STATE BORDERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN, RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1992 – THE BASIS FOR THE DELIMITATION AND DEMARCATION OF BORDERS



The dynamics of the peace and war in the region surrounding Armenia attracts the keen attention of all actors promoting their international security interests in the explosive geostrategic space of the Greater Middle East.

In this context, the resolution of the border dispute in Syunik, and the issue of delimitation and demarcation of the borders between Azerbaijan and Armenia, which is the focus of international attention, requires academic and expert assessment of the legality to consider the current line of contact between the Armed Forces of the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan as the starting point in the negotiations.

In this regard, the negotiating parties and the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair states - the Russian Federation, the United States and France - should take into account the evidence of the following internationally valid arguments:

1. Indisputability of the fact that Azerbaijan and Turkey initiated the 44-day military aggression in Karabakh in violation of the principles of non-use of force and the threat with the use of force (1),

2. The alleged involvement of jihadists by Azerbaijan and Turkey in their military aggression in Karabakh, which was recognized by the international intelligence community, including from the OSCE Minsk Group's Co-Chair states (2).

Thus, the existing line of contact, formed as a result of the military aggression of Azerbaijan and Turkey with the involvement of jihadist terrorists, cannot be considered as an internationally legitimate basis for clarifying the borders formed as a result of the 44-day war in Karabakh in September-November 2020.

The international legal framework for negotiations on resolving the border dispute in Syunik, and for organizing the process of delimitation and demarcation of state borders is the internationally recognized state borders of the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan. As a reference, it should be emphasized that the recognition of the state borders of both the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan by the United Nations became an internationally valid fact simultaneously on March 2, 1992 as a result of their official admission to the United Nations (3).

CONCLUSION

The negotiations on the preparation of an internationally legitimate process of resolving the border dispute in Syunik, as well as the delimitation and demarcation of borders following the Turkish-Azerbaijani military aggression in Karabakh should be based on the state borders of the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan, recognized as a result of their admission to the U.N. on March 2, 1992.

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