



## The National Democratic Alliance of Armenia

The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) is the largest pro-Western center-right political party in Armenia established in 2020 by a group of political and civil society leaders and ruled by the Governing Council. The NDA believes that Armenia should be a sovereign, democratic, and viable nation state able to withstand drastically changing global and regional challenges. Its ideology hinges on social conservative values, advocating for rule-based forms of governance and uphold traditional family values rooted in Christianity. NDA favors private property rights and free markets, while advocating for trade policies that would protect Armenia's national security and other strategic interests.

### Armenia's Current Political Leadership:

#### Who is Nikol Pashinyan and Why He Should be Replaced

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan's administration took power in 2018 and was widely hailed as Armenia's path to escaping its Soviet past. However, the lack of reform, loss of Nagorno-Karabakh in 2020, and territorial concessions to Azerbaijan have left a significant part of his former supporters disappointed and angry and eroded trust in his leadership. Armenia is in a state of deep national crisis with Pashinyan's approval rating at 11.5 percent as of May 6, 2025, the lowest of any world leader.

Faced by military aggression from Azerbaijan, nearly 120,000 ethnic Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh were forced to flee their ancestral homeland on foot by the end of September 2023, in what was classified by independent scholars as a genocide. Some ethnic Armenian leaders of Nagorno-Karabakh were arrested and are currently being kept as prisoners of war (POWs) in Azerbaijan. In May 2024, Pashinyan handed over several border villages to Azerbaijan, prompting protests calling for his resignation.

Compounding the situation, recently, Pashinyan launched a vile campaign of verbal abuse against the Armenian Apostolic Church, which can be understood as a desperate effort to degrade its leadership and gain control. Instead, this abusive attack on the institution, in which the people of Armenia rest their trust and identity, has provoked an outcry of fury.

The Pashinyan administration has largely kept Armenia within the Russian sphere of influence, expressed formally in terms of the latter's membership in the political (Commonwealth of Independent States), defense (Collective Security Treaty Organization), and economic (Eurasian Economic Union) blocs. The soft power tools deployed by the Kremlin to keep the successive Armenian governments in check have been just as elaborate and effective. These policies have effectively turned Armenia into a geopolitical appendix, a geo-economic "dead-end" with practically no prospects of revival.

Armenia has faced pressure from Azerbaijan, Turkey, and Russia after the 2020 ceasefire to alter their constitution and remove mention of territorial concerns for fear of offending Azerbaijan. Furthermore, Pashinyan agreed to forget Armenian POWs in Azerbaijan, the return of Armenians to the Nagorno-Karabakh region, and recognition of the Armenian genocide completely. Pashinyan has failed to properly protect Armenia from Azerbaijan, neglecting his duties as Prime Minister.

**NDA's Solution: Strengthening Armenia's Defense and Security to Achieve Peace**

Pashinyan's government has failed to provide the necessary underpinnings for a lasting and dignified peace. His constant acquiescing to the regime in Baku and its patrons in Moscow and Ankara has undermined Armenia's sovereignty and failed to protect Armenia from constant attacks. The NDA believes that the "peace agreement" under preparation between Armenia and Azerbaijan is one-sided and was imposed upon Armenia under duress. The current strategy of appeasement, whereby Armenia agreed to relinquish its sovereignty over the Nagorno-Karabakh region, amend its constitution, and "relinquish legal disputes and claims against Azerbaijan in international courts, including ongoing cases of human rights violations and war crimes", is destined to fail. The agreement virtually guarantees Azerbaijan will continue the genocide against Armenians with no accountability.

Peace can only come through strength; re-establishing the balance of power between Armenia and Azerbaijan. In addition to the rule of law and good governance, democratic countries have strong armed forces (or memberships in military alliances) to defend themselves against authoritarian neighbors and aggressors. It is a key to regional stability and democratic governance for Armenia and the re-establishing of the security balance with Azerbaijan.

The NDA's solution to re-establishing security in the ongoing conflict is that Armenia must be armed and ought to secure a ***non-Nato ally status of the US***. At this very moment, the United States is perfectly positioned to support Armenia on the world stage as it has already begun to do through Secretary Rubio. Secretary of State, Marco Rubio, called the Pashinyan on March 25, 2025, emphasizing the need for peace and security in the South Caucasus. The United States introduced H. Res. 1327 in June 2024, condemning Azerbaijan for the "ethnic cleansing campaign" they carried out.

Once a balance of power is re-established, the final solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh problem should only be reached through legal means and diplomacy, once again facilitated by the OSCE Minsk Group, co-chaired by the US, France, and Russia. The NDA believes that Armenia has a strong enough case to win this dispute using international law and is prepared to rally the nation and Armenia's partners abroad to this end.