



Doc. 15798
20 June 2023

Safeguarding the right to return and ensuring justice for expelled Azerbaijanis

Written declaration No. 779

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.

We, the undersigned, declare the following:

We are deeply concerned by the injustice suffered by Azerbaijanis from ethnic cleansing and forced mass deportations.

Considering that the ethnic cleansing against Azerbaijanis in Armenia was systematically perpetrated by State authorities;

Expressing deep concern with the systematic destruction of Azerbaijani cultural heritage in Armenia and recalling calls upon UNESCO to send fact-finding missions to this country;

Emphasising that the right to return is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments;

Recognising the Western Azerbaijan community, established in 1989, as a unifying voice representing the expelled Azerbaijanis;

Welcoming the community's dialogue offer to Armenia;

Commending the community's upholding the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty of States;

Commending the community's willingness to coexist peacefully with Armenians once they return to their homes;

We urge the Council of Europe to support the right to return of Azerbaijanis expelled from Armenia;

We call upon the rapporteurs of the Parliamentary Assembly to address the right to return of Azerbaijanis from Armenia;

We appeal to the Government of Armenia to respond to the community's calls for dialogue, ensure the safe return of Azerbaijanis, and guarantee their rights and security, agreeing to dispatch international missions to assist in this process.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

JAFAROV Kamal, Azerbaijan, EC/DA
ARENT Iwona, Poland, EC/DA
ARPADARAI Nigar, Azerbaijan, EC/DA
AYDIN Kamil, Türkiye, NR
BRANTE Ieva, Latvia, NR
ÇELİK Sena Nur, Türkiye, NR
DZINTARS Normunds, Latvia, EC/DA
EKER Mehmet Mehdi, Türkiye, NR
EMRE Yunus, Türkiye, SOC
FATALIYEVA Sevinj, Azerbaijan, EC/DA
GADIRLI Erkin, Azerbaijan, EC/DA
GANJALIYEV Tural, Azerbaijan, EC/DA
GRAF Martin, Austria, EC/DA
HAJIYEV Sabir, Azerbaijan, SOC
HUSEYNOV Rafael, Azerbaijan, ALDE
KARIMZADA Parvin, Azerbaijan, EC/DA
KLEINWÄCHTER Norbert, Germany, EC/DA
KONSTANKEVYCH Iryna, Ukraine, EC/DA
MEREZHKO Oleksandr, Ukraine, EC/DA
MOLLAZADA Asim, Azerbaijan, EC/DA
MUNCACIU Sorin-Titus, Romania, EC/DA
MUSTAFA Fazil, Azerbaijan, ALDE
NATALUKHA Dmytro, Ukraine, EC/DA
NURULLAYEVA Konul, Azerbaijan, EC/DA
PAREREN Bob, van, Netherlands, EC/DA
SCURRIA Marco, Italy, EC/DA
SEYIDOV Samad, Azerbaijan, EC/DA
TÜRKEŞ Yıldırım Tuğrul, Türkiye, NR
WEYEL Harald, Germany, EC/DA
YILDIZ Ahmet, Türkiye, NR
YILDIZ Zeynep, Türkiye, NR

Total = 31

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC/DA: European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group