



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General
31 January 2022

Original: English

**General Assembly
Seventy-sixth session**

Agenda items 16, 35, 66, 72, 73, 74 and 85

Culture of peace**Prevention of armed conflict****Peacebuilding and sustaining peace****Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia
and related intolerance****Right of peoples to self-determination****Promotion and protection of human rights****The rule of law at the national and international levels****Security Council****Seventy-seventh year**

Letter dated 28 January 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On 20 January 2022, Azerbaijan commemorated the thirty-second anniversary of “Black January”. Thousands of people visited the Martyrs’ Alley in Baku to pay tribute to those who sacrificed their lives protesting against unconstitutional territorial claims of neighbouring Armenia, persecutions, killings and mass expulsion of hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijanis from their ancestral lands in Armenia and the failure of the leadership of the Soviet Union to put an end to unlawful acts and violence against Azerbaijanis.

In that context, we resolutely reject as shameless and insulting the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia of 14 January 2022, contained as an annex to the equally egregious letter from the Permanent Representative of Armenia ([A/76/657-S/2022/37](#)). By disseminating apparent lies, Armenia tries to distort the root causes of the war that it unleashed against Azerbaijan and conceal its own atrocity crimes.

Armenia’s claims and actions were never peaceful. It would be appropriate if the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Representative of Armenia recalled the tragic fate of the citizens of the Soviet Socialist Republic of Armenia of Azerbaijani origin, who solely because of their ethnic identity were the first to be subjected to violence and abuse, starting in November 1987, and that the Azerbaijanis were the first victims of the conflict.



Armenia also passes over in silence the fact that both Armenia itself and the formerly occupied territories of Azerbaijan were ethnically cleansed of more than 1 million Azerbaijanis and that the process of their mass expulsion was accompanied by unspeakable brutalities.

It is ironic that Armenia – a country which unleashed aggression against Azerbaijan, carried out ethnic cleansing on a massive scale, killed and maimed thousands of civilians, methodically and systematically pursued a policy of destroying any traces of other cultures in the territories under its control; and a country where international terrorists, war criminals and even Nazi collaborators are national heroes – is shamelessly ranting about human rights and self-determination of peoples.

No amount of concocted lies, falsifications of history and misinterpretations of international law can help Armenia evade responsibility for the heinous crimes it has committed and the racist ideology and policies it has pursued and continues to implement to this day.

I further wish to inform you that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan the same day responded to the aforementioned statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia.¹

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 16, 35, 66, 72, 73, 74 and 85, and of the Security Council.

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

¹ Available at <https://mfa.gov.az/en/news/no00822>.