

Press Conference:

Azerbaijan Snap Election: Democracy Crackdown and EU Response

Long-ruling Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev has brought the date of Azerbaijan's presidential election to 11th of April, six months ahead of schedule, amid the negotiations of the strategic deal with the EU and following yet another wave of the unprecedented crackdown and the rush of repressions in the country.

All main opposition parties took decisions to boycott the elections.

The event will discuss the possible reasons behind this audacious move and share recommendations for the European Union to act urgently to secure the protection of human right values in the deal, also in a context of the upcoming European elections, and to put an end to the human rights crackdown in Azerbaijan.

Date: **28 February 2018**

Place: **Brussels Press Club** / 95 rue FROISSART, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

Time: **11:00 AM - 12:30 PM**

Conveners:

Institute for Reporters' Freedom and Safety (IRFS) and **Democracy for Azerbaijan (AND)**

Speakers :

Mr. **Emin Huseynov** / **IRFS** Executive director

Mr. **Arif Mammadov** / **AND** Co-chairman

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