STATEMENTS

Statement of the Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan concerning the large-scale provocation of the armed forces of Armenia in the directions of Dashkesen, Kalbajar and Lachin

We regret to inform you that the Armenian armed forces started their next large-scale provocation in the late hours of September 12 in the directions of the Dashkesen, Kalbajar, and Lachin districts of the Azerbaijani-Armenian state border deliberately and in serious breach of the universally recognized principles and norms of international law, fundamental human rights, and provisions of the Tripartite Statement of November 10, 2020, signed by the Azerbaijani, Armenian and Russian leaders.

The military provocation caused casualties among the military servicemen, damage to military and civil infrastructure, and violations of the rights to life, safety, and health of civilians and military personnel.

We strongly condemn the mining by the sabotage groups from the Armenian armed forces of various territories of Azerbaijan in various directions, especially in the places where large-scale restoration and construction works are carried out, as well as on the supply routes using the hilly terrain and valley gaps of the area in the darkness.

In general, during 1991-2022 years, 3190 Azerbaijani citizens, including 355 children, and 38 women became victims of mine explosions. From November 2020 until September 2022, 242 persons were hit by mines, 40 of whom died and 202 others got serious body injuries.

The reveal of the facts, confirming that the mines discovered as a result of demining processes that have been carried out in our liberated territories recently, were produced in Armenia in 2021, lack of interest of Armenia in opening communications and traffic routes, as well as lack of support to peace dialogues show that this country does not interested in peace processes as well.

We consider such military provocations, which are committed with the intention of ethnic hatred and enmity against Azerbaijan, intentionally and purposefully

causing serious damage to people's lives and health, at odds with norms of international humanitarian law, as a gross violation of fundamental rights and freedoms.

By committing such violence, Armenia tries to slow down the extensive reconstruction works carried out in the liberated areas, so, it delays the repatriation process of former internally displaced persons to their historical lands.

Appealing to international organizations and the world community, we call them to immediately and strictly react to the provocations of Armenia, which contaminated universally recognized territories of Azerbaijan, prevented the large-scale reconstruction works carried out in the liberated territories and repatriation of the former internally displaced persons to their native lands, created serious obstacles to the just and sustainable peace in the region, and grossly violated fundamental human rights and freedoms.

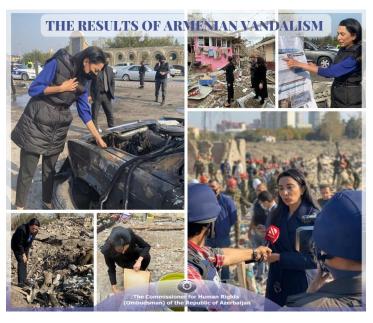
Sabina Aliyeva

The Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan

13 September 2022

This Statement has been addressed to the UN Secretary-General, UN Security Council, UN Office of High Commissioner for Refugees, UN Human Rights Council, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, European Union, Council of Europe, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, International and European Ombudsman Institutions, Asian Ombudsman Association, Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Ombudsman Association of its member states, Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, European Network of Ombudspersons for Children, International Peace Bureau, foreign ombudsmen and national human rights institutions, embassies of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the foreign embassies in Azerbaijan, as well as to the Azerbaijani Diasporas.

Statement of the Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 27 September - the Remembrance Day in the Republic of Azerbaijan



Two years ago, that is, on 27 September 2020 the Armenian armed forces started large-scale military operations by intensively attacking the positions of the Azerbaijani Army and densely populated civilian settlements like Gapanli village of Tartar, Chiragli, and OrtaGaravend villages of Alkhanli Aghdam, and Shukurbeyli villages of Fuzuli and

Jojug Merjanli village of Jabrayil districts in order to occupy new territories with the use of large-caliber weapons, mortars and artillery of various calibers, which resulted in human casualties.

Thus, to prevent military aggression of Armenia and liberate our occupied territories, Azerbaijan used its right to self-defense by carrying out counter-attack operations in line with the norms of international law, including Article 51 of the United Nations Charter.

During the 44-day Patriotic War, the Armenian armed forces intensively fired at heavily populated Naftalan, Aghdam, Aghjabedi, Beylagan, Dashkesen, Fuzuli, Goranboy, and Tartar districts and city centers from the prohibited weapons, even Ganja and Mingachevir cities, Barda, Gabala, Siyazan, and Khizi and other districts, which were located far away from the combat zone were subjected to long-range operational-tactical and ballistic missile attacks. The next target of Armenia was Baku, the capital city of Azerbaijan, however, it failed to do so.

We have to note that war crimes committed by Armenian armed forces with the use of banned "Scud", "Smerch" and "Isgender-M" ballistic rockets, as well as white phosphorous and cluster munitions without hesitation caused to death of nearly 100 civilians, of which 12 were children, and over 450 civilians were badly injured. Furthermore, over 12 thousand civilian objects, including more than 3410 houses, 120 multi-floored apartment buildings, numerous schools, hospitals and kindergartens in Azerbaijan were destroyed or fell into disrepair as a result of artillery attacks.

During the past period, Armenia intentionally committed ecocide against Azerbaijan by using prohibited chemical weapons, intentionally causing massive fires, subjecting the environment, including drinking water sources to physical and chemical pollution and seriously damaging nature, flora, and fauna.

It should be noted that today it's necessary to solve the clashes between states as one of the global problems and to build peace for the elimination of serious obstacles to the development of mankind in terms of fulfillment of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, ensuring just and sustainable peace, serving directly to the protection of fundamental human rights by promoting a peaceful and inclusive society for the sake of sustainable development, and putting an end to racial, ethnic, and religious discrimination among the peoples, unreasonable conflicts, and double standards are of utmost importance.

In this regard, after the signing of the tripartite statement of 10 November 2020 declaring the cease of hostilities between Armenia and Azerbaijan, new opportunities were created for the restoration of peace, which serves the normalization and development of interstate relations in the South Caucasus in line with the new realities, overcoming long-term conflict, and for restoration of economic and transport communications in the region.

Despite all this, Armenia, which regularly creates impediments to the peace by carrying out racial, ethnic, and religion-based hatred policy for long years, along with the assertion of unlawful territorial claims to Azerbaijan, has been still continuing to commit military provocations aimed at severe violation of human rights. This is once more confirmed by the facts of multiple attacks on the positions of Azerbaijan by the Armenian armed forces during the postwar period, and a large-scale military provocation, that started to be committed at night hours

on 12 September 2022 in the directions of Dashkesen, Kalbajar, and Lachin of the Azerbaijan -Armenia state border, causing the violation of the rights of servicemen and civilians to life, live in safety and right to health. In addition, it is an indication that namely, Armenia does not support peace as it repeatedly violates the ceasefire regime, lays the Armenia-produced multiple mines in various directions using mountainous terrain and valley gaps of the territory of Azerbaijan in the darkness, especially in the places where large-scale restoration and construction works are being carried out, as well as on the supply routes, and attacks made on the diplomatic missions of Azerbaijan abroad by the people of Armenian origin.

Incidentally, the laying of mines and other explosive ordnances in our territories by Armenia during the occupation period and the failure of them to provide us with accurate minefield maps are still remaining as a problem. In general, during 1991-2022 years, 3190 citizens of Azerbaijan, including 355 children, and 38 women became victims of mine explosions. From November 2020 to September 2022, 242 persons were hit by mines, of which 40 persons died and other 202 got serious bodily injuries.

Military provocations purposefully committed by Armenia, in violation of the norms of international humanitarian law (IHL), including the 1949 Geneva Conventions for the protection of war victims and their Additional Protocols, intended to seriously damage sustainable peace and security in the region, along with prevention of extensive reconstruction works carried out in the liberated areas and the return of former internally displaced persons to their own lands.

