

Armenian POWs Day of Action Toolkit

About us

Yerazad is an action coalition dedicated to Armenian liberation and building transnational solidarity.

We center and uplift ALL Armenians, including those who are mixed race, LGBTQIA2S, and undocumented.

Find Your Representative

Before taking action, you need to find out who your representatives are and what their contact information is.

Find your representative here:

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

Is your Rep part of the Armenian Caucus?

List of Armenian Caucus Members: <https://anca.org/armenian-caucus/>

If your representative is an Armenian Caucus Member, **replace the first sentence of our call script** with the following:

Dear [name of representative], my name is [your name] and I live in [district of residence]. I want to first thank you for being part of the Armenian Caucus and championing legislation that calls for the return of Armenian POWs.

Replace the last sentence of our call script with the following:

I ask that you continue to join the European Court of Human Rights, Human Rights Watch, and the Red Cross in condemning these human rights violations and take action by urging your colleagues to sign on to the resolution drafted by Representative Adam Schiff and supported by your fellow Armenian Caucus' members.

[Get our graphics here!](#)

Call Script

Dear [name of representative], my name is [your name] and I live in [district of residence].

As your constituent, I am urging you to demand the safe return of the 200+ Armenian civilians and prisoners of war still being illegally held by Azerbaijan 152 days after a ceasefire was signed ending the genocidal attack on indigenous Armenian land in Artsakh.

Azerbaijan continues to violate that ceasefire by capturing more soldiers (who were protecting their indigenous land) and civilians (some of whom are elderly and disabled) and labeling them as “terrorists”.

As a result of necessary international pressure from the U.S. and Georgia, 15 Armenian POWs were returned days ago. International governing bodies can not let up until all POWs are returned.

I ask you to join the European Court of Human Rights, Human Rights Watch, and the Red Cross in condemning these human rights violations and take action by supporting Representative Adam Schiff and the Armenian Caucus’ bipartisan resolution calling for “Azerbaijan to immediately return all Armenian prisoners of war and captured civilians.”

Thank you for your time.

Email Script¹

Dear [your representative],

My name is [your name] and I live in [district of residence]. As one of your constituents, I am emailing to urge you to support Representative Adam Schiff and the Armenian Caucus' bipartisan resolution calling for, "Azerbaijan to immediately return all Armenian prisoners of war and captured civilians." As a result of necessary international pressure from the U.S. and Georgia, 15 Armenian POWs were returned days ago. International pressure is working and we can not let up until all 200+ POWs and civilians are safely returned.

152 days have passed since a ceasefire was signed to end the genocidal attack on indigenous Armenian land in Artsakh. Azerbaijan continues to violate that ceasefire by capturing Armenian soldiers, who are protecting their indigenous land, and civilians, some of whom are elderly and disabled, and labeling them as "terrorists" to justify holding them captive as prisoners of war. Torturing POWs and civilians is a war crime.

[something personal from you]

Join the European Court of Human Rights, Human Rights Watch, and the Red Cross in condemning these human rights violations and take action by supporting Rep. Adam Schiff and the Armenian Caucus in their resolution to return Armenian POWs.

Thank you for your time,
[name]

¹ **NOTE:** Make sure you change the email slightly or add a personal note in the sentence so that your email is reached by your representative. When many emails are sent using a template, those emails are filtered out if they are identical.

Tweet Scripts

I am calling on @[your representative] to support the resolution circulated by @RepAdamSchiff and @ArmenianCaucus, which “calls upon Azerbaijan to immediately return all Armenian prisoners of war and captured civilians.”
#FreeArmenianPOWs #StopAzeriAggression.

~

@[your representative] sign on to the resolution to free Armenian POWs. Azerbaijan continues to violate the November 2020 ceasefire by taking soldiers and civilians hostage and torturing them. These are war crimes. It's time to #StopAzeriAggression and #FreeArmenianPOWs.

~

Azerbaijan is committing war crimes by taking Armenian soldiers and civilians as prisoners of war and subjecting them to torture. I call on @[your representative] to support @RepAdamSchiff’s resolution to “return all Armenian prisoners of war.” #FreeArmenianPOWS

~

200+ Armenian soldiers and civilians are still held by Azerbaijan as prisoners of war and are being tortured. Torturing POWs is a war crime. It’s time for @[your representative] to support @RepAdamSchiff’s resolution to #FreeArmenianPOWs and #FreeArmenianCivilians.

~

As one of your constituents, I am asking @[your representative] to sign on to the resolution by @RepAdamSchiff and @ArmenianCaucus which “calls upon Azerbaijan to immediately return all Armenian prisoners of war and captured civilians.” We must #FreeArmenianPOWs.

Hashtags

#StopAzeriAggression

#FreeArmenianPOWs

#FreeArmenianCivilians

Text and DM Your Friends

Hey [friend's name]! 152 days have passed since a ceasefire was signed ending the genocidal attack on indigenous Armenian land in Artsakh and Azerbaijan continues to violate that ceasefire by taking soldiers and civilians as prisoners of war. Armenian prisoners of war and civilians are being tortured by Azerbaijan and tried as “terrorists.” Can you take 5 minutes to sign on to the resolution by @RepAdamSchiff and @ArmenianCaucus which “calls upon Azerbaijan to immediately return all Armenian prisoners of war and captured civilians.”? We must #FreeArmenianPOWs.

Tips

1. DM your friends with a specific ask.
 - a. Posts are easy to scroll by and can get buried but a text or a DM is harder to ignore and can be a chance to bring folks into a conversation.
2. If you are stuck in a conversation or need other help, feel free to email or DM the Yerazad IG or FB page.