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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 15 September 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In its anti-Azerbaijan slander campaign, Armenia does not shy away from outright fabrications, insinuations and manipulations. The letter dated 28 August 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia and the annexed statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia regarding the detention and arrest of three nationals of Armenia ([A/77/1007-S/2023/634](https://www.un.org/pressdocs/2023/230915.htm)) are another striking example in that regard.

Azerbaijan responded to the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia.¹ Moreover, as the Office of the Prosecutor General of Azerbaijan indicated, those three persons were detained at the Lachin border checkpoint in accordance with an international arrest warrant issued by the court based on a criminal case earlier instituted for inciting ethnic and racial hatred and insulting the national flag of Azerbaijan. At the same time, considering the principle of humanism and taking into account the age of the detainees and their sincere remorse for the illegal actions committed, the criminal prosecution against them was terminated. By a court

¹ See the commentary by the Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia dated 28 August 2023, available at <https://mfa.gov.az/en/news/no44923>.



decision, they were sentenced to 10 days of administrative arrest and, after the execution of this sentence, were expelled from the territory of Azerbaijan.²

As for another person referred to in the aforementioned letter, information about his arrest on charges of committing war crimes and genocide is contained in our letter dated 25 August 2023 ([A/77/1005-S/2023/625](#)).

These measures are fully consistent with the legislation and international obligations of Azerbaijan. Azerbaijan will continue its efforts to end impunity for serious offences, promote the rule of law and build, strengthen and sustain 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 and 129, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar Aliyev
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

² See “Armenian football players detained at the Lachin border post have been arrested”, available at <https://genprosecutor.gov.az/az/post/6747>.