



633 Third Avenue, Suite 3210, New York, NY, 10017
Tel: (212) 371-2559, 371-2832 (ext. 101); Fax: (212) 371-2784, (646) 738-6143

**Statement by Mr. Tofiq Musayev
Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations**

**at the plenary segment of the High-level Forum on the Culture of Peace on the theme
“The Culture of Peace: Importance of justice, equality, and inclusion for advancing
peacebuilding”**

6 September 2022

Mr. President,

At the outset, I would like to thank you for convening this High-level Forum on the Culture of Peace, in accordance with General Assembly’s resolution 76/68 of 9 December 2022.

Azerbaijan pays particular attention to the promotion of the culture of peace and encouraging intercultural and interreligious dialogue at the national and international levels.

The purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations are key constituents of the international legal order and remain as important as ever.

The consensus on fundamental values, such as peace and respect for human rights, was also reflected in the adoption in 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which stated, inter alia, that “recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world”.

It is worth mentioning that the objectives of the culture of peace are hardly achievable if the universally recognized purposes and principles are overtly disregarded.

In addition, hate propaganda, coupled with policies aimed at sowing dissension on religious and racial grounds, building mono-ethnic societies and advocating the ideas of ethnic incompatibility and supremacy, fuels identity-based intolerance, destabilizes societies and undermines peaceful coexistence.

Attempts to weaponize the past and promote fabricated historical narratives serve the same purpose, resulting in generations growing up with a deep sense of hatred and intolerance.

The lack of accountability and impunity for serious violations of international law are also among the conditions conducive to the protraction, expansion or resurgence of conflicts. Justice is a fundamental building block of sustainable peace and post-conflict peacebuilding. It is therefore essential to address conflict-related breaches by all available means.

Approaches in addressing violations and preventing repetition feature strongly also within the framework of the role of development in building and sustaining peace.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers a framework for aligning efforts for access to justice with inclusion, human rights, peacebuilding, and conflict prevention.

The scale and nature of sustaining peace call for a closer strategic and operational partnership between the United Nations, Governments and other key stakeholders, complying with national sovereignty and taking into account national priorities and policies of States.

Providing support to States affected by conflict and engaged in post-conflict peacebuilding, reconstruction and rehabilitation must be a commitment of the international community. It is high time to translate the right words into real actions. As we speak here people are dying in conflicts or are being blown up by mines in peacetime.

In conclusion, I would like to particularly emphasize that, despite the devastating consequences of the war unleashed against Azerbaijan and unspeakable atrocities and sufferings that our people have endured, we will continue our efforts towards promoting multiculturalism and inclusivity.

Azerbaijan is keen to further contributing to peace and security, strengthening the legal order, advancing the prevention agenda, ensuring accountability and enhancing dialogue and global solidarity.

Thank you.