



Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan

PRESS-RELEASE

October 18, 2006

No. 10

Fifteenth Anniversary of Independence

On October 18 the people of Azerbaijan celebrate the 15th anniversary of the declaration of independence.

The act establishing the State independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which passed on October 18, 1991, set out the foundations for the modern statehood of an independent Azerbaijan and determined the principles of its political and economic structures. With the adoption of that act the Republic of Azerbaijan regained its sovereignty after 71 years. Azerbaijan's first independent state in 1918-1920 was destroyed following the occupation of the Red Communist Army.

For the past 15 years, despite the foreign occupation and aggression of the Republic of Armenia, Azerbaijan has firmly established itself as a full-fledged and responsible member of the international community and a key regional player in the Caspian region. This year has marked the successful completion of Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline which is delivering oil from the Caspian Sea through Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey to the global market.

Azerbaijan has been working on developing regional cooperation, promoting security and stability. Azerbaijan actively fights international terrorism and contributes to peace-keeping missions in Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq.