

The Ombudsman's Statement concerning the Attack on the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the Islamic Republic of Iran

We strongly condemn the terrorist act committed against the Embassy of our country in the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning. As a result of this vile attack, Orkhan Askerov, the head of the security service of the diplomatic mission, was killed while performing his official duties, and two employees of the Embassy were injured.

This incident is primarily a serious violation of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. Thus, according to Article 22 of the Vienna Convention, the receiving State is under special duty to protect the premises of the mission against intrusion and damage, and to take necessary measures for ensuring the normal operation of the mission.

This criminal act is also a serious breach of the 1973 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents.

I wish God's mercy to the employee of the Embassy, who was a victim of the crime of terrorism, which is one of the most dangerous threats to humanity, and died while performing his official duty, patience to his family, and healing to the injured.

This bloody act of terrorism should be investigated by the Iranian Government as soon as possible, the criminals should be punished, and the obligations established by international binding documents should be fulfilled.

Sabina Aliyeva

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

27 January 2023

The Statement is 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, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, 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.