



**41<sup>st</sup> Session of the Human Rights  
Council General Debate on Item 3**

**Clustered ID with the Special  
Rapporteur on the right to education**

## **STATEMENT**

Delivered by **Mr. Yusif HUSEYNOV**,  
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other International  
Organizations in Geneva

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**Thank you Mr. President,**

Azerbaijan thanks the [Special Rapporteur](#) on the right to education for her [report](#) and welcomes the examination of the right to education and implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 4 in the context of the growth of private actors in education.

We also highly welcome the interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to education and remain committed to the full realization of the right to education. As we all know, education is of the utmost importance in developing human capital and in enabling economic, social and cultural development for all countries.

**Mr. President,**

Despite certain progress, millions are still denied the right to education and many forms of difficulties still affect people and communities around the globe. In our view, to achieve Goal 4 of SGDs, international community should pay particular attention not only to report's recommendation of the "[Abidjan Guiding Principles](#)" as a useful guiding tool in this respect, but also to address the primary root causes of this problem.

Armed conflicts are one of the key causes that create obstacles to the right to education. In this matter, Azerbaijan is one of those countries that, its population suffered from the violation of their basic rights to education due to the military aggression from its neighboring country. The on-ongoing conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan led to the creation of more than 1 million refugees and IDPs, 25% of which were school-aged children who had been expelled from their native homes and schools and had been deprived of their right to education. Leaving such a large number of children

without education is not only a great loss of human potential but also a significant impediment to economic and social development. Therefore, in the last two decades, Azerbaijan has put forward the education sector among top priorities for its development. State continues its support and provides an important network of infrastructure for children of refugees, IDPs, adolescents and adults – including to persons with disabilities, women and to the persons in vulnerable situations.

**Ms. Special Rapporteur,**

Our main worry is the fact that many children are currently without access to any form of education due to long lasting, unresolved military conflicts around globe and this creates an easy prediction for future: dangerous path to illiteracy and human resource deficiency of many generations.

**For that reason, For that reason, we would like to ask a question: how a country could implement a full scale “Abidjan Guiding Principles” when its territories are under occupation, and what are the most effective ways for a country to prioritize the right to education under such circumstances.**

**Thank you Mr. President.**