

### **Permanent Mission of Armenia – Right of Reply**

Thank you, madame Chairperson. We're appalled by the impertinent and propitious statement delivered by Azerbaijan and categorically deny the allegations they voiced.

Azerbaijan sanctimoniously declared itself a country that adopted multiculturalism as a national policy. Meanwhile, it has been persecuting Tallish intellectuals for years. Most recently, in early November, Historian and activist Farhadi [?] has died in prison as he was serving a 16-year term. In 2013, [?], the editor of an independent newspaper was sentenced to 5 years in prison on trumped up charges.

The Tallish minority's leader in Azerbaijan, [?], who edited the state newspaper before [?], died in prison in 2009, after being sentenced to 10 years in jail. International Human Rights watchdogs say that all those charges and persecution have been politically motivated.

These days, a video is being distributed by Azerbaijani users on social networks, on which Azerbaijani soldiers humiliate an elderly civilian, and subject him to overtly inhumane treatment with exceptional cynicism. They do it because the person is ethnic Armenian. It is a vivid manifestation of Azerbaijan's systematic state policy of hate towards Armenians. It is not a singular incident, but a part of and parcel of systematic, large-scale policy of persecution, torture, and atrocities, that culminated in [the] September-November 2020 war.

The social networks allow the [?] to promote this terror. Thank you very much.