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**EXCLUSIVELY GEOPOLITICAL MOTIVES BEHIND NEW EU MISSION IN ARMENIA: RUSSIA**

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Elena Teslova

*Russian Foreign Ministry mentions how EU mission in Armenia is being deployed under bloc's Common Security and Defense Policy*

Geopolitical motives, not conflict settlement, are behind the EUs new mission in Armenia, on the border with Azerbaijan, according to the Russian Foreign Ministry.

"We see in these attempts exclusively geopolitical motives, which is far from the interests of real normalization of relations in the Caucasus, spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said in a statement on Monday. Everything is being done to squeeze Russia out of the region and weaken its historical role as the main guarantor of security.

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