
FM MAMMADYAROV: ARMENIA SHOULD DEMONSTRATE POLITICAL WILL, WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS FROM AZERBAIJANI LANDS - INTERVIEW

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08.03.2017

7 March 2017

APA

Azerbaijans Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov, who is on an official visit to the Russian capital of Moscow, gave an exclusive interview to an APA correspondent

Q. Russias Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said that the parties to the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict could not come to an agreement on key aspects. What are the main issues on which the parties were unable to reach an agreement?

A. There are some issues that remain open in the negotiations with Armenia. Yesterday we held extensive discussions with Russias foreign minister. There were some ideas. Armenia will hold parliamentary elections on April 2. After that, we will return to the issues. There are some issues that we can not come to an agreement on. These issues are the ones previously left open. There is no new issue.

Q. Is there any meeting expected to be held at the level of ministers or presidents as to the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict?

A. A trilateral ministerial meeting will be held at the initiative of Russia. It is necessary to wait for the upcoming elections in Armenia for these meetings to yield results. This is important not to allow the politicization of the talks.

Q. What do you think of the tension that escalated at the line of contact in late February?

A. The recent escalation of the tension at the line of contact underscores the need to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and achieve progress in the negotiation process. There is a need to hold logical substantive talks. The Russian side also understands it and supports the continuation of talks. However, the matter is about Armenia's political will. Armenia should demonstrate political will and withdraw its troops from the occupied Azerbaijani lands.

Q. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Azerbaijan and Russia. How do you assess the current state of relations between the two countries?

A. The relations between Azerbaijan and Russia stand at a high level. These relations are constantly developing. The bilateral relations are based on mutually beneficial cooperation. The cooperation between Azerbaijan and Russia is beneficial to both countries.

Kaynak/Source: