



# General Assembly Security Council

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Agenda items 31, 61, 69, 71, 83, 99, 109 and 129

**Prevention of armed conflict****Peacebuilding and sustaining peace****Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia  
and related intolerance****Promotion and protection of human rights****The rule of law at the national and international levels****General and complete disarmament****Measures to eliminate international terrorism****The responsibility to protect and the prevention of  
genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes  
against humanity****Security Council  
Seventy-eighth year**

## **Letter dated 21 November 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

On 20 November 2023, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Republic of Azerbaijan held a joint press briefing for the diplomatic corps accredited in Azerbaijan, military attachés and local and international media representatives to present the evidence of illegal military activities by Armenia on the territory of Azerbaijan disclosed following the counter-terrorism measures carried out by Azerbaijan in its Garabagh region on 19 and 20 September 2023. The briefing participants were informed of the following:

- During almost 30 years of occupation by Armenia of the territories of Azerbaijan and in the post-conflict period, Azerbaijan repeatedly appealed to the international community regarding the urgent need to address the imminent threat to peace and security posed by the unlawful presence of the Armenian armed forces on these territories and their massive contamination with landmines and other explosive devices.
- In violation of international law, as well as the provisions of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, Armenia deployed and stockpiled a large amount of military equipment, armaments and ammunition in the formerly



occupied territories of Azerbaijan without reporting to international organizations, including the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Despite numerous calls by Azerbaijan to cease these violations, the indifference of the international community has further heightened tensions in the region.

- After the 44-day war in the fall of 2020, Azerbaijan detected and neutralized more than 10,000 anti-personnel and over 3,000 anti-tank mines and up to 12,000 unexploded devices in the liberated territories. However, in the post-conflict period, 65 citizens of Azerbaijan were killed and 272 injured by mine explosions, 158 of them civilians and 179 military, as Armenia refused to disclose the locations of hundreds of thousands of mines that it planted on the territory of Azerbaijan.
- The transfer by Armenia of weapons, ammunition and newly produced landmines to the Garabagh region of Azerbaijan through the abuse of the humanitarian designation of the Lachin road continued after the end of the 2020 war. Moreover, civilian objects, including even passenger aircraft and reconstruction work in the liberated territories, were targeted. Azerbaijan put an end to illegal cross-border transfers by establishing a border checkpoint on the Lachin road in April 2023.
- Weapons detected in the Garabagh region of Azerbaijan after the September 2023 counter-terrorism measures, including tanks, armoured vehicles, artillery, rockets, air defence systems, mortars, anti-tank guided missile systems, electromagnetic warfare equipment and millions of rounds of ammunition, reveal the shocking extent of the militarization of the region and Armenia's contempt for its international obligations. It is noteworthy that most of these weapons were located on civilian infrastructure objects.

In addition, briefing participants were provided with information about a workshop that operated in the city of Khankandi for the modification of military equipment and drones, as well as with evidence of training for civilians and military personnel on the use of workshop-modified drones and the targeting of civilian objects in Azerbaijan. The participants were also presented with samples of modified weapons, drones and 2021-produced ammunition and landmines.

Azerbaijan restored its sovereignty and territorial integrity in full conformity with the rights and responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations and international law. As the main obstacles to advancing the agenda for the normalization of inter-State relations have been eliminated, we expect that Armenia will strictly abide by its international obligations, cease and desist from disinformation and misinformation and engage faithfully in efforts to build peace and stability in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 31, 61, 69, 71, 83, 99, 109 and 129, and of the Security Council.

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