
ULTRA-NATIONALIST FOLLY: HOW MUCH MORE CAN ARMENIA TAKE?

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Much of what happens seems inevitable in retrospect, but not the martyrdom of our four thousand sons. The 44-Day War has shaken delusional certitudes about Armenias foreign policy. Now, too late, it is easy to recognize the errors that might have been averted. They include:

- Over-estimating the military capacity of the Republic of Armenia;
- Badly under-estimating the military capacity and battle-readiness of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- Discounting Erdogans willingness to challenge Moscow by intervening directly in the armed conflict;
- Disregarding Armenias diplomatic isolation and vastly exaggerating--or just hallucinating--the willingness of the West to intervene on Armenias behalf;
- Dismissing, or ignoring entirely, the unanimous international commitment to the Madrid Principles, notably the first principle, return of the territories surrounding Nagorno-Karabagh to Azerbaijani control, as a prelude to discussing autonomy or self-determination for the Armenians of Nagorno Karabagh;
- Brushing off Moscows numerous and insistent reminders to Yerevan that security provisions of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) apply, in letter and in spirit, only to the U.N.- recognized territory of the Republic of Armenia, and not to Nagorno Karabagh.

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