

MOTION FOR URGENT RESOLUTION

European Free Alliance Party Resolution on the need for urgent action to protect the fundamental rights of the people of the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh) and save Armenian Christian heritage sites from demolition and desecration

The European Free Alliance,

-having regard to the right of peoples to self-determination, for their civil, political and economic rights, as well as for the dignified life on their indigenous homeland,

-having regard to the EP resolutions on Nagorno Karabakh , including the October 4, 2023 resolution on the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh after the October 19, 2023 attack by Azerbaijan,

-having regard to the orders of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) of 22 February 2023 , 6 July 2023 and November 23, 2023 on the request for the indication of provisional measures for the application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Armenia v Azerbaijan),

- considering that in the course of the last three and half years, the people of the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh) suffered from war of aggression, extrajudicial killings, arbitrary detentions, enforced disappearances, torture, starvation and other forms of inhumane treatment, while enduring ten-month-long blockade by Azerbaijan was subjected to renewed hostilities, which resulted in the ethnic cleansing of the indigenous Armenian population of the region,

-considering that to this date Azerbaijan has been holding Armenian POWS (23 confirmed) and the political and military leadership representatives of the Republic of Artsakh

-considering the ongoing destruction and desecration of Armenian Christian worship sites and cemeteries, state-buildings and other sites of importance to Armenian identity and people,

- recognizing the right of collective return of the people of Artsakh to their homeland under international guarantees and mechanisms,

Calls on the EU and specialized UN agencies,

-to adopt targeted sanctions against Azerbaijan and Azerbaijani government officials responsible for ethnic-cleansing, human-rights abuses and war crimes against the people of Artsakh;

-to work towards the protection of Armenian Christian heritage under Azeri occupation before Azerbaijan completes the erasure of traces of millennia-long presence of Armenians from the region, what the UN Special Rapporteur described as amounting to “cultural cleansing.”

-to work towards ensuring EU/UN support to the displaced 145 000 people of Artsakh, that have found temporary refuge in Armenia.