



**UN Human Rights Council
Thirty-fourth Session**

**General debate on Item 9
Statement**

**Delivered by Emin Aslanov, Second secretary of the Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in
Geneva**

March 20, 2017

Thank you Mr. Chair,

We are concerned about manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance have frequented in political-social life and public discourse over the world. Unfortunately, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism have become deplorable trends in some parts of the world.

Along with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action which constitutes an essential element of the global dialogue on elimination of racial discrimination, we recall the UN General Assembly Resolution of 19 December 2016 requiring concrete actions for elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

Colleagues, throughout the history the humanity have witnessed brutal examples of using ethnic and racial discrimination by politicians and military leaders for various purposes.

I wish to draw your attention to an example from our region: while greediness for becoming mono-ethnic country and acquiring more territories from the neighbour was the driving incentive, spreading ethnic hatred, allegations about so called inter-ethnic incompatibility and other nationalistic ideas nurtured by the writings of Armenian ideologist Grigor Artsruni were major ideological means abused by Armenian leadership back in 1987 to incite its people to kill and expel their longstanding ethnic Azerbaijani neighbours from their historic lands. Unfortunately, lack of due attention and firm condemnation of the world community let the escalation grow to the war between two nations.

In the course of war as a result of the large-scale hostilities more than 20 thousands Azerbaijanis were killed and over 1 million were forcibly displaced from the occupied territories of Azerbaijan. Although there is a cease-fire as a temporary solution, Armenia's consistent ignorance of international law and relevant resolutions of the UN

Security Council does not allow our nations to have peace and security in their homeland.

What is even more worrisome is that, instead of preparing its people for peace, prosperous and stable future in friendship and cooperation with neighboring countries, the incumbent leadership of Armenia continues to publicly incite the future generations to new wars, violence and aggression, and propagate by all means the dangerous ideas of animosity and hatred towards not only Azerbaijan, but also other peoples of the region. It is very regretful that having chosen racial superiority and hatred as its state policy, Armenia is not facing any heavy resistance and sanctions of international mechanisms to end this 30 years old impunity detrimental for peace in the region.

Thank you.