Based on what has been said above, we think that just and sustainable peace takes an important role in the effective enforcement of obligations arising from the universally recognized norms and principles of international law, including IHL, as well as the UN SDGs; however, considering that Armenia has not yet given up its ethnic and religious-based hatred and aggression policies against Azerbaijan and constantly hinders peace process and causes threat and danger to the provision of sustainable peace in the South Caucasus region, it is necessary to take the following measures immediately:

- International organizations, states, foreign ombudspersons, and other national human rights institutions must join efforts to ensure fulfillment of the norms and principles of international law, including IHL by Armenia, which severely violates

the rights of Azerbaijanis due to their racial, ethnic, religious and cultural affiliation, and to ensure the restoration of sustaining peace;

- Armenia should respect the universally recognized territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and completely stop its provocative actions aimed at severe violations of fundamental human rights, such as the right to life, right to live in safety, and right to health by threatening the lives and health of the civilian population;
- The delimitation and demarcation processes between Azerbaijan and Armenia with a view to clarifying the boundary line between states should be carried out objectively and a peace deal, which is significant in terms of political and economic development of the region, should be ensured;
- Armenia should provide Azerbaijan with objective information about the fate of persons who went missing during the First and Second Karabakh Wars and share accurate minefield maps of the liberated territories;
- Illegal armed forces belonging to Armenia should be immediately withdrawn from the territory of Azerbaijan, and all items of the Tripartite Statement of 10 November 2020 should be fulfilled by creating an opportunity for the opening of transport communications that is important for the development of the region, as well as for building new transport communication lines that will connect the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic with the western districts of Azerbaijan, and for returning and peaceful living of internally displaced persons and refugees in their ancestral lands;
- Unpleasant actions causing the formation of intolerance towards Azerbaijanis in Armenia and beyond its borders and hindering a sustaining peace between the parties, as well as using hateful and spiteful speeches on social media that promote enmity should be strongly condemned. Necessary legal measures should be taken in connection with the attacks made on the diplomatic missions of Azerbaijan in line with the 1961 UN Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, and the 1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents;

We do hope that with the joint support of well-known international organizations and peaceful states, Armenia will coherently fulfill its obligations arising from

international human rights treaties, including IHL norms, as well as all items of joint statements concluded on 10 November 2020 and 11 January 2021 by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia and President of the Russian Federation and consequently, stability, security, and economic development in the South Caucasus region will be achieved.

Sabina Aliyeva

The Commissioner for Human Rights of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Ombudsman)

27 September 2022

This Statement has been addressed to the UN Secretary-General, UN Security Council, UN Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN Office of High Commissioner for Refugees, UN Human Rights Council, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, European Union, Council of Europe, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, International and European Ombudsman Institutions, Asian Ombudsman Association, Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Ombudsman Association of its member states, Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, European Network of Ombudspersons for Children, International Peace Bureau, foreign ombudsmen and national human rights institutions, embassies of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the foreign embassies in Azerbaijan, as well as to the Azerbaijani Diasporas.

MESSAGES

Ombudsman's Message concerning the Attacks on the Diplomatic Missions of Azerbaijan in Foreign Countries

Date of issue: 19.09.2022

Armenia, which commits for long years of genocidal acts and terror policy based on hatred, along with asserting unlawful territorial claims to Azerbaijan, still continues provocative acts in severe violations of human rights.

This statement is once more confirmed by attempts of extremist forces of Armenian origin living in Lebanon, gathered in front of the Azerbaijani embassy in Beirut in the name of holding an "action" these days and attacking the embassy building and attempts to assassinate the Azerbaijani diplomats. Similar attacks were made on the embassies of Azerbaijan in the United States and France. Especially in France, in the name of holding a "peaceful action", there was a radical attempt to enter the building of our embassy, and acts of vandalism were committed. Unfortunately, the protection of the embassy building and diplomats were not properly ensured in line with international law. This is a violation of international obligations by which states are bound.

Thus, such attacks on the Azerbaijani diplomatic missions are blatant violations of international law, in particular, the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, proclaimed by the United Nations, and the 1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents.

We strongly condemn such unpleasant events, causing the formation of ethnic intolerance against Azerbaijanis in Armenia and beyond its borders, undermining the bringing of sustainable peace between parties, as well as the use of hateful and spiteful expressions by people of Armenian origin in public speeches and on social media promoting enmity. Therefore, I call on the Government of Armenia to comply with its international obligations, not to discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, and refrain from the policy of hatred against Azerbaijanis as soon as possible.

Considering the possibility of similar attacks in other countries, appealing to the international community and the states where Azerbaijani diplomats operate, I call them to take measures in line with the norms and principles of international law to prevent provocations instigated by the political and military leadership of Armenia, which promote enmity between the parties on the ground of ethnicity, and endanger people's lives and health, as well as to ensure the protection of embassies and diplomatic missions.

Ombudsman's Message to international community concerning mine explosions in Fuzuli and Tartar

Date of issue: 01.10.2022

Despite the repeated calls, the failure of Armenia not yet handover to our country the accurate maps of mines that were buried in the universally recognized territories of Azerbaijan during the period of occupation remained a serious threat to the lives and health of civilians, along with servicemen.

Regretfully on 30 September 2022 as a result of an explosion of an anti-tank mine in Yukhari Dilagharda village, an area that has not been cleared of mines, Asadov Amid (b.1986) and Guluzade Cherkez (b. 2007) died and Guliyev Bahadur (b.1973) injured.

In addition, on 1 October 2022, an explosion of an anti-personnel mine in the place named "Uchunju Sovkhoz" in the liberated Tartar district, an area that has not yet been cleared of mines, Jabbarov Nijat (b. 1990) and Bayramov Rafail (b. 1976) have got serious physical injuries and according to the preliminary information, their legs were amputated.

We, once again, reiterate to international organizations our concern about the potential danger that unmarked mines cause to human life and call on to take urgent measures in this regard.

By handing over accurate minefield maps to our country, Armenia should respect the norms of international humanitarian law and human rights and fulfill its obligations for ensuring sustainable peace and security in the region.

OPINION

The Reaction of the Ombudsman to the discovery of another mass burial found in Khojavend

Date of issue: 04.10.2022

Opinion of the Ombudsman to the Discovery of Another Mass Burial found in Khojavend Another mass burial was found in Edilli village of Khojavend district of Azerbaijan, liberated from the occupation. In that place of mass burial, 12 human remains whose hands and feet were tied with wire and rope, were discovered.

Based on objects and clothing found, it was identified that those remains belong to servicemen. And this proves many statements about the torture and killing of Azerbaijani prisoners of war. There is a possibility that these remains found belong to our compatriots, who disappeared during the First Karabakh War, and until today no information about their life was known.

However, despite repeated calls, the Armenian side abode to provide the information about places of mass burial of Azerbaijanis in order to hide its war crimes from the international community, the discovery of this fact once more proved that Armenia blatantly violates the 1949 Geneva Conventions and pursues a policy of ethnic hatred against Azerbaijanis.

We have to recall that another mass grave of Azerbaijanis was found in this village in February of this year. To prevent Armenia's next similar crimes, the international community should respond adequately to these war crimes and hold perpetrators liable.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

Date of issue: 14.09.2022

Unfortunately, we have to inform you that Armenia continues military provocation despite calls for peace by Azerbaijan. as a result of attacks of the armed forces of Armenia, civilians Musayev Asim, an inhabitant of Veyisli village of Goranboy district, and Orujov Arzuman, an inhabitant of Garachinar village of Goranboy district, engaged in the construction work in Kalbajar district were seriously injured.

Deliberately targeting civilians by the armed forces of Armenia is a serious breach of the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

Date of issue: 19.09.2022

The Government of Armenia did not take any steps toward the sharing of accurate maps of the mined areas, albeit the repeated calls made by the Azerbaijani Ombudsman in this regard. On the contrary, it has been continuing the mine burial in the liberated territories of Azerbaijan, universally recognized by the United Nations, enjoying the pressure-free environment on the international stage.

