



# General Assembly Security Council

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**General Assembly  
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Agenda items 31, 61, 69, 71, 83 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**

**The responsibility to protect and the prevention of  
genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes  
against humanity**

**Security Council  
Seventy-eighth year**

## **Letter dated 13 September 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

As is well known, after unleashing aggression against Azerbaijan and occupying and ethnically cleansing the territories of my country in the early 1990s, Armenia installed and, over the next nearly 30 years, sustained the existence of a puppet occupation regime within those territories. Its criminal and racist essence and nature are self-evident, as it was established purely along ethnic lines, by the unlawful use of force and at the cost of tens of thousands of Azerbaijani civilians brutally killed, and hundreds of thousands expelled from their homeland, in the course of the aggression.

The illegality of this regime was repeatedly stated at the international level. 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 Council further reaffirmed that the territories claimed and occupied by Armenia, in blatant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, are an inalienable part of Azerbaijan and demanded the immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Armenian occupying forces from all the occupied territories.

During the 44-day war in the fall of 2020, Azerbaijan liberated more than 300 cities, towns and villages from occupation. The trilateral statement, signed on the



night of 9 to 10 November 2020, provided, inter alia, for a complete ceasefire and termination of all hostilities and the temporary deployment of the Russian peacekeeping contingent in some areas of the Garabagh region of Azerbaijan. The statement also committed Armenia to withdrawing its remaining troops from the territory of Azerbaijan.

Despite the devastating consequences of the aggression and unspeakable atrocities and sufferings endured by our people, following the long-awaited end of the occupation and conflict, along with large-scale restoration and reconstruction works in the liberated territories to ensure the safe return of the displaced population and the high standard of living, Azerbaijan initiated the normalization of inter-State relations with Armenia based on mutual recognition and respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity within their internationally recognized borders. This initiative was widely supported by the international community, and concrete steps were taken to launch and move the process forward with the facilitation of international partners.

However, Armenia's engagement in the process was not genuine, as it did everything possible, in words and deeds, to obstruct the negotiations, backtrack from its commitments and sustain and further incite violent ethnic separatism in the territory of Azerbaijan where the peacekeepers are deployed.

For example, nearly 10,000 troops of the armed forces of Armenia remain in the sovereign territory of Azerbaijan. Armenia refuses to withdraw these forces, in gross violation of international law and the aforementioned trilateral statement. Dozens of tanks and other armoured vehicles, more than 200 heavy artillery units and rocket launchers, dozens of different types of radio electronic warfare equipment and close to 200 mortars are at the disposal of these forces, which are financed directly from the State budget of Armenia. Since the end of the war, in addition to regular ceasefire violations and other armed provocations on the ground, these forces have increased and intensified their military build-up in the territory of Azerbaijan, digging new trenches, laying mines, building fortifications and accumulating personnel and equipment, in an apparent attempt to return to the divisive logic of the "line of contact".

The circulation by Armenia in the United Nations and other international organizations of worthless papers on behalf of the unlawful puppet regime, the elements of which are still hiding in the area where the peacekeepers are deployed, and references in its official communications and statements to the localities within Azerbaijan under invalid or fabricated names, are further clear indicators of Armenia's unswerving adherence to its long-standing policy of territorial claims, ethnic cleansing and cultural erasure. The letters dated 12 and 27 July and 16 August 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia ([A/77/967-S/2023/529](#), [A/77/981-S/2023/562](#) and [A/77/1001-S/2023/604](#)) are the most recent examples of this kind.

The highly provocative "congratulatory message" by the Prime Minister of Armenia earlier this month on the occasion of the "anniversary" of the fake entity, the creation of which was declared at the beginning of the aggression in the early 1990s, and the so-called "presidential elections" staged in the territory of Azerbaijan where the peacekeepers are deployed testify to deep contradictions and significant deviations in the commitments and deeds of Armenia.

These policies and actions of Armenia and its ongoing anti-Azerbaijan smear campaign undermine the fragile normalization process and represent a serious challenge to peace and stability in the region.

Peace and stability require unconditional and complete withdrawal of the armed forces of Armenia from the Garabagh region of Azerbaijan, disbandment of the unlawful puppet regime and its structures in this territory, strict compliance with international obligations and faithful commitment to the earliest result-oriented inter-State normalization.

Azerbaijan will not leave unanswered the threats and claims to its sovereignty and territorial integrity and to the rights and safety of its citizens and will continue efforts towards advancing post-conflict peacebuilding, reintegration and development 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 and 129, and of the Security Council.

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

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