



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Intangible  
Cultural  
Heritage

# NGO Review of Accreditation

ICH-08Report – Form

## REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

**DEADLINE 15 FEBRUARY 2021  
FOR EXAMINATION IN 2021**

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*Please provide only the information requested below. Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

### A. Identification of the organization

#### A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

“Azərbaycan xalçaçıları” İctimai Birliyi

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

Azerbaijani Carpet Makers' Union

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO-90266

#### A.2. Address of the organization

*Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.*

Organization: Azerbaijani Carpet Makers' Union

Address: 51/4, Asaf Zeynally str., Sabail district, AZ 1095, Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan

Telephone number: +994 12 496 35 30

Email address: [acwu@day.az](mailto:acwu@day.az)

Website:

Other relevant information:

### A.3. Contact person for correspondence

*Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.*

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Prof

Family name: Taghiyeva

Given name: Roya

Institution/position: Azerbaijani Carpet Makers' Union, Chairperson

Address: 2, Fikret Amirov str., Sabail district, Baku, Azerbaijan

Telephone number: +994 50 429 90 00

Email address: [royataghiyeva@gmail.com](mailto:royataghiyeva@gmail.com)

Other relevant information:

## B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national level (Chapter III of the Convention)<sup>1</sup>

*Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.*

**B.1.** *Describe your organization's participation in State efforts to develop and implement measures to strengthen institutional capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage (ICH) (Article 13 and Operational Directive (OD) 154), e.g. in the drafting of ICH-related policies or legislation, in the establishment of national ICH committees or in other government-led processes.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

From August 1 to December 1, 2017, the Azerbaijani Carpet Makers' Union implemented the project "The Modern potential for the development of Karabakh carpet weaving" with the financial support of the Council of State Support to Non-Governmental Organizations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The project consists of identifying places of traditional hand-woven carpet production among the population and refugees living in Karabakh and the frontline regions, collecting information about carpet weavers, dyers, as well as types of carpets they weave. The database created during the project aims to inform the local and international

<sup>1</sup> In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers when filling in parts B, C and E.

community about the types of carpets, designs and existing carpet workshops in Karabakh, and to prepare proposals and recommendations to attract investments to this area. The project covered residents of Jabrayil, Fizuli, Aghdam and Terter regions, as well as more than 10,000 refugees living in Baku and displaced from those areas. About 100 carpet weavers and dyers were surveyed, and summarizing the results, assessed development potential, proposals and forecasts were developed.

**B.2.** *Describe your organization's cooperation with competent governmental bodies for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage (Article 13), including existing institutions for training on and the documentation of ICH (OD 154).*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

In May-November, 2019, with the financial support of the Council of State Support to Non-Governmental Organizations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the project "Organization of carpet weaving trainings for IDP women from Karabakh" was successfully implemented. Within the framework of the project, 10 women learned the weaving technology of "Shadda" and "Dastarkhan" flatwoven carpets. During the final exhibition the "Shadda" textile was free of charge presented to the Fuzuli History and Ethnography Museum, and "Dustakhan" was donated to the Zangilan District Museum of History and Ethnography.

**B.3.** *Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the State's Periodic Report (OD 152).*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The NGO works closely with the Department of Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage, the Law Department and International Relations Department of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as with the National Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan for UNESCO and the Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan to UNESCO.

Our experts are involved in the preparation of nomination files for inscription on the Representative List of UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage, to improve the legislative and normative-legal documents for the preparation of state programs related to intangible cultural heritage, make suggestions regarding the preservation of cultural heritage in general.

Suggestions for improvements and amendments to the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On preservation and development of carpet art of Azerbaijan", to the Law on culture, to the "Concept of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan", etc. and the draft state program on the conservation and development of carpet art of Azerbaijan submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers of the country have been prepared and submitted.

**B.4** *Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The Union actively participated in the preparation of report of the nomination "The traditional art of Azerbaijani carpet weaving in the Republic of Azerbaijan", which was inscribed in the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2010.

Besides, the experts of the Union participated in the preparation of nomination file "Kelagai, making and wearing the women's silk headscarves". As a result, the nomination "Kelagai, making and wearing the women's silk headscarves" has successfully inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2014.

- B.5.** Describe your organization's participation in the identification, definition (Article 11.b) and inventorying of ICH (Article 12, OD 80 and OD 153). Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

In May 2020, on the basis of the request of the Zangilan Museum of History and Local Lore, the employees of the "Azerbaijan Carpet Weavers Union" carried out the attribution of the carpets in the museum's storage.

