

Azerbaijani - Armenian conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh

Sentinel-3 OLCI FR acquired on 14 July 2016 at 07:12:34 UTC
Sentinel-3 SLSTR RBT acquired on 20 October 2017 at 07:08:51 UTC
Sentinel-3 SLSTR RBT acquired on 27 February 2020 at 07:12:45 UTC
Sentinel-1 CSAR IW acquired on 17 July 2020 from 14:53:18 to 14:53:43 UTC

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[3D Layerstack](#)

Fig. 1 - S3 OLCI (14.07.2016) - Azerbaijan & Armenia are bordered by Turkey at W, Russia at NE, Caspian Sea at E, Iran at S, Georgia at NW. [2D view](#)

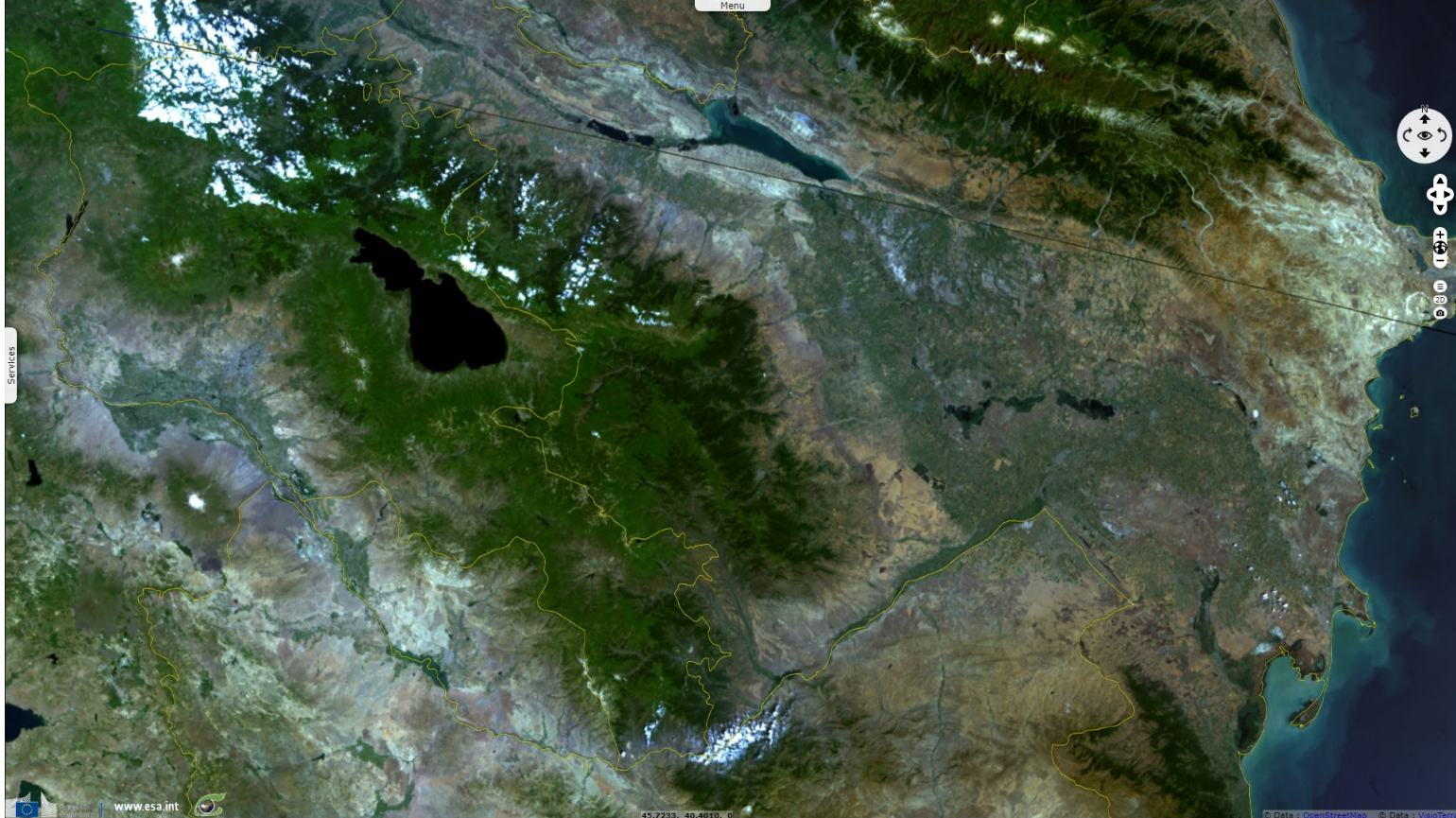


Fig. 2 - S3 SLSTR (20.10.2017) - Azeris and Armenians lived in the same entity, Transcaucasia, during the period of the USSR. [2D view](#)

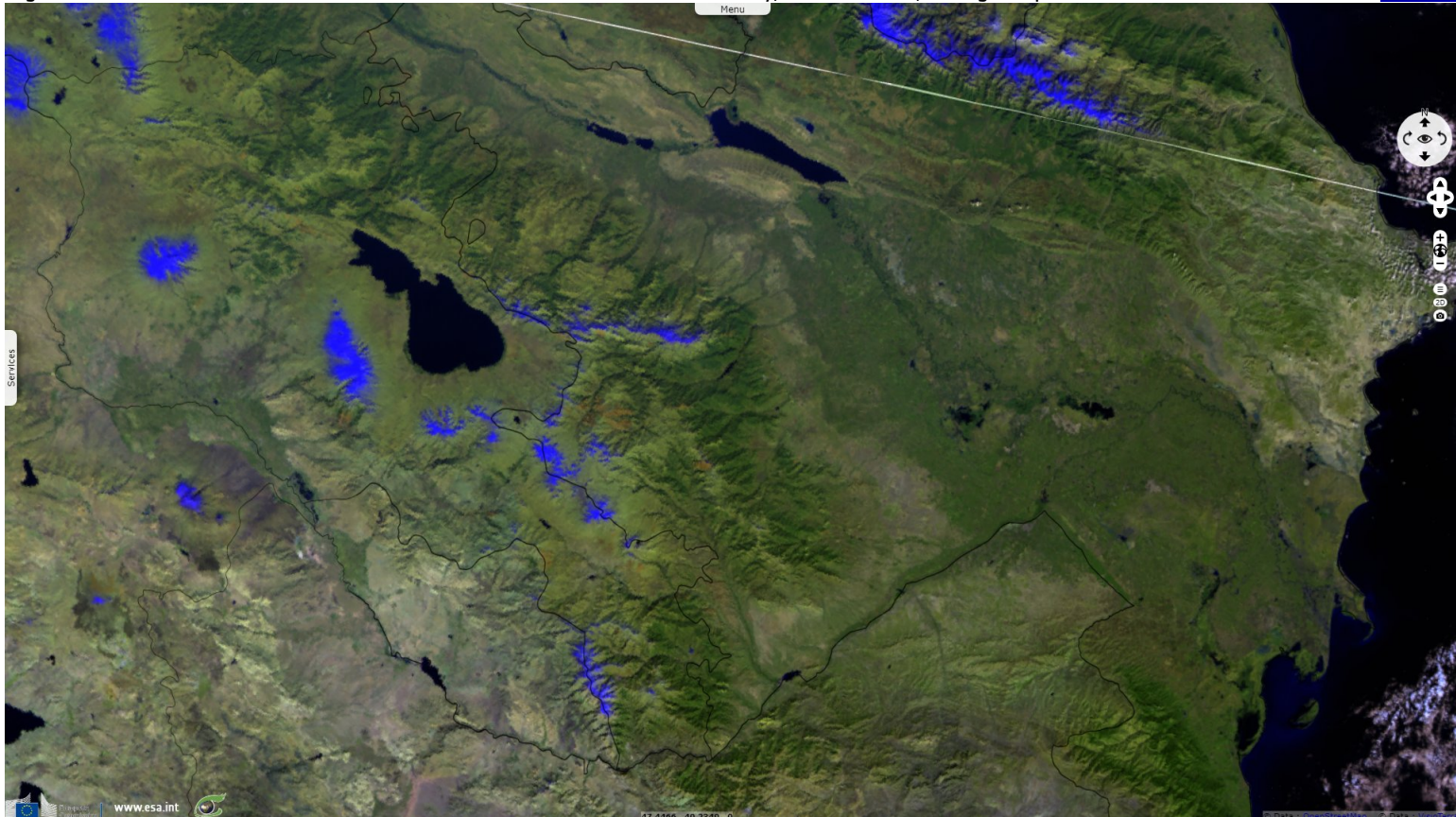
