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14 April 2011

Murder of 9-year-old Azerbaijani civilian, Fariz Badalov

Written declaration No. 479

This written declaration does not reflect the position of the Assembly; only of those members that have signed it. It will not be considered further by the Assembly.

On 8 March 2011, an Armenian Armed Forces sniper positioned in the occupied Azerbaijani territories targeted and killed 9-year-old Fariz Badalov, an inhabitant of the village of Orta Garvand in the district of Aghdam, who had been playing outside. Such a tragic murder of a minor is not just incompatible with the norms and principles of international law, but is also a human tragedy. The crime further strained the already tense situation in the region. The increasing violations of the ceasefire by the Armenian Armed Forces, including the targeting of Azerbaijani civilians, breach international law, the spirit of the commitments made by Armenia to the Council of Europe and also Assembly [Resolution 1416 \(2005\)](#), thereby seriously undermining the negotiation process conducted by the OSCE Minsk Group on the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

We resolutely condemn the murder of Fariz Badalov by the Armenian Armed Forces and call on the Yerevan authorities to ensure the conviction and punishment of the culprits. We demand that Armenia stop its snipers targeting civilians, honour the commitments on resolving the conflict made to the Council of Europe, including under Assembly [Resolution 1416 \(2005\)](#), and withdraw from the occupied Azerbaijani territories, thereby enabling 1 million refugees and IDPs to return to their homeland.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

PASHAYEVA Ganira, Azerbaijan, EDG
ABBASOV Aydin, Azerbaijan, SOC
AÇIKGÖZ Ruhi, Turkey, EDG
AYVA Lokman, Turkey, EPP/CD
CEBECİ Erol Aslan, Turkey, EPP/CD
DAVITAIA Paata, Georgia, EDG
FATALIYEVA Sevinj, Azerbaijan, EDG
GAFAROVA Sahiba, Azerbaijan, EDG
HAJIYEV Sabir, Azerbaijan, SOC
HANCOCK Mike, United Kingdom, ALDE
HUSEYNOV Rafael, Azerbaijan, ALDE
KELEŞ Birgen, Turkey, SOC
KUMCUOĞLU Ertuğrul, Turkey, EDG
MEMECAN Nursuna, Turkey, ALDE
MINCHEV Krasimir, Bulgaria, EPP/CD
MORIAU Patrick, Belgium, SOC
ÖZDEN Yüksel, Turkey, EDG
RZAYEV Rovshan, Azerbaijan, EPP/CD
SEYIDOV Samad, Azerbaijan, EDG
SULEYMANOV Elkhan, Azerbaijan, EPP/CD
TEKELİOĞLU Mehmet, Turkey, EPP/CD
TÜRKEŞ Tuğrul, Turkey, EDG
ÜNAL Mustafa, Turkey, EPP/CD

Total = 23

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EDG: European Democrat Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group