



Armenian National Committee of America

# PRESIDENTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE - 2008

**Candidate** \_\_\_\_\_

**Party** \_\_\_\_\_

Below are questions on policy issues of special concern to the 1.5 million Americans of Armenian heritage. Please complete and sign this questionnaire and fax to the Armenian National Committee of America at **(202) 775-5648**. Your answers will be publicized throughout the Armenian American community via television, newspapers, direct mail, e-mail, websites, and at public events.

## U.S. COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

The Turkish government continues to deny Ottoman Turkey's systematic and deliberate massacre of 1.5 million Armenians between 1915 and 1923.

**1) Will you properly characterize the Armenian Genocide as genocide in your official public statements?**

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**2) What are your views on Congressional legislation affirming the Armenian Genocide?**

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**3) What steps will you take to help end Turkey's denial of the Armenian Genocide?**

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**4) Would you nominate an Ambassador to either Armenia or Turkey who does not recognize the Armenian Genocide?**

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## U.S. SUPPORT FOR ARMENIA AND NAGORNO KARABAGH

The U.S. has provided over \$1.5 billion in developmental and humanitarian aid to strengthen Armenia's independence, promote economic self-sufficiency, advance democratic pluralism, and help the Armenian people overcome the severe hardships caused by the dual Turkish and Azerbaijani blockades. The U.S. also sends direct aid to Nagorno Karabagh to meet humanitarian needs and as a confidence-building measure to support a negotiated settlement of the conflict.

5) **What are your views about U.S. aid to help the Armenian people promote trade and investment, long-term economic self-sufficiency, and democratic pluralism?**

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6) **What are your views on expanding U.S. aid to Nagorno Karabagh to include development?**

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## CONDITIONS ON U.S. AID TO AZERBAIJAN

Section 907 of the Freedom Support Act, passed by Congress in 1992, limits certain U.S. aid to Azerbaijan to non-governmental channels until the Azerbaijani government has lifted its blockades against Armenia and Nagorno Karabagh. In 2001, the Congress granted the President limited authority to waive this law.

7) **What are your views about Section 907 of the Freedom Support Act?**

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8) **What factors would you consider in deciding whether to exercise the President's authority to waive Section 907 of the Freedom Support Act?**

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9) **What steps will you take to end Azerbaijan's blockades of Armenia and Nagorno Karabagh?**

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## THE TURKISH BLOCKADE OF ARMENIA

For the past decade Turkey has obstructed the delivery of U.S. humanitarian aid and other shipments to Armenia, sharply impacting Armenia's economy and denied food, fuel, and medical supplies to those in need. The Humanitarian Aid Corridor Act, which became law in 1996 and was subsequently waived by the President on national security grounds, prohibited U.S. foreign aid to nations, such as Turkey, which obstruct U.S. humanitarian aid deliveries to a third nation.

**10) What are your views about how the U.S. can help end Turkey's blockade of Armenia?**

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**11) What are your views about linking U.S. arms sales and transfers to Turkey to its blockade of Armenia, occupation of Cyprus, mistreatment of Kurds, unfair restrictions on Christian communities, and human rights record?**

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## SELF-DETERMINATION FOR NAGORNO KARABAGH

In 1923 Stalin arbitrarily carved Nagorno Karabagh out of Armenia and placed it under Azerbaijani rule, setting the stage for seven decades of Soviet political and cultural oppression, and, after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, direct Azerbaijani military aggression against the population of Nagorno Karabagh.

**12) What are your views on Nagorno Karabagh's right to self-determination within secure borders?**

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**13) What are your views on Nagorno Karabagh's full participation in all negotiations toward a peaceful settlement of the conflict?**

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**14) What are your views about the steps the U.S. can take to help guarantee Nagorno Karabagh's security against renewed Azerbaijani aggression?**

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## PRESIDENTIAL VISITATIONS

Despite American Armenian ties dating back more than a century, an American president has never visited Armenia, nor has the President of Armenia been invited for a full state visit to the United States.

15) Will you prioritize a U.S. presidential trip to Armenia?

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16) Will you prioritize inviting the President of Armenia to the U.S. on an official state visit?

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## ARMENIAN AMERICAN PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT

Armenian Americans are devoted to public service, yet are under-represented in the Executive Branch.

17) How would you ensure that qualified Armenian Americans take part in your Administration?

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18) Will you and your White House be accessible to the Armenian American community?

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## ENDING THE DARFUR GENOCIDE

More than 400,000 people have already been killed in the genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan.

19) What steps will you take to end the Darfur genocide?

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Candidate Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE FAX YOUR RESPONSE TO (202) 775-5648**