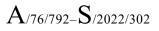
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Prevention of armed conflict

Culture of peace

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

Letter dated 8 April 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In reference to the letter dated 25 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia (A/76/775-S/2022/269), which we categorically reject as false and misleading, I would like to bring to your attention the following.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan has earlier responded to similar irresponsible statements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia.¹

I have to emphasize that Armenia has neither legal, nor a political or moral ground to make any statements concerning the internationally recognized territory of Azerbaijan or the matters falling within my country's exclusive sovereign rights, competence and responsibilities.

The circulation by Armenia of papers on behalf of a fictitious entity, along with regular references in its communications and statements to the localities within Azerbaijan with fake names, is an undisguised encroachment on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and a profound contempt for the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

¹ Available at https://mfa.gov.az/en/news/no13622; https://mfa.gov.az/en/news/no13922; https://mfa.gov.az/en/news/no14322; and https://mfa.gov.az/en/news/no14622.





I must reiterate that, by his decree of 7 July 2021, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan established the Garabagh (Qarabağ) (consisting of the city of Khankandi (Xankəndi) and the districts of Aghjabadi (Ağcabədi), Aghdam (Ağdam), Barda (Bərdə), Fuzuli (Füzuli), Khojaly (Xocalı), Khojavand (Xocavənd), Shusha (Şuşa) and Tartar (Tərtər)) and East Zangazur (Şərqi Zəngəzur) (consisting of the districts of Jabrayil (Cəbrayıl), Kalbajar (Kəlbəcər), Gubadly (Qubadlı), Lachin (Laçın) and Zangilan (Zəngilan)) economic regions in Azerbaijan.

It is ironic that, having achieved the homogenous composition of its own country as a result of the deliberate policy and practice of ethnic cleansing and cultural erasure against other peoples and being liable for the numerous atrocity crimes and barbaric destruction and devastation of hundreds of cities, towns and villages during its aggression against Azerbaijan, Armenia is trying to portray itself as an ardent defender of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

However, such attempts are not capable of whitewashing the well-known real image of Armenia as a persistent violator of international law and human rights.

Armenia must, first and foremost, fully comply with its own international obligations, redress the harm caused to Azerbaijan and its people, shed light on the fate of thousands of missing Azerbaijanis, renounce its territorial claims, faithfully commit to the normalization of inter-State relations based on international law and implement the trilateral statements in their entirety, including by withdrawing completely and without further delay the remnants of its armed forces from the territory of Azerbaijan.

In that context, we consider the meeting of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, Nikol Pashinyan, hosted by the President of the European Council, Charles Michel, on 6 April 2022 in Brussels, as an important step towards ensuring the future development of the region in peace and security.²

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, 74, 85 and 134, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar Aliyev Ambassador Permanent Representative

² See the information of the Press Service Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the meeting of the leaders of Azerbaijan and Armenia in Brussels with the mediation and participation of the President of the European Council, Charles Michel, available at https://mfa.gov.az/en/news/no16422.