

**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: 17 February 2025
for examination in 2025**

File may be downloaded at:
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>

*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. The postal address should be the one 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: AZ 1095, 51/4, Asaf Zeynally str., Sabail district, Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan

Telephone number: +994 12 496 35 30

Email address: acwu@day.az

Website/Social
media:

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

Position: Azerbaijani Carpet Makers' Union, Chairperson

Postal address: 2, Fikret Amirov str., Sabail district, Baku, Azerbaijan

Telephone number: +994 50 429 90 00

Email address: royataghiyeva@gmail.com

Other relevant
information:

B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels (Chapter III and Article 19 of the Convention, paragraph 156 of the Operational Directives)¹

Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework², as well as to the preparation of periodic reports, nominations, proposals and requests under the Convention's international cooperation mechanisms. 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 contribution to strengthening **institutional and human capacities** for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.*

Not to exceed 250 words

On March 12, 2021, in the NUR Art House gallery, member of the Azerbaijan Carpet Makers Union (ACMU) Hokuma Gasimova held a theoretical and practical master class for students of the Azerbaijan State University of Culture and Arts on the topic of "The Art of Artistic Embroidery", and on April 5 - on the topic of "The Art of Artistic Weaving".

1. In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers where appropriate.
2. For further information on the Overall Results Framework, please refer to the Chapter 8 of the Basic Texts of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/basic-texts-00503>

On December 25-27, 2022, members of the Board of Directors of ACMU held master classes on the topics of "Creating a Carpet Composition", "Working on Glass" (stained glass art), "Batik" and "Felt", "Artistic Embroidery of Azerbaijan", "Modeling, Dolls, Souvenirs".

On August 18, 2022, a round table on the topic "Gurama in the corner of our house, on our grandmother's lap" was held at the NUR Art Gallery as part of the exhibition program "Gurama: At the crossroads of centuries, through the eyes of generations", which was opened as a part of the First National Gurama Festival. Particular attention was paid to the problems artists face and the importance of education for preserving art. They discussed what needs to be done to develop interest in crafts among the younger generation.

On October 4, 2023, a meeting was held in the Agdam region with the First Deputy Head of the Executive Authority of the Agdam region as part of the project "Support for the development of carpet art in the regions"; and then an information session was organized at the House of Culture of the Guzanli local community.

On March 25, 2024, the NUR Art Gallery, together with the Carpet Gallery, announced an exhibition and creative competition called "Novruz: A New Look at Tradition." The goal of the new project is to promote our national cultural heritage among young people, to form a classical and modern view of traditions, a creative approach, theoretical and practical knowledge and skills, as well as to reflect new trends that serve to enrich our national heritage.

B.2. Describe your organization's participation in activities related to the **transmission of and education for intangible cultural heritage**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

The exhibition of flatwoven carpets "Victory Day in the Light of the Past and the Future" opened on November 5, 2021, was opened on the basis of flatwoven and pile carpets woven in Karabakh. As part of the exhibition program, a master class was held for students.

From November 13 to 17, 2022, master classes from the carpet weaver, painter and graphic artist Natig Najafzade. Joining his "master classes", visitors traveled with him into the world of carpets, comprehending the secrets of patterns, ideas about compositional construction, features of color solutions in carpet art.

On January 20, 2023, the NUR Art Gallery organized a master class entitled "My Favorite Toy" on the occasion of the National Mourning Day to educate the children of martyrs, reveal their talents and conduct art therapy through communication with art. The master class, which was held with the support of the Carpet Makers Union, the NUR Art House carpet gallery and the Zafar Yolu public association for humanitarian aid to war veterans and martyrs' families, was conducted by the founder of the *Handmade by Sev* brand, a professional teacher, an experienced art therapy specialist, and a successful participant in many exhibitions Sevinj Aliyeva.

On March 14, 2022, the ACMU and the NUR Art Gallery organized an exhibition entitled "Novruz with Carpet Patterns" on the occasion of the Novruz holiday, which is measured in millennia and embodies our national and spiritual values. The exhibition featured carpets, felt, artistic embroidery and other works of decorative and applied art.

A master class was held on December 21, 2023, as part of the Four Pearls exhibition. During the class, held at the NUR Art Gallery, ACMU's members Mehriban Aliyeva, Maya Babayeva and Naila Karimova demonstrated felt art techniques to students of the comprehensive boarding school No. 11

A master class on the topics of "The Art of Azerbaijani Carpet Weaving" and "Color" was held at the Sariban House of National Decor in Balakhani on November 24, 2024, organized by ACMU with the organizational support of the Sariban House of National Decor, the Baskal State Historical and Cultural Reserve and the Baskal Kalagai Center.

