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Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 10:29 AM
To: Tavlarides, Mark <mtavlarides@bgrdc.com>
Subject: Azerbaijan Update

Good morning,

I wanted to share two articles with you:

1. Newsweek published an op-ed by Azerbaijan's Ambassador to the U.S. Elin Suleymanov titled "[Seizing the Opportunity for Lasting Peace Between Armenia and Azerbaijan.](#)" Ambassador Suleymanov discussed next steps for peace and reconstruction, writing, "Now, there exists a fresh opportunity to forge a lasting peace and to extinguish a lingering conflict in the South Caucasus region, where processes of normalization and economic integration are underway in the aftermath of last fall's six-week war between Armenia and Azerbaijan." He wrote the United States, Russia, and France, as co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group, "have a significant opportunity to build on the momentum from last November's ceasefire and promote reconciliation, dialogue and economic prosperity between Armenia and Azerbaijan."
2. RadioFreeEurope/RadiLiberty posted an article by Ron Synovitz titled "[Dying To Go Home: Displaced Azerbaijanis Risk Mines, Munitions To See Homeland,](#)" which discussed the situation of internally displaced Azerbaijanis who are trying to return to the territory in and around Nagorno-Karabakh but are being stopped by land mines. The article noted there is much demining work yet to be done, and this month, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev visited four of the retaken districts to launch infrastructure projects aimed at supporting the return of IDPs, including housing, manufacturing facilities, social services, agricultural infrastructure, power plants, and railway links.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,
Mark

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