



## Between Azerbaijan and America

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Member of European Parliament: Territorial integrity of Azerbaijan must be fully provided**

*Since a lengthy war in the early 1990s that displaced over one million Azerbaijanis, Armenian armed forces have occupied over 20 percent of Azerbaijan's internationally recognized territory, including Nagorno-Karabakh and seven adjacent regions.*

Baku, Azerbaijan -- The decisions of the Security Council of the UN are regulated by international law, and it is still unclear why demand for the withdrawal of Armenian troops from the occupied territories of Azerbaijan remains unfulfilled 20 years already, member of European Parliament Korina Kretu said on Wednesday.

Trend.az reports "Besides, the negotiations which are initiated by the OSCE, have repeatedly stopped," Kretu noted, responding to the request of Europe-Azerbaijan Society concerning Armenian-Azerbaijani Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

She called on the Armenian people to define its future within the framework of international law.

"The Azerbaijanis were forced to leave their own territories. The territorial integrity of Azerbaijan should be fully ensured. Azerbaijan's demands are absolutely fair," the MEP noted.

Kretu told that in Baku in May 2013 the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighborhood Policy Stefan Fule announced that EU is interested in expanding relations with Azerbaijan beyond "Eastern Partnership" as well.

"Future prospects of Azerbaijani-European cooperation are encouraging and both sides should use this opportunity. For this purpose stability and safety should be provided in the South Caucasus. Only this way the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh can be solved," she said.

Kretu noted, that Europe's interests in South Caucasus is the policy of peace and stability.

"The viewpoint of all European structures on this issue is single. So the negotiations are carried out concerning membership agreements. Stefan Fule, while being in Baku, noted that people of Azerbaijan and Europe should strengthen ties within the "Eastern Partnership". And the stability of political situation is mandatory for this. But Nagorno-Karabakh conflict contradicts this, causing tensions in the entire region. From this viewpoint EU must realize its role in the negotiating process even more," Kretu underscored.

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