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## **Assembly Offices**

Washington, DC

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July 15, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio Secretary of State U.S. Department of State 2201 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We welcomed President Donald J. Trump's remarks yesterday during his meeting with NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte at the White House suggesting that peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan may be within reach. His statement reflects a hopeful step forward and aligns with his longstanding commitment to protect persecuted Christians and support peace in the region.

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As leaders in the Armenian-American community, we share this hope but remain deeply concerned. A full durable peace must include credible security guarantees for the Republic of Armenia, including the full withdrawal of Azerbaijani forces from sovereign Armenian territory, and clear consequences for violations of any agreement.

We also urge immediate U.S. engagement to secure the release of all Armenian Prisoners, including the political leadership of Nagorno Karabakh (Artsakh) who remain unjustly detained. These detentions stand in direct opposition to the principles of international law and human rights, and no genuine peace can be achieved while political hostages remain in custody.

The forcible displacement of 120,000 Armenians from Artsakh in 2023 left thousands of families in limbo. Their right of return and cultural survival remains unresolved. We ask that the United States advocate for a fair and just resolution that includes, safe, voluntary and dignified return for these indigenous Christian Armenians.

Given the urgency of these matters, and the historic opportunity to shape a lasting peace, we respectfully request a meeting with you to discuss how we might partner in advancing regional stability, human rights, and stronger U.S.-Armenia economic development and security ties.

We stand ready to assist you in achieving these shared goals and look forward to the opportunity to meet.

Sincerely,

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Oscar Tatosian Co-Chair

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Talin Yacoubian Co-Chair