



ԵԱՀԿ-ՈՒՄ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՄՇՏԱԿԱՆ ՆԵՐԿԱՅԱՑՈՒՑՉՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA TO THE OSCE

STATEMENT

On the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists

**as delivered by the Delegation of the Republic of Armenia
at the 1245th Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
31 October 2019**

Mr. Chairman,

We would like to thank the Delegation of Finland for raising this issue on behalf of the European Union. In 2013, the UN General Assembly proclaimed November 2 as the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists, which has since served as a reminder of the importance of journalism and at the same time danger to journalists in many parts of the world. Unfortunately, crimes against journalists have been committed and continue to be committed in the OSCE area as well, and our duty today is not only to remember, but to do everything possible to prevent such crimes and bring all those responsible to justice.

Armenia has repeatedly raised the issue of impunity for crimes against journalists, regularly drawing the attention of the Permanent Council to the case of the prominent Turkish-Armenian intellectual, editor-in-chief of Agos, journalist and columnist Hrant Dink, who was assassinated on 19 January 2007 in Istanbul, not far from the office of his newspaper.

Yet, it is deeply regrettable that so far, the masterminds of this disgusting crime have not been brought to justice despite the assurances, expressed many times at the Permanent Council by the Turkish delegation.

Today, we pay tribute to all those journalists who have shown personal courage, dedication and professionalism in their work, often covering very sensitive topics and issues for society. They fought for both their and our right to know the truth, and now it is our responsibility to seek the truth for them.

Thank you.