B.3. Describe your organization's participation in the **inventorying and research of intangible cultural heritage**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

On April 30, 2021, ACMU's chairperson Roya Taghiyeva made a presentation at the international scientific online conference "Nizami and Music" organized at the State Museum of Musical Culture of Azerbaijan, with the paper

“Images of Nizami in Oriental Carpet Art”.

In 2023, ACMU, with the assistance of the Agency for State Support to Non-Governmental Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, implemented a project to create an innovative educational web application “Azerbaijani Flatwoven Carpet”. The project is conceived as a continuation of the project “Support for the Development of Carpet Weaving in the Regions”, implemented in 2022. The main goal of the project is to create an innovative educational web application on Azerbaijani flatwoven carpets, which will allow students, collectors and individual entrepreneurs studying at different levels of education in the areas of art history, history, carpet art, museology, weaving technology, dyeing technology, agriculture, biology, chemistry and other areas to receive information about the name, history and classification of flatwoven carpets from a single information resource. The project is also of great importance in terms of preserving, popularizing and researching our cultural heritage.

On June 22, 2022, an event entitled “Shusha - the pearl of the Turkic world” was held at the NUR Art Gallery. The event included the opening of the first solo exhibition of the young artist Nasiba Guliyeva,

On November 25, 2023, ACMU completed the project “Support for the Development of Carpet Art in the Regions”, implemented with the support of the Agency for State Support to Non-Governmental Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Within the framework of the project, a number of meetings were held in the Aghdam, Barda, Gazakh, Aghstafa and Shamkir regions, as well as in the city of Mingachevir with the participation of young people, teachers and students of vocational education centers, and cultural figures.

On October 10, 2023, the project “Creation of an innovative educational web application “Azerbaijani flatwoven carpet” was completed. The website <http://xovsuzalca.com> was presented.

B.4. Describe your organization’s participation in developing *policies, as well as legal and administrative measures*, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

On November 25, 2023, ACMU completed the project “Support for the Development of Carpet Art in the Regions”, implemented with the support of the Agency for State Support to Non-Governmental Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Within the framework of the project, a number of meetings were held in the Agdam, Barda, Gazakh, Agstafa and Shamkir regions, as well as in the city of Mingachevir with the participation of young people, teachers and students of vocational education centers, and cultural figures.

B.5. Describe your organization’s participation in promoting the *role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society*. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

On September 13, 2022, the Yanardag State Historical, Cultural and Natural Reserve hosted an exhibition of decorative and applied arts, “The Garden of the Native Land”. The exhibition, dedicated to the “Year of Shusha”, was jointly organized by the Yanardag State Historical, Cultural and Natural Reserve, ACMU, the Miras Public Association for the Study of Cultural Heritage, and the NUR Art Gallery.

On November 8, 2022, on Victory Day, in the NUR Art Gallery, a member of the Azerbaijani Carpet Weavers public association, talented carpet artist Natig Najafzade presented his modern vision of our national patterns with an exhibition of carpet sketches entitled “Victory in Ancient and Modern Patterns”.

On January 14, 2023, with the joint support of the NUR Art Gallery, Arts Council Azerbaijan and World Crafts Council Europe, the first solo exhibition of a member of ACMU, fashion designer and artist Naila Kerimova entitled “Felt Art: Unity of Time and Space” was opened.

On June 10, 2023, the NUR Art Gallery hosted the Perla exhibition of young artists organized by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Bilasuvar Youth House, ACMU, NUR Art Gallery and Perloré Art Gallery.

On March 27, 2023, ACMU Chairperson Roya Tagiyeva gave an interview to the program filmed on the Culture TV channel about the Azerbaijani Carpet exhibition, which was held as part of the European Days of Artistic Skills in the NUR Art Gallery.

On June 14, 2023, Roya Tagiyeva was a guest on the Channel S. She spoke about the importance of popularizing the Azerbaijani carpet among young people - our intangible cultural heritage, which includes our national traditions, folklore and oral folklore.

B.6. Describe your organization's participation in **raising awareness** about intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

On August 5, 2021, an article entitled "Artistic discoveries of an artist who turned folk art into national glory" was published about carpet compositions prepared by a member of the Board of Directors of the Public Association, People's Artist Eldar Mikailzade based on the magnificent Palace of the Sheki Khans, the Shekikhanovs' house, nets, wall paintings, ornamental and pictorial motifs of frescoes.

On October 24, 2021, an article by Roya Taghiyeva entitled "A Perfect Master of Folk Art" was published in the Khalkgazeti newspaper. The article is dedicated to the work of the outstanding carpet artist, People's Artist Kamil Aliyev.

On November 17, 2021, an event dedicated to People's Artist Latif Karimov was held. People's Artist Latif Karimov, who laid the scientific foundations of Azerbaijani carpet weaving, turns 115 years old.

On November 20, 2021, a ceremonial event dedicated to the great Azerbaijani poet and thinker Nizami Ganjavi will be held at the NUR Art House. The ceremony of cutting the Khosrov and Shirin carpet, created by members of the public association for the 880th anniversary, took place.

On March 17, 2022, ACMU and the NUR Art Gallery jointly held the Awakening of Nature exhibition dedicated to the Novruz holiday. The exhibition featured carpets, artistic embroidery, beadwork, felt, batik, jewelry, dolls and other arts and crafts.

December 11, 2022 - Women's Community "IZ - Confident and Elegant" organized a meeting of women entrepreneurs "IZ WOMAN WORKSHOP" and an exhibition of their handicrafts at the SeeBreeze resort. The main goal of the event was to unite women entrepreneurs, as well as manufacturers and distributors of goods for women, and create mutual connections between them.

On December 19, 2023, NUR Art Gallery and ACMU presented an exhibition of felt art "Four Pearls".

On March 2, 2024, ACMU held an event dedicated to the work of film director, Honored Cultural Figure of the Republic of Azerbaijan Nuraddin Taghiyev, who made a great contribution to the formation of the organization and whose 80th anniversary was celebrated.

B.7. Describe your organization's participation in facilitating the engagement of communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

Not to exceed 250 words

On May 7, 2022, in Icherisheher, children born outside of Karabakh and far from traditions got acquainted with Shusha carpets. In the exhibition-program prepared for them, "Look what grandmothers weave from colored yarn," professional carpet weavers talked about Shusha carpets, and the patterns of floral Shusha carpets immersed children in the world of color and presented them in a new way. Schoolchildren were also shown a presentation called "Shusha carpets."

In 2022, in the first children's animation studio in Azerbaijan "Gurama", created on the basis of the integrated boarding school No. 11 in the village of Bilgah, under the leadership of honored cultural figure, artist, director-animator Elchin Hami Akhundov, animated films created by children on various topics and compositions, prepared by schoolchildren together with teachers, demonstrate the future of this art and the view of the young generation on art.

From September 16 to 19, 2022, an exhibition entitled "Selected Works in Textile Art" was opened, which presented the works of Elvan Ozkavruk Adanir, head of the Department of Textile and Fashion Design, Faculty of Arts and Design, Izmir University of Economics. As part of the exhibition, the author met with members of the association, and prospects for further work and cooperation were discussed.

On March 18, 2023, the exhibition "Ancient Novruz Creations" dedicated to the Novruz holiday was opened at the State Historical and Cultural Reserve "Medieval City of Agsu". The organizers of the exhibition were Medieval City of Agsu, NUR Art Gallery and ACMU. The exhibition featured examples of decorative and applied arts, such as carpet weaving, artistic embroidery, wood carving, made by members of the Union of Artists Eldar Hajiyev, Natig Najafzade and others.

On October 31, 2024, the Shusha State Musical and Drama Theater hosted the performance "Haribulbul dastani", prepared by the "Children and Youth Development Center No. 7" of Baku and dedicated to November 8 - Victory Day.

B.8. Describe your organization's **engagement in cooperation 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.

Not to exceed 250 words

Exhibition in Hungary from June 18 to August 28, 2021 as part of the 7th Textile Triennial held in December 2020.

From December 28, 2022 to January 3, 2023, in connection with the membership of the Arts Council Azerbaijan organization in the International Organization WORLD CRAFTS COUNCIL EUROPE, NUR Art Gallery, ACMU, and the Arts Council Azerbaijan organization jointly opened an exhibition entitled "Karabakh Carpets: Truth Passed on from History to the Future". ACMU implemented the project "Support for the Development of Carpet Art in the Regions" with the financial support of the Agency for State Support to Non-Governmental Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

ACMU and the NUR Art Gallery successfully participated in the 74th International Aeronautics Congress and the exhibition organized within the framework of the congress, which was held in Baku on October 2-6, 2023. At the event organized at the state level, a new project was implemented at the stand of the International Aerospace Communications Organization Intersputnik.

In 2024, the Chairman Roya Taghiyeva and three members of ACMU - Rashid Bakirov, Umay Mammadzade, and Nigar Eyvazli - took part in the 4th International Seminar on Multimedia Heritage Structuring and Content Explanation (Portugal). Their paper "Automatic Attribution of Azerbaijani Flatwoven Carpets Based on Data" was published in the scientific works of the seminar.

The 15th International Conference on Oriental Carpets (ICOC-XV) was held in Istanbul on June 7-8, 2024 and was dedicated to the theme "Oriental Carpet Research 2024: The Past and Future of Carpet Weaving and Collecting". Two main areas were highlighted here - "Historical Carpets and Textiles" and "Contemporary Art, Design and New Production". Roya Taghiyeva, and Rashid Bakirov, lecturer, associate professor at Bournemouth University (UK), took part in the conference with a report on "Artificial Intelligence as a Factor Determining the Identity of Flat Woven Carpets".

B.9. Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention.

Not to exceed 250 words

B.10. 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

C. Cooperation with UNESCO

Has your organization carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO? If yes, please tick the relevant boxes and provide information in the box below.

- Direct cooperation with UNESCO (Headquarters and Field Offices)
- Activities for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention
- Cooperation through the 2003 Convention's Global Network of Facilitators
- Cooperation with Category 2 Centres
- Cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO
- Cooperation with UNESCO Chairs
- Financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund
- Financial support from the Participation Programme
- Other types of cooperation

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.

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

In September 2024, Jeonju International Awards for Promoting Intangible Cultural Heritage (JIAPICH) awarded Association of Captains and Traditional Indigenous Authorities of the Pirá-Paraná In River (ACAIFI) of Colombia, The Foundation of Koble Mandé Sud' of Côte d'Ivoire, and the Chairperson of ACWU 'Dr. Roya Taghiyeva of Azerbaijan for exemplary cases of intangible cultural heritage safeguarding activities, promoting social cohesion and identity through intangible cultural heritage, and fostering the development of international communities in the future.

In December 2024, President of Azerbaijan awarded the Şərəf (Honour) order, one of the highest state awards in culture sphere to Roya Taghiyeva.

International Academy of Sciences of Turkish World Studies also awarded her the Honour order for her outstanding performs to the culture, science and education of the Turkish World.

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 sessions of the Committee? If so, please indicate which sessions you attended and whether you had any specific role during these meetings.

Not to exceed 250 words

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

Not to exceed 100 words

Since 2010, the Society provided the Governmental delegation of Azerbaijan and the Azerbaijani Ministry of Culture

with its proposals and reports, and their submission to the Secretariat of the Convention was carried out through the hierarchy of the National delegation of Azerbaijan by UNESCO

D.3 *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives) 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 (paragraphs 27 and 96 of the Operational Directives)

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 with the language abilities concerned.*

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 who can 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 intangible cultural heritage 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" and presented it at the time of inclusion in the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in Kenya.

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) and "Gulabatin gold-embroidering" for the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

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 with the language abilities concerned.*

Not to exceed 250 words

The NGO have made up files in English on the nominations "The traditional art of Azerbaijani carpet weaving in the Republic of Azerbaijan", "Kelagai, making and wearing the women's silk headscarves" (2014) and "Gulabatin gold-embroidering"

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 of Azerbaijan, the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum, the Fund "Forum of Culture and Arts of Uzbekistan" and the Association of Antiques of Uzbekistan "Meros".

From September 16 to 19, 2022, an exhibition entitled "Selected Works in Textile Art" was opened, which presented the works of Elvan Ozkavruk Adanir, head of the Department of Textile and Fashion Design, Faculty of Arts and Design, Izmir University of Economics. As part of the exhibition, the author met with members of the association, and prospects for further work and cooperation were discussed.

F. 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/ngo-forums-00422>.

Yes

No

G. Signature

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

Name: Roya Taghiyeva

Title: Prof

Date: 12.02.2025

Signature:



For the purpose of collecting information, accredited non-governmental organizations are invited to answer the following question (optional). The information provided will not be assessed as part of the review of accreditation in the sense of paragraph 94 of the Operational Directives.

Participation in the work of the ICH NGO Forum

Has your organization contributed to the work of the ICH NGO Forum in the past four years? If yes, please tick the relevant box(es) and provide information below.

Member of the **Executive Board** of the ICH NGO Forum

If yes, indicate the period and the role played:

Member of a **thematic working group** established under the ICH NGO Forum

Specify the name of the working group, the period and the role played:

Organizer of an **event specifically convened for accredited non-governmental organizations**

Specify the name of the event, its target group and its date:

Other types of cooperation

Specify: