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## **RUSSIAN DEPUTY FM HOLDS CONSULTATIONS IN BAKU**

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Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Grigory Karasin held consultations in the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry, said a message posted on the website of the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry Dec. 1.

The consultations were held as part of Karasin's working visit to Azerbaijan, the ministry said.

Karasin had talks with Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov and Deputy Foreign Minister Khalaf Khalafov.

He discussed the pressing issues of bilateral and international agenda during the talks with Azerbaijani partners.

Karasin added that the further efforts aimed at speedy settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict will be made and effective measures on the conflict settlement will be supported, the ministry told Trend.

The conflict between the two South Caucasus countries began in 1988 when Armenia made territorial claims against Azerbaijan. As a result of the ensuing war, in 1992 Armenian armed forces occupied 20 percent of Azerbaijan, including the Nagorno-Karabakh region and seven surrounding districts. The 1994 ceasefire agreement was followed by peace negotiations.

Armenia has not yet implemented four UN Security Council resolutions on withdrawal of its armed forces from the Nagorno-Karabakh and the surrounding districts.

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Kaynak/Source: