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Press Release

On April 13th Ambassador Israfilov had an official meeting with the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic H.E. Mr. Peter Burian. During the meeting strengthening of bilateral cooperation, inter-parliamentary links as well as Azerbaijan - EU relations were discussed. The sides exchanged views on threats to regional security, ongoing conflicts on the European continent and supported resolution of these conflicts on the basis of the principle of territorial integrity of states.

The Slovak side was informed about a criminal case opened by the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan against the Slovak citizen Mr. František Mikloško based on the latter's repeated illegal crossing of the state border of the Republic of Azerbaijan and public appeals for partitioning of the internationally recognized territory of Azerbaijan. It was underlined that Mr. Mikloško's visits to the occupied territories of Azerbaijan without prior consent of the Azerbaijani authorities violated Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on State Borders and Law on Passports. The Slovak side took note of the information and stressed the necessity of respecting national legislation and international law by visitors as it was recommended in the travel advisory of the official web-site of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic.

The Embassy, in addition to the information communicated to the Slovak authorities and with a view to provide more information to the Slovak society about illegal activities of Mr. Mikloško, wishes to underline that on 23rd May 2010, Mr. Mikloško participated as observer at the so-called "parliamentary elections" held in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan. According to the Armenian media, Mr. Mikloško, on 25th May 2010 at the press conference in Yerevan and on 11th September 2010 at the Economic Forum in Krynica, publicly called for legitimizing so-called independence of illegally created separatist regime and partitioning the internationally recognized territory of Azerbaijan. In February of 2012, Mr. Mikloško, together with representatives of the Slovak Central European University again illegally crossed the state border of the Republic of Azerbaijan and through public statements given to the Armenian media called for immediate recognition of the illegally established entity as independent state and establishing cultural, humanitarian and other relations with it. In the course of the same visit Mr. Mikloško also actively promoted signing of an agreement on cooperation between the Slovak Central European University and the so-called "Artsakh State University" illegally established in the occupied Khankendi, Azerbaijan, and publicly appealed for partitioning of the territory of Azerbaijan.

The General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 1 April 2015 launched the criminal case against Mr. František Mikloško on the counts of violation of the Articles 281.2 and 318.2 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan.