



NEWSLETTER

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US Vice President Visits Azerbaijan

On September 3 US Vice President Richard Cheney visited Azerbaijan. He met with President Ilham Aliyev, and Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov to discuss the development of bilateral relations. "The U.S. and Azerbaijan have many interests in common. We both seek greater stability, security and cooperation in the vital region of the world. We share the goal of energy security for ourselves and for the international community", the Vice President highlighted during the press-conference after tête-à-tête meeting with Mr. Aliyev. "Today, we reaffirm that commitment, and our determination to strengthen relations between our countries --- not just today, but for the long term. America strongly supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. We are committed to achieving a negotiated solution to the Nagorno--Karabakh conflict --- a solution that starts with the principle of territorial integrity, and takes into account other international principles" said Mr. Cheney. President Aliyev thanked the US for the support in implementing regional projects. "So far we've been very successful, and worked with plans we implemented, and I'm sure that a strong partnership between the United States and Azerbaijan and other countries in the region will lead to more successes in the future, will lead to a strengthening of security measures, peace, stability, and prosperity for all of us", Mr. Aliyev noted.

Azerbaijan Salutes 7 Olympic Heroes

Azerbaijan took home a total of seven medals from the Beijing Olympics. The medal count includes a gold and a bronze in judo, two silver and two bronze in wrestling, and a bronze in boxing. The Olympic heroes were received by the President of Azerbaijan. The government granted them monetary awards, apartments, and cars.

Foreign Minister Comments Turkish Initiative

Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov said peace and stability must be ensured in the region as soon as possible. Speaking to journalists on Thursday, he told Azerbaijan supports talks between the region's countries concerning a suggestion to form a Caucasian Union, which was put forward by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The Minister reiterated Azerbaijan's stance on regional conflicts, including the Nagorno-Karabakh one, saying they must be solved in accordance with international legal norms.

OSCE Election Observation Mission in Baky

OSCE Election Observation Mission headed by Slovenian diplomat Boris Frlec arrived to Baky. 12 mission members is already functioning in Azerbaijan and 28 more are expected to arrive shortly. Mr. Frlec noted that the main task of the mission is an assessment of compliance of elections in Azerbaijan with international standards and conduction of elections on the basis of national legislation. He said 450 short term OSCE observers will arrive in the country on the voting day.

11 People Arrested for Terrorism

Azerbaijan's Interior Ministry made a statement on the explosions committed in Abu Bekir mosque and Khatai District of Baky as well as armed clashes in the northern region of the country bordering Russia. The Ministry's Press Service informed that 11 people had been arrested the explosion in Abu Bekir mosque, where two were killed and 18 people were injured in the aftermath of the blast on August 17 this year. Arms and banned religious books were seized during the search operation.