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“Support to the Armenia-Türkiye Normalization Process: Rapid Response”

Project

DISINFORMATION FLOWS AND FAKE NARRATIVES OF THE ARMENIA-TÜRKIYE NORMALIZATION PROCESS

Research Results

**Research conducted by the Center for Culture and
Civilization Studies**



Research Purpose

**Identifying and mapping dominant narratives
regarding the Armenia-Türkiye normalization process
and assess public perception of this process in
Armenia.**

Methodology

Research stages

The research includes two stages:

- **the monitoring of official and media sources;**
- **field research based on focus group interviews held i
n Yerevan
and some other regions of Armenia.**

Media Monitoring Results

- At the pre-war stage, Armenia-Türkiye relations were rarely mentioned in the media, even in the materials related to Türkiye.
- The clashes that took place in Tavush in July 2020 became the impetus for the media to intensify the dissemination of information about Türkiye.
- Since the first days of the 44-day war, both official circles and the media have been recording and condemning Türkiye's participation in hostilities.

Media Monitoring Results

- In the post-war period, fears and forecasts regarding a possible new war with Türkiye's participation can be heard in the media (mainly opposition) and public discourse.
- The change in the authorities' policy regarding the regulation of relations with Türkiye is followed by a wave of criticism from the opposition media, which regularly intensifies against the backdrop of political statements and events.
- Contrary to the authorities' statements that the Armenia-Türkiye regulation process is proceeding without preconditions, the opposition puts forward the idea that prior to initiating the process, "the Armenian authorities have met all requirements set forth by Türkiye."



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Field Research Results

Information sources

- The vast majority of participants get their information mainly from social networks and Telegram channels they are subscribed to, with this information mostly limited to announcements and short posts.
- However, a significant number of participants admit that they use different, usually contradictory, sources to verify information.



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Field Research Results

Perceptions on normalization

- It is necessary to refrain from drastic changes, the results of which are unknown.
- Normalization can do more harm than good.
- Normalization and unblocking the roads is vital for solving Armenia's economy and security issues.

- **At the moment, Armenia is not ready, and the balance of power does not allow for profitable relations.**
- **The normalization process can commence once Türkiye acknowledges the Armenian Genocide**



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Necessity

The need to normalize Armenia-Türkiye relations is being questioned, especially in the context of the authorities' drastic changes in vocabulary regarding Türkiye and jumping from criticism and accusations to narratives containing the need for reconciliation and peace.



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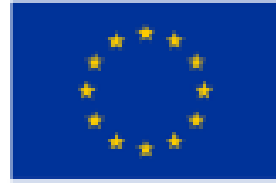


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Field Research Results

Feasibility

In discussions concerning the regulation of Armenia-Türkiye relations, the existing/probable obstacles to cooperation between the two countries are mentioned more often than the opportunities.



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