**COMMITTEE:** UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA)

**DELEGATE:** NAVYA GUPTA

**COUNTRY:** AZERBAIJAN

**SCHOOL:** INDIAN SCHOOL AL GHUBRA

**TOPIC:** ASSESSING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SANCTIONS

**“It is not enough to win a war; it is more important to organize the peace.” ―Aristotle**

# Sanctions are a tool of diplomacy. They are restrictions limiting the freedom of a state, a group or an individual. They are imposed through a unilateral decision by a state or a collective decision by several states. These include both geographical sanctions targeting specific countries or regions and thematic sanctions targeting specific problems, such as terrorism or cyberattacks. Azerbaijan has experienced sanctions mainly in context of its war with Armenia over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh Armenia's occupation of Azerbaijani territories has led to decades of suffering for the people of Azerbaijan. Efforts to resolve the conflict have often been made difficult by external factors, including sanctions. It has faced an arms embargo on arms deliveries to force engaged in combat in the Nagorno-Karabakh area from several countries, including the United States and Russia. UN Security Council also held an emergency meeting on Nagorno-Karabakh war emphasizing need to avert a "humanitarian disaster,"

While Azerbaijan recognizes the importance of holding states accountable for their actions, we also emphasize the need to consider the humanitarian impact of sanctions on the innocent citizens. The Armenian military has targeted densely populated areas containing civilian structures. Human Rights Associations watch a confirmed total of 32 people killed in the [ballistic missile attacks on Ganja](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2020_Ganja_ballistic_missile_attacks). On 28 October, following the [Barda missile attacks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barda_missile_attacks) that killed around 26 civilians, the number of Azerbaijani civilians killed reached 91 and with 322 injured. Azerbaijan believes that sanctions need be carefully targeted to minimize harm to vulnerable populations.

Taking all this into consideration Azerbaijan believes that:

1. Sanctions on international communities need to provide humanitarian assistance to affected populations to mitigate its impact on innocent civilians.
2. Sanctions need to applied consistently and transparently. Clear criteria for imposing sanctions should be established beforehand to prevent perceptions of bias or unfairness.
3. Monitoring the impact of sanctions in regular time intervals needs to be made mandatory to assess their effectiveness and adjust strategies accordingly.

Azerbaijan aspires that sanctions should be approached with caution and used judiciously, taking into account the principles of sovereignty, secularity and humanitarian considerations. It commits to work with the international community in order to promote peace, security, and prosperity for all nations.

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