



AZƏRBAYCAN RESPUBLİKASININ MİLLİ MƏCLİSİ
MILLI MAJLIS OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

Beynəlxalq Münasibətlər və Parlamentlərarası Əlaqələr Komitəsi
Committee on Foreign and Interparliamentary Relations

Nº 1-6/07/15/2-49

20 January 2023

STATEMENT

of the members of the Committee on Foreign and Interparliamentary Relations of the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan and members of the European Union-Azerbaijan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee in respect of the Resolution of the European Parliament dated January 19, 2023

We express our grievance with the non-objective and unfair resolution adopted through a special procedure by the European Parliament on January 19, 2023 and firmly reject the accusations based on lies and false information stated there. The joint resolution, which was discussed at the initiative of the MEPs demonstrating a biased attitude towards Azerbaijan, with the active role of the French representatives, and elaborated on the humanitarian consequences of the supposed blockade of the mountainous part of Garabagh, which is an internationally recognized territory of Azerbaijan, shows that the authors of the document still could not give up their double standards.

We bring to the attention of our colleagues from the European Parliament that a significant part of the obligations stipulated in the Tripartite Declaration signed by the leaders of Azerbaijan, Armenia and Russia on November 10, 2020, in particular, the complete withdrawal of Armenian armed forces from Garabagh, the restoration

of all economic and transport links in the region, guaranteeing the safety of transport connections between the western regions of Azerbaijan and the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, as well as the construction of new transport communications have not been fulfilled until now due to the fault of Armenia. It becomes clear that after the signing of the Tripartite Declaration, Azerbaijan's efforts to establish peace and stability in the region have been deliberately and purposefully undermined by forces that have assumed the role of advocates of separatism, terrorism and war.

These forces do not want to see that some circles in Armenia and the forces that support them are making revanchist plans, living with dreams of dragging the region into the vortex of disaster once again. Provocations are being perpetrated at the border, the transportation of militants and military goods, including drugs and mines, is being arranged through the Lachin Corridor. Illegal exploitation of natural resources continues in the area under the temporary responsibility of the Russian peacekeeping forces. In this regard, the peaceful protest of representatives of civil society and ecologists on the Lachin-Khankendi road has been going on for more than a month due to the obstruction of the access of the representatives of Azerbaijan's state institutions and experts to the territory for the purpose of monitoring. In this regard, it should be noted that, contrary to what is claimed in the resolution of the European Parliament, there is no blockade of more than 20,000 citizens of Armenian ethnicity residing in the territory of Garabagh. The Lachin Corridor is open for humanitarian goods transportation carried by Russian peacekeepers, representatives of the Red Cross Committee, as well as Armenians living in Karabakh, including children and people with health problems. As for the claims made in the resolution that Azerbaijan has violated the natural gas supply to the Garabagh territory, they are as ridiculous as they are groundless. All this shows that some groups in the European Parliament act under the influence of the Armenian lobby and pro-Armenian forces.

On the other hand, it should also be emphasized that there are sound minded forces in the European Parliament that are aware of the processes taking place in the South Caucasus region and have a fair attitude towards Azerbaijan. Regrettably, their voices are often not heard. The main political parties represented in the

European Parliament did not support the mentioned resolution and did not vote for it. Thus, at the instigation of corrupt lobbyist parliamentary groups, a document on issues not included in the scope of competence of the European Parliament was adopted. With this, the reputation of the European Parliament, whose name is often involved in corruption scandals, has been dealt another blow.

Unfortunately, the MEPs fail to see or deliberately turn a blind eye to the new reality that Azerbaijan has created in the region, and they are consistently and methodically disrupting the peace negotiation process that Azerbaijan has been advancing for two years after the war. It should be noted that such resolutions have a negative impact on dynamically developing mutually beneficial cooperation relations between Azerbaijan and the European Union in the context of geopolitical processes taking place in Europe and the world. It is worth reminding that at the time, the European Parliament also opposed the "Southern Gas Corridor" project, which was launched with the initiative and participation of Azerbaijan and plays an important role in ensuring the energy security of Europe today.

Taking into account the comments above, we call on the leadership of the European Parliament to stop these corrupted, destructive, and biased forces, as well as to support efforts to establish peace and stability in the region by adopting objective documents reflecting the new realities that have arisen in the South Caucasus region.



Samad SEYIDOV

Chair of the Committee on Foreign and Inter-parliamentary Relations



Tural GANJALIYEV

Co-chair of the EU-Azerbaijan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee