, together with the capacity and mandate under which each has acted.

END OF PROPOSED LONDON DECLARATION

8.13 Why the Declaration and Constitution Must Be Separate

The Declaration expresses principles and shared objectives.

The constitution establishes rules for an organisation.

This separation is necessary because agreement with the aims of reparatory justice does not necessarily mean agreement with a particular institutional structure.

A traditional authority may support archival investigation without agreeing to join a federation.

A family may authorise the collection of historical evidence without authorising the settlement of its claims.

A diaspora organisation may endorse the Declaration without transferring its membership or resources to a new council.

The constitution should therefore apply only to an institution whose establishment has been properly authorised.

It should define its members, functions, powers, governance and financial responsibilities.

The existence of the Declaration should not automatically activate those powers.

A separate founding decision would be necessary.

8.14 Proposed Name of the Provisional Institution

For discussion purposes, the proposed institution could be called:

Provisional International Bamiléké Reparatory Justice Council

The term provisional would indicate that the institution's arrangements are subject to review.

The term international would describe the geographical scope of its cooperation rather than confer international legal personality equivalent to that of a state.

The term Bamiléké would identify the historical and community subject matter.

The term reparatory justice would identify its substantive purpose.

The term council would describe a representative or coordinating institution without automatically claiming governmental or sovereign authority.

The final name should be determined by the people and institutions authorised to establish the body.

The selection of a name should not be used to imply powers that the founding instrument does not grant.

8.15 Founding Constitutional Principle: Delegated Authority

The proposed council should operate upon the principle that authority is delegated for defined purposes.

Its founders should identify what they are authorising the institution to do.

An initial mandate might include organising archival research, supporting community consultation, obtaining legal advice, maintaining an evidence register and approaching relevant institutions.

These functions should be distinguished from negotiating or settling claims.

Authority to negotiate particular claims would require appropriate additional authorisation.

Authority to accept binding settlements may require still further approval.

The council should have no inherent power to transfer ancestral land rights, appoint traditional rulers or surrender claims belonging to non-consenting people.

Its constitutional instrument should specify that powers not granted remain with the persons or institutions entitled to exercise them.

This principle would provide protection against the gradual expansion of authority without community consent.

8.16 Proposed Membership Structure

Membership should be distinguished from identity.

An individual may identify as Bamiléké without becoming a member of the proposed council.

An organisation may represent Bamiléké members without automatically belonging to the council.

A traditional institution may participate in research or consultation without accepting the council's constitutional rules.

Membership should therefore be voluntary and established through defined procedures.

The constitution could provide for individual members, participating organisations and authorised institutional delegates.

However, the rights and responsibilities attached to each category should be made clear.

An individual member might participate in general consultations and organisational decisions.

An organisational delegate might act within a mandate conferred by the organisation concerned.

A traditional authority might participate through a distinct consultative or representative arrangement.

Independent historians and advisers might contribute expertise without becoming voting members.

The constitution should avoid assigning governmental powers merely through membership.

Where decisions concern particular ancestral claims, the authorisation of the relevant rights holders would remain necessary.

8.17 Proposed Governance Structure

The provisional council could operate through a general assembly, an executive coordination committee and independent oversight arrangements.

The general assembly would comprise persons or delegates entitled to participate under the constitution.

Its responsibilities would include approving the organisation's programme, appointing officers where appropriate, reviewing financial reports and determining constitutional amendments.

The executive coordination committee would manage authorised activities between general assembly meetings.

Its responsibilities could include correspondence, conference planning, archival enquiries, administrative support and reporting.

Independent oversight arrangements would address conflicts of interest, complaints, financial scrutiny and procedural disputes.

The precise size, composition and appointment methods should be developed through consultation.

No single historical or diaspora organisation should automatically control the structure without an appropriate mandate.

The constitution should also clarify the relationship between the council and traditional Bamiléké institutions.

It should preserve the authority of participating communities over matters that have not been delegated.

8.18 Officeholders, Terms and Removal

The constitution should specify how officers are appointed and removed.

Appointments should be recorded.

Terms of office should be limited and subject to review.

Officers should be required to disclose material conflicts of interest.

They should act within the powers granted to them.

The constitution should establish procedures for resignation, suspension, removal and replacement.

A complaint against an officer should not automatically establish wrongdoing.

However, there should be a fair mechanism for investigating credible concerns.

Decisions should be reasoned and recorded.

Where a dispute concerns a conflict of interest, the person affected should not control the review of that dispute.

The constitution should prohibit officers from claiming personal ownership of the council or the historical claims submitted to it.

8.19 Financial Constitution

The provisional council should maintain accurate financial records.

Its constitution should explain who may authorise expenditure, enter contracts, receive donations and operate financial accounts.

Appropriate dual-authorisation procedures should be considered for significant financial transactions.

The council should publish periodic financial reports to the people and institutions to whom it is accountable.

Funds received for a restricted purpose should be used according to that purpose.

Money contributed for historical research should not automatically be diverted to political campaigning or litigation.

Money received to administer the institution should not be described as reparations received on behalf of claimants.

Any reparatory resources entrusted to the council should be subject to separate legal, financial and beneficiary-protection arrangements.

The constitution should expressly prohibit the distribution of reparatory resources to persons who have not been established as entitled recipients through the applicable process.

8.20 Historical Evidence and Information Governance

The proposed council may eventually hold sensitive historical, genealogical and personal information.

Its constitution should therefore establish clear principles governing the collection, preservation, use and disclosure of information.

A family submitting historical evidence should be informed of how the material will be used.

Submission should not automatically transfer ownership of every document or authorise unrestricted public publication.

The council should maintain an evidence register identifying provenance, source references and any access restrictions.

Original records should be preserved wherever practicable.

Corrections should be recorded rather than silently overwriting earlier conclusions.

The council should distinguish public historical records from confidential family or claimant information.

Any use of IBIS or another technical system should be governed by appropriate authorisation, data protection and access-control arrangements.

The decision to use a particular technology should not confer political authority upon the technology provider.

8.21 Independent Historical Research

The council should distinguish its political or organisational objectives from the conclusions of historical researchers.

Researchers should be permitted to examine evidence independently.

They should be able to identify facts that contradict the expectations of the council's founders.

Historical findings should not be determined through a vote of council members.

Where a disagreement arises, the council should preserve the competing interpretations and commission further research where justified.

Any public report should identify the evidence supporting its conclusions.

The institution should be prepared to correct errors.

This principle is particularly important in relation to George T. Nomen's investigation.

His account provides a reason to investigate particular events.

The actual findings must depend upon the evidence obtained.

The council should not promise to establish the truth of a particular allegation before the necessary research has been undertaken.

8.22 Reparatory Claims and Beneficiary Protection

The council should establish procedures distinguishing historical research from the formal submission of reparatory claims.

A person may provide testimony without intending to make a legal claim.

A family may request archival assistance without appointing the council as its representative.

A community may participate in historical consultation without authorising negotiations concerning ancestral land.

The council should therefore record the purpose for which information and authority are provided.

A formal claim should identify its claimant, relevant historical events, supporting evidence, proposed responsible parties and remedies sought.

The council should not assume that every identified descendant possesses an identical entitlement.

Questions of inheritance, customary rights, collective ownership and legal standing may require specialist determination.

Any proposed settlement should be explained to the authorised claimants before it is accepted.

The council should not negotiate away rights it does not possess.

Where a claim concerns a collective resource, procedures should be developed to identify the appropriate decision-makers and beneficiaries.

The constitution should require independent review of arrangements involving substantial transfers of value.

8.23 The Question of a Government-in-Exile

The proposed constitution should reserve the government-in-exile question for a separate constitutional process.

The provisional council should not automatically become a government-in-exile merely because it develops international relationships or assumes significant organisational responsibilities.

A future proposal should identify the historical polity, people or territory it claims to represent.

It should explain the constitutional basis of the proposed authority.

It should establish the relevant community mandates.

It should examine the relationship with the Republic of Cameroon.

It should consider the applicable principles of international law.

It should also examine the consequences of operating within the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom's policy since 1980 has been to recognise states rather than formally recognise governments as a routine separate practice. Consequently, establishment of a London-based body should not be confused with British recognition of governmental status.



UK Parliament

Any decision to pursue a governmental claim would require further legal and constitutional assessment.

The proposed council's founding constitution should therefore prohibit officers from asserting sovereign powers on its behalf without a separately authorised constitutional decision and a defensible legal basis.

This would permit institutional development to proceed without prematurely determining the wider political questions.

8.24 Amendments and Constitutional Review

The constitution should provide a clear process for amendment.

Significant changes to the council's powers should require more than an ordinary administrative decision.

The amendment process should identify who is entitled to propose changes, how notice must be given and which members or participating institutions possess voting rights.

Where a proposed amendment affects the delegated authority of a particular community, that community's authorisation should be required.

The constitution should distinguish routine administrative amendments from changes to the council's fundamental purpose or authority.

The provisional arrangements should also be subject to scheduled review.

For example, the founding instrument could require a constitutional review within twelve months of establishment.

That review should examine whether the council has fulfilled its initial responsibilities, whether its membership remains representative of participating institutions and whether any powers require modification.

The review should be documented and made available to those entitled to participate.

8.25 Withdrawal and Dissolution

The constitution should provide for withdrawal from the council.

An individual or organisation should be able to terminate membership according to fair and clearly stated procedures.

Withdrawal should not automatically extinguish independent historical or property rights.

Likewise, the council should not retain authority to represent a former member beyond any lawful continuing mandate.

The constitution should also establish a process for dissolution.

If the council is unable to fulfil its purpose, members should be able to decide whether to terminate it.

Any remaining funds should be dealt with according to applicable law and the restrictions attached to those resources.

Confidential evidence and historical records should be transferred, retained or returned according to lawful arrangements and the rights of the persons concerned.

Dissolution should not result in the disappearance of important historical evidence.

The institution should therefore maintain a records-continuity plan.

8.26 The Founding Constitutional Conference

If the proposed London conference supports the establishment of a provisional council, a separate constitutional session may be appropriate.

That session should examine the draft constitution article by article.

Participants should have an opportunity to propose amendments.

The organisers should verify which delegates possess authority to adopt the constitution.

The decision should be recorded with the relevant voting procedure and outcome.

The founding record should identify the individuals and organisations that have agreed to become members or authorise the institution.

Non-participating communities should not be listed as members.

Any unresolved constitutional questions should be recorded.

The council should begin exercising only those powers validly conferred upon it.

This would help establish a clear distinction between the historical conference, the London Declaration and the creation of a continuing organisation.

8.27 The First Institutional Responsibilities

If an authorised provisional council is established, its initial responsibilities should be limited and achievable.

It could begin by creating a formal archive research programme.

It could assist George T. Nomen with enquiries concerning the suspected 1933 arrêté, subject to his authorisation.

It could identify historians and legal specialists willing to examine relevant records.

It could maintain contact with participating Bamiléké associations and traditional authorities.

It could prepare a report identifying historical questions requiring further research.

It could develop proposals concerning claims administration and reparatory delivery.

It could also examine IBIS through a controlled demonstration using appropriate safeguards.

These activities would provide an opportunity to establish operational competence.

The council should not be expected to resolve the entire history of colonial Cameroon or secure international recognition immediately.

Its initial work should be evaluated according to documented outputs.

8.28 The London Declaration as a Living Institutional Record

The Declaration should be preserved in its adopted form.

If participants subsequently wish to amend it, the amendment should be recorded separately.

The original should not be silently overwritten.

The record should identify the date of adoption, participating signatories, mandates and any recorded reservations.

Subsequent declarations or resolutions should refer back to the original where relevant.

This would establish a transparent institutional chronology.

If the initiative develops relationships with governments, universities or other organisations, those developments should be recorded as separate events.

If a provisional council is established, its founding should be documented independently.

If a government-in-exile proposal is later adopted, its legal and constitutional basis should be recorded rather than presented as an inevitable consequence of the original Declaration.

The aim is to preserve an accurate history of the initiative's own development.

This is consistent with the broader principle that reparatory justice should be organised through evidence and verifiable processes.

8.29 The Distinction Between a Declaration, an Institution and a Government

The proposed strategy should maintain three separate institutional levels.

Level	What it establishes	What it does not automatically establish
London Declaration	Principles and commitments of its authorised signatories	Governmental authority, legal liability or universal Bamiléké representation
Provisional Reparatory Justice Council	An organisation with powers delegated through an adopted founding instrument	Sovereignty, territorial jurisdiction or authority over non-members
Proposed Government-in-Exile	A claim to governmental authority requiring separate constitutional and international legal examination	Automatic statehood, diplomatic recognition or immunity

These distinctions must remain visible throughout the initiative.

They are particularly important when communicating with governments and international institutions.

An organisation that accurately describes its authority may engage in substantial legitimate work without claiming powers it does not possess.

Conversely, an institution that misrepresents its authority risks undermining confidence in its own activities.

8.30 The Role of Reparation Nation Limited and IBIS

Reparation Nation Limited could contribute to the development of the Declaration and constitutional framework as a proposed supporting organisation.

Its role should remain subject to agreement and should be distinguished from representative authority over Bamiléké communities.

It could assist with document preparation, research coordination, conference administration and the development of implementation procedures.

IBIS could be examined as a possible framework for maintaining records concerning identity, membership, representation, historical evidence, claims, commitments and reparatory delivery.

The proposed council should independently evaluate the suitability of IBIS before adopting it.

The technical architecture should not be confused with the legal or constitutional authority of the institution using it.

The council would remain accountable for decisions taken under its mandate.

Its technology would support those decisions rather than confer legitimacy upon them.

8.31 Conclusion to Section Eight

The proposed London Declaration and founding constitutional framework would provide a means of transforming an international conference into an organised process capable of continuing beyond the event itself.

The Declaration would identify the principles and commitments adopted by participating individuals and institutions.

The constitutional framework would establish the authority, responsibilities and safeguards of any provisional institution subsequently created.

The distinction between the two is essential.

Agreement upon the importance of historical accountability does not automatically establish a common governmental authority.

Participation in a conference does not automatically confer representation.

Shared cultural identity does not automatically determine membership of an organisation.

Recognition of a historical event does not automatically establish legal entitlement to a particular remedy.

An international relationship does not automatically constitute diplomatic recognition.

The proposed framework therefore seeks to preserve clarity at every stage.

Its central institutional principles are delegated authority, informed participation, transparency, historical accuracy, independent review, financial accountability and the protection of existing community rights.

The possible creation of a government-in-exile would remain a subject for separate constitutional and international legal examination.

An authorised provisional council could potentially begin coordinating historical research and reparatory justice activity while that wider question remains unresolved.

George T. Nomen's historical investigation could provide an initial case through which the proposed institution's evidence and accountability procedures are developed.

Reparation Nation Limited could support the organisation of the process.

IBIS could be examined as a possible administrative architecture.

However, the authority to establish and govern the resulting institution must come from the people and organisations entitled to grant it.

The fundamental purpose of the Declaration and constitution is to ensure that the pursuit of historical justice does not create new uncertainty concerning identity, representation, authority, ownership or entitlement.

The historical significance of London could provide the occasion for founding the initiative.

The Declaration would express its agreed purpose.

The constitution would define its powers.

The evidence programme would establish the factual basis of its work.

The implementation system would distinguish its intentions from its achievements.

The ultimate test would be whether the arrangements assist affected people in obtaining legitimate, appropriate and verifiable reparatory outcomes.

Primary legal references for Section Eight

The proposed instruments should be legally reviewed before adoption. The following sources provide foundational materials rather than a complete legal opinion.

1. United Nations Charter — principles of equal rights and self-determination.

2. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights — Common Article 1 concerning self-determination.

3. African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights — collective rights and the rights of peoples.

4. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples — participation and consent principles that may inform institutional design; its applicability to a particular community requires separate assessment.

5. UK Parliament, 28 April 1980 — Recognition of Governments: Policy and Practice — official explanation of British recognition policy.



UK Parliament

END OF SECTION EIGHT

NEXT — SECTION NINE: THE IBIS REPARATORY JUSTICE DELIVERY ARCHITECTURE — Identity, Ancestral Claims, Membership, Legitimate Representation, Historical Evidence, Reparatory Obligations, Resource Allocation, Beneficiary Protection, Institutional Oversight and Verifiable Final Delivery.

SECTION NINE

THE IBIS REPARATORY JUSTICE DELIVERY ARCHITECTURE

Identity, Ancestral Claims, Membership, Legitimate Representation, Historical Evidence, Reparatory Obligations, Resource Allocation, Beneficiary Protection, Institutional Oversight and Verifiable Final Delivery

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Proposed strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Strategic and Architectural Proposal for Examination — No Operational Authority, Governmental Recognition or Reparatory Entitlement Is Presumed

9.1 Introduction: Moving Beyond Historical Recognition Towards the Delivery of Reparatory Justice

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative presents an important opportunity to examine one of the fundamental problems affecting historical justice programmes: the distinction between acknowledging historical injustice and delivering remedies to the people entitled to receive them.

Historical investigations may establish that wrongful actions occurred.

Governments may acknowledge historical responsibility.

Institutions may express regret or issue apologies.

Public conferences may adopt declarations supporting reparations.

Negotiations may result in commitments to provide money, land, services, cultural property, institutional reform or other forms of reparatory value.

However, none of these developments necessarily establishes that an affected person, family or community has received an appropriate remedy.

The delivery of reparatory justice requires an organised process through which historical claims can be investigated, rights and responsibilities established, legitimate representatives identified, resources administered and actual outcomes verified.

This is particularly important where the alleged historical events occurred several generations ago.

The original victims may have died. Their descendants may live in different countries. Traditional institutions may have changed. Ancestral territories may have been reorganised, occupied or transferred. Historical records may be incomplete, disputed or scattered across multiple jurisdictions.

An initiative seeking reparatory justice must therefore confront questions that cannot be resolved through declarations alone.

Who was affected?

What happened?

What rights were violated?

Who may legitimately bring a claim?

Which descendants, families, traditional institutions or communities may possess an entitlement?

Who is authorised to represent them?

Which person, government or institution bears responsibility?

What remedy is appropriate?

Who will provide it?

How will the intended beneficiaries receive it?

How will the delivery be independently verified?

The proposed IBIS architecture is relevant because it seeks to distinguish and connect the processes required to answer these questions.

Its purpose is not to replace the authority of historians, courts, traditional institutions, governments or affected communities.

Rather, IBIS can be examined as an administrative architecture through which those authorities and participants may organise their decisions, evidence, responsibilities and implementation.

The Bamiléké initiative could provide a practical setting in which these concepts are tested.

However, the proposed London conference should not be required to adopt IBIS merely because Reparation Nation Limited has helped develop the conference proposal.

The architecture should be independently examined, its limitations identified and its safeguards assessed before any authorised institution decides whether to use it.

9.2 What IBIS Is Intended to Achieve

IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice — is intended to provide an organised framework for examining the processes through which reparatory justice may be pursued and delivered.

Its central concern is the movement from a historical grievance or established injustice towards a defined, authorised and verifiable reparatory outcome.

This requires more than collecting evidence or recording claims.

It requires the ability to distinguish among the persons involved, the authority they possess, the rights asserted, the institutions responsible and the resources committed.

These distinctions should remain visible throughout the process.

For the Bamiléké initiative, IBIS could be examined as a system supporting several connected functions.

The first is identifying the persons and communities relevant to a historical claim.

The second is organising historical evidence concerning those claims.

The third is distinguishing community identity from membership in a particular organisation.

The fourth is recording the scope of representative authority.

The fifth is documenting the examination and recognition of claims.

The sixth is recording any reparatory obligations, commitments or agreements.

The seventh is supporting the administration of resources allocated to meet those obligations.

The eighth is monitoring whether the resources or other remedies reach their intended beneficiaries.

The ninth is preserving an accountable record of decisions, disputes, corrections and final outcomes.

These functions require both institutional governance and technical administration.

A digital system cannot legitimately determine all these matters by itself.

The authority to make substantive decisions must come from appropriate legal, historical, customary or organisational processes.

IBIS could support the recording and management of those decisions without being treated as their independent source of legitimacy.

9.3 The Foundational Separation of Identity, Membership and Representation

One of the most important distinctions within IBIS is the separation between identity, membership and representation.

These concepts must not be treated as interchangeable.

An individual may identify as Bamiléké through ancestry, family history, language, culture or recognised community relationships.

That identity does not automatically make the person a member of a particular Bamiléké association.

Membership of an association does not automatically confer authority to represent other members.

A person appointed to represent an association does not automatically acquire authority over all Bamiléké people.

A traditional chief may possess authority within a particular customary institution without possessing authority over every other chiefdom.

A descendant may possess a legitimate interest in a family historical investigation without acquiring authority to settle claims belonging to other descendants.

The proposed architecture should therefore record each relationship separately.

Identity would concern the person's relevant identity information and the evidence or processes through which it is established.

Membership would concern participation in a particular organisation or institution.

Representation would concern the specific authority granted to act on behalf of another person, family, community or organisation.

Recognition would concern a determination made by an appropriate authority within the limits of its competence.

These records may be connected, but none should automatically substitute for another.

This distinction is particularly important in relation to the proposed government-in-exile.

Even if a London conference brings together hundreds or thousands of Bamiléké participants, attendance alone would not establish that every participant authorised a new government.

Nor would the establishment of a provisional council automatically confer authority over non-participating communities.

IBIS could assist in documenting the mandates actually provided, thereby reducing the risk of organisations claiming powers beyond those legitimately conferred upon them.

9.4 The Identity Engine and the Five-Factor Engine Must Remain Distinct

The existing IBIS architecture makes an important distinction between the Identity Engine and the Five-Factor Engine.

These should not be merged.

The Identity Engine concerns the separate process through which relevant identity information is established, organised and assessed.

The Five-Factor Engine concerns the distinct five-factor framework defined within IBIS.

The existence of a Five-Factor profile should not automatically be treated as proof of genealogical descent, entitlement to reparations, organisational membership or representative authority.

Likewise, successful identification through the Identity Engine should not automatically confer any of those statuses.

For the Bamiléké initiative, a person might have an identity record, a separately defined Five-Factor profile, a genealogy under investigation and a membership record within a participating organisation.

These are different records serving different purposes.

The architecture should preserve their distinctions even where authorised users may need to examine information across them.

The proposed initiative must also distinguish an individual's self-description from a finding concerning ancestry, customary membership or legal entitlement.

Different questions may require different kinds of evidence.

A family genealogy cannot necessarily be established through the same process used for an ordinary identity record.

A traditional community's criteria for membership may differ from those of a voluntary diaspora organisation.

A claim to inherited property rights may require evidence and legal analysis beyond either identity or membership.

The London conference should therefore examine how the existing IBIS definitions could be applied to Bamiléké circumstances without changing the controlling architectural distinctions.

Any technical adaptation would require a separately authorised design process.

9.5 Historical Identity and Ancestral Genealogy

George T. Nomen's investigation illustrates the complexity of reconstructing ancestral identity.

He has identified Ngantcha as a relative whose historical circumstances may be relevant to claims concerning traditional authority, land and alleged colonial violence.

However, the precise genealogical relationship and historical facts must be independently established.

An IBIS-supported process could organise the relevant information without assuming its correctness.

It might record George as the person submitting a historical enquiry.

It could identify Ngantcha as a historical individual requiring further investigation.

It could record the proposed family relationship as an assertion supported by specified sources.

Subsequent documentary evidence could strengthen, clarify or contradict the proposed relationship.

Each development should be recorded transparently.

The architecture should not treat an allegation as an established genealogical fact merely because it has been entered into a database.

Nor should it automatically discard oral testimony because formal colonial records are unavailable.

The system should distinguish source type, evidential status, provenance and any independent assessment.

Where different family members provide conflicting genealogical accounts, those differences should remain visible to appropriately authorised reviewers.

A final historical finding, where one can responsibly be reached, should identify the authority or research process through which it was established.

The investigation must also recognise that genealogical descent and legal entitlement are different matters.

Even if George establishes a direct relationship with Ngantcha, a further process would be required to determine what rights, if any, have passed to him and other descendants.

Such decisions may depend upon customary law, inheritance rules, historical institutions, contemporary law and the nature of the remedy being sought.

IBIS could organise the relevant evidence and decisions, but should not invent the underlying legal entitlement.

9.6 Identifying the Historical Wrong

The architecture should distinguish a historical event from a claimed legal wrong.

For example, an administrative order may be discovered showing that a French colonial official recognised a particular traditional chief.

That document may establish that an administrative decision occurred.

It does not necessarily establish that the decision violated the law applicable at the time, that it conflicted with customary succession arrangements or that a particular descendant is entitled to compensation.

Those are separate questions.

Similarly, a military report may establish that an operation occurred in a particular location.

It may not independently establish the circumstances of every reported death or the legal responsibility of particular authorities.

The IBIS evidence framework should therefore allow researchers to record historical events independently of the legal conclusions eventually drawn from them.

A historical event record should identify the relevant dates, places, persons, authorities and evidence.

Any associated allegation of wrongdoing should be recorded as a distinct claim.

The legal assessment should identify the applicable law, the alleged violation, the responsible party and the basis upon which responsibility is asserted.

If a claim is contested, the opposing position should be preserved.

The purpose is to prevent the administrative system from collapsing investigation, accusation, historical finding and legal liability into a single category.

9.7 The Proposed Ancestral Claims Register

The London initiative could examine the creation of a structured register of ancestral claims.

Such a register would not automatically determine the validity of the claims entered into it.

Its initial purpose would be to organise enquiries, identify relevant evidence and record the status of investigations.

A claim concerning George's family might refer to the suspected 1933 French administrative decision, the alleged deaths of relatives, the historical position of Ngantcha and the claimed consequences for ancestral land and authority.

Other families might submit different claims concerning distinct communities or historical events.

The register should distinguish individual claims from family and collective claims.

It should also distinguish claims relating to the same historical event from claims concerning unrelated events.

This would reduce duplication and assist researchers in identifying possible connections.

Where several families claim rights arising from a common historical event, the register should not automatically merge their entitlements.

The relevant interests may differ.

Similarly, where traditional institutions and individual descendants assert different claims, the relationship between them may require separate examination.

The register should therefore support a structured process rather than presume a predetermined outcome.

Proposed claim record

Field	Information to be recorded
Claim reference	Unique identifier
Claimant	Individual, family, community or authorised institution
Historical subject	Event, administrative decision, territory or alleged injury
Relevant period	Date or date range
Geographic location	Historical and contemporary place references
Alleged responsible authority	Identified administration or institution
Supporting evidence	Documents, testimony, maps, genealogies and references
Representative mandate	Scope and source of any authorisation
Current status	Submitted, under investigation, disputed, determined or other defined state
Remedies sought	Restitution, compensation, acknowledgment or other relief
Decision record	Determinations and the authority responsible
Corrections	Subsequent evidence and amendments

The register should be designed to preserve the distinction between evidence entered and findings reached.

It should also provide procedures through which authorised claimants may inspect and challenge records concerning them.

9.8 Membership of a Bamiléké Reparatory Justice Institution

If the proposed London conference establishes a provisional council, federation or other international body, membership must be recorded independently of ancestral identity.

A person might support the institution without joining it.

A participating association might authorise certain activities while retaining its own constitution.

A traditional chiefdom might participate in historical research without delegating authority over land claims.

The proposed architecture should therefore record the actual membership arrangement.

This would include the membership category, date of admission, applicable constitutional terms and relevant voting or participation rights.

Where membership is held by an organisation, the record should identify the organisation rather than treating all its members as individual members of the international body.

The architecture should also preserve the right to withdraw or challenge membership records where applicable.

No person should be assigned membership solely because of their ethnicity or ancestry.

Membership should not automatically establish a reparatory entitlement.

Similarly, leaving an organisation should not necessarily extinguish independent historical or legal rights.

These distinctions would be important safeguards against institutional capture.

9.9 Recording Representative Authority

Representation is one of the most consequential subjects within the proposed architecture.

An institution pursuing reparatory justice may be required to communicate with governments, instruct lawyers, obtain historical records, negotiate settlements or administer resources.

Different activities require different levels of authority.

A family may authorise a researcher to obtain documents without authorising that person to negotiate compensation.

A traditional authority may authorise a delegate to attend a conference without authorising the delegate to transfer communal land rights.

An association may authorise a representative to discuss institutional cooperation without permitting that representative to bind the association to financial obligations.

The system should therefore record the precise scope of each mandate.

A representative record should identify the authorising person or institution, the representative, the authorised activities, limitations, duration and method of verification.

Where a mandate expires or is withdrawn, that development should be recorded.

A later withdrawal should not erase the historical fact that a valid mandate may previously have existed.

Similarly, an earlier mandate should not automatically justify actions taken after its expiry.

The architecture should distinguish authority to investigate, authority to communicate, authority to negotiate and authority to conclude binding agreements.

These distinctions would be especially important if the proposed initiative eventually seeks substantial reparatory resources.

9.10 The Recognition of Historical Claims

The word recognition can describe several different processes.

An archive may recognise that a document is authentic.

A historian may conclude that an event occurred.

A traditional authority may recognise a person's historical lineage.

A court may recognise a legal right.

A government may acknowledge responsibility for particular conduct.

An organisation may accept an individual as a member.

These are not equivalent forms of recognition.

The proposed architecture should therefore record who has made a determination, the authority under which it was made, the matter determined and the evidence upon which it rests.

An historical finding should not be treated as a court judgment.

A government apology should not automatically be recorded as an enforceable compensation agreement.

An archival certificate should not automatically establish entitlement to ancestral territory.

Likewise, an administrative record recognising a traditional chief under colonial rule should not necessarily be treated as proof of legitimacy under the relevant customary arrangements.

The system should support the comparison of different determinations without conflating them.

This principle would be central to the credibility of the proposed Bamiléké claims process.

9.11 From a Recognised Claim to a Reparatory Obligation

Once a historical claim has been investigated, a separate question arises concerning responsibility and remedy.

A claim may be supported by historical evidence but fail to produce an enforceable legal obligation.

A government may voluntarily agree to provide a remedy without accepting every allegation made by the claimant.

A court may award one form of relief while rejecting another.

A negotiated settlement may establish specific obligations without determining every historical dispute.

The architecture should therefore distinguish the recognition of facts from the creation or identification of reparatory obligations.

An obligation record should identify the responsible party, the beneficiaries or beneficiary class, the relevant agreement or decision, the remedy to be provided and any conditions or deadlines.

It should also distinguish enforceable obligations from political commitments or voluntary undertakings.

This is important because the existence of a publicly announced reparations programme does not automatically establish that every affected individual has an enforceable right to a payment.

The proposed system should accurately reflect the source and limits of the obligation.

Where a commitment is disputed or conditional, that status should be made clear.

9.12 The Forms of Reparatory Justice

International reparations principles identify several categories of remedy, including restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.

The appropriate remedy depends upon the established violation, applicable law, relevant circumstances and the rights of the people affected.

The Bamiléké initiative should therefore avoid treating money as the only relevant form of reparatory justice.

For example, a claim concerning ancestral land might raise questions of restitution, recognition of customary rights or alternative arrangements where restoration of the original position is no longer possible.

A claim concerning a historical killing might involve acknowledgment, investigation, disclosure of records, memorialisation or compensation where an appropriate basis exists.

A claim concerning the replacement of a traditional authority might raise issues of historical recognition, access to evidence, institutional restoration or other remedies requiring careful consideration of contemporary rights.

A claim concerning cultural property might involve identification, provenance research and possible return.

The architecture should be capable of distinguishing these remedies and tracking their implementation separately.

An apology must not be recorded as though land has been returned.

A land-transfer agreement must not be recorded as a completed transfer until the necessary actions have occurred.

The relevant categories should support accurate administration rather than impose a single model upon every claim.

9.13 Resource Allocation and Beneficiary Identification

Where reparatory remedies involve the allocation of money, land, services or other resources, the identification of intended beneficiaries becomes critical.

The proposed institution must distinguish those authorised to negotiate a settlement from those entitled to receive its benefits.

A representative may sign an agreement without being a personal beneficiary.

A family organisation may administer resources on behalf of descendants without owning those resources.

A traditional institution may be authorised to receive communal reparations for a defined purpose without possessing an unrestricted right to distribute them.

The relevant agreement should therefore identify the beneficiary arrangements clearly.

Where an individual entitlement has been established, the system should record the basis for that entitlement.

Where a collective remedy is intended, the terms should identify how the affected community will participate in its administration.

Where beneficiaries remain unidentified or disputed, the resources should not be distributed according to arbitrary assumptions.

Suitable legal and financial mechanisms may be required to hold resources while disputes are resolved.

The proposed architecture should assist with accounting and verification, but it should not replace legally required beneficiary determinations.

9.14 The Need for Independent Financial Administration

A reparatory justice institution may eventually become involved in administering substantial resources.

This creates risks that differ from those involved in historical research.

Financial administration requires controls over receipt, custody, allocation, transfer, reconciliation and reporting.

The institution responsible for determining the validity of claims should not necessarily exercise unrestricted control over the money used to satisfy those claims.

Similarly, the body negotiating a settlement should not automatically possess sole authority to verify that it has been properly delivered.

Separation of duties could reduce the risk of error, conflicts of interest and misuse.

Where the scale or nature of the resources requires specialist arrangements, an independently administered fund, regulated financial institution, trustee arrangement or other appropriate legal mechanism may be necessary.

The particular arrangement would depend upon the relevant jurisdiction and the terms of the reparatory programme.

The proposed IBIS system could record obligations, allocations and evidence of delivery without itself becoming the custodian of funds.

This distinction is important.

An administrative information system does not automatically possess legal authority to receive or distribute reparations.

Nor does a conference resolution remove the need for applicable financial regulation, fiduciary duties or beneficiary protection.

9.15 Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence as a Delivery-Monitoring Model

A related concept developed through Reparation Nation Limited is the use of a shipping model to organise information concerning the movement of reparatory commitments and resources.

The model treats reparatory justice as a process that should be followed through successive stages rather than judged solely by announcements.

Within this framework, the organisation undertaking a programme may be described as a vessel.

The reparatory programme may be described as a voyage.

The resources or benefits intended for delivery may be described as cargo.

The intended beneficiaries provide the destination.

The administrative mechanism through which resources are delivered provides the route.

Risks, disputes, delays and failures may be recorded as hazards.

Developments in the programme constitute movements.

Completed and verified delivery may be described as arrival at Safe Harbour.

This terminology is metaphorical and administrative.

It should not replace the actual legal identity of organisations, claimants or financial obligations.

Its potential value lies in helping observers distinguish what has been announced from what has occurred.

For the proposed Bamiléké initiative, this model could provide a public-facing means of tracking institutional commitments arising from the London conference or subsequent agreements.

A French governmental undertaking to conduct archival research could be recorded as a commitment.

The publication of a research report could be recorded as a subsequent movement.

A decision to return cultural property could be recorded separately from its actual transfer.

The receipt of that property by an authorised institution could be documented and independently verified.

The shipping model could thereby complement the more detailed identity, evidence, representation and claims processes examined through IBIS.

9.16 The Difference Between Delivery Status and Historical Justice

A programme may be completed administratively without resolving every historical or legal issue.

For example, a government may deliver a particular payment under an agreed settlement.

That payment may be verifiably received.

However, other claims arising from the same historical events may remain unresolved.

The architecture should therefore distinguish completion of a specific obligation from the conclusion of all reparatory questions concerning an individual, family or community.

A Safe Harbour designation within the proposed shipping model should refer to the verified delivery of the particular defined cargo or obligation.

It should not automatically mean that historical justice has been fully achieved.

Similarly, a programme that fails to reach its destination should remain open to scrutiny even where the responsible institution describes it as completed.

The scope of each completion claim must therefore be explicit.

This would assist in preventing partial institutional achievements from being presented as final settlements of wider historical concerns.

9.17 Independent Verification of Reparatory Delivery

Verification requires more than an institution reporting that it has completed an action.

The evidence appropriate to verification will depend upon the remedy concerned.

Where money is transferred, confirmation may require appropriate financial records and evidence of receipt.

Where land is restored, verification may require legal documentation, registration, possession arrangements and recognition of the relevant rights.

Where cultural property is returned, verification may require transfer records, provenance documentation and acknowledgment from an authorised receiving institution.

Where historical records are disclosed, verification may involve confirmation that the relevant documents were actually supplied in an accessible form.

Where institutional reform is promised, verification may require evidence that the necessary rules or procedures have been adopted and implemented.

The proposed institution should consider whether independent reviewers are required for particular categories of delivery.

Such reviewers must possess appropriate expertise and should not be placed in a position where they verify their own conduct without adequate safeguards.

Verification should also distinguish physical receipt from beneficial receipt.

Resources may reach an intermediary without reaching the intended beneficiaries.

The system should therefore record the identity and authority of intermediaries separately.

9.18 Corrections, Disputes and Appeals

Any system managing historical claims and reparatory resources must anticipate errors.

Names may be recorded incorrectly.

Family relationships may be disputed.

New historical documents may contradict earlier findings.

Representative mandates may expire or be withdrawn.

Beneficiary classifications may be challenged.

Payments may fail.

Delivery records may contain inaccuracies.

The architecture should therefore provide procedures for reporting and correcting mistakes.

An affected person should be able to identify a disputed record and request review through an appropriate process.

Where a decision has significant consequences for entitlement or representation, the institution should establish a fair opportunity to challenge it.

Corrections should not silently erase the original record.

An audit history should identify the previous entry, the correction, the reason for it and the authority approving the change.

Where a dispute cannot be resolved administratively, the system should identify the appropriate independent or legal forum.

IBIS should not be represented as a substitute for courts or other competent decision-making bodies.

Its role would be to support the accurate management of evidence and decisions.

9.19 Privacy, Ancestral Identity and Sensitive Information

The proposed Bamiléké initiative could involve sensitive personal and family information.

The investigation may concern racial or ethnic identity, ancestry, political and traditional affiliations, family relationships, disputed inheritance, historical allegations and contemporary claims.

Some information may concern living people who have not chosen to make their circumstances public.

The collection and publication of such material therefore require careful consideration.

Where the proposed operation falls within UK data protection law, personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin is classified as special category data.

The Information Commissioner's Office explains that processing this information requires an appropriate lawful basis under Article 6 of the UK GDPR and a separate condition under Article 9, together with any additional safeguards required by law.

The fact that a programme serves historical research or reparatory justice purposes does not automatically permit unrestricted processing or publication.



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The proposed institution should distinguish public historical information from confidential claimant records.

It should also distinguish a person's decision to make particular identity information public from permission to publish all information concerning their genealogy, family, property or legal claims.

The specific information required for a public directory may differ from that required for an archival investigation or formal reparatory claim.

Where a technical demonstration is developed, it should use fictional or appropriately authorised information until suitable arrangements have been established.

The institution should also consider the risks associated with transferring personal information between the United Kingdom, European jurisdictions and Cameroon.

These arrangements require legal and technical examination before operational deployment.

9.20 Safeguards Against Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

The proposed architecture should include procedures intended to protect participants against discriminatory decision-making.

The historical subject matter makes safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism particularly relevant.

Such safeguards should not depend solely upon declarations that an institution supports equality.

They should be reflected in the manner in which decisions are made and reviewed.

Rules concerning evidence, identity, membership, representation and claims should be documented.

Applicants should be informed of relevant requirements.

Comparable cases should be assessed according to consistent principles, while allowing for genuine differences in evidence and legal circumstances.

Decisions should be reasoned and reviewable.

The institution should establish procedures for raising concerns about discriminatory treatment.

Where appropriate, an independent person or body should be able to examine the decision-making process.

Any automated or digitally assisted classification should be subject to particular scrutiny where it may affect an individual's access to reparatory remedies.

The institution should avoid treating racial or ethnic categories as automatic proof of ancestral identity, entitlement or legal standing.

The overall objective should be to ensure that the administration of reparatory justice does not itself reproduce unfair exclusion, arbitrary authority or institutional discrimination.

9.21 Oversight of the Proposed IBIS Implementation

If the London conference wishes to test IBIS, it should establish a defined oversight arrangement.

The body examining the architecture should include people able to assess historical, legal, technical and community implications.

Its responsibilities should be clear.

It should determine the scope of any demonstration.

It should identify the information permitted for use.

It should evaluate whether the system preserves the distinctions required by the proposed institution.

It should document technical or procedural problems.

It should also establish the criteria through which any further use would be authorised.

An initial demonstration should not automatically become the permanent administrative system of a Bamiléké representative institution.

The transition from demonstration to operational deployment should require a separate decision.

That decision should consider governance, legal compliance, security, maintainability, cost, accessibility and the rights of affected persons.

The existing IBIS architecture should not be redesigned merely because a new community proposes to investigate its possible use.

Any proposed changes should be evaluated as controlled and separately authorised developments.

The architecture should remain subject to its established conceptual distinctions.

9.22 A Worked Example: George T. Nomen's Historical Investigation

The proposed Bamiléké initiative provides an opportunity to examine how a single historical enquiry might be processed.

George begins with an account concerning Ngantcha, ancestral authority, colonial intervention, alleged killings and ancestral land.

The first administrative action would be to record the existence of his enquiry and the authority under which he provides information.

The next step would be to identify the relevant persons, places and historical claims.

Documents, testimony and genealogical material could then be registered with their sources and evidential status.

The suspected 1933 arrêté would be recorded as a document under investigation rather than as a verified instrument already obtained.

If the original order were subsequently located, the record could be updated to show the archival reference, issuing authority, date and contents.

Researchers could assess whether the document relates to Ngantcha and whether it supports the historical propositions advanced.

The genealogy would be examined separately.

Establishing that Ngantcha existed would not automatically establish George's relationship to him.

Establishing the relationship would not automatically establish a right to ancestral land.

The question of who may represent affected descendants would then require separate consideration.

If the relevant claimants authorised a representative, the mandate could be recorded.

Specialist legal assessment would be required to determine whether the facts support a contemporary legal claim or other request for reparatory action.

If no legal responsibility or voluntary commitment has been established, the system should not record a reparatory obligation as though one exists.

If an agreement were eventually concluded, its actual terms could be recorded.

Any promised resources would then be tracked through allocation, transfer, receipt and verification.

At every stage, the system would preserve the distinction between what is alleged, what has been established, what has been authorised and what has actually been delivered.

This example is hypothetical and does not imply that George's allegations have been established or that any reparatory agreement is currently available.

9.23 Scaling from an Individual Family to Multiple Communities

George's case could provide a manageable starting point for evaluating evidence-management procedures.

However, an international Bamiléké programme would potentially involve many individuals, families and traditional institutions.

The architecture should therefore be examined for its ability to accommodate different claims without imposing a single historical narrative or representative arrangement.

Some claims may concern individual injuries.

Others may concern family succession.

Some may concern communal land or cultural property.

Others may concern historical political institutions or collective harms.

The relevant evidence and beneficiaries may differ.

The system should therefore preserve the separate identity of each claim while permitting researchers to identify genuine historical connections.

Where several claims concern the same historical event, the event record could be shared without automatically combining the claimants or their entitlements.

Where a particular traditional authority has an established mandate, that mandate should apply only within its legitimate scope.

Where communities decline to participate, the system should not record them as consenting members.

The expansion of the programme should therefore follow actual authorisation and administrative capacity rather than presumed representation.

9.24 A Proposed Institutional Division of Responsibilities

The London initiative should consider separating the principal functions required for reparatory justice administration.

Function	Possible responsible authority	Essential safeguard
Historical research	Independent historians, archivists and research institutions	Evidential independence
Identity information	Authorised identity administration under applicable rules	Accuracy and privacy
Five-Factor assessment	Distinct IBIS Five-Factor process	No automatic substitution for identity or entitlement

Membership	Constitutionally authorised membership administration	Voluntary and accurately recorded membership
Representation	Individuals and institutions granting mandates	Defined, reviewable authority
Claims assessment	Appropriate legal, customary or administrative decision-makers	Impartiality and appeal
Reparatory negotiation	Specifically authorised representatives	No authority beyond the mandate
Resource custody	Appropriate legally competent financial or property institutions	Independent accounting
Delivery administration	Authorised implementing institution	Beneficiary verification
Independent oversight	Appropriately constituted review body	Independence and transparency
Public reporting	Authorised reporting function	Accurate distinction between commitments and outcomes

This division is proposed for examination rather than immediate adoption.

The correct arrangement would depend upon the institution eventually established, the applicable law and the nature of the reparatory programmes concerned.

Its purpose is to prevent excessive concentration of authority.

9.25 Establishing a Reparatory Delivery Record

The proposed institution should maintain a delivery record for every defined reparatory obligation or programme.

The record should identify the source of the obligation, responsible institution, intended beneficiaries, remedy, expected delivery mechanism and current implementation status.

It should also preserve subsequent developments.

A commitment that is delayed should remain identifiable as delayed.

A transfer that fails should be recorded as failed.

An allocation withdrawn by the responsible institution should be recorded accurately.

Where a programme is amended, the original arrangement and subsequent changes should remain traceable.

The institution should not erase unsuccessful activity simply because it wishes to present a positive account of progress.

The record should also distinguish independently verified information from information reported by the responsible party.

Where independent verification is unavailable, that limitation should be stated.

The purpose is to establish an accurate history of implementation.

9.26 The Importance of Independent Institutional Oversight

Historical reparations programmes can involve substantial political, financial and emotional interests.

The proposed architecture should therefore not rely entirely upon the self-reporting of those administering the process.

Independent oversight may be necessary to review claims procedures, financial decisions, institutional appointments and delivery records.

The oversight body's authority should be established through an appropriate founding instrument.

Its members should possess relevant competence and disclose material conflicts of interest.

Where it reviews decisions affecting individual claimants, the procedure should respect confidentiality and provide fair opportunities for the affected parties to respond.

The oversight body should also examine whether institutional procedures produce unjustified exclusion or other harmful outcomes.

Its findings should be recorded and, where appropriate, made available to the people to whom the institution is accountable.

Independent oversight would not eliminate every possibility of error.

It would provide a mechanism for identifying and correcting problems that might otherwise remain unexamined.

9.27 Implementation of IBIS Within the Proposed London Initiative

The proposed London conference could authorise a limited feasibility study concerning the use of IBIS.

The feasibility study should begin with the architecture's established definitions.

It should examine whether those definitions are suitable for the historical and institutional circumstances of the participating Bamiléké communities.

A demonstration could show how an historical enquiry is registered, how evidence is linked to the enquiry, how representative authority is recorded and how a hypothetical reparatory commitment would be monitored.

The demonstration should not require the disclosure of real family records without appropriate permission.

It should also clearly distinguish functions that have been designed from functions that have been tested and shown to work.

A saved software change should not be described as a verified operational capability merely because the corresponding code exists.

The feasibility study should record any deficiencies.

Changes to the architecture should be controlled, specific and reversible.

The existing IBIS principles concerning identity, membership, representation and public access should be preserved unless a separate authorised decision establishes the need for an amendment.

The study should ultimately produce a report identifying whether IBIS is suitable for further examination, what safeguards would be required and what implementation costs might arise.

No decision to use IBIS should confer legal authority upon its developers over Bamiléké claims or resources.

9.28 From an IBIS Demonstration to an Operational Reparatory Programme

A successful demonstration would not automatically justify operational deployment.

A functioning reparatory programme would require an authorised institution with clearly defined responsibilities.

It would require procedures for submitting and assessing claims.

It would require an appropriate lawful basis for processing relevant information.

It would require trained personnel and documented decision-making procedures.

It would require financial and institutional safeguards where resources are administered.

It would also require a means through which affected people can seek corrections, challenge decisions and obtain appropriate explanations.

The distinction between technical capability and institutional legitimacy must therefore be maintained.

IBIS might provide a useful architecture for organising certain functions.

However, the underlying rights, obligations, authorisations and decisions must be established independently.

An operational system should begin only when the necessary governance and legal arrangements are in place.

The proposed London initiative should not present itself as capable of delivering reparations merely because an information system has been constructed.

Its ability to deliver would depend upon actual obligations, available resources, competent administration and the verification of outcomes.

9.29 Measuring Progress Towards Reparatory Justice

The proposed initiative should measure progress through observable and documented developments.

These measurements should distinguish research activity, institutional development, claim determination and reparatory delivery.

For example, an archival enquiry submitted is evidence of research activity.

A historical document obtained is evidence of documentary acquisition.

An independent report completed is evidence of research output.

A representative mandate established is evidence of authorised participation.

A legal claim submitted is evidence that proceedings or an application have begun.

A judgment, settlement or agreement may establish obligations within its actual terms.

The transfer and verified receipt of resources may demonstrate the completion of a defined reparatory obligation.

These measurements should not be combined into a single unsupported assertion that reparatory justice has been achieved.

A transparent progress report should identify both completed work and outstanding matters.

The proposed initiative should also preserve records of unsuccessful enquiries, rejected claims, delayed programmes and unresolved disputes.

This would help affected people understand what progress has actually been made.

9.30 The Relationship Between IBIS and the Proposed Government-in-Exile

The possible creation of a Bamiléké government-in-exile remains a separate constitutional question.

IBIS should not be treated as evidence that such a government exists.

Nor should the adoption of IBIS by a provisional council confer sovereign authority upon that council.

The architecture could potentially support different institutional models, including a voluntary association, international congress, provisional council, federation of participating traditional authorities or other appropriately authorised body.

Its administrative functions should remain distinguishable from the constitutional powers of whichever institution uses them.

If a government-in-exile were subsequently proposed through an authorised constitutional process, its legal status would require separate examination.

The architecture could record the institution's claimed authority, its founding instruments and any relevant recognition.

However, it should not classify an unrecognised governmental claim as internationally recognised merely because the institution has registered itself within the system.

The distinction between self-declared status and externally recognised legal status would be essential.

The same principle should apply to claims of traditional authority, territorial jurisdiction and international representation.

9.31 The Strategic Value of a London-Based IBIS Examination

The proposed London conference could create an opportunity to connect several elements that are often considered separately.

Historical researchers could explain the evidential requirements of claims concerning colonial actions.

Traditional authorities could explain the importance of customary institutions and ancestral territorial relationships.

Legal specialists could identify the requirements for standing, responsibility and remedies.

Community representatives could explain the practical needs and concerns of affected people.

Financial and administrative specialists could examine the delivery of resources.

IBIS could provide a conceptual framework for considering how these functions might be connected without confusing their respective authority.

This could contribute to the wider development of reparatory justice methodology.

However, the Bamiléké initiative should not be portrayed as an experiment upon affected people without their informed participation.

The proposed architecture should serve the investigation and institutional objectives that communities choose to pursue.

The London conference should therefore provide an opportunity for scrutiny, criticism and amendment.

Participants should be free to conclude that particular IBIS functions require further development or are unsuitable for their circumstances.

The value of the exercise would lie in the quality of the institutional examination rather than a predetermined decision to adopt the system.

9.32 Proposed Immediate Actions Concerning IBIS

The founding participants should first establish whether George T. Nomen wishes IBIS to be included in the proposed London conference.

If he supports its examination, the preparatory committee should determine how the architecture will be presented.

A concise technical paper should explain its purpose, terminology, existing design and proposed application to reparatory justice.

The paper should distinguish the Identity Engine from the Five-Factor Engine and preserve the established distinctions between identity, membership, recognition and representation.

A demonstration should use hypothetical examples unless suitable permissions have been obtained.

An independent review group could be invited to examine the proposed use.

The review should address governance, accuracy, privacy, security, technical reliability and the relationship between the digital system and institutional decision-making.

Its conclusions should be documented before any operational use is authorised.

The preparatory committee should also determine whether a separate session is required to explain the Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence model.

That session could illustrate how reparatory commitments, movements, resources and final delivery might be recorded.

The relationship between the two systems should be described clearly.

IBIS would be examined as an architecture for organising reparatory justice.

The shipping model would be examined as a complementary method of tracking the movement and delivery of reparatory commitments and resources.

Neither should be described as an established reparations authority merely because it supports the administration of information.

9.33 Conclusion to Section Nine

The proposed International Bamiléké Conference for Reparatory Justice creates an opportunity to examine how historical accountability might progress towards the actual delivery of remedies.

The central challenge is not simply to demonstrate that colonial injustice occurred.

It is to establish what occurred, identify those affected, determine the applicable rights and responsibilities, obtain legitimate authority to act and develop mechanisms capable of administering appropriate outcomes.

George T. Nomen's historical investigation provides a concrete example of the difficulties involved.

His enquiry concerns ancestry, traditional authority, alleged deaths, colonial administrative decisions and ancestral territory.

These issues require historical reconstruction before legal and reparatory conclusions can responsibly be drawn.

An international institution seeking to support such claims must distinguish the existence of a historical grievance from the evidence required to establish it.

It must distinguish ancestry from membership.

It must distinguish membership from representation.

It must distinguish recognition of historical facts from recognition of legal entitlement.

It must distinguish an agreement to provide reparations from the actual delivery of the promised remedy.

IBIS is proposed for examination because its architecture seeks to preserve and organise these distinctions.

Its Identity Engine and Five-Factor Engine must remain separate.

Its administrative functions must not be confused with governmental or judicial authority.

Its technical development must remain subject to appropriate governance and safeguards.

The Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence model could complement IBIS by providing a method for monitoring commitments, resources, movements, hazards and final delivery.

Together, these approaches could be examined as components of a wider reparatory justice administration.

However, their use would require independent assessment and appropriate authorisation.

The proposed provisional Bamiléké institution should not be required to adopt them merely because their proponents helped convene the London conference.

The ultimate purpose of the architecture is to serve affected people through accurate records, legitimate representation, accountable decisions and verified outcomes.

The fundamental principle is that reparatory justice cannot be treated as delivered merely because it has been recognised, promised, announced or allocated. Delivery must be established through evidence that the intended remedy has actually reached the person or community entitled to receive it.

The London initiative could examine how to make that principle operational.

Its historical research would establish the evidential foundation.

Its constitutional arrangements would identify legitimate authority.

Its legal and diplomatic work would examine responsibilities and remedies.

Its administrative architecture would support the organisation of claims and commitments.

Its oversight arrangements would protect beneficiaries.

Its delivery records would document the outcome.

The proposed Bamiléké initiative should therefore be assessed not simply by the institutions it creates, but by whether those institutions become capable of pursuing and verifying meaningful reparatory results.

Principal Research References for Section Nine

The following sources provide the external legal and administrative context. They do not independently validate or certify the proposed IBIS architecture.

United Nations — Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation, General Assembly Resolution 60/147, adopted 16 December 2005. This

provides an international framework describing restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.

Read the UN Basic Principles and Guidelines

Information Commissioner's Office — Rules on Special Category Data. This guidance explains the additional legal requirements for processing personal information revealing racial or ethnic origin and other sensitive categories.



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Read the ICO guidance

Information Commissioner's Office — Conditions for Processing Special Category Data. This explains the requirements concerning explicit consent and the other available conditions for processing sensitive information.



ICO

Read the ICO processing conditions

END OF SECTION NINE

NEXT — SECTION TEN: THE EUROPEAN LEGAL STRATEGY — Possible Claims Against France and Germany, Historical State Responsibility, Sovereign Immunity, Limitation Periods, Ancestral Land, Traditional Authority, Collective Rights, Litigation, Negotiated Settlements and Alternative Reparatory Remedies.

SECTION TEN

THE EUROPEAN LEGAL STRATEGY FOR BAMILÉKÉ REPARATORY JUSTICE

Historical State Responsibility, Claims Against France and Germany, Sovereign Immunity, Limitation Periods, Ancestral Land, Traditional Authority, International Courts, Diplomatic Negotiation and Alternative Reparatory Remedies

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Strategic Legal Research Proposal — Not a Formal Legal Opinion or Finding of Liability

10.1 Introduction: The Difference Between Historical Injustice and a Legally Enforceable Claim

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative must confront a fundamental distinction between establishing historical injustice and establishing a legally enforceable claim.

A historical investigation may demonstrate that individuals were killed, traditional authorities displaced, ancestral territories reorganised, property taken or communities subjected to repression.

Such findings may provide substantial grounds for historical accountability and demands for reparatory justice.

However, a contemporary legal claim requires further examination.

The claimant must identify the relevant legal rights, the acts alleged to have violated them, the person or institution responsible, the applicable law and the forum competent to determine the dispute.

The investigation must also address procedural obstacles, including jurisdiction, limitation periods, state immunity, standing, the historical application of legal rules and the availability of remedies.

These questions become particularly complex where the alleged events occurred during colonial administration, many decades before any contemporary proceedings.

George T. Nomen has described events affecting his ancestors under German and French colonial rule, including alleged killings, interference with traditional authority and the loss or reorganisation of ancestral lands.

He has also referred to a French administrative arrêté believed to date from approximately 1933.

These allegations require historical investigation before they can be used as the factual foundation for a legal claim.

The proposed legal strategy should not assume that France or Germany has already been established as legally responsible for every event described.

Nor should it assume that historical distance necessarily excludes every possible remedy.

Instead, the initiative should develop a structured process through which potential legal claims, diplomatic approaches, negotiated settlements and other forms of reparatory justice can be independently evaluated.

The central objective is to establish which routes are genuinely available, what evidence they require, what obstacles they present and which outcomes they could lawfully deliver.

10.2 The Historical Division of Responsibility Between Germany and France

The colonial history of Cameroon involves successive political and administrative authorities.

Germany established a protectorate over Kamerun in 1884.

Following the First World War, the territory came under French and British administration, subsequently formalised through League of Nations mandates.

French administration continued over the territory relevant to much of the historical Bamiléké region.

The legal investigation must therefore establish which authority exercised responsibility at the time of each alleged act.

If a disputed action occurred during German colonial rule, the applicable legal framework and attribution questions would differ from those arising from an action occurring under French administration in 1933.

If an alleged killing occurred after Cameroon's independence, further questions could arise concerning the role of Cameroonian institutions and any continuing involvement of foreign authorities.

Responsibility cannot simply be transferred from one government to another because each exercised authority over the same territory at different times.

Equally, a change of administration does not necessarily resolve every question concerning continuing consequences or state succession.

The investigation must examine particular acts and legal relationships separately.

George's family history may involve a sequence of connected events spanning more than one administration.

The legal analysis should therefore reconstruct that sequence before identifying possible defendants or responsible institutions.

This will be essential to preventing a claim from being undermined by incorrect attribution.

10.3 Establishing the Applicable Law at the Time of the Events

One of the principal legal difficulties concerns the law applicable when the alleged historical acts occurred.

A claim involving an administrative decision made in 1933 cannot automatically be judged by assuming that every contemporary international human rights treaty was legally binding at that date.

The relevant French colonial administrative framework must be examined.

That framework may include laws, decrees, orders, treaty obligations, mandate arrangements and legal principles governing the powers of the relevant officials.

The League of Nations mandate system is particularly relevant to French administration of Cameroon during the interwar period.

A legal researcher should examine the terms of the French mandate, the supervisory arrangements applicable to the territory and any relevant obligations concerning inhabitants, administration and traditional institutions.

The investigation should also examine the domestic law governing administrative decisions.

If the suspected 1933 arrêté is located, the first legal questions should concern its issuing authority, statutory basis and actual effect.

Did the official possess the legal power purportedly exercised?

Were procedural requirements followed?

Did the decision concern administrative recognition, customary succession, territorial organisation or land rights?

Were affected persons entitled to challenge it?

Did an appeal or complaint occur?

Could the decision have legal consequences that continue to be relevant today?

These questions cannot be answered responsibly without examining the original instrument and the applicable historical law.

The initiative should therefore commission specialist research into French mandate-era administrative law and colonial governance.

10.4 The Importance of the League of Nations Mandate

French-administered Cameroon was not simply an ordinary part of metropolitan France during the period relevant to the suspected 1933 order.

It was administered under an international mandate established following the First World War.

Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations provided the general framework for mandates over certain former territories of defeated powers.

The mandate system recognised obligations associated with the administration and development of inhabitants, although its language and institutions reflected the colonial assumptions of its time.

The particular terms of the mandate for French Cameroons would require detailed examination.

The legal investigation should determine which obligations were binding upon France during the relevant period and how those obligations related to the treatment of traditional authorities, property, inhabitants and territorial administration.

It should also examine whether France submitted reports concerning the relevant region and whether complaints or petitions were raised through the Permanent Mandates Commission or associated procedures.

Such records may provide historical evidence even where they do not establish a present-day legal remedy.

The mandate system could therefore offer two distinct research opportunities.

First, it may identify international obligations applicable to French administration during the 1930s.

Second, it may provide additional documentary records concerning colonial governance.

These questions are especially important because they may connect local administrative acts with internationally supervised responsibilities.

However, a historical breach of a mandate obligation would not automatically establish that George or another descendant can obtain compensation from a contemporary court.

Standing, jurisdiction, state succession and the availability of remedies would require separate analysis.

10.5 Possible Legal Claims Against France

France would be a principal subject of legal examination because George's account attributes certain historical actions to French colonial authorities.

The first possible category concerns allegedly unlawful administrative decisions.

If the suspected 1933 arrêté is located and shown to have affected a traditional authority or ancestral rights, French legal specialists could examine its legal basis and consequences.

The second category concerns alleged killings or other serious injuries.

Such claims would require evidence identifying the victims, dates, circumstances and responsible authorities.

The third concerns ancestral land.

Researchers would need to establish the relevant historical rights, the acts by which they were allegedly altered and the continuing legal consequences.

The fourth concerns interference with customary political or cultural institutions.

This would require evidence of the institution's historical position and the particular intervention alleged.

The fifth concerns any continuing conduct or present-day failure that might itself engage contemporary legal obligations.

This category must be distinguished from an attempt to apply modern law retrospectively to historical conduct.

The legal investigation should examine whether any present-day rights or obligations can be identified independently of the original colonial events.

However, simply describing the consequences of historical conduct as continuing does not automatically overcome jurisdictional or limitation restrictions.

Each proposed cause of action requires an identifiable legal foundation.

10.6 The Question of Sovereign Immunity

Sovereign immunity is one of the most significant obstacles to potential civil proceedings against foreign states.

Under principles of international law, states generally enjoy immunity from the jurisdiction of other states' courts in relation to certain governmental acts.

The precise rules depend upon the jurisdiction, applicable law and the nature of the conduct.

The importance of this obstacle is illustrated by the International Court of Justice's judgment of 3 February 2012 in Jurisdictional Immunities of the State (Germany v Italy: Greece intervening).

The dispute concerned civil claims brought in Italian courts against Germany arising from serious violations committed during the Second World War.

The International Court of Justice concluded that Italy had violated Germany's jurisdictional immunity by allowing the claims to proceed in circumstances where immunity was required.

The Court explained that allegations of grave breaches of human rights or humanitarian law did not, by themselves, remove the state's entitlement to immunity under the customary international law it applied.

This is an important legal precedent for any proposal to sue France or Germany concerning historical colonial actions.

International Court of Justice

It demonstrates that the seriousness of the underlying alleged conduct is not necessarily sufficient to establish jurisdiction in a foreign court.

A claim may concern exceptionally grave historical wrongdoing and nevertheless face a procedural bar.

The proposed Bamiléké legal strategy must therefore examine sovereign immunity before substantial resources are committed to litigation.

The analysis should distinguish proceedings in the courts of the allegedly responsible state from proceedings in the courts of another state.

It should also distinguish claims against a state from possible claims against other legally identifiable parties.

No exception to immunity should be assumed without a detailed examination of the relevant law.

10.7 Limitation Periods and Historical Claims

A second substantial obstacle concerns limitation periods.

Legal systems commonly impose time limits for bringing particular forms of claim.

Those limits vary according to the jurisdiction, the cause of action, the nature of the remedy and the circumstances.

Historical colonial claims may involve events occurring many decades ago.

The original victims and alleged perpetrators may have died.

Documents may have been destroyed.

Witnesses may be unavailable.

Successive legal systems may have applied different limitation rules.

These difficulties must be examined directly.

The proposed legal team should determine whether the relevant claim is subject to a limitation period, when that period began and whether any rule permits an extension or suspension.

It should consider whether the claim concerns a historical completed act or an independently identifiable continuing violation.

It should also examine whether the claimant possesses a contemporary property right or other legal interest capable of being asserted under present law.

The discovery of new historical evidence does not automatically revive a claim that has become legally time-barred.

Similarly, the continuing emotional or economic consequences of a historical injury do not necessarily mean that a new legal cause of action arises every day.

The specific rules of the relevant jurisdiction must be examined.

The initiative should therefore avoid reassuring potential claimants that limitation periods can simply be ignored because the underlying historical allegations are serious.

Any advice on this question should come from suitably qualified lawyers after examination of the proposed claims.

10.8 The Problem of Retrospective Application of International Human Rights Law

The development of international human rights law accelerated considerably after the Second World War.

The United Nations Charter was adopted in 1945.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights followed in 1948.

The European Convention on Human Rights was adopted in 1950.

The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights was adopted in 1981.

These instruments are important to contemporary legal and reparatory justice discussions.

However, their adoption dates and subsequent entry into force matter.

A court cannot automatically apply a treaty to conduct that occurred before the treaty became legally applicable to the relevant state.

The investigation must also distinguish treaty obligations from customary international law.

Some legal principles may have existed before their later codification.

Establishing their historical existence, content and applicability requires specialist analysis.

The proposed Bamiléké legal strategy should therefore commission a chronological assessment of the relevant legal instruments.

That assessment should identify the obligations applicable during German administration, the French mandate period, later French administration and the post-independence period.

It should also examine whether particular claims concern continuing legal relationships that survived the original colonial intervention.

The objective is to construct legal arguments consistent with the law applicable to the circumstances, rather than relying exclusively upon contemporary standards.

10.9 The International Court of Justice: A Critical Jurisdictional Limitation

The International Court of Justice in The Hague is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations.

It decides legal disputes between states and provides advisory opinions when properly requested by authorised United Nations bodies.

It does not operate as a general court before which individuals, families or ordinary community organisations may directly sue foreign governments.

The Court expressly states that only states can be parties in contentious proceedings.

Its jurisdiction also depends upon the consent of the states concerned, established through an applicable jurisdictional basis.

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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This distinction has substantial implications for George's proposal.

George cannot personally commence contentious proceedings against France before the International Court of Justice.

A Bamiléké association registered in London would not acquire that entitlement merely through incorporation.

Nor would a self-declared government-in-exile automatically obtain standing before the Court.

If a state wished to pursue an international legal dispute concerning relevant historical obligations, it would need to establish jurisdiction and the other applicable requirements.

The proposed London conference could examine whether appropriate governmental engagement might create a route for international legal consideration.

However, that possibility should not be presented as an existing entitlement.

An advisory opinion is a separate process involving authorised international organs, not an ordinary appeal mechanism available directly to private claimants.

The Court's jurisdictional rules therefore reinforce the importance of distinguishing institutional ambition from actual legal capacity.

10.10 The European Court of Human Rights

The European Court of Human Rights may initially appear relevant because France, Germany and the United Kingdom are parties to the European Convention on Human Rights.

However, the Court's jurisdiction is subject to significant temporal and territorial limitations.

The Convention cannot automatically be used to determine responsibility for colonial actions occurring before it became binding upon the respondent state.

Questions concerning the territorial reach of Convention obligations are also complex.

The European Court is not a general international tribunal for every historical wrong committed by a European government anywhere in the world.

A claim concerning events in Cameroon during the 1930s would therefore encounter substantial jurisdictional obstacles.

The proposed legal research programme should not assume that the European Court provides a viable forum for George's historical allegations.

If a separately identifiable contemporary act by a state were alleged to violate a Convention right, that would require its own legal assessment.

The existence of a historical connection to colonial administration would not, by itself, establish the Court's jurisdiction.

The proposed initiative should obtain specialist advice before spending resources preparing a Convention application.

10.11 French Domestic Courts

The possibility of proceedings within France deserves separate investigation.

A claim brought before the courts of the allegedly responsible state raises different jurisdictional questions from a claim brought against that state in a foreign court.

However, domestic proceedings may still face serious obstacles concerning standing, limitation, applicable law, the historical legal status of the disputed acts and the availability of remedies.

The investigation should distinguish French administrative jurisdiction from ordinary civil jurisdiction.

If the relevant historical dispute concerns an administrative order, the nature of that instrument may be significant.

A specialist in French public law should examine whether any contemporary legal mechanism exists for challenging its continuing consequences or seeking recognition of rights arising from its history.

A separate specialist may be needed to examine civil liability, succession and property questions.

It should not be assumed that a court today would entertain an ordinary application to annul an administrative decision issued in 1933.

The applicable procedural rules and any continuing legal effects would need careful assessment.

The legal team should therefore prepare a written jurisdictional opinion before initiating proceedings.

10.12 German Domestic Courts

The German legal route would be relevant if the evidence establishes that particular alleged wrongs occurred under German colonial administration.

The investigation would need to identify the relevant acts, German authorities, historical legal obligations and present legal framework.

A claim arising from German administration before 1916 would involve substantial temporal and procedural difficulties.

Modern German constitutional and human rights provisions could not automatically be applied retrospectively.

Nevertheless, German institutions may possess responsibilities concerning archives, cultural property, human remains or current decisions relating to historical collections.

These distinct matters should be examined separately.

For example, a contemporary dispute concerning the return of a particular cultural object may involve a different legal and institutional analysis from a damages claim concerning an alleged colonial killing.

The European initiative should therefore distinguish historical compensation claims from present-day restitution or provenance processes.

Germany's developing institutional arrangements concerning colonial cultural property provide a reason to investigate possible cooperation, but they do not establish that all historical reparations demands are legally enforceable.

10.13 Proceedings in the United Kingdom

The proposed location of the conference in London does not establish that English courts possess jurisdiction over the historical acts under investigation.

The relevant alleged events occurred principally in Cameroon under German or French administration.

A contemporary claim against France or Germany in England would raise substantial questions concerning state immunity, jurisdiction, applicable law, service and limitation.

The establishment of a London-based Bamiléké organisation would not eliminate those obstacles.

Nevertheless, the United Kingdom could provide a location for obtaining independent legal advice, coordinating evidence and organising international research.

British lawyers with experience in historical litigation, public international law, administrative law and complex cross-border disputes may be able to assess the available options.

Their advice should begin with jurisdiction and admissibility rather than assume that proceedings can be commenced.

The London initiative should distinguish its role as an organisational centre from the jurisdiction in which any particular claim could properly be brought.

10.14 Lessons from Historical Colonial Litigation

Historical litigation concerning British colonial administration provides useful comparative examples, although the factual and legal circumstances differ from those associated with Cameroon.

The claims brought by Kenyan survivors of abuses during the Mau Mau emergency illustrate the complexity of historical colonial litigation and negotiation.

In 2013, the United Kingdom announced a settlement involving payments to thousands of claimants and support for a memorial.

The British government expressed regret for abuses during the colonial emergency but did not present the settlement as a general acceptance of legal liability for all colonial-era wrongdoing.

The settlement followed complex litigation and historical investigation.

The case is relevant because it demonstrates how evidence, representation, legal proceedings and negotiation can interact.

However, its outcome does not establish that equivalent claims against France or Germany would succeed.

The applicable legal systems, historical periods, causes of action and jurisdictional circumstances differ.

The proposed conference should use such examples to examine methods of organising claims and evidence, not to promise similar outcomes.

10.15 Ancestral Land: A Distinct Legal Research Programme

George's reported ancestral land history may require a legal investigation separate from any claim concerning colonial killings.

The first question is the nature of the historical rights.

Did the relevant ancestor hold personal property rights, customary family rights, chiefly authority, communal responsibilities or another form of recognised relationship with the territory?

These categories may overlap but should not be treated as identical.

The second question concerns the alleged intervention.

Was land formally confiscated, reassigned, registered in another person's name, incorporated into an administrative district or otherwise placed under different control?

The third concerns its subsequent history.

Did later authorities maintain the arrangement?

Were additional transactions or administrative decisions made?

Did independence alter the legal status of the land?

What rights do present occupants possess?

The fourth concerns the contemporary legal position.

Any claim involving land situated in Cameroon would require careful examination of Cameroonian property law, customary rights, succession and the jurisdiction of the competent authorities.

A historical French administrative record may constitute important evidence without automatically determining present-day ownership.

The legal programme should therefore avoid treating territorial restoration as a purely diplomatic question between descendants and France.

Contemporary rights holders, traditional institutions and Cameroonian legal processes may be directly involved.

A proposed remedy must account for those interests.

10.16 Traditional Authority and Claims to Political Restoration

The alleged displacement of traditional authority raises a different set of questions.

A traditional office may carry customary, political, ceremonial, administrative or territorial responsibilities.

The legal significance of those responsibilities may have changed under German, French and contemporary Cameroonian governance.

The investigation should first establish the historical office and applicable succession procedures.

It should then determine whether colonial authorities interfered with succession or administrative recognition.

If interference occurred, researchers must examine whether it produced continuing institutional consequences.

The possibility of restoring historical recognition should be distinguished from appointing a contemporary officeholder.

A historian may conclude that a particular ancestor possessed legitimate traditional authority without thereby determining who presently holds that office.

The latter may involve customary procedures, community decisions and contemporary law.

The proposed London institution should not purport to restore traditional authority through an overseas declaration unless it possesses an appropriate legal and community mandate.

A reparatory outcome might involve acknowledgment of historical facts, restoration of records, reconciliation processes or another remedy determined through legitimate procedures.

These possibilities warrant consultation with the affected traditional institutions.

10.17 Collective Claims and Individual Claims

The legal strategy must distinguish claims brought by individuals from claims advanced on behalf of families, chiefdoms or wider communities.

An individual may seek a remedy for a personal legal injury.

A descendant may assert inherited rights where the applicable law permits.

A family may possess collective interests in particular property or historical records.

A traditional institution may seek recognition of rights associated with its office or community.

A cultural association may pursue its own organisational objectives without possessing the rights of every person it describes as a member of the broader community.

These differences are particularly important where the proposed reparations concern land, financial compensation or cultural property.

The proposed council should not assume that it can aggregate individual claims into a collective claim without authorisation.

Nor should it assume that every person with Bamiléké ancestry shares identical legal interests.

A legal standing analysis should be undertaken for each proposed category of claimant.

IBIS could assist in recording mandates and claimant information but would not itself establish standing before a court.

10.18 The Question of Historical Genocide

Some organisations and researchers have used the term Bamiléké genocide to describe particular periods of colonial and postcolonial violence.

The historical evidence concerning killings and repression must be investigated seriously.

However, the classification of events as genocide is a distinct legal question.

The Genocide Convention was adopted in 1948 and entered into force in 1951.

A legal analysis must examine the definition of genocide, the required intent, the acts alleged, the relevant period and the law applicable to the proposed forum.

The historical existence of mass killings does not automatically establish every element of the international crime of genocide.

Equally, disagreement over a particular legal classification does not mean that killings or other serious historical injuries did not occur.

The proposed conference should distinguish historical findings from legal characterisation.

Researchers should be able to investigate the events without being required to accept or reject a predetermined label.

Where a formal allegation of genocide is advanced, it should be accompanied by an explanation of the applicable legal definition and supporting evidence.

This distinction will be especially important when communicating with governments, courts and international institutions.

10.19 The Possibility of Negotiated Reparations

Litigation is not the only possible route to reparatory justice.

A government may enter discussions concerning historical wrongs even where it disputes legal liability or believes that judicial proceedings face substantial procedural obstacles.

Negotiations may address historical recognition, archival access, memorialisation, cultural property, research cooperation, community programmes, restitution or financial arrangements.

The 2025 Franco-Cameroonian historical commission demonstrates that France and Cameroon have already participated in an organised process concerning historical repression.

The French government publicly acknowledged the commission's work and the importance of continuing historical examination.



France Diplomatie

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This does not establish that France has accepted a legal obligation to compensate George or other Bamiléké descendants.

However, it provides an identifiable institutional process through which questions concerning historical research and subsequent action may be raised.

A future Bamiléké representative institution could seek dialogue concerning the findings of such investigations, provided it possesses the relevant authority.

Negotiations should be based upon specific requests rather than an undefined demand that all reparations be delivered immediately.

The purpose would be to establish what the parties are prepared to examine, acknowledge or implement.

10.20 Historical Recognition Without Immediate Litigation

Some forms of historical accountability may be pursued without commencing court proceedings.

These may include obtaining official archives, commissioning independent historical research, publishing findings, correcting institutional records and seeking formal acknowledgment of established events.

Such measures may provide value to affected families and communities even where financial compensation remains disputed.

For George, an official record establishing what happened to Ngantcha or identifying the administrative decisions affecting his ancestors could be significant.

The discovery of an original order, related correspondence or military report might clarify family history and establish a firmer basis for subsequent legal examination.

A governmental acknowledgment of a documented event could also have historical significance.

However, recognition should not be treated as interchangeable with reparatory delivery.

A statement acknowledging wrongdoing may satisfy one part of a reparatory programme while leaving other remedies unresolved.

The proposed institution should therefore record the exact nature and limits of each outcome.

10.21 The United Nations Reparations Principles

The United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 60/147 on 16 December 2005.

The accompanying Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation describe established categories of reparation concerning gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law.

These categories include restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.

The principles provide a useful framework for considering the nature of remedies.

However, they do not independently create a judicial cause of action for every historical event or override applicable jurisdictional rules.

The resolution itself recommends that states take the principles into account and promote respect for them.



Digital Library

+1

The proposed Bamiléké initiative could use this framework to organise discussions concerning appropriate remedies.

For example, restitution might be relevant to certain property claims.

Compensation might be relevant where a financial remedy has an established basis.

Satisfaction might include acknowledgment, disclosure of information, memorialisation or correction of historical records.

Guarantees of non-repetition might involve institutional reforms or safeguards designed to prevent comparable wrongdoing.

The choice of remedy should depend upon the established circumstances and the authority of the claimants.

10.22 A Reparatory Remedy Must Be Defined Before Delivery Can Be Verified

The proposed IBIS framework distinguishes the recognition of an obligation from its implementation.

That distinction should guide the legal strategy.

A negotiated agreement should identify the obligations undertaken by each party.

Where compensation is promised, the agreement should define the amount or method of calculation, eligible beneficiaries, administrative arrangements and delivery timetable.

Where land restitution is agreed, the legal process for transferring or recognising the relevant rights should be identified.

Where archives are to be disclosed, the agreement should identify the documents or classes of documents, access conditions and responsible institutions.

Where cultural property is to be returned, the items, provenance requirements and authorised recipients should be established.

Where a memorial or historical research programme is promised, the agreement should identify the standards and procedures through which completion will be assessed.

The purpose is to avoid commitments so vague that their fulfilment cannot be determined.

IBIS and the related Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence model could assist in documenting these stages if appropriately authorised.

However, neither system would itself establish the underlying legal obligation.

That obligation must arise from the relevant law, judgment, agreement or other legitimate source.

10.23 The Risks of Premature Litigation

George has expressed confidence that archival research may support proceedings against the French government.

His confidence provides a reason to investigate the available evidence thoroughly.

It should not be treated as a substitute for independent legal analysis.

Premature proceedings could involve substantial financial and procedural risks.

A claim may fail because the wrong defendant has been identified.

It may be brought in a court lacking jurisdiction.

It may be time-barred.

It may encounter sovereign immunity.

It may rely upon documents whose meaning has been misunderstood.

It may also fail because the claimant cannot establish standing or entitlement to the remedy sought.

An unsuccessful case could generate adverse costs or other consequences depending upon the forum.

The initiative should therefore seek a preliminary legal feasibility opinion before committing substantial funds to proceedings.

That opinion should identify the possible causes of action, required evidence, jurisdictional basis, limitation issues, state immunity and available remedies.

Where a route is legally unavailable, the reason should be recorded.

The existence of a legal obstacle should not automatically terminate historical research or prevent consideration of negotiated remedies.

It should inform the choice of method.

10.24 The Role of a Government-in-Exile in Legal Proceedings

The proposed government-in-exile requires particular legal caution.

Establishing such an institution would not automatically provide George or participating Bamiléké communities with access to international courts.

A self-declared government is not automatically entitled to bring proceedings before the International Court of Justice.

Nor would the adoption of governmental titles automatically overcome limitation, immunity or standing requirements in domestic courts.

The institution's legal position would need to be independently established.

An authorised community organisation may be capable of coordinating litigation or instructing lawyers without claiming sovereign authority.

Where several claimants share a common interest, appropriate legal arrangements could be examined for collective action.

However, those arrangements must comply with the rules of the court concerned.

The proposed London conference should therefore evaluate the government-in-exile question separately from the immediate legal needs of George's family investigation.

The institutional objective should be determined by the authority and functions required, not merely by the perceived political significance of the title.

10.25 A Proposed Legal Research Team

The European initiative should consider establishing a small legal research team with expertise appropriate to the proposed claims.

The team should include or consult specialists in French administrative and colonial law, public international law, Cameroonian property and customary law, German colonial legal history where relevant, and the rules governing international litigation.

Specialist historical researchers should work alongside the legal team.

The lawyers should not be expected to reconstruct every historical fact independently.

Equally, historians should not be expected to determine the legal enforceability of claims outside their professional competence.

The research should begin with clearly defined questions.

What legal obligations applied in French-administered Cameroon in 1933?

What was the legal effect of the suspected arrêté?

What evidence would establish an unlawful removal of traditional authority?

Could descendants possess an enforceable contemporary right arising from the events?

What legal remedies might exist concerning ancestral land?

Would state immunity prevent proceedings in a proposed forum?

Are limitation periods applicable?

What alternative processes could be pursued if litigation is unavailable?

Each question should be accompanied by the relevant facts and documents.

10.26 A Legal Feasibility Assessment for George T. Nomen

The first legal assessment should concern George's specific historical case.

It should not attempt immediately to litigate every possible Bamiléké colonial grievance.

The case should be divided into separate potential claims.

Potential claim	Evidence required	Principal legal difficulty
Alleged unlawful removal of Ngantcha or another ancestor	Original administrative order, customary succession evidence, correspondence	Applicable historical law and continuing legal effect
Alleged killing of grandfather	Identity, date, circumstances, responsible authority	Attribution, limitation, jurisdiction and proof
Alleged killing of father	Identity, date, circumstances, responsible authority	Attribution, limitation, jurisdiction and proof

Loss of ancestral land	Historical rights, maps, title or customary evidence, subsequent transfers	Present ownership, standing and applicable Cameroonian law
Interference with traditional succession	Historical office, lineage, administrative acts and community evidence	Customary legitimacy and contemporary legal recognition
Collective historical reparations	Documented historical injury, authorised claimants, alleged responsible parties	Legal basis, representative standing and remedies
Access to colonial archives	Precise document requests and relevant archival rules	Location, access restrictions and procedural requirements

This table is an investigative framework.

It does not establish that any of the proposed claims is legally viable.

The purpose is to identify what must be established before a responsible recommendation can be made.

10.27 A Three-Track Legal and Reparatory Strategy

The proposed initiative could organise its work through three parallel tracks.

Track One — Historical Evidence and Legal Feasibility

Obtain archival documents, reconstruct family and community histories, identify applicable law and commission independent legal opinions. This track should remain active regardless of whether immediate litigation is possible.

Track Two — Diplomatic and Negotiated Remedies

Seek appropriate dialogue concerning historical acknowledgment, archival cooperation, restitution and other possible measures. Any negotiation must be undertaken by persons possessing the necessary mandate.

Track Three — Judicial and Other Formal Proceedings

Consider litigation, administrative challenges or other formal mechanisms only after jurisdiction, standing, limitation, immunity, evidence and potential remedies have been assessed.

These tracks should remain distinct but coordinated.

Evidence discovered through historical research may support legal analysis.

Legal analysis may identify further documents requiring investigation.

Diplomatic engagement may produce archival access or a negotiated outcome.

However, one process should not be inaccurately described as completion of another.

10.28 Financing the Legal Investigation

Legal research and litigation may require substantial resources.

The proposed London initiative should establish a separate budget for legal work.

That budget should distinguish preliminary advice, historical research, translations, document acquisition, expert reports, negotiations and possible proceedings.

An initial fixed-fee feasibility opinion, if available, could help control expenditure.

The proposed institution should avoid committing community resources to full litigation before obtaining an informed assessment of its procedural and substantive prospects.

Funding arrangements should also address conflicts of interest.

A donor should not acquire ownership of ancestral claims through financing research.

A legal representative should act for clearly identified clients.

A provisional council should not instruct lawyers to represent people who have not authorised that representation.

Any arrangement involving third-party litigation funding should receive appropriate specialist review.

The terms of funding should be transparent to the relevant claimants.

10.29 Settlement Authority and Beneficiary Protection

If negotiations produce a possible settlement, the identity of the persons entitled to approve that settlement becomes critical.

An organisation may have authority to conduct discussions without possessing authority to conclude a binding agreement.

A family representative may be authorised to pursue a specific claim without possessing unrestricted power to compromise the rights of every descendant.

A traditional authority may possess responsibilities concerning communal interests that differ from the private interests of individuals.

The proposed institution should therefore record settlement mandates separately from general representative mandates.

Before a settlement is approved, affected claimants should understand the remedies offered, rights potentially released, financial arrangements and any continuing obligations.

Where collective rights are concerned, the approval process should comply with the applicable legal and customary arrangements.

The proposed IBIS system could assist in maintaining records of the authority granted.

However, the validity of that authority would need to be established independently.

No administrative system should be permitted to treat a settlement as valid merely because a representative has entered it into a database.

10.30 A Proposed International Reparatory Negotiation Framework

Where the appropriate parties agree to negotiate, the process should have written terms of reference.

Those terms should identify the participants, the capacity in which they act and the subjects under discussion.

They should distinguish historical research from legal liability and reparatory settlement.

They should also specify whether discussions are confidential, public, without prejudice or conducted under another agreed framework, subject to applicable law.

The process should preserve the independence of historians and other experts.

Evidence should not be altered or suppressed merely because it complicates negotiations.

Any provisional agreement should be recorded accurately.

The parties should distinguish a political statement of intent from a legally binding agreement.

Where resources or institutional reforms are promised, implementation responsibilities should be defined.

The resulting obligations could be tracked through IBIS or another approved system.

However, the existence of a tracking system would not replace the need for legally competent administration and independent verification.

10.31 International Legal and Diplomatic Relationships

A London-based initiative may engage with governments and international institutions without possessing governmental status.

The proposed council could request meetings, submit historical research, invite institutional participation and seek clarification concerning applicable procedures.

It could also support claimants in obtaining legal advice.

These activities would depend upon its actual mandates and applicable law.

A government may agree to meet the council without accepting its constitutional claims.

A university may participate in research without endorsing a demand for reparations.

An archive may provide documents without acknowledging legal liability.

The initiative should record such relationships according to their actual terms.

If a future government-in-exile proposal receives consideration, that development should be documented separately from ordinary institutional engagement.

The legal strategy should therefore maintain a clear distinction between diplomatic communication, formal recognition and enforceable legal rights.

10.32 How the London Conference Should Examine the Legal Strategy

The proposed conference should include a dedicated session on legal feasibility.

The session should begin with a presentation identifying the principal historical questions.

It should then examine the available legal routes and the obstacles associated with each.

Specialists should explain sovereign immunity, temporal jurisdiction, limitation periods, claimant standing and the law applicable to historical colonial acts.

The conference should provide opportunities for participants to question these assessments.

However, the proceedings should not attempt to determine the validity of specific claims through a majority vote.

Legal conclusions should be based upon evidence and relevant law.

The conference could adopt a resolution commissioning a formal legal research programme.

It could also authorise appropriate persons to seek preliminary advice or approach archival institutions.

Any decision to commence proceedings would require a separate assessment and the necessary claimant authorisation.

The conference should not authorise unrestricted litigation expenditure through a general declaration.

10.33 Proposed Legal Decision Register

The initiative should maintain a record of legal and institutional decisions.

Stage	Decision required	Evidence of completion
Historical reconstruction	Are the relevant facts sufficiently documented?	Reviewed evidence dossier
Claimant identification	Who may possess the relevant rights?	Genealogy and standing assessment
Attribution	Which authority is alleged to be responsible?	Historical and legal attribution analysis
Applicable law	Which legal rules govern the alleged conduct?	Written legal research
Jurisdiction	Which forum, if any, may hear the matter?	Jurisdictional opinion
Limitation	Is the proposed claim subject to a time bar?	Limitation analysis
State immunity	Would immunity prevent proceedings?	Immunity assessment
Remedies	What outcomes are legally or voluntarily available?	Remedies opinion
Representative authority	Who may instruct lawyers or negotiate?	Verified mandate
Proceedings or negotiation	Has a properly authorised route been selected?	Recorded decision
Outcome	What has actually been agreed or decided?	Judgment, decision or agreement
Delivery	Has the remedy reached the intended beneficiary?	Appropriate independent verification

This register would help prevent the proposed institution from making claims about legal progress that exceed what has actually occurred.

10.34 An Initial Six-Month Legal Research Programme

The first month should concentrate upon identifying the proposed claims and reviewing George's existing evidence.

The research team should obtain the fullest available account of Ngantcha, the suspected 1933 arrêté, the reported deaths and the relevant ancestral territory.

During the second month, preliminary research should examine the administrative and legal framework of French-administered Cameroon during the 1930s.

During the third month, the team should investigate the League of Nations mandate, available records concerning traditional authority and the potential relevance of earlier German administration.

During the fourth month, specialist lawyers could prepare preliminary assessments concerning standing, jurisdiction, limitation and sovereign immunity.

During the fifth month, the research should examine possible negotiated and non-judicial remedies, together with institutional contacts capable of assisting.

During the sixth month, an integrated feasibility report could be prepared.

The report should identify which matters are supported by evidence, which require further investigation and which proposed legal routes encounter substantial barriers.

This timetable should remain flexible because archival access and specialist research may take longer than anticipated.

The purpose is to establish a disciplined programme rather than guarantee that a viable claim will be identified within a particular period.

10.35 The Relationship Between Litigation and the Proposed Government-in-Exile

The possibility of establishing a government-in-exile should not be treated as a necessary preliminary step to every legal claim.

Some individuals or communities may possess legal rights independently of any new political institution.

A government-in-exile claim might introduce substantial constitutional and diplomatic questions without resolving the underlying procedural barriers to litigation.

The proposed London conference should therefore examine two questions separately.

The first is whether George and other affected persons possess historical or legal claims that can be pursued through existing mechanisms.

The second is whether a new political institution is necessary or appropriate for wider collective representation.

An authorised reparatory justice council may be capable of organising historical research and facilitating negotiations without claiming sovereignty.

If a future governmental institution is proposed, its legal status and practical functions should be evaluated independently.

The constitutional structure should serve the rights and objectives of the people concerned.

It should not become an obstacle to pursuing remedies that may already be available.

10.36 What Would Constitute a Meaningful Legal Outcome?

The success of the legal programme should not be measured solely by whether a court awards financial compensation.

A meaningful result might include locating an original colonial administrative order, establishing what happened to a particular ancestor, correcting an historical record, obtaining acknowledgment of documented wrongdoing, identifying lawful ancestral rights or negotiating an appropriate remedy.

However, these outcomes should be described accurately.

Discovery of a document is not the same as proof of liability.

Proof of a historical event is not necessarily proof of a legally enforceable right.

Governmental acknowledgment is not automatically a compensation agreement.

A settlement agreement is not the same as completed delivery.

The proposed institution should therefore maintain separate records for historical findings, legal determinations, negotiated commitments and actual reparatory outcomes.

This distinction is essential to the proposed IBIS architecture.

10.37 Conclusion to Section Ten

The European legal strategy for Bamiléké reparatory justice must be grounded in historical evidence, accurate legal analysis and legitimate representative authority.

George T. Nomen's investigation raises serious questions concerning alleged colonial killings, interference with traditional succession, ancestral land and the actions of French and German colonial authorities.

These questions deserve a structured investigation.

However, the legal consequences cannot be determined solely from the seriousness of the allegations or the historical existence of colonial administration.

Any proceedings against France or Germany would face substantial questions concerning applicable law, sovereign immunity, limitation periods, jurisdiction, state succession, claimant standing and remedies.

The International Court of Justice is not directly accessible to individual claimants or ordinary community organisations.

The European Court of Human Rights is subject to important temporal and jurisdictional restrictions.

Domestic proceedings require specialist examination of the relevant national legal systems.

The proposed government-in-exile would not automatically overcome these barriers.

Nevertheless, the existence of legal difficulties does not remove the value of historical research or the possibility of negotiated reparatory remedies.

France and Cameroon have already participated in a formal historical research commission concerning the period 1945–1971.

Germany has developed institutional arrangements concerning colonial history and the return of cultural property.

These developments provide identifiable subjects for further enquiry and engagement.

The proposed London initiative should therefore pursue historical research, legal feasibility assessment and diplomatic exploration as related but distinct activities.

An authorised Bamiléké representative institution could coordinate these activities, subject to its actual mandate.

Reparation Nation Limited could contribute organisational support.

IBIS could be examined as a possible architecture for managing evidence, authorisation, claims, commitments and delivery.

However, neither the existence of a representative organisation nor the adoption of a technical system would establish legal responsibility by itself.

The fundamental legal principle is that the pursuit of reparatory justice must connect established historical facts with identifiable rights, competent authority, available remedies and verifiable implementation.

The initial task is therefore to establish the strongest possible historical and legal foundation.

The proposed London conference could provide a forum for bringing that work together.

Its constitutional arrangements could support continuing representation.

Its diplomatic relationships could facilitate research and negotiation.

Its administrative architecture could assist in preserving an accurate account of subsequent developments.

The ultimate objective should be to identify and pursue remedies that are historically justified, legally or otherwise legitimately supported, properly authorised and capable of being delivered to the affected people.

Principal legal research sources

Source	Importance to the proposed strategy
International Court of Justice — Contentious Jurisdiction	Confirms that only states may institute contentious proceedings and that jurisdiction depends upon state consent
Germany v Italy — Jurisdictional Immunities, 2012	INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE Major international precedent concerning sovereign immunity in civil claims arising from grave historical wrongdoing
UN General Assembly Resolution 60/147	International Court of Justice International principles concerning restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition
Franco-Cameroonian Historical Commission Report, 2025	 Digital Library Historical research concerning France's role in repression in Cameroon during 1945–1971  Sciences Po

French Presidency — Commission Statement, January 2025	Confirms the French government's receipt of the report and stated commitment to continued historical examination  Commission mixte franco-camerounaise

END OF SECTION TEN

NEXT — SECTION ELEVEN: STRATEGIC RISK ASSESSMENT AND SWOT ANALYSIS — Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats of the London Strategy; Government-in-Exile Risks; Archival and Legal Obstacles; Community Legitimacy; Institutional Capture; Anti-Black Racism Safeguards; Security; Financial Accountability and Contingency Planning.

SECTION ELEVEN

STRATEGIC RISK ASSESSMENT, SWOT ANALYSIS, INSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS AND CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Evaluating the Proposed European and London-Based Bamiléké Reparatory Justice Initiative: Historical Credibility, Community Legitimacy, Government-in-Exile Risks, Legal Obstacles, Institutional Capture, Financial Accountability and Sustainable Delivery

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Strategic Assessment for Consultation — No Conference, Representative Institution or Government-in-Exile Is Presumed to Have Been Established

11.1 Introduction: Why Risk Assessment Must Precede Institutional Commitment

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative brings together several ambitious objectives.

It seeks to establish a coordinated historical investigation into European colonial administration, examine the treatment of ancestral communities, obtain historical evidence, develop international relationships, explore legitimate collective representation and consider institutional arrangements capable of pursuing reparatory justice.

It also incorporates an historically significant proposal advanced through discussions involving George T. Nomen: the possibility of convening a Bamiléké conference in London and examining the establishment of a government-in-exile or alternative international representative institution.

These objectives may be complementary, but they are not identical.

Historical research requires evidential independence.

Community representation requires legitimacy.

Governmental claims require constitutional and legal foundations.

Diplomatic engagement requires accurate identification of authority.

Litigation requires an enforceable legal basis and a competent forum.

Reparatory delivery requires identifiable obligations, resources, beneficiaries and accountable administration.

The initiative therefore faces risks not because its objectives are inherently improper, but because different activities require different powers, methods and safeguards.

An organisation may be capable of organising a conference without being qualified to assess genealogical evidence.

It may possess historical knowledge without being authorised to represent a community.

It may possess a legitimate representative mandate without having standing before an international court.

It may obtain international attention without obtaining reparatory commitments.

It may secure a reparatory commitment without establishing that the promised remedy has reached its intended beneficiaries.

The proposed strategy must preserve these distinctions.

The purpose of this section is to examine the initiative's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, identify the principal risks and establish practical controls capable of reducing avoidable harm.

Risk assessment should not be treated as an administrative formality undertaken after the major decisions have already been made.

It should inform those decisions.

In particular, the possible government-in-exile proposal, the use of the former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens, the handling of sensitive ancestral evidence and the creation of a continuing representative institution require careful consideration before public commitments are made.

The objective is to develop a strategy that can survive historical disagreement, legal scrutiny, organisational difficulties and changes in the availability of resources.

11.2 The Strategic Importance of London's Historical Symbolism

The London proposal possesses an identifiable historical foundation.

General Charles de Gaulle established Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens in 1940.

London became an important centre for the organisation of Free France during the Second World War.

French-administered Cameroon rallied to the Free French movement in August 1940.

These events provide material for an historically grounded discussion concerning the relationship between European liberation movements, African colonial territories and the development of political authority.

However, a historical parallel does not establish legal equivalence.

Free France emerged during a war involving the occupation of an existing recognised state.

The proposed Bamiléké initiative concerns communities within and beyond the contemporary Republic of Cameroon, with multiple traditional institutions and distinct historical relationships.

The Free French precedent therefore offers a subject for historical comparison, not an automatic legal foundation for a Bamiléké government-in-exile.

The strength of the London proposal depends partly upon maintaining this distinction.

A carefully researched conference could examine the historical connection and use it to introduce questions concerning colonial accountability.

A conference that presents symbolism as proof of sovereign authority would face a different and more demanding evidential and legal burden.

The strategy should therefore distinguish the communicative significance of a historical site from the constitutional legitimacy of any institution subsequently established.

11.3 SWOT Analysis: The Proposed London and European Strategy

The following assessment concerns the proposal as currently developed. It does not assess an already established or functioning international Bamiléké institution.

Strengths	Weaknesses
Historically identifiable connection between London, Free France and Cameroon	No confirmed collective mandate from Bamiléké communities
George's specific ancestral investigation provides a concrete research starting point	Key family evidence, including the suspected 1933 arrêté, remains unverified
Existing Bamiléké diaspora associations provide potential consultation networks	No confirmed conference organising coalition
Relevant colonial archival collections exist in Cameroon and Europe	Records may be fragmented, incomplete or difficult to access
The 2025 Franco-Cameroonian commission provides substantial published historical research	Its principal remit does not directly resolve George's reported 1933 events

IBIS offers a proposed administrative framework for organising distinct reparatory functions	IBIS has not been independently validated for this specific institutional application
The strategy distinguishes historical research, representation and delivery	It requires coordination across several legal systems and professional disciplines
A London conference could provide a documented forum for consultation	No adopted budget, venue, date or governance structure
Opportunities	**Threats**
Establishing research cooperation with historians and archival institutions	Legal barriers including jurisdiction, limitation and sovereign immunity
Consulting existing Bamiléké traditional and diaspora institutions	Disagreement over historical narratives, succession or representation
Examining German and French colonial records comparatively	Misidentification or misinterpretation of historical documents
Engaging with existing colonial-history and cultural restitution programmes	Political disputes or diplomatic misunderstandings
Developing an international forum focused upon verifiable reparatory justice	Unauthorised claims of governmental or community authority
Creating transparent records of historical research and commitments	Misuse, exposure or loss of sensitive family information
Testing a coordinated claims and delivery methodology	Insufficient funding, unmanageable commitments or operational failure
Establishing lasting consultation and research relationships	Institutional capture, discrimination, conflicts of interest or exclusion

The table identifies factors requiring further investigation. It should be revised following consultation with George, relevant traditional authorities and the organisations invited to participate.

11.3.1 Interpreting the Strengths

The historical symbolism of London provides the initiative with an identifiable narrative. The connection can be explained through recognised locations, events and documentary sources rather than depending solely upon political assertion.

Existing diaspora organisations may provide access to people with experience organising international gatherings.

Historical research undertaken by the Franco-Cameroonian commission provides an additional scholarly resource, even though its principal period of investigation differs from George's suspected 1933 intervention.

The existence of colonial archives in France, Germany and Cameroon creates opportunities for reconstructing historical events through more than one administrative record.

The IBIS framework may also contribute to the organisation of information and the distinction between claims, representation, commitments and verified outcomes.

However, these strengths are not proof that the proposed institution has already acquired legitimacy or that particular claims will succeed.

They establish areas where the initiative may possess useful foundations.

11.3.2 Interpreting the Weaknesses

The most significant present limitation is the absence of a demonstrated mandate from the communities the initiative might eventually seek to represent.

George's family investigation does not automatically confer authority over other Bamiléké families or chiefdoms.

Similarly, the establishment of an organising committee in London would not establish universal Bamiléké representation.

The second major limitation concerns the evidence.

George's account identifies serious historical allegations, but the relevant family genealogy, administrative instruments, circumstances of the reported killings and history of ancestral lands require independent verification.

The third limitation concerns operational readiness.

The proposed conference has no confirmed institutional coalition, approved programme, secured budget or adopted constitutional arrangements.

These are matters to be developed, not existing accomplishments.

Acknowledging these limitations provides a more accurate basis for planning.

11.3.3 Interpreting the Opportunities

The proposed initiative could establish useful relationships with historians, archivists, traditional authorities and institutions concerned with colonial historical accountability.

The research process could produce documentary findings that are significant independently of whether litigation becomes possible.

International consultation could clarify which communities wish to cooperate and what authority they are prepared to delegate.

The London conference could also provide an opportunity to examine the government-in-exile question without requiring participants to endorse it in advance.

If appropriate institutional arrangements emerge, the initiative could develop a continuing programme for historical research, reparatory negotiations and verification of outcomes.

These possibilities should be treated as opportunities requiring action and confirmation rather than expected achievements.

11.3.4 Interpreting the Threats

The initiative may encounter major legal obstacles even where historical wrongdoing can be established.

It may also face disputes concerning customary succession, political objectives, representation and the interpretation of historical evidence.

The collection of sensitive genealogy and identity information creates potential privacy and safeguarding risks.

Financial contributions and prospective reparatory resources could create conflicts of interest.

Public presentation of the government-in-exile idea may also lead observers to misunderstand the proposed conference as an already constituted governmental movement.

These risks require clearly defined controls and accurate communication.

11.4 Risk One: Premature Declaration of a Government-in-Exile

The possibility of a Bamiléké government-in-exile has been an important part of George's thinking.

It deserves examination because it raises questions concerning historical sovereignty, colonial intervention, traditional authority and self-determination.

However, the adoption of a governmental title before establishing the relevant constitutional and representative authority could generate serious difficulties.

A self-declared government may claim powers that its members have not actually been authorised to exercise.

Its claims may conflict with those of existing traditional institutions.

Other communities may reject the suggestion that they are represented.

Foreign governments may misunderstand the nature of the initiative.

Prospective legal advisers may be required to address questions of status that are unnecessary for the immediate historical investigation.

The title may also cause confusion between a legitimate voluntary political association and a body claiming recognised sovereign authority.

The proposed control is to separate constitutional investigation from institutional establishment.

The London conference could commission research into the historical and legal possibilities of a government-in-exile.

It could examine models of political representation and traditional federation.

It could also establish a provisional reparatory justice council if the necessary participants authorise such a body.

However, a resolution to study governmental status should not be presented as a declaration that a government already exists.

Any later constitutional proposal should identify the claimed source of authority, territory, population, historical institution, representative mandate and applicable legal framework.

This would preserve the possibility of further examination without prejudging its outcome.

11.5 Risk Two: Unauthorised Occupation of 4 Carlton Gardens

The suggestion that the former Free French headquarters might be occupied or squatted arises from the desire to make a dramatic historical statement.

The building's association with Free France is established.

However, the strategic objective should be distinguished from the tactic under consideration.

An unauthorised occupation could lead to legal disputes, removal, costs, restrictions on access, safety concerns or criminal liability depending upon the circumstances.

It could affect people unconnected with the historical grievances being investigated.

It could also redirect public attention away from colonial history and reparatory justice towards a dispute over access to property.

The fact that a building has historical significance does not establish a right to occupy it.

The proposed control is to preserve the symbolism through lawful alternatives.

These could include a historical visit, an authorised ceremony, a public statement near the building, a commemorative presentation at a suitable venue or a separate international conference referring to the site's significance.

The organising committee should verify the current access arrangements and applicable requirements before arranging any activity.

No participant should be encouraged to enter or remain in premises without permission or a lawful basis.

A public ceremony should be planned with consideration for other users of the area and any relevant public-order or event-management requirements.

The historical narrative does not require the acquisition of the building.

Its commemorative significance already exists.

11.6 Risk Three: Insufficient Community Legitimacy

A central risk is that a London-based initiative might appear to claim authority over Bamiléké communities without their participation or agreement.

This could undermine confidence in the proposed institution and create disputes with traditional authorities, descendants and existing organisations.

The Bamiléké people comprise multiple communities and chiefdoms with distinct histories and institutions.

A diaspora organisation does not automatically speak for every person sharing a Bamiléké identity.

Similarly, an international conference cannot necessarily transfer ancestral authority from institutions in Cameroon to representatives in Europe.

The proposed control is a structured consultation and authorisation process.

The preparatory committee should identify the communities and organisations relevant to the proposed objectives.

It should invite them to participate without presuming consent.

Where delegates claim to act on behalf of an institution, their authority should be verified through proportionate procedures.

Mandates should identify the activities authorised and their limitations.

Non-participation should not be interpreted as agreement.

Dissent should be documented rather than suppressed.

An institution may possess a legitimate mandate to act for consenting members without claiming to represent every Bamiléké person.

That distinction should be preserved in all public communications.

11.7 Risk Four: Disputed Traditional Succession

George's family history raises questions concerning the possible replacement or displacement of traditional authority under French colonial administration.

Such issues may involve competing accounts of genealogy, legitimacy and succession.

A historical document recognising one individual as chief may not conclusively establish that the person possessed legitimate customary authority.

Similarly, a family account concerning an earlier ruler may require corroboration.

The proposed London initiative should avoid determining traditional succession through a conference vote or unilateral declaration.

Historical research should reconstruct the relevant institutions, customary procedures and colonial interventions.

The findings should be examined with appropriate community participation and regard for applicable law.

Where competing claims exist, they should be documented.

The proposed institution should not appoint traditional officeholders unless it possesses lawful and legitimate authority to do so.

Its initial responsibility should be to support historical investigation, not replace the customary or legal processes through which such matters are determined.

