

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	317
Land:	Armenien
Kilde:	EASO
Titel:	COI Chronology – The course of the Nagorno-Karabakh armed conflict and its impact on the civilian population
Udgivet:	10. november 2020
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	7. januar 2021



COI CHRONOLOGY

Country of Origin	ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN
Main subject	The course of the Nagorno-Karabakh armed conflict and its impact on the civilian population
Date of completion	10 November 2020

Disclaimer

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The information in this chronology does not necessarily reflect the opinion of EASO and makes no political statement whatsoever.

The target audience is caseworkers, COI researchers, policy makers, and asylum decision-making authorities. The chronology was finalised on 10 November 2020 and will be updated according to the development of the situation in the region.

COI CHRONOLOGY

Background

Nagorno-Karabakh is a mountainous landlocked region within the borders of Azerbaijan¹ and is mainly inhabited by ethnic Armenians.² Recognized under international law as a part of Azerbaijan, Nagorno-Karabakh is under *de facto* control by the Republic of Artsakh, which is supported by Armenia.³

Armenia and Azerbaijan fought smaller-scale armed conflicts over the status of the Nagorno-Karabakh region prior to their incorporation into the Soviet Union in 1920 – 1921; in 1923, the

¹ Reuters, Factbox: Voices from Armenia and Azerbaijan on the Karabakh conflict, 2 October 2020, [url](#); Guardian (The), Why are Armenia and Azerbaijan fighting and what are the implications?, 5 October 2020, [url](#)

² Reuters, Factbox: Voices from Armenia and Azerbaijan on the Karabakh conflict, 2 October 2020, [url](#)

³ Stronell, A., Renewed fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan: what makes it different this time?, IISS, 5 October 2020, [url](#)

region became an autonomous *oblast* within the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic.⁴ Tensions over its status grew in 1988⁵ and escalated in ethnic violence after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991,⁶ when Baku received control over the region. In 1991, separatists seized Nagorno-Karabakh and seven adjacent Azerbaijani districts.⁷ Following a referendum, the region declared its independence as the Republic of Artsakh, which led to the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan from 1992 to 1994,⁸ in which 30 000 people were killed⁹ and an estimated one million people displaced.¹⁰ In the course of the war, around 600 000 Azerbaijanis fled Nagorno-Karabakh.¹¹

The 'Four-Day-War', which started between Armenia and Azerbaijan in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone on 2 April 2016¹² caused hundreds of civilian casualties¹³ and resulted in some territorial gains by Azerbaijan.¹⁴ In 2019, the president of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and the prime-minister of Armenia, Nikol Pashinyan, made a joint statement, in which they agreed to "take concrete measures to prepare the populations for peace".¹⁵ Border clashes reoccurred in July 2020, causing casualties¹⁶ among service personnel and civilians.¹⁷

The clashes, which started in late September 2020, 'have raised international concern about stability in the South Caucasus'.¹⁸ Among the regional powers, Azerbaijan is supported by Turkey¹⁹ and Armenia has a defence pact with Russia via their participation in the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO); moreover, Russia maintains a military base in Armenia.²⁰

The impact of the conflict on the civilian population (27 September 2020 – 10 November 2020)

Both sides accused each other of attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure,²¹ including hospitals and schools; roads and electricity, gas, and communication networks were reportedly damaged.²² In October 2020, Human Rights Watch documented four incidents of use of cluster munitions by Azerbaijan.²³ As noted by the United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner

⁴ Stronell, A., Renewed fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan: what makes it different this time?, IISS, 5 October 2020, [url](#)

⁵ GardaWorld, Armenia: Authorities declare martial law and full mobilization on September 27, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

⁶ Stronell, A., Renewed fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan: what makes it different this time?, IISS, 5 October 2020, [url](#)

⁷ Middle East Eye, Explained: Armenia and Azerbaijan's Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, 30 September 2020, [url](#)

⁸ Stronell, A., Renewed fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan: what makes it different this time?, IISS, 5 October 2020, [url](#); Guardian (The), Why are Armenia and Azerbaijan fighting and what are the implications?, 5 October 2020, [url](#)

⁹ GardaWorld, Armenia: Authorities declare martial law and full mobilization on September 27, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

¹⁰ BBC News, Armenia and Azerbaijan fight over disputed Nagorno-Karabakh, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

¹¹ New York Times (The), In Nagorno-Karabakh, Signs of Escalating and Widening Conflict, 29 September 2020, updated 5 October 2020, [url](#)

¹² Jarosiewicz, A., Falkowski, M., The four-day war in Nagorno-Karabakh, OSW (Center for Eastern Studies), 6 April 2016, [url](#)

¹³ GardaWorld, Armenia: Authorities declare martial law and full mobilization on September 27, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴ Stronell, A., Renewed fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan: what makes it different this time?, IISS, 5 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁵ Middle East Eye, Explained: Armenia and Azerbaijan's Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, 30 September 2020, updated 6 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁶ BBC News, Armenia and Azerbaijan fight over disputed Nagorno-Karabakh, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

¹⁷ Stronell, A., Renewed fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan: what makes it different this time?, IISS, 5 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁸ Reuters, Azerbaijan's leader says no end to fighting until Armenia sets pullout timetable, 4 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁹ Reuters, Azerbaijan's leader says no end to fighting until Armenia sets pullout timetable, 4 October 2020, [url](#); BBC News, Armenia and Azerbaijan fight over disputed Nagorno-Karabakh, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

²⁰ Middle East Eye, Explained: Armenia and Azerbaijan's Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, 30 September 2020, updated 6 October 2020, [url](#)

²¹ WSJ, As Armenia and Azerbaijan Fight Over Nagorno-Karabakh, Civilians Pay the Price, 9 October 2020, [url](#); EC, ECHO Daily Flash, 7 October 2020, [url](#)

²² WSJ, Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict: Why are they fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh, updated 13 October 2020, [url](#)

²³ HRW, Azerbaijan: Cluster Munitions Used in Nagorno-Karabakh, 23 October 2020, [url](#)

(UNOHCHR) on 2 November 2020, the Azerbaijani government reported on 40 000 people being temporarily displaced due to the ongoing fighting, while the Armenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that around 90 000 ethnic Armenians had fled from the Nagorno-Karabakh region to Armenia.²⁴ Nagorno-Karabakh officials reported on 46 civilians killed and 142 injured as of 4 November 2020;²⁵ on 10 November 2020, the death toll among the military personnel of the region was reported to reach 1 300.²⁶ According to the Azerbaijani Prosecutor General's Office (PGO), 93 Azerbaijani civilians were killed and 407 injured as of 9 November 2020.²⁷

