Alleged Russian proposal on the principles for resolution of disputes related to Nagorno-Karabakh

25 July 2023

Note: This document was leaked by Tigran Petrosyan, chairman of the anti-crisis council of the Artsakh president, ahead of a UN Security Council meeting on Nagorno-Karabakh. Neither the Armenian nor Russian governments have challenged the validity of this document.

[Provisional translation/Transcribed from original by the Parley Policy Initiative]

Basic principles and parameters for ensuring the security and rights of the Armenian population in the territory of the Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region of the former Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic, in accordance with the legislation of Azerbaijan

1. Equality before the law and equal protection, without any discrimination based on ethnicity, language, or religion and other grounds.

2. No forced resettlement of the Armenian population from their places of residence.

3. Legal prohibition on persecution, punishment, and any restriction of rights against the Armenian population for participating in local governments and armed groups, except for persons found guilty of war crimes in court.

4. Proportional representation of the Armenian population in the national, regional, and municipal structures of legislative, judicial, and executive power, including the police and prosecutor's office of Azerbaijan.

5. Participation in the development and adoption of decisions concerning the Armenian population at the national, district, and municipal levels.

6. Free use of the Armenian language along with Azerbaijani in state institutions, including official correspondence and office work, as well as in public places and settlements with Armenian populations, to include the posting of road signs, signs, and announcements in Armenian.

7. Inviolability of the private property of the Armenian population, including real estate and land ownership.

8. Creation of public organizations and ensuring their smooth operation.

9. Ensuring the necessary conditions for freedom of religion for the Armenian population and the activities of religious institutions and organizations, as well as the inviolability of their property.

10. Preservation of Armenian culture and national identity, including historical and cultural heritage, and the development of Armenian-language mass media.

11. Incorporating the Armenian language in preschools, primary schools, secondary schools, and higher education in both public and private institutions.

12. Through a separate agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan, ensuring close cultural, scientific-educational, media, sports, and other humanitarian ties between Armenia and the Armenian population in the territory of former Nagorno-Karabakh oblast.

13. Establishment and maintenance of free and peaceful relations by the Armenian population across the border with persons legally located in the territory of other states; in particular, with persons who share a common ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious identity or a common cultural heritage.

14. Unhindered delivery of economic and humanitarian aid by Armenian populations from abroad.