

# Armenia vs Azerbaijan

- Situated between Russia, Turkey and Iran
- Armenia - small country - 3 mil population
  - 95% christian - secular
- Azerbaijan - 99% Muslim - secular
- Historically soviet Union
- Disputed Region - Nagorno Karabakh
  - Forest Area - 1.5 lakh small population - majority Armenian
  - Armenian separatist control this disputed region.
    - ↓
    - supported by Armenian govt
- Moscow had given it to Azerbaijan
- Russia is in close relations with both
  - Russia has a military base in Armenia and Azerbaijan is a significant buyer of Russian weaponry
- ~~Turk~~ Turkey - ally with Azerbaijan (Erdogan)
  - Religion because Turkey is Muslim
  - Reason Turkey is a big country it can surround Armenia from two sides



- Turkey imports oil and gas from Azerbaijan. Economic ties are strong.

- Ottoman Turks conducted one of the first genocides against Armenians. A historical bitterness.

### Internal politics

- Azerbaijan is a dictatorship in reality. Heydar Aliyev's son Ilham Aliyev 80% share in elections.

- No free media

- 160+ political prisoners

- Monarchy

- No independent NGOs

- Armenia is a better democracy

- Velvet protest - overthrew the dictator in 2018. - Peaceful - democracy

- Brainwash hate - 98% Azerbaijanis believe Armenia is their biggest enemy 63% Armenians believe that Azerbaijan is Armenia's biggest enemy.

- Mass media outlets share negative stereotypes of the other countries.

- School textbooks call other people, them bandits, treacherous, hypocritical etc.



- Nationalism - Teimuraz Zajdjabov  
famous chess player - openly ~~hate~~ said  
~~dementant~~. "We hate Armenians".

- Azerbaijan dependent on oil -  
Azerbaijan's economy in shatters.

"Nationalism is a great menace".  
- Rabindranath Tagore

"Nationalism is an idealistic rationaliza-  
tion for militarism and aggression".  
- Albert Einstein.

Problem is the people who hate  
each other,

- China / Russia
- Middle East
- USA
- Africa
- Europe