The course of the conflict

Date	Key events
27.09	The Armenian Ministry of Defence (MoD) reported on strikes carried out by Azerbaijani forces on civilian settlements in Nagorno-Karabakh, including the regional capital Stepanakert²⁸ and said that 'several Azerbaijani aircraft were shot down in response.' While Azerbaijan confirmed 'some losses', it said the incidents were a 'counter-offensive' to Armenian strikes.²⁹ Armenia announced the declaration of martial law, 'mobilising its army and ordering civilians to shelter.'³⁰ The authorities of Nagorno-Karabakh similarly declared 'a state of war and general mobilization,' saying that 'all over-18s' should be prepared 'to be called up.'³¹ Martial law was declared in some parts of Azerbaijan.³² Azerbaijan's MoD announced having taken control of several villages and heights, however, this was not confirmed by Armenia.³³ According to the Nagorno-Karabakh authorities, 16 soldiers, a woman and a child—were killed, while 100 persons were injured. The Azerbaijan side reported five members of the same family having been killed by Armenian shelling.³⁴
28.09	Azerbaijan and Armenia blamed each other on attacks that allegedly 'killed and wounded dozens.'³⁵ The Armenian MoD announced the recapture of several posts by the forces of Nagorno-Karabakh;³⁶ at the same time, the MoD of Azerbaijan announced taking control of several heights around the village of Talysh.³⁷ The Nagorno-Karabakh authorities reported on the death of 58 soldiers during two days of fighting.³⁸

²⁴ UNOHCHR, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict: Bachelet warns of possible war crimes as attacks continue in populated areas, 2 November 2020, [url](#)

²⁵ Caucasian Knot, Number of killed residents of Nagorno-Karabakh rises to 46, 3 November 2020, [url](#)

²⁶ Reuters, Nagorno-Karabakh says its military death toll rises to 1,302, 10 November 2020, [url](#)

²⁷ Azernews, Civilian death toll in Armenian attacks reaches 93, 9 November 2020, [url](#)

²⁸ BBC News, Armenia and Azerbaijan fight over disputed Nagorno-Karabakh, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

²⁹ GardaWorld, Armenia: Authorities declare martial law and full mobilization on September 27, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

³⁰ Guardian (The), Why are Armenia and Azerbaijan fighting and what are the implications, 5 October 2020, [url](#)

³¹ GardaWorld, Armenia: Authorities declare martial law and full mobilization on September 27, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

³² BBC News, Armenia and Azerbaijan fight over disputed Nagorno-Karabakh, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

³³ TASS, Минобороны Азербайджана заявило, что ВС страны заняла ряд сел и высот в Нагорном Карабахе [informal translation: Azerbaijan's Ministry of Defense said that the country's armed forces took over a number of villages and heights in Nagorno-Karabakh], 27 September, [url](#)

³⁴ BBC News, Armenia and Azerbaijan fight over disputed Nagorno-Karabakh, 27 September 2020, [url](#)

³⁵ AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan clash in separatist region for a 2nd day, 28 September 2020, [url](#)

³⁶ TASS, Армения заявила о восстановлении контроля над некоторыми позициями в Нагорном Карабахе [informal translation: Armenia announced the restoration of control over some positions in Nagorno-Karabakh], 28 September, [url](#)

³⁷ AA, Azerbaijani army takes control of occupied high grounds, 28 September, [url](#); TASS, Азербайджан заявил о взятии под контроль важных высот в Нагорном Карабахе [informal translation: Azerbaijan announced taking under control of important heights in Nagorno-Karabakh], 28 September, [url](#)

³⁸ AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan clash in separatist region for a 2nd day, 28 September 2020, [url](#)

29.09	The Azerbaijani MoD reported on the offensive in the direction of the city of Fuzuli, adjacent to Nagorno-Karabakh and controlled by Armenia since 1993.³⁹ Armenia said a Turkish F-16 fighter jet shot down its SU-25 in Armenian airspace, killing the pilot; according to Azerbaijan, the incident involved two Armenian SU-25 planes, which crashed into a mountain.⁴⁰ Nagorno-Karabakh authorities reported on 84 soldiers having been killed since the beginning of the armed conflict.⁴¹ The Armenian MFA reported on the death of one civilian in Azerbaijani shelling of the city of Vardenis;⁴² the MoD and the Ministry for Emergencies (MfE) of Armenia said the Azerbaijani military shelled a civilian bus and a military unit in Vardenis, with no casualties.⁴³
30.09	Armenia reported on the use of Turkish drones and F16s in Nagorno-Karabakh and demanded “immediate withdrawal of the Turkish armed forces, including the air force, from the conflict zone.”⁴⁴ Both sides reported on civilians having been killed and damages to civilian infrastructure.⁴⁵ According to Nagorno-Karabakh officials, around 100 servicemen and several civilians were killed since 27 September 2020. Azerbaijan’s authorities said 14 Azerbaijani civilians were killed and 46 wounded.⁴⁶ According to the Azerbaijani MoD, seven civilians were injured during the Armenian strikes on the city of Terter, situated in a close proximity to the fighting line in Nagorno-Karabakh; the city’s infrastructure was reportedly damaged.⁴⁷ ‘A few thousand people’ were reported to have left Nagorno-Karabakh and moved ‘towards Yerevan and Azeri settlements along the contact line towards the town of Barda in Azerbaijan.’⁴⁸
1.10	According to Azerbaijani officials, casualties among the Azerbaijani civilian population reached 16 dead and 55 injured since the beginning of the conflict. ⁴⁹
2.10	Azerbaijan carried out strikes on Stepanakert. ⁵⁰ As reported by a journalist on site, Azerbaijani forces hit one of two roads connecting Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh; ⁵¹ while another road was closed earlier ‘after Azerbaijani forces reportedly took control of some heights above it.’ ⁵²
3.10	Azerbaijan reported on capturing a string of villages in Nagorno-Karabakh, including the village of Madagiz. ⁵³

³⁹ TASS, Минобороны Азербайджана заявило о наступлении армии в направлении города Физули [informal translation: Azerbaijan Ministry of Defence announce offensive of its army in the direction to the city of Fuzuli], 28 сентября, [url](#)

⁴⁰ AP, Azerbaijan, Armenia no closer to ending clashes after 4 days, 30 September 2020, [url](#)

⁴¹ New York Times (The), In Nagorno-Karabakh, Signs of Escalating and Widening Conflict, 29 September 2020, [url](#)

⁴² Reuters, Armenia reports first death on its soil after Azeri shelling, 29 September 2020, [url](#)

⁴³ Caucasian Knot, Armenian MoD reports about shelling attacks on Vardenis, 29 September 2020, [url](#)

⁴⁴ AP, Azerbaijan, Armenia no closer to ending clashes after 4 days, 30 September 2020, [url](#)

⁴⁵ EC, ECHO Daily Flash, 30 September 2020, [url](#)

⁴⁶ AP, Azerbaijan, Armenia no closer to ending clashes after 4 days, 30 September 2020, [url](#)

⁴⁷ TASS, В Баку сообщили об артиллерийском обстреле города Тертер [informal translation: Baku reported on artillery shelling over the city of Terter], 30 September 2020, [url](#)

⁴⁸ EC, ECHO Daily Flash, 30 September 2020, [url](#)

⁴⁹ TASS, В Баку сообщили о 16 погибших мирных гражданах в результате обстрелов с армянской стороны [informal translation: Baku reported on 16 civilians killed as a result of shelling from the Armenian side], 1 October 2020, [url](#)

⁵⁰ Eurasianet, Armenia-Azerbaijan fighting expands far beyond the front lines, 4 October, [url](#)

⁵¹ Eurasianet, Armenia-Azerbaijan fighting expands far beyond the front lines, 4 October, [url](#); Eurasianet, Reporter’s Diary: On the road to Karabakh, 4 October, [url](#)

⁵² Eurasianet, Reporter’s Diary: On the road to Karabakh, 4 October, [url](#)

⁵³ Reuters, Azerbaijan claims advances in Karabakh, Armenia vows historic struggle, 3 October, [url](#)

	The targets of Azerbaijan's strikes over Stepanakert allegedly included the electricity network; the city was reported having lost electricity. ⁵⁴
4.10	<i>De facto</i> leader of Nagorno-Karabakh Arayik Harutyunyan claimed that Azerbaijani forces were targeting civilians in Stepanakert, allegedly using Polonez and Smerch long-range multiple rocket systems (MLRS)⁵⁵ and said his forces would target "military facilities permanently located in major cities of Azerbaijan" in response.⁵⁶ The Azerbaijani officials reported on a missile attack by Armenia's armed forces against the cities of Mingachevir and Terter, causing injuries among their residents. No reports of the attack were made by Armenia.⁵⁷ Armenian forces hit the city of Ganja, Azerbaijan's second-largest city⁵⁸ with several hundred thousand residents, located approximately 100 kilometres away from Stepanakert.⁵⁹ Nagorno-Karabakh authorities reported on hitting Ganja's military airport, while Azerbaijan reported that no military sites of the city were hit.⁶⁰ One civilian was killed, while 32 others were injured, and the city's civilian infrastructure was reportedly damaged, according to the authorities.⁶¹ Azerbaijani President Aliyev announced on Twitter that the country's military forces "liberated from occupation the city of Jabrayil and several surrounding villages." Conversely, Nagorno-Karabakh's authorities stated that the region's army was "controlling the situation in all directions"⁶² and improved its positions at the frontline.⁶³ Amnesty International (AI) reported having verified the use of 300mm Smerch rocket artillery systems by Armenian forces; AI further stated, however, not to have done yet 'conclusive analysis of its specific targets' or presence of cluster munitions in the rocket warheads.⁶⁴ According to Nagorno-Karabakh authorities, 'nearly 200 servicemen' were killed since the start of the conflict; civilian casualties were reported as 18 persons killed and more than 90 injured. Azerbaijan's officials reported on 24 Azerbaijani civilians killed and 111 injured.⁶⁵
5.10	Azerbaijan's MFA accused Armenian forces of deliberately targeting civilian settlements in the cities of Ganja and Mingachevir and the regions of Khizi and Absheron; 24 Azerbaijani civilians were reported to have been killed and 121 injured. ⁶⁶
6.10	The Azerbaijani MoD reported on the shelling of Azerbaijani residential areas in the cities of Ganja, Terter, Barda, Beylagan, and Goradiz. According to the General Prosecutor's Office (GPO), two civilians were injured when a missile hit a house in the town of Agjabedi; a woman was killed and two men and one child were injured in the shelling of Gyzylgajily village of Goranboy district; one man was killed and another injured in Ucoglan village,

⁵⁴ Eurasianet, Armenia-Azerbaijan fighting expands far beyond the front lines, 4 October, [url](#)

⁵⁵ Eurasianet, Armenia-Azerbaijan fighting expands far beyond the front lines, 4 October 2020, [url](#)

⁵⁶ AP, Azerbaijan says Armenia targets cities outside conflict zone, 4 October 2020, [url](#)

⁵⁷ Reuters, Azerbaijan says Armenia launched missile attack against Azeri city of Mingachevir, 4 October 2020, [url](#)

⁵⁸ Eurasianet, Armenia-Azerbaijan fighting expands far beyond the front lines, 4 October, [url](#); BBC News, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict: Major cities hit as heavy fighting continues, 4 October 2020, [url](#)

⁵⁹ AP, Azerbaijan says Armenia targets cities outside conflict zone, 4 October 2020, [url](#)

⁶⁰ BBC News, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict: Major cities hit as heavy fighting continues, 4 October, [url](#)

⁶¹ AP, Azerbaijan says Armenia targets cities outside conflict zone, 4 October 2020, [url](#); BBC News, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict: Major cities hit as heavy fighting continues, 4 October 2020, [url](#)

⁶² AP, Azerbaijan says Armenia targets cities outside conflict zone, 4 October 2020, [url](#)

⁶³ BBC News, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict: Major cities hit as heavy fighting continues, 4 October 2020, [url](#)

⁶⁴ AI, Armenia/Azerbaijan: Civilians must be protected from use of banned cluster bombs, 5 October 2020, [url](#)

⁶⁵ AP, Azerbaijan says Armenia targets cities outside conflict zone, 4 October 2020, [url](#)

⁶⁶ Azer Tac, Foreign Ministry: Armenia's missile attack on Azerbaijani cities are aimed at embroiling third countries in the conflict, 5 October 2020, [url](#)

	Agdam district. As reported by GPO, the death toll among civilians rose to 26 while 127 civilians were injured. Local residents reported damages to their houses and schools, losing cattle, and shelling of roads. ⁶⁷
7.10	The Nagorno-Karabakh authorities stated that around 50 % of the region's population—an estimate of 70 000 – 75 000 people—and 90 % of women and children became displaced during the latest conflict. ⁶⁸
8.10	Armenia accused Azerbaijan of targeting the Holy Saviour Cathedral in Shusha city; serious damage to the building was reported by foreign journalists working in the area. ⁶⁹
9.10	With Russia acting as a mediator, Azerbaijan and Armenia agreed on a ceasefire for Nagorno-Karabakh starting at noon on 10 October 2020 ⁷⁰ in order to exchange prisoners and bodies. ⁷¹ However, Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev stated that no concessions would be made to Armenia in what concerns the territorial belonging of Nagorno-Karabakh. ⁷²
10.10	Fighting was reported to have re-started in the evening; ⁷³ with both parties accusing each other of violating the ceasefire agreement. ⁷⁴ Armenian MoD reported on an assault by Azerbaijani armed forces on the Karakhambeyli area, ⁷⁵ while the MFA of Azerbaijan reported on Armenian strikes on Agdam and Tartar regions and attempts to target Hadrut and Jabrayil with further attacks. ⁷⁶
11.10	Azerbaijan authorities reported on a missile attack by Armenian forces on Ganja during the night of 11 October 2020, in which nine civilians were killed and 34, including children, injured. ⁷⁷ While the claim was denied by Armenia, ⁷⁸ the Nagorno-Karabakh authorities accused Azerbaijan of shelling civilian-populated areas in the region; as reported by, where rescuers were looking for signs of survivors, according to an AFP journalist on-site ⁷⁹
12.10	Civilians were reported to flee from areas affected by conflict to Armenia and Azerbaijan; basic assistance was provided by local authorities, host communities, volunteers, Armenian Red Cross Society, Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and other organisations. ⁸⁰ At least 31 civilians were killed in Nagorno-Karabakh, as reported by the region's human rights ombudsman, since 27 September 2020. ⁸¹

⁶⁷ Kavkazskiy Uzel [Caucasian Knot], Усилились обстрелы прифронтовых сел Азербайджана [informal translation: Shelling of Azerbaijani frontline villages intensified], 6 October 2020, [url](#); for a shortened version of the article in English, see Caucasian Knot, Shelling of Azerbaijani frontline villages intensified, 6 October 2020, [url](#)

⁶⁸ DW, Half of Nagorno-Karabakh's population displaced by fighting, 7 October 2020, [url](#)

⁶⁹ BBC News, Nagorno-Karabakh: Armenia accuses Azerbaijan of targeting cathedral, 8 October 2020, [url](#)

⁷⁰ DW, Armenia, Azerbaijan begin Nagorno-Karabakh peace talks, 9 October, [url](#)

⁷¹ Politico, Armenia and Azerbaijan agree on cease-fire, but fighting continues, 10 October 2020, [url](#)

⁷² DW, Armenia, Azerbaijan begin Nagorno-Karabakh peace talks, 9 October, [url](#)

⁷³ BBC News, Armenia Azerbaijan: Reports of fresh shelling dent ceasefire, 12 October 2020,

⁷⁴ EC, ECHO Daily Flash, 12 October 2020, [url](#); DW, Azerbaijan and Armenia accuse each other of violating cease-fire, 10 October 2020, [url](#)

⁷⁵ DW, Azerbaijan and Armenia accuse each other of violating cease-fire, 10 October 2020, [url](#)

⁷⁶ Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan No: 331/20, 11 October 2020, [url](#)

⁷⁷ Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan No: 331/20, 11 October 2020, [url](#)

⁷⁸ BBC News, Armenia Azerbaijan: Reports of fresh shelling dent ceasefire, 12 October 2020, [url](#)

⁷⁹ France 24, Nagorno-Karabakh: Armenia, Azerbaijan trade accusations as civilian areas hit despite truce, 11 October 2020, [url](#)

⁸⁰ EC, ECHO Daily Flash, 12 October 2020, [url](#)

⁸¹ AP, Death mount in Armenia-Azerbaijan clashes amid truce calls, 13 October 2020, [url](#)

13.10	Residents of Stepanakert were reported to ‘huddle in the basements of apartment buildings or other shelters, fearing new attacks.’ ⁸²
14.10	Azerbaijan’s President stated Armenia targeted the country’s gas and oil pipelines. ⁸³ The two sides accused each other of disrupting the exchange of bodies of the killed military personnel. ⁸⁴
15.10	Azerbaijan reported that two residents of the village of Bakharly, Agdam district, were injured in artillery shelling conducted by Armenia. According to MoD of Azerbaijan, the situation at the Agdere-Agdam and Fuzuli-Gadrut-Jabrayil front directions ‘remained tense.’ ⁸⁵
16.10	The Nagorno-Karabakh authorities said 36 civilians were killed and about 115 injured since the beginning of the conflict, reporting that the Azerbaijani military forces conducted attacks over 130 civilian settlements. ⁸⁶
17.10	Azerbaijani forces shelled Stepanakert.⁸⁷ A 65-year-old man was reported to have been killed in a rocket attack by Azerbaijani forces on the town of Martuni (Khojavend); another person was reportedly injured.⁸⁸ Armenia conducted a missile strike on Ganja, with two shells hitting apartment buildings, as reported by the Azerbaijani GPO; at least 12 people were reported to have been killed and more than 40 injured.⁸⁹ Armenia and Azerbaijan agreed on a humanitarian ceasefire to start at midnight on 18 October 2020.⁹⁰
18.10	Armenia and Azerbaijan accused each other of violating the ceasefire.⁹¹ Armenian officials said Azerbaijan military forces conducted attacks in the northern⁹² and southern direction during the night and morning, reporting on “casualties and wounded on both sides”⁹³, and accused Azerbaijan of ‘rejecting its request to withdraw the wounded soldiers from the battlefield.’⁹⁴ The MoD of Azerbaijan reported that Armenia conducted shelling over the Agdam region⁹⁵ and accused Armenia of using large-calibre weapons for conducting offensives over the positions of the Azerbaijani military ‘in two regions north Nagorno-Karabakh along the border,’ which was denied by Armenian military officials.⁹⁶ The ministry also reported on shelling “using mortars and artillery,” conducted by Armenian forces near the city of Jabrayil and the villages of the Jabrayil region.⁹⁷

⁸² AP, Death mount in Armenia-Azerbaijan clashes amid truce calls, 13 October 2020, [url](#)

⁸³ BBC News, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict: Armenian PM admits significant casualties, 14 October 2020, [url](#)

⁸⁴ Kavkazskiy Uzel [Caucasian Knot], Азербайджан и Армения сообщили о боях в Нагорном Карабахе Азербайджана [informal translation: Azerbaijan and Armenia reported on fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh], 15 October 2020, [url](#)

⁸⁵ Caucasian Knot, Azerbaijan and Armenia report battles in Nagorno-Karabakh, 15 October 2020, [url](#)

⁸⁶ News.am, 65-year-old man killed by Azerbaijani shelling in Martuni, 19 October 2020, [url](#)

⁸⁷ Guardian (The), Nagorno-Karabakh: Azerbaijan says 12 civilians killed by shelling in Ganja, 17 October 2020, [url](#)

⁸⁸ News.am, 65-year-old man killed by Azerbaijani shelling in Martuni, 19 October 2020, [url](#)

⁸⁹ Guardian (The), Nagorno-Karabakh: Azerbaijan says 12 civilians killed by shelling in Ganja, 17 October 2020, [url](#)

⁹⁰ BBC News, Nagorno-Karabakh: Armenia-Azerbaijan truce broken minutes after deal, 18 October 2020, [url](#)

⁹¹ Reuters, Armenia and Azerbaijan truce breaks down within hours, 18 October 2020, [url](#); AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan blame each other for truce violations, 19 October 2020, [url](#)

⁹² BBC News, Nagorno-Karabakh: Armenia-Azerbaijan truce broken minutes after deal, 18 October 2020, [url](#)

⁹³ AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan blame each other for truce violations, 19 October 2020, [url](#); BBC News, Nagorno-Karabakh: Armenia-Azerbaijan truce broken minutes after deal, 18 October 2020, [url](#)

⁹⁴ Reuters, Armenia and Azerbaijan truce breaks down within hours, 18 October 2020, [url](#)

⁹⁵ Reuters, Armenia and Azerbaijan truce breaks down within hours, 18 October 2020, [url](#)

⁹⁶ AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan blame each other for truce violations, 19 October 2020, [url](#)

⁹⁷ Reuters, Armenia and Azerbaijan truce breaks down within hours, 18 October 2020, [url](#)

	The Azerbaijani president announced via Twitter the capture of the ancient Khudaferin bridge⁹⁸ over the Aras River between Azerbaijan and Iran.⁹⁹ Syrian Observatory of Human Rights (SOHR) reported on a transfer of mercenaries from Syria, comprising over 400 fighters, to Azerbaijan, raising their total number to at least 2 050. The number of Syrian fighters killed in Azerbaijan was reported to be at least 143, with 92 bodies brought back to Syria.¹⁰⁰ According to Nagorno-Karabakh officials, the death toll reached 673 among the region's military personnel. Azerbaijan has not disclosed its military casualties but said that 60 Azerbaijani civilians were killed and 270 wounded since 27 September 2020.¹⁰¹
19.10	Nagorno-Karabakh officials said Azerbaijani military forces shelled their positions 'in northern and southern areas of the line of contract' between their armed forces. Azerbaijani MoD stated that Armenian forces conducted shelling of its positions in the Goranboy, Tartar, and Agdam regions overnight and the Agjabedi region¹⁰² and the regions of Tovuz, Dashkesan, and Goygol, which are situated outside of the conflict zone, in the morning. The regions of Agdam and Terter were shelled throughout the day.¹⁰³ According to the Azerbaijani GPO, four civilians—two women and a reporter of Azerbaijan Television and Radio Broadcasting AzTV in Banovshalar settlement and a man in Pashabeyli village—were injured during the Armenian shelling in the Agdam region.¹⁰⁴ Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev announced the establishment of control over 13 villages in Jabrayil district¹⁰⁵ near the Iranian border.¹⁰⁶ Armenian Unified Inforcenter, administrated by the government of Armenia, reported on damages of secondary schools in the villages of Sotk and Kut of the Gegharkunik region in drone attacks.¹⁰⁷
20.10	Azerbaijan authorities announced the capture of the city of Zangilan, 'far in the southwest of the Armenian-occupied territories' as well as the capture of additional settlements in the regions of Fuzuli, Jabrayil, Khojavend (Martuni), and Zangilan.¹⁰⁸ Azerbaijan's MoD said Armenian forces shelled the regions of Terter and Agdam in the morning; in the Terter region, two civilians were reported to have been killed and one injured. The Armenian side reported on "intensive fierce battles" that took place in the morning in the south of the conflict zone and claimed that the Azerbaijani military forces used aviation and artillery in the northern areas.¹⁰⁹
21.10	Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan stated that there was no diplomatic solution to the conflict.¹¹⁰ In a live video address on Facebook, Pashinyan urged all Armenians to "take up

⁹⁸ Ilham Aliyev, [Twitter], posted on: 18 October, [url](#)

⁹⁹ RFE/RL, Armenia, Azerbaijan Accuse Each Other Of Shelling Despite Cease-Fire, 19 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁰⁰ SOHR, Nagorno-Karabakh battles: Over 2,000 mercenaries sent to Azerbaijan, nearly 135 killed so far, 18 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁰¹ Reuters, Armenia and Azerbaijan truce breaks down within hours, 18 October 2020, [url](#); AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan blame each other for truce violations, 19 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁰² RFE/RL, Armenia, Azerbaijan Accuse Each Other Of Shelling Despite Cease-Fire, 19 October 2020, [url](#); AP, Nagorno-Karabakh truce frays amid reports of new shelling, 19 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁰³ AP, Nagorno-Karabakh truce frays amid reports of new shelling, 19 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁰⁴ Apa, 4 persons including one journalist were injured as a result of shelling of Agdam by Armenians, 19 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁰⁵ Ilham Aliyev, [Twitter], posted on: 19 October, [url](#)

¹⁰⁶ AP, Nagorno-Karabakh truce frays amid reports of new shelling, 19 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁰⁷ Armenian Unified Infocenter, [Twitter], posted on: 19 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁰⁸ Eurasianet, Azerbaijan continues advance deeper into Armenian-held territories, 21 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁰⁹ AP, Nagorno-Karabakh fighting continues despite truce efforts, 20 October 2020, [url](#)

¹¹⁰ Reuters, Armenia's PM Pashinyan says no diplomatic solution to Karabakh crisis at this stage, 21 October 2020, [url](#); AP, Armenian PM sees no way to settle conflict through diplomacy, 21 October 2020, [url](#)

	arms and defend the Motherland” and called on ‘local mayors to organize volunteer units.’ ¹¹¹ Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev said in an interview with a Japanese newspaper Nikkei Asia that “the prospect for a peaceful settlement is very remote.” ¹¹²
22.10	The Nagorno-Karabakh authorities said 874 military persons and 37 civilians were killed since the start of the conflict. ¹¹³ Ethnic Armenians of the region ‘published the names of 26 more of their soldiers who had died in the fighting.’ ¹¹⁴ Azerbaijan reported on 63 killed civilians ¹¹⁵ without revealing military casualties ¹¹⁶ ; 282 civilians were reported to have been injured. ¹¹⁷
23.10	The foreign ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan met US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, in Washington. ¹¹⁸ Both sides accused each other of shelling residential areas. According to the Nagorno-Karabakh authorities, Azerbaijani rockets struck the town of Martakert (Agdere) and several villages in the Martuni (Khojavend) region. Denying the claim, the MoD of Azerbaijan stated that the Armenian military targeted the regions of Terter, Agdam, and Agjabedi overnight. ¹¹⁹ Azerbaijan’s President Aliyev announced on Twitter the capture of a number of villages in Khojavend, Jabrayil, and Zangilan regions. ¹²⁰
24.10	Residential areas of Stepanakert were hit by heavy shelling, forcing its residents to shelters. The Nagorno-Karabakh authorities claimed the use of Smerch MLRS by the Azerbaijani forces and said that Azerbaijan targeted also other cities in the region. Azerbaijani officials said a teenager was killed during shelling by Armenian forces of the town of Terter and areas in the Gubadli region. Shelling on the city of Ganja, reportedly killed a 13-year-old boy. ¹²¹
25.10	In a joint statement, the governments of the US, Azerbaijan, and Armenia, announced the agreement on a ceasefire set to begin on Monday, 26 October 2020, at 8 in the morning. ¹²²
26.10	Armenia and Azerbaijan accused each other of breaching the ceasefire. The Azerbaijani MoD stated that Armenian forces fired at Azerbaijani settlements and military positions “along the entire front, as well as on the Armenia-Azerbaijan state border;” reporting also the targeting of the town Terter and the Agjabedi region. The Armenian side said Azerbaijani forces shelled the north-eastern area of Nagorno-Karabakh and that “heavy battles” were fought in the region’s southeast by the morning. According to the Nagorno-Karabakh officials, missile strikes conducted by Azerbaijan over civilian settlements killed one and injured two persons. ¹²³
27.10	Azerbaijan reported on shelling of the Barda region by Armenian forces, killing four civilians, including a 2-year-old-girl, and injuring 13 civilians. ¹²⁴ Armenia said Azerbaijan used drones

¹¹¹ AP, Armenian PM sees no way to settle conflict through diplomacy, 21 October 2020, [url](#)

¹¹² NikkeiAsia, Interview – Q&A with Azerbaijan President Aliyev: peace with Armenia ‘remote,’ 22 October 2020, [url](#)

¹¹³ Reuters, Nagorno-Karabakh peace hopes slim before Washington talk, 22 October 2020, [url](#)

¹¹⁴ RFE/RL, Fighting Rages Ahead of Armenia-Azerbaijan Talks In Washington, 22 October 2020, [url](#)

¹¹⁵ Reuters, Nagorno-Karabakh peace hopes slim before Washington talk, 22 October 2020, [url](#)

¹¹⁶ Reuters, Nagorno-Karabakh peace hopes slim before Washington talk, 22 October 2020, [url](#); RFE/RL, Fighting Rages Ahead of Armenia-Azerbaijan Talks In Washington, 22 October 2020, [url](#)

¹¹⁷ RFE/RL, Fighting Rages Ahead of Armenia-Azerbaijan Talks In Washington, 22 October 2020, [url](#)

¹¹⁸ AP, US wades in cautiously to Armenia-Azerbaijan peace effort, 23 October 2020, [url](#)

¹¹⁹ AP, US wades in cautiously to Armenia-Azerbaijan peace effort, 23 October 2020, [url](#)

¹²⁰ AA, Azerbaijan liberate 13 more villages from Armenian occupation, 23 October 2020, [url](#)

¹²¹ AP, Fighting over Nagorno-Karabakh goes on despite US mediation, 24 October 2020, [url](#)

¹²² AP, New cease-fire announced in 4-week Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, 26 October 2020, [url](#)

¹²³ AP, New Armenia, Azerbaijan truce totters amid violation claims, 26 October 2020, [url](#)

¹²⁴ AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan keep fighting despite cease-fire deal, 27 October 2020, [url](#)

	and artillery on border guard positions along the Armenian border in the southeast near Iran.¹²⁵ Denying the accusations, Azerbaijan stated that Armenian forces fired mortars at its positions Zangilan, Khojavend, Fuzuli, and Gubadli.¹²⁶ Armenian MoD stated that Azerbaijani forces have made “advances in some directions”.¹²⁷
28.10	Both countries reported on civilian casualties in urban areas. The MoD of Azerbaijan said 21 civilians were killed and 70 injured in Armenia’s Smerch MLRS attacks on the city of Barda, outside the conflict areas¹²⁸ and reported Armenian offensives in the direction of the regions of Tovuz, Gedebe (Kedabek), Dashkesan, and Gubadli.¹²⁹ Based on the analysis of photos of cluster munition remnants in Barda city, which has a population of about 40 000 and is situated 230 kilometers west of Baku, HRW identified ‘two of the weapons as a Smerch cluster munition rocket and a Smerch parachute-retarded high-explosive fragmentation rocket’ and noted that Armenian forces either ‘carried out the attack or supplied the munitions to Nagorno-Karabakh forces.’¹³⁰ The use of Smerch rockets by Armenian forces in Barda was also verified by AI’s Crisis Response experts.¹³¹ The Armenian MoD said Azerbaijan military forces attacked civilian areas in Nagorno-Karabakh, including shelling a maternity hospital in Stepanakert,¹³² and claimed the use of Smerch MLRS by the Armenian forces in Stepanakert; no casualties among civilians were reported. The Nagorno-Karabakh officials said one resident of the city of Shusha died and two were injured in Smerch MLRS offensive conducted by Azerbaijan the same day.¹³³
29.10	<i>De facto</i> leader of Nagorno-Karabakh Arayik Harutyunyan said Azerbaijani forces had advanced to within five kilometres of the city of Shushi¹³⁴, south of Stepanakert, situated on the main road connecting Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia.¹³⁵ Azerbaijan gave Armenia the bodies of 29 soldiers, killed in the fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh.¹³⁶
30.10	Heads of MFAs of Armenia and Azerbaijan met in Geneva for peace talks, sponsored by the OSCE Minsk Group, co-chaired by France, Russia, and the US. The counterparts stated they “will not deliberately target civilian populations or non-military objects in accordance with international humanitarian law”¹³⁷ and agreed to help to recover and exchange the remains of soldiers and to provide within a week lists of detained prisoners of war to arrange “eventual exchange.”¹³⁸

¹²⁵ RFE/RL, Armenia, Azerbaijan Trade Accusations Of Breaking Cease-Fire, Fighting Reported Near Iranian Border, 27 October 2020, [url](#)

¹²⁶ RFE/RL, Armenia, Azerbaijan Trade Accusations Of Breaking Cease-Fire, Fighting Reported Near Iranian Border, 27 October 2020, [url](#)

¹²⁷ AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan keep fighting despite cease-fire deal, 27 October 2020, [url](#)

¹²⁸ RFE/RL, Cease-Fire Fails To Hold As Armenia, Azerbaijan Accuse Each Other Of Targeting Civilians, 28 October 2020, [url](#)

¹²⁹ RIA Novosti, Армения обвинила Азербайджан в ударе из РСЗО «Смерч» по Степанакерту [Armenia accused Azerbaijan of shelling Stepanakert by MLRS “Smerch”], 28 October 2020, [url](#)

¹³⁰ HRW, Armenia: Cluster Munition Kill Civilians in Azerbaijan, 30 October 2020, [url](#)

¹³¹ AI, Armenia/Azerbaijan: First confirmed use of cluster munitions by Armenia ‘cruel and reckless,’ 29 October 2020, [url](#)

¹³² RFE/RL, Cease-Fire Fails To Hold As Armenia, Azerbaijan Accuse Each Other Of Targeting Civilians, 28 October 2020, [url](#)

¹³³ RIA Novosti, Армения обвинила Азербайджан в ударе из РСЗО «Смерч» по Степанакерту [Armenia accused Azerbaijan of shelling Stepanakert by MLRS “Smerch”], 28 October 2020, [url](#)

¹³⁴ AP, Azerbaijani forces close in on key town in Nagorno-Karabakh, 29 October 2020, [url](#); Eurasianet, Armenia-Azerbaijan fighting nears critical town, 30 October 2020, [url](#)

¹³⁵ AP, Fighting over Nagorno-Karabakh drags on into 6th week, 1 November 2020, [url](#)

¹³⁶ RFE/RL, Azerbaijan Hands Over Bodies of Armenian Soldiers Killed in Nagorno-Karabakh Fighting, 29 October 2020, [url](#)

¹³⁷ AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan vow to avoid targeting residential areas, 30 October 2020, [url](#)

¹³⁸ AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan vow to avoid targeting residential areas, 30 October 2020, [url](#); Reuters, Armenia, Azerbaijan agree to defuse Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, 31 October 2020, [url](#)

31.10	Armenia and Azerbaijan accused each other of conducting attacks over residential areas. The Nagorno-Karabakh authorities said the central market in Stepanakert¹³⁹ and a city's residential area came under fire. Correspondents of the Caucasian Knot reported that Stepanakert residents spent the night of 31 October 2020 in bomb shelters; an air-raid alert signal sounded at 7.10 am local time, followed by the sound of explosions.¹⁴⁰ According to Armenian MoD, several civilians were injured during the attacks on Shushi;¹⁴¹ Nagorno-Karabakh human rights ombudsman reported on the death of a civilian in Martuni region, after his home was hit by a shell.¹⁴² Denying the accusations, Azerbaijan's MoD said Armenian forces conducted artillery shelling in the regions of Tartar, Agdam¹⁴³ and Agjabedi at 6.00 am¹⁴⁴ and the city of Gubadli, situated between Nagorno-Karabakh and Iran, which had been taken by Azerbaijan earlier this week.¹⁴⁵ The authorities of Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia reported that Azerbaijan used phosphorus ammunition to set forests on fire, where Nagorno-Karabakh civilians used to hide from shelling. The Azerbaijani side stated it possessed no white phosphorus ammunition and said the action was done by Armenia.¹⁴⁶
1.11	Nagorno-Karabakh authorities reported on airstrikes by the Azerbaijani military on the towns of Martuni and Martakert and missile strikes at Shushi. Explosions were also reported in Stepanakert. Azerbaijan's MoD said Armenian forces fired at the Azerbaijani positions on the Armenia-Azerbaijan border and shelled settlements in Terter and Agjabedi regions. ¹⁴⁷
2.11	Azerbaijan's MoD said Armenian forces shelled several civilian settlements in the Terter region¹⁴⁸ and the city of Gubadli.¹⁴⁹ Nagorno-Karabakh reported on the death of 11 soldiers, rising the death toll among the region's military persons to 1 177.¹⁵⁰ Azerbaijan's President Aliyev announced having taken control of a number of villages in the Jabrayil and Zangilan districts.¹⁵¹ In total, since 27 September 2020, Azerbaijan announced having retaken control of 201 settlements.¹⁵²
3.11	The Nagorno-Karabakh authorities reported that 1 815 hectares of forests burned down in the region as a result of Azerbaijan's shelling attacks with the use of phosphorus weapons. The Azerbaijani authorities said Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenian forces conducted attacks with similar weapons in forests of Shusha and Tophana.¹⁵³ SOHR reported that 230 Syrian fighters arrived in Azerbaijan to take part in Nagorno-Karabakh fighting, increasing their number to 2 580. According to SOHR, the number of

¹³⁹ Reuters, Armenia, Azerbaijan trade fresh accusations of Karabakh shelling, 31 October 2020, [url](#); RFE/RL, Armenia, Azerbaijan Accuse Each Other Of New Shelling as Russia Vows Assistance to Yerevan, 31 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴⁰ Caucasian Knot, Azerbaijan resumes shelling of Stepanakert, 31 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴¹ Reuters, Armenia, Azerbaijan trade fresh accusations of Karabakh shelling, 31 October 2020, [url](#); RFE/RL, Armenia, Azerbaijan Accuse Each Other Of New Shelling as Russia Vows Assistance to Yerevan, 31 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴² Reuters, Armenia, Azerbaijan trade fresh accusations of Karabakh shelling, 31 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴³ RFE/RL, Armenia, Azerbaijan Accuse Each Other Of New Shelling as Russia Vows Assistance to Yerevan, 31 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴⁴ Caucasian Knot, Azerbaijan reports new shelling, 21 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴⁵ RFE/RL, Armenia, Azerbaijan Accuse Each Other Of New Shelling as Russia Vows Assistance to Yerevan, 31 October 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴⁶ Caucasian Knot, Parties to Karabakh conflict blame each other for using phosphorus shells, 1 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴⁷ AP, Fighting over Nagorno-Karabakh region drags on into 6th week, 1 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴⁸ RFE/RL, Nagorno-Karabakh Says Military Death Toll Rises Despite Cease-Fire, 2 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁴⁹ Caucasian Knot, Azerbaijan claims capture of eight villages in Karabakh conflict zone, 3 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁵⁰ RFE/RL, Nagorno-Karabakh Says Military Death Toll Rises Despite Cease-Fire, 2 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁵¹ Ilham Aliyev, [Twitter], posted on: 2 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁵² Caucasian Knot, Azerbaijan claims capture of eight villages in Karabakh conflict zone, 3 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁵³ Caucasian Knot, Karabakh MoD claims new evidence proving use of phosphorus weapons by Azerbaijan, 3 November 2020, [url](#)

	fatalities among Syrian mercenaries in Nagorno-Karabakh reached 240; at least three Syrian fighters were reported to be captured by Armenian military forces.¹⁵⁴ According to Azerbaijan's PGO, the 91 civilians were killed and 405 injured since 27 September.¹⁵⁵
4.11	Armenia reported on the Azerbaijani offensive to take Shushi, which was held off by Armenian military. Azerbaijan reported on fighting of different intensity in several towns in regions adjacent to Nagorno-Karabakh, including Terter, Agdam, and Martuni.¹⁵⁶ The Nagorno-Karabakh authorities reported on missile shelling on the cities of Martuni and Shushi. The number of civilian casualties rose to 46 people killed and 142 injured, according to the region's ombudsman.¹⁵⁷
5.11	Azerbaijani MoD stated that the Armenian forces conducted attacks on the city of Terter, the villages of Gazyan and Husanli of Terter region, and the Tapgaragoyunlu village of Goranboy region as well as on the positions of the Azerbaijani forces in Tovuz, Gadabay, and Dashkesan regions.¹⁵⁸ The Nagorno-Karabakh authorities admitted the advancement of Azerbaijani soldiers to positions only a few kilometres away from Shushi.¹⁵⁹ The Armenian army closed the Goris-Stepanakert highway, as hostilities reached the proximity of the town of Berdzor.¹⁶⁰ According to the mayor of Stepanakert, around 17 000 civilians—approximately 30 % of its population—remained in the city; the authorities stated their willingness to help with the evacuation.¹⁶¹ According to the Azerbaijani GPO, 92 Azerbaijani civilians were killed in Armenian missile and artillery shelling attacks since 27 September 2020.¹⁶²
6.11	The Nagorno-Karabakh authorities reported on at least three civilians—a woman and her two grandchildren—killed in overnight shelling of residential areas of Stepanakert.¹⁶³ As reported by Reuters, 'two independent observers said fighting appeared to be moving deeper into the enclave, with Azeri troops stepping up attacks on its biggest two cities.'¹⁶⁴
7.11	A source on-site reported on evacuation of women and children from Stepanakert, according to the Russian newspaper Izvestiya; the information was not confirmed by official sources at the time of the publication.¹⁶⁵
8.11	Azerbaijan's President announced the capture of Shusha; the Armenian MoD stated that the fighting around the city was continuing.¹⁶⁶ The Armenian MoD reported on intense fighting

¹⁵⁴ SOHR, Azerbaijan-Armenia conflict: As more fighters return to Syria, Turkey sends new batch to Azerbaijan, 3 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁵⁵ RFE/RL, Azerbaijan Says 91 Civilians Killed, More than 400 Wounded Since Start of Nagorno-Karabakh Fighting, 3 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁵⁶ RFE/RL, Fresh Fighting In Nagorno-Karabakh As Russia Calls for Cease-Fire Control Mechanisms, 4 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁵⁷ Caucasian Knot, Number of killed residents of Nagorno-Karabakh rises to 46, 3 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁵⁸ AA, Armenia continues targeting Azerbaijani civilians, army, 6 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁵⁹ RFE/RL, Azerbaijani Forces Close In On Nagorno-Karabakh's 'Unassailable' Mountain Fortress City, 5 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁶⁰ Armenian Weekly, Armenia Fighting Azerbaijan at Gates of Shushi, 5 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁶¹ Kavkazskiy Uzel, Власти Степанакерта подсчитали число оставшихся горожан [informal translation: Stepanakert authorities stated the number of residents remaining in the city], 5 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁶² Caucasian Knot, In Azerbaijan, number of killed civilian rises to 92, 5 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁶³ AP, At least 3 die in latest shelling of Nagorno-Karabakh cities, 6 November 2020, [url](#); Reuters, Nagorno-Karabakh says its two largest cities under fierce attack, 6 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁶⁴ Reuters, Nagorno-Karabakh says its two largest cities under fierce attack, 6 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁶⁵ Izvestiya, Источник сообщил об эвакуации женщин и детей из Степанакерта горожан [informal translation: A source reported on evacuation of women and children from Stepanakert], 7 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁶⁶ AP, Azerbaijani leader: Forces seize key Nagorno-Karabakh city, 8 November 2020, [url](#)

	on the Martuni front line.¹⁶⁷ As reported by Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), ‘videos on social media showed lines of cars leaving Stepanakert’ on 8 November ‘although the scope of the exodus could not be confirmed independently.’¹⁶⁸
9.11	Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Russia agreed on a cease-fire agreement, starting on 10 November 2020, the Armenian prime minister Nikol Pashinyan announced via Facebook.¹⁶⁹ According to the agreement, Armenia is to surrender the disputed territory, withdrawing its troops from Nagorno-Karabakh and allowing Russian peacekeepers to enter into the region.¹⁷⁰
10.11	Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Russia announced the signing of a cease-fire agreement, according to which Azerbaijan would maintain its control over the territories it captured in Nagorno-Karabakh and adjacent areas¹⁷¹ and gain the regions of Agdam and Lachin. The so-called Lachin Corridor on the main highway connecting Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia will remain open under the protection of Russian peacekeepers.¹⁷² The MoD of the Nagorno-Karabakh region reported on 81 casualties among the military personnel, which increased the military death toll to 1 302 since the beginning of the conflict on 27 September 2020.¹⁷³

¹⁶⁷ Sputnik Armenia, На Мартунинском направлении проведены наступательные операции – Арцрун Ованнисян [informal translation: Artsrun Hovhannisyan: Offensive operations carried out in Martuni direction], 8 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁶⁸ RFE/RL, Nagorno-Karabakh Fighting Flares Up As Azerbaijan Say Key City Captured, 8 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁶⁹ RFE/RL, Armenia, Azerbaijan Agree to Russia-Brokered End to Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict, 9 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁷⁰ New York Times, Facing Military Debacle, Armenia Accepts a Deal in Nagorno-Karabakh War, 9 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁷¹ RFE/RL, Armenia, Azerbaijan Agree to Russia-Brokered End to Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict, 9 November 2020, [url](#)

¹⁷² AP, Armenia, Azerbaijan agree to end fight in Nagorno-Karabakh, 10 November 2020, [url](#)

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