

Resolution on the recent armed clashes between Armenia and Azerbaijan

The CDI is extremely concerned over the recent reports of large-scale violent military clashes unfolded between Armenia and Azerbaijan along the Line of Contact in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone.

The CDI deplores the loss of human lives, including civilians, and extends its condolences to the families of those killed and injured.

The CDI condemns in the strongest terms this escalation of violence; urges both parties to cease hostilities immediately, to observe the ceasefire and to refrain from actions and rhetoric fuelling tensions; and calls both sides to return without delay to the negotiation table for meaningful negotiations under the aegis of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Minsk Group to achieve a peaceful and sustainable settlement to the conflict. France, Russia and United States, as Co-Chairs of the Group, remain actively and fully engaged in facilitating an urgent resumption of dialogue without preconditions in accordance with their OSCE mandate and in line with the recent declarations of Charles Michel, President of the European Council.

In this regard, the CDI invites the EU to play a more active role in the resolution of this long-lasting conflict which has seen little or no progress in the negotiating process over the years.

The CDI demands to all third countries to refrain from direct and indirect military action in the country.

The CDI calls on the Vice-president and High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell, to demand having the EU formally represented within the wider Minsk Group by the EU member state holding the rotating EU presidency, an already existing OSCE procedure. It is in the EU's own interest, considering the multiple existing links with the region in different fields as trade, economy, energy, security and migration-related issues. For all the exposed, the Karabakh conflict should be considered an essential part of the EU's political dialogue with Armenia and Azerbaijan, as the EU is embarked on negotiations for new contractual agreements with the two.