

PRESS RELEASE

Armenia violates the humanitarian ceasefire, commits a war crime by attacking residential neighborhood with missiles and killing scores of civilians

Despite the humanitarian cease-fire agreed during the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Armenia in Moscow, with the purpose of exchange of prisoners of war and bodies of dead effective as of 12:00 pm on October 10, 2020, the armed forces of Armenia continue to attack the residential areas and civilian infrastructure.

Immediately after the establishment of the humanitarian ceasefire, the armed forces of Armenia fired on Aghdam and Tartar regions of Azerbaijan. A few hours later, armed forces of Armenia tried to attack in the direction of Hadrut and Jabrayil.

The Armenian side subjected to missile attacks the city of Mingachevir, located 40 km away from the front line, which also hosts the largest water reservoir in the South Caucasus. A medical worker was seriously injured as a result of the shooting by the armed forces of Armenia of a sanitary medical vehicle, clearly marked with a white flag, collecting the bodies of Armenian soldiers in the area of Sugovshan.

On the night of October 11, an apartment building in a central neighborhood of Ganja, the second largest city in Azerbaijan, located approximately 40 km away from the frontline, came under the missile attack by the armed forces of Armenia.¹ The missile hitting the apartment building ruined it fully (see the video footage)², and its residents remained under rubble (see images in the annex). **According to the latest information, 10 civilians including 4 women were killed and 34 others, including 16 women and minors were severely injured.³ 2 kids lost their both parents. In addition, 10 apartment buildings and more than 100 various facilities were extensively damaged.**

Over the last two weeks 42 Azerbaijani civilians were killed and over 200 people wounded.⁴ Deliberate and systematic targeting of civilian settlements and objects, as well as infrastructure of vital importance by the armed forces of Armenia is a gross violation of International Humanitarian Law, including the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and constitutes a war crime.

¹ https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/azerbaijan-armenia-report-shelling-of-cities-despite-truce/2020/10/11/f620184e-0bb2-11eb-b404-8d1e675ec701_story.html; <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8828119/Heavy-shelling-dash-hopes-Russian-backed-ceasefire-Armenia-Azerbaijan.html>;
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A12-oqFcXgQ>

² <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/video/newsalerts/video-2267632/Video-Azerbaijan-Man-runs-cover-moment-Ganja-explosion.html>

³ <https://genprosecutor.gov.az/az/post/3002>

⁴ <https://genprosecutor.gov.az/az/post/2989#gallery>

The Attack on Ganja in International Media

BBC
ARMENIA AZERBAIJAN: REPORTS OF FRESH SHELLING DENT CEASEFIRE HOPES
A residential apartment block in Azerbaijan's city of Ganja was destroyed overnight in what officials say was an Armenian missile strike. Officials say seven people were killed and dozens injured.
11 October 2020

DW Deutsche Welle
MUTNASSLICHER ARTILLERIEANGRIFF AUF WOHNGEBIET IN ASERBAIDSCHAN
The General Prosecutor's Office in Azerbaijan reports that in a night shelling of Armenian forces targeted to the residential area in Ganja, 7 people were killed, and 33 people were injured, including children. This vicious attack violates the provisions of the Geneva Convention for the Protection of the Civilian Population.
11 October 2020

Le Monde
NAÛT-KARABAKH : MALGRÉ LE CESSÉ-LE-FEU, LES BOMBARDEMENTS CONTINUENT
Azerbaijani authorities have reported an attack on a residential area in Gandja, the country's second largest city, leaving at least nine dead and 33 injured.
11 October 2020

Bild
ERSTERTAG DER „WAFFENRUHE“ WIRD ZUM MASSAKER
The attack on Ganja was almost certainly committed with ballistic missiles. Even though Ganja is within the range of Armenian rocket artillery but considering the massive damage, it must have been something of a greater caliber.
11 October 2020

The Washington Post
AZERBAIJAN, ARMENIA REPORT SHELLING OF CITIES DESPITE TRUCE
Azerbaijani authorities earlier accused Armenian forces of firing missiles at Ganja, the country's second largest city, and the city of Mingachevir overnight. Nine civilians were killed and more than 30 others wounded in Ganja, officials said.
11 October 2020

la Repubblica
NAGORNO-KARABAKH, LA TREGUA NON REGGE. BOMBE ARMENE SU GANJA: ALMENO 5 MORTI
Armenian armed forces attacked Ganja, the second largest city in Azerbaijan last night, with missile rockets, according to the Foreign Ministry of Azerbaijan. At least 5 people were killed, and 33 injured, including children. 11 October 2020.

euronews
NAGORNO-KARABAKH: ARMENIA AND AZERBAIJAN REPORT SHELLING OF CITIES DESPITE TRUCE
Azerbaijan has accused Armenia of attacking large cities overnight in violation of the cease-fire deal brokered by Russia that seeks to end the worst outbreak of hostilities in the separatist Nagorno-Karabakh region. The Azerbaijani authorities said Sunday that nine civilians have been killed and over 30 wounded after Armenian forces fired missiles overnight on Ganja, Azerbaijan's second largest city, and hit a residential building.
11 October 2020

CNN
AZERBAIJAN AND ARMENIA ACCUSE EACH OTHER OF BREAKING CEASEFIRE
Azerbaijani authorities said Sunday four women were among at least nine people killed when a residential building compound was hit during an Armenian bombardment of Ganja, Azerbaijan's second largest city.
11 October 2020

The Guardian
NAGORNO-KARABAKH TRUCE IN JEOPARDY AS ACCUSATIONS OF VIOLATIONS FLY
Azerbaijan's foreign ministry said that overnight shelling by Armenian forces on the country's second largest city, Ganja, had left seven people dead and 33 wounded including children, less than 24 hours after the halt to fighting was supposed to take effect.
11 October 2020

DAILY SABAH
ARMENIA ALREADY VIOLATES FRESHLY INKED CEASE-FIRE, KILLING 9 AZERBAIJANI CIVILIANS IN GANJA
The cease-fire between Azerbaijan and Armenia could not survive even for a full day, as Yerevan launched an attack on Azerbaijan's second-largest city, Ganja, killing nine while injuring 34 others. Taking place in less than 24 hours from the inking of the declared cease-fire, Armenian missiles hit civilian settlements in Ganja, where the search and rescue work continues among the wreckage.
11 October 2020

REUTERS
NAGORNO-KARABAKH TRUCE UNDER SEVERE STRAIN AS BOTH SIDES ALLEGED VIOLATIONS
On Sunday, Azerbaijan accused Armenia of heavily shelling a residential area in Ganja, its second largest city, in the early hours of the morning, and of hitting an apartment building. A Reuters photographer in Ganja saw rescue workers carrying one dead person from the ruins of the apartment building on Sunday morning.
11 October 2020

FRANCE 24
NAGORNO-KARABAKH: ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN TRADE ACCUSATIONS AS CIVILIAN AREAS HIT DESPITE TRUCE
Azerbaijan's foreign ministry said that overnight shelling by Armenian forces on the country's second largest city, Ganja, had left seven people dead and 33 wounded including children, less than 24 hours after the halt to fighting was supposed to take effect.
11 October 2020

ALJAZEERA
AZERBAIJAN SAYS NINE DEAD IN OVERNIGHT ARMENIAN SHELLING
At least nine people have been killed in overnight Armenian bombardment in Azerbaijan's second city of Ganja.
11 October 2020

NEWS

#PrayForGanja **#StopArmenianAggression**



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<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8828119/Heavy-shelling-dash-hopes-Russian-backed-ceasefire-Armenia-Azerbaijan.html>



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<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8828119/Heavy-shelling-dash-hopes-Russian-backed-ceasefire-Armenia-Azerbaijan.html>



<https://www.news.az/news/hikmet-hajiyev-misusing-humanitarian-truce-armenia-indiscriminately-fired-densely-populated-part-of-ganja>



16-year-old Sevil Aliyeva carries portraits of her parents during the funeral. His brother, 8-year-old Huseyn Aliyev, is crying on the shoulders of his relatives. His parents Anar Aliyev and Nurchin Aliyeva were killed in a rocket attack by the Armenians in Ganja.

