## Canada: Tell Your MP's to Support Human Rights in Artsakh

From Amara Possian

## Find your MP's Info:

Search here: https://www.ourcommons.ca/members/en/search

No matter where you live, it's strategic to call Melanie Joly (the Foreign Minister) in addition to their local MP.

## Talking Points and Tips:

Make sure to **tell them that you're a constituent.** MP's don't really care unless people are in their riding.

**Be respectful,** as you will be talking to a staff member and you want to make sure they pass along your message.

**Forced Exodus of Indigenous Armenians:** Thousands of indigenous Armenians are being forcibly expelled from their ancestral lands in Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh), where they've lived for thousands of years.

**Mass Displacement:** Over 70,000 people have already crossed into Armenia, and tens of thousands more are on their way. This is a humanitarian crisis that requires immediate attention.

**International Silence and Complicity:** For months, Azerbaijan blocked the only road in and out of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh), effectively starving its people. The international community remained silent during this period, and some countries even enabled it by providing military aid or purchasing natural gas from Azerbaijan. This sent a dangerous signal that allowed Azerbaijan to escalate the situation and sent the message that the world would look away as they committed genocide.

**Leadership Needed:** Condemnation isn't enough. Our leaders need to take decisive action to stop this crisis from escalating further.

**"Everything is on the Table" Statement:** During Tuesday's debate in the House of Commons, Foreign Minister Melanie Joly stated that "everything is on the table." We need to hold her to this statement and push for concrete action.

**Call for Sanctions:** Urgently, we need Canada to send a clear message to Azerbaijan that the genocide will not be tolerated. This can be done by imposing sanctions on Azerbaijan.

**Rapid Escalation:** The situation is extremely urgent and critical and set to get worse. On Monday, the presidents of Turkey and Azerbaijan met to talk about creating a corridor that connects their countries through southern Armenia. They're ambitions extend beyond Nagorno-Karabakh and we cannot wait for the situation to get worse.

**MP's Commitment:** Will (MP) commit to pushing Foreign Minister Melanie Joly to impose sanctions on Azerbaijan to prevent further bloodshed?

You can tailor this based on where you live. If you have a Liberal MP, you can use a similar script. The Bloc and NDP are calling for sanctions already so when you call them, thank them and urge them to keep it up.

The Conservatives are calling for the protection of civilians so aid gets through which is important but not strong enough so call them anyway and tell them to do better.