



**UN Human Rights Council
Forty-third Session
Interactive Dialogue
with the Special Rapporteur on minority issues**

**Statement
delivered by Kamran Seyfullayev, Third Secretary of the Permanent Mission of
the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International
Organizations in Geneva
March 11, 2020**

Mr. Vice-President,

Azerbaijan welcomes the Special Rapporteur on minority issues and thanks him for his work and the comprehensive report on education, language and human rights of minorities.

Azerbaijan as a multiethnic and multi-confessional country carries out its national policy upholding traditional tolerance with respect to different national, ethnic, linguistic and religious groups.

Over many centuries persons belonging to various minorities lived in Azerbaijan in peace and harmony, and this multicultural heritage has been preserved. All minority groups freely live, work and enjoy their human rights in Azerbaijan, including Armenians, Avars, Georgians, Jews, Kurds, Lezgins, Russians and other ethnic groups.

We concur with the idea reflected in the report that appropriate and proportionate use of minority languages can increase inclusion, communication and trust between members of minorities and governments. The report identifies that providing education to minorities on their own languages as far as practicable, is an essential aspect of SDG on ensuring inclusive and quality education for all and promoting lifelong learning. We remain strongly committed to reaching this goal, including through facilitation of education in minority languages.

The majority of ethnic groups in Azerbaijan are taking advantage of primary, secondary/compulsory education in their own languages provided by the state, contributing to full and effective realization of their human rights.

Thank you.

