

## **Resolving Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict**

## Source: IE

**Armenia and Azerbaijan** have **finalized the text of a peace agreement**, marking a significant step towards ending hostilities over the <a href="Magorno-Karabakh conflict">Nagorno-Karabakh conflict</a>.



- About the Conflict: During the Soviet era, Nagorno-Karabakh was an autonomous region in muslim dominated Azerbaijan, but its Armenian population (Christian) sought unification with Armenia.
  - As the USSR collapsed, tensions escalated into war (1988-1994).
  - The 1994 ceasefire left Nagorno-Karabakh under Armenian-backed control (but internationally recognised as part of Azerbaijan).
- Key Conflicts:
  - First Nagorno-Karabakh War (1988-1994): Armenia gained control of Nagorno-Karabakh and nearby Azerbaijani areas.
  - Second Nagorno-Karabakh War (2020): Azerbaijan recaptured large parts of the region.
  - **Azerbaijani Offensive (2023):** Azerbaijan regained full control in a one-day operation and the enclave was officially **dissolved.** 
    - Over 1 lakh people, nearly all of Nagorno-Karabakh's population, fled to Armenia.
- India has not taken sides but supports a diplomatic resolution via the OSCE Minsk Group.
  - Armenia and Azerbaijan are part of the <u>International North-South Transport Corridor</u> (<u>INSTC</u>), a key project for India's trade routes.

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