

Glossaries

Glossary of Foreign Words and Abbreviations

AGBU	Armenian General Benevolent Union; Armenian multinational non-profit organisation, which was established in 1906 in the Egypt city of Cairo, located in the US-city of New York; <i>AGBU</i> advocates for the preservation of Armenian identity and culture.
Akhtamar	The second largest islands of the four in Lake Van in Eastern Anatolia; the location of the Holy Cross Temple; the official Turkish denotation for the geographical island entity is Akdamar Adasi.
Ani	Ruined old capital of medieval Armenia in Eastern Anatolia.
Ari Tun	Armenian term, literally meaning 'homebound' or 'come to home'; a special programme launched by the Armenian Ministry of Diaspora offering children and teenagers of the Armenian diaspora two week homeland tours.
Armeniaca	Latin term, literally meaning 'from Armenia'; referring to the most commonly cultivated apricot species (See <i>Armeniaca vulgaris</i> and <i>Prunus armeniaca</i>); according to an Armenian Encyclopaedia it was Alexander the Great who took the apricot from Armenia, its birthplace, and introduced it to Greece, calling it <i>armeniaca</i> .
Armeniaca vulgaris	Latin term, literally meaning 'Armenian Common'; alternative term for <i>Prunus armeniaca</i> .
Artsakh	Armenian term for the region of Nagorno-Karabakh, respectively the quasi-independent Republic of Artsakh.
ATP	<i>Armenian Tree Project</i> ; a transnational non-profit organisation, founded in 1994 in Watertown.

Aturpatakan	Region of Ancient Armenia (See <i>Mets Hayk</i>) and later Sasanid Empire, which today is almost congruent with present day Iranian Azerbaijan.
AVC	<i>Armenian Volunteer Corps</i> ; voluntary organisation, which was established in the year 2000 in the US; the organisation offers trips to the Republic of Armenia for young Armenians living in diaspora.
AYF	<i>Armenian Youth Foundation</i> ; an Armenian non-profit organisation, founded in 1933, advocating for the preservation of the Armenian heritage.
Bhiksha	Sanskrit term for 'alms' or 'begging', which, in the Buddhist context, refers to receiving alms.
BR	<i>Birthright Armenia</i> ; voluntary organisation which was established in 2003, offering trips to the Republic of Armenia for young Armenians living in diaspora.
Catholikos	Head of the Armenian Apostolic Church.
Chinar	Originally Persian term for 'Plane tree'.
CI	<i>Conservation International</i> ; a non-profit environmental organisation, founded in 1987 and located in the US-county of Arlington, State of Virginia.
Constantinople	Capital of the former Byzantine Empire until its capture by the Ottoman troops in 1453; today the city is known as Istanbul.
Daana	Sanskrit and Pali term, which refers to the Hindu practice of cultivating generosity, charity and giving alms.
Dakshina	Sanskrit term for 'diligent', 'righteous', 'right hand', 'right arm' or 'south', which refers commonly to the Hindu practice of giving donations or alms to a monastery or temple.
Dashnaks	Term for the members of the party of the <i>Armenian Revolutionary Federation</i> (known as <i>Dashnaktsutyun</i>), a nationalist and socialist party, which was founded in 1890 in Tbilisi; the party was essentially involved in the foundation of the First Republic of Armenia in 1918.
Genocide Memorial	Memorial site on the hill of Tsitsernakaberd in the Armenian capital of Yerevan, established in 1967, dedicated to the Armenian Genocide between 1915 (See <i>Tsagaspanutyun</i> and <i>Yeghern</i>).
Global North	Antonymous to Global South, the term subsumes the Western developed countries.
Global South	Umbrella term for the group of non-Western developing and threshold countries.