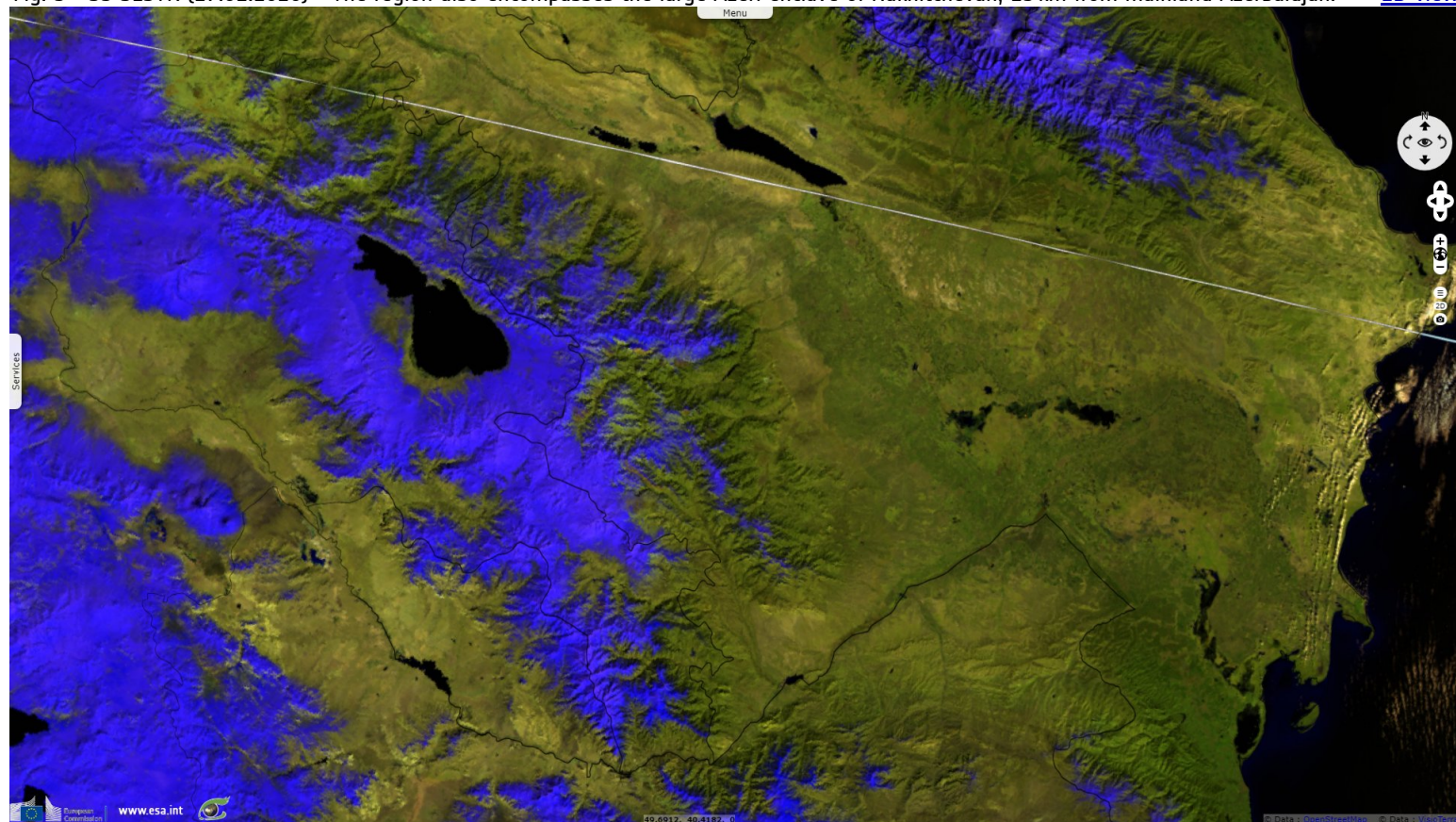


Fig. 3 - S3 SLSTR (27.02.2020) - The region also encompasses the large Azeri enclave of Nakhitchevan, 25 km from mainland Azerbaijan.

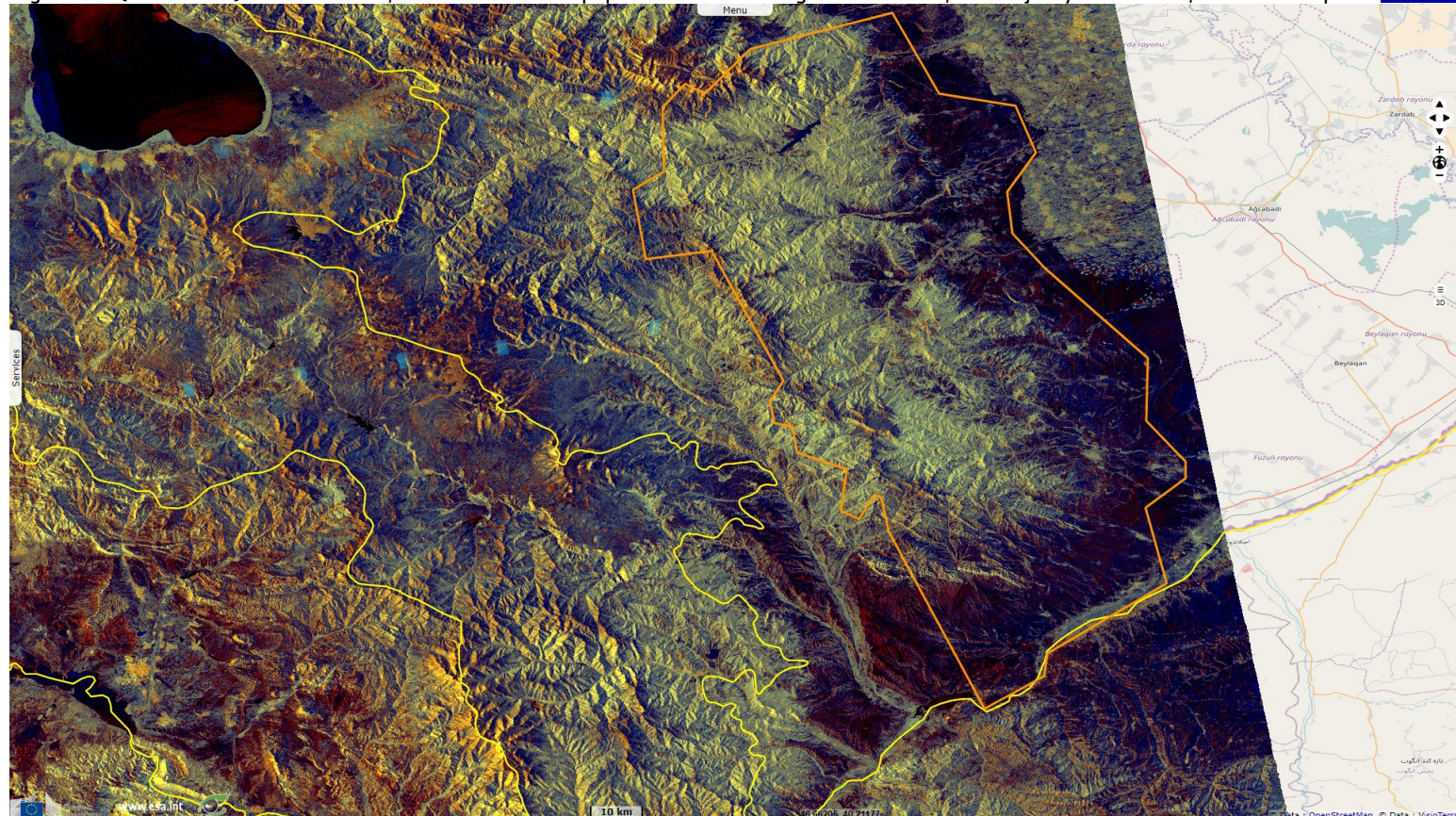
[2D view](#)



Azeris and Armenians culture, language, religion remained distinct and communities did not mix during the soviet period. Following the dissolution of the USSR, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh declared independence in 1991. It later led to the unrecognized Republic of Artsakh after the separatists won the 2017 referendum by 87%; foreign observers approving the method and results but not the validity of the referendum.

Fig. 4 - S1 (17.07.2020) - On 7 October, about 50% of the population had left Nagorno-Karabakh, the majority for Yerevan, Armenia's capital.

[2D view](#)



89% of the population of Nagorno-Karabakh declared to be Armenian according to a census in 1926, 76% in 1989, 99% in 2015 after most of the Azeri and Kurdish populations fled the region in 1992-1993 during the war.

Fig. 5 - Map of Azerbaijan with the pre-conflict extent of Nagorno-Karabakh region shown - Source: [United Nations](#).



The current escalation of the conflict has bolstered by Armenia's new distance with its traditional Russian ally, and the arrival of at least thousand Turkish-conveyed Syrian mercenaries before the offensives started.

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