



Plenary sitting

B10-0458/2026

6.10.2026

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for a debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 150 of the Rules of Procedure

on the cases of Ali Karimli, Anar Mammadli and other political prisoners in Azerbaijan
(2026/2914(RSP))

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on behalf of the PPE Group

**European Parliament resolution on the cases of Ali Karimli, Anar Mammadli and other political prisoners in Azerbaijan
(2026/2914(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Azerbaijan,
 - having regard to Rule 150(5) and 136(4) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas Ali Karimli, chairman of the opposition Azerbaijani Popular Front Party, being held in pre-trial detention since 29 November 2025, charged under the Azerbaijani Criminal Code concerning actions aimed at violently seizing power, an offence carrying possible life sentence; whereas his pre-trial detention was extended twice until 13 November 2026, with no further date set for trial;
- B. whereas the conditions of Karimli's detention have been manipulated to subject him to extreme psychological pressure and sleep deprivation, including denial of adequate access to water for days, unsanitary conditions, and restricted family contact; whereas the European Court of Human Rights has requested information from Azerbaijan on his treatment;
- C. whereas on 7 September 2026, after two years of pre-trial detention, civil society leader and election monitor Anar Mammadli was sentenced to 13 years of prison; whereas Mammadli was already imprisoned in 2013-2016 for his election monitoring, a detention found unlawful by the European Court of Human Rights;
- D. whereas, according to independent monitors, Azerbaijan holds over 300 political prisoners;
- E. whereas on 1 May 2026, the Milli Majlis unilaterally suspended its cooperation with the European Parliament, undermining parliamentary dialogue;
1. Strongly condemns the politically motivated detention of Ali Karimli and sentencing of Anar Mammadli, along with all other political prisoners, which aim to silence political opposition and independent civil society;
 2. Calls for the immediate the release of Ali Karimli, Anar Mammadli and all other political prisoners in Azerbaijan, and all those imprisoned for peaceful political activity and exercising fundamental freedoms; calls for all charges against them to be dropped; is concerned on the detention of EU Citizens, including French businessman Anass Derraz;
 3. Expresses deep concern regarding the appalling conditions under which they are held and demands them to be granted immediate and full access to independent medical care, safe and adequate food and drinking water, their family, and lawyers;
 4. Deplores the persistent crackdown on critical voices and the political opposition in Azerbaijan, including through the misuse of national-security and criminal legislation;

urges the authorities to uphold freedom of expression and media freedom, end the abuse of criminal justice and guarantee judicial independence and due process;

5. Calls on the VP/HR and the Member States to raise these cases at the highest level, and on the EU Delegation and Member State embassies to observe trials and request prison visits;
6. Reiterates that any future partnership agreement must remain conditional on tangible human rights improvements, including the release of political prisoners and the repeal of restrictive legislation;
7. Calls on the Commission to step up support for Azerbaijani civil society and independent media, including in exile;
8. Calls on the Milli Majlis to resume parliamentary dialogue;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the VP/HR, the Member States, and the Government and Parliament of Azerbaijan.