Golgotha	According to the Gospels, a hill outside ancient Jerusalem, where Jesus was crucified.
Colubaya el	Russian term for the tree species of 'Blue Spruce'.
Goshavank Monastery	Abandoned monastery in the Armenian village of Gosh.
Grabar	An ancient Armenian liturgical language.
Guhapet	Armenian term for a governor of an Armenian province (<i>marz</i>), an administrative unit within the Republic of Armenia.
Haghartsin Monastery	Abandoned monastery near the Armenian town of Dilijan.
Haiutian	Term literally meaning 'the Armenianness'.
Hamazkayin	short for <i>Hamazkayin Armenian Educational and Cultural Society</i> ; a major cultural organisation of the Armenian diaspora that runs cultural centres in many places of the Armenian diaspora worldwide.
Hayadardzutyun	Armenian term, literally meaning 'return to native roots'; a special kind of a spiritual repatriation programme developed by the Armenian Ministry of Diaspora.
Hayastan	Armenian term for an imagination of homeland, with a mythical-romantic as well as pragmatic dimension; it can refer to the nowadays modern Republic of Armenia, the territory of the ancient Kingdom of Armenia between 585–200 BC (see <i>Mets Hayk</i>), which stretched from the Black to the Caspian Sea, as well as the Armenian Highlands.
Hayastantsi	Derived from the Armenian term <i>Hayastan</i> , the term refers to Armenians living in the nowadays Republic of Armenia or who recently migrated from there.
Hayeren Aysor	Armenian expression, literally meaning 'Armenians today'; a multilingual online magazine by the Armenian Ministry of Diaspora, with members of Armenian diaspora as target group.
Heyrenik	Armenian term for 'fatherland' or 'homeland'; refers to a grandparent's birthplace, and tends to be identified mostly with the villages and towns of the Western Armenian provinces (Kharput, Mush, Kessab, Antep and others), which are part of nowadays Turkey; it can also include other parts of the former Ottoman Empire, where many Armenians lived, like places in nowadays Syria or Egypt.
Introduzenty	Russian term literally meaning 'the introduced ones', which is used by the ATP to refer to semi-native Armenian tree species introduced and adapted a century ago for different utilitarian, industrial and decorative purposes after Eastern Armenia became part of the Russian Empire.

Jen	Chinese term, which refers to the Confucian concept of benevolence and compassion.
Kelim	Word of Turkish origin, which refers to a special kind of tapestry-woven carpet or rug, widespread in Turkey, Azerbaijan, Iran, Afghanistan and Central Asia.
Khachkars	Cross stone, the traditional Armenian Christian stele with cross and rosette motifs.
Khor Virab	Medieval church in the Armenian province of Ararat, close to the Turkish border.
Komsomol	Acronym of the Russian expression <i>Kommunisticheskiy soyuz molodyozhi</i> , literally meaning 'Communist Youth Union', which was the youth league of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and its offshoots in the single union republics.
Mardasirutyun	Armenian term for 'Humanism'.
Marshrutka	Shared taxi vans, which are part of the public transport in Eastern Europe and the successor states of the former Soviet Union; the term is derived from the German word 'Marschroute'.
Marz	Armenian term for an administrative unit.
Matagh	Armenian Christian-pagan ritual in which a rooster or lamb is sacrificed to God for healing purposes.
Memorial for the Armenian Genocide	See Genocide Memorial.
Mets Hayk	Armenian term for the ancient Kingdom of Armenia, which existed on the Armenian Highlands between 585–200 BC.
Nviratvutyun	Armenian term for 'commitment'.
Patarag	A divine liturgy in the Armenian Church and the ancient Armenian language <i>Grabar</i> .
Plav	Widespread rice meal, mainly prepared in Western- and Central Asia.
Prunus armeniaca	Latin term meaning 'Armenian Plum', which is the most commonly apricot species; Armenian symbol associated with national prosperity, health, eternity and vitality.
Russian Empire	Empire in Eurasia between 1721 and 1917, which arised from the Tsardom of Russia (1547 – 1721).

Russian Soviet Federative	Socialist Republic (RSFSR) First socialist state in the world, which existed as a sovereign entity between 1917 and December 1922; after 1922 the RSFSR was a member state of the Soviet Union, and ceased to exist with the dissolution of the latter one in 1991.
RSFSR	See Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic.
Sadaqaat	Plural form of the Arab term <i>Sadaqah</i> , which means 'charity' or 'benevolence'; the term refers to voluntary donations and charity in a Muslim context, and is therefore to differentiate from the mandatory practice of <i>Zakat</i> .
Sanghas	Sanskrit and Pali term for 'community', 'association', 'company' or 'assembly', which mostly refers to Buddhist monastic communities of monks (<i>Bhikkus</i>) and nuns (<i>Bhikkunis</i>).
Shu	Chinese term, which refers to the Confucian concept of reciprocity.
Sis-Masis	Armenian term for the Mount Ararat.
Sochi tsarr	Armenian term for 'Pine tree'.
Soviet Armenia	Conventional term for the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic (Armenian SSR), which was founded in 1920; since 1922 the Armenian SSR was a member state of the Soviet Union and ceased to exist with the dissolution of the latter one in 1991; predecessor entity of the nowadays Republic of Armenia.
Soviet Union	Former socialist one-party state in Eurasia, which existed between 1922 and 1991.
Spyurk	Armenian term for 'diaspora', derived from the Greek word <i>speirein</i> , which literally means 'to scatter'.
Spyurkahay	Derived from the Armenian term <i>Spyurk</i> , the term refers to Armenians living in diaspora.
SRS	<i>Special Residency Status</i> ; a citizen-like status for members of the Armenian diaspora; the SRS is granted by the Armenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to foreigners, who have at least one Armenian grandparent; people with SRS enjoy the same rights as Armenian citizens, except the right to vote.
Subbotnik	Derived from the Russian word for <i>Saturday</i> , the term refers to the practice of unpaid voluntary work in the former socialist countries of the Eastern Bloc.
Surb Vardanank	Religious day in Armenia, introduced in 2000 by the Armenian Church, dedicated to the national figure of Vardan Mamikonyan.

Tsagaspanutyun	Literal Armenian translation of the word 'genocide'; the term largely replaced the term <i>Yeghern</i> (<i>mourning</i> or <i>grief</i>) and refers commonly to the Armenian Genocide between 1915 and 1916.
Tsiran	Armenian term for 'apricot'.
Tzedakah	Hebrew term for 'charity' or even 'justice' or 'righteousness', which refers to the Jewish commandment (<i>Mitzwa</i>) of giving alms.
UN FAO	<i>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</i> ; a special branch of the United Nations to combat hunger.
USAID	<i>United States Agency for International Development</i> ; a governmental development and foreign aid agency, located in Washington D.C.
Vilayet	Widely used term of Persian origin among diasporic Armenians to identify the 'Armenian provinces' in Eastern Anatolia on the territory of former Ottoman Empire and nowadays Turkey, namely: Van, Erzerum, Mamuretülaziz (Kharperd), Bitlis, Diyarbekir and Sivas.
WWF	<i>World Wildlife Fund</i> ; an international environmental non-governmental organisation; located in the Swiss city of Gland, Canton of Vaud.
Yeghern	Armenian term for 'mourning' and 'grief'; the term commonly refers to the Armenian Genocide between 1915 and 1916; the term was later replaced by the term <i>Tsagaspanutyun</i> (genocide).
Yerkir	Armenian term for 'homeland'; refers mostly to the parts of the former Ottoman Empire, where many Armenians lived.
Yugoslavia	Former socialist one-party state in South Eastern and Central Europe, which existed between 1963 and 1992.
Zakat	Arab term for 'that which purifies', which refers to a form of giving alms, treated in Islam as a religious obligation or tax; <i>Zakat</i> belongs to the five pillars of Islam, which represent the deeds considered mandatory by and for Muslims.

Glossary of Geographical Terms

Aghstev	River in the Republic of Armenia and Azerbaijan.
Akdamar Adasi	Official Turkish denotation for the isle in the Lake Van in Eastern Anatolia, which is known in Armenian language as Akhtamar.
Akhnaghyur	Village in the Armenian province of Tavush; close to the province capital of Ijevan.
Aleppo	Major city and formerly most populous city in Syria; capital of the Aleppo governorate; home to a large Armenian diaspora community until the battle for the city in 2012, which took place in the context of the Syrian civil war.
Anatolian Plateau	Geographical term for the westernmost part of Asia, which makes up the majority of modern-day Turkey.
Antep	Short form for the nowadays Turkish province of Gaziantep in Eastern Anatolia; home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Arabkir	Turkish province in Eastern Anatolia; home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Arlington	Town in the US-state of Massachusetts, not far away from the city of Boston; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.
Armavir	Province in the eastern part of the Republic of Armenia.
Armenia, Republic of	Country in the South Caucasus, which became independent from the Soviet Union in 1991.
Armenian Highlands	See Mets Hayk.
Avarayr	Plain in nowadays north western Iran, where the Battle of Avarayr happened in 451.
Baku	Capital and largest city of Azerbaijan.
Beirut	Capital and largest city of Lebanon; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.
Bitlis	Turkish province in Eastern Anatolia, located in the west of Lake Van; home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Boston	Largest city of New England and capital of the US-state of Massachusetts; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.

