



# Russian Peacekeepers' Withdrawal from Nagorno-Karabakh

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Russian peacekeepers have initiated their withdrawal from [Nagorno-Karabakh](#) following Azerbaijan's recapture of the disputed territory from Armenian separatists in September 2023.

- The decision for the withdrawal was agreed between Baku (Azerbaijan) and Moscow at the "highest levels."
- Nagorno-Karabakh, is a mountainous region in the **Caucasus (the transcontinental region between the [Black Sea](#) and the [Caspian Sea](#))**, internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan but predominantly inhabited by ethnic Armenians.
  - The conflict began in the late 1980s when the region declared independence from Azerbaijan, leading to a war between Armenia and Azerbaijan.
  - A ceasefire in 1994 left Nagorno-Karabakh and surrounding areas under Armenian control, but frequent violations and failed negotiations followed.
  - In 2020, Azerbaijan won the Second Karabakh War, regaining control of seven surrounding districts and a third of Nagorno-Karabakh. **Russia brokered a peace deal and deployed peacekeepers** in the region.
- The conflict has strained relations between Russia and Armenia, as Moscow maintains warm ties with Baku.
  - Armenia announced that it has effectively suspended its participation in the **Moscow-led Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO)**, a defense alliance.



Read more: [Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict](#)

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