As can be seen from the shared video, a sabotage group from the armed forces of Armenia, as well as the illegal Armenian armed groups, illegally entered our border towns and liberated areas and laid out numerous landmines at each step there. And this is a source of hazard to the lives and health of not only Azerbaijani servicemen but also of civilians.

After the cessation of hostilities during the Second KarabakhWar, hundreds of Azerbaijanis became victims of those landmines, produced by Armenia and buried in our territories. Consequently, the problem with unrecorded mines, which remain currently a very serious threat badly damages the sustainable peace and security in the region, along with hindering the extensive construction and restoration works in our ancestral territories liberated and the return of our former internally displaced persons to their historically native lands.

https://www.facebook.com/ombudsman.az/videos/617496936673096/

Date of issue: 22.09.2022

On the night hours of 22 September, the Armenian armed forces once again resorted to provocation in the direction of Kalbajar district and fired at the positions of the Azerbaijani Army, and the sabotage group attempted to raid by laying mines in the ravines in those areas.

Ignoring calls to refrain from such provocations is another form of open disregard of the Armenian side for the peace-building process and the requirements of international law.

As the Ombudsman, I call on the relevant international organizations to take effective measures against such cases causing serious threats to human rights and to strictly condemn the provocations actions of Armenia.

Date of issue: 24.09.2022

Three servicemen of the Azerbaijani Army were injured as a result of ceasefire violations by the Armenian armed forces in the directions of Istisu and Zaylik settlements of Kalbajar district.

This fact once again shows that the Armenian side undermines peace negotiations and continues threatening human lives.

We call on Armenia to stop its disrespect for international law, as well as human rights, and to demonstrate peace-building approaches.

Date of issue: 03.10.2022

The armed forces of Armenia have committed and still continue to commit war crimes, including torture and inhuman crimes against civilians of Azerbaijan, servicemen, particularly, horce de combat and dead persons in severe violation of the norms of international humanitarian law, including the 1949 Geneva Conventions for the protection of war victims.

Those mentioned above are once more evidenced by the videos shared on social media, in recent days, in which the Armenian servicemen committed inhuman acts against killed Azerbaijani servicemen.

There are numerous video facts, confirming the brutal killing of Azerbaijani prisoners of war by Armenian military personnel by shooting in the heads and to the cardiac regions at close range, the looting, dismemberment, mutilation, torturing, and humiliating of the bodies of the servicemen by committing inhumane acts during the First and Second Karabakh Wars.

The video facts, posted on a number of social networks during the Patriotic War, showing war crimes committed against our military personnel, were collected by the Ombudsman and brought to the attention of international organizations in the form of appeals, statements, and reports, and this process is being continued regularly.

Armenia, which carries out a sharp hatred policy on racial, ethnic, and religious grounds, while asserting unlawful territorial claims on Azerbaijan, instead of taking practical measures to prevent war crimes against our country and bringing the culprits to justice for previously committed crimes, creates an obstacle to security and peace-building process in the region by allowing provocations that lead to conflict between the peoples.

Regretfully, unlike Azerbaijan, the Armenian side does not conduct any investigation into such facts and thus does not fulfill its international obligations.

Bringing these facts to the attention of the United Nations, the European Union, the Council of Europe and their specialized institutions, and other competent international and regional organizations, we call for immediate legal measures to bring to justice perpetrators of the crimes against peace and humanity committed by Armenia against Azerbaijan.

Date of issue: 04.10.2022

Today, 2 years have passed since the first ballistic missile attack of the Armenian military on the central part of Ganja, the second largest city of Azerbaijan with an ancient history.

Armenia's several terror acts committed, during the Patriotic War, in Ganja city, which is located far away from the combat zone, have resulted in the death of 26 civilians, including women and children, and the wounding of 175 others. In

addition, apartment buildings, historical and cultural, and religious monuments, vehicles, and other civilian infrastructures were heavily damaged.

