



PERMANENT MISSION OF ARMENIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

UNGA 78 / Sixth Committee

Agenda Item 83 'The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels'

Statement by Mr. Tigran Galstyan,
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Mr. Chair,

The rule of law is instrumental in building just societies at national level and maintaining peace at the international level. Armenia is committed to upholding and promoting justice and the rule of law at the national and international levels. To this end, we have been working to design and implement multiple reform processes that ensure respect for human rights and the rule of law exemplified in the latest report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities.

The rule of law is essential in ensuring accountability, fighting impunity and preventing future violations. Armenia recognizes the crucial role of justice and accountability and we remain steadfast in our dedication to their pursuit.

In 2020, amidst an unprecedented healthcare crisis caused by a global pandemic, Azerbaijan unleashed a full-scale war against Nagorno-Karabakh, in an effort to resolve an international system's attack on human rights. The conflict involved multiple instances of violent and hostile conduct, violation of the international law and the existing ceasefire arrangements.

Guided by the strong commitment to upholding the fundamental principles of the rule of law on 16 September 2021, Armenia filed an Application with the International Court of Justice instituting proceedings against Azerbaijan under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), which contained also a request for the indication of provisional measures. On 7 December 2021, the Court indicated first provisional measures according to which Azerbaijan shall, in accordance with its obligations under the CERD, abstain from violence and bodily harm all persons captured in relation to the 2020 Conflict who remain in detention, and ensure their security and equality before the law; 'Take all necessary measures to prevent and punish acts of vandalism and desecration affecting Armenian cultural heritage, including but not limited to churches and other places of worship, monuments, landmarks,

cemeteries and artefacts and 3Take all necessary measures to prevent the incitement and promotion of racial hatred and discrimination, including by its officials and public institutions targeted at persons of Armenian national or ethnic origin

On 22 February 2023, the ICJ indicated that it would call on the parties to take all measures at its disposal to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions.7 KH PHDVXUH ZDV LVVXHG LQ UHVSRQV following the blockade imposed by Azerbaijan on the Lachin Corridor, the only humanitarian lifeline connecting Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia and the outer world. At the same time, the , & - UHMHF WHG \$]HUEDLMDQ ¶V FRXQWHU by HANIMY IRU SU allegations against Armenia. The provisional measure requesting to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor was subsequently reaffirmed by the ICJ in another order issued on 6 July 2023, calling also that its orders on provisional measures have binding effect and thus create international legal obligations for any party to whom they are addressed. The Court also reaffirmed that Parties shall