



**Azərbaycan Respublikası  
Xarici İşlər Nazirliyi**

Haraya: **SMSK, SPRS, SVŞN**  
Surəti: **Təmimi (məlumat üçün)**  
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Məlum olduğu kimi, Avropa Şurası Parlament Assambleyasında (AŞPA) 2016-cı ilin qış sessiyası çərçivəsində "Azərbaycanın Dağlıq Qarabağ və digər işğal edilmiş ərazilərdə zorakılığın artması" və "Azərbaycanın sərhədyanı bölgələrinin sakinlərinin qəsdən sudan məhrum edilməsi" adlı qətnamə layihələrinin müzakirə edilməsi ilə bağlı ATƏT-in Minsk Qrupunun həmsədrləri tərəfindən cari ilin 22 yanvar tarixində mətbuat buraxılışı dərc edilmişdir (əlavə olunur).

Bununla əlaqədar, Azərbaycan Respublikasının xarici işlər naziri adından Minsk Qrupunun həmsədr ölkələrinin xarici siyasət idarələrinin rəhbərlərinə ünvanlanmış məktubları aidiyyəti üzrə çatdırmağınızı xahiş edirik (əlavə olunur).

Hörmətlə,

Nazir müavini

Araz Əzimov

# **Press Release by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group**

VIENNA, 22 January 2016 – The Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group – Igor Popov of the Russian Federation, James Warlick of the United States of America, and Pierre Andrieu of France – welcome efforts to find a negotiated settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and are prepared to work cooperatively with those committed to a peaceful settlement.

We understand that the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) may consider resolutions on the conflict in the near future and remind PACE, and other regional and international organizations, that the Minsk Group remains the only accepted format for negotiations. We appreciate the interest paid by PACE members, but urge that steps not be taken which could undermine the Minsk Group's mandate from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe or complicate ongoing negotiations.



Azərbaycan Respublikasının  
Xarici İşlər Naziri

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Minister of Foreign Affairs  
of the Republic of Azerbaijan

26 January, 2016

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I would like to convey to you the Republic of Azerbaijan's deepest disappointment and register our protest with regard to the press release by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group dated 22 January 2016 regarding the consideration by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe at its January 2016 session of two draft resolutions on the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan entitled "Escalation of violence in Nagorno-Karabakh and the other occupied territories of Azerbaijan" and "Inhabitants of frontier regions of Azerbaijan are deliberately deprived of water".

As is well-known, this conflict has long been on the agenda of a number of international organizations, including the Council of Europe and its Parliamentary Assembly. Armenia and Azerbaijan undertook to honour their commitments during application for membership of the Council of Europe in 2000, in particular those relating to the political settlement of the conflict in accordance with international law. Since then the Monitoring Committee of the Council of Europe has monitored the honouring of those commitments and a series of resolutions and decisions have been adopted both by the Committee of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Unfortunately, no progress has been achieved in the settlement of the conflict thus far and Armenia continues to occupy the territories of Azerbaijan, refuses to withdraw its armed forces in flagrant violation of the norms and principles of international law and resolutions of the United Nations Security Council 822 (1993), 853 (1993), 874 (1993) and 884 (1993). The developments over the past years have shown that the lack of adequate international reaction contributes to the growing sense of impunity and permissiveness of Armenia and encourages it to stick to its unconstructive position. Armenia's consistent measures aimed at consolidating the occupation of the territories of Azerbaijan and prolonging the current *status-quo*, in particular through military build-up there, implanting settlers, plundering of and illicit trading in assets, natural resources and other forms of wealth in the occupied territories, reinforce this conviction of Azerbaijan and leave no doubt as to the real intentions of Armenia.

In this context, international organizations, including the Council of Europe and its Parliamentary Assembly are under the obligation to strengthen the international legal order, address the threats and challenges facing their Member States and demand the strict compliance by States with their international commitments and obligations, and have an important role to play to that end within their respective mandates.

**H.E. Mr. John Kerry**  
**Secretary of State of the United States of America**  
**Washington, D.C.**

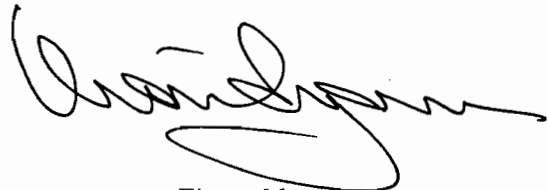
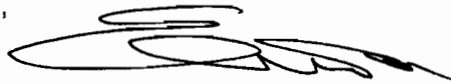
Azerbaijan welcomes and supports any complimentary initiatives that may contribute to breaking the current deadlock situation and moving forward. It is important that the international community send a strong and unequivocal message that the unlawful use of force and the situation it created do not represent a solution and shall never be recognized as legitimate.

The Republic of Azerbaijan has a sovereign right to bring to the attention of the international community the continuing violations by the Republic of Armenia of international law and its international obligations. We have repeatedly exercised this right to appeal to the international community in the past and will continue doing so in the future until the occupation ends and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan within its internationally recognized borders are fully restored.

It is disturbing that the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs are directed at maintaining the current situation rather than seeking the ways to encourage Armenia to embark on the constructive path and to move forward in the peace process. Such a stance of the Co-Chairs casts doubt on their neutrality and impartiality and contradicts the mandate entrusted to them.

The Republic of Azerbaijan expects that instead of interfering in the activities of international organizations and exerting pressure on the members of the international community, thus sending a wrong message to Armenia that encourages it to hold on to its unconstructive position, the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs will strictly abide by the letter and spirit of their mandate and will perform their mediation efforts towards the soonest political settlement of the armed conflict on the basis of international law and the aforementioned resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

Sincerely,



Elmar Mammadyarov



Azərbaycan Respublikasının  
Xarici İşlər Naziri

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of the Republic of Azerbaijan

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**H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov**  
**Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation**  
**Moscow**


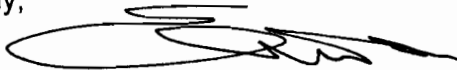
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The Republic of Azerbaijan has a sovereign right to bring to the attention of the international community the continuing violations by the Republic of Armenia of international law and its international obligations. We have repeatedly exercised this right to appeal to the international community in the past and will continue doing so in the future until the occupation ends and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan within its internationally recognized borders are fully restored.

It is disturbing that the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs are directed at maintaining the current situation rather than seeking the ways to encourage Armenia to embark on the constructive path and to move forward in the peace process. Such a stance of the Co-Chairs casts doubt on their neutrality and impartiality and contradicts the mandate entrusted to them.

The Republic of Azerbaijan expects that instead of interfering in the activities of international organizations and exerting pressure on the members of the international community, thus sending a wrong message to Armenia that encourages it to hold on to its unconstructive position, the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs will strictly abide by the letter and spirit of their mandate and will perform their mediation efforts towards the soonest political settlement of the armed conflict on the basis of international law and the aforementioned resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

Sincerely,



Elmar Mammadyarov



Azərbaycan Respublikasının  
Xarici İşlər Naziri

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of the Republic of Azerbaijan

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**H.E. Mr. Laurent Fabius**  
**Minister of Foreign Affairs and**  
**International Development of the French Republic**  
**Paris**


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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name of a representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan.A handwritten signature in black ink, which is the signature of Elmar Mammadyarov.

Elmar Mammadyarov