Unfortunately, despite our repeated appeals to the world community, and international organizations regarding the identification and punishment of all perpetrators of the crimes against the civilian population, an international legal assessment of the crimes against peace and humanity committed by the military and political leadership of Armenia, involved in multiple war crimes, in serious violation of the norms of international humanitarian law and ceasefire requirements declared between the parties to the conflict, has not yet been established.

Date of issue: 05.10.2022

Today, 2 years have passed since the first rocket attack of the Armenian armed forces on Mingachevir, a large industrial city located more than 100 km away from the region where military operations were conducted, targeting the Mingachevir Hydropower Station, the largest thermal power plant in the South Caucasus.

As a result of Armenia's deliberate rocket fire on Mingachevir city, which has a population of more than 100,000 and is of strategic importance to the region, the civilian population suffered various degrees of bodily injuries and they have been inflicted heavy damage.

The deliberate targeting of the water reservoir and the power plant in Mingachevir city by Armenia was carried out primarily in order to achieve the occurrence of numerous human casualties and the creation of serious ecological consequences for the South Caucasus region.

In this regard, we called on international organizations to make Armenia unconditionally deter the criminal acts, which severely violate human rights and freedoms by infringing the right of the civilians to life and to live in a safe and healthy environment and which pose a deep environmental disaster risk for the region.

However, despite all this, in recent times, Armenia has been trying to aggravate the situation by carrying out large-scale military attacks against Azerbaijan, burying numerous mines in our universally recognized territories through sabotage groups, and slowing down the restoration and reconstruction works in our settlements liberated from occupation and thus, it continues to create obstacles to sustainable peace and security in the region.

INTERVIEW

https://en.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3649197.html

Date of issue: 26.09.2022

'Memorial day' marks very important page in modern history of Azerbaijan - ombudsman

'Memorial day' is a very important page in the modern history of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijani Ombudsman Sabina Aliyeva told <u>Trend</u>.

She noted that the announcement of September 27 as 'Memorial Day' has a special meaning. The victory in second Karabakh war, which united the entire Azerbaijani people into a unified force led to the creation of opportunities for establishment of peace and development of the entire region.

The reason for this victory was Azerbaijani Armed Forces under the leadership of the Victorious Supreme Commander-in-Chief President of Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev, who showed great heroism in battles. Conditions were created for the return of Azerbaijani internally displaced persons to their native lands, for which they yearned for many years, and today the country is experiencing the joy of the 'Great Return'.

"May Allah rest the souls of Azerbaijani martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the name of restoring the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, I wish their families patience. Azerbaijan will always be proud of its martyrs; Azerbaijani people will always honor their memory. I also want to honor the memories of civilians that became martyrs as a result of grave crimes, committed by Armenia, including the memory of children who died. Armenia must answer for these crimes, committed against the civilian population, for the violation of the requirements of the IV Geneva Convention," Aliyeva said.

She stressed that it's a moral duty for the entire Azerbaijan to take care of the families of martyrs, as well as heroic veterans of Azerbaijan. President Ilham Aliyev and First Vice President Mehriban Aliyeva pay special attention to caring for the families of martyrs and veterans, which is an important task for state structures.

"After the end of the second Karabakh war, Azerbaijan also expanded its activities in this direction, created a new sector related to the protection of the rights of families of martyrs and war veterans. Azerbaijan pays special attention to their appeals. Actions are being taken in the regions to provide medical and psychological assistance to family members of martyrs and war veterans, to provide them with support," she added.

Moreover, Azerbaijani ombudsman emphasized that from the moment of gaining independence to the present day, Azerbaijan has been suffering from the policy of aggression and ethnic hatred of Armenia. Armenia has committed many international crimes against Azerbaijan, such as military aggression, genocide, ethnic cleansing, terrorism, environmental crimes, destruction and desecration of historical, religious, cultural monuments, mining of territories, the use of mercenaries, attacks on civilians using prohibited weapons.

