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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell i Fontelles
on behalf of the European Commission
(11.10.2022)

The armed confrontations that took place in early August 2022 and the recent one on 13-14 September 2022, even more violent and severe in the scale of destruction and numbers of fatalities, show that the situation in the region remains extremely fragile. The EU has called at the highest level for an immediate end to hostilities¹. The President of the European Council remains in close contact with the leadership of both Azerbaijan and Armenia, and the High Representative/Vice President (HR/VP) reached out to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan and Armenia. The EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia was mandated by the HR/VP to carry out consultations in Baku on 14 September 2022 and in Yerevan the day after. It is important now that the ceasefire is preserved and consolidated, and the EU is discussing with the sides the best way to contribute to it and to reinvigorate efforts towards a peace process.

It is essential to continue working on reducing risks of future clashes. The EU is also supporting both sides to progress on the delimitation and demarcation of the international border. Following initial meetings held earlier this year, the next meeting of the border commissions is due to take place in Brussels in November 2022.

The EU is calling on the sides to return to the negotiation table as soon as possible, building in particular on the results achieved during the four trilateral meetings facilitated and mediated by the President of the European Council over the past year. The EU is committed to continuing to act as an honest broker between Armenia and Azerbaijan to help achieve the common goal of a South Caucasus that is secure, prosperous and at peace, for the benefit of all its people.

¹ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/armeniaazerbaijan-statement-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-military-escalation_en