



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General
14 December 2021

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-sixth session
Agenda items 35, 66 and 85

Security Council
Seventy-sixth year

Prevention of armed conflict

Peacebuilding and sustaining peace

**The rule of law at the national and
international levels**

Letter dated 24 November 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In connection with the letters from the Permanent Representative of Armenia dated 16 November 2021 ([A/76/546-S/2021/956](#) and [S/2021/954](#)), containing the next batch of patently false and misleading statements and comments, I have the honour to bring to your attention the following:

Azerbaijan has seriously suffered from the devastating effects of the war unleashed against it by Armenia in the early 1990s. A significant part of the sovereign territory of my country was seized and remained under occupation for nearly 30 years, notwithstanding Security Council resolutions [822 \(1993\)](#), [853 \(1993\)](#), [874 \(1993\)](#) and [884 \(1993\)](#).

Serious violations of international humanitarian law have been committed in the course of the occupation, resulting in the killing of tens of thousands of civilians and the ethnic cleansing of all occupied areas of more than 700,000 Azerbaijanis. Most captured cities, towns and villages of Azerbaijan were razed to the ground.

Another act of aggression by Armenia last fall became a logical consequence of the impunity that it enjoyed for 30 years. Armenia's armed attacks involved the use of military force against densely populated Azerbaijani cities far outside the theatre of active hostilities, killing and wounding hundreds of civilians and destroying or damaging numerous civilian objects.

Azerbaijan launched a counter-offensive operation to liberate its occupied territories, protect its people and allow the internally displaced persons to return to their homes, acting in full accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law.



The three-decades-old armed conflict has been resolved. Azerbaijan expressed its readiness for the normalization of inter-State relations with Armenia, including through the signing of a peace treaty.

However, Armenia has failed to reciprocate the peace agenda put forward by Azerbaijan. Recent preplanned armed provocations by Armenia in the border area between the two States aimed at aggravating the situation, in flagrant violation of international law, the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and the statement of 10 November 2020, which resulted in the death of 7 and the wounding of 10 Azerbaijani servicemen, as well as Armenia's continued territorial claims are the result and manifestation of irresponsible and dangerous revanchist aspirations overtly nurtured at the State level in Armenia.

Azerbaijan responded adequately and will continue defending its territorial integrity and the rights and safety of its citizens by all available means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

Azerbaijan is confident that there is no alternative to the normalization of relations between the two countries based on mutual recognition and respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity within their internationally recognized borders and is determined to advance the agenda of peacebuilding, reconciliation, peaceful coexistence and development. Ensuring lasting peace, development, progress and good neighbourliness is the basis of Azerbaijan's vision for the future.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35, 66 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar Aliyev
Ambassador
Permanent Representative