

Brussels, 4 April 2024

Dear Madam President of the Commission, Dear Mister Secretary

As representatives of the people of the European Union, we are addressing you to express all the attention we pay to the security of the Armenian democracy threatened by Azerbaijan and Russia behind.

You took the initiative to meet with the Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan on April 5 in Brussels, and we welcome such decision. We expect this meeting to be more than a photo opportunity and a declaration of good intentions and to mark the beginning of a definite commitment of the European Union and the United States supporting Armenia, its democracy, security and territorial integrity.

It is both with hope and concern that we turn to you. For several years, the international community has inactively witnessed the 2020 war, the violent re-invasion of Nagorno-Karabakh by Azerbaijan which led to the exodus of the Armenian population who had lived there for many centuries, as well as to the occupation of the entire parcels of the territory of Armenia by the Azerbaijani troops.

Today, despite successive mediation efforts, Azerbaijan has still not abandoned its hostile rhetoric against Armenia and denounces Armenian imaginary provocations, while there is an urgent need to achieve the demarcation of the border based on Almaty Declaration and moving towards fair and long-lasting peace agreement. At the same time, Russia has taken the side of Azerbaijan and seeks to punish Armenia for its democratic, reforming, independent and European-oriented development. Armenia is threatened today not for what it does, but for what it is.

What is playing between Armenia and Azerbaijan is not about the confrontation of two nationalisms, but the confrontation between the world of democracy which Armenia belongs and the autocratic Russian and Azerbaijani regimes which want to defeat and subdue it. The situation in the Caucasus echoes that of Ukraine, also attacked for what it is. Our common responsibility as representatives of the democratic world is similar: we cannot remain without reaction in front of a threatened democracy. We are convinced that Armenia seeks nothing more than the opportunity to live in peace with its neighbors and choose its own path. It is up to the European Union and the United States to show that we know how to be reliable partners when democracies trust us.

Therefore, we hope that the meeting on April 5 will be an opportunity for the European Union and the United States, which bring together 780 million people and 45% of world's GDP, to make clear financial commitments in favor of Armenia and its 3 million inhabitants.

We call on you in particular to express without ambiguity your commitment to the security of Armenia and take practical steps to that end on April 5. For this purpose, we ask to give Armenia the means to discourage the aggressor State from attacking it. For almost 20 years, Azerbaijan's arms spending through its oil and gas revenues have been at least 4 times higher than those of Armenia. We must immediately restore the balance of power and progress on negotiations with a view to reaching fair and long-lasting peace based on agreed principles in Brussels.

We also call on you to provide Armenia with economic means for its independence by granting it financial aid which will enable it particularly to renew its outdated nuclear station, but also to implement major projects in the fields of communication, infrastructure and telecommunication linking it economically to the Euro-Atlantic world via Georgia and thus will emancipate it from Russia.

Finally, we call on you to perform a simple gesture: Go to Armenia, convey to the Armenian people that they are not alone in their struggle for survival and freedom.

Sincerely,

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