

RESOLUTION[F20-003]: CALL FOR YALE ADMINISTRATION TO SUPPORT YALE STUDENTS AFFECTED BY AZERBAIJAN AND ARTSAKH CONFLICT

Sponsors:

Max Clayton (American Studies Representative)
Frankie Barrett (American Studies Representative)
Sandra Sánchez (History Representative)

Recipients:

Peter Salovey, *President of Yale University*
Scott Strobel, *Provost of Yale University*
Richard Jacob, *Associate Vice President for Federal and State Relations*

Whereas Starting September 27, 2020, Azerbaijan, backed by Turkey, has been attacking Artsakh (also known as Nagorno-Karabakh), a 95% Armenian-majority de facto sovereign entity and an Armenian stronghold where indigenous Armenians have lived since antiquity.

Whereas under the guise of territorial claims, Azerbaijan's attacks, which have included the use of cluster munitions and other war crimes in violation of international humanitarian law, have led to the loss of many civilians and the destruction of essential infrastructure.¹

Whereas the Senate Foreign Relations Committee ranking member Bob Menendez introduced two resolutions calling on the U.S. State Department to review Azerbaijan's human rights violations, U.S. leadership has failed to intervene to prevent the use of its weapons and military technology by Azerbaijani forces.²

Whereas our Yale community admits and supports undergraduate and graduate students from Armenia, Artsakh, Azerbaijan, and Turkey, as well as those who remain part of diasporic communities in the U.S.

Whereas this crisis affects the mental well-being of these students and disrupts the academic opportunities of Yale students and faculty who conduct research in the region involved in the conflict.

Whereas Yale has an opportunity to support the diverse and inclusive community of scholars, researchers, and aspiring leaders.

Be it resolved that Yale should stand with our affected community members by publicly acknowledging that this conflict negatively impacts our Yale community.

Be it further resolved that the Graduate Student Assembly urges the recipients to support

¹ <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/10/23/azerbaijan-cluster-munitions-used-nagorno-karabakh#>

² <https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/menendez-colleagues-introduce-legislation-to-require-reviews-of-azerbajans-and-turkeys-human-rights-abuses>

our affected community members by publicly demanding that the federal government advocate for the immediate cessation of hostilities and restoration of peace, followed by a diplomatic approach to resolving the conflict.