

# **Canadian Senate rejects Housakos' motion to recognize the Republic of Artsakh and condemn the Azerbaijan-Turkish aggression.**

**By George Manios**

On December 8, 2020, the Senate by a vote of 53 to 16, with five abstentions outright rejected Senator Housakos' motion which was calling on the Government of Canada to recognize the Republic of Artsakh and to "immediately condemn the joint Azerbaijan-Turkish aggression."

Last month, France adopted a similar resolution to recognize the independence of Nagorno-Karabakh. The French resolution was symbolic in nature and it did mean that the French Government would have recognized a sovereign Nagorno-Karabakh. Rather it sends a message of support to Armenians living in France and those in the Artsakh region.

According to [www.dailysabath.com](http://www.dailysabath.com) the French resolution called upon the government to "recognize a sovereign Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and use this recognition as an instrument of negotiations for the establishment of a sustainable peace." Further, the resolution called on the government to "pursue a tougher European response toward Turkey, which has supported [with mercenaries', weapons and its own military] Azerbaijan in the conflict."

The Trudeau government once again using the "independent senators" would not even allow the Senate to express its voice and condemn the joint Azerbaijan-Turkish aggression which has killed and displaced many innocent civilians.

More and more the Trudeau government has remained silent and refuses to condemn Turkey's aggression against other sovereign states and peoples. Canadian military related weapons have been used against civilian populations contrary to sanctions and norms of warfare.

Trudeau has gone on great lengths to support Turkey and its friends not only on this file but on other files, like exempting it from the embargo and allowing the sale of drone optic technology, and the killing of the Senate motion to recognize of the Greek Pontian Genocide, a motion introduced by a Liberal Senator from Saskatchewan, Pana Merchant.

The defeat of the Housakos' motion is a blow to the independence of the Senate and our democratic values, as it cannot think, nor it can be the Chamber of Second Thought, without the PMO's direction.

The old partisan politics are back in the Senate, despite what Trudeau is telling us about the independent and meritorious appointments that he has made to the Senate.

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