11.8 Risk Five: Historical Evidence Is Incomplete or Contradictory

The suspected 1933 arrêté is a central research lead, but the original instrument has not yet been independently verified.

The dates and circumstances of the deaths described by George also require examination.

Colonial administrative records may contain errors, omissions or biased interpretations.

Family testimony may preserve important information while also containing uncertainties arising from the passage of time.

The proposed control is to establish a formal evidence programme.

Every document should have a recorded source and provenance.

Oral testimony should identify how the witness obtained the information.

Translations should be connected to original documents.

Disputes and contradictions should remain visible.

Historical conclusions should be subject to appropriate independent review.

The initiative should not require researchers to reach predetermined findings.

If evidence disproves a particular assumption, the historical account should be corrected.

The objective is an accurate reconstruction capable of supporting further action where justified.

11.9 Risk Six: The Wrong Historical or Legal Attribution

The successive German, French, British and Cameroonian governmental periods create a risk of incorrectly attributing historical acts.

A family account may connect several events that occurred under different administrations.

An archival record may use territorial names that changed over time.

A particular colonial official may have acted under a different legal authority from that assumed by a contemporary researcher.

The proposed control is a chronological attribution process.

Each alleged act should be assigned an approximate or verified date.

The relevant territory and administering authority should be identified.

The administrative chain should be reconstructed where possible.

The applicable historical law should be investigated.

Responsibility should not be assigned merely because a government exercised colonial power in Cameroon at another point in time.

This distinction would be essential for any eventual legal claim.

11.10 Risk Seven: Litigation Without a Sustainable Legal Basis

The possibility of suing the French government is important to George's proposed strategy.

However, historical litigation may encounter substantial barriers, including sovereign immunity, limitation periods, jurisdiction, legal standing and the historical applicability of law.

The existence of serious historical allegations does not remove these procedural requirements.

The proposed control is to require a written legal feasibility assessment before committing substantial funds to proceedings.

The assessment should identify the proposed claimant, defendant, cause of action, competent forum, relevant law, available evidence and possible remedies.

It should also explain the principal obstacles.

Where litigation is unavailable or disproportionately costly, other forms of historical accountability or negotiated remedy may be examined.

The decision should be based upon independent advice rather than confidence alone.

An unsuccessful case could affect financial resources and future legal options.

Accordingly, claims should not be filed merely to demonstrate political determination.

11.11 Risk Eight: Confusing International Engagement with Recognition

An organisation may receive correspondence from an embassy, attend a meeting with officials or participate in an academic conference without receiving governmental recognition.

A research partnership does not establish sovereign authority.

An invitation to speak does not establish universal community representation.

The proposed control is an institutional engagement register.

Each relationship should be described according to its actual terms.

Acknowledgment of correspondence should be recorded as acknowledgment.

A meeting should be recorded as a meeting.

Research assistance should be recorded as research assistance.

Formal recognition, where relevant, should only be reported when an appropriate authority has expressly provided it.

The proposed institution should avoid presenting institutional logos, correspondence or photographs in a manner implying support that has not been given.

Accurate reporting would help preserve confidence in its external relationships.

11.12 Risk Nine: Financial Mismanagement and Conflicts of Interest

An international conference requires funding. A continuing institution may later administer research grants, donations, contractual payments or reparatory resources.

These activities create financial risks.

Money received for a conference may be confused with money intended for historical research. Funds allocated to investigate claims may be used for unrelated organisational activity. Officeholders may possess personal or commercial interests in suppliers, contractors or affiliated organisations.

A particularly serious risk would arise if an institution responsible for representing claimants also exercised unrestricted control over resources intended for those claimants.

The proposed initiative should therefore establish financial governance arrangements before accepting substantial funds.

A preliminary budget should identify the intended expenditure.

Funds received for restricted purposes should be separately recorded.

Significant expenditure should require appropriate authorisation.

Officeholders should disclose financial or organisational conflicts of interest.

Where a conflict exists, the person concerned should not control the relevant decision.

The Charity Commission's guidance for trustees in England and Wales provides useful governance principles concerning identifying, declaring, managing and recording conflicts of interest. Its guidance was updated in April 2026. Although these specific trustee duties would not automatically apply to every possible organisational form, the principles provide a relevant governance reference.



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Any eventual reparatory fund would require additional arrangements appropriate to the nature and scale of the resources administered.

A conference organising committee should not automatically become the custodian of collective reparations.

The proposed constitution should distinguish organisational operating funds from resources held for authorised beneficiaries.

11.13 Risk Ten: Institutional Capture

Institutional capture occurs when a body established for a particular purpose becomes controlled by interests that divert its activities away from those it is supposed to serve.

For the proposed Bamiléké initiative, potential sources of capture could include founders, officeholders, financial contributors, political organisations, external governments, commercial contractors or technical service providers.

Capture need not involve an obvious unlawful act.

It may develop gradually through appointment procedures, control of information, financial dependence, exclusion of alternative representatives or the concentration of decision-making powers.

For example, a founding committee might initially be established to organise a conference.

If it subsequently appoints itself as the permanent representative of all Bamiléké people without obtaining new authority, its institutional position would have changed substantially.

Likewise, a researcher given access to family records should not thereby acquire authority over the family's reparatory claims.

A technical system holding claimant information should not become the mechanism through which its operator determines who is entitled to represent communities.

The proposed controls should include defined mandates, limited terms of office, transparent appointments, independent oversight, conflict-of-interest procedures and the right to challenge unauthorised decisions.

A provisional institution should be subject to periodic constitutional review.

Its members should be able to determine whether its powers remain appropriate.

No founding individual or organisation should possess permanent authority merely because it initiated the process.

11.14 Risk Eleven: Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism

The proposed initiative concerns historical experiences of African communities under European colonial administration.

Its activities may involve institutions whose organisational structures, historical records and decision-making procedures require critical examination.

Safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism should therefore form an explicit part of the strategy.

The purpose is not to presume that every institution approached has engaged in discriminatory conduct.

Nor is it necessary to make accusations before asking whether effective safeguards exist.

The initiative may legitimately seek information about the procedures through which decisions are made, complaints are considered, evidence is evaluated and affected people are represented.

The proposed institution should hold itself to comparable standards.

It should adopt a written anti-discrimination policy and accessible complaints procedure.

Decisions affecting access to research assistance, membership, representation or benefits should be transparent and reviewable.

Where a complaint concerns an officeholder, the review should not be controlled solely by that person.

The institution should also examine whether apparently neutral procedures produce unjustified exclusion of particular groups.

For example, an archival process dependent entirely upon expensive international travel may disadvantage people without the necessary resources.

A conference conducted only in English may exclude individuals whose knowledge is primarily communicated in French or a Bamiléké language.

A system requiring European documentary evidence for every ancestral claim may overlook relevant African customary and oral evidence.

Such concerns should be examined through the actual circumstances rather than assumed outcomes.

The initiative should provide a documented mechanism for identifying and correcting unfair procedures.

11.15 Risk Twelve: Misuse of Ancestral Identity and Genealogical Information

A reparatory justice programme may require information concerning ancestry, family relationships, traditional membership and racial or ethnic identity.

Some of this information may be particularly sensitive.

The UK Information Commissioner's Office identifies personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin as special category data requiring additional protection under the UK GDPR.

ICO

The proposed initiative should not assume that its historical or reparatory purposes remove these responsibilities.

A person may agree to discuss their family history privately without authorising the publication of every detail.

A traditional authority may provide a genealogy for research without consenting to unrestricted distribution.

An individual may publicly identify as Bamiléké without granting permission for an organisation to publish disputed family relationships or legal claims.

The proposed IBIS implementation should therefore distinguish information intended for public access from information requiring restricted access.

The collection process should explain the purpose for which each category of information is being obtained.

Only information necessary for the relevant authorised purpose should be collected.

Participants should have appropriate opportunities to correct inaccuracies.

The use of sensitive information in demonstrations should be restricted to fictional, anonymised or specifically authorised material.

Data protection arrangements should be examined before real claimant information is entered into a live system.

11.16 Risk Thirteen: Confusing Historical Evidence with Political Conclusions

Historical evidence may be relevant to political and constitutional questions, but it should not be forced into predetermined conclusions.

For example, the discovery of evidence that a traditional ruler was removed under French administration may support a historical finding concerning that removal.

It does not automatically establish that a contemporary government-in-exile is legally entitled to govern the territory.

Similarly, evidence of land dispossession may support a claim requiring legal examination.

It does not automatically determine how current occupants, descendants, traditional authorities or other rights holders should be treated.

The proposed control is to separate the historical research process from constitutional decision-making.

Historians should examine what happened.

Legal specialists should examine the legal implications.

Traditional authorities and affected communities should participate in decisions within their legitimate authority.

The conference should not determine contested historical facts through majority voting.

Nor should a research report be rewritten merely because its findings complicate a political proposal.

The integrity of the evidence must be preserved.

11.17 Risk Fourteen: Excessive Dependence on George T. Nomen

George's historical investigation and institutional proposals provide an important starting point.

However, an initiative intended to develop international community relationships should not depend entirely upon one individual.

George may possess unique family knowledge and important community contacts.

Nevertheless, he should not be required personally to undertake every research, organisational, financial, diplomatic and legal responsibility.

Such dependence would create operational risks.

Illness, travel difficulties, changing circumstances, financial pressures or disagreements could interrupt the entire programme.

The proposed initiative should therefore distribute responsibilities according to expertise and legitimate authority.

George's family information should remain subject to his appropriate control and consent.

Other participants could undertake research, communications and conference administration under agreed arrangements.

The institutional structure should preserve records and decisions so that authorised work can continue without relying exclusively upon individual recollection.

At the same time, delegation should not result in George losing control over personal rights or claims that belong to him.

Continuity and personal autonomy must be maintained together.

11.18 Risk Fifteen: Overdependence on Reparation Nation Limited or IBIS

Reparation Nation Limited and IBIS may contribute organisational and technical capacity to the proposed initiative.

However, neither should become indispensable to the point that the participating communities lose control over their own programme.

The proposed institution should be able to examine alternative administrative arrangements.

It should retain access to its authorised records.

It should understand the financial and technical implications of adopting a particular system.

It should be able to terminate an arrangement according to lawful and agreed procedures.

IBIS should be evaluated independently before operational adoption.

The Identity Engine and Five-Factor Engine must remain distinct.

Identity should not automatically determine membership.

Membership should not automatically establish representation.

Recognition should not automatically establish entitlement.

Technical arrangements must not override legal or community authority.

The project should also distinguish features that have been designed, saved or demonstrated from features that have actually been tested and verified.

A decision to adopt software should be based upon evidence of suitability for the intended purpose.

An independent institution should not acquire ownership of affected people's rights merely by operating the technology used to administer records.

11.19 Risk Sixteen: Conference Publicity Without Substantive Outcomes

An international conference may attract media attention, prominent speakers and expressions of support.

These activities may contribute to public awareness.

However, they do not necessarily establish that substantive work has been completed.

The proposed London event could produce powerful images near 4 Carlton Gardens and still fail to advance historical research or reparatory justice.

The organisers should therefore establish measurable deliverables before the conference.

These might include an agreed archival research plan, verified institutional contacts, a consultation record, proposed governance arrangements and a timetable for further investigation.

Where resolutions are adopted, each should identify an authorised person or institution responsible for implementation.

The conference report should distinguish actions proposed from actions completed.

Publicity should accurately reflect the progress achieved.

A successful symbolic ceremony should not be presented as proof that an internationally recognised government has been created.

A declaration supporting reparations should not be presented as evidence that reparations have been delivered.

11.20 Risk Seventeen: Political and Diplomatic Misunderstanding

The proposed government-in-exile question may be interpreted differently by Bamiléké communities, Cameroonian governmental institutions, French officials and international observers.

Some may understand it as a proposal concerning reparatory representation.

Others may interpret it as a claim to territorial independence or a challenge to existing state authority.

The proposed conference should therefore define its terms carefully.

The organisers should explain which matters are being investigated and which decisions have not yet been taken.

A council established to coordinate historical claims should be described accordingly.

A voluntary federation should identify its participating institutions.

A proposal to study governmental status should not be announced as the establishment of a government.

Formal communications should accurately distinguish the constitutional ambitions of individual participants from the adopted positions of authorised organisations.

The conference should preserve the opportunity for participants with different constitutional perspectives to cooperate upon common historical and reparatory questions.

This would reduce avoidable disagreement arising from unclear terminology.

11.21 Risk Eighteen: The Exclusion of Cameroon-Based Communities

A European-based initiative could become dominated by participants with the financial resources, travel documents and international contacts necessary to attend meetings abroad.

That would be particularly problematic where the historical rights under investigation concern ancestral territories and traditional institutions located in Cameroon.

The proposed conference should not permit geographical accessibility to determine political legitimacy.

Consultation should begin with affected communities rather than take place only after a London institution has been created.

Remote participation should be available where practical.

Important documents should be accessible in appropriate languages.

Traditional institutions should have opportunities to examine proposals before decisions affecting their interests are made.

The conference may need to establish consultation sessions in Cameroon or work through legitimately authorised local representatives.

Participation arrangements should also consider the needs of women, young people and descendants outside established institutional structures.

However, broad participation should not be confused with authority to represent others.

The objective is meaningful consultation combined with accurate recognition of the mandates actually granted.

11.22 Risk Nineteen: Internal Disputes and Institutional Fragmentation

Disagreements may arise concerning historical events, the proper role of traditional authorities, the government-in-exile proposal, financial resources or the constitution of a provisional council.

Such disagreements should be anticipated.

The proposed institution should adopt procedures for documenting and addressing them.

It should distinguish disagreement about historical evidence from a dispute concerning representative authority.

A historical disagreement may require further research.

A constitutional disagreement may require consultation or amendment.

A financial dispute may require independent review.

A personal complaint may require a separate fair process.

The institution should not treat every objection as obstruction.

Nor should unresolved disputes prevent progress on matters where legitimate agreement exists.

For example, participants may disagree about the creation of a government-in-exile while agreeing to cooperate in searching for the suspected 1933 French administrative order.

The governance framework should permit such cooperation without forcing premature agreement upon wider constitutional questions.

11.23 Risk Twenty: Reparatory Resources Failing to Reach Intended Beneficiaries

The failure of resources to reach intended beneficiaries is one of the most consequential risks for any reparatory justice programme.

Money, land, cultural property or services may be promised to affected people but administered through intermediaries.

Those intermediaries may exercise legitimate responsibilities, but their authority and accountability must be established.

The proposed institution should therefore distinguish the person or body receiving resources from the ultimate intended beneficiary.

Where an intermediary is authorised, the scope of its responsibilities should be recorded.

Where resources are held for a collective purpose, the governance arrangements should identify how the community participates in decisions concerning their use.

Financial transactions should be properly accounted for.

The completion of a transfer to an intermediary should not automatically be described as completed reparatory delivery.

IBIS and the Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence model could assist in distinguishing commitments, allocations, transfers and verified receipt.

However, verification should be undertaken according to appropriate independent procedures.

The central safeguard is that no institution should be able to declare success merely because it has received resources intended for others.

11.24 Consolidated Strategic Risk Register

The following register provides an initial operational framework. Risk levels are preliminary planning judgments, not statistically calculated probabilities.

Risk	Indicative concern	Required control
Premature government-in-exile claim	Critical institutional consequence	Constitutional research and verified mandate
Unauthorised building occupation	Significant legal and safety exposure	Lawful ceremony and separate conference venue
Unverified ancestry or colonial allegations	Significant evidential consequence	Independent archival investigation
Disputed traditional succession	Significant legitimacy consequence	Community consultation and customary-law research
Lack of representative mandate	Critical institutional consequence	Documented authorisation
Wrong historical attribution	Significant legal and reputational consequence	Chronological reconstruction
Unviable litigation	Significant financial consequence	Preliminary legal feasibility opinion
Misrepresentation of recognition	Significant credibility consequence	Institutional engagement register
Financial conflicts	Significant fiduciary consequence	Conflict disclosures and expenditure controls
Institutional capture	Critical governance consequence	Limited mandates, review and removal procedures
Discrimination	Significant individual and institutional harm	Written safeguards and independent complaints process

Misuse of sensitive identity data	Significant privacy and legal consequence	Data governance and access controls
Dependence on individuals	Operational continuity risk	Delegation and succession arrangements
Technology dependency	Operational and governance risk	Independent assessment and data portability
Exclusion of Cameroon-based communities	Critical legitimacy consequence	Direct consultation and accessible participation
Conference without implementation	Strategic delivery failure	Assigned responsibilities and reporting
Resources diverted from beneficiaries	Critical reparatory delivery consequence	Independent financial and beneficiary verification

The register should be reviewed periodically.

Its assessments should change when new evidence or circumstances justify revision.

11.25 Institutional Safeguards: The Minimum Governance Framework

Before establishing a continuing body, the participants should agree upon a minimum governance framework.

The framework should identify the institution's legal or organisational status, purpose and authorised functions.

It should establish who may become a member and how representative authority is verified.

It should define the powers of officeholders.

It should provide procedures for appointments, elections or other legitimate selection methods.

It should require conflicts of interest to be declared.

It should establish financial controls.

It should provide complaints, review and appeals procedures appropriate to the decisions being made.

It should preserve the rights of communities that have not joined.

It should regulate the use of historical and personal information.

It should establish the circumstances under which constitutional changes may be made.

It should also provide a process for withdrawal and dissolution.

These safeguards should exist before the institution is entrusted with substantial resources or authority over sensitive claims.

The ability to adopt a constitution is not the same as the ability to demonstrate compliance with it.

Records should therefore be maintained showing how the procedures operate in practice.

11.26 Independent Historical and Legal Oversight

The proposed initiative should establish a distinction between those advancing a historical claim and those evaluating its supporting evidence.

George may legitimately possess strong convictions concerning what happened to his ancestors.

A community organisation may consider particular historical events central to its identity.

Nevertheless, an evidence dossier intended for legal or institutional scrutiny should be capable of independent examination.

Historians should review the relevant documents.

Genealogical specialists should assess family relationships where necessary.

Experts in customary institutions should assist in reconstructing traditional authority.

Legal specialists should consider the law applicable to the proposed claims.

The findings should identify uncertainties, contradictions and limitations.

Where relevant, independent reviewers should be able to recommend further investigation.

The institution should preserve the distinction between a historian's finding, a legal opinion, a court determination and a political resolution.

No single form of review should be presented as resolving matters beyond its competence.

11.27 A Contingency Plan if the 1933 Arrêté Cannot Be Found

The absence of the suspected 1933 instrument would create an important research difficulty.

It would not necessarily terminate the historical investigation.

The research team should first determine which collections have been searched and whether the document may have been recorded under a different title, date, administrative reference or spelling.

Related correspondence may survive even if the original order does not.

Later administrative decisions may refer to the earlier instrument.

Official journals may contain summaries.

Military, missionary or diplomatic records may describe the consequences of an administrative action.

Community testimony may identify the relevant events independently.

The investigation should therefore reconstruct the surrounding historical circumstances.

However, if the available evidence remains insufficient, the report must say so.

A document that has not been located should not be described as verified.

An allegation should not be converted into an established fact merely because researchers have invested considerable effort in pursuing it.

The appropriate outcome may be a provisional finding, an unresolved question or a revised hypothesis.

Such outcomes should be recorded openly.

11.28 A Contingency Plan if Litigation Is Not Viable

Independent legal advice may conclude that particular claims face insurmountable procedural barriers or lack a presently identifiable cause of action.

If that occurs, the historical investigation may still possess value.

The proposed institution could examine other lawful forms of historical accountability.

These might include requests for archival disclosure, independent historical research, formal acknowledgment, cultural restoration, memorialisation or negotiated programmes.

Where affected communities wish to pursue political or diplomatic engagement, their representatives should possess an appropriate mandate.

Any proposed remedy should be described according to its actual legal or voluntary status.

The absence of litigation should not be concealed.

Nor should a proposed negotiation be misrepresented as an enforceable legal claim.

The strategic response should be to identify which legitimate objectives remain achievable and what evidence or authority they require.

11.29 A Contingency Plan if the London Conference Is Opposed or Postponed

The proposed conference may encounter objections concerning its location, aims, representation or constitutional proposals.

These objections should be examined rather than dismissed automatically.

If relevant traditional authorities or diaspora organisations consider the consultation inadequate, the preparatory committee should review its approach.

If funding is insufficient, contractual commitments should be avoided or reduced.

If international travel is impractical, a smaller hybrid consultation could be considered.

If the government-in-exile question generates substantial disagreement, it could be reserved for a separate constitutional forum.

If the historical research is not sufficiently developed, the conference could concentrate upon defining the research programme rather than presenting conclusions.

Postponement should not be treated as an institutional failure where it prevents unauthorised commitments or unmanageable costs.

The proposed initiative should preserve continuity of research and consultation independently of any particular event date.

11.30 A Contingency Plan if the Government-in-Exile Proposal Is Rejected

Participants may decide that a government-in-exile is not the institution they wish to establish.

This would not necessarily prevent them from pursuing historical accountability or reparatory justice.

A provisional council, international congress, research foundation or voluntary federation could still coordinate authorised activities.

The historical evidence programme would remain relevant.

The need to identify legitimate claimants would remain.

The question of available remedies would remain.

International engagement could continue within the actual authority of participating organisations.

IBIS could still be examined as a possible administrative framework.

The government-in-exile question should therefore be treated as one constitutional option rather than the sole basis upon which the initiative can proceed.

The conference's legitimacy would be strengthened by respecting the decisions of the participants who possess the authority to determine its institutional direction.

11.31 A Contingency Plan for Disputes Over Reparatory Entitlement

If historical research eventually supports claims concerning ancestral land, succession or compensation, disagreements may arise over entitlement.

Several descendants may assert interests in the same historical rights.

Different family branches may provide conflicting genealogies.

Traditional institutions may disagree with individual claimants.

Contemporary occupants or other rights holders may possess interests that must be considered.

The proposed institution should not resolve such disputes arbitrarily.

It should establish a procedure for recording conflicting claims, preserving relevant evidence and referring matters to appropriate decision-makers.

Where legal rights are contested, independent legal procedures may be necessary.

The existence of a historical injustice should not be used to justify depriving another person of rights without due process.

The objective is reparatory justice, not the creation of new dispossession.

11.32 A Contingency Plan for Institutional Failure

A provisional institution may become unable to perform its responsibilities.

It may lose funding, experience internal disputes, fail to maintain adequate records or become subject to credible allegations of misconduct.

Its founding instrument should anticipate these possibilities.

There should be procedures for reviewing performance, replacing officeholders, suspending particular activities and commissioning independent investigation where necessary.

The institution should preserve historical evidence even if its organisational structure changes.

Claimant records should remain subject to the rights and permissions under which they were collected.

Financial resources should be safeguarded according to their legal status and intended purpose.

No officeholder should acquire personal ownership of institutional records or assets merely because the organisation ceases to function.

If dissolution becomes necessary, it should occur through the procedures established by the constitution and applicable law.

11.33 The Importance of Reversible Institutional Decisions

The proposed initiative should avoid making irreversible decisions before the relevant evidence and authority are established.

An initial research agreement can be limited in duration.

A preparatory committee can possess a temporary mandate.

A conference declaration can expressly reserve unresolved constitutional questions.

A provisional council can be subject to review.

A technical demonstration can use fictional data.

A proposed litigation strategy can be assessed before proceedings are commenced.

These approaches preserve the opportunity to correct mistakes.

Some decisions, however, may have irreversible consequences.

A binding settlement may release legal claims.

A transfer of property may alter rights.

Public disclosure of sensitive family information may be impossible to reverse.

A contractual financial obligation may remain enforceable even if conference plans change.

Such decisions require stronger scrutiny and appropriate authorisation.

The strategy should therefore favour proportionate, documented and reviewable development while recognising that some actions require definitive commitment.

11.34 Monitoring and Reviewing Strategic Risk

The preparatory committee should establish regular risk reviews.

The frequency should reflect the level of activity and the seriousness of the decisions being considered.

During initial planning, risks could be reviewed at each formal committee meeting.

Before major contractual, constitutional or legal decisions, a specific review should be undertaken.

The review should identify what has changed, whether existing controls remain adequate and who is responsible for further action.

New historical evidence may alter the legal assessment.

New participating organisations may require changes to governance arrangements.

Additional funding may introduce new accountability obligations.

The proposed adoption of technical systems may create data-protection and security requirements.

Changes should therefore be assessed rather than treated as automatically beneficial.

A risk register that is never reviewed would provide little practical protection.

11.35 The Role of Transparency in Maintaining Legitimacy

Transparency is essential to the proposed initiative, but it should not be confused with unrestricted publication of every document.

Public transparency should concern institutional authority, governance, finances, general research methodology, adopted resolutions and the progress of authorised activities.

Confidentiality may be appropriate for sensitive family records, personal information, legal advice, protected testimony and certain negotiations.

The institution should establish clear rules determining which information is public, which is restricted and who has authority to make disclosure decisions.

The distinction should be explained to participants.

Where access is refused, the reason should be recorded where appropriate.

Corrections to public information should be published transparently.

The institution should not use confidentiality as a general means of concealing misconduct or avoiding accountability.

Equally, it should not sacrifice individual rights merely to demonstrate openness.

The objective is responsible transparency.

11.36 How IBIS Could Support Risk Management

IBIS could be examined as a framework for organising the records required to manage institutional risks.

It may assist with distinguishing identity from membership, membership from representation, and representation from recognition.

It may help record historical claims separately from supporting evidence.

It may support the maintenance of authorised mandates and decision histories.

It may distinguish proposed reparatory commitments from actual obligations and verified delivery.

However, a digital architecture cannot eliminate governance risks by itself.

A system may accurately record a decision that was made without legitimate authority.

It may contain evidence whose authenticity has not been established.

It may preserve an inaccurate genealogy if the underlying information was incorrect.

It may display a delivery status supplied by an institution without independent verification.

The proposed initiative should therefore evaluate the quality of its governance procedures alongside any technical system.

The technology should support accountable human and institutional decision-making rather than substitute for it.

The Identity Engine and Five-Factor Engine must remain distinct, and no technical classification should automatically create membership, governmental authority or reparatory entitlement.

11.37 Strategic Decision Gates Before the Conference

The initiative could use a series of decision gates to determine whether it is ready to progress.

Decision gate	Required demonstration
Initial cooperation	George and supporting participants agree on the proposal's scope
Community consultation	Relevant communities and organisations have been approached without presumed consent

Preparatory authority	An organising committee has an adopted mandate
Historical accuracy	Public claims are supported or clearly identified as under investigation
Financial readiness	Major commitments are supported by confirmed resources
Legal readiness	Proposed activities have received appropriate compliance review
Representation	Delegates' mandates are recorded where required
Conference readiness	Programme, venue, participation rules and safeguards are confirmed
Constitutional decision	Any institution established has a valid founding instrument and actual authorisation
Operational deployment	Technical and administrative systems have been appropriately assessed
Reparatory negotiation	Representatives possess authority to negotiate the matters concerned
Final delivery	The intended remedy has been independently verified where required

Failure to satisfy one gate should trigger review of the relevant activity.

It should not automatically require cancellation of every other aspect of the programme.

For example, archival research could continue while constitutional questions remain unresolved.

Similarly, a public historical conference could take place without establishing a provisional council.

The purpose is to ensure that each activity proceeds according to its own requirements.

11.38 The Strategic Difference Between a Radical Gesture and a Radical Institution

George's consideration of occupying the former Free French headquarters reflects an interest in making a visible historical statement.

The proposed London strategy offers an opportunity to consider what kind of intervention could have lasting significance.

A temporary occupation might generate publicity.

A historical ceremony might communicate symbolism.

A conference might generate relationships and declarations.

An authorised institution might coordinate continuing work.

A properly documented historical case might establish facts capable of supporting legal or diplomatic action.

A reparatory administration might eventually help ensure that agreed remedies reach intended beneficiaries.

These are different forms of activity.

The significance of each depends upon its purpose and consequences.

The proposed initiative should not assume that physical confrontation is necessary to demonstrate seriousness.

Equally, it should not assume that the adoption of formal institutional language is sufficient to achieve substantive results.

A continuing organisation must demonstrate that it can perform its responsibilities.

The strategic question is whether the chosen methods advance historical investigation, legitimate representation and the pursuit of reparatory justice.

The answer must be established through outcomes rather than appearances.

11.39 Conclusion to Section Eleven

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative possesses identifiable historical foundations and potentially significant opportunities for institutional cooperation.

Its connection with Free France provides a meaningful historical subject.

George T. Nomen's family investigation provides a concrete evidential starting point.

Existing Bamiléké organisations and traditional institutions provide potential relationships for consultation.

Relevant archives in Cameroon, France and Germany provide possible sources of historical evidence.

Contemporary historical research, including the Franco-Cameroonian commission's work, provides an additional foundation for investigation.

IBIS may offer an architecture through which evidence, identity, representation, claims, commitments and delivery could be organised.

However, these possibilities are accompanied by substantial risks.

The key historical allegations require verification.

The representative mandate for a collective international initiative has not yet been established.

The government-in-exile proposal raises complex constitutional and international legal questions.

Historical litigation may face jurisdictional, temporal and immunity barriers.

A conference could generate publicity without creating the institutional capacity necessary for subsequent work.

A continuing organisation could become vulnerable to conflicts of interest, discrimination, financial mismanagement or institutional capture.

Sensitive ancestral information could be mishandled.

Prospective reparatory resources could be diverted or incorrectly distributed.

These risks do not determine whether the initiative should proceed.

They identify the safeguards and decisions required for responsible development.

The proposed strategy should therefore proceed through evidence, consultation, authorisation, independent review and accountable implementation.

A London conference should not be presented as the establishment of a government unless a separate and defensible constitutional process supports that conclusion.

The former Free French headquarters should serve as a historical reference rather than an assumed property entitlement.

Existing traditional authorities and communities should not be displaced by an organisation formed overseas.

Historical findings should remain independent of political expectations.

Legal proceedings should not be initiated without appropriate feasibility analysis.

Reparatory commitments should not be described as delivered until their implementation has been verified.

The central principle is that an institution established to pursue justice must itself operate through legitimate authority, accurate evidence, fair procedures and accountable administration.

The proposed London strategy should be assessed according to those requirements.

Its purpose should be to support affected people in investigating their history, determining their representation and pursuing appropriate remedies without reproducing the forms of unaccountable authority that may lie at the centre of their historical grievances.

The success of the initiative would therefore depend not simply upon the scale of its ambitions, but upon the care with which its responsibilities are defined and the reliability with which they are performed.

Research references for Section Eleven

1. English Heritage — General Charles de Gaulle, 4 Carlton Gardens. Historical identification of the former Free French headquarters.



English Heritage

2. Charity Commission — Conflicts of Interest Guidance (CC29). Institutional procedures for identifying and managing conflicts, updated April 2026.



GOV.UK

3. Information Commissioner's Office — Special Category Data. UK data-protection guidance concerning racial and ethnic information and other sensitive personal data.



ICO

4. International Court of Justice — Jurisdictional Immunities of the State, Germany v Italy (2012). Relevant precedent concerning sovereign immunity in historical civil claims.

5. United Nations — Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation. Framework for considering reparatory remedies.

END OF SECTION ELEVEN

NEXT — SECTION TWELVE (FINAL): THE CONSOLIDATED EUROPEAN AND LONDON STRATEGY FOR GEORGE T. NOMEN — Strategic Conclusions, Founding Decisions, Priority Organisations, Immediate Correspondence, the First 30/90/180 Days, Conference Milestones, Institutional Responsibilities and the Practical Path from Historical Evidence to Reparatory Justice.

SECTION TWELVE — FINAL SECTION

THE CONSOLIDATED EUROPEAN AND LONDON-BASED STRATEGY FOR BAMILÉKÉ REPARATORY JUSTICE

Final Strategic Conclusions, Institutional Choices, Priority Organisations, Historical Evidence, Diplomatic Engagement, Implementation Responsibilities and the Practical Roadmap for George T. Nomen

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Final Strategic Proposal for Consultation — Not an Adopted Governmental, Constitutional or Community Mandate







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The strategy connects London's documented Free French history with the Bamiléké communities' distinct histories, institutions and possible reparatory justice objectives.

12.1 Introduction: Bringing the Historical, Legal and Institutional Proposals Together

This final section consolidates the European and London-based strategy developed for consideration by George T. Nomen and interested Bamiléké individuals, families, traditional authorities, community organisations and diaspora networks.

The strategy originates in two connected propositions.

The first concerns George T. Nomen's efforts to establish the historical circumstances affecting his ancestors during successive European colonial administrations of Cameroon.

George has described family experiences involving alleged killings, interference with traditional authority, ancestral land dispossession and the possible replacement of a relative identified as Ngantcha.

He has also identified a French colonial administrative instrument, believed to date from approximately 1933, as a potentially significant source of evidence.

These matters require careful documentary investigation.

The second proposition concerns George's interest in establishing an international political or representative institution capable of pursuing reparatory justice.

His suggestion of a government-in-exile draws upon the historical precedent of Free France, whose movement and institutions were organised from London during the Second World War.

The historical association between London and Free France creates an opportunity to consider whether London could provide an appropriate location for an international Bamiléké conference examining historical accountability, collective representation and reparatory justice.

This document has examined those propositions through historical, archival, constitutional, diplomatic, legal and administrative perspectives.

Its purpose has been to identify a possible route from individual historical investigation towards collective institutional cooperation.

However, the establishment of an international conference, the creation of a representative council and the recognition of a government are distinct developments.

None follows automatically from another.

Similarly, evidence that a historical wrong occurred does not automatically establish the legal entitlement of every descendant or the authority of a particular organisation to negotiate reparations.

The proposed strategy must therefore be founded upon historical accuracy, community authorisation, institutional accountability and the verifiable implementation of agreed obligations.

The central conclusion is that a London-based initiative could provide a coordinated framework for investigating and pursuing reparatory justice, provided that its organisers establish legitimate authority, respect affected communities and adopt procedures appropriate to the activities undertaken.

12.2 The Central Strategic Proposition

The proposed initiative would establish London as a possible centre for international consultation and coordination concerning Bamiléké reparatory justice.

Its functions could include convening participating communities, developing historical research partnerships, coordinating archival enquiries, seeking legal advice, communicating with governmental institutions and examining arrangements for administering reparatory claims.

The proposed European network would focus upon the jurisdictions and institutions most relevant to the historical investigation.

France would be central to enquiries concerning French colonial administration, including George's suspected 1933 arrêté.

Germany would be relevant to the earlier colonial period and the reconstruction of ancestral territorial and political arrangements.

The United Kingdom would provide the proposed conference location, relevant archival and academic resources, and the historical association with the Free French movement.

Cameroon would remain central because the ancestral communities, traditional institutions, territorial interests and important historical records are situated there.

Other jurisdictions could be included where relevant evidence, expertise, participants or institutional relationships are identified.

The purpose would not be to relocate Bamiléké sovereignty or traditional authority to Europe.

It would be to establish international capacity in support of people and institutions that possess, or may establish, legitimate interests and authority.

A London centre should therefore be understood as a proposed operational and diplomatic location rather than an assumed seat of sovereign government.

12.3 The Historical Meaning of 4 Carlton Gardens

The former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens provides the most distinctive historical symbol associated with the proposal.

General Charles de Gaulle established the headquarters of the Free French Forces there in July 1940.

The building is recognised through a commemorative plaque identifying its association with the Free French movement.

The historical importance of the location is that Free France organised military, political and international activities from London while France was divided by defeat, occupation and competing claims to governmental authority.

Cameroon's relationship with Free France creates an additional historical subject.

French-administered Cameroon rallied to the Free French movement in August 1940.

The contribution of African territories to Free France deserves examination alongside subsequent French colonial policies, political repression and the development of independence movements.

The proposed Bamiléké conference could use this historical connection to frame questions concerning international political organisation, historical accountability and colonial responsibility.

However, the circumstances of Free France and a contemporary Bamiléké initiative are not legally identical.

Free France claimed to continue the government of an existing state during wartime.

A proposed Bamiléké government-in-exile would require independent investigation of its claimed source of authority, territorial basis, relationship with Cameroon and international legal status.

The historical symbolism should therefore support constitutional discussion rather than substitute for it.

The strategic proposal is to preserve the association with 4 Carlton Gardens through an appropriately authorised historical ceremony, public statement or commemorative activity.

The substantive international conference could take place at a separate venue capable of accommodating delegates, researchers and institutional participants.

This approach would permit the historical argument to be communicated without making physical occupation of the building necessary.

12.4 The Decision Concerning Squatting or Occupation

George has considered whether physically occupying the former Free French headquarters might provide a dramatic symbolic action.

This possibility should be assessed against the objectives of the proposed initiative.

The central historical point can be communicated without obtaining possession of the premises.

An unauthorised occupation could create legal, financial, safety and organisational difficulties.

It could also shift attention from the historical and reparatory issues towards a dispute concerning property access.

The proposed alternative is to distinguish the commemorative use of the location from the creation of a continuing institution.

A lawful public ceremony could provide the symbolic connection.

A formally organised conference could examine the historical and constitutional questions.

An appropriately authorised council could carry forward any continuing work agreed by participating communities.

The former headquarters would remain an historical reference point.

It would not need to become the physical headquarters of the proposed organisation.

Before any event at Carlton Gardens, the organisers should verify the relevant access arrangements, current ownership or occupation where material, and the requirements applicable to the proposed activities.

12.5 The Primary Institutional Decision

The principal institutional question is not whether a government-in-exile can be proclaimed.

It is what form of authority is required to perform the functions sought by the people concerned.

Several institutional possibilities have been examined.

An international Bamiléké congress could provide a forum for consultation, historical discussion and agreed programmes.

A provisional reparatory justice council could coordinate specifically authorised activities.

A federation of participating traditional authorities could provide a different form of representation where those institutions agree to cooperate under a common arrangement.

A research foundation could preserve evidence and support academic investigation.

A claims commission could examine submitted historical claims according to an appropriately established mandate.

A government-in-exile would raise additional constitutional and international legal questions.

The proposed London conference should examine these options without predetermining which arrangement participants must adopt.

One possible initial outcome would be the establishment of a provisional reparatory justice council possessing limited, clearly defined powers.

Such a council could begin historical research and international correspondence while wider constitutional questions remain unresolved.

Any future governmental proposal would require a separate process supported by historical evidence, legal advice and appropriate community authorisation.

The authority of the institution should arise from the people and organisations entitled to grant it.

It should not arise merely from the adoption of an impressive title.

12.6 The Position of George T. Nomen

George's historical investigation should remain a distinct and identifiable component of the wider initiative.

His account concerning Ngantcha, ancestral authority, alleged killings and land dispossession provides a concrete case through which the proposed research methodology can be developed.

The immediate objective should be to establish the relevant family genealogy, identify the ancestral community, locate the suspected 1933 French administrative instrument and reconstruct the historical events.

George should retain appropriate control over the disclosure of his personal and family information.

He should be able to authorise researchers to examine evidence without automatically transferring authority to settle family claims.

His contribution to the international strategy should be recognised.

However, his family investigation should not automatically establish authority over unrelated Bamiléké communities.

If George wishes to participate in the proposed preparatory committee or a future council, the nature and scope of his responsibilities should be recorded.

If he seeks a broader political role, the appropriate mandate and constitutional basis would require separate examination.

This distinction protects the integrity of both his personal investigation and the proposed collective initiative.

12.7 The Position of Reparation Nation Limited

Reparation Nation Limited could be considered as a supporting organisation within the proposed strategy.

Its possible contribution would concern conference planning, international correspondence, research coordination, strategic documentation, evidence-management methods and the examination of reparatory delivery systems.

The exact relationship should be established through an agreement with the appropriate participants.

Reparation Nation Limited should not automatically possess authority to represent Bamiléké communities, control ancestral claims or administer resources intended for claimants.

Any financial or technical responsibilities should be defined separately.

This would permit organisational cooperation without confusing administrative support with representative legitimacy.

The organisation could also contribute the experience developed through its work concerning IBIS and Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence.

Those systems could be examined by interested participants without being imposed as conditions of community involvement.

12.8 The Continuing Importance of the Historical Evidence

Historical evidence remains the foundation of the entire strategy.

The proposed conference would lose much of its substantive purpose if it became disconnected from the need to establish what occurred.

George's suspected 1933 arrêté should therefore remain a priority research target.

Researchers should identify the relevant French administrative authorities, official publications, archival series and associated correspondence.

Parallel enquiries should be made to institutions in Cameroon and France.

German colonial records should be examined where they may clarify earlier traditional or territorial arrangements.

The investigation should also consider oral testimony, genealogical knowledge, historical maps, customary institutions and subsequent administrative records.

Each item should be preserved with its source and evidential status.

The programme must distinguish an allegation from a documented event.

A verified historical event must be distinguished from a legal conclusion.

A legal conclusion must be distinguished from the identification of a person entitled to a remedy.

These distinctions will determine whether the initiative can produce claims capable of independent examination.

12.9 The Priority Research Questions

The immediate historical investigation should concentrate upon a defined set of questions.

Who was Ngantcha?

What was his relationship to George T. Nomen?

What traditional position, if any, did Ngantcha occupy?

Which chiefdom or ancestral territory was involved?

What succession and territorial arrangements existed before colonial intervention?

What changes occurred under German administration?

What changes occurred under French administration?

Did a relevant French administrative order exist around 1933?

If such an order existed, what did it actually provide?

What happened to George's father and grandfather, and when?

Which authorities were responsible for the acts alleged?

What evidence exists concerning ancestral land dispossession?

Which rights, if any, may have continued through subsequent generations?

What remedies might be available today?

These questions should be treated as distinct investigative tasks.

The existence of one finding should not be used to assume the answers to all the others.

The results should be assembled into a historical evidence dossier suitable for independent review.

12.10 The Priority Institutional Relationships

The proposed initiative should establish an orderly engagement programme involving existing Bamiléké organisations, traditional authorities, archival institutions and relevant researchers.

Initial contact with Bamiléké organisations should seek consultation rather than automatic endorsement.

The All Bamiléké Convention networks in North America could be approached concerning their experience organising international gatherings and their possible interest in historical accountability.

La’akam and the International Museum of the Bamiléké Genocide could be approached concerning relevant testimony, research methods and documentary collections.

Traditional authorities associated with George's ancestral community should be consulted concerning historical succession, territorial relationships and the proposed use of community information.

French and Cameroonian archival authorities should receive specific documentary enquiries.

German institutions should be approached where earlier colonial records are relevant.

Researchers associated with the 2025 Franco-Cameroonian historical commission may provide useful expertise concerning archival methodology and the wider historical context.

The objective should be to establish relationships capable of producing specific outputs.

An expression of interest should not be represented as a formal partnership.

A research meeting should not be described as political recognition.

A conference invitation should not be treated as evidence that a participant has accepted a proposed constitutional arrangement.

12.11 The First Thirty Days: Establishing the Foundation

The first thirty days should concentrate upon defining the initiative and preparing its initial research and consultation.

During the first week, George and representatives of Reparation Nation Limited should review the completed strategy document.

They should determine whether they agree upon the principal objectives and identify any proposed amendments.

They should distinguish the historical evidence programme from the government-in-exile question.

They should also determine whether the London conference is intended to examine both subjects.

An accurate record should be produced.

During the second week, George should begin preparing or consolidating the materials available concerning his family history.

This should include the fullest possible identification of Ngantcha, known family relationships, relevant locations and the historical events described.

Any existing documents should be listed and preserved.

During the third week, a concise conference concept paper should be prepared for external circulation.

It should explain the historical rationale, proposed subjects, consultation process and the provisional nature of the initiative.

During the fourth week, initial correspondence could be sent to a limited group of relevant Bamiléké organisations, traditional authorities and historical researchers.

The purpose would be to determine whether there is interest in participating in further discussion.

The first thirty days should not require substantial expenditure or irreversible commitments.

The initial achievement would be a clearly documented proposal, an organised evidence inventory and a first set of consultation requests.

12.12 The First Ninety Days: Research and Consultation

The following sixty days should develop the historical and institutional foundations.

The research team should identify French administrative records relevant to the suspected 1933 intervention.

Archival enquiries should be submitted to the appropriate repositories.

Available German records should be examined for relevant earlier historical information.

A preliminary review of the Franco-Cameroonian commission report should identify relevant historical context and references.

George's initial genealogy and chronology should be developed.

Separately, consultation should continue with Bamiléké organisations and traditional authorities.

Interested participants could be invited to discuss the proposed conference's purpose, scope and participation arrangements.

A small preparatory committee could be established if sufficient agreement and authority exist.

The committee should adopt written terms of reference.

Its initial responsibilities should concern conference feasibility rather than general political representation.

A preliminary budget should be prepared.

Possible conference venues and historical ceremony arrangements could be examined without entering unsupported financial commitments.

At the end of ninety days, the initiative should aim to possess a research register, preliminary genealogy, documented archival enquiries, consultation record, draft conference concept paper and, where authorised, a functioning preparatory committee.

The completion of these administrative outputs should not be confused with proof that the historical allegations have been established.

12.13 The First One Hundred and Eighty Days: From Consultation to Feasibility

By the end of the first six months, the proposed initiative should be capable of assessing whether an international conference is sufficiently developed to proceed.

The historical research programme should have produced preliminary findings or a clear record of outstanding enquiries.

Relevant communities and organisations should have been consulted.

The preparatory committee should understand the principal disagreements and participation requirements.

The legal research programme should have identified the major issues concerning applicable historical law, possible claims, jurisdiction, sovereign immunity and limitation.

The institutional options should have been presented for consultation.

The preparatory committee should also have obtained venue quotations and prepared a realistic budget.

It should have established whether sufficient funding or reliable financial support exists.

A draft conference programme and proposed London Declaration should be available for review.

At this stage, the committee should make a recorded feasibility decision.

That decision should determine whether to proceed with the full international conference, arrange a smaller preliminary meeting, extend consultation or concentrate further resources upon historical evidence.

The decision should be based upon demonstrated readiness rather than the desire to announce a major event.

12.14 The Conference Development Period

If the six-month feasibility review supports proceeding, the organisers could move towards confirming the full London conference.

The preparatory committee should finalise the venue arrangements and confirm the relevant participation procedures.

Formal invitations should be issued to identified organisations and specialists.

Any planned public ceremony associated with 4 Carlton Gardens should be reviewed for compliance with applicable requirements.

The historical papers should be circulated before the conference.

The draft London Declaration should be available for comment and amendment.

The proposed constitution for any provisional institution should be examined separately.

No participant should be required to support the creation of a government-in-exile merely to contribute to historical discussion.

The organisers should distinguish public observers, independent experts and authorised delegates.

The conference should be designed to produce a reliable record of discussion and decisions.

Its success should not be measured solely by attendance or publicity.

12.15 Proposed Conference Milestones

The conference could be organised around several distinct milestones.

The first would be the formal presentation of the historical rationale connecting London, Free France and Cameroon.

The second would be the presentation of relevant research concerning German and French colonial administration.

The third would be the examination of George's historical research questions and the archival work required.

The fourth would be consultation concerning traditional authority and the rights of participating communities.

The fifth would be the examination of legal and constitutional options, including the government-in-exile proposal.

The sixth would be consideration of the draft London Declaration.

The seventh would be discussion of whether a provisional institution should be established.

The eighth would be the adoption of a practical research and implementation programme.

Each milestone should produce an identifiable record.

Unresolved questions should remain explicitly unresolved.

A conference should not create false certainty merely to achieve a ceremonial conclusion.

12.16 The London Declaration as a Founding Record

If a Declaration is adopted, its wording should accurately reflect the decisions of the participants.

It could affirm support for historical investigation, the preservation of ancestral evidence, legitimate representation and accountable reparatory justice.

It could recognise the historical significance of London.

It could also record agreement to develop further research and institutional cooperation.

However, it should not claim authority over non-participating communities.

It should not determine the legal liability of states through declaration alone.

It should not claim that a government-in-exile has been internationally recognised merely because some delegates support its establishment.

The Declaration should identify its signatories and their capacities.

Its original wording should be preserved.

Subsequent amendments and resolutions should be recorded separately.

This would provide an accurate institutional history for future researchers and participants.

12.17 The First Year After the Conference

If the conference establishes authorised continuing arrangements, the first year should concentrate upon producing tangible outputs.

The historical research programme should continue acquiring and evaluating evidence.

The international engagement programme should seek specific assistance from relevant institutions.

The legal research programme should complete feasibility assessments of proposed claims.

The institutional development programme should establish appropriate governance and oversight arrangements.

Where IBIS is to be examined, its suitability should be evaluated through an authorised demonstration.

Any reparatory commitments arising from negotiations or institutional cooperation should be recorded according to their actual terms.

The proposed institution should publish periodic reports identifying completed activities, outstanding questions and any resources received or expended.

It should not describe itself as having delivered reparations unless the relevant remedies have actually been provided and appropriately verified.

A constitutional review should examine whether the institution continues to possess the authority required for its activities.

12.18 A Proposed Allocation of Responsibilities

The following responsibilities are proposed for discussion and are not existing appointments.

George T. Nomen could serve as an initiating participant in the historical research and consultation process.

Reparation Nation Limited could provide agreed organisational, strategic and technical assistance.

A temporary preparatory committee could coordinate the proposed conference.

Independent historical researchers could investigate colonial records and genealogical questions.

Traditional authorities and affected communities could participate within their legitimate areas of authority.

Legal specialists could assess possible causes of action, jurisdiction and remedies.

A financial officer or appropriate institution could administer approved conference funds.

An independent review function could examine governance, conflicts of interest and complaints.

A technical working group could evaluate whether IBIS is suitable for selected administrative tasks.

No function should confer additional political or representative authority merely because it has been allocated to a person or organisation.

Each responsibility should be recorded through an appropriate appointment, contract or mandate.

12.19 Measuring the First Year's Progress

Progress should be measured according to observable outputs.

The first measure would concern the historical investigation.

Has the relevant ancestral community been identified? Has a reliable genealogy been developed? Have the appropriate archival collections been searched? Has the suspected 1933 instrument been located or has the search been properly documented?

The second measure would concern community consultation.

Which traditional authorities and organisations have been approached? Which have responded? Which have authorised participation? What concerns or disagreements have been recorded?

The third measure would concern institutional development.

Has a preparatory committee been properly established? Has the conference been organised within its authority? Have financial and safeguarding arrangements been implemented?

The fourth measure would concern legal feasibility.

Have potential claims been assessed by appropriately qualified specialists? Have jurisdiction, limitation and immunity issues been examined?

The fifth measure would concern delivery.

Have any institutions undertaken specific commitments? Have those commitments been fulfilled? What evidence establishes the outcome?

These measures should remain distinct.

The submission of an archival request is an action undertaken.

The discovery of a relevant document is a research result.

The establishment of a representative mandate is an institutional result.

An agreement concerning reparations is a commitment or obligation according to its actual terms.

Verified receipt of the agreed remedy is a delivery result.

The proposed institution should report these developments accurately.

12.20 The Importance of a Continuing European Network

The London conference should not be regarded as the end of the European strategy.

The historical investigation is likely to require continuing work in France, Germany and Cameroon.

Legal research may require expertise in several jurisdictions.

Diplomatic engagement may develop over an extended period.

Community consultation may require additional meetings outside Europe.

The proposed network should therefore maintain a practical structure capable of coordinating this work.

London could serve as the initial organisational centre.

French researchers could assist with colonial administrative records.

German researchers could examine earlier colonial collections.

Cameroon-based historians and community representatives could contribute indispensable local evidence.

Other specialists could participate according to demonstrated expertise.

The network should preserve the independence of each research function.

It should also distinguish the countries in which records are located from those in which legal proceedings or negotiations may be appropriate.

A European network would be valuable if it improves access to evidence, reduces duplication and creates accountable cooperation.

Its value would not arise simply from establishing offices or appointing international representatives.

12.21 The Strategic Relationship with France

The proposed initiative should seek historically and legally informed engagement with France.

The existence of the Franco-Cameroonian historical commission provides a basis for asking what further research may be undertaken concerning events outside its principal period of investigation.

George's suspected 1933 administrative intervention should be presented as a specific historical enquiry.

Requests should identify the documents sought and the archival institutions believed to hold relevant material.

Where possible, correspondence should ask for assistance tracing the relevant administrative chain.

Any future reparatory claim should be supported by evidence and appropriate legal advice.

The initiative should not assume that a government meeting or archival response constitutes acceptance of liability.

Nor should it confuse historical acknowledgment with the delivery of compensation or restitution.

The purpose of engagement is to establish facts, responsibilities and possible remedies through documented procedures.

12.22 The Strategic Relationship with Germany

German colonial records may assist in establishing the historical arrangements preceding French administration.

The proposed initiative should identify the relevant German administrative collections, maps and records concerning traditional authorities.

Where the evidence suggests that German actions contributed to the alleged harms, separate legal and historical research would be required.

Contemporary German programmes concerning colonial cultural property and the return of human remains may provide additional subjects for institutional dialogue where relevant.

However, the remit of such programmes should not be overstated.

An institution responsible for cultural restitution does not automatically possess authority to determine compensation for historical killings or ancestral land dispossession.

The objective should be to identify the appropriate institutions for each distinct issue.

12.23 The Strategic Relationship with Cameroon

The proposed initiative must maintain direct and meaningful relationships with the affected communities in Cameroon.

The rights and interests under investigation cannot be determined solely by diaspora participants meeting in London.

Traditional authorities, families, local historians and appropriate Cameroonian institutions may possess essential evidence and legitimate decision-making responsibilities.

The consultation process should therefore include mechanisms for participation by people who cannot travel internationally.

It should preserve the distinct positions of different chiefdoms.

It should recognise that claims concerning land or traditional authority may be subject to contemporary Cameroonian law.

The European network should support the relevant people and institutions rather than displace them.

This principle should guide the design of any provisional council, federation or other representative body.

12.24 The Long-Term Government-in-Exile Question

The proposed government-in-exile remains a subject requiring further consideration.

The conference may conclude that such a structure deserves historical and constitutional investigation.

It may conclude that a voluntary federation, provisional reparatory justice council or other institution is more suitable for its immediate purposes.

Participants may also disagree.

The process should preserve the legitimacy of those disagreements.

A governmental claim would require examination of the political community represented, the source of constitutional authority, the relevant territory, the relationship with Cameroon and international recognition.

The historical precedent of Free France provides a useful comparison.

It does not automatically establish the legal status of a contemporary Bamiléké institution.

The central question should remain what form of organisation can legitimately perform the required functions.

Political titles should follow demonstrable authority rather than substitute for it.

12.25 The Role of IBIS in the Long-Term Strategy

IBIS may provide a framework for organising the relationships between historical evidence, identity, membership, representation, recognition, claims and reparatory delivery.

The distinction between the Identity Engine and the Five-Factor Engine must be preserved.

Identity should not automatically confer membership.

Membership should not automatically confer representation.

Representation should not automatically determine the validity of historical claims.

Recognition of a claim should not automatically establish the existence of a reparatory obligation.

A commitment should not automatically be treated as a completed transfer.

A transfer should not be treated as verified final delivery without suitable evidence.

The proposed Bamiléké initiative could examine IBIS through a controlled demonstration using fictional or appropriately authorised information.

Independent review should assess its suitability.

Any operational deployment would require a separate decision supported by adequate governance, privacy, security and institutional arrangements.

IBIS should serve the authorised institution.

It should not become the source of that institution's political legitimacy.

12.26 Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence and the Monitoring of Outcomes

The Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence model could complement the wider strategy by monitoring the movement of reparatory commitments and resources.

Organisations may be represented as vessels, programmes as voyages, resources as cargo and beneficiaries as destinations.

Delivery processes may be represented as routes.

Risks and delays may be recorded as hazards.

Completed and verified delivery may be recorded as Safe Harbour.

The model provides a method for distinguishing announcements from implementation.

For the proposed Bamiléké initiative, this could become relevant once specific obligations or commitments have been established.

An archive's promise to undertake research could be monitored until the agreed work is completed.

A commitment to return cultural material could be monitored until transfer and receipt are verified.

A compensation programme, if established, could be monitored through allocation, transfer and receipt.

However, a shipping record does not itself create the obligation being monitored.

The model should accurately reflect the source, scope and status of each commitment.

Its purpose would be transparency and accountability.

12.27 The Long-Term Institutional Objective

The proposed initiative should seek to establish a durable method for pursuing and administering reparatory justice.

That method should combine historical evidence, legitimate representation, legal and diplomatic engagement, accountable governance and verifiable delivery.

Its institutional form should remain open to the decisions of appropriately authorised participants.

If a provisional council is established, it should possess limited and reviewable powers.

If a federation is established, the rights and distinct authority of participating communities should be preserved.

If a government-in-exile is proposed, its constitutional and legal basis should be independently examined.

If litigation is considered, the relevant procedural and substantive requirements should be assessed before proceedings begin.

If resources are received for reparatory purposes, beneficiary protection and financial accountability should be established before distribution.

The initiative should not treat the creation of an institution as an end in itself.

Its purpose should be measured through the legitimate and useful functions that institution actually performs.

12.28 The Final Strategic Decision for George T. Nomen

George should be invited to consider the strategy as a whole rather than respond only to the government-in-exile question.

His first decision is whether he wishes to pursue a coordinated historical investigation with the assistance of interested partners.

His second is whether he wishes to support consultation concerning an international Bamiléké conference in London.

His third is whether he agrees that the conference should examine alternative institutional models without predetermining its constitutional outcome.

His fourth is whether he wishes his family investigation to provide an initial case study for the proposed evidence-management framework, subject to appropriate consent and independent review.

His fifth is whether he wishes to explore the involvement of Reparation Nation Limited and the possible examination of IBIS.

His sixth is whether he supports preserving the historical symbolism of 4 Carlton Gardens through a lawful ceremony or presentation rather than making physical occupation a necessary part of the strategy.

His seventh is whether he agrees that substantive decisions concerning wider Bamiléké representation must involve appropriately authorised communities and institutions.

Agreement upon these questions would provide a basis for preparing a joint preliminary statement of purpose.

Disagreement on any question should be recorded and discussed.

George should not be required to abandon his constitutional ideas merely to participate in historical research.

Equally, participation by others in historical research should not be treated as agreement with his proposed government-in-exile.

This separation would permit cooperation while preserving the right of participants to reach different conclusions.

12.29 Final Consolidated Action Register

The following register identifies the actions necessary to move from discussion into an organised preparatory process.

No.	Action	Proposed responsibility	Evidence of completion
1	Review the completed strategy	George and Reparation Nation Limited	Written comments and agreed scope
2	Confirm the initial objectives	Founding participants	Recorded statement of purpose
3	Compile George's family evidence	George with authorised research support	Evidence inventory
4	Identify Ngantcha and the relevant chiefdom	Historical research participants	Preliminary genealogy and location record
5	Search for the suspected 1933 arrêté	Authorised archival researchers	Search record and any documents located
6	Examine German colonial records	Researchers with relevant expertise	Archival findings
7	Review the Franco-Cameroonian commission report	Historical research team	Research memorandum
8	Consult traditional authorities	Appropriately authorised liaison participants	Consultation responses
9	Approach existing Bamiléké diaspora organisations	Founding participants	Correspondence register
10	Prepare the conference concept paper	Preparatory participants	Circulable draft

11	Establish a preparatory committee, if agreed	Authorised founding participants	Adopted terms of reference
12	Investigate Carlton Gardens ceremony arrangements	Conference organiser	Documented compliance and feasibility review
13	Obtain conference venue quotations	Venue coordinator	Written quotations
14	Prepare a realistic budget	Finance coordinator	Reviewed budget
15	Seek preliminary legal advice	Authorised claimant or institution	Written feasibility assessment
16	Develop delegate and participation procedures	Preparatory committee	Published rules
17	Circulate the draft London Declaration	Preparatory committee	Draft and consultation record
18	Examine provisional institutional arrangements	Constitutional research participants	Options paper
19	Prepare an IBIS demonstration proposal	Technical working group	Scope and evaluation criteria
20	Make the conference feasibility decision	Authorised preparatory committee	Recorded resolution
21	Convene the conference, if feasible	Organising committee	Conference proceedings
22	Publish the conference report	Secretariat	Approved report
23	Implement authorised resolutions	Responsible working groups	Delivery register
24	Review the institution and programme	Appropriate oversight participants	Periodic review report

The responsibilities are proposed and would require appropriate appointments or authorisations.

The register should distinguish planned work from completed activities.

It should not be used to imply that the named institutions or participants have already agreed to undertake the work.

12.30 Final Strategic Conclusions

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative has a substantial historical and institutional subject for examination.

Its historical foundation includes the successive European colonial administrations of Cameroon, the political history of Bamiléké traditional communities, the Free French movement in London and the relationship between Cameroon and Free France during the Second World War.

Its immediate evidential foundation is George T. Nomen's investigation into his ancestors, including the identity of Ngantcha, the alleged killings, the historical position of traditional authority, ancestral land and the suspected 1933 French administrative order.

Its organisational opportunity lies in the possibility of convening existing Bamiléké traditional authorities, diaspora organisations, descendants, historians and legal specialists through a carefully prepared international conference.

Its constitutional challenge lies in establishing what authority participants possess and what institution they may legitimately authorise.

Its legal challenge lies in identifying historical obligations, responsible parties, available forums, procedural obstacles and appropriate remedies.

Its administrative challenge lies in establishing systems capable of recording decisions, preserving evidence, protecting beneficiaries and verifying delivery.

London provides a meaningful historical location from which these questions could be examined.

However, the symbolic value of the former Free French headquarters does not depend upon physically occupying it.

Similarly, the creation of a Bamiléké government-in-exile should not be treated as the automatic consequence of the proposed historical analogy.

A legitimate representative institution must establish the basis, scope and limits of its authority.

The proposed London conference could begin that process through consultation, historical research and institutional deliberation.

It could also establish a continuing programme that does not depend upon resolving every constitutional question immediately.

A provisional council or other appropriately authorised body could coordinate research and engagement while broader questions remain open.

Reparation Nation Limited could provide supporting capacity.

IBIS could be examined as a possible architecture for the organisation and delivery of reparatory justice.

The resulting programme should remain accountable to the people and institutions whose rights and interests are at stake.

12.31 Final Recommendation for the First Joint Discussion

The immediate next stage should be a structured discussion between George T. Nomen and Reparation Nation Limited, followed by consultation with relevant Bamiléké individuals and organisations if the participants agree to proceed.

The discussion should use this twelve-section strategy as its initial working document.

George should identify which propositions he accepts, which require amendment and which he wishes to investigate further.

Particular attention should be given to the historical evidence, the proposed London conference, the government-in-exile question, relationships with traditional authorities and the possible role of IBIS.

The participants should then prepare a concise joint statement identifying only the objectives they have actually agreed.

That statement could provide the foundation for initial correspondence with existing Bamiléké organisations, historical researchers and relevant institutions.

No public claim of collective political authority should be made before the appropriate authorisation exists.

No major expenditure should be undertaken without agreed financial responsibility.

No historical allegation should be presented as conclusively established before the relevant evidence has been examined.

No reparatory outcome should be described as delivered until the appropriate evidence of delivery exists.

These principles would help preserve the credibility and accountability of the initiative as it develops.

12.32 Final Statement: From Historical Exile to Organised Reparatory Justice

The historical experience of Free France demonstrates that London played an important role in the organisation of a political movement operating outside the territory whose future it sought to influence.

The history of Cameroon provides an additional connection because the territory participated in the Free French movement during the Second World War.

These events offer a historically significant basis for discussion.

They do not establish that contemporary Bamiléké communities occupy an identical legal or political position.

Nevertheless, the proposed London conference could use that history to examine an important question:

How might people whose ancestral histories were affected by European colonial administration organise themselves internationally to establish the facts, determine legitimate representation and pursue appropriate reparatory justice?

The answer requires more than symbolism.

It requires evidence.

It requires community participation.

It requires historical and legal examination.

It requires clearly defined representative authority.

It requires institutional safeguards.

It requires financial and administrative accountability.

It requires the ability to distinguish a declaration from an obligation, and an obligation from its fulfilment.

The proposed initiative should therefore seek to connect historical investigation with institutional capacity.

George T. Nomen's ancestral investigation could provide an initial focus.

The London conference could provide a forum for wider consultation.

The European network could support historical and legal research.

The resulting authorised institutions could coordinate the pursuit of remedies.

IBIS could be examined as a framework for organising the processes required for reparatory justice.

The Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence model could assist in monitoring any actual commitments and their implementation.

The ultimate purpose would not be to create a symbolic government, hold an impressive conference or issue another declaration that cannot be implemented.

It would be to develop a legitimate and accountable process capable of pursuing justice and verifying what has actually been delivered.

A historical grievance does not become reparatory justice merely by being recognised.

A representative institution does not become legitimate merely by declaring itself to exist.

A promise does not become delivery merely because it has been announced.

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké strategy should therefore be guided by the relationship between historical truth, legitimate authority, institutional responsibility and verifiable outcomes.

London could provide the place where that international process begins.

The Bamiléké individuals, families, traditional authorities and communities concerned would determine the legitimacy and direction of their participation.

The historical evidence would establish what can responsibly be claimed.

The applicable legal and institutional frameworks would determine what remedies may be pursued.

The resulting administrative arrangements would provide the means through which commitments could be monitored and their fulfilment verified.

That is the proposed path from historical investigation towards organised reparatory justice.

END OF SECTION TWELVE

END OF THE CONSOLIDATED EUROPEAN AND LONDON-BASED BAMILÉKÉ REPARATORY JUSTICE STRATEGY

Prepared for consideration by George T. Nomen and interested participants.

Reparation Nation Limited.

9 October 2026.

Final supporting research and image sources

The following references are suitable for inclusion in the document's consolidated bibliography and illustrated appendix.

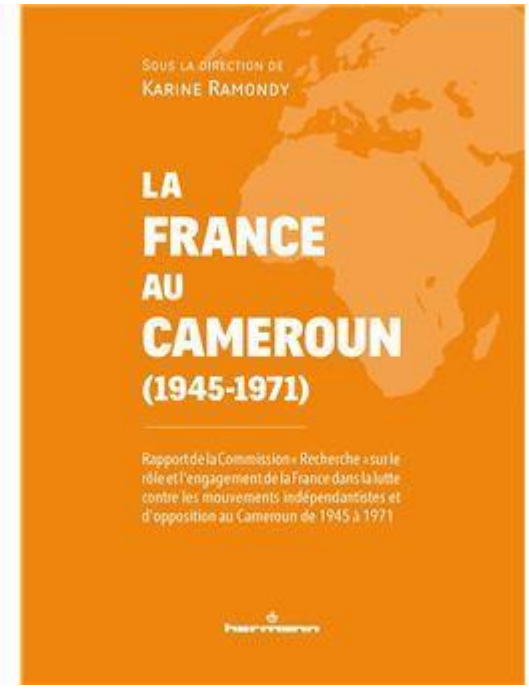


Free French headquarters — London

English Heritage confirms that 4 Carlton Gardens housed the Free French headquarters in 1940 and distinguishes it from de Gaulle's private office at number 3.

English Heritage

English Heritage historical record



Franco-Cameroonian Historical Commission — 2025

The research report comprises 1,034 pages and examines French involvement in repression during 1945–1971, with historical context addressing the earlier colonial period.

Sciences Po

+1

Access the published report

Other foundational references for the consolidated document include the International Court of Justice's 2012 sovereign-immunity judgment, the UN Basic Principles on Reparations and the UK government's guidance concerning lawful marches and protests.

GOV.UK

The substantive twelve-section draft is now complete. The remaining editorial work is to consolidate the sections into one consistent document, check citations and dates, prepare a unified bibliography, and select properly credited historical images and maps.

APPENDIX A

CONSOLIDATED BIBLIOGRAPHY, HISTORICAL REFERENCES AND RESEARCH SOURCES

European Colonial Administration of Cameroon, Bamiléké Traditional Institutions, Free France, Government-in-Exile, International Law, Historical Accountability and Reparatory Justice

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Research Bibliography and Source Verification Register — Accompanying Sections One to Twelve

A.1 Purpose and Scope of the Bibliography

This appendix consolidates the principal historical, archival, legal, academic and governmental sources relevant to the twelve-section strategy proposing a European and London-based initiative for Bamiléké reparatory justice.

The purpose of the bibliography is not merely to provide references for readers wishing to explore the subject.

It is to establish an organised research foundation through which historical statements, legal propositions, institutional claims and outstanding questions can be independently examined.

The proposed initiative concerns events spanning several historical periods and jurisdictions. These include German colonial administration, French administration under the League of Nations mandate, British administration of part of Cameroon, Cameroon's subsequent independence, the history of Free France and contemporary developments concerning colonial accountability.

The investigation also concerns George T. Nomen's account of his ancestors, particularly the person identified as Ngantcha, the reported killings and the suspected French administrative arrêté dating from approximately 1933.

These family-specific matters must be distinguished from the established historical background.

A publication concerning French colonial administration may establish the existence of a particular administrative system without demonstrating that the alleged order concerning Ngantcha existed.

A scholarly study of Bamiléké chiefdoms may explain customary institutions without establishing the succession history of George's family.

A government acknowledgment concerning repression between 1945 and 1971 does not necessarily establish responsibility for events alleged to have occurred in 1933.

This bibliography therefore identifies the evidential function of each source.

It also separates material that has been located or bibliographically verified from archival documents that remain research targets.

The present appendix is a consolidated research bibliography, not a claim that every underlying work has been read in full or that every assertion in the twelve sections has undergone a completed source-by-source audit.

A.2 Classification of Sources and Verification Status

The bibliography uses four source categories.

Category	Meaning	Evidential significance
Primary historical or legal source	Original legislation, treaty, judgment, historical record or government document	Direct evidence of the particular act or text recorded
Official institutional source	Archive catalogue, government statement, institutional history or official guidance	Evidence of the institution's published position or holdings
Secondary academic source	Historical, anthropological or legal research	Interpretation, contextual analysis and references to underlying evidence
Project or family research material	George's testimony, genealogies, correspondence, research notes and proposed IBIS documents	Evidence requiring assessment according to its nature and provenance

The verification status should also be recorded.

Bibliographically verified means that the publication or institutional source has been identified through an identifiable catalogue, publisher or official source.

Historical document located means that a particular original record has been identified through an archival reference or other sufficiently precise record.

Contents examined means that the relevant material has actually been reviewed.

Unverified research target means that the existence, identity or relevance of a particular document has not yet been established.

Family or community testimony means that an account has been provided by an identifiable source but requires appropriate examination before being presented as an independently established historical finding.

These distinctions should be preserved throughout the remaining appendices.

A.3 Free France, Charles de Gaulle and London

A.3.1 English Heritage — General Charles de Gaulle, 4 Carlton Gardens

Institution: English Heritage Source: General Charles de Gaulle — Blue Plaques Source type: Official historical and commemorative record Verification status: Official source located and examined

English Heritage — General Charles de Gaulle

English Heritage identifies 4 Carlton Gardens, St James's, London SW1Y 5AA, as the building where de Gaulle established the headquarters of the Free French Forces in 1940.

The source records that the headquarters was established in late July 1940 and that the commemorative plaque was unveiled on 5 June 1984.

It also distinguishes number 4, which housed most Free French departments, from number 3, associated with de Gaulle's private office.

This distinction is important for the accuracy of the proposed conference's historical narrative.



English Heritage

Relevance to Sections: One, Three, Four, Seven, Eight, Eleven and Twelve.

Evidential limitation: The source establishes the historical association of the London location. It does not provide a legal basis for establishing a contemporary Bamiléké government-in-exile.

A.3.2 Historic England — Exterior View of 4 Carlton Gardens

Institution: Historic England Archive Photographic reference: DP187019 Description: Exterior view of 4 Carlton Gardens, showing the de Gaulle blue plaque Photographer: Lucy Millson-Watkins Date: 11 March 2016

Historic England — Photograph DP187019

This is an identifiable archival photographic record suitable for consideration in the illustrated appendix.

The image's publication and reproduction permissions must be checked before incorporation into a distributed document.



Historic England

Relevance: Historical illustrations and Appendix C.

A.3.3 Historic England — Detail of the Blue Plaque

Institution: Historic England Archive Photographic reference: DP187020 Description: Detailed photograph of the de Gaulle plaque Date: 11 March 2016

Historic England — Photograph DP187020

This provides a second identifiable image reference and can support accurate presentation of the commemorative inscription.

It should not be assumed that access to a photograph confers unrestricted reproduction rights.



Historic England

A.3.4 English Heritage — London Statues and Monuments

Institution: English Heritage Source: London Statues Gallery

English Heritage — Statues Gallery

The source identifies the statue of Charles de Gaulle near Carlton Gardens and records its unveiling in June 1993.

It provides useful context for a possible historical walking route or commemorative ceremony.



English Heritage

A.3.5 Julian Jackson — A Certain Idea of France

Author: Julian Jackson Title: A Certain Idea of France: The Life of Charles de Gaulle Publisher: Allen Lane Year: 2018 Source type: Secondary historical scholarship

This biography provides a substantial historical account of de Gaulle, the Free French movement, wartime legitimacy and the development of French political institutions.

It is relevant to the proposed comparison between Free France and a contemporary government-in-exile.

Its use should distinguish historical description from the legal analysis of governments-in-exile.

Research requirement: Consult the relevant chapters and record precise page references before inserting quotations or detailed propositions into the final document.

A.4 International Recognition and Governments-in-Exile

A.4.1 Stefan Talmon — Recognition of Governments in International Law

Author: Stefan Talmon Full title: Recognition of Governments in International Law: With Particular Reference to Governments in Exile Publisher: Oxford University Press Paperback edition: 2001 Print ISBN: 9780199248391 DOI: 10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199248391.001.0001

Oxford Academic — Talmon's Study

This publication is one of the most directly relevant academic sources for the proposed government-in-exile question.

It examines governmental recognition, international representation, jurisdiction, privileges and immunities, and the legal position of authorities operating outside the territory they claim to govern.

The publisher confirms the book's bibliographic details and its treatment of authorities in exile.



Oxford Academic

Relevance to Sections: Four, Six, Eight, Ten and Twelve.

The book should be used to distinguish political claims, recognition of governments, recognition of states and the actual legal powers available to an authority operating abroad.

It should not be cited as demonstrating that a Bamiléké government-in-exile already exists or would automatically be recognised.

A.4.2 UK Parliament — Recognition of Governments: Policy and Practice

Institution: United Kingdom Parliament Date: 28 April 1980 Source: House of Lords statement concerning the United Kingdom's policy on governmental recognition

Hansard — Recognition of Governments, 28 April 1980

This parliamentary statement explains the policy announced by Lord Carrington that the United Kingdom would recognise states rather than governments as a matter of formal recognition practice.

It is relevant when considering what acknowledgment or recognition a London-based Bamiléké institution might seek.

A meeting with British officials should not be confused with recognition of sovereign or governmental status.

Relevance to Sections: Four, Six, Eight and Ten.

A.5 Bamiléké Historical and Traditional Institutions

A.5.1 Charles-Henri de Latour Dejean — Bamiléké Chiefdom and Kinship Structure

Author: Charles-Henri de Latour Dejean Title: La structure parentale dans une chefferie Bamiléké du Ndè au Cameroun Journal: Journal des Africanistes Year: 1976 Volume: 46, issues 1–2 Pages: 95–103 DOI: 10.3406/jafr.1976.1776

Read the Article on Persée

This study describes kinship and social organisation within a Bamiléké chiefdom in the Ndé area.

It identifies the importance of chiefly lineages, councils of notables, succession and the historical organisation of distinct chiefdoms.

The study describes the Bamiléké plateau population as distributed among approximately one hundred territorial units commonly referred to as chiefdoms.



Persée

Relevance to Sections: Three, Four, Five, Eight, Ten and Eleven.

Important limitation: The article concerns a particular historical and regional setting. Its findings should not automatically be applied to every Bamiléké chiefdom or treated as evidence of Ngantcha's identity or succession.

Additional research is required concerning the particular chiefdom associated with George's family.

A.6 German Colonial Administration and Historical Archives

A.6.1 Bundesarchiv — Sources on German Colonial History

Institution: German Federal Archives (Bundesarchiv) Source: Kolonialgeschichte — Colonial History Source type: Official archival collection guide Verification status: Official catalogue guidance examined

Bundesarchiv — Colonial History Collections

The Bundesarchiv identifies the records of the Reich Colonial Office (Reichskolonialamt) under collection R 1001.

The collection contains nearly 10,000 archival volumes, most accessible online, addressing colonial administration, political decisions, relations with inhabitants, armed conflicts and other matters.

The same guide identifies Kamerun-specific collections under R 175, including records of the colonial government, regional administration, district courts and colonial military forces.



Bundesarchiv

The following archival series are particularly relevant.

Collection	Description	Research relevance
R 1001	Reichskolonialamt	Central colonial policy and administration
R 1001 KART	Colonial Office maps	Territorial and historical cartographic evidence
R 175-I	Government of Kamerun	Colonial governmental administration
R 175-III	District courts	Judicial records from named colonial districts
R 175-IV	Regional and local administrative authorities	Local administrative decisions and correspondence
R 175-V	Colonial military forces (Schutztruppe)	Military organisation and relevant operations
R 175-VI	Non-governmental colonial institutions	Commercial, mission and associated records

Relevance to Sections: Two, Five, Six, Ten and Twelve.

Research limitation: The identification of these collections does not establish that records concerning Ngantcha or George's ancestors exist within them.

Individual file-level searches remain necessary.

A.6.2 The Fonds Allemand in Cameroon

The German Federal Archives have documented cooperation concerning the preservation of German colonial records held in Cameroon.

These records should be considered alongside the holdings in Germany because documents created by colonial administrative offices may have remained in Cameroon after successive changes of government.

The research programme should seek the catalogue or finding aid for the Fonds Allemand held in Cameroon.

Where relevant documents are located, their exact archival references should be recorded in Appendix D.

A.7 French Colonial Administration and the Archives

A.7.1 Archives nationales d'outre-mer

Institution: Archives nationales d'outre-mer (ANOM) Location: Aix-en-Provence, France Source type: Official archival institution

French Overseas National Archives

ANOM is a priority research institution for records arising from French colonial administration.

The investigation should examine holdings concerning French Cameroons, the League of Nations mandate, colonial governance, administrative appointments, traditional chiefs and territorial administration.

The suspected 1933 arrêté should be treated as a particular research target requiring verification.

The initial search should include alternative document types, such as décisions, décrets, administrative correspondence and the territorial official journal.

Researchers should examine a date range wider than 1933 where necessary, because family recollections or subsequent references may not preserve the precise date.

Research limitation: This appendix does not identify an authenticated ANOM file containing the alleged order. The existence and location of that specific document remain unconfirmed.

A.7.2 French Official Publications for Cameroon

Research target: Official journals and administrative publications issued during French administration of Cameroon.

Priority period: Approximately 1928–1938, with 1933 as the principal starting year.

Proposed subjects: Recognition or removal of chiefs, succession, territorial arrangements, land administration, administrative divisions and relevant appointments.

Verification status: Specific issue, page and order not yet identified.

If a relevant instrument is located, the bibliography should be amended to record the issuing authority, official publication title, issue number, date, page and exact wording.

Until then, it should remain in the category of an unverified archival research target.

A.7.3 French Diplomatic Archives and Military Archives

The French Diplomatic Archives and the Service historique de la Défense may hold material relevant to French administration, political developments and military operations.

Their possible relevance depends upon the identity, location and chronology of the alleged events.

The research team should seek collection-specific advice before assuming that any particular repository contains material concerning George's family.

Official institutional holdings should be distinguished from documents actually located and examined.

A.8 The Franco-Cameroonian Historical Commission

A.8.1 La France au Cameroun (1945–1971)

Research lead: Karine Ramondy Other identified contributors: Nadège Laure Ngo Nlend, Lancelot Arzel and other French and Cameroonian researchers Title: La France au Cameroun (1945–1971) Institutional context: Franco-Cameroonian historical research commission Report delivered: 28 January 2025 Published report: 1,034 pages

Sciences Po — Report and Access Information

The Sciences Po Centre for History identifies the report as the research component of the commission examining France's role and involvement in repression of independence and opposition movements in Cameroon between 1945 and 1971.

Its publication notice provides access to the report through the French public-information system.



Sciences Po

Relevance to Sections: Two, Five, Six, Ten and Twelve.

This is a major reference for the wider historical context, particularly concerning the development of French political and military activity during the period examined.

It should also be investigated for archival references, earlier historical context and researchers familiar with related subjects.

Essential limitation: Its principal remit concerns 1945–1971. It is not evidence, by itself, that the suspected 1933 order existed or that the particular events described by George occurred.

Detailed page citations should be added after examination of the relevant passages in the complete report.

A.9 International Law and the Rights of Peoples

A.9.1 Charter of the United Nations

Institution: United Nations Instrument: Charter of the United Nations Signed: 26 June 1945 Entered into force: 24 October 1945

United Nations Charter — Full Text

Article 1(2) identifies respect for equal rights and self-determination of peoples among the purposes of the United Nations.

Article 2 addresses principles including sovereign equality and the territorial integrity and political independence of states.

These provisions are relevant to the discussion of Bamiléké collective rights and the proposed government-in-exile, but they do not automatically determine the constitutional status of a particular cultural community.



United Nations

Relevance to Sections: Four, Eight and Ten.

A.9.2 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Institution: United Nations Instrument: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights Adopted: 16 December 1966

OHCHR — ICCPR

Common Article 1 of the two International Covenants provides an important reference concerning self-determination.

Its relevance to a proposed contemporary Bamiléké political institution would require legal analysis concerning the meaning of peoples, internal and external self-determination, applicable obligations and the relevant constitutional circumstances.

The instrument should not be treated as providing an automatic right to statehood.

A.9.3 African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights

Institution: African Union / predecessor Organisation of African Unity Instrument: African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights Adopted: 1 June 1981 Entered into force: 21 October 1986

African Union — Treaty Record and Text

The Charter is particularly relevant because it addresses both individual human rights and collective rights of peoples.

Articles 19–22 warrant examination concerning equality among peoples, self-determination, wealth and natural resources, and development.

The African Union's treaty record confirms the adoption and entry-into-force dates.



African Union

Relevance to Sections: Four, Eight and Ten.

Legal limitation: The Charter does not automatically confer a contemporary cause of action against France or Germany for every alleged act occurring under colonial administration before the Charter existed.

Jurisdiction and temporal application require separate assessment.

A.9.4 United Nations Basic Principles on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation

Institution: United Nations General Assembly Instrument: Resolution 60/147 Adopted: 16 December 2005 Title: Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law

OHCHR — Basic Principles on Reparations

This instrument identifies important categories of reparation, including restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.

It provides a framework for discussing the nature of reparatory remedies and the responsibilities involved in their implementation.

However, it should not be represented as independently creating a directly enforceable legal claim for every historical colonial injury.

Relevance to Sections: Six, Eight, Nine, Ten and Twelve.

A.10 International Courts, Jurisdiction and Sovereign Immunity

A.10.1 Statute of the International Court of Justice

Institution: United Nations Instrument: Statute of the International Court of Justice

UN — Statute of the International Court of Justice

Article 34(1) provides that only states may be parties in cases before the Court.

This is directly relevant to the proposed strategy because George, his family and an ordinary Bamiléké association cannot directly bring contentious proceedings against France or Germany in the International Court of Justice.

Any proposed proceedings would also need an applicable basis for the Court's jurisdiction.

Relevance to Sections: Four and Ten.

A.10.2 Jurisdictional Immunities of the State

Court: International Court of Justice Case: Jurisdictional Immunities of the State (Germany v. Italy: Greece intervening) Judgment: 3 February 2012 Official citation: I.C.J. Reports 2012, page 99

ICJ — Case 143 and Judgments

The Court examined Germany's immunity from civil proceedings concerning serious violations committed during the Second World War.

It held that the gravity of alleged violations did not, in the circumstances examined, remove the state's entitlement to jurisdictional immunity under the customary international law applied by the Court.

International Court of Justice

Relevance to Section: Ten.

Legal limitation: The judgment does not itself decide the viability of every proposed claim against France or Germany. The applicable jurisdiction and relevant facts require separate legal examination.

A.10.3 Comparative Historical Litigation: Mau Mau Claims

Source: United Kingdom Treasury Solicitor's Department, Annual Report and Accounts 2013–14.

The report describes the historical litigation pursued by Kenyan claimants concerning abuse during British colonial administration.

It records the 2013 settlement of 5,228 claims for an aggregate £19.9 million.

The case provides a comparative example of archival evidence, historical claims, litigation risk and negotiated settlement.



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Important limitation: The settlement does not establish that equivalent proceedings concerning Cameroon would succeed or produce a comparable result.

A.11 The League of Nations and French-Administered Cameroon

A.11.1 Covenant of the League of Nations — Article 22

Institution: League of Nations Instrument: Covenant of the League of Nations Relevant provision: Article 22 concerning the mandate system Source type: Primary international legal instrument

Article 22 established the framework under which certain territories formerly administered by defeated powers were governed through mandates.

For George's investigation, the framework matters because the suspected 1933 French administrative decision would have occurred during the mandate period.

The research must distinguish the general provisions of Article 22 from the specific terms of the French mandate for Cameroons.

The relevant mandate instrument, reports submitted by the administering power and records of the Permanent Mandates Commission should therefore be identified and examined.

A.11.2 League of Nations — French Cameroons Mandate and Supervisory Records

Research targets: The instrument establishing the French mandate over Cameroons, annual reports on its administration, proceedings of the Permanent Mandates Commission, and relevant petitions or administrative communications.

Priority period: 1922–1938, with particular attention to 1933.

Verification status: Historical record series identified as necessary research categories; no family-specific file reference established.

These sources may assist with determining the international legal framework of French administration and the existence of historical complaints about its administration.

However, they should not be cited as proof of the specific alleged intervention involving Ngantcha without locating relevant documents.

A.12 Contemporary Institutional and Governance Sources

The following materials are relevant to the practical organisation of the proposed conference and any continuing institution.

Institution or instrument	Principal source	Relevance
Westminster City Council	Holding an Event in Westminster	Outdoor event planning and applications
UK Government	Protests and Marches	Public march notification requirements and protest guidance
Metropolitan Police	Guidance for Event Organisers	Police liaison and event organisation
Charity Commission for England and Wales	Conflicts of Interest Guidance	Governance and management of conflicts
Information Commissioner's Office	Special Category Data Guidance	Protection of racial, ethnic and other sensitive personal information
African Union	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights	Collective rights, regional human rights system and procedural research

These sources should be checked again immediately before operational decisions because administrative procedures and guidance may change.

They do not establish that the proposed conference has received permission or that an institution has agreed to participate.

A.13 The IBIS Research and Architectural Materials

The IBIS material occupies a different position from the external historical and legal publications.

It provides the proposed administrative and conceptual architecture for reparatory justice, rather than independent evidence of the historical allegations concerning George's ancestors.

The principal project source is the book:

IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice

The book should be treated as the controlling source for IBIS terminology and design principles.

The following distinctions are particularly relevant throughout the twelve sections:

Identity must be distinguished from membership.

Membership must be distinguished from representation.

Recognition must be distinguished from identity and entitlement.

The Identity Engine must remain distinct from the Five-Factor Engine.

A historical claim must be distinguished from the evidence supporting it.

An established obligation must be distinguished from an announced commitment.

A commitment must be distinguished from resource allocation.

Allocation must be distinguished from receipt.

Receipt must be distinguished from verified final delivery.

The book and the current IBIS implementation materials should be used to establish the architecture's intended operation.

They should not be cited as independent proof of French or German colonial responsibility.

Similarly, an IBIS technical record should not be treated as an authoritative legal determination unless an appropriate institution has independently made the underlying decision.

A.13.1 Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence

This is a proposed administrative model for monitoring reparatory programmes and their implementation.

Its central terminology includes vessel, voyage, cargo, destination, route, hazard, movement and Safe Harbour.

It is relevant to the proposed institutional arrangements because it may provide a method for tracking promises, obligations, resources and verified outcomes.

It should be identified as a project framework, not as an independently recognised legal standard or proof that particular reparations have been delivered.

A.14 George T. Nomen: Family-Specific Evidence Requiring Verification

The research programme should maintain a dedicated record for sources concerning George and his ancestors.

At this stage, it is particularly important not to present unlocated archival documents as though their contents have been examined.

Research item	Present evidential position	Required next action
Identity of Ngantcha	Identified through George's account	Establish full identity, dates, location and any historical office
Relationship between Ngantcha and George	Family relationship reported	Construct and verify genealogy
Suspected French arrêté of approximately 1933	Specific research lead; original not yet located	Search official publications and administrative archives
Alleged killing of George's grandfather	Reported historical event	Establish identity, date, circumstances and attribution
Alleged killing of George's father	Reported historical event	Establish identity, date, circumstances and attribution
Ancestral land	Historical rights and dispossession reported	Identify territory, maps, customary rights and administrative records
Alleged replacement of traditional authority	Historical intervention reported	Examine succession, recognition and related colonial orders
Subsequent consequences	Continuing effects alleged	Reconstruct history and independently assess causal connections
Legal remedies	Not yet established	Obtain specialist legal assessment after relevant evidence is assembled

Each item should ultimately be supported by a source record.

Where an original document is found, the record should include its precise archival identifier, date, issuing authority and location.

Where testimony is collected, the witness, date, method and consent conditions should be documented.

Where a conclusion is disputed, the different positions should be preserved.

This is especially important because the resulting material may later be examined by lawyers, historians, governmental institutions or community representatives.

A.15 Standards for Citing Archival and Historical Documents

The final document should adopt a consistent archival citation standard.

For a French administrative instrument, a complete reference should identify the issuing authority, instrument type, number where available, date, original title, publication or archival collection, page or file reference, repository and access details.

For German colonial records, the reference should identify the Bundesarchiv collection, specific file or item number, document title or description, date and relevant page.

For Cameroonian archival records, the reference should identify the repository, collection, file identifier, document description and relevant date.

For oral testimony, the reference should identify the interviewee or agreed anonymised identifier, interviewer, date, location or recording method, transcript reference and conditions governing use.

For historical photographs, the reference should identify the photographer, institution, image reference, date and rights holder.

A digital reproduction should remain linked to its original source.

Where an image has been cropped or enhanced, that alteration should be recorded.

The purpose is to enable an independent reader to locate and assess the underlying evidence rather than rely solely upon the interpretation offered in the main document.

A.16 Outstanding Bibliographic Research

This appendix should remain open for controlled additions as the historical investigation develops.

The highest-priority additions are the precise French mandate instrument for Cameroons, the relevant League of Nations supervisory records, the specific archival inventories relating to George's ancestral community and any documents naming Ngantcha.

Further scholarly research is also required concerning traditional succession and landholding within the particular chiefdom associated with George's family.

General studies of Bamiléké institutions cannot replace that local historical reconstruction.

The legal bibliography should be expanded only after the proposed claims have been defined sufficiently to identify the relevant French, German and Cameroonian laws and procedures.

A broad collection of human rights instruments may provide context, but it cannot substitute for legal research into the laws applicable to the particular events and proposed forums.

Similarly, additional publications concerning governments-in-exile should be selected according to their relevance to the constitutional issues actually under consideration.

The initiative should avoid accumulating references merely to make the bibliography appear extensive.

Every reference should perform an identifiable research or evidential function.

A.17 Bibliographic Integrity, Corrections and Future Editions

The bibliography should be maintained as a controlled research record.

Sources that have been located should be distinguished from works that remain to be obtained.

An official publication should be distinguished from a newspaper report describing it.

A scholarly interpretation should be distinguished from the original historical evidence upon which it relies.

A family account should be preserved as testimony rather than silently converted into an independently verified finding.

If a citation is discovered to be incorrect, the correction should be recorded.

Where a source is replaced by a more authoritative publication, the original citation may remain in the research history while the main document is updated.

Historical dates, document references and personal names should be checked before the strategy is circulated formally.

This is particularly important where French, German, English and local African spelling conventions differ.

The final bibliography should include the edition or version of each source used, with page references for substantive historical and legal propositions wherever practicable.

It should also identify the date on which online sources were consulted.

The research bibliography should not imply that documents have been located when they remain outstanding.

A.18 Conclusion to Appendix A

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative requires a historical and legal foundation capable of independent examination.

The bibliography identifies several substantial sources supporting the wider subject.

The historical association between Free France and 4 Carlton Gardens is documented through English Heritage and Historic England.

German colonial records are identifiable through the Bundesarchiv.

French colonial research can be pursued through ANOM and associated institutions.

The Franco-Cameroonian historical commission provides substantial research into the period 1945–1971.

Academic work provides evidence concerning the organisation of distinct Bamiléké traditional chiefdoms.

International legal instruments provide frameworks for discussing self-determination, collective rights and reparatory remedies.

Legal scholarship and international judgments identify important limitations concerning governments-in-exile, jurisdiction and sovereign immunity.

However, these established references must be distinguished from the evidence required to verify George T. Nomen's family-specific allegations.

The suspected 1933 arrêté remains a research target.

The identity and historical position of Ngantcha require further investigation.

The reported killings and ancestral land changes require independent evidence.

The existence of a general historical pattern does not automatically establish the facts of an individual case.

The function of this bibliography is therefore to support a disciplined investigation that can accommodate both established findings and unresolved questions.

The evidential value of the proposed strategy will depend not upon the number of references it contains, but upon the accuracy with which those references are used to establish particular historical, legal and institutional propositions.

END OF APPENDIX A

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NEXT — APPENDIX B: HISTORICAL CHRONOLOGY, 1884–2026 — German Colonial Kamerun, Partition and Mandate Administration, French Colonial Decisions, Free France, Cameroonian Independence, Political Repression, Historical Research and the Development of George T. Nomen's Proposed International Strategy.

APPENDIX B

HISTORICAL CHRONOLOGY: 1884–2026

German Colonial Kamerun, French and British Administration, Bamiléké Traditional Authority, Free France, Independence, Colonial Repression, Historical Accountability and the Proposed International Reparatory Justice Initiative

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Historical Chronology and Research Register — Established Events Distinguished from Unverified Family Accounts and Proposed Institutional Actions

B.1 Purpose of the Chronology

This appendix establishes a chronological framework for the historical, legal and institutional questions examined throughout the twelve-section strategy.

The chronology begins in 1884, when Germany established its colonial protectorate over Kamerun, and continues through the succession of European administrative arrangements, the formation of Free France, Cameroonian independence, post-independence political developments and contemporary efforts to investigate historical colonial violence.

It concludes with George T. Nomen's proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative in October 2026.

The chronology serves four related purposes.

First, it establishes the sequence of governmental authorities whose records may be relevant to the investigation.

Second, it identifies the historical periods within which George's ancestral allegations must be investigated.

Third, it provides a basis for analysing the relationship between London, Free France and Cameroon.

Fourth, it separates events that have occurred from research projects, constitutional proposals and reparatory arrangements that have not yet been established.

Chronological accuracy is essential because historical attribution and legal responsibility depend upon when particular actions occurred.

An event under German colonial administration must not automatically be attributed to France.

A French administrative decision in 1933 must be examined under the mandate-era framework rather than assumed to have occurred under the post-1945 United Nations trusteeship system.

The history of political repression between 1945 and 1971 must be distinguished from the earlier circumstances described by George.

Likewise, contemporary historical acknowledgments must not be presented as proof that every earlier family allegation has been verified.

This appendix therefore forms a reference chronology for the historical evidence dossier proposed in Appendix D.

B.2 Chronological and Evidential Conventions

Each entry in the chronology should be understood according to its evidential status.

Established historical event identifies an event supported by recognised historical or official sources.

Documented institutional development identifies an identifiable legal, administrative or political development.

Research period identifies a date range that should be examined for evidence relevant to George's family.

Unverified family account identifies information supplied by George that remains subject to independent documentary or testimonial investigation.

Proposed future action identifies an activity contemplated by the current strategy, rather than an event that has already occurred.

Where historians or primary sources differ concerning an exact date, the chronology should identify the distinction rather than conceal it.

This is particularly relevant to the events surrounding Cameroon's rallying to Free France in August 1940.

The French Ministry of the Armed Forces dates the rallying to 27 August 1940. Some accounts of Leclerc's operation describe the seizure of Douala during the preceding night, between 25 and 27 August, and refer to 26 August as the operational date. These descriptions should not be treated as necessarily irreconcilable: a military operation, administrative declaration and broader consolidation may have occurred at different moments.



Ministère des Armées

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The chronology adopts 27 August as the official commemorative date while preserving the surrounding sequence.

B.3 Consolidated Chronological Overview

Date or period	Historical development	Significance for the proposed investigation
Before 1884	Bamiléké traditional communities and chiefdoms possess their own histories and political institutions	Establish the precolonial baseline; avoid assuming a single unified Bamiléké state
July 1884	German protectorate established in the Douala coastal area; German colonial expansion follows	Beginning of German colonial governmental involvement
1884–1914	German colonial administration expands inland	Relevant administrative records, territorial interventions and military history
1911	Franco-German territorial changes associated with the Agadir settlement	Important for comparing historical maps and boundaries
1914–1916	British and French forces campaign against Germany in Kamerun	Transition in effective control
1916–1922	British and French administration following German defeat	Transitional administrative records may be relevant
1922	League of Nations mandates formalise British and French administration	Important legal framework for the suspected 1933 order
1928–1938	Priority research window for George's family investigation	Search for Ngantcha and the suspected arrêté
Approximately 1933	Alleged French administrative intervention reported by George	Not independently verified
18 June 1940	De Gaulle broadcasts his appeal from London	Beginning of a central symbolic precedent

Late July 1940	Free French headquarters established at 4 Carlton Gardens	Proposed location for historical commemoration
27 August 1940	Official commemorative date of Cameroon's rallying to Free France	Central connection between London and Cameroon
1945	United Nations Charter signed	Development of the postwar international legal framework
1946	Cameroons placed under United Nations trusteeship arrangements	Distinct from the earlier League of Nations mandate
1948	Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted	Important later human rights reference, not automatically retrospective
1955	UPC suppressed and banned under French administration	Key period of anti-colonial conflict
1958	Ruben Um Nyobè killed	Central event in the independence struggle
1 January 1960	French-administered Cameroon gains independence	Major transition in governmental authority
1961	British Cameroons plebiscites and territorial changes	Important for understanding contemporary state formation
1971	Ernest Ouandié executed	Within the period examined by the modern historical commission
1972	Unitary state established following constitutional referendum	Major change from the federal arrangement
2022	French and Cameroonian presidents agree to establish a historical commission	Contemporary bilateral historical investigation
January 2025	Commission reports presented to the French and Cameroonian presidents	Major documentary and research development

2026	George's proposed international strategy developed	Current planning stage, not an established government or conference

The following sections expand this overview and explain its evidential implications.

B.4 Before 1884: Bamiléké Traditional Institutions and Ancestral Territory

The proposed historical investigation should begin before the establishment of German colonial administration.

The Bamiléké people possess histories associated with multiple traditional communities and chiefdoms, each requiring investigation according to its own institutions, lineage relationships and territorial circumstances.

The beginning of European colonial rule did not mark the beginning of Bamiléké political or social organisation.

It marked a transition in the external administration and political relationships affecting existing communities.

The historical research should therefore seek evidence concerning the traditional institutions that existed before German intervention.

This includes the relevant chiefly lineages, systems of succession, councils of notables, family structures, landholding practices and relationships between neighbouring communities.

These arrangements should not be assumed to have been identical across every Bamiléké chiefdom.

For George T. Nomen's investigation, the principal task is to identify the specific ancestral community associated with Ngantcha.

The historical position of that community must be reconstructed before researchers can determine whether colonial administration displaced a particular ruler, altered succession or interfered with ancestral territorial rights.

The absence of written European records from a particular period does not automatically establish that traditional institutions or rights did not exist.

Oral histories, customary knowledge, material evidence and historical scholarship may therefore be relevant.

However, the evidential basis of each reconstruction should be identified.

The appropriate starting point is a documented inquiry into the specific traditional community, not an assumption that all Bamiléké people previously belonged to one centralised state.

B.5 July 1884: Establishment of German Colonial Kamerun

In July 1884, German colonial authority was established through agreements and declarations in the coastal Douala area.

German control subsequently expanded into the interior.

This marked the beginning of the governmental period commonly described as German Kamerun.

The agreements associated with the establishment of the protectorate require historical examination in their own right, including the parties involved, the terms used and the circumstances of colonial expansion.

They should not automatically be interpreted as demonstrating the voluntary transfer of political authority by all communities subsequently incorporated into the colony.

For the proposed Bamiléké investigation, 1884 establishes an important chronological starting point.

The research must determine when German administrators first exercised effective authority in the particular ancestral territory concerned.

That date may be later than the initial colonial agreements concluded on the coast.

The distinction is important because the history of German expansion into inland communities differed from the circumstances of initial coastal agreements.

Researchers should examine colonial maps, administrative reports and relevant accounts of local resistance or negotiation.

The question is not simply when Germany claimed Kamerun.

It is when and how German authority affected George's ancestral community.

B.6 1884–1914: German Expansion and Administration

During the following decades, German colonial administration expanded and developed institutions concerned with taxation, labour, commerce, policing, transportation, military operations and territorial governance.

The effects of these policies varied across regions and communities.

German administrative documents may contain information concerning traditional rulers, community relationships, territorial disputes and military interventions.

The Bundesarchiv preserves records relevant to Kamerun, including the central Reich Colonial Office and colonial governmental, district and military collections.

These records may help reconstruct the political circumstances existing before French administration.

For George's investigation, particular attention should be given to documents identifying the ancestral chiefdom, relevant persons or changes in territorial relationships.

A German colonial official's recognition of a traditional leader may provide evidence concerning colonial administrative practice.

It does not necessarily prove that the recognised person was legitimate under customary succession arrangements.

Similarly, a colonial map may provide evidence of the administration's geographical understanding without conclusively establishing the customary rights of affected communities.

The research should therefore compare German documentation with traditional and later French sources.

B.7 1911: Franco-German Territorial Reorganisation

The diplomatic settlement associated with the Agadir Crisis in 1911 resulted in territorial changes affecting German Kamerun and neighbouring French-controlled territories.

Areas often referred to as *Neukamerun* were incorporated into German colonial possessions.

The precise geographical implications depend upon the territory being examined.

This development is relevant to the proposed historical mapping programme because colonial maps produced before and after 1911 may show different boundaries.

The research should not assume that every change in an imperial boundary altered the customary rights of a particular community.

However, such changes may have affected administrative authority, recordkeeping and the institutions responsible for making decisions.

Researchers should compare the relevant maps and agreements when reconstructing the history of a particular territory.

B.8 1914–1916: The First World War and the End of German Rule

The outbreak of the First World War in 1914 produced military campaigns against German colonial possessions.

British and French forces participated in operations against Germany in Kamerun.

German colonial rule ended as Allied forces established control.

This period may have resulted in the creation, displacement or redistribution of administrative records.

The transition is relevant because acts affecting traditional authorities or territories may have occurred during military occupation and subsequent administrative reorganisation.

For George's case, researchers should determine whether the relevant ancestor or traditional institution was affected during this transition.

If an alleged death or displacement occurred during the German period or the military campaign ending German rule, the historical attribution would differ from a later French administrative decision.

The chronology should therefore avoid grouping all colonial events under one undifferentiated category.

B.9 1916–1922: Transitional British and French Administration

Following Germany's defeat in Kamerun, Britain and France administered different parts of the former German territory.

The arrangements developed into the mandate system formalised under the League of Nations.

For the proposed research, this transitional period is important because administrative practices and records did not necessarily change immediately or uniformly.

German-era boundaries, local political arrangements or colonial appointments may have influenced subsequent French decisions.

French administrators may also have relied upon reports produced by earlier authorities.

Researchers seeking evidence concerning Ngantcha should therefore consider whether documents created before 1922 explain the circumstances subsequently addressed by a French order.

The investigation should examine changes in administrative districts, territorial names and the recognition of traditional authorities.

B.10 1922: The League of Nations Mandates

In 1922, the mandate arrangements for the British and French administered parts of Cameroon were formalised.

This period is particularly important to George's historical investigation because the suspected 1933 French order would have been issued during the League of Nations mandate era.

The legal framework was not identical to that governing an ordinary metropolitan French administrative decision.

The administration of mandated territories was subject to particular international arrangements, including reporting and supervision.

The precise terms of the French mandate must be examined in the original legal instruments.

For the historical investigation, researchers should identify annual reports submitted concerning French Cameroons and records associated with League of Nations supervision.

Such sources may describe traditional authorities, administrative arrangements, local disputes or complaints.

However, the existence of mandate supervision does not establish that every administrative intervention breached international obligations.

The legal consequences of a particular decision would require examination of its facts and the law applicable at the time.

B.11 1922–1932: The Period Preceding the Suspected French Arrêté

The decade before 1933 should receive particular attention.

If a French administrative instrument altered traditional authority or territorial arrangements during 1933, the circumstances leading to that decision may have developed over several preceding years.

The investigation should therefore look for earlier correspondence concerning succession, chiefly recognition, land administration, population movements, disputes or administrative reform.

The historical identity of Ngantcha should be investigated within this broader context.

Researchers should establish whether he appears in colonial records before the suspected intervention.

They should identify any alternative spelling of his name and any title associated with him.

If another person subsequently replaced him or assumed a related position, earlier records may help establish the sequence.

A later order should not be interpreted in isolation where the underlying dispute or administrative process can be reconstructed.

The research period should therefore include approximately 1928–1932 as an initial priority, with earlier searches where necessary.

B.12 Approximately 1933: The Alleged Administrative Intervention Concerning Ngantcha

George T. Nomen has identified a French colonial *arrêté*, believed to date from approximately 1933, as a potentially important instrument concerning his family's historical circumstances.

The original document has not yet been independently located and verified within this research.

Consequently, the date, issuing authority, legal basis, wording and effect remain to be established.

The chronology must not describe the alleged order as an authenticated document.

Nor should it assume that the instrument, if located, necessarily confirms every element of the family account.

An *arrêté* may concern appointment, recognition, dismissal, administrative boundaries or another subject.

The specific content must be examined.

The search should also remain open to the possibility that the relevant act was a *décision*, decree or other form of administrative instrument.

The priority task is to locate any relevant original document together with associated correspondence.

Once located, the document should be transcribed and translated accurately.

Its historical significance should then be assessed against customary evidence, contemporary records and the circumstances described by George.

This is a central outstanding research question rather than an established dated event.

B.13 1933–1939: Investigating the Consequences of the Alleged Intervention

The years following the suspected order may contain important evidence concerning its consequences.

If a traditional authority was replaced, subsequent administrative documents may identify the person recognised in the position.

If ancestral land was reorganised, maps, registration records or correspondence may reveal how the relevant territory was subsequently administered.

If community disputes followed, petitions or official reports may refer to earlier decisions.

The investigation should therefore examine at least several years after the suspected intervention.

A later record may provide the first identifiable reference to an earlier administrative act.

The research should also seek local oral histories concerning the same period.

Where accounts differ, the chronology should preserve those differences.

The purpose is to establish what occurred and how the events developed, rather than assume a continuous sequence of wrongdoing from one unverified starting point.

B.14 The Reported Deaths of George's Father and Grandfather: Dates Not Yet Established

George has reported that his father and grandfather were killed by colonial forces.

The dates of the deaths have not yet been established within the present documentary record.

Accordingly, these events cannot responsibly be placed at a specific point in the chronology.

The investigation must identify each person, the circumstances of death and the authority alleged to have been responsible.

The distinction matters because the applicable political and legal circumstances differ considerably between German colonial rule, French mandate administration and later periods.

The chronology should therefore contain separate provisional entries for each reported death once the relevant dates can be narrowed.

Until that work is completed, the events should remain in a dedicated unresolved-history register rather than being assigned to 1933 or any other year without evidence.

B.15 18 June 1940: De Gaulle's Appeal from London

On 18 June 1940, General Charles de Gaulle broadcast his appeal through the BBC after France's military defeat.

The appeal became a defining historical reference for continued French resistance during the Second World War.

It established a symbolic connection between London and the subsequent development of Free France.

However, the broadcast did not itself constitute the immediate establishment of all the institutions that later formed the Free French political movement.

Those developed through successive military, political and international arrangements.

For the proposed Bamiléké strategy, the date provides a historically significant point of comparison.

It illustrates how a movement operating from abroad developed a public appeal and subsequently sought to establish practical political authority.

The analogy must nevertheless be examined in its historical circumstances.

B.16 Late July 1940: Establishment of Free French Headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens

In late July 1940, de Gaulle established Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens, London.

The site is officially commemorated through an English Heritage blue plaque.

This building provides the central historical location proposed for a London-based Bamiléké commemorative ceremony.

Its significance derives from the activities undertaken there during the development of Free France.

The proposed initiative should not treat the historical use of the building as conferring rights of occupation upon a contemporary organisation.

Rather, the location could serve as the setting for an appropriately authorised historical statement concerning colonial accountability and institutional organisation.

The precise historical functions associated with number 3 and number 4 Carlton Gardens should be preserved accurately in the final illustrated document.

B.17 25–27 August 1940: Cameroon's Rallying to Free France

The rallying of French-administered Cameroon to Free France is particularly significant within the proposed strategy.

Accounts describe Philippe Leclerc and his companions entering Douala during the night operations of 25–27 August 1940, supported by military personnel who favoured the Free French movement.

The French Ministry of the Armed Forces records 27 August 1940 as the date of Cameroon's rallying.

This event contributed to the development of the African territorial base of Free France.

It also demonstrates that the political and military development of Free France was connected to colonial territories and African personnel.

For the proposed London conference, the event raises questions concerning the political and material contributions of Cameroon to a movement seeking the liberation of France.

These questions may be explored alongside the later history of French colonial policy and repression.

However, participation in the Free French movement does not, without further evidence and law, establish a specific entitlement to contemporary reparations.

The historical relationship is significant, but its legal implications require separate examination.

B.18 October 1940: De Gaulle's Visit to Cameroon and the Consolidation of Free French Authority

De Gaulle visited Douala in October 1940 as the Free French movement continued developing its territorial and military base.

This visit forms part of the wider historical sequence connecting London, Cameroon and Free France.

The movement's institutions evolved during the following years.

The chronology should distinguish the initial rallying of a territory from subsequent consolidation of military and political authority.

For the proposed initiative, this provides additional material for comparative research concerning governments operating outside the territory they ultimately sought to govern.

The comparison should remain historical and analytical.

It should not be used to presume that a contemporary Bamiléké institution possesses equivalent legal status.

B.19 1945–1946: From the Second World War to the United Nations Trusteeship System

The United Nations Charter was signed in June 1945 and entered into force in October 1945.

Following the Second World War, the international framework for administering former mandated territories changed.

The League of Nations mandate system was replaced by arrangements under the United Nations trusteeship system.

In December 1946, trusteeship agreements concerning the Cameroons were approved within the United Nations framework.

This transition is important for legal and archival research.

An administrative decision made in 1933 belonged to the League of Nations mandate period.

An administrative decision made after the trusteeship arrangements took effect must be examined within the later legal framework.

The two periods should not be conflated.

United Nations trusteeship records may provide historical evidence concerning the development of administration, political movements and complaints during the later period.

B.20 1948: Adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 1948.

The Declaration became an influential statement of international human rights principles.

Its relevance to the proposed initiative concerns the evolution of international norms and subsequent human rights law.

However, adoption of the Declaration did not automatically make every provision directly enforceable as a treaty obligation, nor does it automatically determine the legality of events occurring in 1933.

The proposed legal analysis should distinguish the historical development of rights from the law applicable to particular acts.

B.21 The 1950s: The Growth of Cameroonian Independence Movements

The period following the Second World War witnessed increasing political organisation and demands for independence in French-administered Cameroon.

The Union des populations du Cameroun, or UPC, became a major force within the independence movement.

The decade also witnessed increasing conflict between nationalist movements and the French administration.

These events form an important part of the historical context examined by the later Franco-Cameroonian research commission.

The history of the UPC should be investigated through scholarly research, primary records and the published commission report.

It should not be reduced to a single undifferentiated narrative of violence or resistance.

Different political actors, communities and institutions participated in the events.

The proposed chronology should distinguish political organisation, governmental measures, military operations and the experiences of civilian populations.

B.22 1955: Suppression and Prohibition of the UPC

In 1955, French authorities prohibited the UPC during a period of escalating political conflict.

The prohibition became a significant development in the history of Cameroonian independence and repression.

The events surrounding the decision should be investigated through the relevant historical records.

For the proposed Bamiléké strategy, the significance lies in the relationship between colonial governance, political opposition and the subsequent development of armed conflict.

However, the existence of repression during the 1950s should not automatically be treated as evidence of George's specific family allegations concerning the earlier 1930s.

The periods may contain institutional continuities, but those connections require documentary research.

B.23 1958: The Killing of Ruben Um Nyobè

Ruben Um Nyobè, an important UPC leader, was killed in September 1958 during the conflict involving French colonial authorities and independence movements.

His death occupies a central position within the history of Cameroonian anti-colonial politics.

The circumstances and wider context are relevant to the 2025 commission's historical investigation.

The proposed conference could examine these events as part of the broader history of colonial repression.

Nevertheless, the historical record should distinguish individual events, responsible actors and their evidential basis.

The findings concerning particular political leaders should not substitute for investigation of unrelated family claims.

B.24 1 January 1960: Independence of French-Administered Cameroon

On 1 January 1960, the Republic of Cameroon became independent from French administration.

Ahmadou Ahidjo became the country's first president.

This marked a major constitutional and international transition.

For the proposed legal strategy, independence is relevant to questions concerning state succession, the continuity of administrative arrangements and responsibility for events occurring before and after independence.

An historical injury caused during colonial rule does not automatically disappear because the governing territory becomes independent.

However, the legal consequences of independence must be assessed according to the relevant rights, obligations and applicable rules.

The chronology should distinguish France's colonial administration from later actions undertaken by independent Cameroonian institutions.

B.25 February–October 1961: British Cameroons and the Formation of the Federal Republic

In February 1961, United Nations-supervised plebiscites were held concerning the political future of the British-administered Cameroons.

The Northern Cameroons and Southern Cameroons followed different constitutional paths.

Northern Cameroons joined Nigeria, while Southern Cameroons joined the Republic of Cameroon.

On 1 October 1961, the Federal Republic of Cameroon was established.

This development is important for understanding Cameroon's contemporary territorial and constitutional history.

It also illustrates that the division and subsequent reorganisation of former colonial territories involved distinct political and legal processes.

The proposed Bamiléké strategy should not assume that all historical territorial issues can be resolved through a single constitutional model.

The position of each relevant territory and community requires specific investigation.

B.26 1971: The Execution of Ernest Ouandié

Ernest Ouandié, a prominent UPC figure, was executed in January 1971.

His death marks an important event near the end of the period examined by the modern Franco-Cameroonian historical commission.

The commission's remit extends to 1971 because the history of repression and political opposition did not end with Cameroon's formal independence in 1960.

This is an important distinction.

Independence as a constitutional event does not necessarily mark the immediate end of every conflict associated with colonial governance or anti-colonial movements.

Nevertheless, the attribution of particular actions after independence requires careful historical and legal examination.

The investigation should avoid attributing all post-independence conduct to France without examining the relevant evidence of involvement.

B.27 1972: The Establishment of a Unitary State

In 1972, Cameroon adopted a unitary constitutional arrangement following a referendum, replacing the earlier federal structure.

This was a further major development in the country's political and constitutional history.

The change is relevant to the wider government-in-exile discussion because contemporary governmental and territorial authority must be considered in the context of Cameroon's subsequent constitutional development.

However, the establishment of a unitary state does not itself determine the customary history of every traditional chiefdom.

The relationship between customary institutions and contemporary state administration remains a distinct subject requiring legal and historical investigation.

B.28 1980: The United Kingdom Changes Its Governmental Recognition Practice

On 28 April 1980, the United Kingdom announced its policy of recognising states rather than formally recognising governments as a routine separate practice.

This development is relevant to the proposed government-in-exile question.

An institution established in London should not assume that the British government will issue formal governmental recognition merely because the institution claims to represent a people.

The possibility of meeting officials, organising conferences or establishing an association must be distinguished from diplomatic recognition or sovereign authority.

This date is therefore included as a legal and institutional reference rather than an event within Cameroonian colonial history.

B.29 2005: United Nations Reparations Principles

On 16 December 2005, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 60/147 concerning the right to a remedy and reparation for victims of gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law.

The associated principles identify categories including restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.

They provide a relevant framework for considering contemporary reparatory justice mechanisms.

However, they do not independently resolve the legal responsibility associated with historical acts from the 1930s or establish an enforceable claim for every descendant.

Their importance lies in helping structure the discussion of potential remedies and their administration.

B.30 July 2022: Agreement to Establish a Franco-Cameroonian Historical Commission

During a visit to Cameroon in July 2022, the French and Cameroonian presidents agreed upon a process intended to investigate France's role and involvement in the repression of independence and opposition movements.

The subsequent multidisciplinary commission included historical research and cultural components.

The initiative was concerned principally with the period from 1945 to 1971.

Its establishment demonstrates that the historical relationship between France and Cameroon had become the subject of a formal bilateral research process.

For George's proposed strategy, the commission provides a relevant institutional precedent and possible source of research expertise.

It does not establish that a corresponding commission has investigated his family or the suspected 1933 administrative decision.

B.31 21 and 28 January 2025: Delivery of the Commission Report

The historical research report was presented to the French president on 21 January 2025 and to the Cameroonian president on 28 January 2025.

The research component was directed by historian Karine Ramondy.

Its substantial findings concern France's role and involvement in repression of independence and opposition movements in Cameroon between 1945 and 1971.

The report was accompanied by recommendations concerning remembrance and historical work.

The precise content of those findings should be cited by page when incorporated into the main strategy.

The report creates a substantial body of research relevant to contemporary discussion of historical accountability.

However, its principal period does not include George's suspected 1933 order.

Any proposed extension of historical investigation into the earlier mandate period would therefore require additional research.

B.32 February 2025: French and Cameroonian Commitment to Continuing Historical Work

Following publication of the commission's findings, the French government stated its intention to continue the historical and remembrance process in cooperation with Cameroon.

This development is important because it identifies an existing institutional subject for further diplomatic enquiry.

A proposed Bamiléké initiative could ask whether research concerning the earlier mandate period might be considered within existing or future historical cooperation arrangements.

Such an enquiry should be distinguished from a demand that France accept responsibility for an unverified family allegation.

The appropriate first step would be to establish the relevant evidence and request guidance concerning archival research.

B.33 2026: Development of George T. Nomen's European Strategy

During 2026, George T. Nomen's historical investigations and proposal for an international Bamiléké institution became the subject of discussions concerning European archival research and reparatory justice.

The proposed strategy considers the former Free French headquarters in London as a possible symbolic location for a historical ceremony.

It also examines the establishment of an international conference and the possibility of a provisional representative council or government-in-exile.

These remain proposals.

The existence of the present document does not establish that a Bamiléké government-in-exile has been founded.

Nor does it establish that a conference has been formally convened, that participating traditional authorities have granted mandates or that governments have agreed to negotiate reparations.

The appropriate description is that a strategic research and institutional proposal has been developed for consultation.

B.34 9 October 2026: Completion of the Twelve-Section Strategy

As of 9 October 2026, the substantive twelve-section strategy has been drafted.

Its principal components concern historical investigation, archival research, the London conference, government-in-exile precedents, legal feasibility, community representation, constitutional safeguards, IBIS and the verifiable administration of reparatory justice.

The strategy has also begun developing supporting appendices.

Completion of the written strategy is a documentary milestone.

It is not evidence that the proposed activities have been implemented.

The next stage would involve review by George and consultation with relevant participants.

The historical allegations remain subject to verification.

The institutional arrangements remain subject to authorisation.

Any legal claims remain subject to specialist assessment.

Any conference arrangements remain subject to practical and financial feasibility.

B.35 The Unresolved Family Chronology

The following chronology is deliberately incomplete.

It records the specific family-related questions requiring investigation without assigning unsupported dates.

Event or relationship	Current date status	Evidence required
Birth of Ngantcha	Unknown	Genealogy, testimony, records
Position or role held by Ngantcha	Unknown	Traditional records, archival references
Relationship between Ngantcha and George	Not yet independently verified	Genealogical reconstruction
Alleged replacement of traditional authority	Unknown; approximately 1933 is a research lead	Administrative order, related correspondence, customary evidence
Alleged killing of George's grandfather	Unknown	Identity, date, place, circumstances and attribution
Alleged killing of George's father	Unknown	Identity, date, place, circumstances and attribution
Alleged ancestral land division or dispossession	Unknown	Historical maps, records, testimony
Continuing consequences for descendants	Not yet independently established	Chronological and legal investigation

The absence of precise dates is itself an important finding concerning the present state of the investigation.

It identifies the work needed before responsible legal attribution or reparatory claims can be developed.

The chronology should be updated when reliable evidence becomes available.

Earlier entries should not be silently replaced.

B.36 How the Historical Chronology Should Be Used

The chronology should be treated as a research instrument.

It should assist historians in identifying relevant periods and administrative authorities.

It should help archivists determine where documents may have been created and subsequently deposited.

It should help genealogists reconstruct family relationships and changes in customary or civil records.

It should assist legal specialists in determining which laws and jurisdictions may be relevant.

It should provide the proposed London conference with a common historical framework.

The chronology should not itself be treated as conclusive proof of particular allegations.

Its entries should remain linked to the underlying sources.

Where evidence is contradictory, the competing dates should be recorded.

Where a precise date cannot be established, the appropriate approximate period should be used.

Where an event remains an allegation, that status should remain visible.

The objective is a historical record capable of independent examination and progressive correction.

B.37 Conclusion to Appendix B

The proposed Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative concerns a historical sequence extending across different governments, territorial arrangements and international legal frameworks.

The German colonial period began in 1884 and continued until Germany lost control of Kamerun during the First World War.

French and British administration followed.

The League of Nations mandate framework became particularly relevant to French administration during the period surrounding the suspected 1933 order.

The Second World War created a further historical connection between Cameroon and France through Cameroon's rallying to Free France.

London became the organisational centre of the Free French movement, with 4 Carlton Gardens serving as its headquarters.

After the war, the United Nations trusteeship system replaced the mandate arrangements.

Cameroonian independence and later constitutional changes established new governmental circumstances.

The history of repression associated with the independence struggle has become the subject of substantial contemporary investigation, including the Franco-Cameroonian historical commission reporting in 2025.

George T. Nomen's family investigation must be situated accurately within this wider history.

The suspected 1933 administrative intervention, the identity of Ngantcha, the reported killings and the alleged ancestral land changes remain matters requiring verification.

The proposed London conference could provide a forum for examining these historical questions and developing international research relationships.

However, the chronology does not establish the constitutional authority of a government-in-exile or the legal entitlement of any particular claimant.

Those conclusions require separate evidence, consultation and legal assessment.

The historical chronology should establish what can be known about the past before institutions seek to determine what authority may be exercised or what remedies may be justified in the present.

END OF APPENDIX B

B.38 Primary Sources and Verification Notes

The following sources support the principal dated events in this appendix and should be retained in the document's bibliography.

Historical period	Principal source
German and French colonial administration; independence and constitutional development	Larousse — History of Cameroon LAROUSSE
Free France headquarters, July 1940	English Heritage — 4 Carlton Gardens English Heritage
Cameroon's rallying to Free France, 27 August 1940	French Ministry of the Armed Forces — 27 August 1940 Chemins de mémoire

Alternative accounts of the August 1940 operations	Fondation de la France Libre — Leclerc in Cameroon  Fondation de la France Libre
United Nations trusteeship, December 1946	UN Trusteeship Documentation  United Nations Research
British Cameroons plebiscites, 1961	UN Trusteeship Council — Plebiscite Record  Digital Library
Cameroonian nationalism and early independence	Jean-François Bayart — L'Union nationale camerounaise (1970)  Persée
Franco-Cameroonian commission, January 2025	French Presidency — Commission Report  elysee.fr
Cameroon government's receipt of the report	Presidency of Cameroon — 28 January 2025 PRC

Editorial clarification

Three distinctions must be preserved when the chronology is incorporated into the final document.

First, 27 August 1940 is the official date used for Cameroon's rallying to Free France, although historical narratives describe military operations taking place across the surrounding days.

Second, Ahmadou Ahidjo became prime minister before independence and president in May 1960, not on 1 January 1960 itself.



LAROUSSE

Third, the Franco-Cameroonian commission report was presented in Paris on 21 January 2025 and Yaoundé on 28 January 2025. These were separate presentation events.



elysee.fr

The chronology should remain open to further corrections based on primary archival evidence, particularly once the identity of Ngantcha and the alleged 1933 administrative instrument can be investigated more precisely.

END OF APPENDIX B

NEXT — APPENDIX C: HISTORICAL MAPS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND ILLUSTRATIONS — An Illustrated Record of German Kamerun, French and British Administration, Bamiléké Traditional Territories, Free France, 4 Carlton Gardens and Relevant Historical Archives, with Captions, Dates, Provenance and Reproduction-Rights Information.

APPENDIX C

HISTORICAL MAPS, PHOTOGRAPHS, ILLUSTRATIONS AND VISUAL EVIDENCE REGISTER

German Colonial Kamerun, French and British Administration, Bamiléké Traditional Territories, Free France, 4 Carlton Gardens, European Archives and the Reconstruction of Ancestral History

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Illustrated Research Appendix — Identified Images, Source Records, Proposed Captions, Copyright Requirements and Outstanding Visual Research

C.1 Purpose of the Illustrated Appendix

The purpose of this appendix is to identify, organise and interpret the historical maps, photographs, documents and illustrations relevant to the proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative.

Visual material has particular importance because the historical questions concern territory, traditional institutions, colonial administration, individuals, governmental authority and physical locations.

A map may demonstrate how a colonial administration represented a territory at a particular date. A photograph may establish the appearance of a building, person or event. An image of an original administrative instrument may identify its issuing authority and wording. A historical aerial photograph or survey may assist in reconstructing changes to land use or settlement.

However, an image must not be treated as proving more than its provenance and content justify.

A colonial map is evidence of how territory was represented by the institution producing it. It does not automatically establish the legitimacy of that institution's territorial claims.

A photograph of a Bamiléké palace may illustrate a particular traditional institution. It does not establish that the palace belonged to George T. Nomen's ancestral family.

A photograph of Charles de Gaulle's London headquarters may establish the building's historical association. It does not confer rights of occupation upon a proposed contemporary organisation.

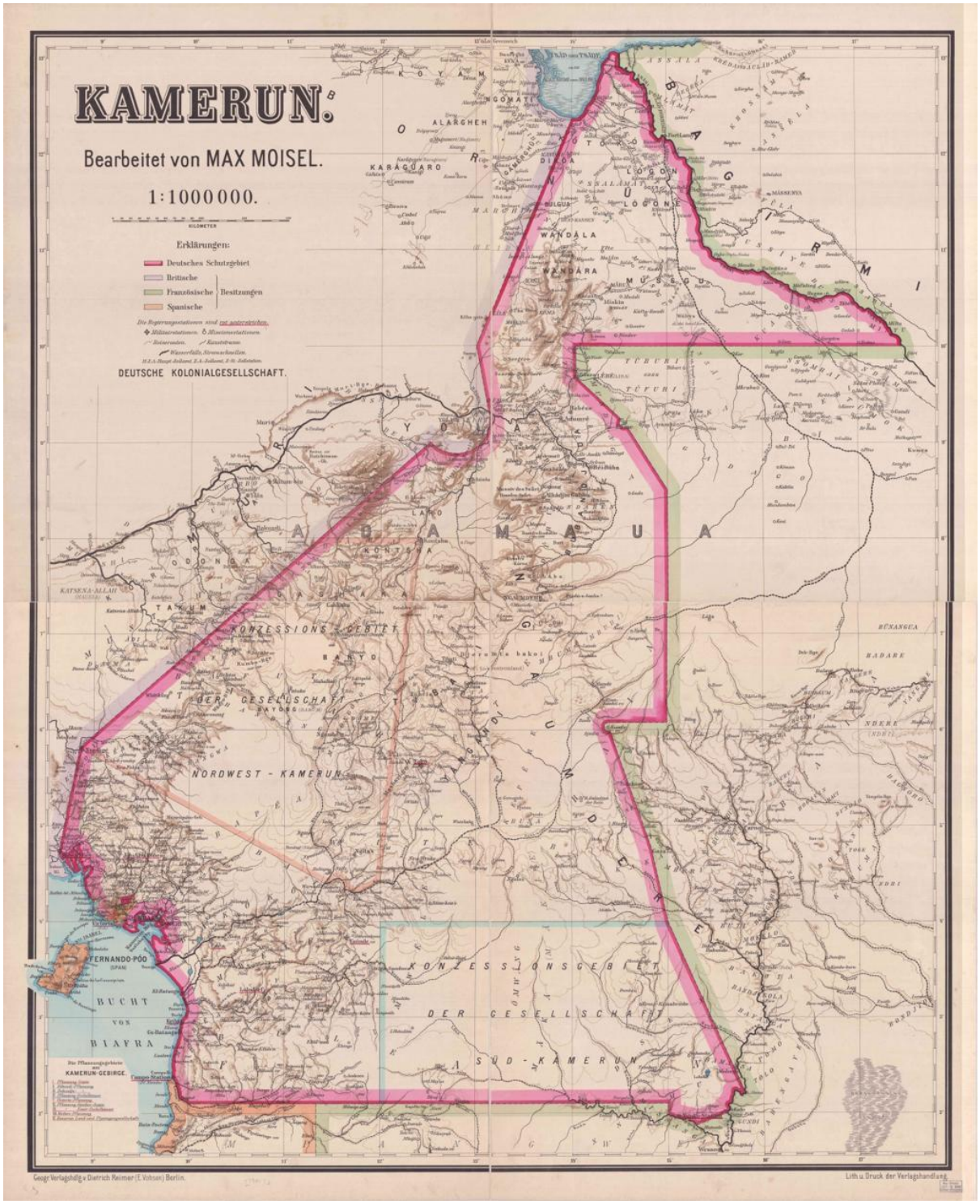
A photograph of a colonial military force does not establish its responsibility for a particular killing without further evidence.

The illustrated appendix should therefore operate as a visual evidence register rather than a decorative picture collection.

Each image should be assigned an identifier, source, date, description, proposed caption and reproduction status.

The proposed illustrations below are organised to follow the historical and institutional subjects developed in the twelve main sections.

C.2 Visual One: German Kamerun Before the First World War



blogs.loc.gov

Historical German colonial cartography of Kamerun. The map illustrates administrative territorial representation, not proof of lawful or consensual sovereignty over every community shown.

The Library of Congress has published a study entitled Competing Cartographies in Cameroon, examining maps associated with German colonial expansion and the competing ways in which Cameroon was represented geographically.

Its materials include an early German colonial map prepared by cartographer Max Moisel.

Library of Congress — Competing Cartographies in Cameroon

The image is important because it illustrates the geographical scale of German colonial ambitions and the manner in which imperial boundaries were recorded.

Such maps should be examined alongside the agreements, military interventions and administrative processes through which German authority expanded.

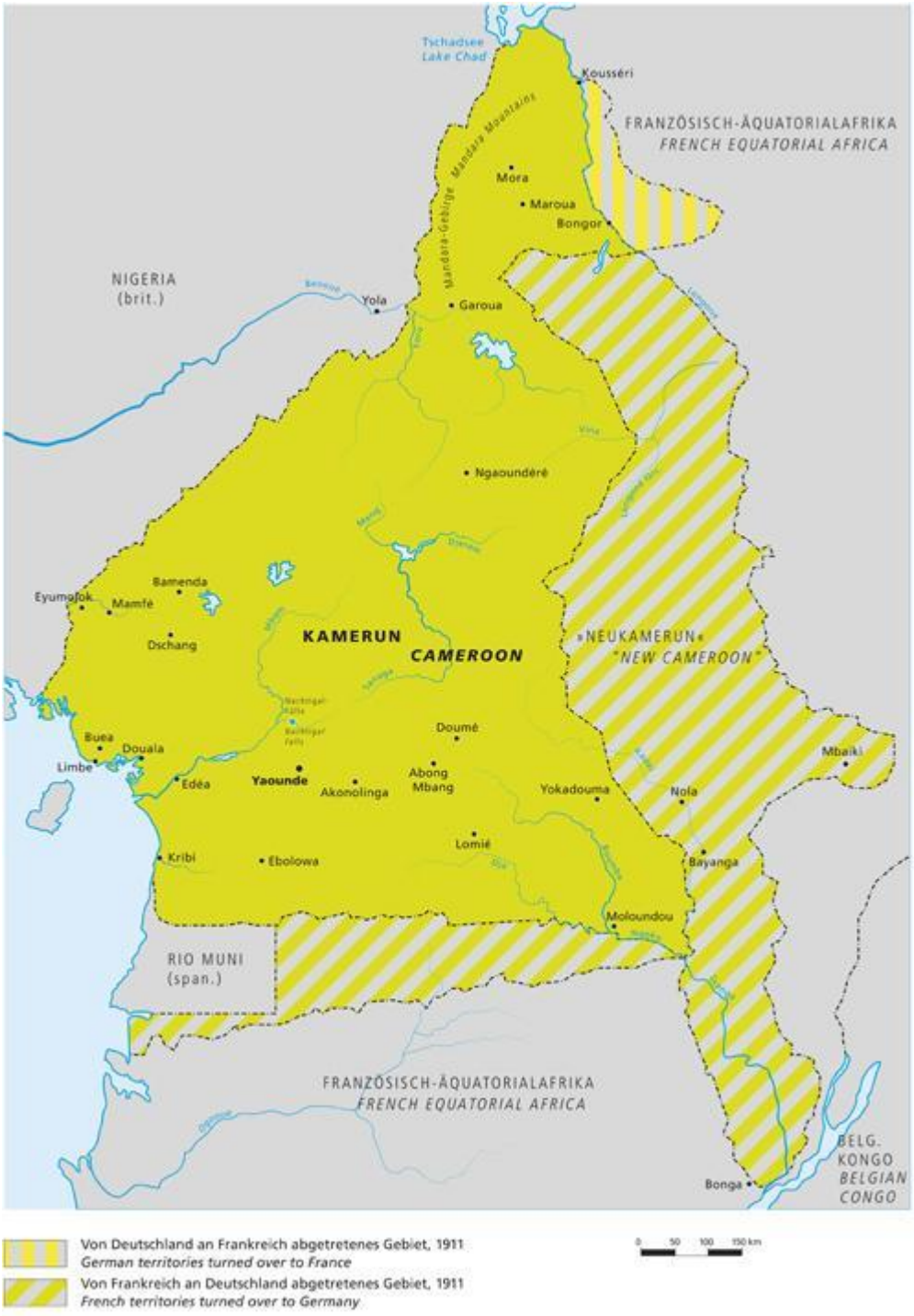
Proposed caption for the final document:

Figure C1. German colonial cartography of Kamerun. The map illustrates the territorial representation of Kamerun under German colonial administration. Its boundaries and labels reflect the historical cartographic practices of the period and should not be assumed to establish the customary territorial rights of the populations concerned.

The original map's specific creation date, scale and institutional reference should be verified from the Library of Congress catalogue before final reproduction.

Bundesarchiv

C.3 Visual Two: Kamerun and Neukamerun, 1911–1914



Historical map illustrating German Kamerun and the territories associated with the 1911 Franco-German territorial changes.

The German Historical Museum provides a historical map distinguishing Kamerun from Neukamerun, the territory associated with the Franco-German settlement of 1911.

German Historical Museum — German Colony of Kamerun

This image may be particularly useful in explaining the changes to imperial boundaries before the First World War.

However, the image does not establish that George's ancestral territory was affected by the 1911 arrangement.

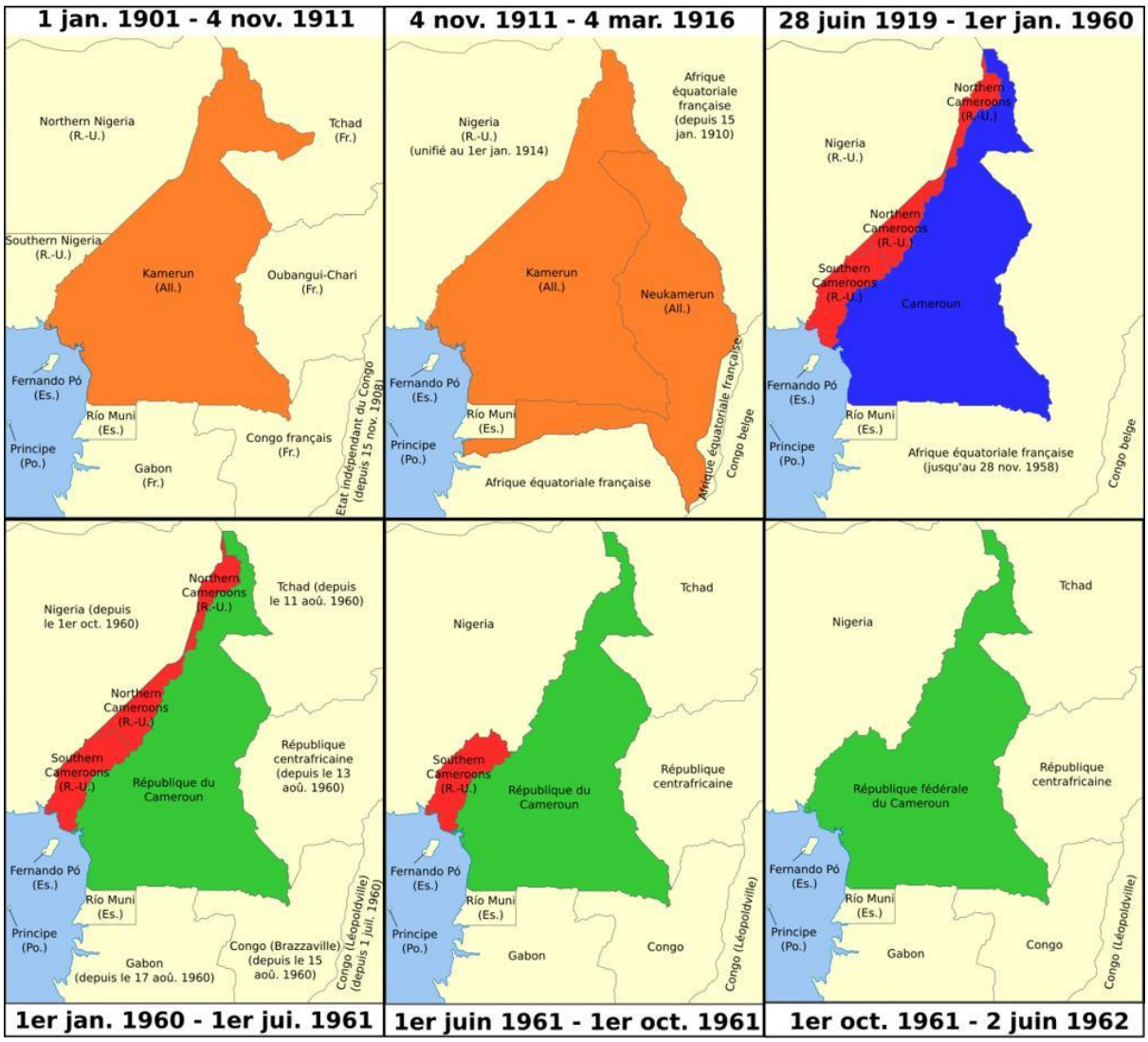
That requires identification of the relevant chiefdom and comparison with maps showing its particular geographical location.

Proposed caption:

Figure C2. German Kamerun and Neukamerun during the later colonial period. The map illustrates the territorial extent associated with German administration following the 1911 Franco-German settlement. Further local mapping is required before any conclusion can be drawn about the ancestral territory under investigation.

The map should be accompanied by a rights or permission assessment before incorporation into a distributed publication.

C.4 Visual Three: French and British Cameroons



Retrospective cartographic illustration of the British-administered Cameroons and the larger French-administered territory. The illustration must be described as a modern reconstruction rather than a contemporary 1922 map.

Following Germany's defeat, the former German colony was divided into territories administered by France and Britain.

A historical illustration of the resulting division is necessary because the proposed legal strategy must distinguish the jurisdiction responsible for particular colonial decisions.

The Wikimedia Commons image Map of British Cameroons.svg provides a later cartographic representation and is identified as a derivative work released under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 licence.

Wikimedia Commons — Map of British Cameroons

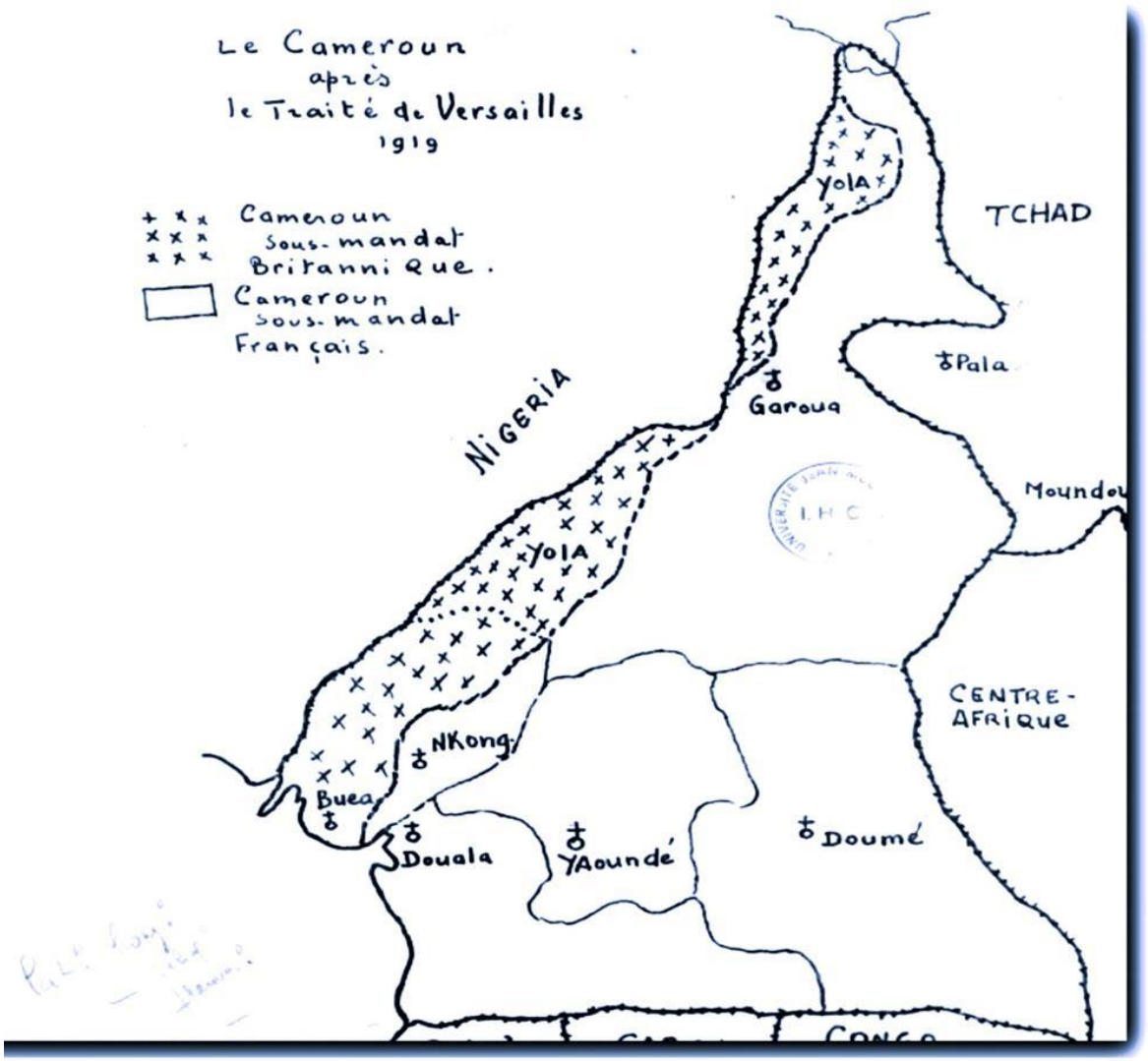
Proposed caption:

Figure C3. Retrospective map illustrating the British-administered Cameroons in relation to French-administered Cameroon. The map is provided as a modern explanatory reconstruction and should not be confused with an original League of Nations boundary instrument.

The territorial history is important to George's investigation because the suspected 1933 arrêté would have arisen under French mandate administration if the reported chronology is correct.

The original mandate instruments and associated boundary records should be treated as primary legal and historical evidence.

C.5 Visual Four: The Original 1922 French Mandate Instrument



The French Mandate for the Cameroons, issued under League of Nations authority in 1922. This is a legal instrument rather than a map.

A particularly valuable document has been identified for the illustrated appendix.

The French Mandate for the Cameroons, published in 1922 as League of Nations document C.449(1).M.345(1).1922.VI, is available as a thirteen-page scanned document.

1922 French Mandate — Scanned Document

Its text identifies the international framework under which France undertook administration of the relevant territory.

The instrument also references the territorial boundary established through the Franco-British declaration of 10 July 1919.

Wikimedia Commons

This is directly relevant to George's suspected 1933 French administrative decision.

Before determining whether that decision was lawfully made, researchers must understand the legal framework through which French authorities exercised governmental powers at the time.

Proposed caption:

Figure C4. French Mandate for the Cameroons, League of Nations, 1922. The instrument established the international mandate framework governing French administration during the period in which the suspected 1933 administrative decision may have occurred.

The scan is identified as public domain on its Wikimedia Commons source page, although the repository's specific source and quality should be retained in the final citation.

C.6 Visual Five: Bamiléké Traditional Architectural Heritage



routedeschefferies.com

Traditional architecture associated with the Bandjoun chiefdom in Cameroon's Western Region. This is contextual evidence of a Bamiléké traditional institution, not a photograph of Ngantcha's identified ancestral property.

The Wikimedia Commons collection includes Bandjoun Palace, photographed by Buma Peter on 14 July 2018.

The source identifies the photograph as depicting the residential quarter associated with the Bandjoun royal families.

Wikimedia Commons — Bandjoun Palace

The photographer has made the image available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 licence.

Wikimedia Commons

This image is useful because it shows that traditional Bamiléké authority is associated with identifiable places and institutions.

However, Bandjoun should not be assumed to be George's ancestral chiefdom.

His particular family and community must first be identified.

Proposed caption:

Figure C5. Traditional royal architecture associated with the Bandjoun chiefdom, West Region, Cameroon. Photograph: Buma Peter, 14 July 2018. CC BY-SA 4.0. The image illustrates Bamiléké traditional institutional heritage but does not identify the ancestral territory or traditional authority involved in George T. Nomen's investigation.

C.7 Visual Six: Bamiléké Architectural Design and Cultural Institutions



Traditional carved architectural elements associated with Bamiléké chiefly institutions in western Cameroon.

A further illustration could present the sculptural and architectural characteristics of a Bamiléké traditional compound.

Such imagery may assist readers unfamiliar with the institutions whose historical authority is under investigation.

However, architectural representation should not substitute for historical evidence concerning the succession or administrative recognition of a particular ruler.

The Wikimedia Commons photograph Ancient Bamileke architecture, the Bandjoun palace, attributed to Bamiboi, is licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0.

Wikimedia Commons — Traditional Bamiléké Architecture

The original photograph is relatively low resolution and may not be suitable for a large-format publication.

Wikimedia Commons

Proposed caption:

Figure C6. Architectural heritage associated with the Bandjoun chiefdom. The image provides an example of traditional Bamiléké built heritage. It should not be interpreted as documentation of the specific chiefly lineage or territory involved in George T. Nomen's historical account.

A high-quality and appropriately licensed photograph should be preferred for the final illustrated publication.

C.8 Visual Seven: The Former Free French Headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens



europeremembers.com

4 Carlton Gardens, St James's, London — the historical building associated with the Free French headquarters.

Historic England identifies an exterior photograph of 4 Carlton Gardens under archival reference DP187019.

The photograph was taken by Lucy Millson-Watkins on 11 March 2016.

The image shows the exterior of the building and the commemorative blue plaque.

Historic England — DP187019

Historic England identifies the copyright holder as the Historic England Archive.



Historic England

The photograph should therefore not be reproduced in a distributed document without determining the applicable permission or licence.

Proposed caption:

Figure C7. Exterior of 4 Carlton Gardens, St James's, London, associated with the headquarters of the Free French Forces in 1940. Photograph: Lucy Millson-Watkins, 11 March 2016. Historic England Archive, reference DP187019. © Historic England Archive.

The historical significance of the building should be described accurately.

The site provides a legitimate subject for commemoration, public historical education and the proposed conference's symbolic narrative.

It does not establish that contemporary organisers possess rights of occupation or ownership.

C.9 Visual Eight: The Blue Plaque to Charles de Gaulle



Commemorative plaque identifying 4 Carlton Gardens as the location of the Free French headquarters established in 1940.

Historic England identifies a detailed photograph of the plaque under archival reference DP187020.

The photographer is Lucy Millson-Watkins and the recorded date is 11 March 2016.

Historic England — DP187020

The copyright holder is the Historic England Archive.

Historic England

An alternative photograph, Blue plaque Charles de Gaulle.jpg, was published on Wikimedia Commons by ChrisO, who released the photographic work into the public domain.

Wikimedia Commons — Public-Domain Plaque Photograph

This provides a potentially simpler reproduction option, subject to confirmation that the image and its declared licensing remain suitable for the intended publication.



Wikimedia Commons

Proposed caption:

Figure C8. Blue plaque commemorating General Charles de Gaulle and the establishment of the Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens, London. Photograph: ChrisO, 28 September 2008. Wikimedia Commons; photographer's public-domain dedication.

The plaque is a useful visual anchor because it identifies the specific historical association without relying upon speculative imagery.

C.10 Visual Nine: The Building Before the Second World War

An important additional archival source has been identified.

The London Picture Archive holds a photograph of the building at 4 Carlton Gardens catalogued as SC_PHL_01_453_B732.

The record describes a photograph taken in 1935.

London Picture Archive — 4 Carlton Gardens, 1935

The archival description notes that the building dated from 1933 and subsequently became associated with de Gaulle and the Free French movement.

This makes the photograph particularly useful because it shows the building close to the beginning of its history and before its wartime use.



London Picture Archive

Proposed caption:

Figure C9. 4 Carlton Gardens, St James's, photographed in 1935 before its use as Free French headquarters. London Picture Archive, London County Council Photograph Library, catalogue reference SC_PHL_01_453_B732.

The photograph should be obtained through the archive's normal licensing arrangements before reproduction.

It could be juxtaposed with a contemporary photograph to illustrate continuity of the location.

The fact that the Carlton Gardens building dates from 1933 is coincidental to the suspected 1933 colonial arrêté concerning George's family. The two events must not be presented as causally related without evidence.

C.11 Visual Ten: The Statue of Charles de Gaulle



The statue of General Charles de Gaulle near Carlton Gardens, London.

English Heritage identifies the statue of Charles de Gaulle at Carlton Gardens.

The sculpture was created by Angela Conner and unveiled in June 1993 by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

English Heritage — London Statues Gallery

The sculpture provides an additional historical reference for a possible educational ceremony or walking presentation.

English Heritage

Proposed caption:

Figure C10. Statue of General Charles de Gaulle, Carlton Gardens, London. Sculptor: Angela Conner. Unveiled June 1993. The monument commemorates de Gaulle's historical relationship with London and the Free French movement.

Copyright in photographs of the sculpture and rights concerning the sculpture itself should be assessed before using a particular image in a publication.

C.12 Visual Eleven: Cameroon's Rallying to Free France

The events of August 1940 are central to the historical argument underlying the proposed conference.

A suitable illustration could show Free French personnel in Cameroon, Philippe Leclerc's activities or a contemporary record of the territory's rallying.

The preferred evidence would be a photograph or document held by a recognised military or historical archive.

Possible research institutions include the French military historical service, the Musée de la Libération de Paris and the Fondation de la France Libre.

The illustration should be selected only when its original caption, date, location and provenance have been established.

A general photograph of de Gaulle in Africa should not automatically be labelled as showing Cameroon.

A photograph of Free French forces elsewhere should not be presented as evidence of events in Douala.

Proposed caption, subject to identification of a specific source:

Figure C11. Contemporary archival image associated with Cameroon's rallying to Free France in August 1940. Precise location, date, photographer and archival reference to be confirmed before reproduction.

Status: Required visual research; no specific archival photograph selected for final publication.

C.13 Visual Twelve: Colonial Records Concerning Traditional Chiefs

The proposed historical investigation requires identification of original documents concerning the relevant traditional authority.

These may include German or French administrative correspondence, appointments, removals, petitions or orders.

A document bearing Ngantcha's name would be particularly significant if independently authenticated.

However, no verified image of such a document has yet been identified.

The final publication must not use an unrelated colonial order as though it concerned George's ancestor.

A sample administrative document may be shown for explanatory purposes, but it must be explicitly labelled as an example.

The preferred illustration would be the original suspected 1933 arrêté, if it is located.

Proposed caption upon verification:

Figure C12. French colonial administrative instrument concerning [identified person or institution], dated [verified date]. Issuing authority: [verified authority]. Archival reference: [verified reference]. Reproduced from [repository], subject to its applicable conditions.

Until those details are available, the image should remain absent from the final family-specific evidence section.

C.14 Visual Thirteen: Historical Maps of George's Ancestral Territory

The most important maps for George's individual investigation have not yet been identified.

The research must first establish the precise ancestral chiefdom or settlement associated with Ngantcha.

Only then can appropriate historical maps be selected.

The proposed comparative mapping series should show the same geographical area across four historical stages: before or during early German administration, during later German administration, during French administration around 1933, and under contemporary Cameroonian territorial arrangements.

The maps should be compared using identifiable settlements, rivers, geographical landmarks and administrative boundaries.

Any differences in the names of locations should be documented.

Where modern software is used to align historical maps, uncertainty must be preserved.

A digitally reconstructed ancestral boundary should not be presented as an original surveyed boundary.

The precise distinction between customary territory, colonial administrative boundaries and contemporary property rights is fundamental.

Proposed caption:

Figure C13. Comparative historical reconstruction of the ancestral territory associated with Ngantcha. The illustration will identify historical administrative boundaries and relevant customary territorial evidence once the location and underlying sources have been established.

Status: Not yet suitable for publication. Requires verified location and historical maps.

C.15 Visual Fourteen: Colonial Archival Institutions

Photographs of the principal archival institutions could assist readers in understanding the geographical extent of the investigation.



French Overseas National Archives

Aix-en-Provence, France



German Federal Archives

Berlin-Lichterfelde, Germany



Cameroon's National Archives

Yaoundé, Cameroon



The National Archives

Kew, London, United Kingdom

These are institutional illustrations. They do not establish that any particular archive holds the document being sought.

For final publication, each photograph should be independently matched to the correct building and supported by attribution and reproduction permissions.

The relevant institutional research information includes the French Overseas National Archives, Bundesarchiv, Archives nationales du Cameroun and The National Archives at Kew.

C.16 Visual Fifteen: The Franco-Cameroonian Historical Commission Report

The research report delivered in January 2025 provides a substantial contemporary documentary reference.

The illustrated publication should include an image of its original title page or cover, obtained directly from the published report.

The caption should identify its principal period, 1945–1971, and avoid presenting it as a completed investigation into George's specific 1933 allegations.

Proposed caption:

Figure C15. Title page of the historical research report concerning France's role and involvement in repression of independence and opposition movements in Cameroon, 1945–1971. Franco-Cameroonian historical commission, research directed by Karine Ramondy, 2025.

The report can be accessed through Sciences Po's historical commission publication page.

The cover image should be sourced from the original report, rather than recreated or replaced by an invented illustration.

C.17 Visual Sixteen: A Diagram of the Historical Evidence Process

In addition to photographs and historical maps, the final publication could benefit from an original diagram explaining the movement from a historical account to an independently examined claim.

Family or community historical account

Archival documents, genealogy, maps and testimony

Independent historical examination

Findings, uncertainties and corrections

Separate legal and representative-authority assessment

Potential claims and appropriately authorised action

Figure C16. Proposed historical evidence process. The diagram illustrates the sequence of research and assessment; it does not imply that every investigated allegation will result in an enforceable claim.

This diagram could be recreated as original artwork for the final document.

It would not require reproduction of a third party's historical photograph or map.

C.18 Visual Seventeen: The IBIS Reparatory Justice Delivery Process

A further original diagram could illustrate the distinction between the investigation of historical claims and the delivery of reparatory remedies.

The diagram should preserve the existing IBIS architectural definitions, including the separation of the Identity Engine from the Five-Factor Engine.

It should also preserve the distinction between identity, membership, representation, recognition and entitlement.

A possible simplified sequence would begin with a documented claim and the verification of relevant authority. It would proceed through historical and legal assessment, the establishment of an obligation where justified, the allocation and transfer of resources, beneficiary receipt and independent verification.

Such a diagram should not be presented as the complete technical specification of IBIS.

It would be a simplified explanatory illustration.

Its purpose would be to show why reparatory justice requires an administrative process beyond a conference declaration or governmental promise.

C.19 Consolidated Visual Source Register

The following register identifies the principal visual materials proposed for the final publication.

Figure	Subject	Source or status	Reproduction position
C1	German colonial Kamerun map	Library of Congress research collection	Exact map rights to confirm
C2	Kamerun and Neukamerun	German Historical Museum	Permission or licence to confirm
C3	British and French territorial division	Wikimedia Commons	CC BY-SA 4.0
C4	French Mandate for the Cameroons, 1922	League of Nations scan, Wikimedia Commons	Public-domain designation on source
C5	Bandjoun Palace	Buma Peter, Wikimedia Commons	CC BY-SA 4.0
C6	Bamiléké traditional architecture	Bamiboi, Wikimedia Commons	CC BY-SA 4.0; low resolution
C7	4 Carlton Gardens exterior	Historic England DP187019	© Historic England Archive
C8	De Gaulle blue plaque	ChrisO, Wikimedia Commons	Public-domain photographic dedication
C9	4 Carlton Gardens in 1935	London Picture Archive	Permission or licence required

C10	De Gaulle statue	English Heritage historical identification	Specific photograph and rights to confirm
C11	Cameroon's rallying to Free France	Specific archival photograph not yet identified	Pending
C12	Ngantcha and suspected 1933 order	Original not yet located	Pending
C13	George's ancestral territory	Relevant chiefdom and maps not yet identified	Pending
C14	Archival institutions	Individual official or licensed photographs required	Pending
C15	2025 historical commission report	Original publication	Cover reproduction terms to confirm
C16	Historical evidence process	Proposed original diagram	Original work
C17	IBIS delivery process	Proposed original explanatory diagram	Subject to IBIS architectural review

The register should be maintained separately from the bibliography because the evidential and reproduction requirements of images differ from those of ordinary textual citations.

C.20 Copyright, Licensing and Reproduction Requirements

A photograph being visible online does not automatically mean it may be reproduced in a book, report or promotional publication.

The final document should distinguish copyright ownership from possession of a digital copy.

It should also distinguish permission to access or download an image from permission to distribute it.

Where an image is licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0, the document should provide appropriate credit, a link to the licence and an indication of any changes. Adaptations of licensed material may trigger additional ShareAlike requirements.

Where an archive claims copyright, its applicable reproduction conditions should be examined.

Where an image is identified as public domain, the relevant source information should be preserved even if attribution is not legally required.

Historical photographs of identifiable people should be used accurately and respectfully.

Images should not be manipulated in a manner that suggests individuals participated in events they did not attend.

An illustration generated to explain an event must be labelled as a reconstruction, not presented as a contemporary historical photograph.

These requirements are particularly important for a document intended to support historical accountability.

C.21 Safeguards Against Misleading Historical Illustration

The final publication should not use an image merely because it resembles the historical subject under discussion.

A photograph of a Bamiléké chief should not automatically be identified as Ngantcha.

A photograph of a traditional palace should not be described as George's ancestral property without evidence.

A photograph of colonial troops should not be labelled as showing those responsible for his relatives' deaths unless the identification is supported.

A general French colonial order should not be presented as the suspected 1933 arrêté.

A map produced many years after an event should not be described as a contemporary document.

Every figure should identify what is established, what is illustrative and what remains uncertain.

Where the source's identification is disputed, the caption should reflect that uncertainty.

Such care would protect the integrity of the proposed historical evidence dossier.

C.22 Recommended Arrangement of Illustrations in the Final Document

The illustrations should be placed close to the relevant substantive discussion rather than concentrated exclusively in an isolated picture section.

The historical maps would be most useful alongside the chapters concerning German and French administration.

Images of Bamiléké traditional institutions would support the discussion of traditional authority and community representation.

The photographs of 4 Carlton Gardens and the de Gaulle statue would support the London conference and government-in-exile sections.

Images of colonial records would support the historical evidence strategy once relevant documents are obtained.

The commission's report cover would support the discussion of contemporary historical accountability.

The original process diagrams would support the sections concerning IBIS and reparatory delivery.

Appendix C should nevertheless retain the complete image register, credits and rights information.

This would allow readers to identify the provenance of every illustration without interrupting the main text with lengthy permissions notes.

C.23 Priority Images Requiring Further Investigation

Three visual research priorities remain particularly important.

The first is a historically reliable map of the specific Bamiléké chiefdom associated with George's ancestors, preferably with enough detail to compare the relevant German, French and contemporary territorial arrangements.

The second is the original French administrative document believed to date from approximately 1933, together with any related correspondence or records identifying Ngantcha.

The third is a correctly identified photograph or primary visual record associated with Cameroon's rallying to Free France in August 1940.

These materials would provide greater evidential value to the proposed document than additional generic pictures.

The visual research programme should therefore prioritise provenance and relevance over the total number of illustrations.

C.24 Conclusion to Appendix C

The proposed illustrated appendix provides a visual framework for understanding the historical geography, traditional institutions, European colonial administration and international political context of the Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative.

It identifies historical maps associated with German Kamerun, the territorial division following the First World War, the original 1922 French mandate instrument, Bamiléké architectural heritage, the former Free French headquarters and relevant historical archives.

The images support important distinctions.

Historical maps illustrate colonial representations of territory without automatically establishing legitimate ancestral ownership.

Photographs of traditional institutions illustrate the existence and significance of Bamiléké political and cultural heritage without identifying the particular institutions associated with George's family.

Photographs of 4 Carlton Gardens establish the historical location proposed for commemoration without conferring contemporary property or governmental rights.

Images of original legal and administrative documents may provide stronger evidence concerning specific historical acts, but only where their contents and provenance have been verified.

The visual appendix must therefore remain subordinate to the historical investigation.

The highest-priority outstanding materials concern Ngantcha, the suspected 1933 arrêté and the precise ancestral territory.

Until those materials are located, the document should not substitute unrelated images in a manner suggesting that the evidence already exists.

The fundamental principle is that historical illustrations must clarify the evidence, not manufacture it.

Properly sourced maps, photographs and documents can strengthen the proposed European strategy by making its historical arguments accessible and independently examinable.

The resulting publication should therefore combine historical accuracy, clear captions, complete provenance and appropriate reproduction permissions.

END OF APPENDIX C

NEXT — APPENDIX D: PRIMARY HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AND ARCHIVAL EVIDENCE REGISTER — A Detailed Search Plan for Ngantcha, the Suspected 1933 French Arrêté, Ancestral Land, Traditional Succession, Colonial Killings, French Administrative

Friday, 09 October 2026 09/10/2026 21:15:42

Records, German Colonial Archives, Cameroonian Repositories and the Documentation Required for Possible Legal Proceedings.

APPENDIX D

PRIMARY HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AND ARCHIVAL EVIDENCE REGISTER

An Operational Investigation into Ngantcha, the Suspected 1933 French Arrêté, Ancestral Territory, Traditional Succession, Colonial Killings and Historical Responsibilities under German and French Administration

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Archival Research Protocol and Evidence Register — Existing Collections Verified Where Indicated; Family-Specific Allegations and Documents Remain Subject to Investigation

D.1 Purpose of the Archival Evidence Register

This appendix establishes the documentary investigation required to examine the historical circumstances described by George T. Nomen concerning his ancestors and their treatment under European colonial administration.

Its immediate subject is the person identified as Ngantcha, whom George has described as a relative associated with an alleged alteration or displacement of traditional authority.

The investigation also concerns a French colonial administrative arrêté believed to date from approximately 1933, the reported killing of George's father and grandfather, and the alleged dispossession or reorganisation of ancestral territory.

These matters have potentially significant historical and legal implications.

However, no original 1933 order has yet been independently authenticated for this investigation, and the identity, dates and circumstances of the reported family events require verification.

The central objective is therefore to identify primary evidence and reconstruct the administrative, genealogical and territorial history in which the events may have occurred.

The register is intended to serve as a practical research instrument.

It identifies known archival repositories, specific record collections, document types, proposed search expressions, unanswered questions and the evidence required before particular conclusions can responsibly be drawn.

It also establishes procedures for preserving original records, translations, provenance and subsequent corrections.

The investigation should not be organised solely around evidence expected to confirm a predetermined conclusion.

Documents contradicting the initial family account may be equally important to establishing the history accurately.

A source may confirm that an administrative decision occurred while contradicting assumptions about its date, subject or legal consequences.

The purpose is to establish what happened, not simply to accumulate material supporting a proposed claim.

D.2 A Critical New Research Lead: A Surviving Cameroonian Newspaper Collection Covering 1933

One of the most useful findings for the present investigation is an identifiable contemporary publication held by the French Overseas National Archives.

The Archives nationales d'outre-mer lists the newspaper L'Éveil du Cameroun, with surviving holdings covering several issues in 1931, 1932 and 1933.

Its catalogue identifies the collection as:

L'Éveil du Cameroun

ANOM library reference: BIB AOM RES 30313

Recorded 1933 holdings include issues dated between 15 January and 15 December 1933.

Consult the ANOM official publications and newspapers catalogue

The catalogue confirms the existence of the identified holdings. It does not establish that the newspaper contains information about Ngantcha, George's family or the alleged administrative intervention.



Archives nationales d’outre-mer

Nevertheless, this is an important research lead because contemporary newspapers may report appointments, administrative measures, territorial disputes, petitions or events that did not survive in a readily accessible individual administrative file.

The research team should request the complete catalogue details for this collection and establish whether the relevant 1933 issues can be consulted remotely or reproduced.

If the ancestral locality becomes identifiable, searches can be directed towards references to the relevant chiefdom, ruler, land dispute or administrative action.

Another ANOM catalogue entry, La presse du Cameroun, reference BIB SOMPOM F134, includes material associated with 1933–1939.

This should be treated as a separate research target.

Newspaper material would be evidence of contemporary reporting, not automatically proof that every assertion published was accurate.

D.3 The First Documentary Priority: Identifying Ngantcha

The investigation should begin with a comprehensive identity record for Ngantcha.

The following details should be established before extensive searches are undertaken:

Information required	Current position	Research action
Full name	Ngantcha reported	Obtain all spellings and alternative names
Traditional title	Unknown	Ask George and relevant community historians
Chiefdom	Not established here	Identify precise community and location
Village or settlement	Not established here	Obtain historical and contemporary names
Approximate birth date	Unknown	Genealogical research
Approximate death date	Unknown	Family, community and documentary research
Position in family genealogy	Reported as George's relative	Establish each intervening relationship
Political or customary office	Not independently verified	Investigate traditional succession
Relationship with French administrators	Alleged involvement in colonial intervention	Search administrative correspondence
Relationship with German administration	Unknown	Examine earlier colonial records

Known rivals or successors	Not established	Investigate customary and colonial succession records

Names in historical documents may have been recorded phonetically by European administrators.

German and French spellings may differ.

A person's customary title may appear instead of a personal name.

Consequently, searches should include confirmed alternative spellings once those have been obtained.

Researchers should not arbitrarily assume that differently spelled names refer to the same individual.

Each identification should be tested against associated dates, family relationships, locations and offices.

D.4 Establishing the Ancestral Geographical Location

A principal difficulty is that a name alone may be insufficient to locate the relevant archival file.

French colonial records were frequently organised according to administrative offices, territories or subject matter rather than family names.

The investigation therefore requires the identification of the precise locality involved.

The first task is to establish the historical chiefdom and village.

The next is to determine the administrative district under French rule during the period around 1933.

Researchers should then reconstruct the succession of administrative authorities responsible for the locality.

This may involve identifying the relevant subdivision, district administrator, regional official and senior territorial authority.

The names of these administrative units may have changed over time.

The research should record both historical and contemporary place names.

Once the relevant administrative chain has been identified, archival searches can be directed towards the offices most likely to have produced or received the disputed order.

This geographical reconstruction should precede any claim that the entire archive has been searched.

A search confined to the person's name may overlook records filed under a locality or administrative subject.

D.5 Identifying the Suspected French Arrêté

The suspected arrêté is one of the most important documentary targets.

The investigation should seek to determine whether such an instrument was issued during approximately 1933.

The initial search should not assume that the year is exact.

A practical priority range would be 1928–1938, with the records for 1933 examined first.

The search should include administrative instruments described as arrêtés, décisions, décrets or related official acts.

The relevant subject headings might concern the recognition, appointment, removal or replacement of a traditional chief.

Other possibilities include the administrative organisation of a chiefdom, the definition of territorial boundaries, landholding arrangements or disciplinary action against an indigenous authority.

The investigation should be guided by the actual family account and the local administrative context.

The original instrument, if located, should be examined together with related correspondence and any subsequent administrative decisions.

A single order may establish what an official decided without explaining why the decision was made.

Earlier correspondence may identify the underlying dispute.

Later documents may record how the decision was implemented.

The research should therefore reconstruct the whole administrative process rather than rely exclusively upon an isolated passage.

D.6 The Official Journal of French-Mandated Cameroon

A particularly important documentary category is the official journal of the Cameroons territories under French mandate.

A League of Nations archival source identifies the Official Journal of the Cameroons Territories under French Mandate among the official publications associated with French administrative reporting.

Deriv

This confirms that official publication records formed part of the documentation available to international supervisory institutions.

It does not establish that the suspected Ngantcha order was published there.

Nevertheless, the official journal should be one of the first documentary sources examined.

The research team should determine which institution holds surviving volumes covering 1928–1938.

It should seek indices, annual tables of contents and lists of administrative decisions.

The 1933 issues should be inspected for terms concerning traditional chiefs, administrative boundaries, appointments, removals and the relevant locality.

If the suspected order does not appear, related decisions may provide a lead.

The archive should be asked whether relevant unpublished administrative acts survive separately from those printed in the official journal.

A negative result from the official journal should not automatically be treated as proof that no relevant administrative instrument existed.

D.7 The French Mandate of 1922

The original instrument establishing the French mandate for Cameroons provides the legal background against which the suspected 1933 decision must be examined.

The United States Department of State's Office of the Historian reproduces the mandate text in its historical documentary collection.

Article 1 defines the territory associated with the French mandate by reference to the Franco-British declaration of 10 July 1919.

The mandate also establishes obligations concerning the administration of the territory.



Office of the Historian

Read the 1922 French Mandate for Cameroons

The mandate is a verified historical legal instrument.

Its relevance is not dependent upon proving George's family allegations.

However, its application to a particular decision made in 1933 would require legal examination.

The research should therefore preserve the complete instrument, identify the provisions potentially relevant to traditional institutions and administrative powers, and distinguish those provisions from subsequent French laws and decrees.

The existence of an international mandate did not eliminate the need to identify the domestic or colonial legal rules under which individual administrators acted.

The legal framework may involve several interacting sources.

D.8 League of Nations Annual Reports and Supervisory Records

During the mandate period, France submitted reports concerning its administration of Cameroon.

Such reports may contain information regarding administrative organisation, native authorities, law and order, judicial arrangements, land policy and political conditions.

They may also identify official publications accompanying annual reports.

The research team should request the French annual reports for the years surrounding 1933 and examine their appendices.

Particular attention should be given to references to traditional authorities, administrative appointments, territorial disputes and complaints concerning colonial officials.

Minutes and reports of the Permanent Mandates Commission may also provide relevant material.

However, their scale and generality must be recognised.

An annual report may provide information about colonial policy without referring to an individual family.

A absence of reference to Ngantcha would not necessarily mean that the alleged events did not occur.

The purpose is to reconstruct the institutional environment and seek more precise leads to surviving local records.

D.9 French Overseas National Archives: Principal Research Programme

The Archives nationales d'outre-mer in Aix-en-Provence should be approached with a structured enquiry.

The first request should seek guidance identifying administrative collections concerning French-administered Cameroon during 1928–1938.

The second should concern official publications and the availability of indexes to administrative instruments.

The third should concern records of appointments, removals and recognition of traditional chiefs.

The fourth should concern administrative correspondence from the relevant district or subdivision, once the ancestral location is established.

The fifth should concern land administration, territorial reorganisation and customary succession.

The sixth should concern judicial and security records where the family account identifies events potentially involving detention, punishment or killings.

The archive should be asked to identify which categories of documents may remain in Cameroon rather than France.

Researchers should also ask whether surviving indexes, inventory references or administrative file numbers can be obtained before commissioning copies.

This would reduce the risk of paying for records that do not address the historical questions.

A response stating that an archive cannot perform detailed research on behalf of an applicant should be distinguished from a statement that relevant holdings do not exist.

The research team could then use the available catalogue information to appoint a suitably qualified researcher or make a more specific request.

D.10 Cameroon's National Archives: Essential Parallel Investigation

The Archives nationales du Cameroun in Yaoundé should be approached independently of the French archives.

Certain categories of records produced under colonial administration may have remained in Cameroon following independence.

Local administrative files, land-related records, civil-status materials and records concerning customary institutions may be especially relevant.

The official Cameroonian National Archives website lists the following contact details:

Archives nationales du Cameroun

B.P. 1053, Rue 317, Quartier du Lac, Yaoundé III, Cameroon

Email: archivesnationales.cmr@gmail.com

Telephone: (+237) 222 226 791

Official contact page

These details are published by the institution.



Archives Nationales du Cameroun

The initial enquiry should ask for relevant administrative series covering the ancestral chiefdom and its French colonial district during the 1920s and 1930s.

It should also request information concerning regional archives, court records, historical land documentation and the official journal.

Where the institution identifies another repository, the referral should be documented and followed up.

The proposed European investigation cannot be considered comprehensive if it searches only records transferred to France.

D.11 German Federal Archives: Establishing the Earlier Historical Position

The Bundesarchiv provides an important source for reconstructing the German colonial period.

Its official research guidance identifies collection R 1001, comprising records of the Reichskolonialamt, and several collections associated with German Kamerun.

The following collections are relevant:

Collection	Subject	Proposed investigation
R 1001	Reichskolonialamt	Colonial policy and central correspondence
R 1001 KART	Colonial maps	Historical territory and administrative boundaries
R 175-I	Government of Kamerun	Colonial administration and recognised authorities
R 175-III	District courts	Judicial proceedings within relevant districts
R 175-IV	Regional and local administrative authorities	District decisions and local correspondence
R 175-V	Schutztruppe for Kamerun	Military activity and operational records
R 175-VI	Non-governmental organisations	Mission, commercial and other associated records

These holdings are identified in the Federal Archives' official collection guides.



Bundesarchiv

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The research should establish whether the relevant ancestral community appears in surviving German records.

The aim would be to reconstruct the earlier political and territorial position before the period of French administration.

This should not be interpreted as assuming that German administrative recognition accurately represented customary legitimacy.

Colonial records should be compared with local testimony and other historical evidence.

D.12 The Fonds Allemand and German Records Held in Cameroon

The German Federal Archives have reported a preservation and research initiative concerning German colonial records held at Cameroon's National Archives.

The project involved the Fonds Allemand, which contains records created under German colonial administration.

The Federal Archives also identify collection R 175 F and describe online availability of relevant finding aids and digitised materials.

Their published account explains that approximately 1,200 archival units had been digitised through associated projects and that a French-language finding aid was made available.



Bundesarchiv

This is a useful operational lead.

The research team should obtain the relevant finding aid and search it using confirmed geographical and personal identifiers.

It should identify whether the same or related records are available in both Cameroon and Germany.

Where a relevant file is identified, the research register should record the exact file number and repository.

The existence of a general collection does not establish that it contains Ngantcha's name or evidence concerning George's ancestral family.

That must be determined through individual file searches.

D.13 British Archives and Mandate-Era Records

The United Kingdom did not administer the entire former German Kamerun territory.

Nevertheless, British records may contain information relevant to the wider historical context and the division between French- and British-administered territories.

Diplomatic correspondence, colonial reports and international supervisory records may provide useful comparative material.

The National Archives at Kew should be approached where the research identifies a plausible British governmental connection.

The League of Nations mandate system also generated reports from the British government concerning the British Cameroons.

An actual 1933 report is accessible through the Wellcome Collection.

The report concerns administration of the Cameroons under British mandate during 1933 and was published in 1934.

1933 British Cameroons Annual Report — Digitised Copy

This report is an established contemporary publication.



Wellcome Collection

However, it concerns British administration.

It should not be presented as the French official journal or as proof of the alleged French intervention affecting Ngantcha.

Its relevance would depend upon whether the relevant community, territory or historical event had connections with British administrative records.

The investigation should prioritise jurisdictionally relevant sources rather than undertake indiscriminate copying.

D.14 Traditional Succession: The Evidence Required

The alleged replacement of a traditional authority requires reconstruction of both customary and colonial administrative arrangements.

The investigation should establish the office purportedly held by the relevant ancestor.

It should identify the procedures through which legitimate succession occurred.

It should determine whether the office carried political, ceremonial, land-administration or other responsibilities.

Researchers should seek traditional genealogies, community historical accounts, relevant ritual or institutional records where available, and colonial documents concerning chiefs or recognised local authorities.

Where a colonial official recognised a replacement, the order or correspondence should be obtained.

The evidence should establish the difference between recognition for colonial administrative purposes and legitimacy under customary arrangements.

If these systems produced competing claims, that disagreement must be documented.

A contemporary research project should not appoint a successor merely by concluding that a historical intervention was improper.

Questions concerning current customary officeholders require separate consultation and consideration of applicable law.

D.15 Investigating the Reported Deaths

George's account concerning the alleged deaths of his father and grandfather requires two distinct evidence files.

Each file should identify the relevant person and the evidence concerning their death.

The research should establish the approximate date, location and circumstances.

It should then determine which colonial or other authority was operating in the area at the time.

Potential sources may include family testimony, local histories, administrative correspondence, missionary records, judicial documents, burial records and military reports.

If the deaths involved a military operation, researchers should seek any surviving operational reports and casualty information.

However, the investigation should not presume that every reported death involved a documented military operation.

Nor should it assume that all deaths attributed to colonialists occurred under the same governmental authority.

If a date is unknown, the research should record a range of possibilities and identify evidence needed to narrow it.

A legal attribution should not be made until the relevant events and responsible actors can be identified with sufficient confidence.

D.16 Ancestral Land: Historical and Contemporary Documentation

The alleged dispossession or reorganisation of ancestral lands requires a separate documentary programme.

The first objective is to identify the territory geographically.

The second is to establish the nature of the rights historically exercised over it.

Those rights may have involved individual, familial, lineage-based, communal or chiefly arrangements.

The third objective is to identify the act or series of acts through which the relevant rights were allegedly altered.

This may require examination of administrative orders, survey maps, land records, registration documents, judicial proceedings and customary testimony.

The fourth objective is to reconstruct the land's subsequent history.

Researchers should determine whether the alleged colonial change was maintained, modified or superseded by later administrative actions.

The fifth objective is to establish the contemporary legal status of the land and any rights of current occupants.

The legal analysis must consider the rights of all affected persons.

Historical proof of dispossession should not be used as justification for a new dispossession without lawful procedure.

The evidence register should distinguish historic customary boundaries from colonial administrative boundaries and contemporary registered property interests.

D.17 Historical Maps and Boundary Reconstruction

The research team should establish a dedicated map register.

Each map should record its producer, title, date, scale, repository and coverage.

The register should identify whether the map is an original historical document or a later reconstruction.

A German colonial map and a French administrative map may use different place names and boundary conventions.

Such differences may reflect genuine changes, administrative perspectives or cartographic inaccuracies.

The maps should be compared using geographical landmarks and corroborating documentation.

Where a boundary cannot be established precisely, the uncertainty should be recorded.

The investigation must not draw a modern boundary and describe it as an ancestral legal boundary without supporting evidence.

Once the ancestral chiefdom is identified, priority should be given to maps covering that locality.

General maps of Cameroon can provide context but are unlikely to determine the precise land history of George's family.

D.18 Oral Testimony as a Structured Historical Source

Oral testimony may preserve essential information concerning succession, ancestry, land and violence.

The investigation should establish procedures for recording it.

Each witness should understand the purpose of the interview and any proposed publication or legal use.

The testimony should be recorded in the witness's preferred language where practicable.

A transcription should distinguish the original wording from translations and editorial summaries.

The record should identify whether the witness personally experienced the events or received the information from others.

Where testimony has passed through several generations, that chain of transmission should be recorded.

Researchers should avoid leading questions designed to produce a predetermined account.

Contradictions between witnesses should be preserved.

The investigation should seek independent corroboration where possible.

Oral evidence should not be dismissed merely because a corresponding colonial document has not been located.

Equally, an oral account should not be treated as conclusive proof of every detail simply because it has been preserved within a family.

The objective is an historically responsible evaluation of all relevant source types.

D.19 Proposed Archival Search Expressions

The search vocabulary should include relevant French and German administrative terminology.

The following expressions are starting points for researchers, not assertions that documents using them have been located.

Subject	French search terminology	German or other terminology
Traditional chief	chef traditionnel, chef indigène, chef de village, chef de région	Häuptling, Dorfvorsteher
Appointment	nomination, désignation, reconnaissance	Ernennung, Anerkennung
Removal	destitution, révocation, remplacement	Absetzung, Entlassung
Succession	succession, chefferie, héritier, héritage	Nachfolge, Erbfolge
Land	terrain, terres, propriété, domaine, concession	Land, Grundbesitz, Konzession
Boundary	limite, frontière, délimitation, circonscription	Grenze, Grenzziehung, Bezirk
Administrative act	arrêté, décision, décret, circulaire	Verordnung, Verfügung, Erlass
Military operation	opération militaire, forces, répression, incident	Militäroperation, Schutztruppe
Complaint	plainte, pétition, réclamation, recours	Beschwerde, Petition
Cameroon	Cameroun, Camerouns	Kamerun
Bamiléké	Bamiléké, Bamilékés	Bamileke

The exact historical spelling of Ngantcha and relevant place names should be added once established.

Searches should use combinations of person, locality, subject and date.

The absence of a result from one spelling or catalogue should not be treated as a comprehensive negative finding.

D.20 Consolidated Primary Archival Evidence Register

The following register identifies the principal documentary targets and their present status.

ID	Historical evidence sought	Priority repository	Status
D-001	Identity and historical position of Ngantcha	Family/community records; French and Cameroonian archives	Unverified
D-002	Genealogical connection between Ngantcha and George	Family records and testimony	Unverified
D-003	Suspected 1933 French arrêté	ANOM; Cameroonian archives; official journal	Not located
D-004	Correspondence preceding the alleged intervention	French administrative files	Not located
D-005	Subsequent recognition or replacement of a chief	French and Cameroonian records	Not located
D-006	Traditional succession arrangements	Relevant chiefdom and independent historians	Research required
D-007	Alleged death of grandfather	Family, local, military and administrative records	Unverified
D-008	Alleged death of father	Family, local, military and administrative records	Unverified
D-009	Ancestral land description	Family/community evidence and historical maps	Not established
D-010	Alleged land division or transfer	French and Cameroonian land records	Not located
D-011	Earlier German administrative recognition	Bundesarchiv R 1001/R 175; Fonds Allemand	Search required
D-012	Historical maps of ancestral locality	German, French and Cameroonian repositories	Locality required

D-013	French mandate instrument of 1922	Published international historical documents	Located
D-014	French mandate annual reports around 1933	League of Nations records	Series identified; specific relevant passages pending
D-015	French official journal around 1933	Relevant French/Cameroonian repositories	Publication identified; issues to be obtained
D-016	L'Éveil du Cameroun issues from 1933	ANOM BIB AOM RES 30313	Holdings confirmed; contents not checked for Ngantcha
D-017	La presse du Cameroun, 1933–1939	ANOM BIB SOMPOM F134	Holdings listed; relevance unverified
D-018	Historical Bamiléké chiefdom research	Academic and community sources	General research available; specific case pending
D-019	Relevant historical legal provisions	French mandate-era legal sources	Specialist assessment pending
D-020	Present-day rights and legal standing	Cameroonian and other applicable law	Specialist assessment pending

A located collection must not be confused with a located family-specific document.

The register should be updated only when new evidence or a documented research result justifies a change in status.

D.21 Evidence Identifier and Document Control

Every acquired document should receive a unique identifier.

The identifier should remain stable even if the document is subsequently translated, reclassified or found to have different significance from that initially assumed.

A possible record format would contain an evidence reference, document title, date, issuing authority, original repository, archival call number, language, description, source of acquisition, date acquired and access restrictions.

Where an original is obtained, its copy should be preserved without alteration.

Working copies may be annotated, translated or enhanced for readability.

However, their relationship to the original must remain clear.

The record should identify who examined the source and what conclusions, if any, were reached.

If a researcher later determines that a document concerns another person with a similar name, that correction should be recorded rather than silently removing the document from the research history.

This would support the independent review of the evidence dossier.

D.22 Authenticity, Provenance and Chain of Custody

The legal or historical value of a document may depend upon its authenticity and provenance.

The research programme should therefore record where every significant item was obtained.

Where the original is held by an archive, its repository and archival reference should be preserved.

Where a certified copy is supplied, the certification should be retained.

Where a digital image is obtained, the unmodified file should be preserved.

Translations should be stored separately from the original text.

Any enhancement of a scan should be documented.

Researchers should identify whether the item is an original, contemporary copy, later transcription, archival reproduction or modern interpretation.

The absence of a certification does not automatically make a historical document worthless.

However, claims concerning authenticity should reflect what can actually be established.

The purpose of chain-of-custody procedures is to preserve confidence in the material and enable independent verification where necessary.

D.23 Evaluating the Evidential Weight of Records

Different historical sources may support different conclusions.

A contemporary administrative order may provide direct evidence that a decision was issued.

It may not prove that the decision was lawful.

A colonial report may provide evidence of an official's description of an event.

It may not establish that the description was accurate or complete.

A newspaper may establish that an allegation or announcement was published at a particular time.

It may not independently prove the underlying event.

A family testimony may provide important information concerning genealogical relationships and community memory.

It may require corroboration when used to establish a specific date or attribution.

A historical map may establish the geographical representation adopted by its producer.

It may not prove lawful ownership.

The evidence register should therefore explain what proposition each source supports and what it does not establish.

The objective is not to rank all source types by a fixed hierarchy.

It is to assess the relevance, authenticity, independence and limitations of each item in relation to the fact being investigated.

D.24 Negative Search Results

A negative archival search result should be documented precisely.

The record should identify the repository, collection, search terms, date range and method used.

It should distinguish between a catalogue search, an archivist's response and the actual inspection of underlying files.

If an archive states that no relevant document was located, the register should record what was searched.

It should not automatically record that the document never existed.

Likewise, an archive's inability to undertake research should not be treated as a finding that its holdings contain no relevant material.

Researchers should preserve correspondence concerning unsuccessful searches.

Such correspondence may assist in identifying remaining research routes.

Where an archive recommends another institution, that referral should be recorded.

The objective is to establish a transparent account of the investigation, including its limitations.

D.25 Translation and Historical Legal Terminology

The proposed dossier is likely to contain French, German, English and relevant Cameroonian-language material.

Translations should preserve the distinction between ordinary vocabulary and terms possessing particular legal or customary meanings.

The French word arrêté, for example, should not automatically be translated as a court judgment.

Its character depends upon the issuing authority and historical legal context.

Similarly, European administrative references to a chef or Häuptling may not accurately reflect every element of the corresponding customary institution.

The investigation should preserve original titles and terms where necessary.

Any important translation affecting legal interpretation should be reviewed by an appropriately qualified person.

Disputed translations should remain identifiable.

A translated extract should not replace the original document within the evidence register.

D.26 The Independent Historical Review

Once significant documents have been obtained, the dossier should undergo specialist review.

The review should examine the identification of Ngantcha, the genealogy, the relevant administrative decisions and the ancestral territory.

It should consider whether alternative interpretations are plausible.

Where the proposed claim concerns a particular customary office, the reviewers should include or consult persons knowledgeable about the relevant traditional institution.

A general historian of Cameroon may provide valuable context without possessing specialist knowledge of every chiefdom's succession arrangements.

French legal specialists may assist with interpreting administrative instruments.

German colonial historians may examine earlier records.

The reviewers should identify facts that are established, facts that remain uncertain and conclusions that cannot presently be supported.

Their task should not be to provide automatic endorsement of the original allegations.

It should be to assess the evidence independently.

D.27 The Relationship Between the Evidence Dossier and Litigation

The historical evidence dossier should be prepared in a form capable of supporting legal advice.

However, not every historical finding will produce an enforceable legal claim.

Lawyers will need to identify the claimants, alleged defendants, applicable law, jurisdiction, limitation periods, state immunity and remedies.

The dossier should therefore organise evidence in a manner that assists these assessments.

The suspected 1933 order, if found, should be analysed according to the law applicable when it was issued.

The reported deaths should be investigated separately with attention to dates and attribution.

Land claims should be examined according to the nature of historical and contemporary rights.

Traditional authority should be distinguished from private property or inheritance.

The legal dossier should not collapse these subjects into a single general allegation of colonial wrongdoing.

Each proposed claim requires its own evidential and legal foundation.

D.28 The Relationship Between Archival Evidence and IBIS

IBIS could be examined as an administrative framework for recording the evidence acquired through the investigation.

The architecture should preserve the separation between identity, membership, representation, recognition and reparatory entitlement.

A genealogical record should not automatically establish membership of an organisation.

Membership should not automatically confer authority to represent another person.

A historical document should not automatically establish an enforceable claim.

The recognition of an event should not automatically establish a reparatory obligation.

The proposed evidence register could be structured to maintain these distinctions.

However, the technical system should not determine the legitimacy of traditional succession or legal claims without appropriate institutional processes.

Any use of real family data should require suitable permissions and safeguards.

An IBIS demonstration could begin with fictional material while the proposed institution examines its suitability.

The purpose of the architecture would be to support accurate administration and correction, not substitute for historical or legal expertise.

D.29 Immediate Research Actions: First Fifteen Days

The first fifteen days should concentrate upon establishing the information necessary for targeted archival searches.

George should be invited to provide the fullest available account concerning Ngantcha, including alternative spellings, known family relationships and the relevant ancestral location.

Any existing documents should be inventoried.

The reported deaths should be listed separately with approximate dates where known.

The suspected 1933 arrêté should be described according to what George actually knows about it.

For example, it should be recorded whether he has seen a reference to the document, heard about it through family testimony or obtained information from another researcher.

This distinction may significantly affect the search strategy.

The research team should then prepare a chronological summary and identify the most relevant archival authorities.

The immediate objective is not to determine whether the proposed legal claims will succeed.

It is to assemble the identifiers required to search effectively.

D.30 Research Actions: Days Sixteen to Thirty

The next stage should involve formal archival enquiries.

The priority requests should concern the French official journal, relevant French administrative collections and the holdings of Cameroon's National Archives.

The ANOM newspaper holdings associated with 1933 should also be investigated.

Parallel preliminary enquiries could identify relevant German colonial records once the ancestral locality is established.

Researchers should request catalogue references before ordering large quantities of material.

Every enquiry should be logged.

Any copy charges or researcher expenses should be approved before commitment.

The research team should establish whether the archives can provide digital reproductions and whether any restrictions apply to their use.

Responses should be recorded and followed up according to the actual information supplied.

D.31 Research Actions: Days Thirty-One to Sixty

During the following month, the investigation should concentrate upon examining identified records.

The relevant French administrative instruments and correspondence should be prioritised.

Surviving official journal indexes should be searched.

The 1933 newspaper holdings should be examined for relevant names, places and administrative events.

Cameroonian archival responses should be assessed.

Any relevant German-era documentation should be compared with the later French records.

The family genealogy should be refined as evidence emerges.

Researchers should also begin identifying contradictions or alternative explanations.

The objective is to move from broad enquiries towards particular historical findings.

Where the evidence remains unavailable, the research plan should be amended rather than presenting an unsuccessful search as definitive proof.

D.32 Research Actions: Days Sixty-One to Ninety

By the end of the initial ninety-day programme, the researchers should aim to produce a preliminary historical evidence report.

The report should identify the collections searched, documents obtained and archival responses received.

It should explain whether the suspected 1933 arrêté has been located.

If it has, the report should provide its exact reference and a preliminary assessment of its contents.

If it has not, the report should identify remaining leads.

The genealogy should distinguish established relationships from those still requiring corroboration.

The alleged deaths and ancestral land questions should have separate progress summaries.

The report should identify the need for additional historical, genealogical or legal expertise.

This would provide George with an evidence-based account of the investigation's progress.

It could also support responsible discussion with potential research partners or conference participants.

The timetable is illustrative; archival responses and document acquisition may require substantially longer.

D.33 Proposed Research Correspondence Register

Every communication with an archival institution should be recorded.

Field	Required information
Correspondence reference	Unique identifier
Institution	Full name of archive or office
Contact	Department or officer where identified
Date sent	Actual submission date
Research question	Precise subject of request
Document or collection	Relevant identifier
Date range	Years under investigation
Acknowledgment	Date and nature of response
Substantive response	Summary preserving the original wording

Fees	Quoted or incurred cost
Referral	Alternative repository or collection identified
Follow-up required	Specific next action
Completion status	Open, answered, referred or closed
Evidence retained	Original correspondence and attachments

This register will help prevent repeated enquiries and enable the progress of the investigation to be verified.

Where a response is incomplete, the outstanding questions should be identified.

D.34 Proposed Preliminary French Archival Request

The following request is suitable as an initial research enquiry after George has supplied the relevant place names and family details.

Madame, Monsieur,

Je vous contacte dans le cadre d'une recherche historique concernant l'administration française du Cameroun pendant la période du mandat de la Société des Nations, plus particulièrement autour de l'année 1933.

Cette recherche concerne une personne connue sous le nom de **Ngantcha**, qui aurait été liée à une chefferie traditionnelle de la région bamiléké. Des informations familiales évoquent une possible intervention administrative concernant l'autorité traditionnelle, la succession ou les droits territoriaux.

Nous cherchons notamment à établir s'il existe un **arrêté, une décision ou un autre acte administratif**, publié ou non publié, concernant cette personne, cette chefferie ou le territoire concerné.

Nous souhaiterions savoir :

1. Quelles séries d'archives couvrent les nominations, destitutions ou reconnaissances de chefs traditionnels au Cameroun entre 1928 et 1938 ?
2. Où peut-on consulter le *Journal officiel des territoires du Cameroun sous mandat français* pour cette période ?
3. Existe-t-il des inventaires de correspondance administrative relatifs aux chefferies et aux circonscriptions de la région bamiléké ?
4. Certains de ces documents sont-ils conservés au Cameroun plutôt qu'en France ?

5. Quels renseignements supplémentaires seraient nécessaires pour orienter une recherche vers le dossier pertinent ?

Nous pouvons communiquer les variantes orthographiques du nom, la localité concernée et les informations généalogiques disponibles dès qu'elles auront été consolidées.

Nous ne présumons ni l'existence de l'acte recherché ni le contenu des documents susceptibles d'être retrouvés. Notre objectif est de vérifier les faits par une recherche archivistique méthodique.

Je vous remercie pour toute orientation concernant les inventaires, les références et les modalités de consultation ou de reproduction.

Veuillez agréer, Madame, Monsieur, l'expression de mes salutations distinguées.

Pour le projet de recherche historique concernant George T. Nomen
Reparation Nation Limited — soutien proposé à la recherche
[Coordonnées à compléter]

The wording deliberately does not claim that the suspected order has already been located.

It requests research guidance and identifies the relevant administrative categories.

The enquiry should be supplemented with verified geographical details before submission.

D.35 Proposed Evidence Dossier Structure

The final historical dossier should contain separate sections for genealogy, traditional authority, French administrative action, earlier German records, alleged deaths, land history, legal analysis and reparatory questions.

Each section should contain the original evidence, relevant transcripts and translations, historical commentary, unresolved questions and corrections.

The dossier should also maintain an overall chronology.

A source document relevant to several questions may be linked to each without duplicating or altering the original.

Where a document contradicts an earlier finding, the contradiction should be recorded.

The dossier should permit authorised reviewers to examine the actual evidence rather than rely solely upon summaries.

Sensitive family information should be protected according to appropriate procedures.

The preparation of the dossier should be understood as an ongoing historical research responsibility rather than a one-time document production exercise.

D.36 Conclusion to Appendix D

The archival evidence strategy provides the practical foundation for George T. Nomen's proposed pursuit of historical accountability and reparatory justice.

The investigation must establish the identity of Ngantcha, reconstruct the relevant family genealogy, identify the ancestral chiefdom, locate the suspected 1933 French administrative instrument and investigate the reported deaths and ancestral land changes.

The research should extend across relevant institutions in Cameroon, France and Germany.

British and international supervisory records may provide additional context where jurisdictionally relevant.

A particularly useful verified research lead is the ANOM holding of L'Éveil du Cameroun covering issues published in 1933.

The original French mandate instrument of 1922 is also available and provides an important legal reference for the relevant administrative period.

The German Federal Archives' R 1001 and R 175 collections offer possible evidence concerning earlier colonial arrangements.

However, none of these general sources currently establishes the family-specific allegations.

The purpose of the evidence register is to ensure that the investigation proceeds through identifiable questions, relevant records and transparent evaluation.

The priority is not to assume that the 1933 order proves George's account. It is to locate the order, determine what it actually says, reconstruct the circumstances in which it was issued and assess its historical and legal consequences.

That approach would provide a stronger basis for independent historical review, consultation with traditional authorities, specialist legal advice and any subsequent reparatory justice programme.

Priority verified archival sources

Source	Research significance
ANOM — African Newspapers and Official Publications	Confirms 1933 holdings of L'Éveil du Cameroun, BIB AOM RES 30313, and other Cameroon publications

French Mandate for Cameroons, 1922	 Archives nationales d’outre-mer Original international mandate framework
Bundesarchiv — Sources on Colonial History	 Office of the Historian German colonial records R 1001 and R 175
Bundesarchiv — German Colonial Records in Cameroon	 The Federal Archives Fonds Allemand and associated preservation/cataloguing work
Archives nationales du Cameroun — Contact	 Bundesarchiv Official channel for local colonial-era records
British Cameroons Annual Report for 1933	 Archives Nationales du Cameroun Verified contemporary report relating to British mandate administration; not proof of French acts
	 Wellcome Collection

END OF APPENDIX D

NEXT — APPENDIX E: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTACT DIRECTORY — France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Cameroon, Bamiléké Traditional Authorities and Diaspora Organisations, Universities, Archives, Human Rights Bodies and Potential Research Partners, with Verified Contact Routes and Clearly Defined Requests.

APPENDIX E

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTACT DIRECTORY

France, Germany, Cameroon, the United Kingdom, Bamiléké Traditional Authorities, Diaspora Organisations, Historical Researchers, Governmental Institutions and Potential Reparatory Justice Partners

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Verified Public Contact Directory and Proposed Engagement Programme — No Institutional Participation or Endorsement Is Presumed

E.1 Purpose of the International Contact Directory

This appendix identifies the principal organisations and institutions that may assist George T. Nomen and an appropriately authorised Bamiléké preparatory group in developing the European and London-based reparatory justice initiative.

The directory is intended to support practical action.

It identifies institutions capable of assisting with colonial archival research, historical interpretation, traditional authority, legal analysis, international consultation, conference organisation and the examination of reparatory remedies.

The directory also distinguishes between an organisation's existence, its possible relevance and its actual willingness to participate.

An institution may possess important historical records without supporting the political objectives of the proposed initiative.

A university may be willing to explain historical research without endorsing particular reparatory claims.

A government department may acknowledge correspondence without accepting legal responsibility.

A Bamiléké organisation may agree to discuss the proposal without authorising the creation of a representative council.

These distinctions must be maintained.

The objective is to establish a reliable network of working relationships based upon specific requests, identifiable responsibilities and documented responses.

The directory should not be circulated as a list of existing partners.

Unless separately confirmed, the organisations included are potential contacts.

E.2 Categories of Institutional Engagement

The proposed initiative requires several types of institutional relationship.

The first concerns archival access. These contacts should help identify original documents, collections, finding aids, photographs and maps.

The second concerns historical expertise. These contacts may assist in examining German and French colonial administration, traditional Bamiléké institutions and the historical relationship between Cameroon and Free France.

The third concerns community authority. These relationships require direct consultation with the traditional institutions, families and organisations whose interests may be affected.

The fourth concerns legal expertise. These contacts may assist in assessing historical state responsibility, limitation periods, sovereign immunity, customary rights, legal standing and possible remedies.

The fifth concerns diplomatic engagement. These relationships may support communication with governmental institutions about historical research and reparatory questions.

The sixth concerns conference organisation. These contacts may assist with venue arrangements, public events, access requirements and lawful commemorative activities.

The seventh concerns reparatory delivery. These relationships may become relevant if particular historical claims eventually produce recognised obligations or negotiated commitments.

An initial contact should concern the specific matter within the institution's competence.

Broad demands for recognition or compensation should not be sent indiscriminately to archives, universities or community organisations whose principal responsibilities lie elsewhere.

E.3 First Priority: French Overseas National Archives

Archives nationales d'outre-mer (ANOM)

29 chemin du Moulin-de-Testas, CS 50062, 13182 Aix-en-Provence Cedex 5, France

Email: anom.aix@culture.gouv.fr

Telephone: +33 4 42 93 38 50

Official ANOM website

These details are confirmed by the French government's public-service directory.

Service Public

ANOM should be among the first institutions approached because George's enquiry concerns a suspected French administrative act from approximately 1933.

The initial enquiry should request guidance concerning administrative orders and official publications relating to traditional Bamiléké chiefdoms between 1928 and 1938.

The request should identify Ngantcha, including verified alternative spellings where available, and the ancestral locality once established.

The researchers should specifically enquire about records relating to the appointment, recognition, removal or replacement of traditional chiefs, together with the relevant official journal and administrative correspondence.

The enquiry should ask for catalogue identifiers rather than simply request that the archive establish the complete family history.

ANOM's official website identifies categories of enquiries and material that it does not handle. Requests must therefore respect the institution's stated scope and research procedures.

Archives nationales d’outre-mer

Proposed priority: Immediate archival enquiry.

Evidence of progress: A substantive archival response identifying relevant holdings, catalogues, research procedures or referrals.

E.4 Second Priority: National Archives of Cameroon

Archives nationales du Cameroun

B.P. 1053, Rue 317, Quartier du Lac, Yaoundé III, Cameroon

Email: archivesnationales.cmr@gmail.com

Telephone: +237 222 226 791

Secretariat: +237 222 226 790

Official contact page

The contact details are published by the Cameroonian National Archives.

Archives Nationales du Cameroun

The proposed research should not depend exclusively upon documents held in France.

Certain colonial administrative records may have remained in Cameroon, and the archival history of records held locally requires independent investigation.

The first request should concern records relating to George's identified ancestral chiefdom during the French mandate period.

The archive should be asked whether it holds administrative correspondence, chiefly recognition records, land documentation or official publications from approximately 1928–1938.

It should also be asked to identify any relevant regional repositories.

This is particularly important because the geographic location and administrative jurisdiction associated with Ngantcha have not yet been established within the evidence dossier.

Proposed priority: Immediate parallel enquiry with ANOM.

Evidence of progress: Identification of the relevant Cameroonian collections or appropriate regional record-holding institutions.

E.5 Third Priority: German Federal Archives

Bundesarchiv — Berlin-Lichterfelde

Finckensteinallee 63, 12205 Berlin, Germany

Email: berlin@bundesarchiv.de

Telephone: +49 30 18 7770-1147 — archival enquiries

Official Bundesarchiv contact directory

The Bundesarchiv confirms the Berlin-Lichterfelde research contact and identifies the location as a principal centre for historical government records.



Bundesarchiv

+1

The initial enquiry should concern German colonial records relevant to the identified ancestral territory before French administration.

Particular reference should be made to the Reich Colonial Office collection R 1001 and the Kamerun-related R 175 collections.

The request should ask which finding aids or records might identify traditional authorities, colonial administrative arrangements or relevant territorial boundaries.

The institution should also be asked about the Fonds Allemand and related material held in Cameroon.

Military questions may require referral to the Bundesarchiv's Military Archives division in Freiburg, whose specialist contact is militaerarchiv@bundesarchiv.de.



Bundesarchiv

The research team should not assume that the German archive holds a record concerning Ngantcha.

The purpose of the enquiry is to establish whether earlier administrative records concerning the relevant community survive.

Proposed priority: Early enquiry once the chiefdom and locality have been identified.

Evidence of progress: Collection-level and file-level references relevant to the ancestral territory.

E.6 Fourth Priority: French Diplomatic Archives

Archives diplomatiques — Centre de La Courneuve

3 rue Suzanne Masson, 93126 La Courneuve Cedex, France

Archives reading room email: lecture.archives@diplomatie.gouv.fr

Reading room telephone: +33 1 43 17 70 30

Scientific enquiries telephone: +33 1 43 17 70 21

Official French Diplomatic Archives information

These details are published by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.



France Diplomatie

The Diplomatic Archives may be relevant to correspondence concerning Cameroon, the League of Nations mandate and later international governmental relationships.

The initial request should ask which collections cover French reporting to international supervisory institutions concerning Cameroon during the 1920s and 1930s.

Researchers should also enquire whether records concerning the 1940 rallying of Cameroon to Free France are represented in diplomatic collections.

The specific collection must be identified before requesting copies.

Proposed priority: Secondary archival enquiry following the first ANOM responses.

E.7 Fifth Priority: French Military Historical Archives

Service historique de la Défense — Centre des archives de Vincennes

Château de Vincennes, Avenue de Paris, 94306 Vincennes Cedex, France

Telephone: +33 1 41 93 45 45

Research guidance: Use the dedicated forms on the official website.

Official Vincennes archival guidance

The Service historique de la Défense preserves French military records and associated collections.

Its published guidance specifies that remote orientation and reproduction requests for Vincennes must be made through the designated forms or by post, rather than ordinary email. The service also warns that requests may take several months to process.



Service historique de la Défense

The proposed enquiry should be narrowly focused.

If family evidence identifies a specific military operation, killing, arrest or security action, the request should describe the approximate date, locality and authority alleged to have been involved.

Research concerning Free France and Cameroon may warrant a separate enquiry.

The institution should not receive a general request to prove every allegation associated with French colonial administration.

Proposed priority: After the relevant dates, locations and alleged military activities have been established.

E.8 Sixth Priority: Fondation de la France Libre

Fondation de la France Libre

16 cour des Petites-Écuries, 75010 Paris, France

Email: contact@france-libre.net

Telephone: +33 1 53 62 81 84

Official Foundation contact page

The foundation publishes its contact details and maintains historical research collections relating to Free France.



Fondation de la France Libre

Its archive service provides research access by appointment and identifies the same email for enquiries directed to its historical research function.



Fondation de la France Libre

The foundation should be approached concerning the historical relationship between London, 4 Carlton Gardens, Free France and Cameroon in August 1940.

The request could ask whether it possesses or can identify records, photographs, correspondence and research relating to Cameroon's contribution to the Free French movement.

A separate invitation could ask whether the foundation would consider contributing historical expertise to a conference session.

The communication should emphasise that participation in a historical discussion would not require endorsement of a proposed Bamiléké government-in-exile or any legal claim.

Proposed priority: Early historical consultation.

Evidence of progress: Identified historical sources, research guidance or confirmed interest in contributing.

E.9 Seventh Priority: Sciences Po Centre for History

Centre d'histoire de Sciences Po

27 rue Saint-Guillaume, 75337 Paris Cedex 07, France

Email: contact.centre-histoire@sciences-po.fr

Official Sciences Po Centre for History

The email is listed in France's public national research-structure directory.

Rnsr

The Centre for History is relevant because of its research expertise and its connection to scholarship concerning France's role in repression in Cameroon.

The 2025 Franco-Cameroonian historical commission should be discussed through its published reports and identifiable participating researchers.

Any approach to an individual historian should be grounded in their published expertise.

The initial institutional request should concern research guidance on the French mandate period, particularly events before 1945, together with possible referrals to researchers familiar with the relevant archival collections.

The email should not presume that the Centre is responsible for establishing a reparatory settlement or representing the French government.

Proposed priority: Early academic engagement.

Evidence of progress: Research guidance, referrals, willingness to review material or participation in a historical discussion.

E.10 Eighth Priority: United Kingdom National Archives

The National Archives

Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU, United Kingdom

Official records and research enquiry service

The National Archives should be approached where a specific historical question involves British governmental records, the League of Nations mandate system, wartime Cameroon or diplomatic communications relating to Free France.

Its research enquiry service provides guidance on locating records but does not undertake general historical research on behalf of applicants.

The institution specifically advises researchers to verify catalogue references, formulate focused questions and avoid lengthy enquiries asking staff to identify every possibly relevant file.



Contact us

The proposed programme should begin with searches of the official catalogue. A request should then refer to identified series or specific research questions.

British records should be examined as potentially useful supplementary evidence, not as an assumed substitute for French or Cameroonian administrative records.

Proposed priority: After identification of a specific British archival connection.

Evidence of progress: Verified catalogue references, research guidance and copies of relevant records.

E.11 Ninth Priority: English Heritage and the Carlton Gardens Historical Site

English Heritage

General Charles de Gaulle — 4 Carlton Gardens

English Heritage is relevant because of its official historical account identifying 4 Carlton Gardens as the former headquarters of the Free French Forces.

Its historical information could support the accuracy of the proposed commemorative statement and educational material.

The organisers should distinguish English Heritage's responsibility for commemorative information from ownership or control of the building and surrounding public space.

The organisation should not automatically be treated as the authority empowered to grant event or occupation permission.

The appropriate initial communication would request historical clarification and information concerning permitted use of its descriptions or images.

A separate approach to the relevant property or public-space authorities would be needed for any event.

Proposed priority: Conference research and commemorative planning.

E.12 Tenth Priority: Westminster City Council

Westminster City Council

Official Westminster City Council website

Westminster City Council is relevant to the proposed public ceremony because Carlton Gardens lies within central Westminster.

The organisers should examine current procedures concerning public events, temporary installations, sound equipment, accessibility, safety and use of public space.

The first enquiry should describe the proposed activity accurately.

For example, a short historical address by participants near Carlton Gardens may have different requirements from a large outdoor event involving amplified sound, equipment, barriers or a procession.

The council should be asked which procedures apply to the actual proposed activity.

The organising committee should not assume that a historic site automatically permits a public event.

Where police notification is legally required, that obligation should be examined separately.

Proposed priority: Before advertising or making financial commitments concerning a ceremony.

Evidence of progress: Written procedural guidance and any necessary permission or confirmation.

E.13 Bamiléké Traditional Authorities in Cameroon

The proposed initiative must establish direct relationships with the traditional institutions associated with the communities under investigation.

These relationships cannot be replaced by general correspondence with European archives.

The first task is to identify the chiefdom associated with Ngantcha.

Once the correct chiefdom has been established, the research team should determine which office or institution is competent to address historical genealogy, succession and ancestral territorial questions.

The approach should respect existing customary arrangements and applicable law.

It should not presume that the traditional authority endorses George's account or the proposed government-in-exile.

The initial request should ask whether the institution is willing to assist with historical research and consultation.

No letter should claim to represent the chiefdom before appropriate authorisation has been obtained.

At this stage, the precise ancestral institution is not sufficiently identified to include a verified contact address.

Inventing one would risk directing sensitive information to the wrong recipient.

A verified entry should be added once the relevant locality and authority have been established.

E.14 Wider Bamiléké Traditional Institutions and Cultural Organisations

Wider consultation may involve recognised Bamiléké chiefly institutions, regional historical researchers, community associations and cultural organisations.

Their possible relevance lies in providing historical knowledge, institutional experience and opportunities for consultation.

However, a broad Bamiléké identity does not establish that any single organisation represents every Bamiléké community.

The proposed preparatory committee should therefore build a verified directory showing each organisation's actual name, status, jurisdiction, officers, contact route and scope of authority.

Where an organisation is said to represent multiple traditional chiefdoms, the nature of those relationships should be examined.

A cultural association should not automatically be treated as a sovereign political authority.

A federation's authority should be established from its governing documents and participating members.

The initial communication should invite discussion rather than presume agreement with the proposed institutional model.

E.15 Bamiléké Diaspora Organisations

The proposed conference could benefit from the organisational experience of Bamiléké associations operating in Europe, North America and other regions.

The All Bamiléké Convention has been identified as a possible subject for further enquiry.

Other regional and diaspora associations may also be relevant.

Nevertheless, a reliable contact directory should distinguish organisations that have been independently identified from those whose current officers, legal status or communication routes remain unverified.

For the All Bamiléké Convention and other prospective diaspora contacts, an official current website, organisational email or authenticated public contact channel should be established before formal circulation.

No speculative email address should be inserted.

The first request should concern the organisation's interest in a conference devoted to historical research, community rights, international cooperation and reparatory justice.

A response should be recorded according to its actual terms.

Agreement to receive information is not an endorsement.

Attendance at a preparatory meeting is not a transfer of representative authority.

Participation in a conference is not consent to a proposed government-in-exile.

E.16 The La'akam and Bamiléké Historical Memory Initiatives

The proposed initiative should investigate relevant Bamiléké historical memory organisations, including La'akam-associated networks and initiatives concerned with documenting violence and repression.

Before any invitation is issued, the preparatory committee should confirm the exact organisational identity, leadership and legal or institutional status of the intended recipient.

This is important because similarly named community or cultural initiatives may operate through different structures.

The proposed research request should concern existing historical documentation, testimony, memorial projects and relevant scholarly resources.

It should ask whether the organisation wishes to contribute to an independent historical discussion.

The request should not presume that the organisation has adopted George's particular family claims.

Nor should its participation be interpreted as endorsement of every political proposal under consideration.

A verified contact address and documented response should be added to the directory when obtained.

E.17 Historians, Genealogists and Researchers in Cameroon

The proposed investigation will require historical expertise grounded in the specific locality and traditional institution concerned.

General European colonial history is not a substitute for detailed knowledge of Bamiléké genealogy, chiefdom succession and local landholding practices.

The preparatory committee should seek researchers capable of working with community testimony and archival documents.

Their expertise should be established through relevant publications, qualifications or documented research experience.

The engagement should specify the research question, deliverables, access to evidence, financial terms and expected independence of findings.

Researchers should not be instructed to prove a predetermined conclusion.

Their work should identify supporting evidence, contradictions and remaining uncertainties.

Any written report should provide source references sufficient for independent review.

E.18 Legal Research Institutions and Specialist Lawyers

Legal advice will be necessary before claims concerning historical state responsibility or ancestral rights are formally pursued.

The required expertise may include French colonial administrative law, public international law, state immunity, international litigation, Cameroonian property law and customary succession.

The appropriate lawyers should be selected according to the particular proposed cause of action.

A specialist in public international law may be able to assess jurisdiction and state immunity without being competent to determine every question of Cameroonian customary land law.

Similarly, a French administrative lawyer may require assistance from a historian to interpret a colonial-era instrument.

The legal enquiry should therefore be divided into defined research questions.

The proposed organisation should request information about expertise, professional status, fees and potential conflicts of interest before providing extensive sensitive material.

No lawyer should be described as representing George or the proposed council without an appropriate agreement and mandate.

E.19 Governmental and Diplomatic Contacts

The proposed initiative may wish to communicate with governments concerning historical research, archival access and the possibility of institutional discussion.

These requests should be made separately from ordinary community consultation.

A diplomatic contact should receive an accurate description of the status of the initiative.

Where a preparatory committee exists, its mandate should be identified.

Where a conference is only proposed, it should be described as proposed.

Where the government-in-exile question is under discussion, that fact should not be presented as evidence that governmental authority has already been established.

The diplomatic correspondence should request specific forms of engagement within the recipient's actual responsibilities.

An invitation to a historical conference may be appropriate.

A request for archival research assistance may be directed elsewhere.

A claim for compensation would require a separately supported evidential and legal foundation.

E.20 French Embassy in Cameroon

Ambassade de France au Cameroun — Yaoundé

Plateau Atémengué, BP 1631, Yaoundé, Cameroon

Email: chancellerie.yaounde-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr

Telephone: +237 222 22 79 00

Official French Embassy website

The details are confirmed by France's official public-service directory.



Service Public

The embassy is a possible contact for requests concerning the appropriate French governmental or diplomatic channel for historical research cooperation.

It should not be assumed to possess original colonial administrative records relevant to the suspected 1933 order.

The primary archival request should be sent to the relevant record-holding institutions.

An embassy enquiry could seek guidance concerning existing Franco-Cameroonian historical initiatives and the appropriate institutional recipient for a proposal concerning further research.

Proposed priority: After initial research documents and a precise request have been prepared.

E.21 International Human Rights and Reparatory Justice Institutions

The proposed initiative may eventually seek guidance from regional or international human rights institutions.

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights provides an important institutional reference because the African Charter addresses both individual and collective rights.

African Commission — Official Website

However, the existence of an international human rights body does not mean that it possesses jurisdiction over every colonial-era allegation or that every applicant can obtain a binding reparations award.

Procedural requirements, jurisdiction, admissibility and the temporal application of obligations must be assessed.

The first communication should therefore request procedural information or identify a specific legally grounded issue.

Formal complaints should be prepared only with appropriate legal advice and claimant authorisation.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights may also provide information concerning human rights mechanisms and standards relevant to reparatory justice.

OHCHR — Official Website

Neither institution should be listed as an existing supporter of the proposed conference merely because its published materials are relevant.

E.22 Priority Contact Directory: Verified Public Emails

The following addresses have been identified through official institutional or governmental sources.

Institution	Public contact email	Principal purpose
French Overseas National Archives	anom.aix@culture.gouv.fr	French colonial administrative records  Service Public
National Archives of Cameroon	archivesnationales.cmr@gmail.com	Colonial records held in Cameroon  Archives Nationales du Cameroun
Bundesarchiv, Berlin-Lichterfelde	berlin@bundesarchiv.de	German colonial records

Bundesarchiv, Military Archives Freiburg	militaerarchiv@bundesarchiv.de	 Bundesarchiv Relevant colonial military records
French Diplomatic Archives	lecture.archives@diplomatie.gouv.fr	 Bundesarchiv Diplomatic and mandate-era research
Fondation de la France Libre	contact@france-libre.net	 France Diplomatie Free France and Cameroon historical research
Sciences Po Centre for History	contact.centre-histoire@sciences-po.fr	 Fondation de la France Libre Historical research expertise
French Embassy in Cameroon	chancellerie.yaounde-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr	Rnsr Diplomatic enquiries and institutional referral  Service Public

Copy verified email addresses

Copy all Copy core archive emails

Addresses are provided for individually tailored correspondence, not as a recommendation to send one identical bulk email to all institutions.

The National Archives at Kew and the Service historique de la Défense should be contacted through their official research enquiry procedures rather than through an invented general email.

E.23 Outstanding Contacts Requiring Verification

The directory remains incomplete in several important areas.

Contact required	Present position	Required verification
Ngantcha's ancestral chiefdom	Not yet identified sufficiently	Confirm chiefdom, traditional institution and authorised contact
Relevant local historians in Cameroon	Individuals not yet selected	Verify expertise and public contact details
All Bamiléké Convention	Potential diaspora contact	Verify current officers and official communication route
La'akam-related historical initiatives	Further organisational identification required	Confirm exact institution and contact details
Other Bamiléké diaspora associations	Relevant networks to be identified	Verify status and representatives
Specific French mandate-era legal specialist	Not appointed	Confirm professional competence, jurisdiction and fees
German colonial-history researcher	Not appointed	Confirm relevant expertise
Cameroonian customary-land lawyer	Not appointed	Confirm professional competence and conflicts
Conference venue	Not selected	Obtain availability, access requirements and written quotation
Carlton Gardens event authority	Requirements not yet determined	Establish relevant permission and notification procedures

Independent financial or constitutional reviewer	Not appointed	Confirm independence and mandate

These gaps should be filled through research and consultation.

They should not be concealed by inserting unofficial addresses or assuming that organisations have agreed to participate.

E.24 Order of Contact

The proposed programme should not begin by sending identical invitations to every organisation.

The order of engagement matters.

During the initial stage, George and the proposed supporting participants should establish the precise historical questions and identify the ancestral locality.

The first archival enquiries should then be directed to ANOM and Cameroon's National Archives.

German archival research should follow or proceed in parallel where the geographic and chronological circumstances justify it.

Historical researchers should be approached once the available evidence has been organised into a concise dossier.

Community consultation should begin with the relevant ancestral institutions and expand to other organisations interested in the wider historical and reparatory questions.

The Free France historical organisations could be approached regarding the London connection.

Diplomatic enquiries should follow with specific requests supported by the preliminary research.

Conference invitations should be issued only after the organising arrangements are sufficiently developed.

The aim is to establish relationships based upon defined work rather than accumulate expressions of interest without a practical programme.

E.25 Institutional Correspondence Standards

Every formal communication should identify the sender, organisational capacity and purpose.

If Reparation Nation Limited writes in support of George's research, that relationship should be stated accurately.

It should not describe itself as the authorised government or representative of Bamiléké communities without such authority.

If a proposed preparatory committee has not yet been established, correspondence should not be issued in its name.

Where historical facts remain unverified, the enquiry should identify them as research questions.

The communication should distinguish requests for archival assistance from invitations to a conference or proposals for political cooperation.

A recipient should be able to understand precisely what is being requested.

The correspondence should also establish reasonable expectations concerning responses.

Archives may provide finding aids without undertaking commissioned research.

Universities may refer the enquiry to a relevant researcher without agreeing to a partnership.

Governments may acknowledge correspondence without accepting the propositions advanced.

The institutional register should preserve those distinctions.

E.26 Engagement and Response Register

The initiative should maintain the following information for every contacted organisation.

Record	Required information
Institution reference	Unique contact identifier
Official name	Verified institutional name
Country	Relevant jurisdiction
Institutional function	Archives, research, traditional authority, legal, diplomatic or other
Verified contact	Official email, form or postal address
Source of contact	Website or directory used
Date verified	Last contact verification date

Date contacted	Actual date of correspondence
Purpose	Specific request
Sender's mandate	Authority under which contact was made
Response	Acknowledgment, substantive answer or refusal
Institutional position	Exact nature of any interest or agreement
Required follow-up	Defined action
Responsible person	Assigned coordinator
Evidence retained	Correspondence and attachments

The register should not classify an organisation as a partner merely because it has responded.

A partnership should be recorded only where the relevant organisation has actually agreed to a defined arrangement.

E.27 Institutional Safeguards and Independence

The proposed international network should preserve the independence of archival, academic, community and legal functions.

Historians should be free to reach conclusions that differ from the expectations of the organisers.

Traditional authorities should not be required to transfer their powers merely to contribute historical knowledge.

Lawyers should act within the authority granted by their clients.

Government officials should not be represented as endorsing constitutional proposals unless they have explicitly done so.

Financial contributors should not control historical conclusions or beneficiary entitlements.

Technical service providers, including any IBIS-related implementation, should not acquire authority over people's rights merely because they administer information.

Conflicts of interest should be disclosed and managed.

The initiative should also establish appropriate safeguards against anti-Black racism, institutional racism and other forms of unlawful discrimination within its own procedures.

The existence of those safeguards should be demonstrable rather than assumed.

E.28 Review of the International Contact Network

The directory should be reviewed throughout the preparatory process.

Contact details may change.

Individual researchers may retire or move institutions.

Organisations may alter their governing arrangements.

An archival institution may refer an enquiry to another repository.

A diaspora association may appoint new officers.

The research team should therefore preserve the date on which each contact was verified.

Before sending sensitive family documents, the recipient's identity and authority should be checked.

Before publicly naming an organisation as a conference participant, its agreement should be confirmed.

Before announcing a governmental relationship, the actual status of the engagement should be independently established.

This would protect the credibility of the international programme.

E.29 Conclusion to Appendix E

The proposed Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative has access to a potentially useful range of archival, historical, legal and diplomatic institutions.

France provides important documentary resources concerning the mandate period and the subsequent administration of Cameroon.

Germany provides records concerning the earlier colonial period.

Cameroon's own archives and traditional institutions remain indispensable to reconstructing ancestral history and legitimate authority.

The United Kingdom provides historical research resources and the symbolic London location associated with Free France.

Academic institutions may contribute independent historical analysis.

Relevant governments and international bodies may eventually be approached about historical accountability and possible reparatory arrangements.

However, an international directory is not itself an international coalition.

An archival contact is not a political endorsement.

An academic consultation is not a governmental mandate.

A meeting with officials is not diplomatic recognition.

An invitation to a conference is not consent to join a government-in-exile.

These distinctions must remain visible.

The immediate institutional priority should be to establish reliable evidence concerning Ngantcha, the suspected 1933 French administrative decision and the associated ancestral history.

The wider conference and constitutional proposals should then be developed through consultation with appropriately authorised people and organisations.

Reparation Nation Limited could provide support within an agreed role.

IBIS could be examined as a possible means of recording institutional relationships, historical evidence, mandates and subsequent reparatory commitments.

The resulting network should be judged according to its documented work and accountability.

The purpose of international engagement is not simply to establish contact with prominent organisations. It is to obtain evidence, expertise, legitimate participation and practical cooperation capable of advancing historical accountability and reparatory justice.

END OF APPENDIX E

NEXT — APPENDIX F: GLOSSARY OF HISTORICAL, LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND IBIS TERMINOLOGY — Precise Definitions and Distinctions for Colonial Mandates, Arrêtés, Traditional Authority, Sovereignty, Government-in-Exile, Identity, Membership, Representation, Recognition, Reparatory Claims and Verifiable Delivery.

APPENDIX F

GLOSSARY OF HISTORICAL, LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND IBIS TERMINOLOGY

Definitions Governing Colonial Administration, Bamiléké Ancestral Rights, Historical Evidence, Representative Authority, International Reparatory Justice and Verifiable Delivery

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Terminology and Interpretation Appendix — To Accompany Sections One to Twelve and Appendices A to E

F.1 Purpose of the Glossary

This appendix establishes a common vocabulary for interpreting the proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice strategy.

The purpose is to prevent important historical, legal, constitutional and administrative concepts from being confused or used interchangeably.

The strategy involves several questions that must remain distinct.

A person may possess Bamiléké ancestry without belonging to a particular organisation.

Membership of an organisation does not automatically establish authority to represent a traditional community.

A traditional institution may possess customary authority without being recognised as a sovereign state.

A group may declare itself a government-in-exile without thereby obtaining international recognition.

A historical document may establish that an administrative act occurred without proving that the act was lawful.

A documented historical injury does not automatically establish a contemporary enforceable legal claim.

A governmental acknowledgment does not necessarily create an obligation to pay compensation.

A reparatory commitment does not establish that the intended beneficiaries have received the promised resources.

These distinctions are essential to the proposed institutional architecture.

The glossary therefore supplies working definitions for consistent use throughout the document.

Where a term possesses a particular legal meaning under French, German, Cameroonian, British or international law, its application to an individual claim requires examination of the relevant jurisdiction and historical period.

The definitions below do not themselves determine disputed legal rights or replace the controlling terminology of the IBIS book.

F.2 Historical and Colonial Administration Terminology

F.2.1 Colonialism

Colonialism refers to systems through which one political power establishes and exercises authority over a territory and its inhabitants outside its own metropolitan territory.

Colonial relationships may involve territorial control, military occupation, administration, economic exploitation, political subordination and interventions in existing social institutions.

The historical circumstances and legal status of particular colonial territories varied.

For the proposed Bamiléké investigation, colonialism refers principally to German and French administration of the relevant regions of Cameroon, while recognising the wider British administrative history of the former German colony.

The term identifies a historical and political relationship.

It does not, by itself, establish legal responsibility for every alleged act committed during that period.

F.2.2 Imperialism

Imperialism refers to the extension or exercise of political, economic, military or cultural power over other territories or peoples.

Imperialism may operate through formal colonial administration, military domination, unequal political relationships or other mechanisms.

The concept is broader than formal colonialism.

The proposed research should distinguish general interpretations of imperial power from evidence of particular governmental acts affecting George's ancestors.

F.2.3 Protectorate

A protectorate is a territory or political entity placed under the claimed protection or authority of another power, subject to the particular arrangements governing the relationship.

The term was used by Germany in establishing its colonial authority over Kamerun in 1884.

The historical use of the term should not be taken as proof that every community subsequently placed under colonial control consented to that arrangement.

The legal significance of particular protectorate agreements requires examination of their terms and circumstances.

F.2.4 Kamerun

Kamerun is the German-language name used for the German colonial territory established in 1884.

It should be distinguished from the contemporary Republic of Cameroon.

The geographical extent of German Kamerun changed over time.

Researchers must therefore use maps corresponding to the relevant historical period.

F.2.5 Neukamerun

Neukamerun refers to territories incorporated into German Kamerun following the Franco-German settlement of 1911.

It is relevant to historical cartography and imperial territorial changes.

Its existence does not automatically establish that George's ancestral territory was affected by the 1911 settlement.

That question requires local geographical evidence.

F.2.6 Mandate

A mandate, in the context of the League of Nations, was an arrangement under which an administering power exercised authority over a designated territory under an international supervisory framework.

Following the First World War, parts of former German Kamerun were placed under French and British mandates.

The relevant administering power exercised governmental functions subject to the terms of the mandate.

The word mandate also has a separate meaning in representation: an authorisation granted by a person or institution.

These two meanings must not be confused.

F.2.7 Mandatory Power

The mandatory power was the state entrusted with administering a mandated territory.

France was the mandatory power for French-administered Cameroon during the relevant interwar period.

The powers and obligations of the mandatory were governed by the mandate instrument and applicable law.

The existence of those obligations does not automatically establish the legal consequences of a particular alleged breach.

F.2.8 League of Nations

The League of Nations was the international organisation established following the First World War.

Its institutional framework included the supervision of certain mandated territories.

The League ceased to exist in 1946.

For George's investigation, the League's mandate records and supervisory proceedings may contain evidence concerning French administration during the 1930s.

F.2.9 Permanent Mandates Commission

The Permanent Mandates Commission was a League of Nations body responsible for examining information concerning the administration of mandated territories and advising the League Council.

Its records may provide historical evidence concerning governmental policies, reports and petitions.

It was not a contemporary judicial forum through which George or his descendants can now directly bring a claim.

F.2.10 Trusteeship

Trusteeship refers to the United Nations system under which designated territories were administered subject to international oversight after the Second World War.

French and British administration of the Cameroons subsequently operated under United Nations trusteeship arrangements.

The trusteeship period should be distinguished from the earlier League of Nations mandate period.

George's suspected 1933 French order belongs to the mandate era, not the later trusteeship era.

F.2.11 Arrêté

An *arrêté* is a French administrative instrument or order issued by an authority possessing the relevant powers.

Its legal character depends upon the issuing authority, subject matter, historical law and applicable procedures.

An *arrêté* should not automatically be translated as a judicial judgment.

For George's investigation, the term refers to a suspected French colonial administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933.

The document has not yet been authenticated for the specific family enquiry.

Its actual existence, wording, issuing authority and effects remain to be established.

F.2.12 Décret

A *décret* is a French legal or administrative instrument generally associated with executive governmental authority.

Its legal significance depends upon the historical and constitutional arrangements under which it was issued.

A *décret* should not automatically be confused with an *arrêté*.

The archival investigation should remain open to the possibility that the relevant historical action was recorded under a different instrument type from that remembered in family testimony.

F.2.13 Décision administrative

A *décision administrative* is an administrative decision taken by a public authority.

The term may describe an individual decision or another administrative act according to the applicable law.

For the proposed investigation, it is a useful search category concerning appointments, removals, territorial changes and recognition of traditional authorities.

F.2.14 Journal officiel

A *journal officiel* is an official publication through which governmental or administrative texts may be promulgated or recorded.

Official journals may contain legislation, regulations, appointments, administrative orders and related notices.

The historical official journal for French-administered Cameroon is a priority research source for the suspected 1933 instrument.

The absence of a document from an accessible journal does not necessarily establish that no relevant unpublished administrative act existed.

F.2.15 Colonial Administrative Recognition

Colonial administrative recognition refers to an authority's decision to acknowledge a person or institution for governmental purposes.

A French administrator might recognise a particular traditional chief as the person through whom colonial administration would operate.

Such recognition should not automatically be treated as proof that the person was the legitimate holder of the office under customary succession arrangements.

The distinction is central to the investigation concerning Ngantcha.

F.3 Bamiléké History, Traditional Authority and Ancestral Rights

F.3.1 Bamiléké

Bamiléké refers to a broad grouping of peoples and communities associated particularly with the western highlands of Cameroon.

The grouping includes distinct traditional chiefdoms, languages or language varieties, historical identities and local institutions.

The term should not automatically be treated as identifying one historically unified sovereign state.

The particular identity and history of the community concerned must be established where territorial or traditional authority is disputed.

F.3.2 Chiefdom

A chiefdom is a political and social institution organised around recognised chiefly authority, usually involving established traditions of succession, community responsibilities and other customary structures.

The form and powers of particular Bamiléké chiefdoms may differ.

The term should not be assumed to possess an identical legal meaning across all historical periods.

F.3.3 Chefferie

Chefferie is a French term commonly used to describe a chiefdom or the institutional authority associated with a chief.

In colonial records it may refer to an administrative category, a recognised traditional institution or a territorial unit.

Its meaning must be established from the relevant document.

F.3.4 Traditional Authority

Traditional authority refers to authority exercised according to the recognised customs and institutions of a particular community.

It may concern succession, ceremonies, community governance, dispute resolution, land responsibilities and other functions.

Traditional authority must be distinguished from authority granted through colonial administration or contemporary state law, although these may interact.

F.3.5 Customary Law

Customary law refers to rules and practices recognised as legally or institutionally significant within a community or relevant legal system.

The content, recognition and enforceability of customary rules may vary according to time and jurisdiction.

The proposed investigation should establish the actual succession and landholding rules relevant to George's ancestral community rather than assume a general rule applies to every Bamiléké chiefdom.

F.3.6 Traditional Succession

Traditional succession concerns the recognised procedure through which authority, title or responsibilities pass within a customary institution.

Succession may involve genealogical relationships and other customary criteria.

Proof of descent does not automatically establish entitlement to a particular traditional office.

The relevant rules and circumstances require independent examination.

F.3.7 Ancestral Territory

Ancestral territory refers to land or geographical areas associated with the historical occupation, authority, customary rights or identity of an individual, family, lineage or community.

The term may describe a historical relationship without necessarily establishing contemporary registered ownership.

Any legal claim concerning ancestral territory requires identification of the relevant rights and applicable law.

F.3.8 Ancestral Land Dispossession

Ancestral land dispossession refers to the alleged or established deprivation of land, customary interests or territorial rights historically associated with particular people or communities.

The term should identify the relevant acts and consequences.

It does not automatically determine the current legal owner or the appropriate remedy.

F.3.9 Genealogy

Genealogy is the systematic reconstruction and documentation of family relationships and descent.

It may use oral testimony, civil records, customary records, correspondence, historical publications and other sources.

A proposed genealogical relationship should be distinguished from one independently established.

F.3.10 Lineage

Lineage refers to a line or grouping of descent from an identified or recognised ancestor.

Its social, political and legal significance may vary according to the community.

A lineage may possess customary responsibilities or interests, but those must be established rather than presumed.

F.3.11 Descendant

A descendant is a person connected to an ancestor through a line of descent.

The existence of descent does not necessarily establish an inherited legal claim or entitlement to compensation.

Succession law, customary rules, the nature of the right and the terms of any reparatory programme may all be relevant.

F.3.12 Ngantcha

Ngantcha is the name supplied by George T. Nomen for a person he identifies as a relative associated with the family's historical circumstances.

The exact identity, alternative spellings, genealogical relationship, traditional position and historical treatment remain subjects of investigation.

The term must not be used as shorthand for a legally or historically established succession claim.

F.3.13 Indigenous and Native Terminology in Colonial Records

European colonial records frequently used terms such as *native*, *indigène* or corresponding administrative categories.

Such terminology reflects the language of the period and may embody colonial assumptions.

Where original terminology is important for accurately interpreting a historical source, it should be reproduced with explanation.

Its use within quotations or archival descriptions does not signify endorsement of its historical classifications.

F.4 Sovereignty, Self-Determination and Governmental Authority

F.4.1 Sovereignty

Sovereignty refers broadly to supreme governmental authority and, in international law, to the legal status and independence associated with states.

Its precise application depends upon the constitutional and international legal question concerned.

Customary authority, cultural identity and sovereignty should not automatically be treated as equivalent.

F.4.2 State

A state is an entity possessing international legal personality as a state.

Commonly discussed statehood criteria include a permanent population, defined territory, government and capacity to enter relations with other states.

These criteria require legal interpretation and cannot simply be satisfied through the adoption of an organisational constitution.

F.4.3 Government

A government is the institution or group of institutions exercising governmental authority within a state or political system.

A voluntary association may use titles resembling those of government without thereby acquiring legal governmental status.

The actual authority, constitutional basis and applicable law must be established.

F.4.4 Government-in-Exile

A government-in-exile is an authority claiming to continue or exercise governmental functions while operating outside the territory it claims to govern.

The historical and legal circumstances of such governments vary.

An organisation's self-description as a government-in-exile does not automatically establish international recognition, sovereign authority or standing before international courts.

F.4.5 Free France

Free France refers to the movement associated with Charles de Gaulle following France's military defeat in 1940.

Its development involved military organisation, territorial support, political institutions and international recognition.

The movement's London headquarters provides the historical association underlying the proposed conference.

Its wartime circumstances should not be treated as legally identical to those of a contemporary Bamiléké initiative.

F.4.6 Political Legitimacy

Political legitimacy refers to the justification and acceptance of an authority's exercise of political power.

It may arise from different constitutional, democratic, customary or other recognised sources.

Legitimacy should be distinguished from effective control and international recognition.

F.4.7 Legal Authority

Legal authority refers to powers conferred or recognised through an applicable legal system.

A body may possess organisational authority under its constitution without possessing governmental authority under national or international law.

F.4.8 Self-Determination

Self-determination concerns the right of peoples to determine their political status and pursue their economic, social and cultural development under the applicable principles of international law.

Its application involves complex questions concerning the identification of peoples, constitutional arrangements, territorial integrity and appropriate remedies.

Self-determination should not automatically be equated with an unconditional right to unilateral secession.

F.4.9 Internal Self-Determination

Internal self-determination concerns the exercise of political, cultural and developmental rights within an existing state or political framework.

Its practical forms may involve participation, cultural protection or arrangements for self-government, depending upon the legal circumstances.

F.4.10 External Self-Determination

External self-determination concerns a people's determination of its international political status.

Its application is especially associated with decolonisation and other legally significant circumstances.

The term should not be used to imply that every cultural community automatically possesses a unilateral right to establish an internationally recognised independent state.

F.4.11 Secession

Secession refers to the separation of territory from an existing state to establish or join another state.

Its legal and constitutional treatment varies.

The creation of a diaspora association or reparatory justice council is not equivalent to secession.

F.4.12 Autonomy

Autonomy refers to arrangements under which an institution or community exercises defined powers of self-government or decision-making.

Such arrangements may exist within a state and do not necessarily involve separate sovereignty.

F.4.13 Federation

A federation is a political or organisational arrangement through which distinct constituent entities participate in a common structure under agreed rules.

An international federation of participating Bamiléké institutions would not necessarily constitute a sovereign federal state.

Its powers would depend upon its founding arrangements and the authority of its members.

F.4.14 Provisional Council

A provisional council is a temporary or interim body established to perform specified functions pending further consultation or constitutional development.

A proposed Bamiléké provisional council could coordinate historical research and international correspondence if properly authorised.

Its existence would not automatically establish governmental recognition.

F.4.15 International Recognition

International recognition refers to a legally or politically significant acknowledgment by an appropriate international actor, such as a state's recognition of another state.

The meaning and consequences depend upon the form of recognition concerned.

A meeting, invitation, letter of acknowledgment or research partnership should not be described as sovereign recognition unless that is what the relevant institution has expressly provided.

F.5 Identity, Membership, Representation and Recognition

F.5.1 Identity

Identity concerns the attributes, relationships or characteristics through which an individual or entity is identified.

Within IBIS, the relevant meaning must follow the controlling definitions of its Identity Engine.

Identity should not automatically establish membership, citizenship, representation or reparatory entitlement.

F.5.2 Identity Engine

The Identity Engine is the distinct IBIS architectural component concerned with identity-related processes.

Its definitions, inputs and functions must be taken from the IBIS book and current authorised architecture.

It must not be merged with the Five-Factor Engine.

F.5.3 Five-Factor Engine

The Five-Factor Engine is a separate IBIS architectural component applying the five-factor framework established within the book.

It should not be treated as identical to the Identity Engine.

A Five-Factor profile does not automatically establish organisational membership, ancestral genealogy, legal standing or entitlement to reparations.

The five factors themselves should be reproduced from the controlling IBIS source rather than reconstructed or redefined in this glossary.

F.5.4 Membership

Membership is the relationship established when an individual or institution belongs to a particular organisation according to that organisation's rules.

A person may possess Bamiléké ancestry without becoming a member of the proposed international council.

Membership of an organisation does not automatically confer political citizenship or authority to represent other people.

F.5.5 Citizenship

Citizenship is a legal relationship between a person and a state, determined by the applicable nationality or citizenship law.

Citizenship should not be confused with ethnic identity or membership of a voluntary organisation.

A proposed council cannot simply confer internationally recognised citizenship by adopting that terminology.

F.5.6 Representation

Representation concerns the authority of a person or institution to act on behalf of another person, group or institution.

Representative authority may be limited to particular activities.

Authority to attend a conference does not necessarily include authority to settle ancestral claims.

F.5.7 Representative Mandate

A representative mandate is the authorisation granted to a representative to perform specified actions.

It should identify the authorising party, representative, authorised powers, limitations, duration and procedures for modification or withdrawal.

A mandate to conduct archival research is distinct from a mandate to negotiate or approve a settlement.

F.5.8 Delegate

A delegate is a person appointed or authorised to participate in a particular meeting, institution or process.

The delegate's powers depend upon the appointment.

Attendance does not automatically establish voting rights or authority to bind a community.

F.5.9 Recognition

Recognition is an acknowledgment or determination made by an identified person or institution within its competence.

The term must be qualified.

Recognition of identity, genealogy, traditional office, legal entitlement, organisational membership and sovereignty are different processes.

No one form of recognition should automatically substitute for another.

F.5.10 Consent

Consent is an affirmative indication of agreement or permission.

Its legal requirements depend upon the decision or processing activity involved.

Agreement to provide historical testimony does not automatically authorise public disclosure or settlement of a legal claim.

Silence and non-participation should not automatically be treated as consent.

F.5.11 Authorisation

Authorisation is the conferral of permission or power to undertake a defined action.

An authorised researcher may be permitted to examine family records without being authorised to act as the family's political representative.

F.5.12 Mandate Register

A mandate register is an administrative record of representative authorisations.

It should identify who granted authority, to whom, for what purpose and for how long.

It should record modifications, withdrawals and expiry without silently erasing earlier records.

F.5.13 Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest arises where a person's personal, financial or other interests may improperly influence, or appear to influence, the performance of their responsibilities.

The existence of a conflict does not necessarily establish misconduct.

It requires appropriate identification, disclosure and management.

F.5.14 Institutional Capture

Institutional capture occurs when an organisation's decisions or resources become dominated by interests that divert it from its legitimate purpose or the people it is intended to serve.

Safeguards may include defined mandates, transparent appointments, independent oversight and accountable financial administration.

F.6 Historical Evidence and Legal Claims

F.6.1 Primary Source

A primary source is original or contemporaneous evidence relevant to the matter under investigation.

Examples include administrative orders, correspondence, official journals, maps, photographs and witness testimony.

A primary source is not necessarily accurate simply because it is original.

Its authenticity, context and reliability must be assessed.

F.6.2 Secondary Source

A secondary source interprets or analyses historical evidence.

Academic books and scholarly articles are common examples.

Secondary sources may be highly valuable but should not automatically be treated as substitutes for original documents where those documents are available.

F.6.3 Provenance

Provenance concerns the origin, authorship, custody and history of a document or object.

It is particularly important when assessing the authenticity and significance of colonial administrative records.

F.6.4 Authentication

Authentication is the process of establishing that a record is what it purports to be.

An authenticated document may still contain factual inaccuracies or reflect a biased administrative perspective.

Authentication should therefore be distinguished from accepting every statement within the document as true.

F.6.5 Corroboration

Corroboration is evidence supporting a fact or account through additional relevant sources.

Independent corroboration may increase confidence in a historical finding.

The value of corroboration depends partly upon whether the sources are genuinely independent.

F.6.6 Historical Finding

A historical finding is a conclusion reached through an identified process of examining evidence.

It should identify its supporting sources and relevant uncertainties.

A historical finding is not necessarily a legally binding determination.

F.6.7 Historical Allegation

A historical allegation is a statement that a particular event or wrongdoing occurred but whose truth has not yet been conclusively established through the relevant process.

An allegation may be serious and worthy of investigation without being presented as a verified fact.

F.6.8 Claimant

A claimant is a person or entity advancing a claim or seeking a remedy.

Claimant status does not necessarily establish that the claim is valid or enforceable.

F.6.9 Standing

Standing concerns whether a person or entity is legally entitled to bring or participate in particular proceedings.

Its requirements depend upon the court, claim and jurisdiction.

Genealogical descent or membership of an organisation does not automatically establish legal standing.

F.6.10 Cause of Action

A cause of action is the set of legally significant facts and applicable rules providing a basis for seeking a judicial remedy.

A historical grievance may be serious without establishing an available contemporary cause of action.

F.6.11 Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction is the legal authority of a court or other institution to hear and determine a matter.

The existence of an international historical dispute does not automatically confer jurisdiction upon the International Court of Justice or another tribunal.

F.6.12 Admissibility

Admissibility concerns whether a claim satisfying jurisdictional requirements can properly be considered under the rules of the relevant procedure.

Issues may include prior domestic proceedings, filing deadlines or other procedural requirements.

F.6.13 Limitation Period

A limitation period is a legally prescribed time limit for bringing particular claims.

Its application depends upon the relevant legal system and cause of action.

The discovery of new evidence does not automatically remove a historical time bar.

F.6.14 State Immunity

State immunity concerns protection available to states from proceedings before the courts of other states in circumstances recognised by applicable law.

Its extent depends upon the jurisdiction and the nature of the acts involved.

Allegations of serious historical wrongdoing do not automatically eliminate state immunity.

F.6.15 Attribution

Attribution is the legal or historical process of identifying the person, government or institution responsible for a particular act.

The distinction between German, French and post-independence Cameroonian authority is essential when examining George's historical allegations.

F.6.16 State Responsibility

State responsibility concerns the international legal consequences of conduct attributable to a state that breaches an applicable international obligation.

Its establishment requires consideration of the relevant acts, applicable law and attribution.

The existence of colonial administration does not automatically establish every element of a particular contemporary claim.

F.6.17 State Succession

State succession concerns the replacement of one state by another in responsibility for the international relations of territory.

Its legal consequences vary according to the rights and obligations concerned.

A change of government or independence does not automatically settle every question concerning historical responsibility.

F.6.18 Legal Opinion

A legal opinion is a reasoned professional assessment of legal issues prepared by an appropriately qualified adviser.

It should identify the assumptions, evidence, applicable law, uncertainties and conclusions.

A legal opinion does not necessarily have the authority of a court judgment.

F.6.19 Judgment

A judgment is a formal decision of a competent court.

Its legal effect depends upon the jurisdiction, court and nature of the proceeding.

A historical commission report or political declaration should not be described as a court judgment.

F.6.20 Settlement

A settlement is an arrangement through which parties resolve or compromise a dispute under agreed terms.

Its legal consequences depend upon those terms and the applicable law.

An intermediary must possess the necessary authority before accepting a settlement on behalf of affected claimants.

F.7 Reparatory Justice and Remedies

F.7.1 Reparatory Justice

Reparatory justice refers to processes directed towards addressing established wrongs through appropriate remedies, acknowledgment, restitution, compensation, institutional action or other measures.

Within this strategy, the term includes attention to administration and verifiable delivery.

It does not imply that every historical grievance automatically generates the same legal entitlement.

F.7.2 Reparations

Reparations are measures intended to remedy wrongful injury or its consequences.

Depending upon the context, they may include restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.

The source of an obligation to provide reparations may arise from applicable law, judgment, agreement or another legitimate basis.

F.7.3 Restitution

Restitution concerns restoring a person or situation, where appropriate and possible, to a position associated with the period before the relevant violation.

It may involve restoration of property, liberty, legal status or other rights.

Restitution of ancestral land requires consideration of the relevant rights and the interests of current rights holders.

F.7.4 Compensation

Compensation is a monetary or economically assessable remedy for particular injuries or losses.

Its basis, calculation and beneficiaries depend upon the relevant legal or agreed framework.

Compensation should not automatically be equated with all forms of reparatory justice.

F.7.5 Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation refers to measures assisting recovery from injury or harm, potentially including medical, psychological, social or legal support.

Its appropriateness depends upon the circumstances and beneficiaries concerned.

F.7.6 Satisfaction

Satisfaction refers to forms of remedy that may include acknowledgment of wrongdoing, disclosure of facts, memorialisation, apology or other appropriate measures.

A measure of satisfaction may be meaningful without constituting completed delivery of every remedy sought.

F.7.7 Guarantees of Non-Repetition

Guarantees of non-repetition are measures intended to reduce the risk of comparable wrongdoing recurring.

They may involve institutional reform, accountability, safeguards or other appropriate arrangements.

Their relevance to particular historical claims depends upon the remedy and responsible institution concerned.

F.7.8 Reparatory Claim

A reparatory claim is a demand or application seeking a remedy for an alleged or established wrong.

It should identify the claimant, historical circumstances, supporting evidence, alleged responsible party and remedy sought.

Submission of a claim does not establish its validity.

F.7.9 Reparatory Obligation

A reparatory obligation is a duty to provide a specified remedy arising from an identifiable legal, judicial, contractual or other applicable source.

An aspiration or public proposal should not be recorded as an established obligation.

F.7.10 Beneficiary

A beneficiary is a person, family, community or institution identified as entitled or intended to receive benefits under a particular arrangement.

The identity of beneficiaries must be established according to the relevant law or agreement.

A representative is not necessarily a beneficiary.

F.7.11 Beneficiary Protection

Beneficiary protection concerns arrangements designed to ensure that resources and remedies intended for particular people are properly administered and delivered.

It may involve eligibility rules, financial accountability, independent review and verification of receipt.

F.7.12 Historical Acknowledgment

Historical acknowledgment is recognition by a person or institution that a particular event, injury or responsibility is established or accepted.

Its precise meaning depends upon the wording and authority of the acknowledgment.

It should not automatically be interpreted as acceptance of legal liability.

F.7.13 Apology

An apology is an expression of regret, acknowledgment or responsibility concerning conduct or its consequences.

Its legal effect depends upon its wording, context and applicable law.

An apology is not necessarily equivalent to compensation or restitution.

F.8 IBIS Implementation and Delivery Terminology

F.8.1 Claim Register

A claim register is a structured record of claims submitted for examination.

Registration should not automatically imply acceptance, recognition or legal validity.

F.8.2 Evidence Register

An evidence register identifies the sources relevant to a claim or historical investigation.

It should preserve source references, provenance, evidential status and subsequent corrections.

F.8.3 Commitment

A commitment is an undertaking or stated intention to perform an action.

Its enforceability depends upon its source and terms.

A commitment should be distinguished from an allocation or completed delivery.

F.8.4 Allocation

Allocation refers to the designation or assignment of resources for a defined purpose.

An allocation does not necessarily establish that the resources have been transferred.

F.8.5 Transfer

Transfer is the movement or legal conveyance of money, property, rights or other resources from one party or location to another.

The requirements for completing a transfer depend upon the nature of the resource.

Transfer to an intermediary does not automatically establish receipt by the ultimate beneficiary.

F.8.6 Receipt

Receipt is the acceptance or acquisition of a resource or remedy by an identified recipient.

It should be distinguished from the verification of entitlement and beneficial delivery.

F.8.7 Verified Receipt

Verified receipt is receipt supported by appropriate evidence showing that the relevant resource or remedy reached the intended recipient according to the applicable arrangement.

Verification may require independent financial, legal, physical or institutional evidence.

F.8.8 Delivery

Delivery refers to implementation of a defined obligation or commitment.

Its meaning must be connected to the remedy concerned.

For a financial obligation, delivery may involve payment.

For property restitution, it may involve completion of appropriate legal and practical transfer arrangements.

For an archival commitment, it may involve providing the agreed records.

F.8.9 Verifiable Delivery

Verifiable delivery is completion supported by evidence capable of appropriate independent assessment.

It should not be inferred solely from a public announcement by the party responsible for delivering the remedy.

F.8.10 Audit Trail

An audit trail is a chronological record of actions, decisions, amendments and responsible persons or institutions.

It enables later examination of how a record or decision developed.

F.8.11 Correction Record

A correction record identifies an error or changed conclusion, the original information, the corrected information, the reason for the amendment and its approving authority.

Corrections should not silently erase the existence of earlier records.

F.8.12 Independent Verification

Independent verification is an assessment conducted by a person or body sufficiently separate from the activity being verified to provide appropriate scrutiny.

Independence depends upon the circumstances, competence and conflicts of interest.

F.8.13 Public Browsing

Public browsing refers to access to information without requiring participation in identity-dependent activities, within the design and access rules established by the relevant system.

It should be distinguished from posting, submitting claims, exercising membership rights or undertaking other actions requiring appropriate authorisation.

F.8.14 Identity-Dependent Action

An identity-dependent action is an activity for which the applicable system requires a relevant identity process.

Completion of an identity process does not automatically authorise every possible action.

Additional membership, representation or legal requirements may apply.

F.9 Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence Terminology

F.9.1 Vessel

A vessel represents an organisation or institution associated with a reparatory programme.

It is a metaphorical tracking category, not a claim that the organisation possesses governmental authority.

F.9.2 Voyage

A voyage represents a reparatory programme, process or undertaking through which resources or remedies are intended to reach beneficiaries.

A single organisation may be associated with several voyages.

F.9.3 Cargo

Cargo represents the reparatory value associated with a voyage.

It may consist of money, land, services, cultural property, records, institutional action or other defined benefits.

The cargo must be described according to its actual nature and legal status.

F.9.4 Destination

Destination identifies the intended beneficiaries or receiving institution for a defined reparatory programme.

The destination should not be confused with an intermediary through which resources pass.

F.9.5 Route

Route represents the administrative, legal or practical mechanism by which a remedy is intended to reach its beneficiaries.

It may involve agreements, financial administration, property procedures or institutional actions.

F.9.6 Movement

Movement is a documented development affecting the status of a voyage, commitment or cargo.

Examples include a new agreement, allocation, transfer, delay, correction or completed action.

F.9.7 Hazard

Hazard is a risk, obstacle, dispute, delay or event that may impair the progress or completion of reparatory delivery.

The existence of a hazard should be recorded without automatically assuming misconduct.

F.9.8 Safe Harbour

Safe Harbour refers to a defined outcome of completed and appropriately verified delivery.

It should relate to the specific obligation or programme under examination.

Safe Harbour for one obligation does not automatically mean that every historical injustice associated with the broader subject has been remedied.

F.9.9 Shipping Intelligence

Shipping Intelligence refers to the proposed Reparation Nation method of recording, following and assessing the movement of reparatory commitments and outcomes over time.

Its maritime terminology is an administrative metaphor.

It should not replace the legal identity of the organisations, claimants, obligations and resources concerned.

F.10 Essential Distinctions Governing the Entire Document

The following distinctions must be preserved in the interpretation and implementation of the proposed strategy.

Concept A	Must not automatically be treated as Concept B
Bamiléké ancestry	Membership of a particular organisation
Identity	Membership
Identity Engine	Five-Factor Engine
Five-Factor profile	Genealogical proof or legal entitlement
Membership	Citizenship
Membership	Representation
Representation	Sovereignty
Customary authority	Internationally recognised governmental authority
Historical testimony	Independently verified historical finding
Archival record	Proof that every statement in the record is accurate
Colonial administrative recognition	Customary legitimacy
Historical injury	Enforceable contemporary legal claim
Descent from an injured ancestor	Automatic inherited entitlement
Government-in-exile declaration	International recognition
Diplomatic correspondence	Governmental endorsement
Conference attendance	Consent to constitutional representation
Historical acknowledgment	Acceptance of legal liability
Apology	Completed compensation
Reparatory commitment	Allocation
Allocation	Transfer
Transfer	Beneficiary receipt
Receipt	Verified receipt
Delivery of one remedy	Complete resolution of all historical claims

Proposed IBIS implementation	Tested and operational reparatory administration

These distinctions should inform the wording of the main report, the conference resolutions, the proposed London Declaration, the founding constitution and all subsequent institutional correspondence.

F.11 Interpretation of Ambiguous or Disputed Terms

Where a term has more than one possible meaning, the document should identify the meaning intended.

For example, the word mandate may refer to a League of Nations administrative arrangement or authority delegated by an individual or community.

The word recognition may refer to archival authentication, acknowledgment of a traditional office, acceptance of an organisational member or recognition of a state.

The word people may possess cultural, political or legal meanings that require careful distinction.

The word reparation may describe a legal remedy, negotiated programme, political commitment or moral demand.

These meanings are related but not interchangeable.

Where a formal legal instrument uses a defined term, that instrument's definition should govern its interpretation within the relevant legal context.

Where IBIS uses a term defined by the book, the controlling IBIS definition should be preserved.

Where traditional communities use their own terminology, researchers should seek accurate translations and explanations rather than replace the original meaning with an assumed European administrative equivalent.

F.12 Application to George T. Nomen's Historical Investigation

The glossary has direct practical significance for George's investigation.

Ngantcha's identity must first be established through appropriate evidence.

The claimed genealogical relationship between Ngantcha and George must be examined separately.

The suspected 1933 *arrêté* must be located and authenticated before its contents can be relied upon.

If an administrative replacement of a traditional authority is documented, its effect under customary and colonial law must be investigated.

The alleged deaths of George's father and grandfather must be dated and attributed through available evidence.

Any ancestral land claim must identify the historical rights and their subsequent legal history.

George's authority to pursue personal or family claims must be distinguished from authority to represent other communities.

A proposed Bamiléké council must obtain its own legitimate mandate.

A proposed government-in-exile would require further constitutional and international legal examination.

Any reparatory obligation arising from negotiation or legal proceedings must be recorded according to its actual terms.

The final delivery of any remedy must be verified.

These are separate stages of a potentially connected process.

The glossary ensures that progress at one stage is not inaccurately presented as completion of another.

F.13 Conclusion to Appendix F

The proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice strategy involves historically and legally complex questions.

Its credibility depends upon the consistent use of precise terminology.

Colonial administration must be distinguished from the traditional authority of the communities affected.

Customary succession must be distinguished from colonial administrative recognition.

Ancestral identity must be distinguished from organisational membership.

Membership must be distinguished from representation.

Representation must be distinguished from sovereignty.

A government-in-exile proposal must be distinguished from an internationally recognised government.

Historical allegations must be distinguished from independently established facts.

Historical facts must be distinguished from legal entitlement.

Legal entitlement must be distinguished from the practical administration of remedies.

A commitment must be distinguished from delivery.

Delivery must be distinguished from verified receipt.

These distinctions are not merely linguistic.

They determine what authority can legitimately be exercised, what historical conclusions can responsibly be advanced, what legal claims may be pursued and what reparatory outcomes can accurately be reported.

The proposed IBIS architecture is particularly relevant because it seeks to preserve these distinctions within an organised administrative framework.

However, the glossary does not replace the controlling definitions of the IBIS book or the requirements of applicable law.

The fundamental interpretive principle is that no identity, institution, declaration, historical finding or administrative record should be treated as conferring rights or authority beyond what has actually been established.

This principle should govern the proposed London conference, the historical evidence programme, the constitutional discussions and any subsequent reparatory justice institution.

END OF APPENDIX F

Principal reference notes

The glossary's historical legal distinctions draw upon the 1922 French Mandate for Cameroons, which includes provisions concerning land, administration and annual reporting.



Office of the Historian

The reparatory remedy categories are consistent with the international framework described in the United Nations Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation.



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The glossary remains a reference for interpreting the proposed strategy, not a legal opinion determining George's rights or a replacement for the exact IBIS architectural definitions.

NEXT — APPENDIX G: IMPLEMENTATION DOCUMENTS AND TEMPLATES — Founding Correspondence, Conference Invitations, Archival Requests, Delegate Mandates,

Friday, 09 October 2026 09/10/2026 21:15:42

Family Research Authorisations, Meeting Minutes, Constitutional Resolutions, Institutional Engagement Registers and Reparatory Delivery Records.

APPENDIX G

IMPLEMENTATION DOCUMENTS, STANDARD LETTERS, INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORISATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE TEMPLATES

Practical Instruments for Historical Research, Community Consultation, the Proposed London Conference, Representative Mandates, Constitutional Decisions and Verifiable Reparatory Justice

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Proposed Working Documents — No Template Constitutes an Existing Mandate, Partnership, Agreement or Governmental Authority Unless Properly Completed and Adopted

G.1 Purpose and Use of the Implementation Documents

The preceding twelve sections and six appendices establish the historical, strategic, constitutional, legal and institutional foundations of the proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative.

This appendix provides the practical documents required to move from strategic discussion towards authorised activity.

Its purpose is to ensure that the proposed programme does not depend upon informal understandings, unclear institutional responsibilities or public statements that exceed the authority actually granted.

The documents address several separate stages.

The initial stage concerns discussion between George T. Nomen and Reparation Nation Limited.

The second involves obtaining historical evidence and establishing relationships with relevant institutions.

The third concerns consultation with traditional authorities, community organisations and diaspora networks.

The fourth involves establishing a properly authorised preparatory committee.

The fifth concerns organising the proposed London conference and recording its decisions.

The sixth addresses the possible establishment of a provisional reparatory justice council.

The final stage concerns the management of historical claims, agreed reparatory obligations and verified delivery.

The templates should be adapted to the actual circumstances before use.

Their completion should not be treated as evidence of consent where the relevant person or organisation has not agreed.

No signature should be inserted without authorisation.

No institution should be described as a partner merely because it has received correspondence.

No claimant's rights should be transferred through a general conference form.

Each document should serve a clearly identified purpose.

G.2 Document G1 — Preliminary Statement of Understanding Between George T. Nomen and Reparation Nation Limited

This document would establish the initial scope of cooperation without prematurely creating a binding political or governmental institution.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

Concerning the Historical Investigation of George T. Nomen's Ancestors and the Proposed European and London-Based Bamiléké Reparatory Justice Initiative

Date: [To be completed]

Participants:

George T. Nomen

and

Reparation Nation Limited, acting through its duly authorised representative.

1. Purpose

The participants wish to explore cooperation concerning historical research into the experiences of George T. Nomen's ancestors under European colonial administration in Cameroon.

They also wish to examine the feasibility of international consultation concerning Bamiléké historical accountability, representative institutions and reparatory justice.

2. Historical Research

The proposed research may include investigation of a person identified as Ngantcha, the family genealogy, alleged killings, historical traditional authority, ancestral territory and a suspected French colonial administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933.

The participants acknowledge that these matters remain subject to historical verification.

3. Proposed London Conference

The participants may investigate the possibility of convening an international Bamiléké conference in London.

The conference could examine historical research, international cooperation, community representation, reparatory justice and possible constitutional arrangements.

No date, venue or participating organisation is confirmed by this statement.

4. Government-in-Exile Question

The participants acknowledge George T. Nomen's interest in examining the possibility of a Bamiléké government-in-exile.

They agree that this question requires separate historical, constitutional, legal and community consultation.

This statement does not establish a government-in-exile or confer sovereign authority.

5. Status of Reparation Nation Limited

Reparation Nation Limited may provide agreed support concerning strategic planning, research coordination, correspondence and administrative design.

Such support does not confer authority to represent Bamiléké communities or settle ancestral claims.

6. Confidentiality and Information

Personal and family information supplied for research shall be used only for purposes appropriately authorised by the person providing it, subject to applicable law.

Any proposed public disclosure requires separate consideration and, where necessary, permission.

7. Financial Responsibility

Neither participant is authorised by this statement alone to incur expenses or financial liabilities on behalf of the other.

Any financial commitment shall require separate agreement.

8. Further Decisions

The participants will review the strategy and determine which activities they wish to authorise.

Any continuing institutional arrangement shall require a separate written instrument.

9. Legal Effect

This statement records preliminary intentions and is not intended, by itself, to create a partnership, agency relationship, representative mandate, transfer of property rights or binding reparatory obligation.

Any specifically binding obligations concerning confidentiality, services, expenses or other matters must be set out in a separately reviewed agreement.

Signed:

George T. Nomen: _____

Date: _____

For Reparation Nation Limited: _____

Name and capacity: _____

Date: _____

G.3 Document G2 — Family Historical Research Authorisation

This document concerns the investigation of family history only. It should not operate as a blanket authorisation to negotiate or settle claims.

AUTHORISATION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

Person granting authorisation: George T. Nomen

Researcher or organisation authorised: [Full name]

Date: [To be completed]

I authorise the person or organisation identified above to undertake the following activities in connection with my family historical investigation:

1. Search relevant public and archival collections for documents concerning my ancestors and the historical circumstances described in the accompanying research brief.
2. Request catalogue information, archival references and quotations for copies of relevant documents.
3. Obtain copies of documents where I have separately approved any applicable fees.
4. Translate or arrange translation of relevant records where appropriately authorised.

5. Prepare a historical research report identifying the evidence located, outstanding questions and limitations.

This authorisation does not grant permission to settle legal claims, dispose of ancestral rights, appoint political representatives, publish confidential family information or incur expenditure beyond amounts separately approved.

The researcher shall distinguish family testimony from independently verified documentary evidence.

Original information and copies shall be handled according to agreed confidentiality and applicable data-protection requirements.

The authorisation may be withdrawn prospectively by written notice, subject to any lawful obligations and arrangements already properly entered into.

Authorised period: [Start date] to [End date]

Expenditure ceiling, if any: [Amount or none]

Special restrictions: [To be completed]

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Researcher acknowledgment: _____

Important distinction: George can authorise research concerning his own information, but cannot necessarily grant access to confidential records belonging to other living persons or transfer collective rights held by a family or community.

G.4 Document G3 — Initial Letter to a Bamiléké Traditional Authority

Dear [Title and Name],

I am writing concerning a proposed historical investigation and international consultation initiative involving George T. Nomen and the possible support of Reparation Nation Limited.

George is seeking to establish the historical circumstances affecting members of his ancestral family during European colonial administration of Cameroon.

His research concerns questions of traditional authority, genealogy, ancestral territory and alleged colonial interventions. The matters under investigation have not yet been independently established.

We recognise that Bamiléké communities possess distinct traditional histories, institutions and arrangements for legitimate authority.

We therefore wish to approach the relevant institutions respectfully and without presuming their agreement with any proposed interpretation or political arrangement.

We would be grateful to know whether your institution would be willing to consider an initial discussion concerning the historical records, customary evidence and research methods relevant to these questions.

Separately, a proposal is being examined for an international conference in London concerning historical accountability and reparatory justice.

The conference remains at the planning stage. No collective constitutional authority or government-in-exile has been established by this proposal.

We would welcome your views on whether such an initiative could be useful and what safeguards would be necessary to ensure appropriate participation and representation.

We are making no assertion that your institution has authorised this work or accepted any particular historical claim.

If you are willing to discuss the matter, please indicate the appropriate person and procedure through which we should communicate.

Yours faithfully,

[Name]
[Verified capacity]
Reparation Nation Limited / Proposed historical research initiative
[Contact details]

G.5 Document G4 — Invitation to an International Bamiléké Organisation

Dear [Name or Organisation],

We are exploring the feasibility of an international Bamiléké conference in London concerning European colonial history, ancestral rights, legitimate community representation and the pursuit of reparatory justice.

The proposal draws upon the documented historical relationship between London, the Free French movement and Cameroon during the Second World War.

It also responds to historical questions being investigated by George T. Nomen concerning his ancestors and the administration of Cameroon under German and French colonial rule.

The proposed conference could provide an opportunity for Bamiléké traditional authorities, community organisations, diaspora networks, historians and legal specialists to examine the historical evidence and consider whether further cooperation would be useful.

It could also examine possible institutional structures, including a provisional reparatory justice council and the wider constitutional question of a government-in-exile.

No decision concerning these structures has been made.

Your organisation is not being asked to transfer authority, endorse a political declaration or accept any particular historical allegation simply by considering this invitation.

We would welcome your response to the following matters:

1. Whether your organisation has an interest in discussing the proposal.
2. Whether it would consider participating in an initial consultation.
3. Which historical or reparatory justice questions it considers most important.
4. What safeguards it would expect concerning community representation and institutional accountability.
5. Whether it could identify relevant research or community contacts.

Any subsequent participation arrangements would be discussed separately.

We would be grateful for an initial response indicating whether further correspondence would be welcome.

Yours faithfully,

[Name]
[Verified organisational capacity]
Reparation Nation Limited
[Contact details]

G.6 Document G5 — Formal Archival Enquiry

The following English version can be adapted for institutions in Germany, the United Kingdom or Cameroon. The French-language request prepared in Appendix D should be used where appropriate.

Dear Archivist,

I am undertaking historical research concerning the administration of Cameroon during the German and French colonial periods.

The research is being undertaken in connection with George T. Nomen's investigation of his ancestors and their historical community.

The principal subjects include a person identified as Ngantcha, traditional authority, ancestral land and possible colonial administrative interventions.

We are particularly interested in records relating to the period around 1933, although earlier German colonial records and later administrative correspondence may also be relevant.

We would be grateful for assistance identifying:

1. Relevant archival collections and catalogue references.
2. Records concerning recognition, appointment or removal of traditional chiefs.
3. Official administrative orders and publications.
4. Records concerning customary territory, land administration or succession.
5. Administrative correspondence involving the relevant locality.
6. Any finding aids or alternative repositories that may assist the investigation.

We recognise that the precise identity and location of certain records remain to be established.

We are not asserting that the relevant documents necessarily exist in your collections.

Our immediate objective is to obtain accurate information about the surviving records and the procedures for accessing them.

Please indicate any applicable fees, research services, restrictions or requirements for further identifying information.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours faithfully,

[Name]
Historical Research Coordinator
[Authorised organisation or personal capacity]
[Contact details]

G.7 Document G6 — Preparatory Committee Terms of Reference

PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE

International Bamiléké London Conference Preparatory Committee

Status: Draft for adoption by appropriately authorised participants.

Article 1 — Establishment

The Preparatory Committee shall be established only upon recorded agreement of the persons and organisations authorised to participate in its formation.

Article 2 — Purpose

The Committee's purpose shall be to examine the feasibility of an international conference concerning Bamiléké historical accountability, traditional institutions, European colonial administration, community representation and reparatory justice.

Article 3 — Powers

The Committee may undertake conference planning, consultation, research coordination and authorised correspondence.

It shall not possess sovereign governmental authority by virtue of its establishment.

Article 4 — Membership

Members shall be identified individually, together with the capacity in which they participate and any relevant organisational mandate.

Article 5 — Meetings

Meetings shall have written agendas and minutes.

Decisions shall be recorded together with the participants entitled to make them.

Article 6 — Finances

No member may commit another member or participating organisation to expenditure without appropriate authorisation.

Approved expenditure shall be recorded and subject to review.

Article 7 — Historical Evidence

The Committee shall not require researchers to reach predetermined historical conclusions.

Article 8 — Constitutional Questions

The Committee may organise discussion concerning a provisional council, federation or government-in-exile.

It shall not declare such an institution established without a separate lawful and appropriately authorised process.

Article 9 — Conflicts of Interest

Members shall declare material conflicts and withdraw from affected decisions where required by the adopted rules.

Article 10 — Complaints

The Committee shall adopt fair procedures for receiving concerns about misconduct, exclusion or discrimination, including concerns about anti-Black racism and institutional racism.

Article 11 — Duration

The Committee shall operate until [date or event], subject to any properly authorised extension.

Article 12 — Reporting

The Committee shall produce an account of its activities, expenditure and outstanding work.

Article 13 — Dissolution

Upon termination, records and any remaining funds shall be handled according to applicable law and the rights of the relevant participants.

Adoption date: _____

Authorised founding participants: _____

Signatures: _____

The committee's voting arrangements, quorum, notice requirements and appointments should be completed before formal adoption. These should reflect the mandates actually granted rather than arbitrary assumptions about representation.

G.8 Document G7 — Conference Delegate Mandate

CONFERENCE DELEGATE AUTHORISATION

Authorising person or institution: [Full legal or customary identification]

Delegate: [Full name]

Conference: Proposed International Bamiléké London Conference

Dates: [To be confirmed]

The authorising person or institution appoints the named delegate for the following purposes:

[ ] Attend and participate in discussions.

[ ] Present the authorising institution's historical or organisational position.

[ ] Submit written proposals.

[ ] Vote upon specified procedural matters.

[ ] Vote upon specifically authorised substantive resolutions.

[ ] Participate as an observer without voting authority.

Matters expressly excluded from this mandate:

The delegate shall not, unless separately authorised, transfer ancestral land rights, settle reparatory claims, surrender legal entitlements, commit the institution to financial obligations or consent to a new government exercising authority over the institution.

Duration: _____

Restrictions: _____

Procedure for verification: _____

Authorised signature: _____

Delegate acknowledgment: _____

Date: _____

The form distinguishes participation from representative authority.

A delegate should not be permitted to vote on behalf of a traditional authority or association merely because the person publicly claims such a role.

G.9 Document G8 — Conference Meeting Minutes

OFFICIAL MEETING RECORD

Meeting reference: [Number]

Date and location: [Details]

Meeting type: [Preparatory committee / conference session / constitutional meeting]

Chair: [Name]

Minute-taker: [Name]

Attendance

Record all attendees and distinguish voting delegates, observers, invited experts and administrative personnel.

Verification of Authority

Record which representative mandates were verified and which remain unresolved.

Agenda

List the items considered.

Historical Evidence Presented

Identify the papers and supporting sources.

Record disputed matters and requests for further research.

Proposals

Record each proposal in its actual wording.

Amendments

Record proposed and adopted amendments.

Decisions

For every decision, record the participating decision-makers, applicable voting or consensus procedure, outcome and any recorded objections or reservations.

Actions

Identify the action, responsible person or institution, authorising decision, deadline and evidence required for completion.

Financial Decisions

Record approved expenditure, funding restrictions and the person authorised to undertake the transaction.

Outstanding Matters

Identify subjects left unresolved.

Next Meeting

Record the proposed arrangements.

Minutes prepared by: _____

Minutes approved by: _____

Date of approval: _____

G.10 Document G9 — Proposed Conference Resolution on Historical Research

DRAFT RESOLUTION 1

Establishment of a Coordinated Historical Research Programme

The participating delegates, acting only within their verified mandates, recognise the importance of responsible historical investigation concerning German and French colonial administration and the experiences of affected Bamiléké communities.

They support the development of a voluntary research programme involving relevant archives, historians, traditional authorities and interested descendants.

They recognise that particular allegations concerning historical killings, traditional succession and ancestral lands require independent examination.

The programme shall preserve original documents, maintain accurate references and distinguish allegations from established findings.

Participation shall not automatically confer authority to represent non-participating communities or settle their claims.

The resolution authorises the following limited action:

[Insert the authorised research programme and responsible participants.]

Proposed by: _____

Seconded, if required: _____

Voting or approval procedure: _____

Result: _____

Date: _____

G.11 Document G10 — Proposed Resolution on the Government-in-Exile Question

DRAFT RESOLUTION 2

Independent Examination of Constitutional and Representative Options

The participating delegates acknowledge that proposals have been advanced concerning the possible establishment of a Bamiléké government-in-exile or other international representative institution.

They recognise that such proposals require examination of historical sovereignty, traditional institutions, community consent, constitutional authority, the Republic of Cameroon and applicable international law.

They therefore agree to consider an independent constitutional and legal research programme.

This resolution does not establish a government-in-exile, declare statehood, confer sovereignty or claim diplomatic recognition.

No community shall be regarded as represented by the proposed institution without an appropriate mandate.

The authorised research group shall prepare a report identifying possible constitutional options, legal obstacles, safeguards and consultation requirements.

Research group: _____

Reporting date: _____

Financial authority: _____

Approval procedure and result: _____

G.12 Document G11 — Proposed Resolution Establishing a Provisional Council

This resolution should be used only if the participating persons and institutions genuinely wish to establish such a body and possess authority to do so.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 3

Proposed Provisional International Bamiléké Reparatory Justice Council

The participating founders, acting within the authority conferred upon them, resolve to establish a voluntary provisional institution for the purposes specified in the attached founding constitution.

Its initial functions shall be limited to:

1. Coordinating appropriately authorised historical research.
2. Maintaining a verified institutional contact register.
3. Supporting consultation concerning historical accountability.
4. Obtaining authorised legal and archival advice.
5. Reporting on agreed programmes and institutional activities.

The Council shall not possess governmental sovereignty by virtue of this resolution.

Its powers shall not extend to individuals, families or traditional institutions that have not authorised its representation.

Its officers shall not settle claims, transfer land rights or administer reparatory resources without separate legal and representative authority.

The constitution attached to this resolution shall identify membership, governance, financial safeguards, amendments and dissolution procedures.

Founding constitution reference: _____

Participating founders: _____

Verification of mandates: _____

Legal or organisational form: _____

Approval procedure and result: _____

Effective date, if validly adopted: _____

G.13 Document G12 — Researcher Appointment and Independence Agreement

RESEARCH APPOINTMENT AND INDEPENDENCE TERMS

Research subject: [Defined historical question]

Appointing person or institution: [Authorised party]

Researcher: [Name and qualifications]

Period: [Dates]

Approved budget: [Amount]

The researcher is appointed to examine the specified historical evidence independently.

The researcher shall identify original sources wherever practicable, preserve accurate citations and distinguish findings from hypotheses.

The appointing institution shall not require the researcher to suppress contradictory evidence or reach predetermined conclusions.

Conflicts of interest shall be disclosed.

The ownership, permitted use and confidentiality of source copies and research outputs shall be governed by the agreed terms and applicable law.

The researcher shall not incur expenditure beyond the agreed limit without additional authorisation.

Deliverables: [Research report, evidence register, copies, translations]

Review procedure: [Independent or institutional review]

Signatures: _____

Date: _____

This is a scope template, not a complete professional services contract. Before a paid appointment, the parties should include appropriate clauses on intellectual property, confidentiality, data protection, liability, termination and dispute resolution.

G.14 Document G13 — Archival Evidence Entry Form

Field	Required entry
Evidence reference	Unique identifier
Claim or research subject	Associated historical enquiry
Original title	Exact document title where available
Date	Original date or stated uncertainty
Issuing authority	Identified creator
Repository	Original archive or collection
Catalogue reference	Exact identifier
Language	Original language
Document type	Order, letter, report, map, testimony, photograph
Acquisition date	When obtained
Acquired by	Researcher or institution
Authenticity status	Verified, provisional, disputed or undetermined
Evidential significance	Fact or proposition supported
Limitations	What the source does not establish
Translation reference	Link to translation
Access restrictions	Applicable limits
Corrections	Dated record of amendments

The original should be retained separately from interpretive notes.

G.15 Document G14 — International Institutional Engagement Register

Reference	Institution	Purpose	Contact date	Response	Actual status	Next action
ENG-001	[Name]	Archival research	[Date]	[Response]	Enquiry only	[Action]
ENG-002	[Name]	Community consultation	[Date]	[Response]	No mandate presumed	[Action]

ENG-003	[Name]	Conference participation	[Date]	[Response]	Pending confirmation	[Action]
ENG-004	[Name]	Legal research	[Date]	[Response]	No appointment presumed	[Action]

The register should distinguish a sent email from a substantive response, and a response from an agreement.

G.16 Document G15 — Conference Budget and Expenditure Approval

The preparatory committee should prepare a budget showing the actual planned costs of venue hire, accessibility, interpretation, research presentations, communications, administration, equipment and contingency requirements.

The budget should distinguish confirmed funds from anticipated contributions.

A proposed expenditure should identify the supplier, amount, purpose, funding source and person authorised to approve it.

No cost should be treated as funded simply because an organiser expects that a donor will contribute.

Expenditure approval should include:

Approval field	**Entry**
Request reference	[Number]
Description	[Purpose]
Supplier	[Verified name]
Quoted amount	[Amount and currency]
Funding source	[Confirmed allocation]
Budget category	[Category]
Conflict of interest	[Disclosure]
Approving authority	[Name and mandate]
Decision	[Approved / refused / deferred]
Supporting document	[Quote or invoice]

Payment verification [Record]

Reparatory resources intended for beneficiaries should not be mixed with ordinary conference operating funds.

G.17 Document G16 — Reparatory Claim Submission Record

This proposed record should be used only by an institution legally and organisationally competent to receive and process the relevant information.

Field	Required information
Claim reference	Unique identifier
Claimant	Verified person or institution
Claimant capacity	Individual, family representative, traditional institution or other
Historical events	Clearly identified allegations
Relevant dates	Dates or ranges
Location	Historical and current geography
Alleged responsible party	Identified authority or institution
Supporting evidence	Evidence identifiers
Mandate	Representative authority, if applicable
Rights asserted	Description and legal basis where known
Remedies sought	Specified remedies
Legal status	Under review; no liability presumed
Confidentiality	Applicable restrictions
Decision record	Competent authority and outcome
Review route	Available challenge process

Registration should not automatically confer entitlement.

G.18 Document G17 — Reparatory Commitment and Delivery Verification Register

This register applies the principle that a promise, commitment, allocation, transfer and verified receipt are separate events.

Stage	Required record
Announcement	What was announced, by whom and when
Commitment	Exact terms and responsible institution
Legal obligation	Source and enforceability, if established
Allocation	Resources designated for the remedy
Transfer	Evidence of movement or conveyance
Recipient	Person or institution actually receiving resources
Beneficiary	Person or community entitled under the arrangement
Receipt	Evidence of actual receipt
Verification	Independent or appropriately authorised review
Outstanding obligations	What remains undelivered
Corrections	Amendments and reasons

The record should not describe transfer to an intermediary as final beneficiary receipt without further evidence.

G.19 Document G18 — Complaints and Institutional Safeguards Procedure

PROPOSED INSTITUTIONAL COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Any participant affected by the decisions or conduct of the proposed institution may raise concerns through an accessible process.

Complaints may concern unfair exclusion, conflicts of interest, alleged discrimination, misuse of information, financial impropriety, representative authority or other misconduct.

The institution shall make particular provision for allegations concerning anti-Black racism and institutional racism.

Receipt of a complaint does not establish that misconduct occurred.

The complaint shall be acknowledged, assessed and referred to an appropriate reviewer.

Where the complaint concerns an officeholder, that person shall not exercise improper control over the review.

The complainant and any person whose conduct is questioned shall be treated fairly.

Relevant evidence shall be preserved.

Confidentiality and protection against retaliation shall be addressed.

A reasoned outcome shall be provided where appropriate.

The institution shall identify an available review or appeal mechanism and record any corrective actions.

The procedure shall be published and reviewed periodically.

Adoption authority: _____

Independent reviewer or panel: _____

Date adopted: _____

G.20 Document G19 — Monthly Implementation Report

MONTHLY IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Reporting period: [Month and year]

Prepared by: [Responsible person]

Approved by: [Authorised reviewer]

Historical Research

Documents requested:

Documents received:

Documents authenticated:

Outstanding historical questions:

Community Consultation

Organisations contacted:

Substantive responses:

Verified mandates:

Disputes or concerns:

Institutional Development

Decisions adopted:

Friday, 09 October 2026 09/10/2026 21:15:42

Appointments:

Constitutional questions outstanding:

Legal Research

Opinions commissioned:

Findings received:

Issues requiring further advice:

Financial Report

Funds received:

Approved expenditure:

Outstanding liabilities:

Restrictions or conflicts:

Reparatory Commitments

New commitments:

Resources allocated:

Transfers reported:

Verified beneficiary receipt:

Outstanding obligations:

Risk Review

New risks:

Controls implemented:

Complaints or significant incidents:

Next Reporting Period

Authorised actions:

Responsible persons:

Deadlines:

Evidence required for completion:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

The report should disclose incomplete activities rather than silently omitting them.

G.21 Document G20 — Formal Invitation to a Historian or Legal Specialist

Dear [Title and Name],

I am writing concerning a proposed international historical and reparatory justice initiative involving George T. Nomen and the possible support of Reparation Nation Limited.

The initiative includes research into German and French colonial administration of Cameroon, questions concerning traditional Bamiléké institutions and the historical relationship between Cameroon and the Free French movement.

We are examining the feasibility of a conference in London bringing together interested community representatives, traditional institutions, historians and legal specialists.

Your expertise in [precise subject] appears relevant to the questions under consideration.

We would welcome the opportunity to establish whether you might be interested in contributing through historical advice, participation in a discussion or review of a specifically defined research question.

The proposed initiative remains at the consultation stage.

We do not ask you to endorse any unverified historical allegation, legal claim or government-in-exile proposal.

We would value independent historical and legal analysis, including findings that may differ from the expectations of the organisers.

Please indicate whether you would be willing to discuss the proposal and any conditions that would apply to your participation.

Yours faithfully,

[Name]
[Verified capacity]
[Organisation]
[Contact details]

G.22 Document G21 — Post-Conference Decision and Action Certificate

POST-CONFERENCE DECISION AND ACTION CERTIFICATE

Conference: [Full title]

Dates: [Dates]

Venue: [Location]

Certified by: [Authorised official]

The attached record identifies the decisions adopted by participants possessing the relevant authority.

The certificate distinguishes adopted resolutions from proposals that remained under discussion.

For every adopted resolution, the record identifies:

- The exact wording adopted.
- The decision-making procedure.
- The verified participants entitled to decide.
- Any recorded reservations.
- The persons or institutions authorised to act.
- The resources approved.
- The reporting requirements.

The certificate does not establish governmental recognition, authority over non-consenting communities or legal entitlement beyond what the adopted decisions and applicable law provide.

Documents attached: [List]

Signature: _____

Date: _____

G.23 Recommended Order for Using the Templates

The documents should be introduced according to the actual stage of the initiative.

Stage	Templates
Initial agreement between George and Reparation Nation Limited	G1
Authority to undertake family research	G2
Consultation with traditional institutions	G3
Consultation with diaspora organisations	G4
Archival enquiries	G5

Establishment of preparatory committee	G6
Conference delegate participation	G7
Meeting administration	G8
Historical research resolution	G9
Government-in-exile study resolution	G10
Creation of provisional council, if authorised	G11
Appointment of independent researchers	G12
Historical evidence management	G13
International engagement tracking	G14
Financial accountability	G15
Claims administration, if lawfully established	G16
Reparatory delivery monitoring	G17
Complaints and safeguards	G18
Monthly reporting	G19
Expert invitations	G20
Certification of conference decisions	G21

The templates are administrative aids, not substitutes for legal review where binding obligations, personal data, property rights or governmental status are involved.

G.24 Institutional Authority and Signature Safeguards

No completed template should imply that an organisation has agreed to participate without evidence of agreement.

A person's signature should be connected to the capacity in which they act.

Where the signatory represents an institution, the source and scope of authority should be recorded.

A conference participant should not automatically be treated as a constitutional founder.

An archival researcher should not automatically be authorised to negotiate compensation.

A council officer should not automatically be permitted to bind claimants to a settlement.

A technical administrator should not automatically possess authority over identity, membership or entitlements.

The document system should preserve all these distinctions.

Where an authorisation is withdrawn or expires, the records should identify the change.

Historical records of earlier valid decisions should remain available for appropriate audit.

G.25 Conclusion to Appendix G

The templates in this appendix provide a practical means of converting the proposed European and London-based Bamiléké strategy into a controlled process of historical research, consultation and possible institutional development.

They establish a structure for communicating with archives, consulting traditional authorities, inviting organisations, recording decisions and evaluating responsibilities.

They also provide procedures for evidence management, financial accountability, complaints and the monitoring of reparatory commitments.

Their purpose is to prevent administrative activity from being confused with political or legal authority.

A preliminary understanding does not establish a government.

A research authorisation does not transfer ancestral rights.

A conference invitation does not establish institutional endorsement.

A delegate appointment does not automatically confer authority to settle claims.

A historical allegation does not become verified merely because it appears in an evidence register.

A constitutional resolution does not automatically produce international governmental recognition.

A reparatory commitment does not become completed delivery simply because it has been recorded.

The central implementation principle is that every significant action must identify the authority permitting it, the person or institution responsible, the evidence supporting it and the means through which its completion can be verified.

These templates should provide the administrative foundation for that principle, subject to consultation, appropriate legal review and properly recorded adoption.

END OF APPENDIX G

NEXT — APPENDIX H (FINAL BACK-MATTER APPENDIX): EVIDENCE STANDARDS, RESEARCH METHODOLOGY, LEGAL LIMITATIONS, INSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS, DOCUMENT CONTROL, CORRECTIONS, VERSION HISTORY AND FINAL PUBLICATION PROTOCOL.

APPENDIX H — FINAL BACK-MATTER APPENDIX

EVIDENCE STANDARDS, RESEARCH METHODOLOGY, LEGAL LIMITATIONS, INSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS, DOCUMENT CONTROL AND PUBLICATION PROTOCOL

Governing Standards for the Historical Investigation of George T. Nomen's Ancestry and the Proposed European and London-Based Bamiléké Reparatory Justice Initiative

Prepared for: George T. Nomen Proposed by: Reparation Nation Limited Strategic framework: IBIS — Developing Architecture for International Reparatory Justice Date: 9 October 2026 Status: Final Methodological and Governance Appendix — Proposed Standards for Review and Adoption

H.1 Purpose and Authority of this Appendix

This appendix establishes the research, evidential, legal, governance and publication standards proposed for the European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice strategy.

It is intended to govern how the twelve substantive sections and seven preceding appendices are interpreted, verified, corrected, circulated and developed.

Its purpose is to distinguish historical investigation from established historical findings, institutional proposals from adopted decisions, representative claims from valid mandates, and reparatory commitments from verified delivery.

The proposed initiative concerns potentially serious allegations of colonial violence, interference with traditional authority, ancestral land dispossession and injury affecting George T. Nomen's family.

These matters deserve rigorous investigation.

Rigour requires both willingness to examine evidence of wrongdoing and willingness to acknowledge uncertainty, contradiction and incomplete records.

The research should therefore not presume that the alleged events have been proved simply because they are described in family testimony.

Nor should it presume that they did not occur because the relevant colonial documents have not yet been located.

Both propositions would exceed the evidence presently established.

This appendix provides a method through which such questions can be investigated without prematurely deciding them.

It also establishes conditions under which the proposed strategy could become a responsible basis for international correspondence, community consultation, legal review and institutional development.

The standards described here are proposed and do not acquire binding organisational effect until they are appropriately adopted.

H.2 The Status of the Complete Strategic Document

The completed document consists of twelve substantive sections and eight appendices.

The substantive sections examine the historical rationale, European research opportunities, London conference, government-in-exile question, George's family evidence, diplomatic engagement, implementation arrangements, possible declaration, IBIS architecture, legal strategy, risks and consolidated action programme.

The appendices provide supporting references, chronology, visual materials, archival research procedures, contacts, terminology, implementation documents and methodological safeguards.

The document is a strategic proposal.

It is not a judgment of a court.

It is not an adopted constitution.

It is not a statement issued by the government of Cameroon, France, Germany or the United Kingdom.

It is not an internationally recognised governmental instrument.

It is not proof that an international Bamiléké conference has been convened.

It is not evidence that a provisional council has been established.

It does not establish that Reparation Nation Limited has been authorised to represent Bamiléké communities.

It does not establish that the family-specific allegations concerning Ngantcha have been independently verified.

Its immediate value lies in providing an organised basis for consultation, evidence gathering and informed decisions.

H.3 The Fundamental Evidence Principle

Every substantive factual assertion should be connected to evidence capable of independent examination.

The evidential standard should vary according to the claim being advanced.

A general statement concerning the establishment of German colonial Kamerun in 1884 may be supported by authoritative historical sources.

A statement concerning the original wording of a French administrative order should be supported by the actual instrument or a reliable reproduction.

A statement concerning family descent should identify the genealogical sources supporting each relationship.

A statement attributing a particular killing to colonial forces should identify the person, date, location, circumstances and evidence of responsibility.

A claim concerning historical land rights should distinguish customary territory, administrative boundaries and contemporary legally recognised interests.

A statement that an institution represents a community should be supported by an identifiable mandate.

A statement that compensation has been delivered should be supported by evidence of the actual transfer and appropriate receipt.

No source should be used to establish a proposition broader than the source reasonably supports.

H.4 Classification of Historical Assertions

All historical assertions should be classified according to their current evidential position.

Classification	Meaning	Permitted description
Established historical background	Supported by reliable historical or official sources	Established fact, with citation
Authenticated primary document	Original or sufficiently verified source identified	Documented act or statement
Corroborated historical finding	Relevant evidence independently supports a conclusion	Finding with stated limitations
Family or community testimony	Account provided by an identified source	Reported account or testimony
Historical allegation	Alleged event awaiting adequate verification	Alleged or reported event

Working hypothesis	Explanation proposed for examination	Hypothesis, not finding
Unlocated document	A particular document is reported or suspected but not located	Research target
Disputed finding	Evidence supports materially different interpretations	Contested conclusion
Not established	Available evidence does not presently support a conclusion	Not established on available evidence

A claim should move between classifications only when the research record justifies the change.

A researcher should not silently convert a working hypothesis into an established fact.

A statement should not be downgraded or removed merely because its implications are politically inconvenient.

The classification process should be documented.

H.5 The Specific Status of the Ngantcha Investigation

The historical investigation concerning Ngantcha requires particular care.

At the date of this document, the following matters remain to be established through primary records or other independently assessed evidence.

The precise identity of Ngantcha.

His relationship to George T. Nomen.

His traditional office, if any.

The chiefdom and ancestral territory concerned.

The existence and contents of the suspected French administrative instrument dating from approximately 1933.

The alleged replacement or alteration of traditional authority.

The identity, dates and circumstances of the reported deaths of George's father and grandfather.

The precise historical land rights involved.

The nature of any continuing rights or claims.

The identity of parties potentially responsible for particular historical acts.

These matters should not be presented as judicially or historically established simply because they appear in a formal report.

Equally, the investigation should not be abandoned merely because important records remain difficult to locate.

The appropriate response to uncertainty is a clearly defined research programme.

H.6 Source Hierarchy and Independent Corroboration

Primary sources should be preferred where they are necessary to establish the existence or wording of a particular historical act.

However, the word primary does not guarantee reliability.

A colonial official may have produced a document that accurately records an administrative decision while inaccurately describing the customary authority or wishes of the affected community.

A historical newspaper may report an event but reproduce misinformation supplied by another source.

A genealogical tradition may preserve information absent from surviving official records, while leaving dates or relationships uncertain.

Researchers should therefore examine provenance, contemporaneity, purpose, independence, internal consistency and external corroboration.

Official records should not automatically displace community testimony.

Community testimony should not automatically displace contradictory official records.

The appropriate historical conclusion should arise from examining the complete body of relevant evidence.

H.7 Archival Search Integrity

A claim that an archive has been searched should identify the actual scope of the search.

The research register should record the repository, collections, dates, search terms, finding aids, physical or digital files examined and responsible researcher.

An unsuccessful catalogue search should not be described as proof that a document never existed.

An archive's statement that staff cannot undertake research should not be described as confirmation that no relevant records survive.

A document's absence from the official journal should not automatically establish that it was never issued through another administrative process.

A researcher should also distinguish between a file that has been examined and a catalogue entry that has merely been identified.

Archival research may require successive enquiries.

Where the original search proves too broad, it should be refined through the identification of the relevant chiefdom, administrative district, historical official and date range.

All significant negative results should be preserved.

H.8 Preservation of Original Documents

Every acquired source should be preserved in its original available form.

Unaltered digital copies should be maintained separately from working copies.

The research record should identify the source repository, file reference, date of acquisition and any accompanying archival certification.

Where an image is enhanced for readability, the enhancement should not replace the original.

Where a document is translated, the translation should remain linked to the original-language source.

Where only an extract has been obtained, the record should say so.

Researchers should not edit historical documents to remove material inconsistent with a preferred interpretation.

The integrity of the source must take precedence over the presentation of the argument.

H.9 Translation Standards

The investigation may involve French, German, English and relevant Cameroonian languages.

Translations should distinguish between the original wording, literal meaning and interpretive explanation.

This is especially important for colonial administrative terminology and customary titles.

A French reference to a chief may reflect an administrative classification rather than the precise customary office recognised by a community.

The legal meaning of an arrêté, décision or décret depends upon its authority and historical context.

Translations of documents central to a claim should be independently reviewed where feasible.

Any material disagreement concerning translation should be recorded.

A translated document should not be presented as the original text.

H.10 Oral History and Community Testimony

Oral history should be treated as a legitimate historical research method requiring careful procedures.

Participants should understand the nature and intended uses of the research.

Where information may be published, submitted to legal advisers or shared internationally, those uses should be explained.

Interviewers should distinguish first-hand recollection from information passed down through family or community generations.

The language of the testimony should be preserved where practicable.

Transcripts should identify material corrections or translation choices.

Where a person requests confidentiality, the relevant arrangement should be documented and respected subject to applicable law.

No one should be pressured to provide testimony simply because the proposed initiative concerns their community.

Sensitive testimony should not automatically be made publicly accessible through IBIS or any other platform.

H.11 Genealogical Reliability

The genealogy associated with George T. Nomen should identify each proposed generational connection.

Researchers should avoid treating a common surname, customary title or shared locality as conclusive evidence of direct descent.

Where documentary records are absent, the genealogy should identify the evidence supporting the relationship and any uncertainties.

Conflicting genealogies should be examined fairly.

A researcher should distinguish historical descent from customary eligibility for a particular office.

The existence of descent should also be distinguished from legal entitlement to reparations.

Any inherited right would require an appropriate legal or agreed basis.

H.12 Territorial and Land Evidence

Historical territorial evidence should be assessed according to the period and purpose for which it was produced.

Colonial maps may reflect administrative boundaries rather than customary rights.

Modern maps may represent current administrative districts rather than earlier territories.

Ancestral boundaries may have been understood through natural landmarks, settlement history or customary relationships.

The research should identify those differences.

Where digital mapping is used, the uncertainty of reconstructed boundaries should remain visible.

The existence of historical dispossession, if established, would not automatically determine an appropriate modern remedy.

The rights of present occupants and other affected parties must be considered through lawful and fair procedures.

H.13 Legal Limitations of the Strategy

This document provides strategic and historical analysis.

It does not constitute a formal legal opinion on the merits of George's potential claims.

Any proposed litigation would require qualified legal advice addressing the relevant events and jurisdictions.

The legal analysis must consider the law applicable at the time of the alleged conduct, the identification of defendants, state responsibility, standing, limitation, sovereign immunity, procedural requirements and available remedies.

The significance of historical colonial rule does not automatically remove legal obstacles.

The existence of a serious moral grievance does not necessarily create a cause of action enforceable in a contemporary court.

Conversely, a difficult legal claim does not eliminate the possibility of historical investigation, public acknowledgment or appropriately negotiated remedies.

The strategy should therefore distinguish litigation from diplomatic, archival, memorial and institutional alternatives.

H.14 The International Court of Justice

The International Court of Justice's contentious jurisdiction is principally concerned with disputes between states.

An individual, family or ordinary private association cannot directly commence contentious proceedings before the Court as a party.

A proposed Bamiléké government-in-exile would not automatically acquire such standing through its own declaration.

Any route involving state proceedings would require a competent state party and an applicable basis for jurisdiction.

The strategy should not suggest that an individual family claim can simply be submitted to the Court because the events involved international colonial administration.

This limitation should be explained in any correspondence proposing international litigation.

H.15 Historical International Law and Non-Retroactivity

The historical analysis must distinguish contemporary human rights principles from the legal obligations applicable to events occurring in earlier periods.

The adoption of an international instrument does not automatically make every provision retrospectively enforceable.

The suspected 1933 French administrative decision must be examined within the applicable mandate-era legal framework.

Later human rights instruments may inform contemporary reparatory discussions without necessarily providing a direct judicial cause of action for that particular act.

The relevant international and domestic legal questions require specialist assessment.

Statements of historical moral responsibility should be distinguished from conclusions concerning enforceable legal liability.

H.16 Government-in-Exile and Constitutional Limitations

The proposed government-in-exile question requires independent constitutional and international legal examination.

The historical experience of Free France provides a subject for comparison but does not automatically supply a legal precedent applicable to contemporary Bamiléké institutions.

The proposed conference must not be described as capable of conferring international statehood merely by adopting a resolution.

A provisional council may perform voluntary organisational functions where validly established.

It should not exercise authority over non-consenting traditional institutions or communities.

The proposed constitutional arrangements must distinguish the powers of a voluntary organisation from governmental or sovereign authority.

Any claim concerning territory, secession or external self-determination requires separate legal analysis.

H.17 Representative Authority and Community Consent

The proposed initiative should not assume that George, Reparation Nation Limited, diaspora associations or conference participants automatically possess authority over all Bamiléké communities.

Representative authority should be granted through identifiable procedures.

The scope of each mandate should be recorded.

A mandate to undertake research is not a mandate to negotiate compensation.

A mandate to participate in a conference is not a mandate to establish a sovereign government.

A mandate to discuss constitutional options is not consent to any particular constitutional conclusion.

Traditional authorities should retain the powers and rights appropriate to their institutions and applicable law.

Individuals and communities that do not participate should not be represented as consenting.

H.18 Institutional Independence

The research and institutional process should be protected from undue influence.

Historians should be free to reach conclusions based upon the available evidence.

Legal advisers should act according to their professional obligations and the authority of their clients.

Traditional authorities should not be pressured into endorsing predetermined outcomes.

Technical administrators should not acquire control over political decisions simply because they operate information systems.

Financial contributors should not be permitted to determine historical conclusions or beneficiary entitlements through funding conditions inconsistent with the adopted safeguards.

Conflicts of interest should be disclosed and appropriately managed.

The governance structure should provide independent review of serious disputes.

H.19 Anti-Black Racism and Institutional Racism Safeguards

The proposed initiative concerns Black African communities and historical systems of colonial domination.

It must therefore address the possibility of anti-Black racism and institutional racism within the processes through which evidence, participation, legal claims and reparatory remedies are considered.

The existence of these risks should not be treated as proof that any particular contacted institution has engaged in wrongdoing.

The strategy should maintain the distinction between identifying possible risks and making allegations concerning specific individuals or organisations.

Where institutional cooperation is proposed, the relevant procedures should be examined.

Questions may appropriately concern who makes decisions, what safeguards exist, how conflicts of interest are managed, whether affected Black communities participate meaningfully and how complaints are handled.

Reparation Nation Limited's stated concern that a Black participant may not yet have received satisfactory evidence of safeguards against anti-Black racism and institutional racism should be recorded accurately if included in the final report.

Such a statement identifies a concern and an evidential gap.

It does not automatically establish misconduct by a particular organisation.

Safeguards should include transparent participation procedures, non-discriminatory criteria, fair complaint handling, independent review and documented responses to concerns.

These measures should apply to the proposed Bamiléké institution itself as well as to relationships with outside bodies.

H.20 Personal Data, Privacy and Confidentiality

The proposed research may involve sensitive genealogical, ethnic, family, medical, political or historical information.

Information concerning living people must be handled according to applicable data-protection and privacy law.

Racial or ethnic origin may constitute special-category personal data under UK data-protection law.

Its public availability or a person's willingness to participate in a reparatory project does not automatically remove the need for an appropriate lawful basis, purpose limitation, transparency and safeguards.

The proposed IBIS architecture should distinguish public historical information from private claimant records.

The decision to make certain identity information publicly visible within an application does not automatically authorise public disclosure of every family member's genealogy or every witness statement.

Access rights should be determined according to the intended function and applicable law.

Sensitive evidence supplied for legal advice should not automatically be published.

Children and other potentially vulnerable participants may require additional safeguards.

Information should not be retained, disclosed or transferred internationally merely because a technical system makes doing so possible.

H.21 IBIS Architectural Integrity

The IBIS book remains the controlling conceptual source for the proposed technical framework.

Its terminology, sequencing and distinctions must be preserved.

The Identity Engine and Five-Factor Engine must remain separate.

Identity must not automatically confer membership.

Membership must not automatically confer representation.

Recognition must not automatically confer citizenship or sovereignty.

Evidence registration must not automatically establish the validity of a legal claim.

A technical status should reflect decisions made by the institution legally or organisationally competent to make them.

Any IBIS demonstration undertaken for the Bamiléké initiative should begin within an appropriately authorised scope.

A technical demonstration should not be presented as a completed live reparatory justice system.

Changes to an existing operational website should not be assumed to be necessary merely because the proposed Bamiléké initiative wishes to examine its functions.

Testing, proposed deployment and verified operation should remain distinct.

H.22 Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence Integrity

The Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence model may provide a means of tracking reparatory commitments and outcomes.

The underlying records must distinguish an organisation's announcement from a legal or contractual obligation.

They must distinguish allocation from transfer.

They must distinguish transfer to an intermediary from receipt by the beneficiary.

They must distinguish reported receipt from appropriately verified final delivery.

The maritime terminology must not conceal the actual legal and administrative relationships.

Each vessel, voyage, cargo and destination should remain linked to identifiable source records.

Hazards, disputes and delays should be reported accurately.

Corrections should not silently replace earlier information.

Safe Harbour should be recorded only where the defined delivery requirement has been met and appropriately verified.

H.23 Financial Accountability and Beneficiary Protection

Conference expenses, research costs and reparatory resources should be accounted for separately.

An organiser should not undertake expenditure in another person's name without authority.

A preparatory committee should approve a budget before committing funds.

Quotations should be distinguished from invoices and paid expenditure.

Expected donations should not be described as confirmed funding.

Any institution later administering reparatory resources should establish suitable financial controls, beneficiary verification, segregation of funds where appropriate and independent oversight.

A financial administrator should not decide who is entitled to reparations merely because the administrator controls the bank account.

The terms of a settlement or programme should establish who is responsible for eligibility decisions, transfer and verification.

Potential conflicts of interest should be disclosed.

The existence of large financial commitments should trigger greater scrutiny rather than weaker oversight.

H.24 Conference Safety and Lawful Commemoration

The proposed association with 4 Carlton Gardens should be approached through lawful historical and public-event procedures.

The organisers should establish the actual access arrangements, public-space requirements and any applicable permissions.

A commemorative address, demonstration, procession and large organised event may be subject to different legal requirements.

The proposed historical rationale does not confer a right to enter or occupy private premises.

The conference should be organised separately at a suitable venue unless appropriate authority permits otherwise.

Safety arrangements should consider attendance, accessibility, crowd management, emergency procedures and participant welfare.

Publicity should not suggest that permission has been obtained before it has.

The initiative should preserve the symbolic significance of the historic location without creating avoidable legal or safety risks.

H.25 Institutional Correspondence Standards

All correspondence should identify the sender and the authority under which they act.

An initial enquiry concerning research should not imply that a government has been established.

An invitation should not imply that the recipient has already agreed to participate.

A research partnership should not imply acceptance of legal liability.

An acknowledgment should not be described as endorsement.

Where a letter requests answers concerning safeguards, historical records or institutional decisions, it should distinguish unanswered questions from established deficiencies.

Relevant correspondence should be preserved with its date, recipient, attachments and response.

Substantive questions that remain unanswered should be listed accurately.

The contact register should identify the status of the engagement rather than merely record that an email was sent.

H.26 Document Control Principles

The complete strategy should be maintained under a formal document-control procedure.

Every issued edition should possess a unique version number.

The title, date, responsible editor and approval status should be displayed.

The original text of a previously circulated edition should be preserved.

Subsequent corrections should be made through a new version rather than silently altering a historical record.

Working drafts should be distinguished from approved editions.

A proposed constitutional declaration should not be labelled as adopted unless the authorised decision-making process has occurred.

A research report should identify the evidence actually examined.

The final publication should distinguish original sources from derived summaries and illustrations.

H.27 Proposed Document Classification

Classification	Meaning	Circulation
Working Draft	Material under preparation	Identified working participants
Consultation Draft	Document circulated for comments	Named consultees
Research Report	Evidence and conclusions from defined research	According to authorisation and confidentiality

Legal Advice	Professional legal analysis	As agreed with relevant client and adviser
Proposed Resolution	Text offered for consideration	Relevant participants
Adopted Resolution	Text validly approved by the competent participants	According to adopted rules
Public Report	Material approved for public distribution	Public
Restricted Evidence	Confidential or sensitive material	Authorised persons only
Superseded Edition	Earlier version replaced by a later edition	Preserved for historical reference

The classification should appear within the document itself.

The mere presence of an organisational letterhead should not override the actual approval status.

H.28 Version History Register

Version	Date	Status	Description	Approval
0.1	9 October 2026	Draft	Twelve-section strategic text and proposed appendices	Not yet formally approved
0.2	To be assigned	Consultation	Consolidated text corrected and circulated to identified reviewers	Pending
0.3	To be assigned	Revised draft	Research, legal and institutional comments incorporated	Pending
1.0	To be assigned	Approved publication	Final text formally authorised for circulation	Pending
1.1 onward	As required	Controlled revision	Recorded corrections, additions or amendments	According to adopted procedure

The proposed version numbers describe an intended document-control sequence.

They do not imply that a formally approved edition already exists.

H.29 Correction Procedure

Every material correction should identify the original statement, the corrected statement and the reason for the change.

The correction record should also identify the source supporting the amendment, the date and the person responsible.

Corrections may arise from newly located archival documents, improved translations, genealogical evidence, legal advice or institutional responses.

Where the correction changes a significant conclusion, affected participants should be informed according to the adopted communication procedure.

Material corrections should not be concealed.

At the same time, earlier versions should remain preserved so that the development of the investigation can be reconstructed.

Minor typographical corrections may be handled through ordinary editorial control, but they should not alter historical or legal meaning without review.

H.30 Source and Citation Review Before Publication

Before the document is formally circulated, every significant historical and legal claim should undergo source review.

The reviewer should confirm that the cited publication exists, that its bibliographic details are correct and that the source supports the proposition attributed to it.

Where a page reference is important, that page should be examined.

A catalogue entry confirming that an archival collection exists should not be cited as proof that a particular family document has been found.

Historical photographs should possess reliable identification and appropriate reproduction rights.

Institutional contact details should be checked again because they may change.

Legal statements should be reviewed for accuracy and current applicability.

Research findings that remain incomplete should be marked accordingly.

This source review should be documented, not merely assumed from the presence of references.

H.31 Independent Historical Review

A substantive independent review should be sought before the document is used to support formal allegations concerning specific persons or governments.

The appropriate expertise may include German colonial history, French mandate administration, Bamiléké customary institutions, genealogy and historical cartography.

Reviewers should be provided with the evidence relevant to the conclusions they are asked to assess.

Their instructions should permit disagreement and correction.

The report should record significant objections and unresolved differences.

Independent review should improve historical accuracy rather than serve as ceremonial endorsement.

H.32 Independent Legal Review

Legal review should address the precise claims proposed.

It should not be framed only as a general question of whether colonialism was wrong.

The legal assessment should identify potential claimants, defendants, historical acts, applicable laws, jurisdiction, limitations, immunity and possible remedies.

It should also identify areas in which the evidence is insufficient to form a responsible opinion.

If the government-in-exile proposal is pursued, its constitutional and international legal feasibility should be reviewed separately.

The legal reviewer should disclose the assumptions upon which any opinion depends.

No formal claim should be represented as legally established solely on the basis of this strategic document.

H.33 Community and Traditional Authority Review

Consultation with relevant communities must be more than notifying them of a decision already made.

Where the investigation concerns a particular traditional institution, the appropriate representatives should be identified.

They should be provided with an accurate description of the research.

They should have an opportunity to correct errors and identify additional evidence.

Their participation should not automatically authorise a provisional council or government-in-exile.

Where different traditional institutions disagree, those differences should be recorded.

The objective is a process that respects the authority and autonomy of the people concerned.

A proposed international council should derive its legitimate functions from actual mandates rather than its own declaration of authority.

H.34 Publication and Distribution Review

The completed document should not be distributed without a final review of its factual assertions, legal qualifications, personal information and institutional descriptions.

The review should establish whether any individual or organisation is incorrectly represented as having participated, endorsed the strategy or granted a mandate.

It should confirm that unverified allegations are appropriately attributed and qualified.

It should examine copyright and reproduction permissions for photographs and maps.

It should identify confidential material that should be withheld or redacted.

It should confirm the status of the draft London Declaration and any proposed constitution.

The cover and front matter should state whether the document is a consultation draft or an approved publication.

The public edition should not include personal contact information or sensitive family material merely because such information appears in the internal research dossier.

H.35 Conditions for Formal Public Circulation

The proposed public circulation should proceed only after the following conditions have been considered and addressed.

The text should accurately identify its authorship and institutional status.

The principal historical references should be verified.

Unresolved family allegations should remain clearly qualified.

The suspected 1933 arrêté should not be described as authenticated unless located and assessed.

The constitutional proposals should be distinguished from established governmental authority.

The contact directory should not falsely identify organisations as supporters.

Any photographs and maps should have appropriate captions and reproduction rights.

Personal information should be reviewed for lawful and appropriate disclosure.

The financial and legal implications of proposed actions should be accurately described.

The final publication should identify the version being circulated.

These conditions are intended to support credibility and accountability.

They should not be used as a pretext to suppress legitimate historical questions merely because the evidence is difficult or the subject is politically sensitive.

H.36 Final Responsibility for the Research

The responsibility for historical accuracy should be assigned explicitly.

George T. Nomen may provide the family account, existing evidence and appropriate authorisations.

Researchers may investigate the archival and historical questions within their defined appointments.

Traditional authorities and community historians may contribute knowledge concerning customary institutions.

Legal advisers may assess the relevant legal implications.

Reparation Nation Limited may provide agreed organisational and administrative assistance.

An appropriately authorised preparatory committee may coordinate consultations and a conference.

No participant's contribution automatically gives that person exclusive control over all the findings or collective authority over the affected communities.

Responsibility should follow documented appointment and competence.

H.37 Final Methodological Assessment

The proposed initiative's credibility will depend upon its ability to maintain four essential distinctions.

The first is between historical inquiry and historical proof.

The second is between ancestral and cultural identity and legitimate representative authority.

The third is between historical responsibility and enforceable contemporary legal obligations.

The fourth is between public reparatory commitments and their actual verified fulfilment.

Failure to maintain these distinctions would create risks of inaccurate claims, invalid representation, legal misunderstanding and administrative failure.

Maintaining them provides a basis for responsible cooperation among descendants, traditional institutions, researchers, lawyers and potentially relevant governments.

The proposed strategy should therefore develop through successive authorised decisions supported by identifiable evidence.

H.38 Final Publication Statement

The twelve-section European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice strategy, together with its eight appendices, is intended as a comprehensive starting framework for historical investigation, consultation and possible institutional development.

It has identified a significant historical association between Cameroon, Free France and London.

It has considered the symbolic importance of the former Free French headquarters at 4 Carlton Gardens.

It has examined the proposed government-in-exile and alternative institutional arrangements.

It has established a detailed research plan concerning George T. Nomen's ancestral history.

It has identified relevant European and Cameroonian archival institutions.

It has examined potential legal obstacles and possible reparatory remedies.

It has proposed conference arrangements, administrative documents and methods for tracking reparatory commitments.

However, the central family-specific allegations remain subject to investigation.

No government-in-exile is established by this document.

No community mandate is created through its publication.

No governmental liability is determined merely because a historical grievance is described.

No reparatory resources are delivered simply because a programme has been proposed.

The document should therefore be treated as a strategic foundation requiring evidence, consultation, authority and implementation.

Its long-term value will depend upon whether those stages are pursued responsibly.

H.39 Final Conclusion

The proposed European and London-based initiative seeks to connect the historical experiences of Bamiléké communities with a practical process for pursuing reparatory justice.

Its ambition is substantial.

It involves historical truth, ancestral identity, traditional institutions, international organisation, constitutional questions, legal responsibility and the eventual administration of remedies.

Such a programme cannot responsibly depend upon symbolism alone.

It must be founded upon evidence.

Its institutions must possess legitimate authority.

Its legal arguments must be examined according to applicable law.

Its decisions must be recorded.

Its representatives must remain accountable.

Its beneficiaries must be protected.

Its public claims must be capable of scrutiny.

Its commitments must be distinguished from completed delivery.

Its systems must preserve the historical record and permit correction.

The proposed use of IBIS and Reparation Nation Shipping Intelligence may assist with the administrative dimensions of that work, subject to proper authorisation and evaluation.

The resulting objective should be an institutionally credible process through which the historical experiences of affected people can be investigated, legitimate claims identified, appropriate remedies pursued and actual delivery verified.

Historical investigation must establish the evidence.

Legitimate authority must establish who may act.

Applicable law and negotiated arrangements must establish what obligations exist.

Accountable administration must establish what has been delivered.

These principles should govern the future development of the proposed European and London-based Bamiléké reparatory justice initiative.

END OF APPENDIX H

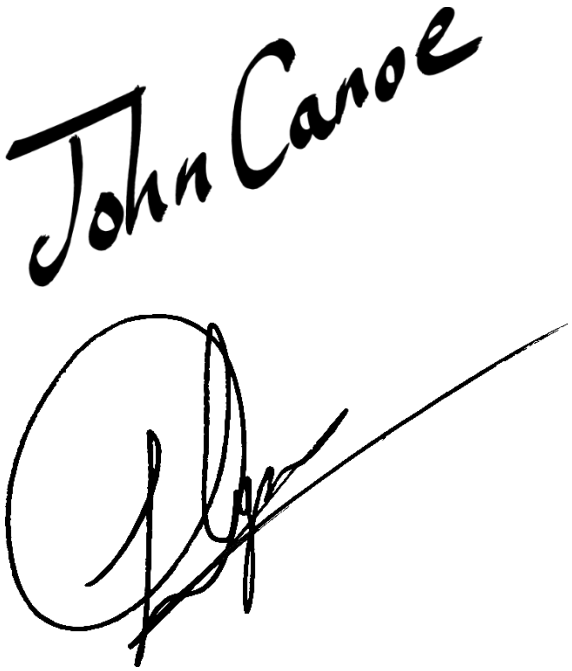
END OF THE BACK MATTER

END OF THE COMPLETE TWELVE-SECTION STRATEGY AND EIGHT-APPENDIX DRAFT

Prepared for George T. Nomen.

Proposed by Reparation Nation Limited.

9 October 2026.


John Canoe