

Council of Europe
The Secretary General

Strasbourg, 10 October 2022

Dear Minister,

Thank you for your letter dated 23 August. I am grateful for our meeting in New York on the margins of the High-level General Debate of the United Nations General Assembly, during which we were able to discuss various points of common interest.

As I mentioned in my statement of 13 September 2022, as well as during our meeting, disagreements between Council of Europe member states must be resolved peacefully through negotiations. Recent direct contacts between the highest authorities of your country and Armenia were promising and should be continued. The Council of Europe is ready to assist in reconciliation efforts which contribute to achieving a peaceful settlement.

We continue to encourage both Armenia and Azerbaijan to step up efforts to resolve all the questions generating tensions, including those raised in your letter, peacefully and through dialogue.

Considering the alarming and shocking reports received recently, I feel obliged to request from your Ministry detailed and precise information on the measures taken by the Azerbaijani authorities regarding allegations under Articles 2 and 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights. I refer to recent video footage allegedly depicting extreme violence against Armenian prisoners of war, including extrajudicial killings. Please be informed that the Council of Europe will follow this issue very closely in line with the mandate provided by the European Convention on Human Rights, to ensure full respect of the Organisation's standards.

Yours sincerely,


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