Brest-Litovsk	City in Belarus, where the treaty of Brest-Litovsk was signed in march 1918 between the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) and the Central Powers (German Empire, Ottoman Empire, Kingdom of Bulgaria and Austro-Hungarian Empire); the treaty marked the withdrawal of the RSFSR from World War I and caused the loss of almost one-quarter of its territory in Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus.
California	US-state at the West Coast.
Central Asia	Geographical term for the region, which consists of the post-Soviet states of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.
Chicago	Third-largest city in the US, located in the state of Illinois; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.
Cyprus	Island in the Mediterranean Sea.
Dilijan	Town in the Armenian province of Tavush.
Diyarbakir	Turkish province in Eastern Anatolia; home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Dvin	Ancient large commercial city, 35km south of modern Yerevan, and capital of early medieval Armenia.
Eastern Anatolia	See Anatolian Plateau.
Eastern Armenia	Geographical term for the part of the historical settlement regions of the Armenian population, which was annexed by the Russian Empire in 1829.
Erzurum	Turkish province in Eastern Anatolia; home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Eurasia	Portmanteau for the interconnected continental landmass of Europe and Asia.
Fioletovo	Russian Molokane village in the Armenian province of Lori.
Fresno	City in the US-state of California; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.
Getik	River in Armenia and a right tributary of the river Aghstev.
Gosh	Village in the Armenian province of Tavush; location of the shrine tree of Gosh, the walnut trees of Goshavank Monastery.
Greater Armenia	See Mets Hayk.
Gyumri	Second largest city of Armenia and capital of the Shirak province.

Istanbul	Most populous city of Turkey, located at the edge of Asia and Europe; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.
Ijevan	Capital of the Armenian province of Tavush.
Jerusalem	Capital and largest city of Israel.
Karabakh	See Nagorno-Karabakh.
Karakert	Small town in the Armenian Armavir province.
Karin	Village in the Armenian province of Aragatsotn.
Kars	Turkish province in Eastern Anatolia; home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Kazakh	District in Azerbaijan, bordering the Republic of Armenia.
Kessab	
Predominantly	Armenian inhabited town in the nowadays Syrian governorate of Latakia, close to the border of Turkey, which belonged to the former Ottoman Empire (See Western Armenia).
Kharpet	See Kharput.
Kharput	Turkish province in Eastern Anatolia, home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Lake Van	Lake in Eastern Anatolia and location of the mythical isle of Akhtamar.
Lori	Province in northern part of the Republic of Armenia.
Los Angeles (LA)	Second largest city in the US, located in California at the west coast; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.
Malatia	Turkish province in Eastern Anatolia; home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Mamuretülaziz	
(Kharperd)	See Kharput.
Margahovit	Village in the Armenian province of Lori.
Massachusetts	US-state in the north eastern region at the East Coast.
Michigan	Northern US-state.
Minnesota	US-state in the Upper Midwest.
Montreal	City in the Canadian province of Quebec; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.

Mount Ararat	With 5.137 meters the highest mountain of the Armenian Highlands and associated to the heritage from the Book of Genesis, in which the Ararat is described as the resting place of Noah's Ark; national symbol of Armenia and of the Armenian 'territorial loss', because of its nowadays location in eastern Turkey, Turkish denotation: Ağrı Dağı; Armenian denotation: Sis-Masis (for Little Ararat and Greater Ararat).
Mush	Turkish province in Eastern Anatolia; home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Nagorno-Karabakh	Landlocked, mostly mountainous region in the South Caucasus, which is disputed between Armenia and Azerbaijan, currently controlled by the non-recognised but de facto independent Republic of Artsakh.
New Jersey	US-state in the Mid-Atlantic region.
New York	City in the eponymous US-state and largest city in the US; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.
Noyemberyan	Town in the Armenian province of Tavush.
Philadelphia	City in the US-state of Pennsylvania; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.
Sarigyugh	Village in the Armenian province of Tavush; location of the plane tree of Sarigyugh.
Sebastia	See Sivas.
Sevas	See Sivas.
Sivas	Turkish province in Eastern Anatolia; home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Sofia	Capital and largest city of Bulgaria; home of a small Armenian diaspora community.
South Caucasus	Geographical term for the area of the southern watershed area of the Greater Caucasus, composed of the states of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.
Stepanavan	Town in the Armenian province of Lori.
Tavush	Province in north eastern Armenia.
Tsitsernakaberd	Hill in the Armenian capital of Yerevan, which is site of the Armenian Genocide Memorial complex since 1967.
Toronto	City in the Canadian province of Ontario; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.

Van	Turkish province with Kurdish majority in Eastern Anatolia, laying mainly between Lake Van and the Iranian border; home of a large Armenian community during the times of the former Ottoman Empire.
Washington (D.C.)	Capital of the United States.
Watertown	City in the US-state of Massachusetts; home of a large Armenian diaspora community.
Western Armenia	Term used by Armenians living in diaspora for the parts of the former Ottoman Empire, which were home of a large Armenian community and nowadays belonging to Turkey (see Eastern Anatolia).
Yerevan	Capital city and largest city of Armenia.

