

By MESSENGER STAFF

## Georgia Condemns Drone Strike on Azerbaijan's Nakhchivan Exclave

The Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a statement on Thursday, March 5, formally denouncing a drone attack that targeted the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic of Azerbaijan earlier that day. The strike, which hit a regional airport terminal and landed near a school, left several civilians injured and caused structural damage.

"Any act that blatantly violates international principles and norms and escalates regional tensions is unacceptable," the ministry stated shortly after the incident.

Officials in Tbilisi expressed their support for their neighbor, noting the deep ties between the two nations.

"Georgia expresses its solidarity with the fraternal Azerbaijan in this difficult situation, given the strong friendship and strategic partnership between Georgia and the Republic of Azerbaijan," the ministry added.

The attack occurred around midday at the Nakhchivan International Airport. While some reports indicated two injuries, others suggested as many as four people were hurt when one drone struck the terminal and another fell in the village of Shakarabad. Azerbaijani authorities have accused Iran of launching the drones from its territory. However, the Iranian government has denied any involvement in the strike.

In addition to the public statement, Georgian Dream Foreign Minister Maka Botchorishvili held a telephone call with her Azerbaijani counterpart, Jeyhun



Bayramov. During the conversation, she conveyed her concern over the security situation and the potential for further instability in the South Caucasus.

"Minister Botchorishvili emphasized the importance of maintaining peace and stability in the region," the Georgian Foreign Ministry said. The ministry also

noted that "the ministers reaffirmed the strength of the strategic and friendly relations between Georgia and Azerbaijan." The incident comes at a time

of heightened anxiety across the broader region, with officials calling for an investigation to prevent further escalations.



## Mass Drone Raid Reported Over Occupied Abkhazia

By MESSENGER STAFF

The de facto Defense Ministry of occupied Abkhazia announced on Thursday, March 5, that approximately 30 drones were detected in a large-scale operation across the region the previous night. The statement followed a wave of unconfirmed reports from local residents and media outlets who witnessed the aerial activity.

Badra Gunba, the de facto commander of Abkhazia's air force and air defense, described the scale of the event as a first for the region. While the drones were intercepted, officials did not officially name the source of the

aircraft.

"Despite reconnaissance being conducted by the adversary, facilities on the territory of the republic were not a direct target," Gunba was quoted as saying by the news agency Apsnypress.

He noted that the efforts to monitor the region's airspace are continuous and involve close coordination with the Russian military.

"The efforts to protect Abkhazia's airspace are conducted around the clock and in cooperation with the Russian Armed Forces," Gunba said.

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