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School of International Affairs and Business

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**In this issue:**

- Paul Goble, "Azerbaijan Republic Should Be Renamed Northern Azerbaijan, Milli Majlis Deputies Say"
- Sabina Rakcheyeva, "Azerbaijan's Cultural Diplomacy Since 1991: A Personal Musical Journey"
- Jamil Hasanly, "Russian-Turkish Relations Between the Sovietization of Azerbaijan and the Sovietization of Armenia" (Part IIa)
- A Chronology of Azerbaijan's Foreign Policy
- Note to Readers

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**AZERBAIJAN REPUBLIC SHOULD BE RENAMED NORTHERN AZERBAIJAN,  
MILLI MAJLIS DEPUTIES SAY**

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Invoking public opinion, several Azerbaijani deputies, including members of the ruling *Yeni Azerbaijan* Party say that the Republic of Azerbaijan should be renamed Northern Azerbaijan in order to reflect the fact that large segments of Azerbaijani territory were transferred to and incorporated into other states as a result of treaties

concluded without regard to the opinions of Azerbaijanis and that millions of ethnic Azerbaijani live on these territories to this day.

On February 1, Siyavush Novruzov, a Milli Majlis deputy from the ruling party, said that “there are the examples of North and South Korea and North and South Cyprus,” and consequently, that it would be appropriate if Azerbaijan as a divided state were to be called Northern Azerbaijan.” [1]

Other deputies expanded on his point. Gudrat Hasanguliyev, a member of the *Popular Front* Party of Azerbaijan, noted that Southern Azerbaijan now in Iran forms “two-thirds” of Azerbaijan. “Therefore,” he said, “there is every basis for renaming our republic Northern Azerbaijan.” He added that because the early nineteenth century Gulistan and Turkmenchay treaties that drew the line through Azerbaijan were “adopted against the will of the Azerbaijani people,” they must be annulled as part of this process.

And Fazail Agamaly, a deputy who heads the Motherland Party, noted that “despite the fact that the history of Azerbaijan had periods when it was integral, this was not reflected in the historical documents.” He urged that there should be a referendum about this, one that would revise Paragraph 11 of the country’s constitution and specify that “Azerbaijan consists of Northern, Southern and Western Azerbaijan.”

Such comments are striking, all the more so because few countries are more committed to the principle of territorial integrity than is Azerbaijan, a position Baku has taken as part of its efforts to end the Armenian occupation of one-fifth of its territory. Obviously, any suggestion that current political borders do not correspond to historical or ethnographic ones could generate problems with Azerbaijan’s neighbors, especially because some of them not only would feel threatened, but would also feel entitled to make such claims of their own, claims that would only exacerbate tensions across the region.

But despite such considerations, which are likely to drive the policy of the Azerbaijani government, there are at least three reasons why such rhetoric is appearing at the present time and at least implicitly with official support: First, attention to Azerbaijanis abroad promotes national pride and unity among all groups within the Republic. Second, Yerevan’s current effort to recast that city’s past as purely Armenian offends against Azerbaijani sensibilities. And third—and by far the most important—escalating tensions between Azerbaijan and Iran have focused attention in the Republic on the more than one-third of the Iranian population that consists of ethnic Azerbaijanis.

Azerbaijanis have always been attentive to their co-ethnics abroad, but as their country has assumed a larger role on the international scene, they have increased their attention to the more than 30 million ethnic Azerbaijanis living in other countries, the overwhelming majority of whom live in neighboring Iran. The government via its State Committee on Work with the Diaspora has contributed to this expansion in attention as have domestic and international media and especially Internet sites devoted to Azerbaijani communities in Iran, Russia, Georgia, Europe and the United States. And increasingly, Azerbaijanis within the Republic see defending the interests of these communities as an important national task.

Intriguingly, one of the places Azerbaijanis focus on more than anywhere else is a place where there used to be a large number of ethnic Azerbaijanis, but which now

has almost none—Armenia. Many of the Azerbaijanis who lived there fled at the start of the Nagorno-Karabakh war, the defining touchstone of Azerbaijani identity today. But Armenia in recent weeks has taken steps that have led increasingly more Azerbaijanis to be angry. Specifically, the Yerevan government has announced plans to reconstruct a section of the Armenia capital to suggest that it has always been Armenian. That offends not only Azerbaijanis, but historical truth because until the twentieth century, Erivan was a Turkic Muslim khanate.

Reacting to the latest Armenian plans, Fuad Akhundov, the head of a sector of the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, argued that “the creation in Yerevan of an artificial historical center is a continuation of the policy of genocide against Azerbaijani civilization.” [2] Most Azerbaijanis and most historians would agree with this, as they would in rejecting Armenian claims about “a greater Armenia.” Talking about the enormous region in which Azerbaijanis live beyond the Soviet-imposed borders of the Republic and even speaking about “Western” Azerbaijan is a natural rhetorical reaction, even if it is one that does not go beyond that.

But far and away the most important factor in sparking such talk in Baku is the worsening of relations between Azerbaijan and Iran. On the one hand, these tensions reflect the current standoff between Iran and the international community over Tehran’s nuclear program. But on the other, they reflect certain specific features of Azerbaijani-Iranian relations, among which the following are perhaps the most important.

First, the current Iranian regime, even though its top leaders such as Ayatollah Khamenei are themselves of Azerbaijani Turkic origin, has cracked down hard on the nearly 30 million Iranian Azerbaijanis, routinely arresting activists and crushing efforts by that Turkic community to promote their distinct linguistic and cultural community.

Second, the Iranian government has promoted Islamic radicalism in Azerbaijan itself and has expressed its anger about Baku’s close relations with the West and especially with Israel. This anger last month took the form of an effort to destroy the Israeli embassy in the Azerbaijani capital. And as Sabir Rustamkhanly, a Milli Majlis deputy, noted two weeks ago, Tehran appears to be interested in destabilizing Azerbaijan because it has completely failed to spark an Islamist revolution there. [3]

And third, as Milli Majlis deputy Ganira Pashayeva noted earlier this month, “Iran has always supported Armenia. If at one time Iran had closed its border with Armenia, then it is possible that the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict would have been resolved long ago. But Iran supports Armenia and today has with it broad economic ties.” [4]

Given these factors, it should not surprise anyone that some in Azerbaijan are now talking about renaming their country in order to emphasize the existence of this larger Azerbaijani community, but given the balanced foreign policy of President Ilham Aliyev, it should also not surprise anyone that such understandable anger is not going to be translated into government action.

#### Notes

[1] See <http://news.day.az/politics/312846.html> (accessed 14 February 2012).

[2] See <http://news.day.az/politics/315295.html> (accessed 14 February 2012).

[3] See <http://news.day.az/politics/315570.html> (accessed 14 February 2012).

[4] See <http://news.day.az/politics/315552.html> (accessed 14 February 2012).

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### **AZERBAIJAN'S CULTURAL DIPLOMACY SINCE 1991: A PERSONAL MUSICAL JOURNEY**

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No culture, according to Mahatma Gandhi, can live if it attempts to be exclusive; but at the same time, culture stands behind every statehood and defines national identity. When a nation's greatest desire for independence finally comes about, what happens to its culture? How and why does culture affect and impact a country's foreign policies? During the past twenty years, I have witnessed the evolution of Azerbaijani culture as "an insider"—as a musician studying and performing around the world in various countries, before coming to London where I currently reside. On the basis of that experience, I argue here that cultural diplomacy remains an important tool of soft power that is able to represent a national identity in a way that has genuine appeal in our contemporary globalised world.

Azerbaijan has been developing rapidly politically and economically since 1991. Over the same period, the country also has been undergoing a cultural renaissance. After two brief years of independence at the end of World War I, Azerbaijan fell under Soviet rule for more than 70 years and inevitably, the country's national identity, culture and arts were gradually "Sovietized." At the same time, however, Soviet policies of universal literacy and state subsidies for culture broadened participation in ways that laid the foundation for the more recent cultural renaissance.

Inevitably, the first few years of independence brought some political instability, and as a result culture suffered arguably more than other spheres of life, since many institutions were left without funding. The lack of any platform to communicate coupled with financial difficulties, resulted in a decline, forcing many Azerbaijani artists to leave the country to find work overseas. Despite this, the majority of cultural institutions were able to continue to function, albeit on a reduced scale.

With the beginning of political and social stabilization, the Azerbaijani government introduced a contemporary cultural policy and began its active participation in international organizations, joining UNESCO in 1992 and later, the Council of Europe in 2001. Within the last few years, several state programs, in such spheres as tourism, theatre, music, and the safeguarding of Azerbaijan's Intangible Cultural Heritage, have begun to be implemented in the country. New museums, theatres, and cultural institutions have started functioning.

Besides internal cultural development, Azerbaijan has begun promoting its rich and vibrant arts on the international scene. Since joining UNESCO, national committees have been established within the intergovernmental UNESCO programs, including those for the International Council of Museums (ICOM), International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), International Music Council (IMC), and the International Institute of Theater. Azerbaijan also participates in a series of multilateral cultural projects. Co-operation with the Council of Europe is a key element of multilateral engagement that includes several cultural initiatives. Besides European schemes, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism has developed collaborative ties with the Islamic Scientific, Educational and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and has started collaboration with the EU's Eastern Partnership. At Azerbaijan's initiative, the ministries of culture of the Turkic-speaking countries founded TURKSOY—the International Organization on Joint Development of Turkic Culture and Arts.

But of course, this would not be possible without the active involvement of those who directly implement culture—artists and art professionals. Known very little abroad during Soviet times, Azerbaijani artists over the last 20 years have been “exported.” A new young generation of artists has access to the outside world and has become a part of the international art scene. In particular, the world of commercial music has discovered one of the best-known *mugham* singer, Alim Qasimov. Works by the Azerbaijani composer Firanghiz Alizade have been performed worldwide and the well known jazz pianist and singer Aziza Mustafa-Zadeh is one of the top artists in her field. Independence has given a chance to young musicians, including myself, to reach international audiences at a very young age, and opportunities to study in the best music schools, and to perform both inside and outside the country. Independent artists, chamber groups, orchestras, pop and traditional music ensembles today regularly perform around the world in major concert halls, while artists take part in international exhibitions and fairs.

Over the last decade, there have been some developments in creating non-governmental, often privately supported cultural units, such as art galleries, small concert venues, theatres, design agencies and centers for applied arts. On the one hand, creating independent units encourages competition, which results in cultural development and diversity. On the other hand, though, it is apparent that there are as yet no strong alternatives—either financially responsible or professionally excellent—that compete with state institutions like the Ministry of Culture and large private institutions like the Heydar Aliyev Foundation. However, with each passing year, social change has contributed to the rise of a new model of national cultural policy, one that aims to combine “flexibility at the central level with activity and initiative at the local one.”

As a musician and cultural diplomat, I look at cultural activities abroad as acts of cultural diplomacy in practice. Undoubtedly, Azerbaijan's cultural policy today is that of a country with a strong focus on culture and an understanding of its importance in bilateral and multilateral relations. Any social changes have an immediate impact on culture and cultural trends, which in turn are vital to development. The greatest achievement of the last years has been the emergence of a new social and cultural awareness, one that has increased appreciation of the national cultural heritage and an increasing number of young people studying the arts and culture. As a country evolves, so does its culture and national policy. In our time of rapid social changes, and as globalization brings new cultural priorities, there needs to be an innovative

approach to implementing cultural policies if we are to succeed in preserving and transmitting artistic heritage.

As a musician, I have experienced the diversity of cultures in many ways. My own position in the musical world is twofold. My affiliations with Azerbaijani culture and my background make me an Azerbaijani musician: I am a representative of Azerbaijani culture. At the same time, though, my musical and academic training has been heavily influenced by Western music. Thus, I affiliate myself with a global classical music community where musicians come from different cultures while all sharing a common ground, namely classical music training.

Being a performing musician—"an insider"—has helped me to regard and experience music as a form of diplomacy in a different manner to many scholars. As my career has evolved, I have tried to observe cultural relations in practice. Having been invited to participate and perform in non-traditional performance environments, I came to realize that being an artist positions a person quite differently within society. If used correctly, this unique positioning enables a person to influence the course of events. This understanding prompted me to regard music differently than simply as an act of artistic performance. I explore cultural diplomacy through music as a "soft power," and as a contributor to intercultural dialogue within our current era of globalization.

My primary intention was to seek ways to combine several cultural traditions and produce a unified performance. The result was my album *UnVeiled*, which, now released commercially, attempts to bring different worlds into proximity, much as happens with more traditional political diplomacy. In my recently completed PhD research, by presenting a model of relating musical collaboration to the multilateral diplomatic negotiation process, I look at how musical collaboration as a tool of public engagement can contribute to, and improve the effectiveness of, current diplomatic practices.

In addition to stimulating intercultural dialogue, music has a great power to mediate. I was recently asked a question about using music to promote a resolution of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan. In fact, similar efforts have been implemented several times over the last few decades, such as the orchestra exchanges between the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War, the Divan East–West project founded by Edward Said and Daniel Barenboim, and the recent visit of the New York Philharmonic to North Korea. Although I have never directly participated in a collaborative music project between Azerbaijan and Armenia, I have taken part in world youth orchestras or in chamber music festivals where there were musicians from Armenia. What gave me a positive outlook on the role of music in conflict resolution was that during such sessions, we musicians were united by a common idea—not a political agenda—by our cultural, musical idiom, and therefore, the general atmosphere of working together was always professional, respectful and friendly.

Music has the ability to communicate, regardless of the type of performance and the identity of the performers. It can therefore literally "play" an active and significant role in peace building activities. A very good example would be that when political and economic relations are frozen, it seems that only the arts and culture are able to interact. Moreover, as culture is non-confrontational, often the only way to bring two opposing sides together is to invite them to share the experience of listening to a performance. Cultural diplomacy, in fact, offers us the ability to listen to the

opposing side rather than to talk, and this becomes a key to successful conflict resolution. The more such cross-border music collaborations, festivals, non-political discussions and art exhibitions take place, the greater the understanding and tolerance will be between nations.

Successful collaborative projects prove the importance of implementing soft power rather than applying military or economic hard power. Indeed, history has proved that isolation and lack of dialogue neither resolves conflict nor brings peace, confirming the words of the great Mahatma Gandhi, who said that "No culture can live if it attempts to be exclusive."

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## **RUSSIAN-TURKISH RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIETIZATION OF AZERBAIJAN AND THE SOVIETIZATION OF ARMENIA**

### **Part II (A). How Chicherin Tried to Give Nakhchivan to Armenia**

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After the sovietization of Azerbaijan, the return of Russians to the Caucasus became a reality. Therefore, the new Ankara government at its very first session on May 5, 1920, decided to send a delegation to Moscow to conduct official talks with the Bolsheviks. Bekir Sami-bey, the foreign minister in the new government, was named its head. Economics minister Yusif Kemal-bey and Osman-bey, a deputy from Lazistan, were also members. The Bekir Sami-bey delegation left on July 11, 1920, via the Black Sea and on July 19 arrived without difficulty in Moscow. However, except for brief unofficial meetings with L. Karakhan on July 24 and August 4, until the middle of August, no Soviet official received it.

Thus, the double game of the new Soviet diplomacy continued: On the one hand, Soviet Russia did not want to conduct official talks with the Turks until the clarification of its relations with Armenia, but on the other hand, the Soviet leaders were waiting until they found out the heavy conditions that would be levied on Turkey by the Sevres Treaty, which was scheduled to be signed in early August, as well as the reaction the new Turkish government would display.

In a letter from G. Chicherin, Russian peoples commissar for foreign affairs, which was delivered to Mustafa Kemal-pasha, by Ibrahim Efendi, the issue of the definition of borders with Armenia was raised very clearly. The Soviet's unconcealed protection over the Armenians and the use in the letter of the expression, "Turkish Armenia," generated dissatisfaction in the hearts of members of Turkey's Grand National Assembly. Bekir Sami-bey, who headed the executive committee of the Milli Majlis (or Grand National Assembly) for foreign affairs, recalled in a letter on July 4, 1920, that from the moment of the signing of the Batumi convention, Turkey

was the first to recognize the Armenian government and it was at that time that the borders with Armenia were defined.

Bekir Sami-bey wrote: "By that convention, we undertook to observe precisely the conditions of the preservation with [Armenia] friendly and good-neighborly relations. However, from the time of the conclusion of the armistice with the Entente powers, the Armenian government, feeling that it has behind it the support of England and pursuing the idea about the creation of Greater Armenia at our expense, has unceasingly conducted a policy of destroying the Muslim population in what are indisputably Turkish territories that at present have been seized by its forces, which is the result of their evacuation by us in fulfillment of the armistice conditions that have been dictated to us. The basic goal of these pogroms and expulsions which have been conducted systematically is undoubtedly the creation of a fictional Armenian majority in these native Turkish districts." [1]

On July 27, 1920, units of the 11<sup>th</sup> Red Army entered Nakhchivan. The declaration of the establishment of Soviet power in this borderland gave to Russian-Turkish relations a more intensive character. On July 28, the Nakhchivan revolutionary committee was formed as the organ of supreme power. Included in it were M. Bektashi, A. Kadimov, F. Makhmoubekov, and others. The Nakhchivan Soviet Socialist Republic was proclaimed. Following the April turnover of power in Azerbaijan, the local structures of the Musavat government were disarmed, but the inexperienced newly formed Soviet power still did not have its own clearly defined policy. Therefore, the Armenians again attempted to use terror and purges against the local Muslim population there. Although the leadership of Azerbaijan was not in a position to stop these excesses independently, the Bureau of the Central Committee of the AKP(b) decided on July 13, 1920, that "considering that the Nakhchivan district, which is considered an indisputable part of Azerbaijan is now occupied by Turkish forces and desiring to avoid any clashes, this district ought to be vacated by Turkish forces." For the resolution of this issue, the Bureau named a delegation for conducting talks with Halil-pasha, in which were included N. Narimanov, A. Mikoyan, A. Karayev, N. Naneyshvili, and M.D. Huseynov.

However, without taking any practical steps in this direction, the Bureau of the Central Committee of the AKP(b) two days later, on July 15, adopted another resolution on the issue "About the Nakhchivan District which is considered an indisputable territory of Azerbaijan." Bureau members including V.Yegorov, A. Mikoyan, M.D. Huseynov, Sergo Ordzhonikidze, and E. Stasova, who were joined by B. Legran, discussed the question "On peace with Armenia." In the second point of the decision on this question, it was noted: "To renounce [Azerbaijan's position in Nakhchivan and] propose the occupation of these territories by the Russian army." [2]

The Azerbaijani leadership undoubtedly received the order to renounce Nakhchivan and Sharur-Daralagoz from Moscow, and in this direction, negotiations took place in the capital of Russia between the Armenian delegates and the peoples commissariat of foreign affairs of Russia. In correspondence with this decision, the Bolsheviks began to be seriously interested in the political situation in Nakhchivan, and even before introducing forces into this district, they made an assessment of the military capacities of the Bayzid division of the Turks and the Armenian forces. [3]

The chief doubts of the Russians concerning the advance into Nakhchivan were in the first instance connected with the fact that in their internal correspondence, they



planned to leave to Armenia Nakhchivan, Sharur-Daralagoz and Ordubad. [4] The only obstacle in this direction was Turkey.