"At the same time, during the occupation, a policy of illegal resettlement was carried out in the internationally recognized territories of Azerbaijan, Armenians from Armenia, as well as from Lebanon and Syria were illegally settled in houses belonging to Azerbaijanis. When, in accordance with the trilateral statement dated November 10, 2020, Armenians left Azerbaijani occupied lands, and also recently, when they left Lachin villages of Zabukh and Sus, Azerbaijan witnessed manifestations of hatred policy by Armenia. Among them - damage to flora and fauna, arson and desecration of houses," Aliyeva stated.

"Azerbaijan, even in the period after the cease of fire, suffered losses as a result of mine explosions, laid by Armenian troops. Each of these crimes is a violation of human rights and freedoms. Numerous fundamental rights of the Azerbaijani people have been violated, and the requirements of international law are not being observed. Azerbaijani government continues to work to inform the world community about these facts, to bring Armenia to justice for its crimes," she said.

Aliyeva reminded that Ombudsman's office made several statements in connection with Armenian provocation.

"The fact that the Armenian Armed Forces constantly carry out provocations against Azerbaijan in the post-war period causes serious concern. During the suppression of a large-scale Armenian provocation undertaken on the night of

September 12 in the Dashkasan, Kalbajar, Lachin, Zangilan directions, Azerbaijani servicemen became martyrs, there were also wounded. At the same time, two of Azerbaijani civilians were wounded," she said.

Azerbaijan appealed to relevant international organizations diplomatic representatives in connection with the large-scale provocation committed by Armenia. The country also appealed to world community to respond harshly to the actions of Armenia that threaten the establishment of fear and sustainable peace in the region.

According to Aliyeva, the attack of Armenia created a serious threat to lives and well being of people and violated many fundamental rights. First of all, these actions are evidence of disrespect for international legal norms, as well as the requirements of trilateral statements signed by Armenian PM.

In addition, Azerbaijan has repeatedly addressed the international community in connection with the issue of Armenia's failure to provide accurate maps of minefields. The mine threat delays the process of returning Azerbaijani citizens to their native lands liberated from occupation, and also leads to the death and disability of people. However, during this time, the Armenian Armed Forces repeatedly made new attempts to mine these territories.

"Azerbaijan believes that ethnic hatred towards Azerbaijan is behind this policy in general. The attacks of the Armenian communities on Azerbaijani diplomatic missions abroad under the guise of 'peaceful actions', the sounding of various slogans and attempts to commit acts of vandalism is the evidence of this. Azerbaijan expressed its opinion to the international community in connection with these attacks, and also called on the countries in which country's diplomatic missions are located to ensure the safety of embassies and diplomats. Such attacks must be prevented in accordance with the obligations assumed by host states under international law," she added.

Aliyeva stressed the importance of international support to Azerbaijan, saying that Armenia's hostilities should be strongly condemned at the time when Azerbaijan starts the process of 'Great return' and implements comprehensive construction work on the territories destroyed during the occupation.

"Thus, after second Karabakh war very important opportunities appeared for establishing peace in the region. It was also beneficial for the Armenian side, its people. However, it's very unfortunate that Armenia not only neglected peaceful initiatives, but also demonstrated its destructive intentions through numerous provocations," she stated.

"Although Azerbaijani people suffered for about 30 years from the consequences of the occupation policy of Armenia, no decisive measures were taken against it at the international level. New reality has emerged in the region, the relevant international structures, having demonstrated a fair approach, should condemn the provocations of Armenia that threaten the lives of people, and contribute to the process of establishment of peace in the South Caucasus region. The structure of ombudsman institution will continue to make the necessary contribution in this direction, which is a priority in its activities," Aliyeva said.

Azerbaijani Ombudsman expressed hope that leadership of Armenia will draw lessons from recent events and make efforts towards peace and coexistence, and the international community will support Azerbaijan in its peace efforts.