



人权理事会
第四十四届会议
2020年6月30日至7月17日
议程项目4
需要理事会注意的人权状况

2020年6月30日亚美尼亚常驻联合国日内瓦办事处代表团 致联合国人权事务高级专员办事处的普通照会

亚美尼亚共和国常驻联合国日内瓦办事处和日内瓦其他国际组织代表团向联合国人权事务高级专员办事处致意，并谨随函转交纳戈尔诺-卡拉巴赫共和国(阿尔扎赫共和国)外交部就旨在将亚美尼亚人口驱逐出阿尔扎赫边境村庄的“指环行动”二十九周年发表的评论(见附件)。

亚美尼亚常驻代表团谨请高级专员办事处在议程项目4下将本普通照会及其附件*作为人权理事会第四十四届会议的文件分发。

* 附件不译，原文照发。



Annex to the note verbale dated 30 June 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Comment by the Artsakh Foreign Ministry dated 30 April 2020 on the 29th Anniversary of the Operation ‘Koltso’ (‘Ring’) aimed at the Deportation of the Armenian Population of the Borderline Villages of Artsakh

29 years ago, under the direct organization and coordination of the central authorities of the USSR and Azerbaijan, a large-scale operation ‘Koltso’ (‘Ring’) was carried out to deport the Armenian population of the borderline villages of Artsakh. This bloody operation ultimately transferred the Azerbaijan-Karabakh conflict to the military plane, initiating the subsequent full-scale aggression of Azerbaijan against the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh Republic).

On April 30, 1991, the massive shelling of Getashen and Martunashen villages of the Shahumyan region launched the operation ‘Koltso’, in the course of which tanks, combat helicopters, and artillery were employed for the first time against the civilians. Azerbaijani special police units (OMON), with the support of internal troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Soviet Army, broke into Armenian villages formally supposedly for "checking the passport regime", but in fact for killing, robbery, terror against the Armenian population, followed by deportation.

As a result of the military-police actions, dozens of Armenian villages of Northern Artsakh, as well as the Shahumyan, Hadrut and Shushi regions were destroyed, about ten thousand people were deported, over 100 people were killed, and hundreds of people were taken hostage. The fate of many of them remains unknown so far.

The Azerbaijani authorities considered the operation ‘Koltso’ as the beginning of the complete cleansing of Artsakh from the Armenian population. It became another manifestation of the policy of ethnic cleansing conducted by Azerbaijan in 1988-1991 in Sumgait, Baku and other settlements of the Azerbaijani SSR, as well as in the villages of Northern Artsakh.

The Armenian pogroms carried out by the Azerbaijani authorities in response to the demand of the people of Artsakh to exercise its inalienable right to self-determination and the subsequent military aggression against the Republic of Artsakh in 1991, which was repeated in April 2016, demonstrated that only the establishment and strengthening of an independent statehood can ensure the right of the people of Artsakh to live freely and safely in its homeland. The international community’s recognition of this reality and the international recognition of the Republic of Artsakh will become an additional deterrent against Azerbaijan’s desire to unleash a new war and will ensure peace and security in the entire region of the South Caucasus.