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## TURKEY'S ROLE AS A MEDIATOR IN ARMENIA-AZERBAIJAN TALKS: WHAT WILL COME OF IT?

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Russias questionable mediation in the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict allows Turkey to claim the role of the new official moderator of the Yerevan and Baku negotiations. This is also facilitated by the ongoing confrontation between the West and Russia. The USA is proposing Turkey take on the mediator role to finally push Russia out of the region. Despite this, for Armenia, this candidate is more than doubtful, and the American partners are aware of it.

The feasibility of Turkeys mediation began to be actively discussed in Armenia after the joint statement by US secretary of state Antony Blinken and Turkish foreign minister Hakan Fidan. They announced the readiness to work together towards promoting a balanced and lasting peace treaty between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

In response, Armenian experts reminded that a mediator should be a neutral party capable of resolving disputes. However, Turkey itself has unresolved issues with Armenia, including a closed border.

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