

## Human Dimension Implementation Meeting

11 September, 2017

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**Right of Reply**

**11 september 2018**

**Working Session 2**

**About concerns on restricted media outlets in Azerbaijan-** Recirculation of information has been restricted by the court for violating the relevant requirements of the Azerbaijani legislation. But using internet and social media its is spreading out information,there is no restriction.

**About Mehman Huseynov-he is not a journalist.** M. Huseynov is charged with Article 147.2 of the Criminal Code (libel, slander or serious crimes). A court investigation confirmed that his acts constituted a crime. Courts are guided by requirements of the legislation and judgments are passed in line with the law. Therefore, it is unacceptable to link Mehman Huseynov's arrest to his work and politicize his arrest, as well as cast doubt on the court decision made in line with Azerbaijan's legislation. I think the issue is being artificially politicized by some domestic and foreign political groups and the organizations which are under those groups' influence. I would like to remind that in Azerbaijan, which is a rule-of-law state, courts are independent and it is impossible to influence their decisions by political campaigns and political pressure.