Qafqaz Beynəlxalq Münasibətlər və Strateji Araşdırmalar Mərkəzi
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Who is violating the principles of the CSTO – Armenia or its allies?

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Discussions on the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) prompted by recent steps, explanations and expectations of Armenia are going on. In fact, various discussions that existed since the beginning of the CSTO's formation were heated up even more after Nikol Pashinyan's coming to power, when Armenia started a criminal investigation against Yuri Khachaturov, Armenian representative who served as Secretary General of the CSTO, and recalled him from the organization before expiration of his office term. (It's worth noting that the new government accuses Y. Khachaturov of committing the 1 March 2008 events and attempting to change the constitutional system of the country)

After this decision of the Armenian government, discussions regarding appointment of a new Secretary General started at the CSTO. In the background of these debates, statements of President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev and President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko during the CSTO Summit held on 8 November 2018, as well as discussions of President Lukashenko with the Azerbaijani Ambassador to Belarus, caused dissatisfaction on the Armenian side. The Pashinyan government claims that, as the office term of Armenian representative still continues, the new Secretary General should be nominated by Armenia. However, Nazarbayev and Lukashenko argue that, by rotation, it is now Belarus' turn. Due to this disagreement, the next CSTO Summit scheduled for 6 December 2018 was postponed. Although officials of the Russian Federation announced that the summit was postponed upon request of Armenia, the Armenian government rejected this…

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