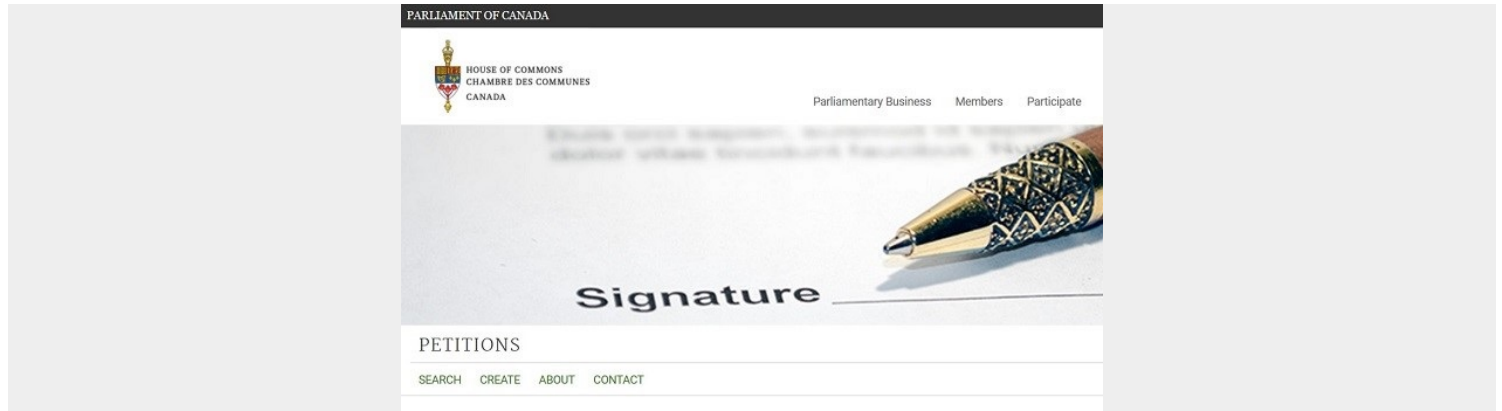


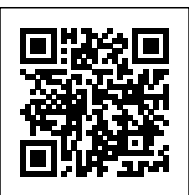
PETITION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Posted on May 19, 2021 by Keghart



Category: [Opinions](#)

Tags: [Armenia Azerbaijan](#), [Bryan May](#), [Canada](#), [Civil rights](#), [Geneva Convention](#), [Human rights](#), [Parliament](#), [POW](#), [Prisoners of War](#)



Dear Reader,

We invite you to participate in a petition posted on the website of the House of Commons (Parliament). It requests from the government of Canada to "Assume the leadership role in defending the victims of human rights violations and implement sanctions towards Azerbaijan as a countermeasure tool for violating the Geneva Conventions and refusing to immediately return all Armenian POWs."

The petition is initiated by Bella Gharibyan of Montreal, Quebec on behalf of [HAYREN](#) and sponsored by MP Bryan May of Cambridge, Ontario. It is open to Canadian citizens/permanent residents.

Collection of signatures will continue until June 17, 2021, 11:01 a.m.

Click on [e-3424 \(Foreign affairs\)](#) to access the signature window.

Whereas:

- On September 27, 2020, at the height of global pandemic, Azerbaijan backed by Turkey launched an unprovoked military attack against the Artsakh population;
- The ceasefire statement brokered by the Russian Federation was signed on November 9, 2020, by Armenia, Azerbaijan and Russia to end the second Artsakh war;
- To this day Azerbaijan holds captive more than 200 Armenian prisoners of war (POWs) in violation of the Geneva Conventions and the aforementioned ceasefire statement section 8 "the Parties shall exchange prisoners of war, hostages and other detained persons, and dead bodies;"
- According to an HRW report, Azerbaijani forces degrade and torture Armenian POWs; and
- Azerbaijan is bound by the prohibition of torture and inhumane treatment in international law as articulated in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the European Convention of Human Rights.

We, the undersigned, **Canadians and human rights advocates**, call upon the **Government of Canada** to

1. Urge Azerbaijan to fully and expeditiously complete the exchange process of all Armenian POWs, detainees, and remains;
2. Assume the role that is historically acclaimed by Canada in peacebuilding and demand Azerbaijan to implement the ceasefire statement as a precondition for negotiating a lasting peace in the Southern Caucasus;
3. Condemn Azerbaijan for violating the international humanitarian laws and the third Geneva convention, which Azerbaijan, Canada, and Armenia had signed; and
4. Assume the leadership role in defending the victims of human rights violations and implement sanctions towards Azerbaijan as a countermeasure tool for violating the Geneva Conventions and refusing to immediately return all Armenian POWs.

Comments



Zabel Bedrossian – 2021-05-30 21:09:23

I demand the release of all POWs and civilian detainees.



Armine Gevorgyan – 2021-05-20 22:22:48

Demand release of Armenian POWs.



Anahid Nersessian – 2021-05-20 10:22:59

The act of keeping POWs is totally inhuman and contradicts existing international laws. It's Azerbaijan government's way to show power, get more concessions from Armenia and hurt Armenians as much as it can. POWs have become victims of such a dirty immoral game.



Dora Sakayan – 2021-05-20 05:59:04

Azerbaijan is subjecting Armenian POWs of the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh conflict to degrading treatment and torture. Implement sanctions against Azerbaijan that does not release all remaining POWs and civilian detainees!



Harut Sahakoglu – 2021-05-19 12:59:56

Return Immediately all Armenian POWs.



RAYMOND SARKISSIAN – 2021-05-19 11:04:16

Thank you. This is the time to act and not talk. Canada needs to assume the leadership role in defending the victims of human rights violations and implement sanctions against Azerbaijan as a countermeasure tool for violating the Geneva Conventions and refusing to immediately return all Armenian POWs.



Annie Demirjian – 2021-05-19 09:55:17

I support this initiative



Arto Yuzbaiyan – 2021-05-19 09:05:46

On September 27, 2020, at the height of global pandemic, Azerbaijan backed by Turkey launched an unprovoked military attack against the Artsakh population; The ceasefire statement brokered by the Russian Federation was signed on November 9, 2020, by Armenia, Azerbaijan and Russia to end the second Artsakh war; To this day Azerbaijan holds captive more than 200 Armenian prisoners of war (POWs) in violation of the Geneva Conventions and the aforementioned ceasefire statement section 8 "the Parties shall exchange prisoners of war, hostages and other detained persons, and dead bodies;" According to an HRW report, Azerbaijani forces degrade and torture Armenian POWs; and Azerbaijan is bound by the prohibition of torture and inhumane treatment in international law as articulated in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the European Convention of Human Rights.



Vartan Azad – 2021-05-19 08:32:18

To Canadian political leaders as well as to all other concerned nations/countries, who rightfully defend the Human Rights and Justice, per this petition, I do request an immediate attention to this very critical problem for urgent and appropriate action.