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AZERBAIJAN WINS ELECTION TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL

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On October 24, Azerbaijan won election to the United Nations Security Council after a campaign that reflected far more than business as usual at the UN. According to UN Charter, the Security Council consists of 5 permanent members and 10 rotating non-permanent states elected for 2 years term, 5 of which are being replaced every year. The non-permanent seats are allocated by region. [1] Sometimes each of the five regions agrees in advance on a candidate, but this year, Azerbaijan, Slovenia and Hungary competed for the seat allocated for Eastern Europe.

Three days before the final vote (October 24, Monday), the UN General Assembly began the voting process (October 21, Friday). After nine rounds, Azerbaijan had 113 votes, while Slovenia had 77, with Hungary choosing to withdraw because of its failure to get more votes. That the voting went nine rounds was unusual. Typically,

following a few rounds of voting, the losing side would withdraw and a winner would get required two-thirds of the 193 votes of the member states. But Slovenia chose not to do so, something that struck observers as somewhat surprising and led to speculation that one or more of the permanent members opposed the frontrunner. Thirty years ago, something similar happened when Cuba and Columbia were competing, and the UN General Assembly had to vote 154 times.

The voting on October 21 might have continued until midnight, but the French representative objected citing the lack of simultaneous interpretation in the six official UN languages at that time. Azerbaijan then asked the UN Secretariat to provide such interpretation services, a request the Russian Federation supported. Nonetheless, the voting was stopped precisely at the moment when Azerbaijan was in a position to obtain the needed 129 votes. This sequence was no accident. [2]

Novruz Mammadov, a foreign policy advisor to President Ilham Aliyev, pointedly noted on Friday: "I only wish that no pressure would be made on any party. ... The situation is tense enough now. Azerbaijan needs only 14 votes and following this a historical event may take place: Azerbaijan may become a non-permanent UNSC member. But, Slovenia requires 51 votes to win the elections. If any certain changes are recorded here, then it will mean that these countries were strongly pressured and they changed their positions. We will regret if that happens."

Such pressure could have come from the US or France or both. The mere fact that Slovenia was not withdrawing after nine rounds suggests that it had a strong backer among the permanent members. Close observers of the UN "kitchen" have often observed that issues like a problem with interpretation or a sudden change of votes do not take place unless there is pressure from one of the great powers. Indeed, as Novruz Mammadov added, "The elections at the UN always run until nine or ten o'clock at night. A Qatari representative chaired the elections. However, some decided that the elections could be stopped a little earlier. I understand reasons for this to a certain extent. Many become worried about Azerbaijan's unexpectedly gaining so many votes under such circumstances." [3]

Some observers suggested that Azerbaijan faced objections in this case because of its human rights record. That is certainly untrue. Many member states on the Security Council have significantly worse human rights records than Azerbaijan. Other observers noted that Azerbaijan is involved in a serious conflict, but so too is Pakistan, which was just elected.

Ideally, according to the UN Charter, a candidate country for the Security Council should be elected because of its contribution to international peace and security and on the basis of the principle of equal geographic distribution. In this regard, Azerbaijan is even better candidate than Guatemala or Togo (who were elected on Friday) as it made contribution to the peacekeeping missions in Kosovo and Iraq and continues to make in Afghanistan. Moreover, in terms of equal geographic distribution, Azerbaijan is applying for the Security Council seat for the first time and it would be the first country from the South Caucasus region to be elected.

In the real world, of course, countries base their choices on their own national interests and bilateral ties. A major factor determining voting is the assessment member states make of what this or that candidate could do for them if elected. Countries also tend to vote for close allies. Thus, the European Union states voted for Slovenia, and the majority of the Islamic countries voted for Azerbaijan. Apart

from this, countries do vote swap: you vote for me this year and I shall vote for you next.

In the end, Azerbaijan managed to win a majority of UN members, but apparently many Western countries opposed its election. Indeed, after Slovenia finally withdrew, Azerbaijan received 155 votes—a sign of confidence in the country on behalf of the international community. That means, however, that approximately 35 countries (probably European) abstained.

After the vote, the Slovenian foreign minister noted that “we don't approve the way this campaign was held and we don't approve the way these elections were held.” [4] In reality, of course, if anyone should complain, it is Azerbaijan. As the election showed, a majority of UN members supported Baku, but Azerbaijani officials clearly recognize where the opposition to its election came from. Since 1991, Azerbaijan has provided broad support to the United States, the EU and other western countries, but despite that the Western bloc opposed Azerbaijan's bid for the Security Council.

Some Azerbaijanis might be inclined to view Armenia as the organizer of this, but that seems unlikely and, if true, is unfortunate, all the more so because the Armenian factor prevailed over much broader security, political and economic interests. According to *Reuters*, “Western diplomats in New York said that Azerbaijan might join other nations resisting any renewed U.S. and European Union push for UN sanctions against Iran or Syria next year. They said Pakistan would likely take a similar approach.” [5] In this case, however, Western diplomats should blame themselves for alienating Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan still won nevertheless. The result reflected the success of Azerbaijan's foreign policy and its diplomacy, as well as the reputation it has garnered.

Notes

[1] In total, five regions are represented among the 10 non-permanent seats in the UN Security Council: Western Group, Eastern Europe, Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, Africa and Asia.

[2] See http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/site/c.gIKWLeMTIsG/b.7741609/k.778/Special_Research_Report_No_4brSecurity_Council_Elections_2011br21_September_2011.htm (accessed 29 October 2011).

[3] See <http://en.trend.az/news/politics/1948205.html> (accessed 29 October 2011).

[4] See <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/24/us-un-council-idUSTRE79N7PV20111024> (accessed 29 October 2011).

[5] See <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/24/us-un-council-idUSTRE79N7PV20111024> (accessed 29 October 2011).

'NO OBSTACLES REMAIN' TO FLOW OF AZERBAIJANI GAS TO EUROPE

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Seventeen years ago, Azerbaijan signed an agreement with the Western major oil companies allowing its oil to flow to the West, a deal that has been celebrated as “the deal of the century” both in Baku and the West. On October 25, however, President Ilham Aliyev and Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan signed an accord in Izmir that, in the words of Turkish Energy Minister Taner Yildiz, means that “no obstacles remain” to the flow of Azerbaijani gas to Europe and one that may thus prove just as important as its predecessor.

