

# 90,000 Armenians in exodus as they flee their ancestral homeland of Nagorno-Karabakh following its reconquest

Sentinel-2 MSI acquired on 05 September 2023 at 07:36:21 UTC  
Sentinel-1 CSAR IW acquired on 30 September 2023 at 03:01:10 UTC

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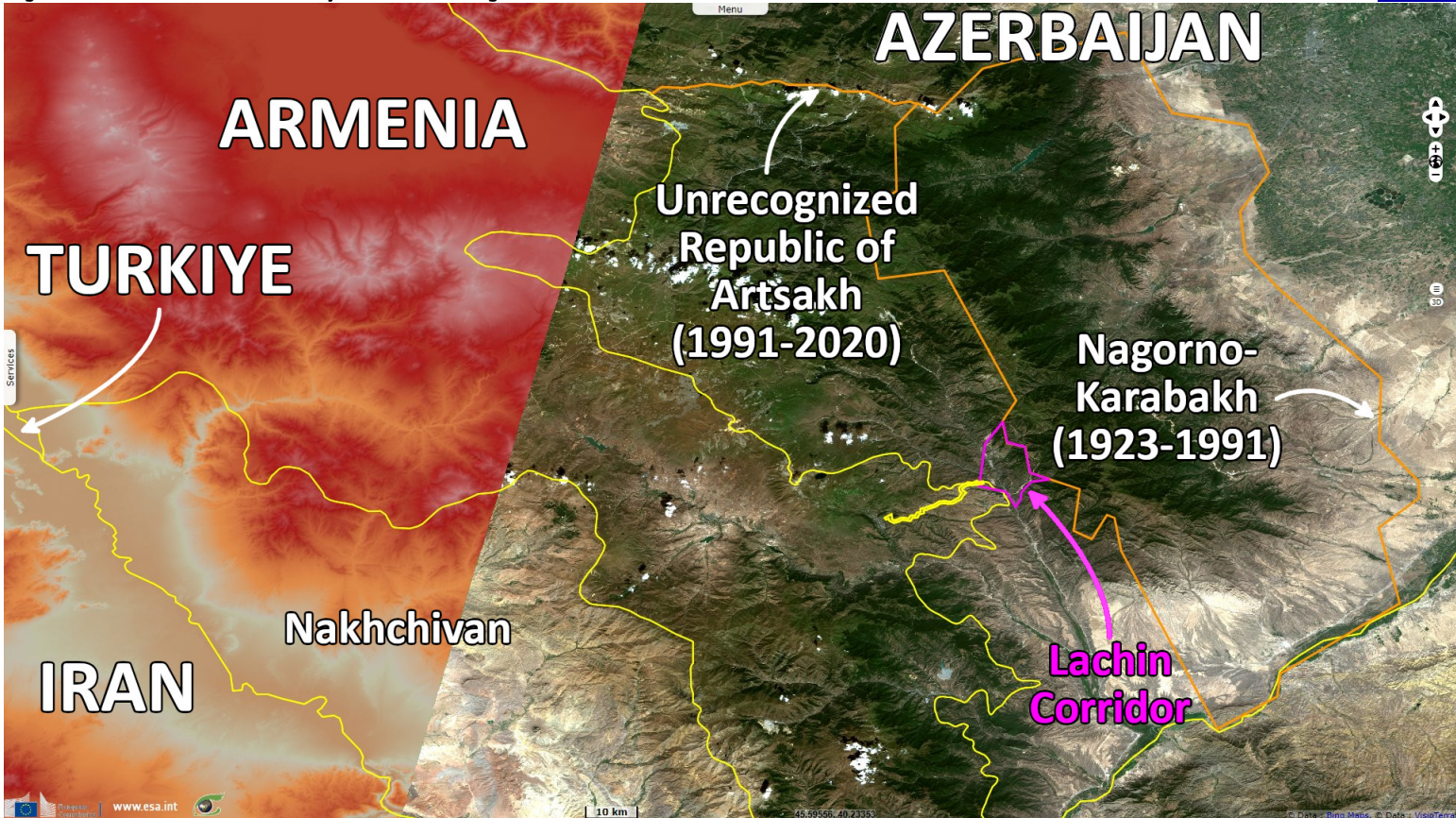
Keyword(s): Land, security, infrastructure, Azerbaijan, Armenia



[2D Layerstack](#)

Fig. 1 - S2 (05.09.2023) - Azerbaijan took back Nagorno-Karabakh in October 2023.

[2D view](#)



Nagorno-Karabakh has been inhabited by Armenians for thousands of years. After the Armenian genocide, they made up 90% of the population of the region. Following the Red Army invasion of Armenia, Joseph Stalin ceded this region to Soviet Azerbaijan in 1921 and he attached the landlocked, predominantly Muslim region of Nakhichevan to Azerbaijan.

Fig. 2 - S2 (05.09.2023) - After the war in 2020, hundred of thousands left Artsakh for internationally recognized Armenia.

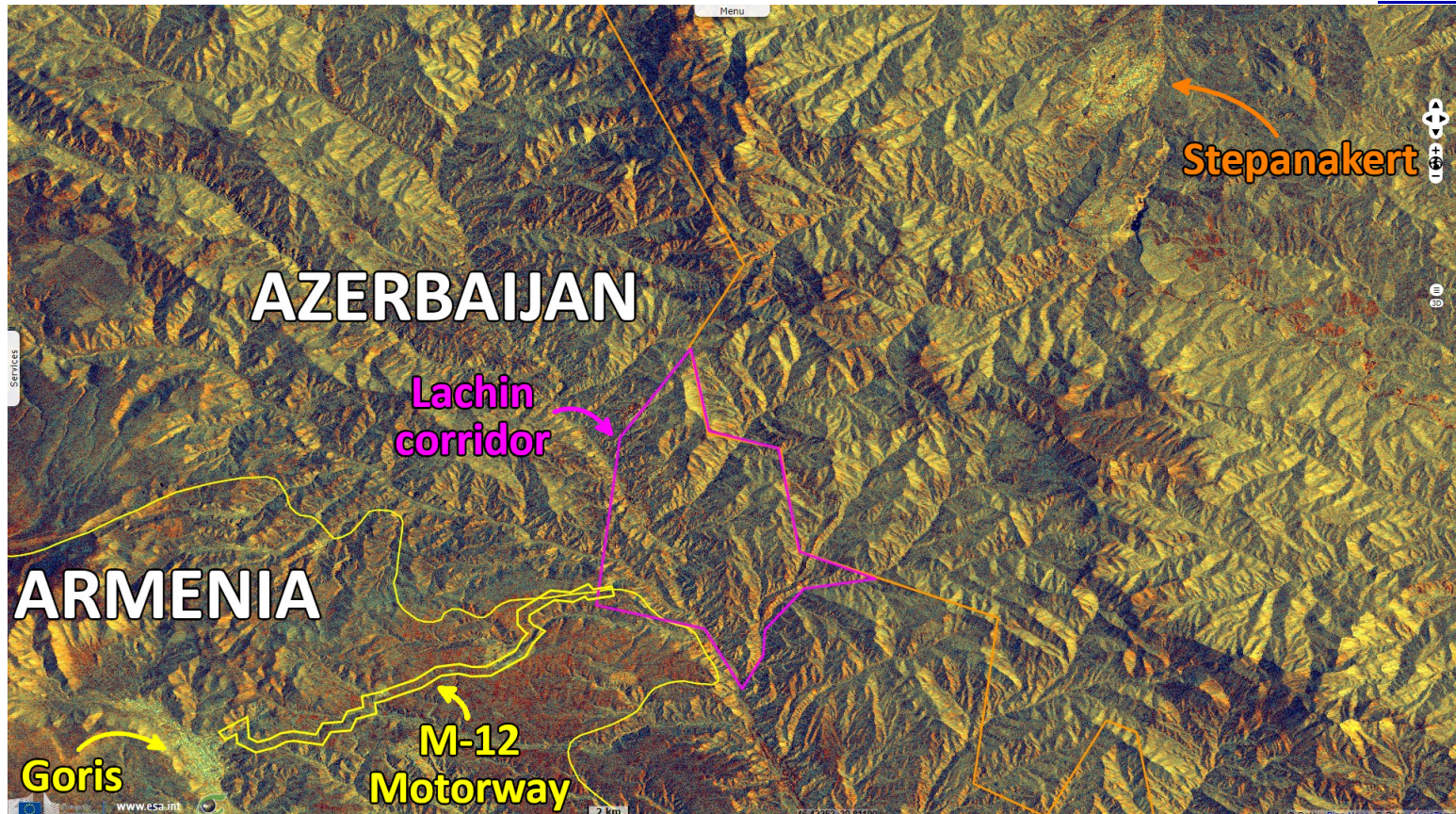
[2D view](#)



After the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union, Nagorno-Karabakh declared independence after a referendum recognized only by Armenia, the Republic of Artsakh remains De jure Azeri.

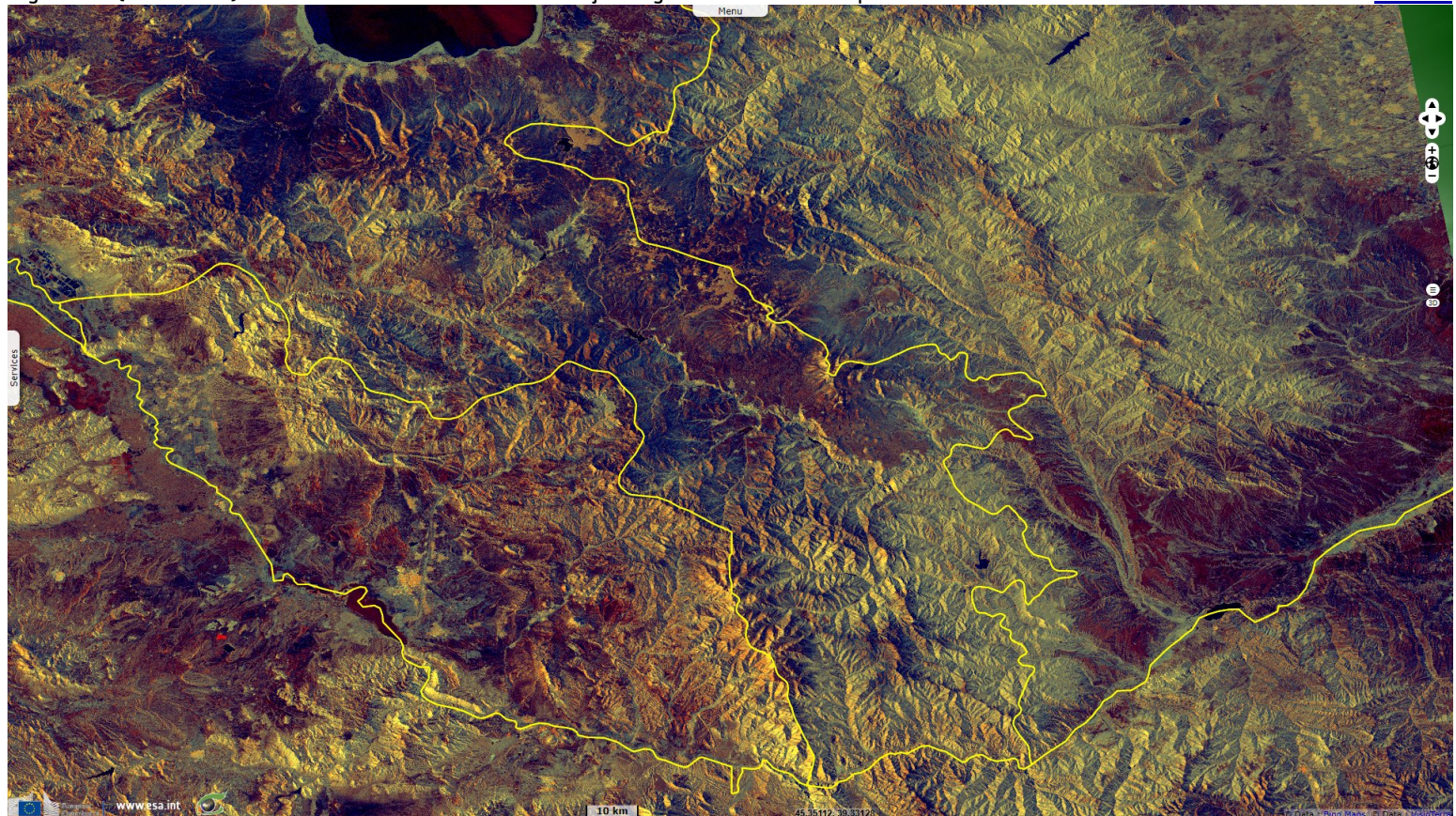
Fig. 3 - S1 (30.09.2023) - This victory of Azerbaijan pushed nearly all remaining inhabitants of the secessionist region on the single road to Armenia.

[2D view](#)



Despite a war in 2020 and a blockade since 2022, the Russian peacekeeping force chose not to interpose and Azerbaijan took back Nagorno-Karabakh. Fearing ethnical cleansing, almost all 90 000 remaining inhabitants of the region that had not left before have fled their ancestral land within a week, using the M-12 road between Lachin and Goris.

Fig. 4 - S1 (30.09.2023) - Nakhitchevan and mainland Azerbaijan might become the next point of armed conflict between the two countries. [2D view](#)



The narrow strip of Armenian land between Nakhitchevan and mainland Azerbaijan might become the next point of armed conflict between the two countries.

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