

1. 10
2. male
3. 1987
4. Shirvan, Azerbaijan
5. Baku, Azerbaijan
6. Azerbaijan and France
7. No party membership
8. NGO
9. Internet, online media
10. Twice a year
11. Azerbaijani speaking

## **Summary**

### **Part I**

In Azerbaijan context, I consider protection of fundamental rights the most important. Fundamental rights means also freedoms, right to property, life, seeking happiness and justice. I think people in Azerbaijan has trouble in accessing to justice. Economy has somehow developed, but justice has not developed yet. If government wants to imprison someone, justice system will not protect that person. Moreover, there is a need for equality in order to eliminate gap between social groups. In Azerbaijan, people should have property immunity and access to justice.

In the international experience, cleaning of the city is the duty of the municipalities. In Azerbaijan, both municipalities and executive committees work on it. I think government should not take care off this issues. Municipality members elected by community must work on them.

I believe that each living being has a spirit. Aristotle explains spirit in two narratives: spirit is sensitive, spirit is the reason for movement. If a being inside the body of the mother moves and feels pain when it has been removed. It is a living being without consciousness. It should not be allowed to kill any living being, like humans, like animals. Abort can be allowed unless the fetus is not developed.

It is a humanitarian issue and each state has a responsibility to help the issue. If we are a part of international community, we should accept some certain amount of refugees. After the second world war, Germany and France had accepted certain amount of refugees as a workforce to develop the economy. It has affected to their citizenship policies. Therefore, a state should be prepared for that and be ready to adjust its policies. I understand why government is careful about this issue, but we should welcome refugees in need.

Each ethnic groups may have their own religion, language, customs, and relations with some territories. They have a right to preserve those culture and beliefs. We have not built Azerbaijan upon Turkish ethnicity. Azerbaijan was built as a union of all ethnic groups living here. It means that we should respect their language and their right to study, speak in their language. Azerbaijani ethnic group has challenges in Iran, regarding fully realizing their language and culture. By demanding this in Iran, we should also ensure rights of ethnic minorities living in our state.

There is a dilemma here. Ethnic groups do not face such problems in democratic countries ruled by law. If ethnic groups feels that their rights are violated they apply to court and maintain justice. In authoritarian and undemocratic states, government tries to control everything. When

ethnic groups in such states ask for their political freedoms, government answers with authoritarian actions and the problem enlarges. Therefore, such states try to control the situation, to prevent any change and keep status-quo. These problems cannot be solved unless the state becomes democratic. Recently when a Talish man shared *mevzan* in his community, he was arrested because of the context of the poem. This shows how authoritarian responses government makes. In authoritarian states, ethnic issues are demonstrated more like a threat than enrichment. In authoritarian regimes ethnic problems are threat, but I think ethnic diversity is enrichment of the society. Ethnic diversity in democratic states is not a problem.

In Azerbaijan, state is more important. Obviously, I wished that humans were more important. Since 17<sup>th</sup> century in the political philosophy, there is an answer for that preference: humans come first. I think the life of even one person should be important for the government. Government should control the economy to some extent. Great depressions proved that government should control economy to some extent, because of ethical problems in business. At least government can develop guidelines in the market and monitor the implementation of these guidelines. Utility, communal sector might be monopolized. Overall, I do not support the full control of government on economy.

## **Part II**

I am a male person, ethnically Turkish Azerbaijani citizen, and associating myself with Western values and institutes, a father in my family and holding regional background. I have poly identities. My identity is dynamic. In Europe, for instance, I discovered my Muslim identity.

The main part of my identity is being Azerbaijani. I do not want to give rational explanation for that. It is just how I feel.

Religion is flexible. Each group can use it for their own reasons. For instance, Islam encouraged both Sufism, and Wahhabism, radical ISIS.

Nation is a political organization, with political goals. Today nation is defined with territory, and state. However, I think nation is not territory or language. Ethnic groups have culture, language, religion, territory. Nation is a political union of these groups having some political claims and goals.

Borders should exist. If nation and state exists, borders should remain as well. However, these borders should not be a barrier humanitarian relations, the movement of people. State might have different policies regarding their borders.

Eliminating these borders though internet is good.

Resorting historical borders might lead to strengthening of security and life-standards. We should define what we mean by empowerment of the state. For some, it is increased GDP. In fact, these increased GDP does not benefit its citizens somehow is not real development. I do not see any causation between resorting borders and development.

## **Part III**

The reason why it is not solved through negotiations is because Armenians consider Karabakh as a historical part of their identity and losing Karabakh is understood as historical defeat for them. The reason why it is not solved through war is that we do not have enough military power to solve it. Even let us assume that we have great military power. The conflict will not be resolved through war anyways. There should be a fair peace in order to solve the conflict. Without fair peace, solution the conflict will continue for centuries.

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The guilty ones might be political elites in both countries. In international level, international actors are not interested to solve it. Nations are also unwilling to solve it.

The solution is though fair peace. Parties must be sincere. Both ethnic groups should have a right to preserve, protect their culture, language, religion though this fair peaceful solution. It is possible that conflict will be solved within territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. However it is also possible though other statuses unless both ethnic groups will live their peacefully. The problem is the mistrust of Armenians to us. In addition, both states are undemocratic which is a problem. In order to solve the conflict we should take international responsibilities.

After the solution of conflict, the life will go on in its flows. For some time, there will be mistrust among societies. This will be eliminated though trading, communicating.

For us Armenians are not enemy. Armenian state and the political elite in Armenia can be assumed as enemy.

From historical principal, the territories has belong to one and other states. In Soviets, Karabakh has been part of Azerbaijan by law. Later they have organized a referendum to become independent. This referendum was not democratic in term of Azerbaijani people not being able to participate there. By international law principle, Karabakh belongs to Azerbaijan.

People cannot solve the conflict. Political leaders, states should solve it. Both states should agree to compromise. For instance, there is Dayton agreement in Balkans. There were many communities many parties in Balkans. Dayton agreement has invited limited parties and has achieved solution. Involving many parties is democratic but not effective. I do not see neither Karabakh Armenians nor Karabakh Azerbaijanis as an independent party. Their involvement will not solve the conflict. The main parties in negotiation should be Azerbaijan and Armenian governments.

There are Aland, Tyrol models. Aland model is recommendable. Karabakh will be part of Azerbaijan and Armenians living there will have high ethnic freedoms and privileges. Looking though Tyrol model, Armenians can have high status, but have diplomatic relations only with Armenia.