



PRESS RELEASE
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President Ilham Aliyev visits Moldova

President Ilham Aliyev, had a two-day official visit to Moldova, held meetings with the President of Moldova Vladimir Voronin on Thursday, April 21, followed by signing of 5 documents related to air transport, information technologies, veterinary science and sanitation, and labor activity and social security of Azerbaijanis living in Moldova and Moldovans living in Azerbaijan.

Following the signing ceremony, the two presidents signed a joint communiqué stating mutual support for inviolability of state borders. “The Parties mutually support each other’s efforts in combating aggressive separatism and in restoration of territorial integrity” the document said.

The two presidents also exchanged views on bringing the conflicts in and around Nagorno Karabakh region of Azerbaijan and Dnestr of Moldova up for discussion at the UN General Assembly and at the subsequent summit of GUUAM, a regional organization comprising of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

GUUAM Summit held in Chisinau

Summit of the GUUAM heads of state was held in the Moldovan capital Chisinau on Friday, April 22. Presidents of Romania and Lithuania, the US Special Envoy on Caspian Energy Issues, representatives of international organizations, including the OSCE Secretary General, also attended the Summit.

The GUUAM heads of state emphasized the importance of joining efforts in settling the existing conflicts in their territories. Addressing the Summit, President Ilham Aliyev proposed to develop common approaches to the settlement of regional conflicts, in particular, those over Dnestr of Moldova, Nagorno Karabakh of Azerbaijan, South Ossetia and Abkhazia of Georgia. “These conflicts impede our countries’ normal development and our aspirations to European integration. We should find civilized mechanisms for solving these problems.”

The OSCE Secretary General Jan Kubis welcomed the initiatives of GUUAM countries at settling regional conflicts. The US special envoy on the Caspian region Steven Mann said that the United States will continue providing the needed assistance to GUUAM member states.

Following the Summit, leaders of GUUAM signed the “Chisinau Declaration for democracy, stability and development”, which confirmed their commitment to the principles of democracy, rule of law, respect for fundamental human rights and freedoms, determination to promote intra-GUUAM economic cooperation and to advance their European integration.

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