



2025 Country Report Armenia

By Jack Halsey

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With the final steps having been taken to end the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, Yerevan has spent the past year building diversified global ties. Along with bringing U.S. tech and infrastructure investments into the country, the Armenian government has indicated an interest in joining the European Union. However, even as Yerevan looks to the West, it contends that it does not plan to replace Russia as an ally.

Key Points

- The culmination of years of negotiations and border delimitations came to fruition this year as Armenia and Azerbaijan initialed a peace deal sponsored by the United States in the White House. Although the peace deal remains unsigned, due to Azerbaijan's stipulation that Armenia remove claims to the Nagorno-Karabakh region from its constitution, progress towards normalization has been made. For the first time in decades, goods have transited through from Kazakhstan to Armenia via Azerbaijan unhindered.
- With the peace deal, Armenia has also secured American investment in the form of the Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity (TRIPP). The TRIPP Corridor will run along Armenia's southern border and connect Azerbaijan to its Nakhchivan exclave. This route will play an integral role in increasing Middle Corridor trade

capacity, circumventing Georgian ports that have reached their maximum output, and utilize Turkish rail and roads to reach Europe and beyond. Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has stated that the construction of the TRIPP Corridor could begin as early as mid-2026.

- Armenian policymakers passed a law to launch its European Union (EU) accession process. Although Armenia is still not an EU candidate country, this law establishes the legal precedent to work towards accession requirements. Pashinyan clarified that Armenia's interest in the EU does not indicate an intention to cut off ties to Russia.
- Washington approved the U.S.-based startup, Firebird, to export NVIDIA's advanced processors to Armenia. The first phase for the \$500 million, 100-megawatt AI supercomputing facility is projected to begin in the second quarter of 2026. The supercomputing center will dedicate 20% of its computing capacity for domestic companies and 80% to be sold to U.S.-based firms.

➤ Armenia-Azerbaijan Peace Process

Pashinyan Proposes 12-point Peace Initiative

On January 9, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan released a 12-point plan for normalizing relations with Azerbaijan. The points include establishing a joint body to monitor cease-fire violations, dissolving the OSCE Minsk group, mutually refraining from escalatory rhetoric, continuing the delimitation process, signing a peace treaty, implementing the Crossroads of Peace transit project, resolving the issue of detainees, determining the fate of missing persons, abandoning mutual claims, implementing the terms of the peace treaty, and addressing refugees' issues from both countries.

Source: JAM News

Azerbaijan and Armenia Agree on Border Delimitation

On January 16, the border delimitation commissions of Azerbaijan and Armenia held their 11th meeting at the shared border. The discussions were led by Azerbaijan's Deputy Prime Minister, Shahin Mustafayev, and Armenia's Deputy Prime Minister, Mher Grigoryan. The sides agreed to initiate the process from the northern point where the borders of Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Georgia intersect, moving southward to the border with Iran. The parties also reviewed draft guidelines outlining the procedures for conducting delimitation work. They also agreed to determine the date and location of the next meeting between the commissions.

Source: Daily Sabah

EU Observer Mission to Armenia Renewed Until 2027

On January 30, European officials announced that a contingent of European Union (EU) observers had been renewed to hold their posts until 2027. The observer mission arrived in Armenia in January 2023.

Source: [European Council](#)

Azerbaijan and Armenia Agree to Text of Historic Peace Deal

On March 13, Azerbaijan and Armenia policy makers announced that both sides had agreed to the text of a peace agreement that would see the final end to the decades-long conflict between the two countries. According to official statements, Armenia has accepted two remaining articles, the withdraw of international legal claims against either party and the barring of third-party representatives along the largely undemarcated border. Azerbaijan's statements have continued to emphasize the desire for Armenia to modify its constitution, with the Azerbaijan Foreign Ministry describing it as a "prerequisite to allow the signing of the negotiated text."

Source: [APA](#), [Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#), [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia](#)

Azerbaijan's FM Re-Iterates Demand for "Unhindered" Transit Through Armenia

Speaking on April 17, Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov re-emphasized Baku's position that "Azerbaijan requires a special approach to establishing a connection between the western regions and Nakhchivan," the Azerbaijani exclave separated from Azerbaijan by Armenia. Bayramov went on to say "For Azerbaijan, this passage must be truly unhindered, with no obstacles. This is an obligation that should not allow any future changes in Armenian legislation to alter this situation in the short, medium, or long term." Negotiations over a transit-corridor through Armenia to Nakhchivan have been a contentious sticking point in peace talks between Armenia and Azerbaijan, with Baku pushing to establish such a corridor without Armenian checkpoints or customs.

Source: [APA](#)

Armenia – Azerbaijan – United States Trilateral Peace Summit

On August 8, the United States hosted Armenia and Azerbaijan for a peace summit at the White House. During this summit, U.S. President Donald Trump held bilateral meetings with both Armenia Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev, where each country signed a bilateral agreement to develop strategic partnerships

with the United States. Potential areas of cooperation include defense, energy, trade, connectivity, and technology, including artificial intelligence. During the trilateral portion of the meetings, all three leaders signed a trilateral declaration stating their commitment to peace and unblocking commerce transport and communication links. The summit also made way for the construction of the Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity (TRIPP), which will provide Azerbaijan with full access to its exclave of Nakhchivan across Armenian territory while fully respecting Armenia's sovereignty. It is still unclear which U.S. company would be involved in the TRIPP. Azerbaijan also received a U.S. waiver for Section 907 of the Freedom Support Act, allowing for direct military cooperation. Finally, both Armenia and Azerbaijan withdrew as members of the OSCE Minsk group that was originally established to mediate Armenia's former occupation of Azerbaijani territory in Nagorno Karabakh.

Source: [Caspian Policy Center](#)

U.S. Set to Provide \$145 Million for Initial Investment in TRIPP Corridor

After U.S. delegation visited Armenian officials in Yerevan on September 11, both sides stated that a sum of \$145 million would be provided by the U.S. to fund the construction of important infrastructure along the planned Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity (TRIPP). Armenian officials expressed optimism and confidence that other funds will follow this initial investment, though no timeline on funding or construction of the corridor have been established.

Source: [Eurasianet](#)

Armenia's Constitutional Referendum Planned for After June 2026 General Elections

On Saturday, September 20, Armenian Prime Minister Pashinyan implied that his country's highly anticipated constitutional referendum will be held after his political party, Civic Contract, secures a vote of confidence in the country's June 2026 general elections. At this time, the successful adoption of a new constitution through this constitutional referendum is a necessary condition for neighboring Azerbaijan to ratify the seventeen-point bilateral peace agreement initialed in Washington early last August.

Source: [azatutyun](#)

U.S. Pledges Establishment of Working Groups on TRIPP Corridor by End of Year

The U.S. Department of State said that the Trump administration will create working groups that include officials from the governments of both Azerbaijan and Armenia. The U.S. move aims to quicken construction of the Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity (TRIPP), though no formal timeline has been suggested on the corridor's completion. The statement came after an Azerbaijani news outlet asked the State Department about progress since the signing of the August peace agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Source: [Eurasianet](#)

Prime Minister Pashinyan Says Construction of the TRIPP Corridor Will Begin in 2026

Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan announced that construction of the TRIPP corridor, a key component of the Middle Corridor trade network, is expected to begin in the second half of 2026. TRIPP, the Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity, is a central element of the provisional Armenia-Azerbaijan peace deal signed in Washington in August and has attracted serious attention to the region. Pashinyan told lawmakers that the route's configuration and operational framework should be finalized by mid-2026 but noted the timeframe for such projects "often changes."

Source: [Eurasianet](#)

Working Groups Announced for the TRIPP Corridor and U.S.-Azerbaijan Relations

U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Allison Hooker first met with officials in Yerevan, after which she announced the creation of working groups to expedite negotiations and construction on the Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity (TRIPP). Hooker then met with officials in Baku to establish a working group on the Charter of Strategic Partnership between the United States and Azerbaijan, which builds on negotiations held in August. One question that remains to be settled is the leasing term that Armenia will give to companies to work on the corridor that traverses Armenian territory. Separately, Azerbaijan Railways stated that the company is in the process of conducting a feasibility study to assess potential upgrades to railways in its exclave of Nakhchivan.

Sources: [Eurasianet](#), [Caucasus Watch](#), [X](#)

📌 Economy

Azerbaijan Removes All Restrictions on Cargo Transit to Armenia

On October 21, Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev announced that all restrictions on cargo transiting through Azerbaijan to Armenia had been lifted. This overturning of restrictions has led to the first shipment of Kazakhstan grain moving unimpeded through Azerbaijan to Armenia. President Aliyev stated, "I think this is also a good indicator that peace between Azerbaijan and Armenia is no longer just on paper, but in practice."

Source: [Reuters](#)

📌 ENERGY

Pashinyan Meets with Putin at Global Atomic Forum in Moscow

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan attended the event, hosted by Russian President Vladimir Putin, to discuss nuclear cooperation as part of Russia's World Atomic Week. Putin reiterated Rosatom's commitment to extending the lifespan of the nuclear corporation's present nuclear power plant in Armenia, which supplies up to 30 percent of the country's energy. On the other hand, Pashinyan expressed interest in the construction of newer, smaller nuclear power plants, though he did elaborate as to which partner country he will choose.