- B.6.** Describe your organization's participation in other safeguarding measures, including those referred to in Article 13 and OD 153, aimed at:

- a. promoting the function of ICH in society;
- b. fostering scientific, technical and artistic studies with a view to effective safeguarding;
- c. facilitating, to the extent possible, access to information relating to ICH while respecting customary practices governing access to specific aspects of it.

*Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals when participating in such measures.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

On March 5, 2019, a program exhibition entitled "Alli-Gullu Novruzum" was organized in Baku. The works by the Union's members were demonstrated at the exhibition.

On March 10, 2019, the awarding ceremony of the winners and the presentation of creative works based on the results of the "Let's hear the voice of the world" International Festival was held in the Art Center "Nur Art House" in Icheri Sheher. Held for the first time in Azerbaijan, the international festival was organized by the International Academy of Literature and Journalism under UNESCO, as well as the UNESCO International Project Implementation Center, NUR Art House, Resource Youth Development Center, Azerbaijan Carpet Weavers Union, EduCenter, and the World of Education newspaper.

On March 18-20, 2019, ADB members Elmira Gasimova, Sema Amirova, Hokuma Gasimova, Gulshan Huseynova, Rasima Ahmadova took an active part in the 4<sup>th</sup> International Folklore Festival in Gegali village of Agsu region as organizers and participants of the exhibition.

NUR Art House and the Azerbaijani Carpet Weavers' Union on the occasion of May 18 - International Museum Day and within the framework of "Museums and the Year of Nasimi" program on May 17 in Baku, Khazar district, Turkan settlement, 2a grade students of secondary school 262 and Together with the Children's Gallery "Medina" in Icheri Sheher organized an interactive training on cognitive and communicative activities with children - "See what a colorful rope, grandmothers weave."

On May 18, 2019, the 100th anniversary of Aliya Bagirova, the first female director of "Azerkhalcha", was organized. At the meeting, the Union's members shared their memories of Aliya Bagirova.

Last month, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Embassy of Azerbaijan in Argentina in 2019, the book "Azerbaijani carpet at the crossroads of civilizations" was published in Spanish. dedicated to the centenary.

In June 2019, Gunel Huseynova, a member of the Union, also took part in the introductory exhibition of the fine and applied arts competition "Be the Shadow of the Ancient City" within the framework of the "Urban Art. Azerbaijan" open public social art project.

**B.7.** Describe your organization's involvement in measures to ensure greater recognition of, respect for and enhancement of ICH, in particular those referred to in Article 14, ODs 105 to 109 and OD 155:

- a. educational, awareness-raising and information programmes aimed at the general public, in particular young people;
- b. educational and training programmes within the communities and groups concerned;
- c. capacity-building activities for the safeguarding of ICH;
- d. non-formal means of transmitting knowledge;
- e. education for the protection of natural spaces and places of memory whose existence is necessary for expressing ICH.

Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals when participating in such measures.

Not to exceed 250 words

In February-March 2017, the Union's members together with NUR Art House organized a series of trainings entitled "Learning from Masters" for students of the Azerbaijan State University of Culture and Arts, as well as enthusiasts of art participated in these events. "Flatwoven carpets", "Hemp", "Types of artistic embroidery: embroidery with beads", "Felting", "Pile carpets", "On Novruz Azerbaijani carpets, our national cultural heritage", "Tapestry", "Batika and kalagai technique", "Our ornaments, our history, our past", "Carpet technologies", "Management and marketing of cultural products", "Azerbaijani carpet as a widespread type of folk-applied art", etc. Prof. Roya Tagiyeva, carpet designers Taryer Bashirov and Eldar Hajiyev, felt-maker Rauf Abdulhuseynoglu, embroidery master Badira Aliyeva, designers Gunel Huseynova, Mehriban Aliyeva, carpet weaver Gulnara Aliyeva, researcher Gulshan Huseynova conducted interactive classes covering the topics.

The event "Let's live the traditions of Karabakh carpet weaving" organized on October 28, 2017 in Baku - NUR Art House gallery, within the framework of the project, aimed at meeting generations, as well as promoting interest in carpet weaving.

On March 13, 2018, on the occasion of Wind Wednesday, the Union together with "NUR Art House" held an event called "Like the wind from the valleys", a fashion show of clothes made by the Union's members Hokuma Gasimova and performances of a dance ensemble, demonstration of Novruz traditions. Prof. Roya Tagiyeva made a report on the reflection of Novruz traditions on Azerbaijani carpets. On May 5, 2018, "NUR Art House" and "Azerbaijani Carpet Weavers" Public Union held an interactive event entitled "See what colorful yarn grandmothers weave!"

On June 1, 2018, on the occasion of the International Children's Day, the Union together with "NUR Art House" held a literary-artistic fashion show and flash mob "Create a Miracle" with the participation of children.

At the 1st Baku International Exhibition and Conference of Traditional Crafts, organized by the Icheri Sheher State Historical-Architectural Reserve, ECO and other organizations in September 2019, the chairperson of the Union made a report entitled "Tablecloths: Tradition and Modernity".

## C. Bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international cooperation

Report on any activities carried out by your organization at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives, as referred to in Article 19 and OD 156. You may, for example, consider the following issues:

- a. sharing information and documentation concerning shared ICH (OD 87);
- b. participating in regional cooperation activities including, for example, those of category 2 centres for ICH established under the auspices of UNESCO (OD 88);
- c. developing networks of NGOs, communities, experts, centres of expertise and research institutes at subregional and regional levels to develop joint and interdisciplinary approaches concerning shared ICH (OD 86).

Not to exceed 250 words

On June 30, 2017, at the event “Birds floating in the garden” held at the NUR Art House within the framework of the project “Conversations about Art” organized by the Russian Information-Cultural Center and NUR Art House, Roya Tagiyeva’s “Art of Time and Peoples Thematic, interactive lecture on “Interaction and mutual enrichment” was given to the audience. A program-exhibition of works by carpet weaver Eldar Hajiyev and embroiderer Elmira Gasimova, Hokuma Gasimova, carpet weaver Rahila Ahmadova was given to the audience. Weaver Gulnara Aliyeva presented various carpet technologies to the audience.

On January 22, 2018, the presentation of the encyclopedia "Azerbaijani carpet" and a series of lectures on "Azerbaijani carpet art" were held at the "Metropolitan" Museum in New York by the chairman of the Union.

On September 14-16, 2018, at the First International Festival of Traditional Arts-Seminars funded by the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia and USAID in Georgia in the territory of Akhaltsikhe Fortress of Georgia, members of the “Azerbaijan Carpet Weavers” PU Shahla Askerova and artist Leyla Aliyeva successfully participated.

In July 2019, the chairperson of the Union, participated in the International Conference and Exhibition in Latvia with a video report on “The role of Julius Straume in the development of Azerbaijani carpet weaving” and Shahla Asgarova, a member of the Board, with a pattern of “Nalbekigul” carpet.

In October 2019, NUR Art House hosted a meeting of textile specialists of the Association of Hungarian Tapestry Artists Eszter Kneisz, Livia Papai, Ida Lencses, Edit Lazarne Balogh and Kozsuharov Ognjan with members of the Azerbaijan Carpet Weavers’ Union.

In connection with the invitation to the exhibition held on September 26, 2019 in Nursultan, Kazakhstan in connection with the opening of the "Azerbaijan Trade House", a book of handicrafts - carpets and the Azerbaijan Carpet Encyclopedia by members of the "Azerbaijan Carpet Weavers" Public Knowledge was presented.

Members of the “Azerbaijani Carpet Weavers” Public Union - Eldar Hajiyev, Jahangir Salimkhanov, Bakhtiyar Bakhshaliyev, students of the Azim Azimzadeh Academy of Arts, Aida Agayeva, Aybaniz Zafarli take part in the “Azerbaijani Carpet” exhibition-sale held in Argentina in March 2020, organized by the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Argentina.

December 2020 - June 18 - August 28, 2021 to hold the 7th triennale (exhibition) on the art of weaving in Hungary on the theme "Flow" (flow, spinning) "Ganja" by Shahla Askerova, a member of the Public Union "Azerbaijan Carpet Weavers" A sample of the embroidery was made and the files were sent electronically to Hungary for selection by the jury.

## **D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage**

- D.1** *Has your organization participated in the Committee meetings or those of the General Assembly? If so, please indicate which meetings you attended and describe the nature of your contribution to the Committee's work.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

4-8 December 2013 in Baku, participated in the General Assembly of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Baku and organized the International Exhibition "Renaissance. Traditional wedding costumes of Central Asia".

26.11.-12.03.2016 participated in the 11th session of the Inter-Governmental Committee of the UNESCO Convention for the Protection and Preservation of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, as well as in the 5th Symposium ICH-NGO-Forum, where attended and participated in the discussions, sharing with their experiences in the field of cultural, archaeological, inclusive tourism on the objects of the cultural heritage, also made proposals on the organization of trainings on management and marketing of cultural products within the Global Capacity-Building programme. Strengthening capacities to safeguard intangible cultural heritage for sustainable development.

- D.2** *Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (OD 26 to 31), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.*

*Not to exceed 100 words*

N/A

- D.3** *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (OD 96) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

*Not to exceed 500 words*

The NGO is urged to promote revival of powerful spiritual heritage of a carpet, national traditions of the Azerbaijani people, consolidation of creative potential of leading persons of society and culture, support to talented children and youth and creative carpet dynasties. The purpose of the Union is also to convey to the international community with objective information about the unique national culture, rich historical heritage and diversity of the carpet art of Azerbaijan.

The Union has united the best carpet experts of Azerbaijan, who are invited to value the intangible cultural heritage not only at the local but also at the international level. During this period, the Society conducted and is actively working to promote folk arts and crafts, not only domestically, but also abroad.

## **E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (as described in OD 27 and OD 96):**

- E.1.** *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The NGO attracted well-known representatives around it in the field of carpet, decorative, fine

art, art historians, lawyers, photographers, applied arts masters, designers, most of whom are experts in their fields. Number of members - 60 people. 20 of who speak the oral and written English and the experts will be able to participate in the consideration of nominations, proposals and also to evaluate and advise on the different types of art.

**E.2.** *Does your organization have experience in working across several ICH domains? Please describe your experiences.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

(a) oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage; (b) performing arts; (c) social practices, rituals and festive events, (e) traditional craftsmanship.

**E.3.** *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The NGO actively participates in events organized by UNESCO. In 2010, it participated in the preparation of the nomination "The traditional art of Azerbaijani carpet weaving in the Republic of Azerbaijan".

The experts of the organization are also actively involved in the preparation of nomination files as nominations "Kelagai, making and wearing the women's silk headscarves" (2014).

**E.4.** *Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The NGO has participated in the preparation of relevant nomination files together with National Commission.

**E.5.** *Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

From March 29 - April 3, 2011 organized an exhibition, workshops and 'round table "in Baku with the participation of national-applied art of Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan in association with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan, the State Museum of Azerbaijan Carpet and Applied Art, the Fund "Forum of Culture and Arts of Uzbekistan" and the Association of Antiques of Uzbekistan "Meros".

In 2012, the Society in Baku in the framework Eurovision held the International seminar and exhibition on arts and crafts of the CIS nations, funded by the Interstate Fund for Humanitarian Cooperation of CIS member states (IFESCCO) and in Minsk.

4-8 December 2013 in Baku, organized the International Exhibition "Renaissance. Traditional wedding costumes of Central Asia "in the framework of the General Assembly of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. In June 2014 participated in the festival of Nomadic Civilization "Millennium around Astana" in Kazakhstan.

In 2014, in Baku organized the exhibition "Constellation thousand hearts" of folk artists of the CIS countries together with the Interstate Fund for Humanitarian Cooperation of the



Commonwealth of Independent States (IFESCO).

In 2014, in Tashkent, the Society actively participated in the exhibition and the seminar "Magic nodules - Azerbaijani carpets", organized within the framework of the international festival "ART- STYLE", the organizer of which was "Fond Forum" of Uzbekistan.

In 2016 participated in the organization of tours in Baku on cultural heritage in cooperation with a member of the European Committee of ICOM, the Museum of archaeology of Portugal and the Portuguese Embassy in Azerbaijan. As part of the tour there was a meeting for the exchange of experiences between two countries by archaeologists, with the leadership of the Institute of Archaeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan, as well as visit to sites of cultural heritage of the republic.

## F. Cooperation with UNESCO

*Report on activities carried out by your organization in cooperation with UNESCO (both direct cooperation with UNESCO as well as activities carried out under the auspices of UNESCO or for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention, or financial support, such as funding from the Participation Program).*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

In 2012 the NGO was accredited as a non-governmental organization to provide advisory services to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO (reg.nom: NGO-90266)

In December 2018, in the framework of the project "Strategy for the sustainable development of intangible cultural heritage: the relationship between conservation and education" conducted by the Asia-Pacific body of the UNESCO Department for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and Education, the book "Strategy of non-governmental organizations dealing with intangible cultural heritage in achieving sustainable development" from the series "The relationship between the protection of tangible cultural heritage and education" has been published.

The book was prepared within the framework of the UNESCO International Center for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific region (ICHCAP) with the participation of 8 non-governmental organizations from seven countries - Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Mongolia and the Philippines. The articles collected in the book highlight the activities of these organizations to achieve sustainable development.

The book includes the article "Revival of Azerbaijani carpet weaving traditions" by Roya Tagiyeva, chairman of the Azerbaijan Carpet Weavers Union.

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## G. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/nqo-forums-00422>.

Yes

No

## H. Signature

The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of the organization.

Name: Roya Taghiyeva

Title: Prof

Date: February 09, 2021

Signature: *P. Taghiyeva*