“By the end of 2017 or the beginning of 2018,” Yildiz said, the five billion US dollar pipeline the two agreed to will make possible the delivery to Europe every year of ten billion cubic meters of Azerbaijani natural gas to the West, a channel that is likely to continue for many years given the estimated 1.2 trillion cubic meters of gas reserves in the Shah Deniz fields and that will help provide for the energy needs and energy security of the European Union for decades ahead. [1]

There are three reasons for concluding that this latest agreement between Azerbaijan and Turkey is especially significant. First of all, it came at the first meeting of the Council of Strategic Cooperation between the leaders of the two countries; a meeting at which President Aliyev and Prime Minister Erdogan signed not only the accord on the gas pipeline, but also various agreements that link these two countries together more closely than at any point in the past

Second, this latest Azerbaijani-Turkish agreement sets the stage for the complete realization of the Southern Gas Corridor, which involves Nabucco, the Transcarpathian Gas Pipeline, and the Turkey-Greece-Italy pipeline. Because the success of these projects is a priority for the European Union in its pursuit of energy security, the Azerbaijani-Turkish accord drew praise from European and other Western leaders and ensures that the relationship between the former and the latter will be intensified and even defined by the flow of Shah Deniz gas.

And third—and this is why the October 25 accord is especially important—gas deliveries are very different than oil. Except for LNG, gas must be delivered through pipelines, which means that once they are built they tend to have a long life and far more significant geopolitical impact than is the case with oil, which can be shipped in a variety of ways and thus is fungible. It is thus relatively easy for countries to shift suppliers of oil, but once countries reach agreement on gas pipelines, they tend to rely on them for long periods of time. Western Europe has experienced that with Russian gas over the last 40 years; the EU’s support of the Southern Corridor and hence of the Izmir accords is thus an effort to break that dependence.

Given that, President Aliyev’s remarks at the signing ceremony are entirely appropriate. He said that October 25 was “an unforgettable day in the history of Turkish-Azerbaijani relations,” not only because those ties will now be regularized through meetings of the Council of Strategic Cooperation at a High Level, but also

because “the documents in the energy and gas spheres” signed there “open for us new possibilities and horizons and create conditions for our successful long-term cooperation. I am certain,” the president said, “that this cooperation will benefit our peoples and the countries friendly to us.”

Note

[1] See <http://news.day.az/politics/295351.html> (accessed 29 October 2011).

MOSCOW AND THE DELIMITATION OF KARABAKH IN THE 1920S Part III (2)

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Editorial Note: As a contribution to the unveiling of the history of Soviet policy toward Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijan in the World offers what is the final section of a three-part article on the origins of Soviet policy on this region that was prepared by distinguished Azerbaijani historian Jamil Hasanly. It originally appeared in Russia’s Regnum News Agency at <http://regnum.ru/news/fd-abroad/armenia/1429705.html>. The previous sections of Professor Hasanly’s account were published in the preceding issues of Azerbaijan in the World.

Armenian authors and politicians who try to place all the blame on Stalin must certainly be familiar with the documentary picture of those dramatic sessions of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b). Every detail of what happened is made explicit in Protocol No. 11 of the session of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b) on July 4 and in Protocol No. 12 of the session on July 5. While it is clear that I. Stalin was present at both sessions; neither on the fourth nor on the fifth of July did he speak on the Nagorno-Karabakh issue. Besides, Protocol No. 8 of the session of the plenum of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b) of July 2-3 is kept in the very same file of the very same archive that holds the protocols of July 4 and July 5.

If one pays attention, one could see that among those present Stalin’s name is listed first in all these protocols. [1] Moreover, it is precisely in the attachment to Protocol No. 8 that attention is drawn to “the fact of the formation of nationalistically ‘communist’ groups in the communist organizations of the Transcaucasus, stronger in Georgia and Armenia and weaker (in quantity and quality) in Azerbaijan.” [2]

Indeed, the discussion on June 3, 1921 of the Zangazur issue and on July 4-5 of the Nagorno-Karabakh question were directly linked to the fact that the Nakhchivan issue was reflected in the Moscow Treaty of March 16, 1921 between Soviet Russia and Kemalist Turkey, an accord which generated a wave of communist nationalism in Armenia and with attempts by the Center to break this wave. Suffice it to direct one’s attention to the text of the extensive protest addressed by the chief of the Armenia delegation at the Moscow negotiations, Armenian Commissar of Foreign

Affairs A. Bekzadyan, to G. Chicherin on April 15, 1921. A. Bekzadyan accused Soviet Russia of failing in the talks with Turkey to stick up for the interests of Armenia. He wrote that "the Armenian delegation considers it vitally important to note that the Turkish delegation to the conference at all times speaks in the role of the defender and protector of the Muslim population of the Transcaucasus and in particular of the interests of Soviet Azerbaijan." [3]

Bekzadyan was especially disturbed by the fact that Turkey was able to retain Nakhchivan as part of Azerbaijan, something Turkey considers very important for ensuring security of its eastern borders. He stressed that, "Given the way in which the Nakhchivan and Sharur-Daralagez issues were resolved, Armenia is deprived of the possibility to administer Zangazur, which belongs to it, in a normal fashion." [4]

On this occasion, G. Chicherin wrote to Ter-Gabrielyan, the representative of the Armenian Soviet Government in Russia, that he was quite surprised by the attempt of Bekzadyan to whitewash the actions of the Armenian delegation at the conference in Moscow and to lay all the guilt on the Russian delegation. Chicherin noted that the Armenians were perfectly well informed about the chief goal of this conference. Moreover, at the time of Chicherin's special and continuing contacts with the Armenian delegation, the latter never complained about the decisions taken. [5]

Chicherin used this similar wording in a telegram he sent to B. Legran in Tiflis. More specifically, he wrote that he "protest[s] against the effort of Bekzadyan who is attempting, first of all, to transfer blame to the Russian delegation and, second, to clear the Armenian delegation from accusations by some unknown to me readers or listeners by means of distorting the facts and concealing something which the Armenian delegation could not fail to be aware of." [6]

Apparently, by such deception, the Armenians were attempting to use the conditions created by the closed discussion around the Moscow Treaty for the advancement of their own claims on Karabakh and to enlist the Center's support in this game. Behind the actions of the Armenian leadership, which was silent during the Moscow Conference but now spoke out with claims to Soviet Russia, stood the desire to receive compensation. In more concrete terms, "the subject of compensation" would have to be Karabakh. As concerned the repeated introduction of the discussion of the question about Nagorno-Karabakh on July 5, this as we see took place precisely at the insistence of G. Ordzhonikidze and A. Nazaretyan. Certain Armenian authors for obvious reasons mistakenly write that it was not A. Nazaretyan, but N. Narimanov who on July 5, together with G. Ordzhonikidze, raised this issue (Melik-Shakhnazarov 2008, p. 311).

The mistaken view that the decision making Nagorno-Karabakh part of Azerbaijan happened on July 5 only because of the pressure of I. Stalin is again repeated in the article by V.A. Zakharov and S.T. Sarkisyan, published in Moscow (Zakharov & Sarkisyan 2008, p. 221). However, it is known that Stalin was in Tiflis already from the end of June 1921. Apart from this, why at all did I. Stalin arrive in Tiflis at that time? This question is answered by materials of the plenum of the Central Committee of the KP(b) of Georgia, which took place at the same time as the plenum of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b). Thus, on July 7, the plenum of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b) continued its work and, with I. Stalin present at the session, the decision was adopted to join to Armenia the neutral zone between Georgia and Armenia. At the very same session, the second issue taken up was the proposal to unite to Armenia

the districts of Akhalkalaki and Khram. That issue was transferred for consideration by the Central Committee of the KP(b) of Georgia so that it could be addressed at the next plenum.

The documents reveal that a plenum of the Central Committee of the KP(b) also took place on that same day, one at which all members of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b) except for N. Narimanov were present. There is even a note featured in the protocol that all members of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b) arrived at the session at 11:00 and that I. Stalin and G. Ordzhonikidze arrived at 12:25. The first issue discussed was the Batumi issue. I. Stalin was asked to make a report about the course of his talks with the Adzhar delegation. The next issue was related to N. Narimanov's declaration at the July 5 session of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b) about the need to intensify work among the Muslim population of Georgia. The plenum proposed to the Central Committee of the KP(b) of Georgia to use Omar Faig [Nemanzade] to this effect.

The agenda of the plenum of the Central Committee of the party on July 7 included the issue "on the establishment of a peoples Commissariat for the affairs of Muslims of Georgia." The plenum, however, only approved the establishment of a special institution for the affairs of Muslims of Georgia, while for the definition of the organizational forms and functions of this institution a commission was established, with Omar Faig in charge and Kavtaradze, Kvirkeli, and Tumanov as its members. A request was also forwarded to the Central Committee of Azerbaijan to send three or four Communists-Muslims meant to form the nucleus in the institution being organized.

The plenum then discussed two additional issues ("On the press" and "On the activity of the Extraordinary Committee of Georgia") and passed on to the main question, which was the reason I. Stalin had come from Nalchik to Tiflis, namely, the issue of the replacement of the leadership of Georgia. Filipp Makhardze, the chairman of the revolutionary Committee of Georgia who had been sticking to a relatively independent line in administering Georgia and had therefore been in tense relations with G. Ordzhonikidze, did not satisfy the Central Committee of the RKP(b). Under the pretext of the difficult situation in the country, I. Stalin proposed removing F. Makharadze from the post of chairman of the Revolutionary committee of Georgia and naming to this position Budu Mdivani. By a majority of votes—six votes in favor, four abstentions; including the members of the Caucasus Bureau nine votes in favor and four abstentions—B. Mdivani was named the chairman of the Georgian Revolutionary Committee.

For many years, Armenian and certain Russian historians sought to find a "Karabakh" link in Stalin's arrival from Nalchik in Tiflis in July 1921, but clearly the real goal of this trip was to remove Filipp Makharadze from a position of power in Georgia and to install Budu Mdivani, someone more closely linked with Moscow, in his place. And even in November of the same year, G. Ordzhonikidze raised the question about distancing F. Makharadze not only from Georgia, but from the Caucasus as a whole. On November 2, 1921, he wrote to Lenin and Stalin that "Filipp absolutely must be immediately taken from the Caucasus."

In the middle of August 1921 in a conversation over the direct line with G. Ordzhonikidze, A. Myasnikov noted that a sufficiently loyal attitude about the Karabakh question had been established in Armenia. [7] On July 19, 1921, the

Presidium of the Central Executive Committee of Azerbaijan discussed the decision of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b) of July 5 and more generally the results of N. Narimanov's trip to Tiflis. Concerning the report of N. Narimanov, the following statement was recorded: "Nagorno-Karabakh remains an inalienable part of Soviet Azerbaijan with the right of internal self-administration within the limits of the Soviet Constitution with an oblast Executive Committee at its head." [8]

N. Narimanov also made a report on the establishment of the external borders between Azerbaijan and the other republics of the South Caucasus. He reported that Nagorno-Karabakh was to remain an inalienable part of Soviet Azerbaijan within the framework of the Soviet constitution with the right of internal self-administration. Following this meeting of the Central Executive Committee of Azerbaijan, a joint session of the *Politburo* and *Orgburo* of the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Communist Party was held. The session heard A. Karayev's report about Karabakh and adopted a decision to establish a commission consisting of representatives of the commissars of internal affairs, justice and foreign affairs to work on the preparation of the constitution of the autonomous oblast. [9]

Starting on the very first days of August, a special campaign was launched in Azerbaijan to explain the July 5 decision of the Caucasus Bureau of the RKP(b). On August 1, 1921, an extraordinary congress of Soviets of the second section of the Shusha district was held in the village of Kendkhurt at which Levon Mirzoyan, the representative of the *Sovnarkom* was invited to make a presentation. In his speech, Mirzoyan showed that Karabakh from an economic, spiritual and political, as well as from a national point of view, was closely connected with Baku, the center of Azerbaijan. L. Mirzoyan stressed the rightfulness of the decision of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b) concerning the establishment in the mountainous part of Karabakh of a special administrative unit immediately subordinate to Baku. [10] He promised that once there was an autonomy, all problems would be resolved. Following his return from this trip, L. Mirzoyan wrote a detailed report, in which he particularly pointed out that his deep conviction was that the Karabakh question had been created and continued to be sustained by party and Soviet leading workers, on one hand, and by nationalistically inclined members of the Armenian intelligentsia, on the other. [11]

Following July 5, the nationalistically inclined Armenians that L. Mirzoyan's report mentioned began to disseminate rumors according to which the Armenians had been resettled from Karabakh to Armenia. These rumors reached even the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b). One additional trend was noted: after the election of S. Kirov as the first secretary of the Central Committee of the KP(b) of Azerbaijan, all those who remained dissatisfied with the July 5 decision of the Caucasus Bureau of the RKP(b) now realized their destructive actions against Azerbaijan through his medium. Yuri Petrovich (Yakov Isakovich) Figatner, the secretary of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b), for example, wrote to S. Kirov in August 1921 that after the July 5 decision of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b), supposedly "many Armenian villages from Nagorno-Karabakh began to be resettled in Armenia." [12]

Having received this news, S. Kirov immediately sent a query to A. Karayev and L. Mirzoyan who were in Karabakh at that time. Their response testified to just the reverse: not the Armenians, but the Muslims were being resettled from Nagorno-

Karabakh to various other places in the first months of the Sovietization of Azerbaijan.

Following the well-known decision of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP (b) about giving the mountainous portion of Karabakh autonomy, the Center carefully followed the smallest nuances in this direction. On May 22, 1922, Stalin in a letter to S. Kirov, the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan KP(b), inquired with sarcasm: "They say that 'the true Karabakhite' Fonshteyn represents Karabakh in the Central Executive Committee of Azerbaijan?" [13] In a response on June 18, Kirov explained to Stalin that someone had misinformed him and therefore listed by name the members of the Central Executive Committee from Karabakh. [14]

At the same time, while yielding to the Armenian demands, the Center made certain attempts not to allow the subordination of the party organization of Nagorno-Karabakh to the Azerbaijan party organization. In response to this, on August 1, 1922, Kirov and Matyushin, the chief of the organizational department, telegraphed to Moscow: "The territory of Karabakh is part of Azerbaijan and its party organization is thus part of the Azerbaijan Communist Party." [15]

Following three years of preparatory work, the Central Executive Committee of Azerbaijan published a decree, on July 7, 1923, concerning the formation within Azerbaijan of the Autonomous Oblast of Nagorno-Karabakh. This marked the end of the struggle over the territorial membership of Nagorno-Karabakh, one that broke out in the first years of Soviet power in the Transcaucasus. N. Narimanov, having analyzed this process, on May 27, 1924, wrote to Stalin: "Nagorno-Karabakh under the intense pressure of Mirzoyan has been declared an autonomous oblast. While I was in power, this was not done not because I was against this autonomy, but simply because the Armenian peasants themselves did not want this. Mirzoyan at that time with the help of his Dashnak teachers prepared the groundwork for the creation of the autonomy and raised the question in the Transcaucasus *kray* committee" (Narimanov 1992, p. 59).

N. Narimanov very well understood that the misfortunes of Azerbaijan would not end with this. He foresaw that the offering of autonomy to Nagorno-Karabakh was not the end, but only the beginning of a great tragedy.

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Notes

[1] Protocol No. 8 of the session of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b), 2-3 July 1921, *Russian State Archive of Social-Political History* (hereafter RSASPH), f. 64, op. 1, d. 1, l. 87-88; Protocol No. 8 of the session of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP with the representatives of local party and professional organizations, 2-3 July 1921, *RSASPH*, f. 85, op. 18, d. 59, l. 14.

[2] Protocol No. 8 of the session of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP with the representatives of local party and professional organizations, 2-3 July 1921, *RSASPH*, f. 85, op. 18, d. 59, l. 12, 14.

[3] Letter of A. Bekzadyan to G. Chicherin, 15 April 1921, *Foreign Policy Archive of Russian Federation* (hereafter FPA RF), f. 04, op. 39, p. 232, d. 53001, l. 58-59.

[4] Letter of A. Bekzadyan to G. Chicherin, 15 April 1921, *Foreign Policy Archive of Russian Federation* (hereafter FPA RF), f. 04, op. 39, p. 232, d. 53001, l. 62.

[5] Letter of G. Chicherin to Ter-Gabrielyan, 21 April 1921, *FPA RF*, f. 04, op. 39, p. 232, d. 53001, l. 63.

[6] Telegram of G. Chicherin to B. Legran, 22 April 1921, *FPA RF*, f. 04, op. 39, p. 232, d. 53001, l. 65.

[7] Conversation of A. Myasnikov by direct line with G. Ordzhonikidze, August 1921, *RSASPH*, f. 85, op. 18, d. 177, l. 4.

[8] Protocol of the session of the Central Executive Committee of Azerbaijan, 19 July 1921, *RSASPH*, f. 64, op. 1, d. 31, l. 122.

[9] Protocol No. 22 of the session of the Political and Organizational Bureau of the Central Committee of the KP(b) of Azerbaijan, 20 July 1921, *Political Documents Archive under the President of Azerbaijan Republic* (hereafter PDA PAR), f. 1, op. 2, d. 18, l. 94; *RSASPH*, f. 64, op. 1, d. 92, l. 51.

[10] Protocol of the Extraordinary Congress of Soviets of the second section of the Shusha district, 1 August 1921, *PDA PAR*, f. 1, op. 2, d. 18, l. 120-120 ob.

[11] Report of L. Mirzoyan to the Central Committee of the AKP (copy to the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP) about a visit to the mountainous part of Karabakh, 3 August 1921, *RSASPH*, f. 84, op. 1, d. 95, l. 3 ob.

[12] See the Information of the Secretary of the Caucasus Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP Figatner to Kirov, August 1921, *PDA PAR*, f. 1, op. 129, d. 107, l. 58.

[13] Letter of I. Stalin about the situation in the Communist Party of Azerbaijan and about the representation of Karabakh in the Central Executive Committee of Azerbaijan, 22 May 1922, *RSASPH*, f. 558, op. 11, d. 746, l. 1.

[14] Secret letter of S. Kirov to I. Stalin, 18 June 1922, *RSASPH*, f. 558, op. 11, d. 746, l. 2.

[15] Telegram of Kirov and Matyushin to the Central Committee of the RKP(b), 1 August 1922, *RSASPH*, f. 80, op. 25, d. 2, l. 1.

A CHRONOLOGY OF AZERBAIJAN'S FOREIGN POLICY

I. Key Government Statements on Azerbaijan's Foreign Policy

President Ilham Aliyev tells the first Cooperation Summit of Turkic Language States in Almaty that "we must act so that the Turkic world will be still more closely united" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294301.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov says that "Azerbaijan can raise the question of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in the UN Security Council" now that Baku has been elected a member of that body for 2012-2013 (<http://news.day.az/politics/295662.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov says that it is necessary to begin talks on a general peace accord for Nagorno-Karabakh, rather than focus on issues where disagreement remains (<http://news.day.az/politics/294985.html>).

II. Key Statements by Others about Azerbaijan

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev says that Moscow will "continue to help in the resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, but both peoples must strive to agreement." He adds that "the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict is one of the few frozen conflicts in Europe which can be resolved" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294668.html>).

Turkey's Energy Minister Taner Yildiz says that "after the signing by Turkey and Azerbaijan of an inter-governmental agreement on the transit of gas, no obstacles remain on the path of supplying Azerbaijani gas to Europe" (<http://news.day.az/economy/295629.html>).

Reshat Dogru, a deputy of Turkey's Grand National Assembly, says that the Zurich principles agreed to between Turkey and Armenia "must be approved by Azerbaijan" before they can go into effect (<http://news.day.az/politics/296385.html>).

III. A Chronology of Azerbaijan's Foreign Policy

31 October

President Ilham Aliyev receives Tae Won Chey, chairman of Korea's SK group of companies (<http://news.day.az/politics/296533.html>).

The Foreign Ministry says that statements by Armenian officials about the supposed need to revise the Madrid Principles represent efforts by Yerevan to delay any settlement (<http://news.day.az/politics/296442.html>).

Bahar Muradova, vice speaker of the Milli Majlis, says that efforts to raise questions about democracy in negotiations about Nagorno-Karabakh represent efforts "to put pressure on Azerbaijan and interfere with the realization of its independent policy" (<http://news.day.az/politics/296603.html>).

Federico Berna, the representative of the European Commission in Baku, says that the Commission will release a second tranche for the development of sustainable energy in Azerbaijan before the end of the year (<http://news.day.az/economy/296461.html>).

29 October

President Ilham Aliyev telephones his Turkish counterpart Abdulla Gul (<http://news.day.az/politics/296337.html>).

Siyavush Novruzov, a Milli Majlis deputy and deputy executive secretary of the ruling Yeni Azerbaijan Party, says that Christoph Strässer, the special rapporteur of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe lacks objectivity in his assessments of the South Caucasus (<http://news.day.az/politics/296296.html>).

German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle says in Yerevan that "the status quo in the Karabakh conflict represents a significant threat" (<http://news.day.az/politics/296269.html>).

Turkish Energy and Natural Resources Minister Taner Yildiz says that the age and location of the Metzamor Atomic Energy Station in Yerevan mean that it must be closed and that Ankara will seek that end (<http://news.day.az/politics/296268.html>).

28 October

President Ilham Aliyev tells the Second Media Forum of Turkic Language Countries in Baku that the media of these countries "can make a major contribution to the further rapprochement of our states and peoples" (<http://news.day.az/politics/296065.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev receives the family of Thor Heyerdahl, the noted explorer who is the subject of a conference in Baku (<http://news.day.az/politics/296172.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov says that Azerbaijan as a member of the UN Security Council will support peace and stability, conflict resolution, the struggle with global warming, the liquidation of poverty, and "broad propaganda of multi-culturalism" of the kind Azerbaijan exemplifies (<http://news.day.az/politics/296098.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov receives Salem Halif al-Egfali, incoming ambassador to Baku from the United Arab Emirates (<http://news.day.az/politics/296153.html>).

Ali Hasanov, head of the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, says that the unity of the Turkic language media is "a necessity of the present day" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295989.html>).

Ali Hasanov, head of the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, says that Azerbaijan "did not agree with certain proposals of the Venetian Commission of the Council of Europe concerning the financing of political parties" (<http://news.day.az/politics/296047.html>).

Ali Hasanov, head of the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, says that the Azerbaijani media "are not ready for the adoption of a law 'On defense from defamation'" (<http://news.day.az/politics/296187.html>).

Natig Amirov, the first deputy taxation minister, says that Baku and the International Monetary Fund have discussed the formation in Azerbaijan of a favorable climate for innovation (<http://news.day.az/economy/296034.html>).

Govhar Bakhshaliyeva, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that "only those people who are directly participating in talks on Karabakh know whether the OSCE Minsk Group has finally exhausted all its resources" (<http://news.day.az/politics/296014.html>).

Aydin Abbasov, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that "the ruling party of Armenia intends to retain power by whatever means are necessary" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295987.html>).

Turkey's Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan says that the media have the task to broaden fraternal relations between Turkic peoples and countries (<http://news.day.az/politics/296050.html>).

The European Union representation in Baku congratulates Azerbaijan on its election to the UN Security Council for the period 2012-2013 (<http://news.day.az/politics/296095.html>).

Günther Oettinger, the EU's commissioner for energy, says that the European Union "wants to see a pipeline linking Europe and Azerbaijan" (<http://news.day.az/economy/296119.html>).

The World Bank has approved a credit line of 50 million US dollars from the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development for Azerbaijan to improve the conditions of life and incomes of those forcibly resettled as a result of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict (<http://news.day.az/economy/296031.html>).

27 October

President Ilham Aliyev receives participants in the 31st session of the council of heads of organs of security and special services of the CIS member countries (<http://news.day.az/politics/295914.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov receives Philippe Lefort, special representative of the European Union for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia (<http://news.day.az/politics/295923.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov receives Ian Biggs, Australia's ambassador to Baku, to discuss expanding bilateral cooperation (<http://news.day.az/politics/295917.html>).

Namik Aliyev, deputy taxation minister, says that the coordinating council of the heads of tax investigations of the CIS states is "an important and effective inter-governmental organ of cooperation" (<http://news.day.az/economy/295878.html>).

The Health Ministry and the World Health Organization sign a new group of cooperation agreements (<http://news.day.az/society/295888.html>).

Askar Abdullayev, deputy head of the State Customs Committee, says that Georgia and Azerbaijan are working together on the modernization of their customs rules in order to facilitate the expansion of trade (<http://news.day.az/politics/295903.html>).

Fuad Muradov, a member of Azerbaijan's delegation to the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly, says that Azerbaijan's election to the UN Security Council will "increase the significance of issues raised by Azerbaijan in other authoritative international organizations" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295936.html>).

Asim Mollazade, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that "Armenia has not established itself as a state" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295719.html>).

Asef Hajiyev, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that no one should be surprised by "the hysteria" in Yerevan over the election of Azerbaijan to the UN Security Council (<http://news.day.az/politics/295764.html>).

Rafael Jabrailov, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Yerevan "continues to occupy itself with political mystification" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295766.html>).

Rovnag Abdullayev, president of the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan, says that Azerbaijan and Turkey plan to build a new gas pipeline in Turkey to handle additional exports over the next 15 years (<http://news.day.az/economy/295957.html>).

Representative Bill Shuster, who co-chairs the working group on Azerbaijan in the US Congress, says that "Azerbaijan is assuredly going toward the establishment of democratic institutions and a multi-sided economy" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295952.html>).

Turkey's Minister for Negotiations with the European Union Egemen Bagys says that Turkey is "glad of the election of fraternal Azerbaijan as a member of the UN Security Council" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295956.html>).

Russia's Deputy Interior Minister Igor Aleshin says that "the countries of the CIS do not experience serious problems in the investigation of tax and financial crimes" because of their close coordination and cooperation (<http://news.day.az/politics/295795.html>).

Matthew Bryza, US ambassador to Baku, says that the United States welcomes the signing of the gas transit agreement between Azerbaijan and Turkey (<http://news.day.az/politics/295765.html>).

Philippe Lefort, special representative of the European Union for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia, says that "the main obstacle" to the resolution

of the Armenian-Azerbaijani Nagorno-Karabakh conflict is "the lack of trust between the sides" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295873.html>).

26 October

President Ilham Aliyev receives Georgian Foreign Minister Grigol Vashadze (<http://news.day.az/politics/295729.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev receives Leonid Maltsev, state secretary of the Security Council of the Republic of Belarus (<http://news.day.az/politics/295729.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev receives Philippe Lefort, the special representative of the European Union for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia (<http://news.day.az/politics/295729.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev appoints Elin Emin oglu Suleymanov, who had been Azerbaijan's consul general in Los Angeles, as ambassador to Washington (<http://news.day.az/politics/295745.html>).

First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva tells the UNESCO General Conference that "conflict and its consequences for [Azerbaijan] are not simply words but a bitter truth" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295730.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov tells his Georgian counterpart Grigol Vashadze that "no one expected that such a complicated problem as a territorial conflict will be resolved in the course of one night, but the Prague process exists and it presupposes a step-by-step resolution" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295641.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov and his Georgian counterpart Grigol Vashadze agree to hold regular consultations between their two ministries (<http://news.day.az/politics/295675.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov says that "Azerbaijan can raise the question of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in the UN Security Council" now that Baku has been elected a member of that body for 2012-2013 (<http://news.day.az/politics/295662.html>).

Fuad Alaskarov, head of the law enforcement department of the Presidential Administration, heads an Azerbaijani delegation to the fourth conference of the member countries of the UN Convention Against Corruption (<http://news.day.az/politics/295648.html>).

Polad Bulbuloglu, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Moscow, says that "Russia is a special country for Azerbaijan" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295710.html>).

Rovshan Rzayev, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that problems within the Armenian defense ministry are being reflected in that country's military (<http://news.day.az/politics/295581.html>).

Rasim Musabayov, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Azerbaijan's election to the UN Security Council will allow Baku to advance its positions there and in other international forums (<http://news.day.az/politics/295576.html>).

Azerbaijan is chosen as a vice president of the UNESCO General Conference (<http://news.day.az/politics/295753.html>).

Shukru Ajalan, a deputy to Turkey's Grand National Assembly says that certain forces are trying to prevent the rapprochement of Baku, Yerevan and Ankara (<http://news.day.az/politics/295382.html>).

25 October

President Ilham Aliyev and Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan sign agreements in Izmir on gas transit (<http://news.day.az/politics/295351.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev says that Azerbaijanis can be proud that their country is now a member of the UN Security Council, "the most authoritative body in the world" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295398.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev says that "the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan is not, was not and will not be the subject of negotiations" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295250.html>).

Ali Hasanov, head of the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, says that Azerbaijan "in the first instance" will use its membership in the UN Security Council to raise the issue of the violation of its territorial integrity (<http://news.day.az/politics/295494.html>).

Elnur Aslanov, head of the political analysis and information department of the Presidential Administration, says that "the election of Azerbaijan to the UN Security Council is a big victory of Azerbaijani diplomacy" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295379.html>).

The Foreign Ministry says that the election of Azerbaijan to the UN Security Council makes "a significant contribution" to the support of peace and stability throughout the world (<http://news.day.az/politics/295322.html>).

The Azerbaijani government and the World Bank sign a credit agreement on providing 80 million US dollars for the support of the water consumers (<http://news.day.az/economy/295471.html>).

Ganira Pashayeva, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that the election of Azerbaijan to the UN Security Council is "a big victory and achievement" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295479.html>).

Ali Ahmadov, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that "the election of such a young state as Azerbaijan as a non-permanent member of such an influential organization as the UN Security Council is an obvious example of the support in the world of the policy of our country" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295410.html>).

Rasim Musabayov, a Milli Majlis deputy, says Azerbaijan's election to the UN Security Council is "a great success" for Azerbaijani foreign policy (<http://news.day.az/politics/295354.html>).

Khanhuseyn Kazymly, a Milli Majlis deputy, says Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan is occupying himself with "political populism" in an effort to retain power (<http://news.day.az/politics/295332.html>).

Fuad Aliyev, head of the Liberal Democratic Party of Azerbaijan, says that his group is cooperating with Russian parties of similar views (<http://news.day.az/politics/295344.html>).

Turkey's Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan says that Azerbaijan and Turkey "in addition to energy have discussed cooperation in military affairs and tourism" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295425.html>).

Belorussian President Aleksandr Lukashenko says that "Belarus is ready to provide all-around support to the initiatives and undertakings of Azerbaijan on the international level" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295530.html>).

The co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group say that during their visit to the South Caucasus they offered a number of confidence building measures to the sides in the conflict (<http://news.day.az/politics/295303.html>).

24 October

President Ilham Aliyev receives Greek Environment, Energy and Climate Change Minister George Papaconstantinou (<http://news.day.az/politics/295230.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev receives the co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group (<http://news.day.az/politics/295230.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev signs a directive creating a permanent organizing committee for future international humanitarian forums in Baku (<http://news.day.az/politics/295294.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov says that "the withdrawal of Armenian armed forces from the occupied territories around Karabakh will create a phenomenal possibility" for progress (<http://news.day.az/politics/295300.html>).

Justice Minister Fikrat Mammadov takes part in the fifth annual conference and general assembly of the Association of International Anti-Corruption Organs in Morocco (<http://news.day.az/politics/295121.html>).

Ali Hasanov, head of the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, says that "today, the ties of Azerbaijan and Russia are multi-sided and embrace all spheres" (<http://news.day.az/politics/295206.html>).

Mammad Ahmadzade, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Buenos Aires, presents his letters of credence to Chilean President Sebastián Piñera (<http://news.day.az/politics/295252.html>).

Ganira Pashayeva, a member of the Azerbaijani delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, participates in the PACE election observer mission to Bulgaria (<http://news.day.az/politics/295133.html>).

Bahar Muradova, head of the Azerbaijani delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, says that "discussions in the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly connected with the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict must be assessed positively" and should lead to similar discussions in other international venues (<http://news.day.az/politics/295132.html>).

Elkhan Suleymanov, head of the Azerbaijani delegation to the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly, sends an open letter to Erling Skjønberg, Norwegian ambassador to Baku, expressing his concern about that embassy's release of a statement about political prisoners in Azerbaijan (<http://news.day.az/politics/295289.html>).

Zahid Oruj, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that relations between Azerbaijan and the US, as well as regional processes, mean that Article 907 restricting US aid to Azerbaijan must be repealed (<http://news.day.az/politics/295269.html>).

Ali Ahmadov, deputy chairman of the ruling Yeni Azerbaijan Party, receives Debnath Shaw, India's ambassador to Baku (<http://news.day.az/politics/295181.html>).

Adil Garibov, director of the Institute of Radiation Problems of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan, says that the International Atomic Energy Agency has agreed to five new atomic energy projects in Azerbaijan (<http://news.day.az/economy/295200.html>).

George Papaconstantinou, Greek environment, energy and climate change minister, tells his Azerbaijani counterpart Natic Aliyev that Greece is interested in purchasing Azerbaijani gas (<http://news.day.az/economy/295254.html>).

Radek Matula, the Czech Republic's ambassador to Baku, says that the potential for the development of business relations between Azerbaijan and the Czech Republic is "very high" (<http://news.day.az/economy/295191.html>).

A Russian publishing house releases a new book *The Dialogue of Cultures Under Conditions of Globalization* on the results of the June 2010 Baku forum (<http://news.day.az/politics/295173.html>).

23 October

President Ilham Aliyev telephones his Turkish counterpart Abdulla Gul (<http://news.day.az/politics/295087.html>).

Finance Minister Samir Sharifov takes part in a special meeting of the World Economic Forum in Jordan (<http://news.day.az/economy/295047.html>).

Emin Eyubov, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Brussels, takes part in a session of the European Parliament organized by the European Azerbaijani Society (<http://news.day.az/politics/295039.html>).

22 October

President Ilham Aliyev receives Iranian Defense Minister Ahmad Vahidi (<http://news.day.az/politics/295005.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov says that it is necessary to begin talks on a general peace accord for Nagorno-Karabakh rather than focus on issues where disagreement remains (<http://news.day.az/politics/294985.html>).

Defense Minister Safar Abiyev receives Iranian Defense Minister Ahmad Vahidi (<http://news.day.az/politics/295013.html>).

Novruz Mammadov, head of the foreign relations department of the Presidential Administration, says that Baku considers Azerbaijan's chances to be elected a member of the UN Security Council to be "very high" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294977.html>).

Novruz Mammadov, head of the foreign relations department of the Presidential Administration, says that "the destructive reaction of the Armenian side to any constructive proposal of Azerbaijan shows yet again that the leadership of Armenia is not interested in a just and peaceful resolution of the conflict and in its solution by means of negotiations" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294985.html>).

Fikret Akchura, the UN's resident coordinator in Azerbaijan, thanks First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva and Leyla Aliyeva, the vice president of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation, for their support of environmental protection efforts in Azerbaijan (<http://news.day.az/politics/294824.html>).

Ahmed Heravend, deputy commander of Iran's border guards, meets with his Azerbaijani counterparts in the Bilasuvar district of Azerbaijan to discuss the October 19 armed incident on the border during which a citizen of Iran was killed (<http://news.day.az/politics/294938.html>).

21 October

President Ilham Aliyev tells the first Cooperation Summit of Turkic Language States in Almaty that "we must act so that the Turkic world will be still more closely united" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294301.html>).

Vilayat Guliyev, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Budapest, says that "there is sufficient opportunity for more intensive Azerbaijani-Hungarian partnership" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294661.html>).

Rasim Musabayov, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Russia, Europe and the United States have "objective interests in extending the negotiation process and neutralizing the risks of the renewal of military acitons in the zone of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294805.html>).

Elman Rustamov, head of the Central Bank of Azerbaijan, tells his Turkish counterpart Durmus Yilmaz that "future cooperation" between them "has great importance for both countries" (<http://news.day.az/economy/294854.html>).

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe adopts a resolution calling on all member countries to avoid recognizing "in any form "the de facto powers and territories formed as a result of illegal separation" from a recognized state (<http://news.day.az/politics/294818.html>).

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev says that Moscow will "continue to help in the resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, but both peoples must strive to agreement." He adds that "the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict is one of the few frozen conflicts in Europe which can be resolved" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294668.html>).

Sinan Ogan, a deputy in Turkey's Grand National Assembly, says that the inclusion of the Turkish-Armenian protocols on the agenda of the Turkish parliament "bears a formal character" and does not mean that Ankara is about to approve them (<http://news.day.az/politics/294598.html>).

Murad Bayar, secretary for the defense industry of Turkey's national defense ministry, says that "on a technical level, Turkey can play an important role in bringing the Armed Forces of Azerbaijan into correspondence with NATO standards" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294866.html>).

The Iranian foreign ministry presents a note to Javanshir Akhundov, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Tehran, concerning the death of an Iranian guard on the Azerbaijani-Iranian border (<http://news.day.az/politics/294708.html>).

Matthew Bryza, US ambassador to Baku, says that the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs are "seeking means of keeping the momentum toward the activation of the peace process on Nagorno-Karabakh" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294704.html>).

Matthew Bryza, US ambassador to Baku, says that the US is cooperating with Azerbaijan on opening professional-technical training schools for girls from poorer families (<http://news.day.az/society/294699.html>).

Francis Delaey, outgoing head of the Baku office of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, says that the European Union will offer up to 10 million euros in the coming years (2010-2013) to Azerbaijan as part of the Turn Around Management program (<http://news.day.az/economy/294830.html>).

Francis Delaey, outgoing representative of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in Baku, says the new head of that office Neil McKain is "already in Baku" after service in Turkmenistan (<http://news.day.az/economy/294804.html>).

Alfredo Bonet, Spain's state secretary for foreign trade, says the signing of an agreement on eliminating double taxation is important for the development of business ties between Azerbaijan and Spain (<http://news.day.az/economy/294716.html>).

The Armenian armed forces conduct military maneuvers on the occupied territories of Azerbaijan (<http://news.day.az/politics/294858.html>).

20 October

Emergency Situations Minister Kamaladdin Heydarov receives Alfredo Bonet, Spain's state secretary for foreign trade (<http://news.day.az/politics/294642.html>).

Zakir Hasanov, commander of Interior Ministry forces, receives his Ukrainian counterpart Sergey Yarov (<http://news.day.az/politics/294531.html> and <http://news.day.az/politics/294487.html>).

Eynulla Madatli, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Kyiv, takes part in the opening of a Youth Center of the Union of Azerbaijani Youth of Ukraine (<http://news.day.az/society/294517.html>).

Ilgar Mukhtarov, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Mexico City, organizes a concert and reception there on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the restoration of the state independence of Azerbaijan (<http://news.day.az/politics/294529.html>).

Tahir Rzayev, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that emigration from Armenia is now so large that it is threatening the political balance in Yerevan (<http://news.day.az/politics/294492.html>).

Azay Guliyev, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that neither the current nor past president of Armenia possess "any essential qualities of either a progressive or pragmatic leader" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294467.html>).

Vahid Ahmadov, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Yerevan claims about the development of the Armenian economy are "a lie" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294428.html>).

Zahid Oruj, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Armenian democracy is only for show and has no real content (<http://news.day.az/politics/294328.html>).

Zhalya Aliyeva, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that the leadership of Armenia "is coming to an understanding that it is impossible to drag things out further on this [Nagorno-Karabakh] question" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294414.html>).

The Academy of the Emergency Situations Ministry signs a cooperation accord with its Russian counterpart (<http://news.day.az/society/294640.html>).

Azerbaijan becomes a member of the United Nations International Consulting Group for Conducting Search and Rescue Operations (<http://news.day.az/society/294649.html>).

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin says that Azerbaijan, along with Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, although they did not join initially, will sign the CIS free trade zone agreement before the end of the year (<http://news.day.az/politics/294527.html>).

The Olympic committees of the CIS and Baltic countries vote to support the candidacy of Baku for the Olympic summer games of 2020 (<http://news.day.az/sport/294510.html>).

Philippe Blancharde, a Belgian parliamentarian, says that "Azerbaijan is important for Europe not only because of its energy resources" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294293.html>).

Mohammadbaqir Bahrami, Iran's ambassador to Baku, says that "the interests of Iran and Azerbaijan are close that that coordination and cooperation between the

two countries is "important for the security of the region"
(<http://news.day.az/politics/294641.html>).

The World Bank says that Azerbaijan has improved its position on the annual rating of *Doing Business in the World* from 69th to 66th among 183 countries in the world (<http://news.day.az/economy/294485.html>).

John O'Rourke, head of the European Neighborhood Policy Department of the Directorate General for External Relations of the European Commission, says that "the participation of the European Union in the realization of the Transcaspien pipeline project can provide foreign investors with additional security"
(<http://news.day.az/economy/294455.html>).

19 October

President Ilham Aliyev receives greetings from leaders around the world on the 20th anniversary of Azerbaijani independence
(<http://news.day.az/politics/293892.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov calls for beginning work on "an all-embracing peace agreement on Nagorno-Karabakh"
(<http://news.day.az/politics/294303.html>).

The Foreign Ministry condemns the terrorist act committed in Turkey
(<http://news.day.az/politics/294354.html>).

Aydin Mirzazade, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Armenia has been troubled since it acquired independence (<http://news.day.az/politics/294194.html>).

The National Metrics Center of the State Committee on Standardization, Metrics and Patents signs a cooperation agreement with its German counterpart
(<http://news.day.az/economy/294439.html>).

Leyla Aliyeva, the vice president of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation, says that it is "symbolic" that the Azerbaijani Cultural Center in Moscow "is opening while Azerbaijan is celebrating the 20th anniversary of its independence"
(<http://news.day.az/politics/294441.html>).

Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Patiño says in Baku that his country supports Azerbaijan's candidacy for the UN Security Council
(<http://news.day.az/politics/294306.html>).

Ulrich Wolf, an official of the Bavarian ministry of economics, says that Bavaria now is responsible for 50 percent of the trade turnover between Azerbaijan and Germany (<http://news.day.az/economy/294367.html>).

18 October

President Ilham Aliyev receives Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Patiño
(<http://news.day.az/politics/294135.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev receives US Deputy Secretary of State William Burns
(<http://news.day.az/politics/294135.html>).

Oktay Asadov, speaker of the Milli Majlis, says that "the single problem of Azerbaijan is the continuation of the occupation of Azerbaijani lands by Armenia, but even this problem will soon be resolved" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294137.html>).

Vahdat Sultan-zade, Azerbaijani ambassador to Ashgabat, says that bilateral relations between the two countries are "the traditional fraternal links between two peoples" close ethnically, spiritually and historically (<http://news.day.az/politics/294225.html>).

Vilayat Guliyev, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Budapest, says that Hungary "quite highly values" Azerbaijan's possibilities with regard to providing energy security for Europe (<http://news.day.az/politics/294038.html>).

The Azerbaijani Embassy in Washington awards a special memorial medal on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the restoration of the independence of the Azerbaijani Republic to Zbigniew Brzezinski, Brent Scowcroft, Richard Armitage, Bill Shuster and Dan Boren (<http://news.day.az/politics/294068.html>).

Emin Mirzoyev, the president of the Congress of Azerbaijanis of Sweden, meets with Mehmet Kaplan, a member of the Swedish Parliament (<http://news.day.az/politics/294079.html>).

Turkish President Abdulla Gul telephones President Ilham Aliyev (<http://news.day.az/politics/294219.html>).

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan telephones President Ilham Aliyev (<http://news.day.az/politics/294219.html>).

US Deputy Secretary of State William Burns says that "the priorities of the US in Azerbaijan continue to be security, energy, and democratic and economic reforms" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294166.html>).

US Deputy Secretary of State William Burns says that the United States "continues to support the diversification of export routes and pipelines" (<http://news.day.az/economy/294182.html>).

The British ambassadors in Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia release a joint declaration in which they welcome the UN resolution calling for a ceasefire during the time of the Olympic Games (<http://news.day.az/politics/294202.html>).

Wang Yang, the secretary general of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties, says that the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict has had "very difficult consequences" (<http://news.day.az/politics/294184.html>).

17 October

President Ilham Aliyev says that "after the 20 year period of independence, the economy of Azerbaijan forms 83 percent of the economy of the South Caucasus" (<http://news.day.az/politics/293992.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev says that "in Azerbaijan, the struggle with drug addiction and the illegal sale of narcotics is defined as an all-state task" (<http://news.day.az/politics/293829.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev receives Kunio Mikuriya, the secretary general of the World Customs Organization and Yuri Fedotov, the head of the UN Vienna Office (<http://news.day.az/politics/293956.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov receives a delegation of the German Marshall Fund (<http://news.day.az/politics/293927.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov receives Fatih Ceynal, advisor to the Turkish foreign minister (<http://news.day.az/politics/293928.html>).

Ecology and Natural Resources Minister Huseyngulu Bagirov says that "independence is the greatest achievement of the Azerbaijani people" (<http://news.day.az/politics/293962.html>).

Economic Development Minister Shahin Mustafayev says that Baku has signed an agreement with the Korea International Cooperation Agency for the development of special economic zones (<http://news.day.az/economy/293887.html>).

Deputy Foreign Minister Khalaf Khalafov says that Azerbaijan constantly raises in international forums the issue about the production and transit of illegal drugs in Azerbaijani territories occupied by Armenia (<http://news.day.az/politics/293844.html>).

Deputy Foreign Minister Khalaf Khalafov says that Azerbaijan is conducting regular work to defend the ecology of the Caspian Sea (<http://news.day.az/politics/293845.html>).

Fazil Mustafa, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Armenia has wasted the period of its independence (<http://news.day.az/politics/293707.html>).

Ankara announces plans to open a Turkish defense industry office in Baku (<http://news.day.az/economy/293970.html>).

An office of the European Regional Office of the World Trade Organization opens in Baku (<http://news.day.az/economy/293957.html>).

The Russian State Humanitarian University presents a new book, "The Conceptual Bases of the Restoration of the Post-Conflict Territories of Azerbaijan" (<http://news.day.az/economy/293811.html>).

Note to Readers

The editors of "Azerbaijan in the World" hope that you find it useful and encourage you to submit your comments and articles via email (adabiweekly@ada.edu.az). The materials it contains reflect the personal views of their authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan.