

U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington, DC 20530

**Exhibit A to Registration Statement**  
**Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended**

INSTRUCTIONS. Furnish this exhibit for EACH foreign principal listed in an initial statement and for EACH additional foreign principal acquired subsequently. The filing of this document requires the payment of a filing fee as set forth in Rule (d)(1), 28 C.F.R. § 5.5(d)(1). Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit A form at <http://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required by the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide this information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the Registration Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the Registration Unit's webpage: <http://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: <http://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .49 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, Registration Unit, Counterespionage Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

<p>1. Name and Address of Registrant DCI Group, L.L.C. 1828 L Street, NW, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20036</p>	<p>2. Registration No.  6140</p>
<p>3. Name of Foreign Principal H.E. Elin Suleymanov</p>	<p>4. Principal Address of Foreign Principal The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan 2741 43rd Street, NW Washington, DC 20008</p>

5. Indicate whether your foreign principal is one of the following:

Foreign government

Foreign political party

Foreign or domestic organization: If either, check one of the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/> Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary group
<input type="checkbox"/> Association	<input type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>specify</i> ) _____

Individual-State nationality \_\_\_\_\_

6. If the foreign principal is a foreign government, state:

a) Branch or agency represented by the registrant  
The Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan

b) Name and title of official with whom registrant deals  
H.E. Elin Suleymanov

7. If the foreign principal is a foreign political party, state:

a) Principal address

b) Name and title of official with whom registrant deals

c) Principal aim

U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington, DC 20530

**Exhibit B to Registration Statement  
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of  
1938, as amended**

**INSTRUCTIONS.** A registrant must furnish as an Exhibit B copies of each written agreement and the terms and conditions of each oral agreement with his foreign principal, including all modifications of such agreements, or, where no contract exists, a full statement of all the circumstances by reason of which the registrant is acting as an agent of a foreign principal. Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit B form at <http://www.fara.gov>.

**Privacy Act Statement.** The filing of this document is required for the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide the information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the Registration Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the Registration Unit's webpage: <http://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public in print and online at: <http://www.fara.gov>.

**Public Reporting Burden.** Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .33 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, Registration Unit, Counterespionage Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name of Registrant

DCI Group, L.L.C.

2. Registration No.

6140

3. Name of Foreign Principal

H.E. Elin Suleymanov, Ambassador to the United States of America

Check Appropriate Box:

4.  The agreement between the registrant and the above-named foreign principal is a formal written contract. If this box is checked, attach a copy of the contract to this exhibit.
5.  There is no formal written contract between the registrant and the foreign principal. The agreement with the above-named foreign principal has resulted from an exchange of correspondence. If this box is checked, attach a copy of all pertinent correspondence, including a copy of any initial proposal which has been adopted by reference in such correspondence.
6.  The agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal is the result of neither a formal written contract nor an exchange of correspondence between the parties. If this box is checked, give a complete description below of the terms and conditions of the oral agreement or understanding, its duration, the fees and expenses, if any, to be received.
7. Describe fully the nature and method of performance of the above indicated agreement or understanding.

DCI Group, L.L.C. will make strategic recommendations, perform public relations and media outreach, and build relationships with think tanks on behalf of Azerbaijan.

8. Describe fully the activities the registrant engages in or proposes to engage in on behalf of the above foreign principal.

As indicated in Attachment A of the agreement, DCI will assist the Embassy of Azerbaijan with public relations and media strategy and outreach, including developing contacts with the media, working to promote media coverage of issues important to our client and, if requested, developing informational materials for distribution through various media. DCI will identify speaking opportunities in the United States for Azerbaijani officials and will assist in developing speeches. DCI will also build relationships with think tanks and other policy thought leaders and institutions to promote a deeper understanding of Azerbaijan's strategic partnership with the U.S, its role in Asia, and the issues and strategic policy concerns that are important to the country.

9. Will the activities on behalf of the above foreign principal include political activities as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act and in the footnote below? Yes  No

If yes, describe all such political activities indicating, among other things, the relations, interests or policies to be influenced together with the means to be employed to achieve this purpose.

Political activities will consist of communicating with public and private sector leaders to explain the benefits of the bilateral relationship between the US and Azerbaijan, the importance of the country's energy resources to US and regional security, and the national security implications of the country's partnership with the US. DCI also intends to provide information and other data to foreign policy leaders that promote and are beneficial to Azerbaijan's policy interests.

### EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this Exhibit B to the registration statement and that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date of Exhibit B	Name and Title	Signature
October 01, 2012	Justin Peterson, Managing Partner	/s/ Justin Peterson eSigned

Footnote: Political activity as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act means any activity which the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting, or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to the political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

## Attachment A

### STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

In engaging with key influencers inside and outside Washington, we will highlight:

1. The importance of the bilateral economic relationship between the United States and Azerbaijan.
2. Azerbaijan's energy resources and what they mean for US and regional energy security.
3. The national security implications of Azerbaijan's partnership with the United States and its regional relationships.

### PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MEDIA OUTREACH

DCI Group will:

- Develop a comprehensive matrix of US and international press contacts that have covered Azerbaijan or the region.
- Work to help craft and place op-eds in major online and traditional news outlets.
- Work to secure articles and editorial coverage inside and outside of Washington.
- Offer media training for any Azerbaijan officials coming to the United States.
- Identify opportunities to promote adventure tourism via a trip for travel journalists to Azerbaijan.

Additionally, we have the capacity to create and place television commercials, radio ads, print and online ads to amplify the messages nationally or in target states, to elevate the campaign.

#### **Build relationships with think tanks.**

In many respects, US think tanks are vital contributors to the formulation of US policy and serve as validators of official policy positions. Think tanks work closely with the administration on many areas and often brief congressional members and staff on key issues. Azerbaijan should ensure that key think tanks have a deeper understanding of the country's strategic partnership with the United States and Azerbaijan's role in the region. There may also be opportunities to better educate experts in think tanks on some aspects of the Armenia messaging campaign.

DCI Group will:

- Develop a core group of think tanks for outreach and define new topics for positive engagement that parallel Azerbaijan's strategic goals in the United States.
- Provide a survey of current scholarship and recommend where and how to productively engage on other topics on which Azerbaijan is already exposed, including Afghanistan and the Northern Distribution Network and Nagorno-Karabakh.
- Identify speaking opportunities for the ambassador and select visiting officials, including the drafting of remarks and speeches, as required.

- Craft a program of engagement with important NGOs in Washington, which are often thought of like think tanks, and better define their core concerns for the government of Azerbaijan.

**ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

**Dated January 1, 2014**

This ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is effective this January 1, 2014, by and between the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan ("Azerbaijan"), at 2741 34th Street NW, Washington, DC 20008, and the Podesta Group, ("the Provider") at 1001 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20001.

WHEREAS, Azerbaijan wishes to have the Provider performing the services hereinafter referred to, and

WHEREAS, the Provider is willing to perform these services,

NOW THEREFORE the Parties hereby agree as follows:

**Services**

The Provider shall provide strategic counsel to Azerbaijan on strengthening its ties to the United States government and institutions. The Provider shall provide Azerbaijan monthly reports of its activities.

**Term**

The Provider shall perform the Services during the period commencing on January 1, 2014 and continuing through December 31, 2014. Either Party may terminate this Agreement upon sixty (60) days written notice. Azerbaijan shall review this Agreement every six (6) months after it has been executed by both parties.

**Payment**

Azerbaijan shall pay the Provider fifty thousand dollars (US \$50,000) per month, plus expenses.

Reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Podesta Group exceeding two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) requires Azerbaijan's prior approval. Reimbursable expenses include international and domestic travel if required, including accommodations; public relations expenses for events; advertising; and digital services. Azerbaijan shall reimburse the Podesta Group for individual expenses less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) at cost. Expenses for each month shall be invoiced and paid with the fees due at the end of every month. Wire instructions are as follows:

The first month's payment to Provider shall be due before performance of the Services can continue.

For the remainder of the period, payment shall be made by wire transfer to Provider no later than the 1st day of the following month.

**Performance Standard**

The Provider undertakes to perform the Services with the highest standards of professional and ethical competence and integrity. Provider shall comply with the Foreign Agents Registration Act and any other applicable United States laws.

**Confidentiality**

The Provider shall not disclose any proprietary or confidential information relating to the Services, this Agreement or the Azerbaijan's business or operations without Azerbaijan's prior written consent. Termination of the present Agreement shall not affect this provision, which shall remain in force for an indefinite period.

**Ownership of Material**

Any studies, reports, opinions or other material, or otherwise, prepared by the Provider for Azerbaijan under the Agreement shall belong to and remain the property of Azerbaijan. The Provider may retain a copy of such documents and software.

**Insurance**

Azerbaijan shall not be obliged to provide insurance under this Agreement. The Provider shall be responsible for taking out any appropriate insurance coverage.

**Assignment**

The Provider shall not assign this Agreement or any portion of it without Azerbaijan's prior written consent.

**Governing Law and Language**

The Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia and the United States of America, and the language of the Agreement shall be English.

**Amendment**

This Agreement may not be modified or amended except by an instrument in writing by the parties hereto.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
For the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Name (print): Elin Suleymanova

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
For the Podesta Group

Mr. Anthony Podesta

**Foreign Government or Foreign Government Entity Donors**  
which have provided funding to the Atlantic Council in the past five years

Foreign Government Entity Funding

State Oil Company of Azerbaijan (SOCAR)  
DEPA Public Gas Corporation (Greece)  
JP Transnafta (Serbia)  
Petroleum Pipeline Corporation (BOTAS) (Turkey)  
Istanbul Natural Gas Distribution Co. (IGDAS) (Turkey)  
Turkey Army College  
The Electricity Generation Company (EUAS) (Turkey)  
Turkish Petroleum Corporation (TPAO) (Turkey)

Foreign Government Funding

Kingdom of Bahrain  
European Commission  
Republic of Finland  
Georgia  
Republic of Kazakhstan  
Grand Duchy of Luxembourg  
Montenegro  
North Atlantic Treaty Organization  
Kingdom of Norway  
Republic of Poland  
State of Qatar  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Kingdom of Sweden  
Republic of China (Taiwan)  
United Arab Emirates  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

- The Council has also benefitted from modest, in-kind contributions from foreign governments, for example when they have hosted Council events at their embassies.





JULY 03, 2014

---

## NATO in the Caucasus: The Case of Azerbaijan

On Tuesday, July 1st, the Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center hosted a public forum on the present and future relationship between NATO and the Republic of Azerbaijan. The panelists included H.E. Khazar Ibrahim, Head of the Azerbaijani mission to NATO; Dr. Brenda Shaffer, Visiting Researcher at CERES, Georgetown University; and Mr. Eric Rubin, Deputy Assistant Security for Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs at the US Department of State. The event was introduced by Atlantic Council CEO and President Fred Kempe, and moderated by Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center Deputy Director David Koranyi.

The participants discussed Azerbaijan's importance in the Caucasus and its evolving relationship with NATO. The conversation highlighted Azerbaijan's concerted efforts in recent years to demonstrate its value as a NATO partner country. The speakers discussed Azerbaijan's contributions to Alliance missions, such as personnel contributions and de-mining operations in Afghanistan, as well as enhanced cooperation in critical energy infrastructure protection, as the Southern Gas Corridor shipping Azeri gas from the Caspian becomes a strategic asset for the West. The panel also elaborated on the development of interoperability with NATO alliance members and analyzed the political and security challenges in the South Caucasus in detail.

Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center

---

© 2014 Atlantic Council.

All Rights Reserved.

## Washington hosts event on Azerbaijan-NATO relations

Wed 02 July 2014 06:27 GMT | 2:27 Local Time

Text size:

***Washington has hosted an event on Azerbaijan-NATO relations.***

The influential Washington Analysis Center - Atlantic Council (Atlantic Council) has held an event "NATO in the Caucasus: Example of Azerbaijan."

The press service of the Azerbaijani embassy reports that the President of the Atlantic Council Fred Kempe spoke at the opening. Kempe noted the importance of Azerbaijan as a NATO partner.



Azerbaijan's representative in NATO, Ambassador Khazar Ibrahim, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Eric Rubin and an invited professor of Georgetown University Brenda Shaffer also spoke at the opening.

Referring to the history of relations between NATO and Azerbaijan over the past 20 years, Ambassador Ibrahim stressed the progressive development of bilateral ties.

"During his last visit to the headquarters of NATO, President Ilham Aliyev said that these relations are strategic", the diplomat stressed.

According to him, over the past period, Azerbaijan has turned from a country receiving assistance from NATO into a state who contributes to various activities of the Alliance.

U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary E. Rubin spoke about the successful participation of Azerbaijan in NATO "Partnership for Peace".

Professor B. Shafer in her speech touched upon the problems and threats faced by Azerbaijan in the region, country's cooperation with NATO in the field of security and its contribution to Europe's energy security.

Then speakers answered numerous questions of the participants.

Frederick Kempe  
President and CEO  
Atlantic Council  
1101 15th Street NW, 11th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005  
[www.acus.org](http://www.acus.org)

## GENERAL STATEMENT

“I can only speak for the Atlantic Council. We take our mission seriously of promoting constructive U.S. leadership, alongside our global friends and allies, to tackle the most pressing challenges of the 21st Century. We believe that engagement with U.S. government entities and foreign governments helps us achieve that mission, and we choose partners who wish to partner with us toward that end.”

**QUESTION FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES:** How much financial support has Azerbaijan or the State Oil Company of the Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR) to the Atlantic Council.

**RESPONSE:** For SOCAR, last support was in 2012 of \$50,000 or less to sponsor our energy conference in Istanbul. None of their funding has been applied to DC programming or activities. They are not an active, current funder of any of our activities, so no reason to mention them at our recent event on Azerbaijan’s partnership-for-peace NATO activities.

**QUESTION FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES:** Azerbaijan, which is not a project-based donor, but which has supported your energy summit, can you identify instances where your scholars have been critical of the government there?

### RESPONSE:

1. Atlantic Council Senior Fellow Sabine Freizer has been critical of Azerbaijan in several articles for the Council’s website and popular New Atlanticistblog. Sabine is also a regular participant and speaker at the Council’s Energy & Economic Summit in Istanbul:

“Azerbaijan’s President Ilham Aliyev used the violence to distract attention from his severe crackdown on non-government organizations, lawyers and media. [Authorities detained leading human rights activists](#), including the longstanding leaders of Armenia-Azerbaijan dialogue efforts, Leyla and Arif Yunus, and charged them with spying, treason, fraud and tax evasion. Other prominent activists have been detained or had their bank accounts frozen.” [Read the full post](#), which was also featured prominently on the Council’s homepage for several days.

“But Baku and Yerevan are not doing enough to support these track-two efforts. Instead, recent actions by Azerbaijan’s government make people-to-people confidence-building harder. On April 20, Azerbaijani authorities arrested journalist Rauf Mirkadyrov when he landed in Baku after being deported by Turkey. Days later, authorities briefly detained peace-building activists Arif and Leyla Yunus, saying they were investigating the couple for alleged espionage on behalf of Armenia. In fact, all three are engaged in an Armenian-Azerbaijani civil society project called [Public Dialogues](#).” [Read the full article](#).

2. Atlantic Council Eurasia Center Deputy Director David Koranyi has been consistently vocal about Azeri control over TANAP, arguing that it is not in Europe's interest and that Azerbaijan will control the route through Turkey the same way the Russians always wanted to control the Ukrainian transit route. He repeated this in front of Azeri Ambassador to the US Elin Suleymanov in Rome in December 2013 as a panelist on the Southern Gas Corridor. He also engaged in a debate about this with the Azeri Consul General to Los Angeles and a SOCAR representative in May at a conference in Los Angeles.

An example of an article in which Koranyi is critical of Azerbaijan's control over sections of the Southern Gas Corridor, in which he uses his Atlantic Council affiliation:

<http://www.iai.it/pdf/DocIAI/iaiw1407.pdf>

A recent tweet from Koranyi: [David Koranyi @DavidKoranyi](#) · [Aug 14](#) Sad and upsetting...Azerbaijan prosecutes prominent human rights defenders - <http://wapo.st/1l4pgmA> via [@washingtonpost](#)

A line from his introduction of the NATO/Azerbaijan event in early July: "An Azerbaijan fully embracing Western values first and pivoting towards and then gradually integrated into the Euro-Atlantic institutions is in the strategic interest of the transatlantic allies"