
PASHINIAN WANTS CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE DEMANDED BY AZERBAIJAN

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Prime Minister Nikol Pashinian admitted on Wednesday that he will try to enact the kind of constitutional change that Azerbaijan has set as a necessary condition for ending the conflict with Armenia.

Pashinian for the first time said publicly that a new Armenian constitution sought by him must carry no reference to a 1990 declaration of independence which in turn cites a 1989 unification act adopted by the legislative bodies of Soviet Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

The declaration is referenced in a preamble to the countrys current constitution. Azerbaijan says that this amounts to a claim to Karabakh recaptured by Baku in 2023. It has made clear that it will not sign an Armenian-Azerbaijani peace treaty finalized last month unless Yerevan removes the reference. The only legal way to do that is to adopt a new constitution through a referendum.

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