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**Prevention of armed conflict** 

Peacebuilding and sustaining peace

The rule of law at the national and international levels

## Letter dated 15 December 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In connection with the letter from the Permanent Representative of Armenia dated 7 December 2021 (A/76/584-S/2021/1018), containing as its annex the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia, I have the honour to enclose herewith the comments of the Press Service Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan (see annex).

It is ironic that Armenia – a country which unleashed aggression against Azerbaijan, held the sovereign territories of Azerbaijan under occupation for almost 30 years, carried out ethnic cleansing on a massive scale and committed other heinous crimes during the war – enthusiastically talks now on the norms and principles that it has consistently violated and appeals to the General Assembly and the Security Council whose resolutions it has simply disregarded in the hope of endless impunity.

The three-decades-old armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan has been resolved. Azerbaijan has repeatedly expressed its readiness to 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, including through the signing of a peace treaty based on these principles.

That Armenia is unwilling to reciprocate the peace and reconciliation agenda put forward by Azerbaijan is evidenced in its continued territorial claims, deeply rooted hatred and disinformation campaign against my country. However, instead of wasting time trying to impose its hostile policy and mislead the international community, Armenia must realize that the compliance with international law and good-neighbourly relations are the main objectives to which Armenia should finally begin aspiring.

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

(Signed) Yashar Aliyev Ambassador Permanent Representative





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Annex to the letter dated 15 December 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

## Comments of the Press Service Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan on the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia dated 7 December 2021

The Armenian Foreign Ministry's claim that the views expressed by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan during a meeting with the residents of the Guba district of Azerbaijan allegedly do not correspond to the signed trilateral statements and pose a threat to the territorial integrity of Armenia is nothing but an attempt by the Armenian side to conceal its unwillingness to fulfil its obligations, as well as to create unreasonable phobias among its population and divert the attention of the international community from this issue.

The Azerbaijani side has repeatedly stressed the importance of implementing the joint statements signed by the leaders of the three countries at the highest level, and we have taken concrete steps in this direction. Despite the fact that more than a year has passed, Armenia is not fulfilling its obligations under various pretexts, hindering the maintenance of peace and security in the region. Armenia, which has not yet given up its baseless claims to the Garabagh region of Azerbaijan and nurtures revanchism, does not reciprocate Azerbaijan's steps to normalize relations between the two countries.

We urge the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia – the country which has illegally held the territories of Azerbaijan under occupation for almost thirty years, ignoring the calls of the international community, to carefully read the statements signed by their country's leader and fulfil the obligations they assumed under these documents, instead of addressing the international community on false grounds.