



**Permanent Mission  
of the Republic of Azerbaijan  
to the UN Office and other  
International Organizations  
GENEVA**

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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and with reference to the letter of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Ms. Alexandra Xanthaki dated 24 October 2022, has the honor to transmit herewith the information by the relevant state authority of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 2 December 2022



Enclosure: 2 pages

**Office of the United Nations  
High Commissioner for Human Rights  
GENEVA**

**Information submitted by the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the Questionnaire prepared regarding the next thematic report to be presented by Ms. Alexandra Xanthaki, the UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights to the UN Human Rights Council**

***Reply to Question 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9:***

In accordance with Part III of Article 25 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the state guarantees the equality of rights and freedoms to everyone, irrespective of race, ethnicity, religion, language, sex, origin, property status, occupation, beliefs or affiliation to political parties, trade union organizations or other public associations.

At the same time, in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, equality of all foreigners and stateless persons staying and residing in the Republic of Azerbaijan, regardless of social and property status, race and nationality, sex, language, religion, type and nature of activity and other circumstances, before the law and the courts in the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as rights to education, work, inviolability of private life, inviolability of the home, rest, protection of health and other rights and freedoms are fully guaranteed without any discrimination.

The mechanism for exercising the political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights of all foreigners and stateless persons staying and residing in our country is based on the principles enshrined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international conventions to which our country is a party.

Pursuant to Article 6 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Culture" the rights and freedoms of everyone in the field of culture in the Republic of Azerbaijan are guaranteed by being guided by the principles and norms of international law. The state guarantees to every person to enjoy their rights and freedoms in the field of culture regardless of their gender, race, language, religious and political beliefs, nationality, social status, social origin, health conditions, and affiliation with public associations. According to the Law, everyone is completely free to define their cultural identity and lifestyle, to choose creative activities, to create cultural wealth and to use cultural resources equally. According to Article 8 of the Law "On Culture" everyone has the right to protect their national cultural uniqueness, to define their cultural identity, and freely to choose their spiritual, aesthetic and other values. Cultural societies have the right to promote and develop their cultural identity and restore their historical cultural places. The state supports the protection of the uniqueness and development of any cultural society.

According to Article 49.2 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the persons who are participating in case on administrative offenses, not knowing language in which proceedings on administrative offenses is conducted are provided with the right of making information, explanations, claims or petitions in their native language or in any other language which they know, and also with the right to use by translation service according to the procedure. Pursuant to Article 27.2 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Administrative Proceedings" the right to using services of a translator is explained and provided to those who are involved in administrative proceedings and do not know the language in which the proceedings are conducted.

For the purpose of teaching Azerbaijani language, history, culture, legislation on rights and obligations of foreigners and stateless persons, courses are being organized by the Training Center of the State Migration Service for foreigners and stateless persons residing in the Republic of Azerbaijan. These courses are carried out free of charge.

On December 7, 2018, according to the amendments made to the Laws of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On the Status of Refugees and IDPs (internally displaced persons)" and "On the Rights of the Child" opportunities to study at all stages of education in the Republic of Azerbaijan have been created for foreigners and stateless persons who have obtained refugee status in the territory of the country.

Refugees who have been registered at the State Migration Service, persons who have applied for refugee status, as well as persons who are under protection of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and their children have been provided with free education in general schools of the republic and in higher education institutions in accordance with the current legislation. In order to ensure implementation of pledge made by the Government of Azerbaijan at the first Global Refugee Forum took place on 17 and 18 December 2019 in accordance with the directions of the Global Compact on Refugees, approved on the basis of the relevant resolution of the UN General Assembly the educational expenses of one foreigner who obtained refugee status for each academic year have been covered by the relevant institution of higher education. At the same time the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan together with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the Republic of Azerbaijan together with the Representation of UNHCR in Azerbaijan organized language courses for persons intending to obtain refugee status and those who have newly obtained refugee status and measures have been taken in this area are currently ongoing. Additionally, an exhibition and sale of hand-crafted works of foreigners residing in our country with refugee status or asylum seekers are regularly organized in order to identify people with special talents in various areas of creativity.

Migrants are also involved in events organized by the State Migration Service with international partners to promote the cultural diversity of foreigners and stateless persons living in the country. Thus, within the framework of the event "15 Years of Partnership for Inclusive, Progressive and Improved Migration Management" held on March 16, 2022, migrants performed with a cultural program. As well as, the demonstration of the cultures of migrants living in our country is included in the program of the conference, which is planned to be organized on the occasion of the International Day of Migrants on December 16, 2022.

In order to more actively involve migrants living in our country in the migration management of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Migrant Council was established under the State Migration Service. In addition, within the framework of "Support to the development of the Migrant Integration Strategy, related Action Plan and Training Curriculum" pilot project, implemented by the Service in cooperation with the International Center for Migration Policy Development, activities related to its creation of favorable conditions for supporting the social integration of migrants living in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, including in the cultural field are planned.