Sources: kremlin.ru, azatutyun

📌 Infrastructure

Armenia Proposes Rail Freight Transportation with Azerbaijan

On January 31, Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan announced that Yerevan had proposed reopening rail freight transportation with Azerbaijan. Speaking at a press conference, he stated that Armenia invited Baku to launch freight transport via the Zangezur corridor. Armenia also proposed a route from Yeraskh to Meghri via Nakhchivan. Pashinyan noted that passenger transportation could be considered later under appropriate conditions and expressed hope for a positive response from Azerbaijan.

Source: [Interfax](#)

STARLINK Launches in Armenia and Azerbaijan

STARLINK services are now available in Armenia and Azerbaijan, enhancing internet access across the country, including in remote and rural areas. On March 27, Armenia's Minister of High-Tech Industry Mkhitar Hayrapetyan announced the launch, highlighting the direct collaboration between STARLINK, the Armenian Ministry of High-Tech Industry, and key national authorities, without intermediaries. On March 29, "Starlink's high-speed, low-latency internet is now available in Azerbaijan!" posted Starlink on X.

Source: [Armenpress](#), [TelecomTalk](#)

Armenia to Nationalize “Electric Networks of Armenia”

Following the arrest of Russian billionaire Samvel Karapetyan, Armenia's Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan announced the nationalization of Electric Networks of Armenia. Pashinyan promised that employees who cooperate with law enforcement and who refuse to protest the nationalization process will be allowed to retain their employment.

Source: [JAM news](#)

↘ National News

Armenian Parliament Moves Forward EU Bill

On February 12, Armenia's parliament passed a piece of legislation tasking the government of Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan to work with the European Union to develop an accession roadmap for Armenia. Armenia has historically been within Russia's political and economic sphere of influence, but recent years have seen efforts on Yerevan's part to pivot westward. Any EU accession program would require several years of reforms on Armenia's part, including exiting the Eurasian Economic Union, Moscow's preferred economic customs union.

Source: [OC Media](#)

Pashinyan Unveils “Real Armenia” Doctrine

In a televised address to the nation on February 19, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan introduced the “Real Armenia” Doctrine, a platform for Armenia's political and economic transformation. The doctrine emphasizes strengthening the existing state over aspirations for “historical Armenia” and prioritizes individual initiative and economic development. On the same day, Pashinyan issued instructions to form an inter-governmental commission to revise Armenia's National Security Strategy.

At a February 20 press briefing, National Security Secretary Armen Grigoryan noted that the current strategy dates to mid-2020, before the Second Karabakh war. The goal of Pashinyan's initiative is to enshrine these changes into a new constitution, with a draft expected before the 2026 parliamentary elections.

Source: [Eurasianet](#)

Armenia Launches Major Arrests of Church Officials, Alleges Coup

Armenian security forces have arrested over a dozen individuals in Armenia on allegations of plotting to overthrow the Armenian government. The arrested individuals include Archbishop Bagrat Galstanyan, who rose to prominence in spring 2024 leading the "Tavush for the Homeland" protests against the government of Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, as well as another Armenian Apostolic Church bishop and at least 13 members of Galstanyan's "Holy Struggle" political movement. To prove their case, which the Church and opposition have described as politically motivated, Armenian officials released photographs of firearms and secret recordings of conversations they claim prove the intent to overthrow the state. The arrests come following the detention of Samvel Karapetyan, the prominent businessman who had likewise become critical of Pashinyan's government and after weeks of Pashinyan and his allies alleging malpractice by church officials.

Source: [Jam News](#)

Pashinyan: "Peace Was Impossible Without Closing the Karabakh Issue"

In an address to the nation on August 18, Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan announced that the initialed text of the Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and Interstate Relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan has been welcomed with satisfaction by the citizens of Armenia. Pashinyan spoke on the Karabakh issue, which he argued was one of the roadblocks for peace between the two countries. "You understood that peace is impossible without closing the Karabakh issue. It was simply used by certain forces as a tool to prevent Armenia's independence, sovereignty, and statehood," Pashinyan said. Pashinyan described the recent agreements signed in Washington as a transformative opportunity for Armenia, marking an end to over three decades of regional isolation and paving the way for normalized relations with Azerbaijan.

Source: [Armenpress](#), [Caliber.az](#)

➤ Security

Armenia–Iran Joint Military Drills Held

On April 10 and 11, Armenia and Iran held joint military exercises along their shared border, the first joint training exercises between the two countries' militaries. According to a statement released by the Armenian Ministry of Defense, the "exercise involves operations to neutralize attacks by simulated terrorist groups on border checkpoints located along the Armenia–Iran state border." The drills involved special operations units from each military with the forces of each country remaining on their own respective territories.

Source: [Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Armenia](#)

Armenia to Enact Fee-Based Model for Conscription

Armenia's governing Civil Contract party has put forward a piece of legislation that would enact a fee-based structure allowing citizens to substantially shorten their legally required period of military service. Under the new proposal, a three-tiered system would be established allowing male citizens to either serve the currently required 24-month period of military service (but with increased compensation), pay the equivalent of \$38,000 and serve a six-month period, or pay the equivalent of \$51,000 and serve a largely symbolic period of 1 month. Additionally, the new law would raise the legal deadline for conscription from 27 years of age to 37 years of age.

Source: [CivilNet](#)

Armenia to Keep Russian Base in Gyumri Open

President of the National Assembly of Armenia Alen Simonyan stated during a briefing that Armenia is not currently discussing the possibility of closing the Russian military base. Russia's 102nd Military Base in Gyumri hosts approximately 3,000 to 5,000 personnel and operates under a lease agreement extended until 2044.

Source: [Vestnik Kavkaza](#), [TASS](#)

Russia Increasing Military Presence at Armenian Base

The Main Directorate of Intelligence of Ukraine (HUR) has claimed that Russia is increasing its military presence at the Russian military base at Gyumri, Armenia, and recruiting new soldiers from Russia's Southern Military District to be stationed at the base.

Armenian officials have denied that these reports are true even as Ukrainian intelligence has released documents that they say prove Moscow's intent to increase its presence at the base. The HUR additionally connected the supposed increase in personnel with Armenia's supposed deteriorating relations with Azerbaijan.

Source: [Main Directorate of Intelligence of Ukraine \(Telegram\)](#).

United Kingdom Lifts Arms Embargo on Armenia and Azerbaijan

The U.K.'s Minister of State Stephen Doughty said that London chose to lift the embargo due to progress in establishing peace between Azerbaijan and Armenia. Doughty added that the U.K. looks to establish a strategic partnership with the two Caucasus states and help promote regional stability against "hybrid threats." The embargo was initially established by the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in 1992, during the first Nagorno-Karabakh War.

Source: [OC Media](#)



Technology

Nvidia and Firebird to Invest \$500 Million in Armenian AI Project

American computer technology firms Nvidia and Firebird have announced a plan to invest \$500 million into an artificial intelligence (AI) supercomputer project in Armenia in 2026. The project, championed by Armenian diaspora tech entrappers such as Nvidia's Vice President, Rev Lebarelian, will provide AI cloud computer services to companies based in Armenia and abroad, with officials saying the project will spur economic and tech development throughout the Caucasus. Reacting to the announcement, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan spoke in support of the initiative, saying that state will work to provide the project with the require 100 megawatts of power.

Source: [OC Media](#)

U.S. Approves Export of Nvidia Advanced Processors to Armenia

On November 19, Washington approved the U.S.-based startup Firebird to export Nvidia's advanced processors to Armenia. The first phase of this \$500 million, 100-megawatt AI supercomputing facility is projected to begin in the second quarter of next year. Set to be developed by Nvidia's Blackwell chips and Dell AI servers, the supercomputing center will reportedly dedicate 20% of its computing capacity for domestic (Armenian) companies while 80% of its capacity will be sold to U.S.-based firms working in the region.

Aside from actualizing a major policy shift following the Trump administration's decision to lift previous Biden-era restrictions of high-performance chips to the country, this decision marks the beginning of the development of what is set to become the South Caucasus' first-ever large-scale data center.

Source: [OC Media](#)

↘ State Agreements

Armenia and United States Sign Strategic Partnership

On January 15, in Washington DC, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan signed a strategic partnership. According to Blinken, the agreement will result in further United States-Armenia joint military drills, which were launched in 2023, as well as an upcoming visit by a U.S. customs and border control team. Kremlin officials criticized the move, with spokesman Dmitry Peskov stating the United States "has never played a particularly stabilizing role in the South Caucasus; one could even say the opposite."

Source: [OC Media](#)

Washington Halts Joint U.S.-Armenia Programs

According to statements made by Armenian officials, several joint initiatives outlined in the January strategic partnership agreement with the United States have been put on hold by Washington. These include an expected visit to Armenia by a delegation of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials, among other programs. The exact reason for the decision to halt these programs appears unclear, but the strategic partnership agreement had originally been signed under the out-going administration of President Joe Biden. The mass disruption to U.S. foreign assistance programs also seems to be a contributing factor, with the Armenian Interior Ministry reporting that a United States-Armenia cyber tech lab had been "temporarily halted because of the latest developments in the U.S. pertaining to foreign programs."

Source: [OC Media](#)

Source: [Eurasianet](#), [Civil.ge](#)

Armenia's Deputy FM: EU-Armenia Agenda Almost Finalized

During the fourth meeting of the EU-Armenia Parliamentary Partnership Committee in Yerevan, Armenia's Deputy Foreign Minister Paruyr Hovhannisyan stated that negotiations on a new EU-Armenia agenda are "almost accomplished." Hovhannisyan added that a finalization of the document would "mean an upgrade of our bilateral ties."

In February, Armenia's parliament passed the initial reading of a bill supporting a perspective Armenian bid for EU membership. The next step following the shared agenda's finalization, as reported by Hovhannisyan, would be a "Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement."

Source: [OC Media](#)

Armenian Prime Minister Spoke at a Panel in Prague

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, who arrived in Prague on a working visit, took part in panel the discussion, "Seizing the Moment: Forging Lasting Partnerships in the Neighborhood," at the GLOBSEC 2025 forum. There, Pashinyan answered questions on European integration, relations with Russia, democratization, and establishing long-term peace with neighboring countries. Pashinyan reminded the audience of current laws on starting the EU integration process but highlighted that Armenia will not sever its relationship with Russia in its attempt to have a balanced foreign policy. The Prime Minister also mentioned successful peaceful negotiations with Azerbaijan, which countries are about to finalize and sign.

Source: [Hetq.am](#)

EU, Armenia Kickstart Visa Liberalization Action Plan

On November 5, the European Commission's Deputy Director-General for Migration and Home Affairs, Johannes Luchner, met with Armenia's Interior Minister, Arpine Sargsyan, in Yerevan to present the European Union's visa liberalization action plan for Armenia. According to Deputy Director-General Luchner, the plan contains reform measures spanning sectors from human rights to national security.

Source: [JAM-News](#), [OC Media](#)

Kazakhstan and Armenia Strengthen Cooperation

Kazakhstan and Armenia are forging a strategic partnership as seen in a joint statement between two states during Armenian Prime Minister Pashinyan's state visit to Astana. Tokayev awarded Pashinyan the Order of Altyn Qyran (Golden Eagle), highlighting Armenia's regional development in peace efforts and bilateral relations. The act was of special importance due to the growing transit role of Central Asia and the South Caucasus in the Middle Corridor as well as the specific role of the planned TRIPP Corridor that will provide a land route from Azerbaijan through Armenia and into Türkiye.

Source: [The Times of Central Asia](#)

➤ Regional Relations

Russia Detains Two Armenian Nationals in Connection with Arbat Battalion Leader's Killing

Russia's RT media outlet has reported that Russian officials have detained two Armenian citizens on suspicion of involvement in the assassination of the Arbat pro-Russian paramilitary founder, Armen Sargsyan. RT has also reported that police are considering two possible motives for the killing, suggesting that Sargsyan had either been killed by business competitors or by the Ukrainian intelligence service.

Source: [OC Media](#)

Pashinyan and Erdoğan Discuss Peace Talks with Azerbaijan

On August 11, President of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdoğan spoke on the phone with Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan to discuss the recent peace talks with Azerbaijan. Erdoğan congratulated Pashinyan on the success of the peace talks, stating that it constitutes a vital step toward regional peace. Pashinyan informed Erdoğan about the initialing of the "Agreement on Peace and Interstate Relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan," the joint application of Armenia and Azerbaijan to the OSCE on the dissolution of the OSCE Minsk Group mechanisms, and the unblocking of regional communications, as well as the Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity project. The sides also discussed issues on the Armenian-Turkish bilateral agenda, in particular, the implementation of previously reached agreements.

Source: [Daily Sabah](#), [Armenpress](#)

Flights from Türkiye to Armenia

Türkiye's flag carrier airline, Turkish Airlines, has announced its plans to establish direct flights from Türkiye to Armenia. Following a meeting between special envoys from both countries on September 12, the Armenia Foreign Ministry stated that the countries had agreed to complete the necessary work to allow flights from various destinations to begin in summer 2026.

Source: [Bloomberg](#), [Euronews](#)

1015 15th St NW Suite 380
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 997-4082
Info@caspianpolicy.org
caspianpolicy.org