The decision of the Azerbaijani leadership "to yield" on Nakhchivan and the desire of the Turkish revolutionary government to see precisely in that district a common border with the Bolsheviks created a crisis situation in the region. The Armenians, who had long thrown envious glances at Nakhchivan already during the period of tsarist Russia attempted to acquire this district by means of changing its national-ethnic composition. Now again, after the first world war, they attempted to achieve their goal either within the framework of the Sevres treaty which had been imposed on Turkey by the Entente or alternatively on the basis of "the eastern diplomacy" of Bolshevik Russia.

The emissaries of the Armenian government, as well as authoritative Armenians who had established themselves as functionaries of various kinds in the party-government circles of Soviet Russia supplied the Bolshevik leaders with inventions and openly false information about Nakhchivan. It was good, however, that those sent from the Center as members of a Special Commission uncovered a completely different picture, even more when people were speaking about the recent history and first stages of the sovietization of the district. It became clear that after the inclusion of the primarily Muslim Erivan and Nakhchivan khanates into Russia, a large number of Armenians from Iran and Turkey were resettled in these districts.

Thus, according to information from 1834 [that the Special Commission cited], of the 22,336 families (63,300 males) in Erivan oblast, 29,690 men were Turks and only 10,350 of the males were Armenians of longtime residence. The total number of residents of both sexes is said in the document to be 130,600. Of them, 16 percent were longtime Armenian residents (together with 37 percent who were Armenian re-settlers, while 47 percent were Turkic Muslims. This source specifies that "if it is taken into consideration that with the arrival of the Russians, a significant portion of the Muslim population left the province in order to resettle in Turkey and Persia, then it becomes clear that the percent of Muslims earlier had been incomparably higher." It also says that for just ten months of 1829-1830, some 50,000 Armenians resettled into Erivan oblast from the Bayazet and Karss pashalyks of the Ottoman Empire.

As far as the Nakhchivan province is concerned, the investigation of the Bolshevik commission represents still greater interest. According to the enumeration of 1832, there were 6,538 families with 16,095 males in Nakhchivan for a total of about 32,000 people. Of them, 59.2 percent or 3,859 families were Turks; only eight percent or 533 families were Armenians who had been living there for a long time, and 32.8 percent or 2,145 families were recent Armenian re-settlers. In the report of the Special Commission, it is stressed, "As is clear, the Turks formed a majority in the Nakhchivan district not only before the Turkmenchay peace treaty but after it as well." The commission also studied the ethnic composition of the Ordubad district. In the 1830s, 6,320 people lived there, of whom 4,314 were Turks, 1,574, that is 25 percent, were longtime Armenian residents, and 432 were recent Armenian re-settlers." [5]

During the summer of 1920 either the complex situation that had emerged in Nakhchivan or the undefined nature of the position of Armenia in Soviet-Turkish policy led to the emergence in Anatolia, especially among certain influential circles on the Eastern front, of a desire to establish a connection with the central bureau of Turkish communist organizations functioning in Baku. Kazym Karabekir-pasha asked

Mustafa Subhi, the leader of the Turkish communists, to tell the Soviet government in Moscow and Baku that they should come to the aid of Anatolia, to explain to them that the Dashnak hangmen were destroying the defenseless toilers of Anatolia situated between Turkey and Armenia, that [the Armenian actions, if not stopped, could] close the path of Russia to the East and undermine ties between Turkey and Russia.

The Turkish general wrote that "we do not understand how the Bolsheviks, the bearers of high ideals, can put up with these bestial actions of the Dashnaks and why they do not use our forces when my army, together with the Russian and Azerbaijani armies, could in the course of three to five days put an end to these Dashnak murderers and thieves." [6]

Despite the serious efforts of Kazym Karabekir-pasha, the forces of the Armenian government went over to the attack and seized Shakhtakhty, and on July 27, 1920, presented the residents of Nakhchivan an ultimatum containing the demand to surrender the city within 48 hours. The ultimatum, signed by Armenian military minister Ruben Ter-Minasyan and composed of 15 points, featured a demand for the National Council of Nakhchivan to declare in the name of the population of Nakhchivan and Sharur districts that these districts are an inalienable part of the Armenian republic and that all the population must consider themselves citizens of the Armenian Republic. The second point of the ultimatum featured a demand that the Nakhchivan National Council, as well as residents of this district, promise not to allow Turks and refugees from Vedi-Basar, Zangi-Basar, and Sharur or agitators from Azerbaijan to enter the district. The ninth point made it a condition that each household surrender one rifle, for a total of not less than 7,000 rifles as well as 80 bullets for each rifle. The surrender of arms was to begin 48 hours after the presentation of the ultimatum and to be completed within 15 days. Moreover, all military forces were required to surrender their arms on the very first day. Until the fulfillment of the ninth point, the National Council must present hostages [to the Armenian forces]: two for each village and three from each town, all of whom will be held in Erivan and Gyumri.

According the ultimatum, the Muslim population at its own expense was to rebuild the destroyed part of the railway to the south of Shakhtakhty and transfer it to the Armenian ministry of transportation. [7] Such a challenging and diplomatically impermissible ultimatum to the Revolutionary Committee, which following the sovietization of Nakhichevan replaced the National Council, was very harshly received.

In response, the Revolutionary Committee of Nakhchivan indicated to the government of Armenia that, "the toiling people of the Nakhchivan district have declared themselves to be an inalienable part of the Azerbaijan Soviet Republic which is in an alliance with the RSFSR" and "rely on the heroic, powerful and undefeated Russian, Turkish and Azerbaijani red armies." In addition, the note pointed out that from now on, the Armenian government should appeal directly to the Azerbaijani Central Government and to the united command of the Russian, Turkish and Azerbaijani Red Armies, the units of which have occupied the Nakhchivan district since July 28. At the end of the note, in connection with the changes, which had taken place in Nakhchivan, it was noted that a Revolutionary Committee has been formed and that there is no longer "a National Council." [8]

The Armenian armed detachments, despite the fact that they had not been able to

enter Nakhchivan had already seized Shakhtakhty. Thousands of Muslims were forced to flee to the territory of Iran. More than one hundred Muslim settlements were erased from the map. Kazym Karabekir-pasha was very much angered by the indifference of the Russian Soviet Government in the face of these Dashnak crimes, although this "anger" did not pass beyond the limits of simple regret. Only at the beginning of August 1920 were the attacks of the Dashnaks stopped. In this connection, Halil-pasha in a letter to M. Subhi held that there was a need for the active intervention of N. Narimanov in order to take all possible measures against the Dashnaks and liberate Nakhchivan and its already sovietized districts from the game of the Armenian imperialists. [9] The Russians did not intend to move from Nakhchivan to the side of Shakhtakhty. They considered the occupation of Nakhchivan the greatest success possible and wanted to use this in order to force Armenia to sign a treaty on August 10. Namely on that day, G. Ordzhonikidze telegraphed V. Lenin, L. Trotsky, and G. Chicherin that Nakhchivan had been seized by the Soviet army; and B. Legran signed a treaty with Armenia on the end of military operations and securing the agreement of the Armenian government to the occupation of Nakhchivan by Soviet forces. [10]

\* *The article originally appeared, in Russian, in Russia's Regnum News Agency at <http://www.regnum.ru/news/1438182.html#ixzz1Xevxl1D3>.*

#### Notes

[1] Letter of Bekir Sami-bey to G. Chicherin, 4 July 1920, *Foreign Policy Archive of Russian Federation* (hereafter FPA RF), f.04, op.39, p.232, d.52987, l.9.

[2] Protocol of the session of the Bureau of the Central Committee of the AKP(b), 15 July 1920, *Political Documents Archive under the President of Azerbaijan Republic* (hereafter PDA PAR), f.1, op.1, d.18, l.13.

[3] Telegram of G. Orzhonikidze to V. Gittes, 17 July 1920, *Russian State Archive of Social-Political History* (hereafter RSASPH), f.85, op.14, d.7, l.3.

[4] Telegram of G. Ordzhonikidze and B. Legram to G. Chicherin, 14 July 1920, *RSASPH*, f.85, op.13, d.51, l.1.

[5] Report of the Special Commission for Investigating the Nakhchivan district, 6 June 1925, *RSASPH*, f.85, op.25, d.523, l.14-15.

[6] Letter of K. Karabekir-pasha to M. Subhi, 23 July 1920, *RSASPH*, f.17, op.84, d.104, l.17.

[7] Conditions governing the recognition by the Muslim population of Nakhchivan district of the authority of the government of the Republic of Armenia, 27 July 1920, *RSASPH*, f.17, op.84, d.104, l.25-25.

[8] To the Command of the Armenian detachment in Shakhtakhty to be handed over to the Armenian government, July 1920, *RSASPH*, f.17, op.84, d.104, l.26-26.

[9] Letter by Khalil-pasha to M. Subhi, 04 April 1920, *RSASPH*, f.17, op.84, d.104, l.20.

[10] Telegram of G. Ordzhonikidze to V. Lenin, L. Trotsky, and G. Chicherin, 10 August 1920, *RSASPH*, f.85, op.14, d.5, l.10.

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## **A CHRONOLOGY OF AZERBAIJAN'S FOREIGN POLICY**

### **I. Key Government Statements on Azerbaijan's Foreign Policy**

President Ilham Aliyev meets with Anders Fogh Rasmussen, secretary general of NATO, in Brussels, and the two say that Azerbaijan and the alliance will continue to cooperate in a wide variety of spheres (<http://news.day.az/politics/315589.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov says that "if France continues to support Armenia, its membership in the OSCE Minsk Group has no sense" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314840.html>).

Ganira Pashayeva, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that, "Iran has always supported Armenia. If at one time Iran had closed its border with Armenia, then it is possible that the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict would have been resolved long ago. But Iran supports Armenia and today has with it broad economic ties" (<http://news.day.az/politics/315552.html>).

### **II. Key Statements by Others about Azerbaijan**

Lee Ji-Ha, Korea's ambassador to Baku, says that by taking part in the nuclear security summit in Seoul, Azerbaijan will "convert itself into one of the countries which has taken responsibility in the international arena for security of the entire world" (<http://news.day.az/politics/315677.html>).

Adam Sterling, charge d'affaires at the US embassy in Baku, says that Washington "recognizes the need for the most rapid possible appointment of an ambassador to Azerbaijan" (<http://news.day.az/politics/315040.html>).

Matthew Bryza, former US ambassador to Baku, says that Azerbaijan and Armenia are "close to a resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314932.html>).

### **III. A Chronology of Azerbaijan's Foreign Policy**

15 February

President Ilham Aliyev meets with Anders Fogh Rasmussen, secretary general of NATO, in Brussels, and the two say that Azerbaijan and the alliance will continue to cooperate in a wide variety of spheres (<http://news.day.az/politics/315589.html>).

Tahir Rzayev, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that "if Armenia ceases to receive assistance from outside, it could disappear" (<http://news.day.az/politics/315638.html>).

14 February

President Ilham Aliyev receives Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, foreign minister of the United Arab Emirates (<http://news.day.az/politics/315580.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev meets in Brussels with Wilfried Martens, president of the European Peoples Party (<http://news.day.az/politics/315589.html>).

The Azerbaijani government officially applies to host the summer Olympics in 2020 (<http://news.day.az/sport/315684.html>).

Interior Minister Ramil Usubov receives Peter Bateman, the United Kingdom's ambassador to Baku (<http://news.day.az/politics/315674.html>).

The Foreign Ministry says that it is considering the issue of illegal visits to the occupied territories (<http://news.day.az/politics/315566.html>).

The Economic Development Ministry says that Azerbaijan and the UAE have discussed creating joint investment funds (<http://news.day.az/economy/315645.html>).

Polad Bulbuloglu, Azerbaijani ambassador to Moscow, is named 2011 ambassador of the year on the basis of a poll conducted by *gaynar.info* (<http://news.day.az/politics/315655.html>).

Elkhan Polukhov, Azerbaijani ambassador to the South African Republic, meets with SAR Interior Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma (<http://news.day.az/politics/315548.html>).

Oktay Asadov, Milli Majlis speaker, says the adoption of a resolution by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation concerning the Hojaly genocide is very important (<http://news.day.az/politics/315533.html>).

The Milli Majlis Working Group on Turkey appeals to Turkey's Grand National Assembly to recognize the Hojaly genocide (<http://news.day.az/politics/315659.html>).

Sabir Rustamkhanly, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Tehran is seeking to destabilize relations with Baku following the failure of Iranian plans to carry out an Islamic revolution in Azerbaijan (<http://news.day.az/politics/315570.html>).

Ganira Pashayeva, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that, "Iran has always supported Armenia. If at one time Iran had closed its border with Armenia, then it is possible that the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict would have been resolved long ago. But Iran supports Armenia and today has with it broad economic ties" (<http://news.day.az/politics/315552.html>).

Zahid Orudzh, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Azerbaijan must form a professional army, one freed from "elements of the Soviet system" (<http://news.day.az/politics/315517.html>).

Asef Hajiyev, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Armenia has either no opposition or one that is totally controlled by the ruling party

(<http://news.day.az/politics/315427.html>).

Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton discuss the situation in the South Caucasus  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/315425.html>).

The European Commission concludes that the Azerbaijani-Turkish Trans-Anatolian Pipeline (TANAP) could replace the Nabucco project  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/315652.html>).

The Christian Democratic Union and Christian Social Union of Germany's Bundestag adopt a document detailing the history of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and calling for a peaceful resolution of that conflict with full respect to international law  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/315528.html>).

US Congressman Justin Ready says that the Hocaly genocide must never be repeated or forgotten in order not to disrespect the memory of the victims  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/315495.html>).

13 February

President Ilham Aliyev receives Ismatulla Irgashev, outgoing Uzbek ambassador to Baku, on the completion of the latter's assignment to the Azerbaijani capital  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/315353.html>).

First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva is awarded the rank of honorary professor of the Sechenov State Medical University in Moscow  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/315346.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov receives Ismatulla Irgashev, the outgoing Uzbekistan ambassador to Baku, in connection with the completion of the latter's assignment in Azerbaijan (<http://news.day.az/politics/315400.html>).

Ali Hasanov, head of the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, says that Azerbaijan does not have any ties with terrorist organizations or with groups that in any way work against humanity and that Iran's claims to the contrary do not have any foundation  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/315355.html>).

Ali Hasanov, head of the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, says that Azerbaijan has become "a significant geopolitical factor" in the world (<http://news.day.az/politics/315379.html>).

Fuad Akhundov, head of a sector of the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, says that, "the creation in Yerevan of an artificial historical center is a continuation of the policy of genocide against Azerbaijani civilization"  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/315295.html>).

Javanshir Akhundov, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Tehran, is summoned to the Iranian foreign ministry and handed a note complaining that Azerbaijan has established on its territory the conditions for "terrorists" who, working with Israel's Mossad, have been involved with the murder of Iranian nuclear scientists  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/315416.html>).

Elman Arasly, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Amman, meets with Abdul Karim Dugmi, speaker of the lower chamber of the Jordanian parliament (<http://news.day.az/economy/315376.html>).

A book *Ilham Aliyev: A Portrait of the President of Azerbaijan*, in Turkish, by Milli Majlis deputy Huseynbala Miralamov and Viktor Andrianov is published (<http://news.day.az/politics/315410.html>).

Aydyn Mirzazade, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that Azerbaijan will react "very seriously" to Iranian suggestions that Baku is supporting the Mossad and its efforts to kill Iranian nuclear physicists (<http://news.day.az/politics/315164.html>).

Zoran Vayovic, Serbia's ambassador to Baku, says that the ever-growing relations between his country and Azerbaijan are based on mutual respect for the territorial integrity of the two countries (<http://news.day.az/politics/315215.html>).

Zoran Vayovic, Serbia's ambassador to Baku, says that Serbia is ready to participate in the AGRI project and thereby help supply Azerbaijani gas to Europe (<http://news.day.az/economy/315237.html>).

The Israeli embassy in Baku continues to work in normal ways despite the attack on Israel's embassy in Delhi (<http://news.day.az/politics/315349.html>).

Turkey's ROKETSAN company begins to supply cruise missiles to the Azerbaijani military (<http://news.day.az/economy/315218.html>).

12 February

President Ilham Aliyev directs the provision of humanitarian assistance to regions of Romania suffering from excessive snow falls (<http://news.day.az/politics/315106.html>).

11 February

President Ilham Aliyev receives Carlos Enrique Meyer, Argentina's tourism minister (<http://news.day.az/politics/314994.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov meets with his Belgian counterpart, Didier Reynders (<http://news.day.az/politics/314888.html>).

Mohammed Baqir Bahrami, Iran's ambassador to Baku, says that "the military doctrine of Tehran does not anticipate the production of nuclear weapons" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314893.html>).

Inayatullah Kakar, Pakistan's ambassador to Baku, says that "Armenia must leave Azerbaijani lands" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314954.html>).

Adam Sterling, charge d'affaires at the US embassy in Baku, says that Washington "recognizes the need for the most rapid possible appointment of an ambassador to Azerbaijan" (<http://news.day.az/politics/315040.html>).

Matthew Bryza, former US ambassador to Baku, says politicians are not the ones to

solve the issue of the recognition or non-recognition of genocide  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314949.html>).

Matthew Bryza, former US ambassador to Baku, says that Azerbaijan and Armenia are "close to a resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict"  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314932.html>).

The Ukrainian diaspora in Azerbaijan organizes and launches a website, [www.ukr-az.org](http://www.ukr-az.org) (<http://news.day.az/society/315202.html>).

10 February

President Ilham Aliyev receives James Appathurai, NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for the Caucasus and Central Asia  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314796.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev names Elnur Sultanov ambassador to Brazil and Abbasali Hasanov ambassador to Tajikistan (<http://news.day.az/politics/314876.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev reforms the Azerbaijani side to the state commission on cooperation between Azerbaijan and Iran (<http://news.day.az/politics/314623.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov calls on the European Union and the European Parliament to adopt a position on the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict based on the principles of international law and not to allow any double standards in that regard  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314687.html>).

The Foreign Ministry says that, "if France continues to support Armenia, its membership in the OSCE Minsk Group has no sense"  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314840.html>).

Ambassador Agshin Mehdiyev, Azerbaijan's permanent representative to the United Nations, says that Baku remains committed to the resolution of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict by negotiations despite the failure of such efforts in the past  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314653.html>).

Govhar Bakhshaliyeva, head of the Azerbaijani delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, says that the activities of officials of the Armenian parliament testify to the "final stage of the moral degradation of Armenian officials" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314590.html>).

Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaitė tells Hasan Mammadzade, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Vilnius, that preparations are underway for visits to Baku by Lithuania's prime minister and foreign minister later this spring  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314785.html>).

Turkey's Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu discusses the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict with members of the US Congress (<http://news.day.az/politics/314711.html>).

James Appathurai, NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for the Caucasus and Central Asia, says that he is "certain that Azerbaijan is a reliable partner of NATO in the framework of ISAF cooperation"  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314752.html>).



Sinan Ogan, a member of Turkey's Grand National Assembly, says that, "over the course of history, France has used the Armenians for its own goals" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314600.html>).

John Kjaer, head of a European Union delegation visiting Azerbaijan, says that the EU will continue to provide Azerbaijan with assistance in social issues (<http://news.day.az/politics/314816.html>).

The Palembang conference of the Parliamentary Union of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation condemns Armenia's aggression against Azerbaijan (<http://news.day.az/politics/314724.html>).

Rufat Guliyev, a Milli Majlis deputy, dismisses Armenian plans to hold a "mini-Davos" as nothing more than a playing at words (<http://news.day.az/politics/314567.html>).

9 February

President Ilham Aliyev tells visiting Albanian Prime Minister Sali Berisha that, "we are going to witness the more intensive development of relations between Azerbaijan and Albania" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314527.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev signs a directive providing new protections for Azerbaijani diplomatic representations abroad (<http://news.day.az/politics/314322.html>).

Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmoud Mammadguliyev says that Baku intends to engage in strategic cooperation with the European Union in the areas of education and health care (<http://news.day.az/politics/314451.html>).

The Foreign Ministry says that, "the politicization of Eurovision is unacceptable" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314503.html>).

Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmoud Mammadguliyev says that the World Trade Organization has agreed to begin talks with Baku in February on Azerbaijan's accession to the WTO (<http://news.day.az/economy/314397.html>).

Ambassador Agshin Mehdiyev, Azerbaijan's permanent representative to the United Nations, says that Azerbaijan is concerned by episodes of violence in northern Kosovo, supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Serbia, and does not recognize the unilateral declaration of Kosovo's independence (<http://news.day.az/politics/314596.html>).

Asim Mollazade, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that, "Yerevan is ready to take any actions against its own people" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314256.html>).

Eamon Gilmore, OSCE Chair-in-Office, calls for the resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict within the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group (<http://news.day.az/politics/314649.html>).

Eamon Gilmore, OSCE Chair-in-Office, says resolution of longstanding conflicts, including the one between Azerbaijan and Armenia, are "a priority for 2012" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314336.html>).

Roland Kobia, head of the European Union representation in Azerbaijan, says the simplification of the visa regime between Azerbaijan and the EU will be adopted first concerning those countries where a large number of Azerbaijanis now live or study (<http://news.day.az/politics/314341.html>).

Roland Kobia, head of the European Union representation in Azerbaijan, says that Azerbaijan has "a modern tax system" (<http://news.day.az/economy/314424.html>).

Nathalie Goulet, a French senator, says there are "chances" that the French law prohibiting the denial of "the so-called 'Armenian genocide'" will be annulled (<http://news.day.az/politics/314534.html>).

Vitaly Busko, a Belorussian parliamentarian, says that Minsk and Baku have agreed to a mutual exchange of property in their cities for the diplomatic representation of the other (<http://news.day.az/politics/314573.html>).

Andre Reichard, a French senator, says that the French position on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict will remain unchanged regardless of the decision by the French Constitutional Court about the law criminalizing the denial of the Armenian genocide (<http://news.day.az/politics/314565.html>).

Joseph Owen, head of the Baku office of the World Bank, says that Azerbaijan is a leader in the amount of investment per capita among the bank's partner countries (<http://news.day.az/economy/314432.html>).

8 February

President Ilham Aliyev confirms an agreement between Azerbaijan and Qatar on the exchange of information (<http://news.day.az/politics/314290.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov takes part in a Brussels conference of the European Peoples Party (<http://news.day.az/politics/313903.html>).

Interior Minister Ramil Usubov receives Necdet Ozel, chief of the Turkish general staff (<http://news.day.az/politics/314285.html>).

Deputy Foreign Minister Khalaf Khalafov says that the foreign ministries of Azerbaijan and Germany will hold the next round of consultations in Baku later this year (<http://news.day.az/politics/314133.html>).

Fuad Akhundov, a sector head in the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, says that Baku can offer Armenia old maps and architectural designs if Yerevan wants to restore the older sections of that city, which were created by Azerbaijanis (<http://news.day.az/politics/314063.html>).

Oktay Asadov, Milli Majlis speaker, receives Necdet Ozel, chief of the Turkish general staff (<http://news.day.az/politics/314225.html>).

Taner Yildiz, Turkey's energy and natural resources minister, says that the transmission of Azerbaijani and Iranian gas across Turkey is gradually being restored (<http://news.day.az/economy/313927.html>).

Sinan Ogan, a member of Turkey's Grand National Assembly, calls for Turkey to

adopt a law recognizing the Hojaly genocide  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314211.html>).

Roland Kobia, EU representative in Baku, says that the European Union supports Azerbaijan's efforts to join the World Trade Organization  
(<http://news.day.az/economy/314141.html>).

The European Union agrees to fund 16 new NGO projects in Azerbaijan  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314093.html>).

7 February

President Ilham Aliyev receives Necdet Ozel, chief of the Turkish general staff  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314005.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev receives Philippe Leforte, special representative of the European Union for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314005.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev receives letters of credence from Altin Kodra, incoming Albanian ambassador to Baku (<http://news.day.az/politics/314019.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev receives letters of credence from Raden Prayono Atiyanto, incoming Indonesian ambassador to Baku  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314019.html>).

President Ilham Aliyev receives letters of credence from Hong Jiuyin, incoming Chinese ambassador to Baku (<http://news.day.az/politics/314019.html>).

First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva receives French Senator Nathalie Goulet  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314034.html>).

Ali Hasanov, vice prime minister and chairman of the State Committee for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons, says the adoption by the French Senate of a law criminalizing the denial of "the invented 'Armenian genocide' does not reflect the opinion of the French people" (<http://news.day.az/politics/313935.html>).

Ali Hasanov, vice prime minister and chairman of the State Committee for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons, say that Baku has spent 4.6 billion US dollars over the last 20 years to support refugees and forced resettlers  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/313905.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov receives French Senator Nathalie Goulet  
(<http://news.day.az/politics/314013.html>).

Defense Minister Safar Abiyev says that, "if the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict is not resolved by negotiation, then Azerbaijan will be forced to liberate the occupied territories by other means" (<http://news.day.az/politics/314008.html>).

Economic Development Minister Shahin Mustafayev says that the non-petroleum sector of Azerbaijan has grown by 2.2 times over the last eight years  
(<http://news.day.az/economy/314000.html>).

Ali Hasanov, head of the social-political department of the Presidential Administration, says that, "some centers supported by the Armenian lobby want to provoke tensions between Azerbaijan and Turkey" (<http://news.day.az/politics/313957.html>).

Fuad Iskandarov, Azerbaijani ambassador in the Hague, meets with instructors and students at the Dutch Defense Academy (<http://news.day.az/politics/314081.html>).

Rahman Mustafayev, Azerbaijani ambassador to Tirana, says that bilateral cooperation between Azerbaijan and Albania in the energy sphere is growing (<http://news.day.az/politics/313861.html>).

Mahir Aliyev, Azerbaijani ambassador to Damascus, says that the Azerbaijani embassy there is working normally, but with heightened security (<http://news.day.az/politics/313856.html>).

Eynulla Madatli, Azerbaijani ambassador to Kyiv, says that Azerbaijan is interested in energy cooperation with Ukraine (<http://news.day.az/economy/313961.html>).

Ayдын Mirzazade, a Milli Majlis deputy, says that, "Armenia is the source of conflicts in the region, but it is a good thing that even there people are beginning to reflect upon who they are and where they are going" (<http://news.day.az/politics/313886.html>).

The Center for Strategic Research attached to the Presidential Administration, jointly with several French research centers, publishes a book entitled *Azerbaijan—a Country With European Aspirations* (<http://news.day.az/politics/313878.html>).

6 February

President Ilham Aliyev thanks French Senator Nathalie Goulet for her principled opposition to the new French law criminalizing denial of "the so-called 'Armenian genocide'" (<http://news.day.az/politics/313765.html>).

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov reaches agreement with Pryano Atiyanton, Indonesian ambassador to Baku, on expanding bilateral legal cooperation (<http://news.day.az/politics/313771.html>).

Oktay Asadov, Milli Majlis speaker, calls on French politicians to be "more attentive on the issue of 'the Armenian genocide'" (<http://news.day.az/politics/313806.html>).

Mikhail Shvydkoy, special representative of the Russian president for cultural cooperation, says that the Heydar Aliyev Foundation is "doing unusually important work" (<http://news.day.az/politics/313764.html>).

5 February

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton tells her Armenian counterpart Edvard Nalbandyan that the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict must be resolved exclusively by negotiations (<http://news.day.az/politics/313557.html>).

4 February

President Ilham Aliyev meets in Munich with US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (<http://news.day.az/politics/313384.html>).

Vahid Ahmadov, a Milli Majlis deputy, tells Turkish entrepreneurs that bilateral trade potential between Azerbaijan and Turkey is "more than 10 times greater" than the amount now being realized (<http://news.day.az/economy/313469.html>).

The Baku office of the World Bank says the Bank has concluded its review of projects promoting the rehabilitation of electric lines in Azerbaijan (<http://news.day.az/economy/313425.html>).

3 February

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov participates in the Munich Security Conference (<http://news.day.az/politics/312879.html>).

Economic Development Minister Shahin Mustafayev and Serbian Foreign Minister Vuk Jeremić meet and Baku extends a major credit to Serbia for the construction of a transportation network (<http://news.day.az/economy/313248.html>).

Labor and Social Protection Minister Fizuli Alakparov receives Aliyasbek Alimkulov, Kyrgyzstan youth, labor and employment minister (<http://news.day.az/society/313352.html>).

Vilayat Guliyev, Azerbaijani ambassador to Budapest, signs an agreement expanding media cooperation between the two countries with Balas Medvecki, director general of Hungarian State Television (<http://news.day.az/society/313299.html>).

Leyla Aliyeva, president of the Azerbaijan Youth Organization of Russia, together with the Sechenov Medical University in Moscow, organizes a humanitarian program (<http://news.day.az/politics/313328.html>).

Lithuanian Foreign Minister Audronius Ažubalis receives Azerbaijanis living in his country (<http://news.day.az/politics/313383.html>).

2 February

Elin Suleymanov, Azerbaijan's ambassador to Washington, says that "Azerbaijan can serve as an example of tolerance" for other countries (<http://news.day.az/politics/313053.html>).

SOCAR Vice President Elshad Nasirov receives Claudio de Vicentis, Italy's deputy minister for economic development (<http://news.day.az/economy/313147.html>).

The Turkish province of Elazig begins a cycle of measures devoted to the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the restoration of Azerbaijan's independence (<http://news.day.az/politics/312876.html>).

Russian Deputy Defense Minister Anatoly Antonov says that Moscow plans to complete talks with Azerbaijan on the Gabala radar site before June (<http://news.day.az/politics/313082.html>).

1 February

Youth and Sports Minister Azad Rahimov signs a cooperation accord with Aliasbek Alimkulov, Kyrgyzstan's youth, labor and employment minister (<http://news.day.az/politics/312848.html>).

Oktay Asadov, Milli Majlis speaker, says that, "France has lost the moral but not the legal right to the co-chairmanship of the OSCE Minsk Group" (<http://news.day.az/politics/312835.html>).

Siyavush Novruzov, a Milli Majlis deputy from the ruling Yeni Azerbaijan Party, says that many citizens of Azerbaijan have proposed renaming the country Northern Azerbaijan (<http://news.day.az/politics/312846.html>).

Vagif Sadykhov, Azerbaijani ambassador to Rome, says that, "Armenians are trying to present the Karabakh conflict as a religious one" (<http://news.day.az/politics/312829.html>).

Ali Ahmadov, deputy chairman and executive secretary of the ruling Yeni Azerbaijan Party, says that, "the rights of Azerbaijanis deported from Armenia must be recognized" (<http://news.day.az/politics/312899.html>).

Allahshukur Pashazade, sheikh-ul-Islam and head of the Administration of Muslims of the Caucasus, receives Aliaspek Alimkulov, Kyrgyzstan's youth, labor and employment minister (<http://news.day.az/politics/312921.html>).

The Pakistani Senate unanimously passes a resolution declaring the Hojaly events of 1992 to be a genocide (<http://news.day.az/politics/312860.html>).

Jean-Claude Carle, deputy chairman of the French Senate, calls legislation "criminalizing denial of 'the Armenian genocide' to be inappropriate" (<http://news.day.az/politics/312919.html>).

Goran Lindbland, a former PACE deputy, says that David Arutunyan, the head of the Armenian delegation to that body, tried to bribe him (<http://news.day.az/politics/312896.html>).

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Grigory Karasin and Helga Schmidt, deputy executive secretary general of the European foreign political service for political issues, discuss the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict (<http://news.day.az/politics/312884.html>).

Arjen Uijterlinde, ambassador of the Netherlands to Baku, says that the Hague is looking into the question of the hacker attacks on Azerbaijani sites (<http://news.day.az/politics/312839.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](mailto:adabiweekly@ada.edu.az)). The materials it contains reflect the personal views of their authors and do not

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