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**RUSSIA-AZERBAIJAN CO-OP IN MILITARY SPHERE OF STRATEGIC NATURE - POLITICAL ANALYST**

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Judging by the words of President İlham Aliyev about the relations of Azerbaijan with Russia voiced Oct. 3 at the plenary session of the XVI annual meeting of the Valdai Discussion Club in Russias Sochi city, it once again becomes clear that relations between the two countries are developing dynamically, Azerbaijani political analyst Arzu Nagiyev told Trend.

He said that the relations between the two countries are developing in the political, economic and military spheres.

It is known that cooperation between Russia and Azerbaijan in the military sphere is of a strategic nature and is increasingly developing, he noted. The most important contracts were signed in the military sphere between the two countries, and the work in this direction continues. Even if someone doesnt like military cooperation between Azerbaijan and Russia, it is known that Azerbaijan, which isnt a part of any bloc and which supports bilateral relations and is capable of pursuing a balanced policy, has chosen Russia as one of its strategic partners and is taking the appropriate steps in this direction. At the same time, conducting joint military exercises is one of the important areas of military cooperation between the two states.

Just like Azerbaijan is a strategically important partner for Russia, Russia is also a strategically important partner for Azerbaijan, he said. It should be noted that there is effective cooperation between the special services, border troops and other law enforcement agencies of the two countries. At the same time, the anti-terrorist operations carried out on the Russia-Azerbaijan border once again show that there is coordination between the two countries. Naturally, it should be so, because Russia and Azerbaijan are close neighbors.

Nagiyev also touched upon effective external relations between the two countries. It was noted that Azerbaijan and Russia, as part of international organizations, carry out fruitful cooperation and always support each others positions.

The political analyst added that the relations between the regions of Azerbaijan and Russia are also constantly developing.

There are direct ties between the various regions of the two countries, and at the same time, mutual investments are made and trade is increasing, he said. That is, thanks to both foreign and domestic policies, relations between Russia and Azerbaijan are of strategic nature and are

constantly developing.

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