

Post- Summit Echo in the Caucasus

Just as our President was completing his successful visit to Washington, D.C., we learned about a new escalation of hostilities along the Line of Contact in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan. The Armenian attacks over the last several days have resulted in fatalities among civilians and uniformed personnel and a severe disruption of normal life for Azerbaijani civilian population. Since then, fighting has claimed lives on both sides. It is important to remember that throughout the conflict the overwhelming majority of civilian casualties have occurred among the Azerbaijani population.

The latest ceasefire violations by Armenia clearly aim to change the regional narrative from cooperation to one of hostility and ethnic conflict. This is especially obvious against the background of positive results and dynamics of the 4th Nuclear Security Summit for our region. In a sad and pathetic attempt to justify their own international isolation and failures, the Armenian leaders chose to reignite the conflict and once again challenge peace and security in the South Caucasus. In so doing, they caused losses of Azerbaijani and Armenian lives. Although tragic, this shouldn't be entirely unexpected as Armenia's current leadership rose to power through violence against civilians, including their own citizens, and by promoting conflict.

This is another tragic and urgent reminder that Armenia must begin the long-overdue withdrawal of its military from Azerbaijan's occupied territories. Unfortunately, Armenia's vision for the region is the status-quo of protracted conflict maintained by violence.

Today, we remember and thank our compatriots, who gave their lives for Azerbaijan and for every one of us!

Mayor Urfan Vəlizadə, Mayor Təbriz Mustafazadə, Baş Leytenant Bəkir İsmayılov, Gizir Fariz Novruzov, Əsgər İlkin Məmmədov, Əsgər Rəvan Nurayev, Əsgər Ruhin Qəhrəmanov, Əsgər Elnur Astanbəyli.

ALLAH RƏHMƏT ELƏSİN!