



ARTSAKH TIMELINE



The following timeline has been created as a response to Western claims of "surprise" regarding the actions Azerbaijan has carried out in Artsakh, despite warnings of escalation from the Lemkin Institute, Genocide Watch and various other NGO's and individuals over the years.

Be sure to hover over any **event text in this color** to find out more information about that event.

2020

9 November

A Tripartite Ceasefire Statement is signed, whereby Armenia must cede some territory to Azerbaijan. The future of Artsakh is unresolved.

27 September

Azerbaijan invades Nagorno-Karabakh, starting the Second Nagorno-Karabakh War, which lasts for 44 days.

2021



April

Military Trophy Park opens in Baku; includes helmets of dead Armenian soldiers as well as grotesque wax figures of Armenians; condemned internationally as “significantly hamper[ing] any chance of genuine reconciliation”, according to the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights.

July 17

Lemkin Institute releases statement condemning Azerbaijan for its continued inhumane and illegal detention of Armenian POWs.

January

President Aliyev gives speech comparing Armenians to mice, employing common dehumanization tactic.

June 6

Genocide Watch releases report that assesses Azerbaijan to be at Stage 9 (Extermination) and Stage 10 (Denial) of the 10 Stages of Genocide.

2022



July

The Azerbaijani Government signs a contract for the lease of mines in the Artsakh region that are not under the control of Azerbaijan.

September 12

Azerbaijani forces attack military and civilian positions in an unprovoked invasion of Armenia. The fighting ends with Azerbaijani troops taking control of strategic positions deep inside Armenia, and at least 7,600 civilians displaced from Armenian provinces.

Article on the “near-total erasure of Armenian heritage sites” is published.

The Center for Truth and Justice publish article on “The Distortion of Historical Facts at the Basis of Azerbaijan’s Anti-Armenian Policy”.

August 16

Lemkin Institute issues Red Flag Alert on Azerbaijan, after a video of “an Azerbaijani soldier tying what is allegedly an Armenian skull dug up from a nearby Armenian cemetery to the back of a military truck while fellow soldiers cheer” surfaces.

September 15

Footage depicting the mutilated body of an Armenian servicewoman, first appears.

September 16

An article detailing the sexual and gender-based violence perpetrated by Azerbaijani soldiers against Armenian women is published.

2022



September 18

Lemkin Institute releases statement on Azerbaijan's breach of the established ceasefire statement and its unprovoked attack on Armenia.

September 23

Genocide Watch issues Genocide Warning for Region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

October 4

Lemkin Institute issues "Statement on the Western Media Narrative Regarding Azerbaijan's September 13 Attack on Armenia".

October 12

Lemkin Institute issues "Statement on the Anti-Armenian Steam RPG Game Maroon Berets: 2030".

September 19

Lemkin Institute issues an Update to Red Flag Alert on Azerbaijan.

October 2

Azerbaijani Telegram channels start circulating a video appearing to display the mass execution of at least six unarmed Armenian soldiers sitting, huddled closely together before being brutally gunned down within point blank range.

October 7

Lemkin Institute issues further update on Red Flag Alert on Azerbaijan.

2022



October 24

iAGS Scholars Executive Board releases Statement asserting: “Significant genocide risk factors exist in the Nagorno-Karabakh situation concerning the Armenian population.”

October 20

Bellingcat publishes an article on verification of videos that surfaced showing 1) the mass execution of Armenian POWs and 2) the murder and desecration of a female Armenian servicewoman.

December 3

Lemkin Institute issues further update on Red Flag Alert on Azerbaijan.

November 24

Lemkin Institute issues “Statement on Self-Determination of Armenians in Artsakh (South Caucasus): There is No Peace or Prosperity through Genocide”.

December 12

Azerbaijan blockades the Lachin Corridor, effectively cutting Nagorno-Karabakh off from Armenia and the outside world, and escalating tensions.

December 15

Lemkin Institute issues further update on Red Flag Alert on Azerbaijan.

December 25

President Aliyev lays claim to Armenia stating that “Western Azerbaijan [Armenia] is our historical land.”

2023



January 18

Lemkin Institute issues Statement on the Artsakh Crisis (I).

January 20

Lemkin Institute issues Statement on the Artsakh Crisis (III).

January 26

Lemkin Institute issues "Statement on BBC HARDtalk Anchor Stephen Sackur's Interview with Artsakh State Minister Ruben Vardanyan".

February 2

Lemkin Institute issues further update on Red Flag Alert on Azerbaijan.

January 19

Lemkin Institute issues Statement on the Artsakh Crisis (II).

January 21

Lemkin Institute issues Statement on the Artsakh Crisis (IV), wherein it warns that "If Baku's actions remain unpunished as they are up until today, the world will soon be facing an upsurge of physical violence and a renewed genocide against the Armenians".

February 1

iAGS Executive and Advisory Board release Statement Condemning the Azerbaijani Blockade of the Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh).

2023



February 14

Lemkin Institute issues Statement on Artsakh Blockade after 2 months.

February 22

International Court of Justice orders that Azerbaijan open the Lachin Corridor as a provisional measure in the Armenia v. Azerbaijan case.

April 12

Lemkin Institute issues "Statement on Azerbaijan's Noncompliance with February 22nd ICJ Order to Unblock Lachin Corridor".

April 13

Lemkin Institute issues further update on Red Flag Alert on Azerbaijan.

April 19

Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev announces that "Armenians living in Karabakh [Artsakh] have to either take up Azerbaijani citizenship or seek another place of residence".

April 23

The Azerbaijani military assumes control of the blockade, barricades the Hakari River bridge, and establishes an unlawful checkpoint there.

May 13

Freedom House issues "Perspective" on situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, titled: "As the World Focuses on Ukraine, Civilians in Nagorno-Karabakh Face an Authoritarian Siege".

May 28

Delivering a speech in the town of Lachin, Aliyev states that "the only way left is to obey the laws of Azerbaijan, become loyal, normal citizens of Azerbaijan, throw away your fake 'state attributes' in the trash and dissolve the 'parliament.'"

2023



May 30

Lemkin Institute issues “**A Peace to End All Peace? Statement on the International Actors Sponsoring So-Called Peace Negotiations Between Armenia and Azerbaijan**”.

June 15

Azerbaijan completely seals the Lachin corridor.

June 22

Lemkin Institute issues further update on **Red Flag Alert on Azerbaijan**.

July 6

ICJ reiterates its order from 22 February 2023 that Azerbaijan open the Lachin corridor.

August 2

Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect publishes an **Atrocity Alert** on the ongoing blockade of the Lachin Corridor putting thousands at risk in Nagorno-Karabakh.

August 7

Former ICC chief prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo publishes **report** stating that “there is an ongoing Genocide against 120,000 Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh, also known as Artsakh”.

August 9

Prominent genocide scholars submit an **open letter** regarding the potential for genocide in Artsakh.

2023



August 15

“The first death from starvation in Artsakh” occurs (OC Media).

August 28

Armenian Press publishes article asserting that every third death which occurs in Nagorno-Karabakh is caused by malnutrition amid blockade.

September 5

Artsakh Defense Forces release statement via X that “By spreading a wave of disinformation over the last few days, the Azerbaijani MoD is preparing a ground for another provocation.”

Lemkin Institute releases 126-page Report on Risk Factors and Indicators of the Crime of Genocide in the Republic of Artsakh.

September 11

Freedom House issues Press Release - “Nagorno-Karabakh: Democracies Must Act to Protect Human Rights and Prevent Ethnic Cleansing”.

August 16

President Aliyev signs a new decree ordering all eligible citizens 18 years of age or older to report for military service between 1 October and 31 October 2023. (Sept. 5 Report)

August 30

Azerbaijan very publicly denies entry to a French aid convoy at the Lachin Corridor (Sept. 5th Report).

September 9

Lemkin Institute issues “Statement in Response to the Open Letter sent by the Rabbinical Center of Europe to the President and Prime Minister of Armenia”.

2023



September 19

In violation of the 2020 ceasefire, Azerbaijan launches a large-scale offensive against Republic of Artsakh and commits **genocide** by murdering civilians and terrorizing them into fleeing their ancestral homeland en masse.

September 28

Lemkin Institute issues "Statement on the Sentencing of former Artsakh State Minister Ruben Vardanyan in Azerbaijan".

October 3

Genocide Watch issues an article saying that Azerbaijan is committing crimes against humanity and genocide against Armenians.

November 1

Lemkin Institute issues a Red Flag Alert for Azerbaijan due to the alarming potential for an invasion of Armenia by Azerbaijan.

September 27

Lemkin Institute issues "Statement on the Arrest and Detention of former Artsakh State Minister Ruben Vardanyan by Azerbaijan".

September 29

The International Federation for Human Rights releases Statement on Azerbaijan's attack on Nagorno-Karabakh raising the risk of genocide against ethnic Armenians in the region.

October 27

Lemkin Institute releases statement condemning the illegal imprisonment of eight high-ranking Armenian officials of the Republic of Artsakh by Azerbaijan.