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The statement by Mr Moreno Ocampo about an ongoing genocide against 120 000 Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh

Written question No. 785 to the Committee of Ministers
by Mr Pieter OMTZIGT, Netherlands, Group of the European People's Party

Mr Luis Moreno Ocampo, former Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, issued an expert opinion on 7 August 2023. He writes: “There is an ongoing Genocide against 120 000 Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh, also known as Artsakh. The blockade of the Lachin Corridor by the Azerbaijani security forces impeding access to any food, medical supplies, and other essentials should be considered a Genocide under Article II, (c) of the Genocide Convention: “Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part.””

He is not alone: on 1 February 2023, the International Association of Genocide Scholars Executive and Advisory Boards stated: “Significant genocide risk factors exist in the Nagorno-Karabakh situation concerning the Armenian population.”; and, on 22 June 2023, the Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention issued a Red Flag Alert for Genocide.

Mr Omtzigt

To ask the Committee of Ministers:

What actions has the Committee of Ministers taken to prevent this genocide from happening and whether the present threat has any consequences for Council of Europe member State Azerbaijan?

A swift answer would be highly appreciated.