

## **Human Dimension Implementation Meeting**

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**Right of Reply**

### **Working session 3**

#### **About journalist Afgan Mukhtarly-**

Nobody arrested on defamation related issues last 15 years. A. Mukhtarli was detained by officers of the State Border Service after illegally crossing Azerbaijan's state border in Balaken district on May 29. While being kept, he resisted the service staff. A. Mukhtarli was charged under Article 318 (Illegal crossing of the state border), 206 (smuggling) and 315.2 (resistance against the authorities).

Generally, within the process of investigation or decision to require exemption him by some international organization or delegations, it can be valued as pressure on law-enforcement bodies of Azerbaijan.

Recommendation: States must ensure that their citizens engaging in journalistic activities must comply with laws, rules and regulations in countries they work, including travel restrictions to certain areas within their territories, in case of Azerbaijan which are under military occupation. These restrictive measure is in full conformity with the national legislation and Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.