



# General Assembly Security Council

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## **Letter dated 10 July 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to write to you in connection with the letter dated 1 June 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia ([A/74/871-S/2020/479](#)), which has as its annex the so-called “implementation report on the status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts” on behalf of the illegal puppet regime established by Armenia in the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The information contained in the letter and its annex, asserting that the non-existent entity within the international community referred to by Armenia by various fake names is a party to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Protocols Additional thereto, is a primitive fabrication and has no validity whatsoever.

As is well-known, the parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Protocols Additional thereto are States, for which these treaties are in force in accordance with their relevant provisions. The list of States parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Protocols Additional thereto is available at the website of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs ([www.dfae.admin.ch/depositaire](http://www.dfae.admin.ch/depositaire)), acting as Depositary of these international treaties, as well as in the biennial reports of the Secretary-General on the status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts.<sup>1</sup> It

<sup>1</sup> See the latest report, contained in document [A/73/277](#).



is obvious that the unlawful entity established by Armenia in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan is absent in the list of States parties, notwithstanding the alleged submission of its so-called “instruments of accession” to the Depository of the treaties as far back as in 1993.

Armenia has illegally installed and sustained the existence of the puppet regime within the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, by a variety of means, including the maintenance of military forces in these territories. The illegality of this regime has been repeatedly stated at the international level; it is under Armenia’s direction and control and is ultimately nothing other than the product of aggression, ethnic cleansing and other atrocity crimes committed against Azerbaijanis on racial, ethnic and religious grounds. This regime is not recognized as a State by any country or international organization, and all allegations by Armenia to the contrary have been repeatedly rejected by the international community.

In its resolutions [822 \(1993\)](#), [853 \(1993\)](#), [874 \(1993\)](#) and [884 \(1993\)](#), the Security Council condemned the use of force against Azerbaijan and the occupation of its territories and reaffirmed respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, the inviolability of international borders and the inadmissibility of the use of force for the acquisition of territory. In response to the territorial claims and forcible actions of Armenia, the Security Council reconfirmed that the Nagorno-Karabakh region and other occupied districts are an integral part of the Republic of Azerbaijan and demanded the immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of the occupying forces from all the occupied territories.

The international community has recently reaffirmed its consistent and principled position of collective non-recognition of the situation resulting from the occupation of the territories of Azerbaijan by rejecting and invalidating the so-called “elections” to the self-styled structures of the puppet regime staged by Armenia on 31 March and 14 April 2020.<sup>2</sup>

Armenia cannot circumvent its responsibility for the breaches of international law, including the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto, by simply trying to disguise its role as the aggressor under the cover of the puppet regime. The comprehensive report on war crimes in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan and Armenia’s responsibility provides convincing evidence as to the range, variety and consistency of multiple war crimes committed by the militaries and other agents and officials of Armenia. Some of the offences examined in the report amount to the crime of genocide, as ethnic Azerbaijanis have been targeted because of their nationality and/or ethnicity, and the relevant intent has been to destroy the group in part.<sup>3</sup>

Armenia’s behaviour and the grave offences it has committed against Azerbaijan and its citizens in the course of the war constitute a clear violation of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, requiring urgent action by the international community to ensure accountability.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 32, 37, 68, 70, 75 and 83, and of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Yashar **Aliyev**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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<sup>2</sup> See [A/74/805-S/2020/301](#) and [A/74/855-S/2020/404](#).

<sup>3</sup> [A/74/676-S/2020/90](#), annex. See also the report on the international legal responsibilities of Armenia as the belligerent occupier of Azerbaijani territory, [A/74/881-S/2020/503](#), annex.