

ADVANCE QUESTIONS TO AZERBAIJAN

NETHERLANDS

- *Freedom of expression and freedom of association.* How does the growing number of people arrested for protesting and for criticising the government relate to Azerbaijan's commitments, e.g. under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to safeguard freedom of expression and freedom of assembly and association?
- *Civil society.* What is Azerbaijan doing to facilitate and promote the establishment and activities of local and international NGOs?
- *Human Rights Defenders.* What is Azerbaijan doing to protect Mr Aylisli from criminal threats and what legal action has been taken against the parliamentarian who put a bounty on Mr Aylisli's ear?

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- In paragraph four of your national report, there is reference to the need for consultations with civil society institutions in the drafting of the national report. Could you elaborate on the role civil society played in the preparation of your submission?
- The UK notes that paragraph 54 of Azerbaijan's national report states that: "all kinds of violations of law, including violations against journalists and human rights defenders, are widely investigated, relevant measures are taken and those committing such violations are necessarily brought to justice and accordingly punished". We would like to know how many violations against journalists and human rights defenders have resulted in prosecution since Azerbaijan's UPR in 2009, and what steps are being taken to reduce the number of violations.
- What steps is the government of Azerbaijan going to take ahead of the presidential elections to create an open political space that will allow all potential presidential candidates, political activists and journalists to carry out their legitimate activities freely and without fear of harassment?
- What steps are being taken to address the shortcomings identified by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) observers during the last presidential and parliamentary elections?
- An independent judiciary is an essential element in the effective implementation of the rule of law. We would like to know if Azerbaijan will conduct analysis of alleged deficiencies in judicial practice and give full consideration to reports of alleged shortcomings resulting in unfair trials, in line with a recommendation from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

MEXICO

- Which measures have been adopted to regularize migrants? Which services are available to them?
- How does the government implement its obligation to register and notify new tuberculosis cases and which attention is given to them?
- Which measures have been adopted in the education system to integrate the cultural values and participation of different ethnic groups?

IRELAND

- Regarding the case of Mr. Ilham Amiraslanov, a human rights defender and an active member of the Kura Civil Union, does Azerbaijan intend to investigate the circumstances surrounding the injuries sustained by Mr. Amiraslanov while in custody and to hold the perpetrators accountable? Does Azerbaijan intend to review the conviction of Mr. Amiraslanov, in light of numerous allegations of fabricated evidence; infringement of procedural rights and violations of the right to a fair trial?