

## **Armenia Timeline: Pashinyan's Deleterious Leadership**

The Republic of Armenia has proven to be resilient despite their troubling history. Looking to start anew for the good of the country and its people, Nikol Pashinyan promised prosperity and appeared to be a beacon of hope in his 2018 election success as prime minister. However, as he remains in power, the people's trust and hope in him has diminished as he stands with a [8.2% approval rating](#). He has failed to adequately protect and defend Armenia, resulting in the loss of territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, and the diaspora of the Armenian people. His leadership has resulted in a dramatic territorial and humanitarian setback for the Armenian people, while they continuously face oppression from neighboring countries.

1. The Nagorno-Karabakh Disaster
  - a. [September - November 2020](#): The region of Nagorno Karabakh was ambushed by ["the Azerbaijani army, backed by Turkish Special Forces and Syrian Islamic jihadists"](#), creating genocidal conditions and allowing the Armenians to be driven out of their home and not negotiating any peace that was beneficial to the Armenian people.
  - b. [September 2023](#): the territory is fully relinquished to Azerbaijan in a false attempt of achieving peace between the two, despite Russia's heavy involvement. With the relinquishing of Nagorno Karabakh, over 120,000 ethnic Armenians were driven out of their homes due to the failed leadership of Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan. In doing so, Pashinyan also struck the foundation from which a reputable peace deal could ever come about. This peace deal set the stage for Azerbaijan to be in control when setting the terms of the most recent peace deal.
  - c. [March 2025](#): The most [recent peace deal](#) between Armenia and Azerbaijan, which fails to uphold Armenia's sovereignty and [grants Azerbaijan more authority](#). The failed leadership of Armenia has greatly contributed to this, and scholars believe this deal is parallel to the [1938 deal between Czechoslovakia and Nazi Germany](#). Azerbaijan has forced Armenia to drop human rights cases and there is no agreement to return the Armenian prisoners of war currently in captivity.
2. Pashinyan's Policy of Appeasement
  - a. Appeasing Turkey
    - i. Armenia and Turkey have historically been at odds since the Armenian Genocide and even before modern day Turkey was formed, creating high tensions between the two. There have been recent [talks between the countries leaders](#), seemingly with the intention of fostering a diplomatic relationship between the two. These effects however are predicated on Pashinyan appeasing Turkey's demands by their continual [refusal to the legitimacy of the Armenian Genocide](#).
3. Appeasing Azerbaijan

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removing those who speak out against him, vowing to get rid of them  
“[permanently](#).”

- b. On July 23, 2025, Karaetyan [won his arbitration case](#) on behalf of ENA, however, he has yet to be released from detention. The ruling has prevented temporary nationalization of the electric grids.