



## U.S. Azeris Network (USAN) Questionnaire

Please return your answers via email to: [contact@usazeris.org](mailto:contact@usazeris.org)

The U.S. Azeris Network (USAN) ([www.USAzeris.org](http://www.USAzeris.org)) is a registered non-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian genuine grassroots advocacy and voter education network that is facilitating political activism and efforts by the Azerbaijani-Americans and other Turkic-Americans and their associations, organizations, councils, conferences, and other formal, semi-formal and informal groups, on federal, state and local levels. Through the auspices of the U.S. Azeris Network, the voice of the Azerbaijani-Americans is becoming unified and strengthened. USAN is the first nationwide grassroots organization uniting Azerbaijani-Americans, being created by the grassroots, for the grassroots.

It is very important for the fledgling Azerbaijani-American community to see bi-partisan support of the constantly expanding and elevating U.S.-Azerbaijan strategic allied relations, as well as for the issues of importance to the Azerbaijani-American, and more broadly Turkic-American, voters and donors.

The support we seek would entail (co-)sponsoring of resolutions and bills, speaking for the record on the floor of Congress, in the appropriate committees and subcommittees, and for the Congressional Record, as well as in guest editorials for newspapers, journals, TV and radio programs, and at public conferences.

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**1) If you are a member of, or running for, the U.S. House of Representatives, would you join the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus (CAC), founded in 2004, to advance issues important for the Azerbaijani-Americans in the U.S. Congress? Would you consider establishing similar friendship groups in your legislature? Would you make an official trip to Azerbaijan?**

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**2) In light of energy security being one of the most important issues for U.S., and Azerbaijan playing a crucial role in the global energy supply, would you consider voting for greater recognition of its positive role, as well as greater political, trade and security links and measures in bilateral relations?**

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**3) Are you for the graduation of Azerbaijan, and other post-Soviet states, from the Jackson-Vanik Amendment of 1974? Do you consider supporting their ensuing World Trade Organization (WTO) accession and membership?**

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**4) Do you deplore the occupation of Nagorno Karabakh (NK) and surrounding regions of Azerbaijan by the Armenian armed forces, which continues to this day despite four UN Security Council resolutions and numerous other rebukes from the international community, including the White House and State Department? (See: [http://www.usazeris.org/USAN\\_factsheet\\_NKOccupationUSPolicy.pdf](http://www.usazeris.org/USAN_factsheet_NKOccupationUSPolicy.pdf))**

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**5) Do you denounce ethnic cleansing as a whole and in particular, against Azerbaijani civilians by Armenian armed forces -- and the ensuing plight of 800,000 Azerbaijani refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), which is 10-12% of the population? (See: [http://www.usazeris.org/USAN\\_factsheet\\_refugees.pdf](http://www.usazeris.org/USAN_factsheet_refugees.pdf))**

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**6)** Would you consider voting for putting an end to direct U.S. aid to the separatist and illegitimate authorities in the Nagorno-Karabakh region, which harbors international terrorists and extremists, established as a result of occupation of internationally-recognized territory of Azerbaijan? (See: [http://www.usazeris.org/USAN\\_factsheet\\_occupied\\_regions.pdf](http://www.usazeris.org/USAN_factsheet_occupied_regions.pdf))

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**7)** Would you consider sponsoring measures to cease persecution against South Azerbaijani human rights activists in Iran, to provide for basic linguistic and cultural freedoms of South Azerbaijanis, who comprise 30% of Iran's population, and to recognize Azerbaijani language as a second official language in the Azerbaijani provinces of northern Iran?

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**8)** Section 907 of the 1992 Freedom Support Act unfairly singles out Azerbaijan despite the ongoing occupation of its territory by Armenian forces and the resulting plight of 800,000 Azeri refugees and IDPs. Since 2002, Section 907 was waived by the U.S. President as an obstacle to the U.S.-Azerbaijani alliance in fight against terrorism in Afghanistan. Would you consider voting for a complete repeal of Section 907 from the U.S. legislative record?

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**9)** Under the influence of the small Armenian lobby groups, the Congress-allocated annual U.S. aid to Azerbaijan is being constantly downgraded or equalized to that of Armenia (a country 1/3 of the size of Azerbaijan in terms of population and territory). This is despite the fact that Azerbaijan is a secular predominantly Shia Muslim nation located in a volatile region, yet, unlike Armenia, fully supports the U.S.-led operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and together with Turkey remains allied to Israel in many spheres, including security. Moreover, Azerbaijan fully uses all the allocated funds, while Armenia is unable to do so. Would you vote to increase or keep intact with Administration's and Pentagon's request the aid to Azerbaijan, and thus support its greater integration into Euro-Atlantic structures? (See: [http://www.usazeris.org/USAN\\_factsheet\\_StateDeptArmeniaCFENuclearOccupation.pdf](http://www.usazeris.org/USAN_factsheet_StateDeptArmeniaCFENuclearOccupation.pdf))

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**10)** Will you support greater formal recognition of Azerbaijani and Turkish sufferings from Armenian attacks in 1914-1921 and in 1988-1994, especially the Khojaly Massacre of 1992?

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**11)** The 1948 U.N. "Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide", signed and recognized by the U.S., is not legally or retroactively applicable to interethnic strife of World War I (1914 - 1918), during which hundreds of thousands of ethnic Armenians, Turks, Kurds and Azeris became victims of atrocities, starvation and diseases. Would you agree to put an end to single-sided interpretation of Armenian-Turkish relations in historical and legal context by politicians, lobbyists and media, by opposing such resolutions in the U.S. Congress and/or State legislatures, and instead recommend to leave the judgment to impartial history scholars and international courts?

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**12)** If no, would you support Congressional recognition of the massacre of ethnic Azerbaijani civilians, such as in the town of Khojaly in 1992, within the framework of the 1948 U.N. "Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide"?

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