



# General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General  
15 May 2020

Original: English

**General Assembly  
Seventy-fourth session**

Agenda items 32, 37, 68, 70, 75 and 83

**Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their  
implications for international peace, security and  
development**

**The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan**

**Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia  
and related intolerance**

**Promotion and protection of human rights**

**Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts**

**The rule of law at the national and international levels**

**Security Council  
Seventy-fifth year**

## **Letter dated 13 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

On 31 March and 14 April 2020, illegal “elections” were staged by the Republic of Armenia in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The so-called “elections” were held in an environment of total illegitimacy, which stems from the continuing military occupation and ethnic cleansing of the territories of Azerbaijan and a clear violation of the Constitution and legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the norms and principles of international law. The international community once again has overwhelmingly reaffirmed its consistent and principled position of collective non-recognition of the situation resulting from the occupation of the territories of Azerbaijan by rejecting and invalidating the sham “elections”, which thus have no effect whatsoever. In this regard, further to my letter dated 15 April 2020 (A/74/805-S/2020/301), I have the honour to bring to your attention the updated compilation document containing the position of the international community with regard to the illegitimate “elections” (see annex).\*

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 32, 37, 68, 70, 75 and 83, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar Aliyev  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

\* Circulated in the language of submission only.



## **Annex to the letter dated 13 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

### **Position of the international community with regard to the illegitimate “elections” staged by Armenia in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan on 31 March and 14 April 2020**

#### **I. International organizations**

##### **Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States**

###### **Statement by the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States<sup>1</sup>**

Istanbul, 31.03.2020

The Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States condemns the so-called “presidential and parliamentary elections” in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which constitute a clear violation of the norms and principles of international law, including Helsinki Final Act of 1975, and the related UN Security Council Resolutions.

Holding the so-called elections in the occupied territories undermines the efforts within the OSCE Minsk Process to find a peaceful settlement for the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. We call on the OSCE Minsk Group and the international community not to recognize these illegitimate elections.

The Member States of the Turkic Council reaffirm their commitments to the norms and principles of international law and reiterate the importance of the early settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, on the basis of sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of internationally recognized borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

##### **Council of Europe**

###### **Statement by the Directorate of Communications of the Council of Europe<sup>2</sup>**

Strasbourg, 20.04.2020

The Council of Europe has on numerous occasions reiterated its full commitment to the respect of principle of territorial integrity and sovereignty of all its member states, including Azerbaijan, as outlined in relevant decisions and documents of the Committee of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly.

It is the principled and well-known position of the Council of Europe that any elections held in contradiction or outside of the constitutional order of a member state have no legal effects and should not be recognised/considered as such. The same holds true in relation to the recent so-called elections held in Nagorno-Karabakh.

The Council of Europe fully supports the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-chairs for the peaceful settlement of the conflict.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.turkkon.org/en/haberler/statement-by-the-cooperation-council-of-turkic-speaking-states\\_1986](https://www.turkkon.org/en/haberler/statement-by-the-cooperation-council-of-turkic-speaking-states_1986).

<sup>2</sup> Statement by the Directorate of Communications of the Council of Europe to the Report News Agency, 20.04.2020, <https://report.az/en/nagorno-karabakh-conflict/council-of-europe-doesn-t-recognise-so-called-elections-held-in-nag/>.

## European Parliament

### **Statement by the Chair of the Delegation of the European Parliament to the EU-Armenia Parliamentary Partnership Committee, the EU-Azerbaijan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee and the EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee, MEP Marina Kaljurand on the so-called elections in Nagorno-Karabakh<sup>3</sup>**

Brussels, 31.03.2020

Today, ‘presidential and parliamentary elections’ have been held in Nagorno-Karabakh. I wish to reiterate, in line with previous statements from the European Union, that we do not recognise the constitutional and legal framework of these so-called elections and their outcome cannot prejudice the determination of the future status of Nagorno-Karabakh. Moreover, organising these ‘elections’ does not help to create conditions conducive to reconciliation.

The European Union continues to firmly support the OSCE Minsk Group and its efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. I call on the sides to step up their commitment to the negotiation process and to the strict observance of the ceasefire, exercising the greatest possible restraint and avoiding any provocations.

## European Union (EU)

### **Nagorno-Karabakh: Statement by the Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on the so-called presidential and parliamentary elections<sup>4</sup>**

Brussels, 31.03.2020

In view of the so-called ‘presidential and parliamentary elections’ in Nagorno-Karabakh on 31 March 2020, the European Union reiterates that it does not recognise the constitutional and legal framework within which they are being held. This event cannot prejudice the determination of the future status of Nagorno-Karabakh or the outcome of the ongoing negotiation process.

The EU recalls its firm support to the OSCE Minsk Group and, in particular, to its Co-Chairs’ efforts to bring about progress beyond the status quo and substantive negotiations towards comprehensive and sustainable peace. The EU stands ready to further support efforts, aimed at early, peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

### **Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell on behalf of the European Commission<sup>5</sup>**

Brussels, 01.05.2020

The European Union remains committed in its support to territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty of all its partners, including Azerbaijan. This has been clearly stated in the 2017 Eastern Partnership Summit declaration<sup>1</sup>.

The European Union remains committed in its support to established formats for peaceful resolution of disputes. In the context of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict settlement, the EU continues to support the efforts and proposals of the Organization

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/delegations/mt/dsca/product/20200331DPU25005>.

<sup>4</sup> [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/76801/nagorno-karabakh-statement-spokesperson-so-called-presidential-and-parliamentary-elections\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/76801/nagorno-karabakh-statement-spokesperson-so-called-presidential-and-parliamentary-elections_en).

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2020-001279-ASW\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2020-001279-ASW_EN.pdf).

for Security and Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group Co-Chairs toward the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, including through the EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus.

In the statement issued by the Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on 31 March 2020, the EU reiterated that it does not recognise the constitutional and legal framework within which the so-called ‘presidential and parliamentary elections’ were held in Nagorno-Karabakh on that day. This event cannot prejudice the determination of the future status of Nagorno-Karabakh or the outcome of the ongoing negotiation process.

## **Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)**

### **Communique of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement on the so-called “elections” held in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan<sup>6</sup>**

New York, 04.04.2020

1. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement underlines the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force and reaffirms that no State shall recognize as lawful the situation resulting from the occupation of the territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
2. In that connection, the NAM Member States do not recognize the so-called “presidential and parliamentary elections” held in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan and consider them as illegitimate.
3. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement once again expresses, in line with paragraph 662 of the Outcome Document of NAM Baku Summit, its support to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan within its internationally recognized borders and to the settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of the United Nations Security Council resolutions ([S/RES/822](#), [S/RES/853](#), [S/RES/874](#), [S/RES/884](#)).

## **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**

### **Statement by the NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs, and NATO Secretary General’s Special Representative for the Caucasus and Central Asia<sup>7</sup>**

Brussels, 31.03.2020

With regard to the “general elections” that took place today in Nagorno-Karabakh, NATO does not accept the results of these “elections” as affecting the legal status of Nagorno-Karabakh and stress that the results in no way prejudice the final status of Nagorno-Karabakh or the outcome of the ongoing negotiations to bring a lasting and peaceful settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. NATO supports the OSCE Minsk Group, including the recent statement of the Co-Chairs on this issue.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.namazerbaijan.org/pdf/acdoc6.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup> Official Facebook account of James Appathurai, NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs, and NATO Secretary General’s Special Representative for the Caucasus and Central Asia, <https://www.facebook.com/JamesAppathurai/>.

## **Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM<sup>8</sup>**

Kyiv, 31.03.2020

Nagorno-Karabakh region is Azerbaijan. ODEDGUAM condemns the so-called elections held on 31 March 2020 in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan by Armenia.

## **Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)**

### **Press Statement by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group<sup>9</sup>**

Moscow/Paris/Washington, D.C., 31.03.2020

The OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs (Igor Popov of the Russian Federation, Stéphane Visconti of France, and Andrew Schofer of the United States of America) have taken note of the so-called “general elections” in Nagorno-Karabakh, the first round of which took place on 31 March.

In the context of a comprehensive settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, the Co-Chairs recognize the role of the population of Nagorno-Karabakh in deciding its future in accordance with the principles and elements reiterated in the Co-Chairs’ statement of 9 March 2019. The Co-Chairs note, however, that Nagorno-Karabakh is not recognized as an independent and sovereign state by any of the Co-Chair countries or any other country.

Accordingly, the Co-Chairs do not accept the results of these “elections” as affecting the legal status of Nagorno-Karabakh and stress that the results in no way prejudice the final status of Nagorno-Karabakh or the outcome of the ongoing negotiations to bring a lasting and peaceful settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

## **OSCE Parliamentary Assembly**

Copenhagen, 02.04.2020

The OSCEPA firmly supports the work of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs and calls upon all OSCE participating States to respect the principles and commitments of the Helsinki Final Act.<sup>10</sup>

Copenhagen, 09.04.2020

Members of Bureau of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly ...stressed that the coronavirus crisis should not be exploited to curtail human rights, and emphasized that the recent “elections” held in internationally unrecognized Nagorno-Karabakh and Abkhazia were illegitimate and could aggravate the public health threat.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Official Twitter account of the Secretariat of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, @GUAMSecretariat.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.osce.org/minsk-group/449410>.

<sup>10</sup> Official Twitter account of the OSCE PA, @oscepa.

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.oscepa.org/news-a-media/press-releases/2020/osce-parliamentarians-endorse-un-sg-s-global-ceasefire-call-discuss-european-response-to-covid-19-pandemic-and-plan-pa-activities>.

## **Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)**

### **OIC Rejects the Holding of Elections in the Occupied Nagorno-Karabakh<sup>12</sup>**

Jeddah, 31.03.2020

The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) view the holding of elections in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 31 March 2020 as in contravention to the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions concerning the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

The OIC General Secretariat further referred to the resolutions and decisions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe which supports a peaceful solution to the conflict on the basis of sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

## **Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TURKPA)**

### **Statement by the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries<sup>13</sup>**

Baku, 03.04.2020

The Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-Speaking Countries (TURKPA) condemns any violation of the norms and principles of international law, in particular so-called “elections” in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan undermining peaceful resolution of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

TURKPA reiterates the strongest support for the earliest settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict on the basis of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as it was repeatedly enshrined in its declarations.

## **II. Individual States**

### **Australia**

#### **Statement by the Embassy of Australia in Turkey<sup>14</sup>**

Ankara, 03.04.2020

Australia supports the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and does not recognise the ‘elections’ which took place in Nagorno-Karabakh on 31 March. It is more important than ever the OSCE Minsk Group continues its role in the peace process to achieve a negotiated settlement.

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<sup>12</sup> [https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t\\_id=23303&t\\_ref=13971&lan=en](https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=23303&t_ref=13971&lan=en).

<sup>13</sup> Official twitter account of the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries, @TURK\_PA.

<sup>14</sup> Official twitter account of Marc Innes-Brown, Ambassador of Australia in the Republic of Turkey, @AusAmbTurkey.

## **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

### **Note verbale of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan<sup>15</sup>**

Sarajevo, 04.04.2020

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina expresses its respect to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan and has the honour to confirm that it condemns any violation of the norms and principles of international law, considering that the so-called “elections” in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan contradict the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the OSCE’s decision advocating peaceful resolution of the conflict on the basis of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of Azerbaijan’s internationally recognized borders.

## **Canada**

### **Statement by the Embassy of Canada in Turkey<sup>16</sup>**

Ankara, 01.04.2020

Canada supports the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and doesn’t recognize the so-called “elections” held in Nagorno-Karabakh on 31/3. Such “elections” undermine efforts, including by the OSCE Minsk Group, to achieve a peaceful settlement of the NK conflict.

## **China**

### **Statement by the Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China<sup>17</sup>**

Beijing, 14.04.2020

China’s position on the issue of Nagorno-Karabakh is clear and consistent. We hope relevant parties will resolve disputes through political dialogue and uphold regional peace and stability. China will continue promoting stability and development in the region.

### **Note verbale of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan<sup>18</sup>**

Beijing, 16.04.2020

China and Azerbaijan are friendly partners for cooperation, both parties consistently and on mutual basis respect independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each other, and both States develop bilateral relations on the basis of these principles. China’s position on the issue of “Nagorno-Karabakh” is clear and consistent. China hopes that the relevant parties will resolve disputes through political

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<sup>15</sup> Note by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Sarajevo, 04.04.2020 (Unofficial translation).

<sup>16</sup> Official twitter account of the Embassy of Canada in the Republic of Turkey, @CanEmbTurkey.

<sup>17</sup> Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian’s Regular Press Conference, 14.04.2020, [https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/t1769716.shtml](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/t1769716.shtml).

<sup>18</sup> Note verbale of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Beijing, 16.04.2020 (Unofficial translation).

dialogue, to uphold regional peace and stability. The Chinese side is ready to continue its efforts to promote stability and development in the region.

## **Czech Republic**

### **Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic on “Presidential and Parliamentary Elections” in Nagorno-Karabakh<sup>19</sup>**

Prague, 01.04.2020

On March 31, 2020, the so called „presidential and parliamentary elections” took place in the Nagorno-Karabakh. In this context, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic underlines that the Czech Republic does not recognize the constitutional and legal framework within which these elections were being held.

The Czech Republic fully supports the activity of the OSCE Minsk Group and its co-chairs and calls on all parties involved in the conflict for further peace processes, and supports the statement of UN Secretary-General of March 23, 2020, calling for an immediate global ceasefire in all corners of the world.

## **Republic of Estonia**

### **Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia<sup>20</sup>**

Tallinn, 31.03.2020

Estonia does not consider the so-called elections in Nagorno Karabakh as legitimate. We continue to support the mediation efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs.

## **Finland**

### **Statement by Päivi Peltokoski, Director of Unit for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland<sup>21</sup>**

Helsinki, 31.03.2020

Finland doesn't recognize the so called elections in Nagorno Karabakh. The same applies to all elections in separatist regions. We align us with this statement by the European External Action Service.

## **Georgia**

### **Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia<sup>22</sup>**

Tbilisi, 01.04.2020

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia reaffirms its support to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan and does not

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<sup>19</sup> [https://www.mzv.cz/baku/en/bilateral\\_relations/statement\\_of\\_the\\_ministry\\_of\\_foreign.html](https://www.mzv.cz/baku/en/bilateral_relations/statement_of_the_ministry_of_foreign.html).

<sup>20</sup> Official twitter account of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia, @MFAestonia.

<sup>21</sup> Official twitter account of Päivi Peltokoski, Director of Unit for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland @PaiviPeltokoski.

<sup>22</sup> [https://mfa.gov.ge/News/sagareo-saqmeta-saministros-ganckhadeba-\(32\).aspx?CatID=5](https://mfa.gov.ge/News/sagareo-saqmeta-saministros-ganckhadeba-(32).aspx?CatID=5).



recognize the so called presidential and parliamentary elections held on March 31, 2020 in N. Karabakh.

Georgia supports exclusively peaceful settlement of N. Karabakh conflict in line with the norms and principles of international law.

### **Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia<sup>23</sup>**

Tbilisi, 15.04.2020

Georgia supports territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan

The Georgian side does not recognize the so called independence of Nagorno Karabakh and therefore does not recognize the 2nd round of the so called presidential elections held in this region of Azerbaijan.

Georgia supports territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan within its internationally recognized borders and supports the peaceful settlement of conflict based on the principles and norms of international law.

## **Germany**

### **Statement by Michael Siebert, Director for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany<sup>24</sup>**

Berlin, 01.04.2020

We do not recognize the legal framework of the so called “presidential and parliamentary elections” that took place yesterday in Nagorno-Karabakh. Both the elections and their results are considered illegal.

## **Islamic Republic of Iran**

### **Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran has called for the peaceful settlement of conflicts over Nagorno-Karabakh in reaction to the forthcoming elections in the disputed region<sup>25</sup>**

Tehran, 31.03.2020

Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran has called for the peaceful settlement of conflicts over Nagorno-Karabakh in reaction to the forthcoming elections in the disputed region.

In remarks on Monday, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Seyyed Abbas Mousavi pointed to the upcoming elections in the disputed Karabakh region, saying, “The Islamic Republic of Iran is opposed to any measure leading to the escalation of tensions and disputes in the region.”

Pointing to the plans to hold elections in the geographical region known as Nagorno (mountainous) Karabakh, Mousavi said, “We believe whatever measure that further complicates the path to the settlement of disputes between our two neighbouring states, namely the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia, must be avoided.”

<sup>23</sup> <https://mfa.gov.ge/cmsctx/culture/en-US/-/News/saqartvelo-mkhars-uchers-azerbajjanis-respublikis.aspx?CatID=5>.

<sup>24</sup> Official twitter account of Michael Siebert, @GERonOstpolitik.

<sup>25</sup> <https://en.mfa.ir/portal/NewsView/579145>.

The Foreign Ministry spokesperson also stressed the need for the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict within the framework of the international principles and law.

## **Italy**

### **Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy<sup>26</sup>**

Rome, 31.03.2020

No recognition of the so-called presidential and parliamentary elections in Nagorno Karabakh by Italy.

## **Japan**

### **Note verbale of the Embassy of Japan in Baku to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan<sup>27</sup>**

Baku, 23.04.2020

- (1) Japan does not recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as a state and does not look upon the so-called “Presidential and Parliamentary Elections” as elections that are held in an independent state.
- (2) Regarding the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, Japan supports efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs as a mediator, and we believe that it is important to settle the conflict on the basis of principles of the International Law.

## **Republic of Latvia**

### **Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia<sup>28</sup>**

Riga, 31.03.2020

Latvia does not consider the so-called presidential and parliamentary elections in Nagorno Karabakh as legitimate. We continue to support the mediation efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs.

## **Montenegro**

### **Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro<sup>29</sup>**

Podgorica, 02.04.2020

Montenegro reiterates its firm support to the #OSCE Minsk Group and its Co-Chairs efforts to bring about progress beyond the status quo and substantive negotiations towards comprehensive and sustainable peace.

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<sup>26</sup> Official twitter account of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, @ItalyMFA.

<sup>27</sup> Note verbale of the Embassy of Japan in the Republic of Azerbaijan addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Baku, 23.04.2020.

<sup>28</sup> Official twitter account of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, @Latvian\_MFA.

<sup>29</sup> Official Twitter account of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro, @MFA\_MNE.

The so-called “presidential and parliamentary elections” in Nagorno-Karabakh, held on March 31, 2020 don’t serve that goal, nor can prejudice the determination of the future status of Nagorno-Karabakh, or the outcome of the ongoing negotiation process.

## **Republic of Moldova**

### **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova: Regarding the so-called “presidential and parliamentary elections” on the Nagorno-Karabakh/Mountain Karabakh region<sup>30</sup>**

Chisinau, 01.04.2020

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration considers illegal the so-called “presidential and parliamentary elections” which took place in the Nagorno-Karabakh region on March 31, 2020, as they are contrary to the norms and fundamental principles of international law enshrined in the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act.

The Republic of Moldova does not recognize these so-called “elections” as such in the context of the process of negotiations under the OSCE regarding the identification of a special status for the Nagorno-Karabakh region that could lead to the peaceful overcoming of the conflict in this region.

In this regard, the MFAEI reiterates the readiness of the Republic of Moldova to continue to support the efforts of the international community, in particular the OSCE Group in Minsk and its Co-Presidents, in order to peacefully and comprehensively regulate the political conflict around the Nagorno-Karabakh region, that will be able to contribute effectively to the consolidation of peace and security in the South Caucasus.

### **Republic of Moldova confirms its support for Azerbaijan’s sovereignty and territorial integrity<sup>31</sup>**

Chisinau, 17.04.2020

The Republic of Moldova reiterates its position on the non-recognition of the so-called “presidential elections” in the Nagorno Karabakh/Mountain Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, including their second tour which was held recently, considering them to be illegal.

The Republic of Moldova supports Azerbaijan’s territorial integrity and sovereignty and confirms its readiness to further support efforts to peacefully resolve the conflict in the Nagorno-Karabakh/Mountain Karabakh region based on the norms and principles of international law.

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<sup>30</sup> Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova, <https://www.mfa.gov.md/ro/content/cu-privire-la-asa-zisele-alegeri-prezidentiale-si-parlamentare-din-regiunea-nagorno>.

<sup>31</sup> Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova, <https://www.mfa.gov.md/ro/content/republica-moldova-isi-confirma-sprijnul-pentru-suveranitatea-si-integritatea-teritoriala> (Unofficial translation).

## Norway

### **Note verbale of the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan<sup>32</sup>**

Oslo, 07.04.2020

Norway does not recognize the independence of the so-called “Nagorno-Karabakh Republic”. Accordingly, Norway does not recognize the elections held on 31 March. Norway supports the territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group to facilitate a peaceful solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

## Pakistan

### **Statement by the spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan<sup>33</sup>**

Islamabad, 09.04.2020

The Presidential and Parliamentary elections held on 31 March 2020 in Nagorno-Karabakh, occupied territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, is a clear violation of international norms. The election constitutes a clear breach of international law and UN Security Council resolutions. It is taken as an attempt by Armenia to hamper the ongoing negotiation process for finding lasting solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict through peaceful means. Pakistan reaffirms its principled position on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and reiterates its support to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan.

## Poland

### **Note verbale of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan<sup>34</sup>**

Warsaw, 09.04.2020

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland ... informs that as a Member State of the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation we fully align our position with the statements by the representative of the European External Action Service of 31 March 2020 and NATO Secretary General’s Special Representative for the Caucasus and Central Asia of 1 April 2020 on non-recognition of the so-called “presidential and parliamentary elections” held in Nagorno-Karabakh on 31 March.

The Ministry would like to remind that the Republic of Poland supports peaceful resolution of international conflicts, including the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in accordance with the fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter and the Helsinki Final Act of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in particular the principles of non-use or threat of force, territorial integrity, and self-determination of peoples.

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<sup>32</sup> Note verbale of the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Oslo, 07.04.2020.

<sup>33</sup> Transcript of the Press Briefing by Spokesperson on Thursday, 09.04. 2020, <http://mofa.gov.pk/transcript-of-the-press-briefing-by-spokesperson-on-thursday-09-april-2020/>.

<sup>34</sup> Note verbale of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Warsaw, 09.04.2020, (Unofficial translation).

The Polish side has consistently supported the activities of the OSCE Minsk Group aimed at peaceful resolution of the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh, and the confirmation of our engagement is the fact that the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on this conflict for many years has been a Polish diplomat.

At the same time, the Ministry emphasizes that it highly assesses the intensification of contacts between authorities of Azerbaijan and Armenia, which has allowed to improve the situation in the conflict area, including by agreeing on a mechanism of direct communication to prevent incidents and to work together on humanitarian matters.

## **Romania**

### **Press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania regarding the so-called “presidential and legislative” elections in Nagorno-Karabakh<sup>35</sup>**

Bucharest, 31.03.2020

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs considers that the so-called “presidential and legislative” elections held in the separatist region of Nagorno-Karabakh – on March 31, 2020 – lack legitimacy. The Romanian MFA expresses its trust in the fact that the poll will not adversely affect the process of identifying a viable and negotiated solution for the conflict in the Nagorno-Karabakh region.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterates its support for the activity of the OSCE Minsk Group, the only entitled format that can facilitate the peaceful and durable regulation of the conflict in the Nagorno-Karabakh region, and encourages the sides to manifest the political will which is necessary in this process.

## **Saudi Arabia**

### **Note verbale of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Baku to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan<sup>36</sup>**

Baku, 15.04.2020

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Baku ... informs the esteemed Ministry that the position of the Kingdom is consistent with the position and the statement issued by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which is the position of all Muslim States. The Kingdom supports the resolution of the conflict by peaceful means on the basis of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognised borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan, in accordance with the relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

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<sup>35</sup> <http://mae.ro/en/node/52171>.

<sup>36</sup> Note by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Baku, 15.04.2020 (Unofficial translation).

## Switzerland

### **Note verbale of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan<sup>37</sup>**

Bern, 08.04.2020

The Federal Department of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Bern and ... informs the Embassy that, in accordance with the principles of international law and in full respect of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Department considers these "elections" null and void.

The unresolved conflict in and around Nagorno-Karabakh continues to be a serious concern. Therefore, Switzerland reiterates its full support for the mediation efforts of the Co-Chairs of the Minsk Group and welcomes the commitment by the leaders of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia to dialogue and negotiation. Switzerland encourages both sides to continue their conversations in this spirit, as there is no alternative to a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

## Turkey

### **Press Release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey Regarding the So-Called Elections to be Held on 31 March 2020 in Azerbaijan's Nagorno-Karabakh region under Armenian occupation<sup>38</sup>**

Ankara, 30.03.2020

The so-called Presidential and Parliamentary elections to be held on 31 March 2020 in Armenian occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, is a manifestation of the efforts to unilaterally legitimize the current situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, which is contrary to international law. This step is a flagrant violation of international law, including the UN Security Council Resolutions and the OSCE principles.

At a stage when there are talks within the OSCE Minsk Process to find a peaceful settlement for the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, holding the so-called elections in the occupied territories undermines the efforts towards a peaceful and lasting resolution. We call on the international community, including the OSCE Minsk Group, not to recognise these elections.

Turkey does not recognise these illegitimate elections, which will constitute yet another violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. As a member of the OSCE Minsk Group, Turkey will continue to support the efforts for finding a just and lasting solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

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<sup>37</sup> Note by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Bern, 08.04.2020.

<sup>38</sup> [http://www.mfa.gov.tr/no\\_82\\_-yukari-karabag-da-duzenlenmesi-ongorulen-sozde-secimler-hk.en.mfa](http://www.mfa.gov.tr/no_82_-yukari-karabag-da-duzenlenmesi-ongorulen-sozde-secimler-hk.en.mfa).

## Ukraine

### **Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the non-recognition of the so-called “presidential and parliamentary elections” in Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijan (March 31)**<sup>39</sup>

Kyiv, 31.03.2020

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine strongly condemns the so-called “presidential and parliamentary elections”, held on March 31 in the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The results of these pseudo-elections have no legal consequences whereas they are contrary to the rules and principles of international law.

Ukraine once again expresses its support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan in its internationally recognized borders and stands for peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

## United Kingdom

### **Statement by the British Embassy in Azerbaijan**<sup>40</sup>

Baku, 01.04.2020

The British Embassy issued a statement on the ‘elections’ which took place in Nagorno-Karabakh on 31 March:

The UK does not recognise the ‘elections’ which took place in Nagorno-Karabakh on 31 March.

The UK reiterates its full support for the OSCE Minsk Group’s role in the peace process and encourages Azerbaijan and Armenia to accelerate efforts to build confidence and achieve a negotiated settlement.

### **Statement by the British Embassy in Azerbaijan**<sup>41</sup>

Baku, 13.04.2020

The British Embassy issued a statement on the Presidential ‘elections’ in Nagorno-Karabakh, the second round of which is taking place on 14 April:

The UK does not recognise the Presidential ‘elections’ in Nagorno-Karabakh, the second round of which is taking place on 14 April.

The UK again underlines its support for the OSCE Minsk Group and the Co-chairs’ role in the peace process. We support the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Azerbaijan, while underlining the importance of universally recognised principles and norms of international law. We encourage Azerbaijan and Armenia to accelerate efforts to build confidence and achieve a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

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<sup>39</sup> <https://mfa.gov.ua/en/news/statement-ministry-foreign-affairs-ukraine-non-recognition-so-called-presidential-and-parliamentary-elections-nagorno-karabakh-azerbaijan-march-31>.

<sup>40</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ukinazerbaijan/>.

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ukinazerbaijan/>.

## **United States of America**

### **Statement by the U.S. Department of State<sup>42</sup>**

Washington, D.C., 06.04.2020

The United States has taken note of the so-called “general elections” held in Nagorno-Karabakh on March 31. In the context of a comprehensive settlement of the conflict, the United States, as a co-chair country of the OSCE Minsk Group, recognizes the role of the population of Nagorno-Karabakh in deciding its future. The United States does not, however, recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as an independent and sovereign state – no does any other country. Accordingly, it does not accept the results of these so-called “elections” as affecting the legal status of Nagorno-Karabakh, or prejudging the final status of Nagorno-Karabakh or the outcome of the ongoing negotiations to bring a lasting and peaceful settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The United States remains strongly committed to helping the sides achieve a just and lasting peaceful settlement to the conflict and will remain fully engaged in the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group to achieve this goal.

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<sup>42</sup> Statement by the U.S. Department of State to the Azertac News Agency, 06.04.2020.