



7th Annual Assembly of  
the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum  
**MOVING REFORMS  
FORWARD  
IN TESTING TIMES**  
19 – 21 November 2015, Kyiv city, Ukraine

Resolution No. 6/AA/2015

November 21, 2015  
Kyiv, Ukraine

## **Resolution of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum**

### **On the restoration of conditions which will enable civil society to function in Azerbaijan**

The Forum notes the recent transfer from prison to home on health grounds of Arif Yunus and urges that the Azeri authorities follow this with a similar step for his ailing wife, Leyla Yunus followed by the release of these two people and other prisoners of conscience whose state of health warrants immediate release from prison.

The Forum urges the authorities in Azerbaijan to reconsider their policy of imprisonment of Khadija Ismailova, Intigam Aliyev, Rasul Jafarov, Anar Mammadli, Ilgar Mammadov and others who are accused of tax fraud without reason. People who are not engaged in business in general, can not be accused of illegal business activities.

The Forum also hopes that the ongoing process of opening accounts of a number of non-governmental organizations, registration of their grant agreements and the cessation of the humiliating checks at the entrance and exit from the country will cover all organizations. Unfortunately, these positive developments have not become a rule and mainly cover members of the Coalition for Increasing Transparency in Extractive Industries.

The Forum calls on the Azerbaijani authorities to revise the national legislation regulating the activities of non-governmental organizations, and to restore rules which will enable civil society to work in a normal way. Only in this case, will civil society be able to become an effective partner of the government in implementing reforms.



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