



Situation Room

**** NAGORNO-KARABAKH CONFLICT ****

Period under review: from 30 October 2020 to 2 November 2020.

Situation analysis recap:

- On Friday, 30 October 2020, Azerbaijani forces approached the town of Shusha, whose control is an important strategic point for controlling Nagorno-Karabakh.
- The Iranian Foreign Minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif, went on tour, where he met with officials in Armenia, Moscow, Azerbaijan and most recently, in Ankara. He presented the Iran Peace Initiative and stressed that it was not about opposing the Minsk Group, but about supplementing it.
- The U.S. National Security Adviser Robert O'Brien suggested that Scandinavian peacekeepers be used to make peace
- Peace negotiations were held again in Geneva under the auspices of the Minsk Group. As negotiations failed to reach an agreement on the cessation of hostilities, the Armenian prime minister, Nikol Pashinyan, asked Russia for more active assistance, but Russian President Vladimir Putin replied that Russia would react only if and when Armenian territory is attacked.
- Azerbaijani political leadership also asked for help. On 1 November 2020, the Turkish Foreign Minister, Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, flew to Azerbaijan, where negotiations on resolving tensions in Nagorno Karabakh were held.
- European Commissioner for Crisis Management, Janez Lenarčič, said that the EU was calling for an immediate end to the hostilities, which already resulted in civilian casualties. The European Union added another € 400,000. humanitarian aid, in addition to the € 500,000. of aid contributions it has already pledged since the start of the conflict.
- On 1 November 2020, in the late evening, the fighting continued. The Azeri army lost an entire company and platoon in a failed double attack on the two main positions of Artah's defending army.

Sources/Further Reading:

- *Armenia requests Russia's help after no new truce in Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.* (31. Oktober 2020). France24.
- Accessible via: <https://www.france24.com/en/asia-pacific/20201031-armenia-requests-russia-s-help-after-no-new-trucein-nagorno-karabakh-conflict>
- *Iran's deputy FM holds talks with Turkish counterpart over Nagorno-Karabakh war.* (1. November 2020). Teheran times. Accessible via: <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/454129/iran-s-deputy-FM-holds-talks-with-Turkish-counterpart-over-Nagorno-Karabakh>
- *Kocharyan, S.* (31, Oktober 2020). *EU provides additional €400,000 humanitarian aid to help Nagorno Karabakh civilians.* 100armenpress. Accessible via: <https://armenpress.am/eng/news/1033416.html>



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- *Nagorno-Karabakh Briefing | Oct. 30. (30. Oktober 2020). The Moscow Times. Accessible via: <https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/10/30/nagorno-karabakh-briefing-oct-30-a71883>*
- *Turkish FM visits Azerbaijan to hold consultations on events in Nagorno-Karabakh region. (1. November 2020). Trend news agency. Accessible via: <https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3327453.html>*
- *US Suggesting Deployment of Scandinavian Peacekeepers in Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict Zone. (2. November 2020). MASSISPOST. Accessible via: <https://massispost.com/2020/10/us-suggesting-deployment-of-scandinavian-peacekeepers-in-nagorno-karabakh-conflict-zone/>*

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