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Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Tavlarides, Mark <mtavlarides@bgrdc.com>
Subject: Azerbaijan Update

Good afternoon,

I wanted to share an op-ed published in *Newsweek* titled "[United in Faith for the Future of Karabakh](#)" written by Shneur Segal, the Chief Rabbi of Azerbaijan; His Grace Alexander, the Archbishop of Baku and Azerbaijan Episcopate of the Orthodox Church; and Sheikh ul-Islam Allahshükür Pashazade, the leader of Azerbaijan's Muslims.

The religious leaders discussed how the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan "is not religious in nature, no matter how much others wish it to be." They noted that Azerbaijan "is a multi-religious, multi-ethnic nation with a flourishing Ashkenazi Jewish community, our own unique Mountain Jewish community and Christians of the Catholic, Orthodox and Armenian traditions."

They wrote that Azerbaijan does not want the ejection of those currently living in Nagorno-Karabakh "but the return of those who were once themselves ejected," adding, "Our country offers the chance for autonomy within the legal borders of Azerbaijan for those who wish to live there, in peace, with different religions, cultures and ethnicities."

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,
Mark

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