

ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN ANY POLITICAL WEATHER DESPITE THE EFFORTS OF THE SINGERS AND THE SUPPORTERS

Just 3 days ago, on September 2, the people of Artsakh popularly celebrated the 24th anniversary of the proclamation of the Nagorno- Karabakh Republic.

During almost a quarter of a century of its independence NKR has gained considerable experience in nationwide presidential, parliamentary and local elections, legitimately forming governmental bodies at various levels in accordance with generally accepted democratic norms. And on September 13 in the country regular elections will be held, this time – local elections. Needless to say that the elections in any country are of great importance, and this truth is equally valid for Artsakh. It is even possible, due to the peculiarities of the NKR as internationally unrecognized state, the elections as an important socio-political event, obtain even more importance, because they carry in them foreign political load. For the reason that the international structures (not all and not always favorably disposed towards us) very attentively follow the nation-building process in Artsakh . From this point of view, were no exception, and the upcoming elections to the local self- government bodies.

It is important to mention, the NKR, where has been formed a high electoral culture long ago, held elections invariably in accordance with the norms of the civilized world, due to which so invariably received the highest assessments of independent international observers. They repeatedly noted that in terms of its democratic development the NKR outstrips even the neighboring countries recognized by the international community, and above all - Azerbaijan. It would seem that the world community should welcome and encourage the commitment of the Artsakh people in formation of government bodies of democratic principles in particular and the norms of civilized society - generally. However, the paradox is that some international organizations and politicians positioning themselves as the apologists of democracy, does not only hurry to show their respect to the principles of the civil society for the loyalty to the NKR, but also refuse to recognize the current electoral processes and results of the free expression of people's will. But the paradox is also in the fact, that they do it by the order and at instigation of Azerbaijan, a country which was formed a totalitarian, anti-democratic reputation in the world, which trampled all the norms of international law. This conformist, unprincipled position is not just flawed, but also very dangerous, because it creates the illusion of Azerbaijan's own judgment, and permissiveness, encourages him to extreme radicalism in the Karabakh settlement process, which does not exclude the power way to resolve the conflict.

As expected, in connection with the upcoming local elections in Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, according to the longstanding tradition established in Azerbaijan, hysterical howling rose. Foreign Ministry issued a formal note of protest, stating that this event openly violates international law and has no legal force, and urged the world not to recognize the legitimacy of the elections. Apparently, by the signal of 'high-level hand' the whole pack of Azerbaijani political scientists and experts joined the anti-electoral campaign who, like a blueprint, replicated postulates of this useless scrap of paper. In order to give his foolish position at least some foreign weight, Azerbaijani, according to the habit, scratched relevant comments from other overseas authorities and politicians with "revelations" that they did not recognize Karabakh elections.

In this sad company of nihilists have appeared, in particular, the American co-chair of the OSCE Minsk Group, James Warlick, Ambassador of France to Azerbaijan Pascal Monier, former co-chair of the Minsk Group of the United States and the former ambassador to Azerbaijan, Matthew Bryza, the German Foreign Office and a Berlin politician Heiko Langner. As for the double "Ex", this figure who married a Turkish woman and never hidden his pro-Azerbaijani sympathy, long ago sold himself to the Baku regime for thirty pieces of silver. And before making "profound" comments, it would do well, if Langner first studied the subject matter of his "research" for calling the local elections non parliamentary.

However, special attention should be paid to the assessments issued by James Warlick and Pascal Monnier as a diplomat representing the co-chair countries of OSCE Minsk Group. If they (the evaluation), of course, are not distorted by the Azerbaijani propaganda machine, which has long been adept at this practice. Firstly, in accordance with the mandate of the Minsk Group, the conduct of negotiations on the resolution of the Karabakh conflict is provided with the elected representatives of parties of the conflict, to which refers primarily Artsakh. For it is evident that only the legitimate, popularly elected government is authorized to conduct negotiations on behalf of the people and take responsibility for the decisions taken. Secondly, Mr. Warlick and Monnier should remember that recently, in connection with other national elections in Nagorno-Karabakh, the OSCE Minsk Group have recognized "the need for the formation of the de facto authorities in Nagorno-Karabakh to ensure the democracy and the maintenance of social life." As far as we know, this imperative has not been disavowed by anyone, including the Minsk group. And it is impossible because of its axiomatic nature. Otherwise – there will be anarchy and chaos which is beneficial for Azerbaijan, but hardly in the interests of the international community which is going through not the best times. As to the Nagorno-Karabakh, it is, despite the protests of Baku and "special" opinion of his supporters, will continue to hold the elections at any level, as it is dictated by the desire of its citizens to equip their own lives on a democratic basis.

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