

Beat: Politics

## Canada issues statement on inauguration of president of Republic of Congo

**Sassou Nguesso**

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**USPA NEWS** - "Canada deplores the flawed electoral process that led to Denis Sassou Nguesso's inauguration today as president of the Republic of Congo, including a number of arbitrary arrests, imposed restrictions on telecommunications and free movement, and attempts to intimidate the media.

GLOBAL AFFAIRS CANADA IN OTTAWA -ONTARIO- APRIL 16-----

The Honourable Stéphane Dion, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, today issued the following statement: "Canada deplores the flawed electoral process that led to Denis Sassou Nguesso's inauguration today as president of the Republic of Congo, including a number of arbitrary arrests, imposed restrictions on telecommunications and free movement, and attempts to intimidate the media.

"Canada is concerned by reports of post-election violence, and we call on all parties to exercise restraint and to strive for the peaceful settlement of political tensions. "In accordance with Canada and Congo's joint commitments in the Francophonie, the strengthening of democratic institutions is essential to ensure inclusive governance, peaceful pluralism and macroeconomic growth, which will benefit the people of Congo." Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who was "badly elected" to the presidency of the Congo - Brazzaville, wants to stay in power after an election not find credible. According to "Le Monde". After already thirty-two years at the head of this small oil-producing country in Central Africa, held its inauguration Saturday, April 16 to take the oath for a new term of five years. Only half a dozen of African heads of state had traveled. (AFP) "Denis Sassou-Nguesso became one of the worst presidents elected on the continent," says a Western diplomat. The US expressed disappointment at "widespread irregularities and opposition supporters of arrests in the wake of elections."

**Article online:**

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**Editorial program service of General News Agency:**

United Press Association, Inc.  
3651 Lindell Road, Suite D168  
Las Vegas, NV 89103, USA  
(702) 943.0321 Local  
(702) 943.0233 Facsimile  
[info@unitedpressassociation.org](mailto:info@unitedpressassociation.org)  
[info@gna24.com](mailto:info@gna24.com)

[www.gna24.com](http://www.gna24.com)