

Mr. Chairman,

Dear colleagues,

Peace has never been so fragile in a number of regions, as we are observing a number of enormous threats to the overhaul security system of the world. Bloody conflicts, wars, extremism destroy the international peace architecture, while not to mention accompanying natural calamities.

My country Azerbaijan suffered from an occupation policy and armed separatism for 30 years, as Armenia kept under control 20 percent of Azerbaijan's internationally recognized territory. We lost 10 thousands of people, the areas under Armenian control have been raised to earth, all cultural and historical monuments were destroyed. There was ecocide, genocide and culti-cide. In 2020 Azerbaijan had to broke out counter-attack operations and release its territory. Over the past 3 years Azerbaijan had faced a number of provocations, including mine terror. Over 300 people, the majority of which are civilians, were either killed or injured in mine explosion. Azerbaijan had to carry out anti-terror measures in its territory on September and to restore its sovereignty all over the country. The illegal armed groups were defeated and they surrendered themselves. Now at least peace and security has become reality in this territory.

Great return of people whose elementary human rights have been violated for 3 decades at least started. People start new life and had to adjust to co-existence in the area after years of grieve. Azerbaijani government has done and continues doing all possible for smooth reintegration of the Armenian population residing here. We parliamentarians need to increase activity in response to all possible challenges both on legislative base and on ground.

Peace has no alternative and we believe durable peace and security will bring economic prosperity and expand cooperation between the nations in the South Caucasus.

Thank you for your attention!

