

Intervention by Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan
(not accounted for on the website)

Thank you madam Chairperson,

I apologise to take the floor for the second time today but bias and groundless allegations of my Armenian colleague didn't leave me any other choice. Madam Chairperson, this forum is not for blaming and shaming. This Forum is for sharing best practices and, you know, identifying existing challenges. Today when we address the national minority issues in Azerbaijan as an impeding factor we mentioned the military aggression of Armenia against Azerbaijan, their continued occupation of 20% of our lands, which hampers economic growth. Then when we addressed the issue of national minorities living in Azerbaijan we encompassed also Armenians. So, 2000 Armenians living in Azerbaijan who as citizens of Azerbaijan enjoy equal rights and freedoms. But I wonder if the representative of Armenia could claim the same, where 230,000 Armenian citizens of Azerbaijani origin were expelled.