

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of our bipartisan Congressional coalition, we are writing to express our gratitude for your leadership towards a peace Agreement between the Republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan pre-signed on August 8, 2025. We were heartened by the State Department's response to the bi-partisan Congressional July 23rd letter to Secretary Rubio, signed by 87 Members of Congress to which the State Department issued a response of confirmed support on September 25th. In our letters, both Congress and the State Department iterated the importance of preconditions for a lasting and durable peace.

We are pleased to learn that the administration and you most importantly, Mr. President, consider the return of POWs, the right of return of 120,000 Armenian refugees to Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh), and the preservation of ancient Christian churches and holy sites as central to the establishment of the lasting peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Implementing these steps are consistent with the international law and should be pursued in order not to reward Azerbaijan for ethnic cleansing and for ignoring our government's long-standing position of inadmissibility of use of force in resolving the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Ironically, the most important institution in Armenia that has kept these issues alive and raised them in international fora – the Armenian Apostolic Church – is being viciously attacked by PM Pashinyan of Armenia and his administration. Three Archbishops and a Bishop have been arrested and locked up, along with dozens of the Church's supporters on what appear to be fabricated charges. These politically motivated assaults on the Church and its clergy have been decried by human rights groups and civil society organizations inside and outside of Armenia as attempts to undermine the very foundation of Armenian heritage and identity. By allowing these repressions to go on, the administration risks losing the support of people of Armenia and the Armenian Americans, whose vast majority are followers of the Armenian Apostolic Church and care deeply about the fate of Artsakh. Furthermore, this collision course is detrimental for Armenia's internal stability and for the peace in the region, which the administration worked so hard on.

In this context, some future developments – most notably Armenia's June 2026 election – provide ground for serious concern. A recent report by the Transparency International's affiliate in Armenia questioned the Pashinyan administration's incentives to undertake a free and fair election. By crushing dissent inside the country and cozying up to Russia's Vladimir Putin and China's Xi Jinping, PM Pashinyan has shown time and time again that he is not a reliable partner for a US-brokered peace deal and thus should not be allowed to get away with quenching the dissent during the June election. This will surely be against the interest of his own country, which requires unity to rebuild, and the US-Armenia relations, which are over a century old.

To this end, we encourage the administration to work closely with Armenia's pro-Western opposition parties – most notably, the National Democratic Alliance – church and business leaders, whose values align closely with the U.S. and who could chaperone a durable and dignified future for Armenia. This includes launching an

active election monitoring effort – which several of us will be happy to assist with – and clear message that election fraud and subsequent repressions against political opponents will not be tolerated.

We thank you in advance for your consideration and look forward to working with the administration toward advancing these objectives.

Sincerely,

Proposed Initial Signers

Representative Gus Bilirakis

Representative Daryl Issa

Representative Dina Titus

Representative Thomas Suozzi

This material is distributed by Sovereign Global Solutions on behalf of National Democratic Alliance of Armenia. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.