



Regional dialogue: lessons learned, challenges, innovation – Eastern Europe

Remarks

**by Mr. Emin Aslanov, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of
Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva
27 November 2019**

Thank you Mr. Chair,

The concerns expressed by Ms. Ani Khachatryan from Armenia regarding irresponsible mining, its impacts on nature and toxic leftovers for the people are also shared by my country, since these illegitimate activities supported by Armenian Government are happening in our neighbourhood, as well as in occupied territories of my Azerbaijan.

I would like to underline that, Armenia is exercising control over the occupied territories of Azerbaijan takes all the measures aimed to sustaining its illegitimate occupation by encouraging illegal business activities in those territories by various means.

For example, they provide wide range of incentives to foreign companies, like leasing out vast areas of land almost free of charge, tax incentives and other benefits.

And all these benefits are given at the expense of violation of property and other rights of pre-conflict constituency of these territories, which has already been expelled/ethnically, cleansed in violation of international law.

Having said that, I would like to ask the CSO representative from Armenia to elaborate on the illegitimate gold mining activities carried out in occupied Kalbajar region of Azerbaijan.

Thank you.

