

Glossaries

Glossary of Foreign Words and Abbreviations

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| 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. |

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| 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. |
| Catholicos | 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. |

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| 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. |
| Haiutiun | 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. |

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| 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). |

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| 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. |

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| 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

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| 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. |
| Akhnaghbyur | 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. |

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| 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. |

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| 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. |

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| 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. |

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| 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. |

