

## Human Rights Checklist for 'BothSideism' Sit-on-the-Fence Politicians, Media, the UN and... HRW

Issue	Armenia/Artsakh  	Azerbaijan 
<i>Area</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>33,000 km<sup>2</sup> (including NKAO Artsakh)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>About 2.5 times Armenia/Artsakh – 82,000 km<sup>2</sup> (excluding Nagorno Karabakh [NKAO])</li> </ul>
<i>Population</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 million</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More than three times the size of Armenia/Artsakh's population – 10 million</li> </ul>
<i>Economy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No oil and gas, some mining, but poor, landlocked and illegally blockaded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Wealthy oil and gas producer</a>, yet receives US military assistance under S.907 waivers, despite domestic human rights abuses and aggression/invasion against Armenia</li> </ul>
<i>Indigenous Status</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Indigenous to the Armenian Highland</a></li> <li>✓ <a href="#">Prehistoric</a> and <a href="#">ancient</a> sites</li> <li>✓ <a href="#">2,500 year old Persian references</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X <a href="#">Not</a> indigenous; Azerbaijanis of Turkic origin <a href="#">Invaded</a> from Central Asia, destroying the Armenian capital city of Ani in 1064 and <a href="#">killing more than 50,000 inhabitants</a></li> <li>X Colonized and subjugated indigenous tribes by <a href="#">Turkification</a></li> </ul>
<i>Political Status</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Democracy (ranked <a href="#">89<sup>th</sup></a> in 2020 due to the need for wartime martial law)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X Dictatorship – the same family has ruled for 30 years with <a href="#">nepotism</a> (ranked <a href="#">146<sup>th</sup></a> as an authoritarian regime by the Economist Intelligence Unit in 2020)</li> </ul>
<i>Elections</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Free, Fair and Competitive</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X Elections are a <a href="#">sham event</a> to support the dictatorship regime</li> </ul>
<i>Ancient Sovereignty</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Romans, Persians etc. recognised the <a href="#">Kingdom of Armenia</a> as an empire</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X <a href="#">There was never a nation called 'Azerbaijan'</a> north of the Arax River before WWI</li> <li>X A non-sovereign Persian <a href="#">province</a> named Azerbaijan existed south of the Arax River</li> </ul>
<i>Modern International Recognition</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 1918-1920 – <a href="#">First Republic</a> recognised by the Great Powers, including the Ottoman Empire and the League of Nations (its recognised territory included Kars, Ararat, Nakhichevan and NKAO*)</li> <li>✓ 1991 – <a href="#">Third Republic of Armenia</a> (and Azerbaijan, so the Internet is older than a sovereign Azerbaijan) </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X 1918 – the artificially created 'Azerbaijan Democratic Republic' (ADR) <a href="#">wasn't formally recognized</a> by any nation, and <a href="#">the League of Nations also declined to recognize it</a></li> <li>X 1991/2020 – started brutal wars killing 50,000+ on a false claim of 'territorial integrity', yet NKAO had been legally independent from the SSR (1988) and from the USSR (1991), having exercised self-determination rights under <a href="#">A72 of the Soviet Constitution</a> (<a href="#">Article 1/3 of the ICCPR</a> is also relevant as it recognises the right to self-determination, which is not subservient to territorial integrity, especially in the case of remedial succession (i.e.: Kosovo, Montenegro, Timor-Leste, South Sudan))</li> </ul>
<i>State-sponsored Racism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No obvious official racism against Azerbaijanis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X <a href="#">Nazi-like anti-Armenian racism</a>, even <a href="#">teaching children racial hatred</a></li> <li>X Celebrates citizens who behead Armenians, including the infamous <a href="#">Ramil Safarov</a></li> </ul>
<i>Visa Availability</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Azerbaijanis <a href="#">do not require a visa</a> to visit the Republic of Armenia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X <a href="#">All Armenian citizens are banned</a></li> <li>X Only nation to ban people based on <a href="#">ethnicity</a>, even citizens of other nations</li> </ul>
<i>War Crimes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X 2020 – <a href="#">missiles fired at military targets in Ganga caused civilian deaths</a>; however the scale of crimes was a tiny % of Azerbaijan's</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X 2020 – used <a href="#">phosphorus</a> and <a href="#">cluster weapons</a>, including on <a href="#">civilian hospitals</a> and <a href="#">cities</a></li> <li>X 2021 – 200+ <a href="#">POWs tortured for months</a>, 19 killed (including four women)</li> <li>X <a href="#">US and European Court of Human Rights condemnations of multiple war crimes</a></li> </ul>
<i>Cultural Preservation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <a href="#">Restoration of Gohar Agha Mosque, Shushi</a></li> <li>✓ Preservation of Yerevan's <a href="#">Blue Mosque</a></li> <li>✓ Restoration of <a href="#">sites destroyed by Soviets</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X <a href="#">Destruction of ancient Nakhichevan Armenian khachars</a> in <a href="#">Nakhichevan</a></li> <li>X <a href="#">Desecration and destruction of Ghazanchetsots Cathedral</a>, and many other examples</li> <li>X <a href="#">Bribery of UNESCO officials</a> to ignore cultural destruction; <a href="#">refusal to accept a UN audit</a></li> </ul>
<i>State-sponsored Genocide</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Although victims, Armenians are not taught to hate Turks, Azeris and Kurds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X Involved in the <a href="#">Armenian genocide</a> of 1.5 million Armenians; denial of genocide</li> <li>X Multiple pogroms/massacres, including <a href="#">Agulis</a>, <a href="#">Baku</a>, <a href="#">Kirovabad</a>, <a href="#">Sumgait</a>, and <a href="#">Shushi</a></li> </ul>
<i>State Racial Propaganda</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No obvious official hate propaganda targeting Azerbaijanis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X Fraudulent <a href="#">propaganda videos</a>, including use of <a href="#">abused children</a></li> <li>X Khojaly Massacre used as anti-Armenian <a href="#">propaganda</a> (<a href="#">more likely perpetrated by Azeris</a>)</li> </ul>
<i>State-sponsored Corruption</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X Some residual corrupt practices from Soviet era (<a href="#">60<sup>th</sup></a>), press freedom <a href="#">61<sup>st</sup></a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X <a href="#">Azerbaijani Laundromat</a> – USD 2.9 bln scheme to bribe politicians, media and companies</li> <li>X Corruption ranked <a href="#">129<sup>th</sup></a>, press freedom <a href="#">168<sup>th</sup></a>, <a href="#">corruption and human rights issues</a></li> </ul>

\*[Later illegally gifted by Stalin to Turkey and Azerbaijan](#), despite the [Azerbaijan SSR earlier recognising Nakhichevan, NKAO and Syunik as part of the Armenian SSR](#)