

How the Nagorno-Karabakh Crisis Is Testing Russia's Role in the South Caucasus

[Russia on the Record](#)

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People help to move a broken car as ethnic Armenians fleeing Nagorno-Karabakh region make their way to the village of Kornidzor, Armenia. **Anatoly Maltsev / EPA / TASS**

For decades, Russia has been an important political player in the South Caucasus and was perceived as a mediator between Armenia and Azerbaijan over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh. However, after the Nagorno-Karabakh war of 2020, Armenia began to lose faith in Russia as an ally and protector. With the latest Azerbaijani escalation and the dissolution of Nagorno-Karabakh's Armenian separatist government, Russian-Armenian relations appear to have reached the most tense point in their history.

In this episode, we will discuss why Russian peacekeepers did not intervene when Azerbaijan launched its offensive and how the crisis changes the balance of power in the South Caucasus with our guests, Caucasus expert Kirill Krivosheev and journalist Tom Bennett.

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