

1. 2
2. male
3. 45 years old
4. Kalbajar, Azerbaijan
5. Baku, Azerbaijan
6. Azerbaijan
7. No party membership
8. NGO
9. Internet, online media
10. Travels almost every month
11. Azerbaijani and Russian speaking

Summary

Part I

Protection of fundamental rights is the most important. Because it ensures freedom, stability and security. Democracy, elections and all other components combine in fundamental rights and their protection.

Municipalities should do the work of cleaning. Municipalities can fundraise and take care of the development of their community. Through tender, they can also give a part of work to civil society to realize awareness raising projects. Infrastructure, cleaning is the duty of the municipalities.

Women should absolutely have a right to abortion.

Azerbaijan is accepting refugees. But Azerbaijan always justifies that we have more than 1 million refugees. However, Azerbaijan accepts refugees today.

Ethnic groups should have schools, media, in the communities they live compactly. There is no need to have it in every university. In some universities like Baku State University there are faculties on Taish, Lazgiz, even Armenian. It is difficult to implement it at schools or at every university. Government should have policies to support language programs at schools where ethnic groups live together. They must be given freedom to choose. If they identify themselves as an ethnic group first, then they should have an opportunity to study in their own schools.

Ethnic and cultural diversity is the success of Azerbaijan. Azerbaijan claims that we are multicultural. In reality, they do not celebrate this multiculturalism. In CBS TV, there are programs on Armenian language, while they do not want to work on Karabakh. They are radio programs on Kurdish, Tallysh, Lezgi, Armenian language in Azerbaijan Radio. Multiculturalism exist in the policy level, but they are not willing to work on the grass root level. There are glossaries in Kurdish, tallish, lazgi langauges. There are centers for Kurdish, tallish, lazgi cultures. But it is not enough.

I do not agree with this statement. Government should help people. Human already work for the state. Therefore, government should help people, in health, education, cultural level. Government has controlled the economy and it is not developed because of that. Businesses and economy should be free.

Part II

Interview #19 | conflict expert | Duration: 43mins 20sec

I have poly identities. I am a person who has free will and thoughts, who has not achieved much, who is seeing things different. I do not follow the ideas of majority, but I also do not deny them.

Being asked about who I am, I response with my characteristics. I have ethnic or national identity, but I do not like emphasizing them. If I talk to a French guy, I share my thoughts, values, not my ethnicity or nationality, and he knows and understands me as a human, not as an Azeri. My identity is my mindset.

Religion is opium. It can be both catalizator and brake that stops development. In East religion is currently stooping, slowing development. In Europe religion is catalizator, aiming to bring progress, education and solve social, humanitarian problems. In Europe, religion shares the message of universalism, peace. In East, religion is still formulating. Therefore, religion is very harmful. A person should stay away from religion to become happier.

Nation can be territory. Actually, nation is not a territory or language. Nation is a common value, common identity all ethnic groups share. A person might not be ethnically Turk, or might not speak same language, might live abroad, but still can feel a part of Azerbaijan. Nation is a value that unites people.

Borders are inevitable. Eliminating border was an idea when there was a need to unite states. However, later it appeared that problems still exist and they are unavoidable. Borders are also important to formulate the national identity. During Soviet times, there was no borders. However, it is not solution to prevent clashes. In Caucasus, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia has different values. Even when the borders will be open, we will still find it hard to understand each other. Eliminating borders is not the solution. Sharing same values is the solution.

Internet is shaping the values differently. A person is able to make friends around the world without crossing the borders of that state. Internet and technology is the basis of the today's world.

It is inevitable to claim for the historical borders, which were divided unfairly. However claiming it now will lead to conflicts. Ottoman Empire should claim then to the half of the Europe. Historical borders are the collective memory of the nation. Some historical territories are the part of national identity. Claiming historical borders brings disasters. Like Armenians who claim those territories and make themselves and us miserable. It will take 100 years for them to get rid of this claim.

Part III

Nagorno Karabkah is solved through war for Armenia. However, if they could really solve it, they should make their victory recognized in 1994. It demonstrated that, you should be a powerful state to be recognized. It is a problem that, Armenians now consider the conflict to be solved and do not look for future stages. Future phases of the conflict will be different.

The biggest guilt is not to have compromise from both sides. If both Armenian and Azerbaijanis could feel strength to compromise conflict could be solved long ago in 2001. Both nations do not compromise because of lack of trust to each other. They do not trust in each other because of lack of compromise. It is a complicated circle. Tomorrow Azerbaijanis will not accept the demands of Armenians, because they do not trust them, they consider them as an alien. The same mindset also accrues Armenians, they will not accept Azerbaijanis, because they think Azerbaijanis are aliens to these territories, they consider as a newly formulated nation. The conflict will be solved as far as we will pass the phases Europe has passed. We are currently in the stage that looks similar to the situations in 1945th in Europe. Germany was divided and

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ashamed of their claims. Now both Azerbaijanis and Armenians should feel ashamed of all happening. Otherwise, the conflict will not be solved.

Conflict will be solved through peace. It is impossible to solve the conflict. However, war the status of the conflict might change. April escalation showed that through war some changes happen. Armenians could not solve the conflict through war, neither will we. During the presidency of Ayaz Mutallimov, Karabakh was freed; Russian Army was collaborating with us. In 1991 there was a circle operation, where all military groups were cleaned from Karabakh through the help of Russian army. In 1992, Khojaly happened and Mutallimov was withdrawn, political clashes started and Armenians got an opportunity to win the war. However, they could not be recognized. Armenians could not solve the conflict through war, neither will we. All processes will end up with negotiations.

Even the conflict will be resolved, the borders will be closed for long time. After some time, people will get used to the situation and they will seek to connect with each other. People will forget the politics when there will be need for the natural resources. Armenians and Azerbaijanis will not live together as they used to live before the war. It will take a hundred years to start living together and reconciling. If Azerbaijani IDPs will return to Karabakh they will not return to their villages separately, they will resettle in newly compact settlements together. Armenians and Azerbaijanis will not interact much.

The biggest enemy of Azerbaijan is its foolishness, arrogance, not being able to see the reality, political ignorance. It is possible to turn an enemy into friend. State can not be an enemy.

Nagorno Karabakh belongs to everyone who lives there: Russian, Polish, or any other. In reality, it now belongs to Armenians and they do not allow Azerbaijanis to live there. If they prevent other ethnic groups to live in Karabakh, they will face pressure from international community to allow at least Azerbaijanis in. By percentage, Nagorno Karabakh 70% belongs to Armenians, and 30% belongs to Azerbaijanis. Politically it is disputed.

Conflict can be solved by two persons, only by politicians. If we lived in Europe, we could involve people-to-people diplomacy. However, in Azerbaijan and Armenia context it is only presidents. It is difficult to solve with mediators, or without mediators. Borders are closed, there is no trust, no transparency. In addition, memories of living together is forgotten. Now it is nonsense to talk about living with some groups you don't know.

Aland model is recommendable, where neither Armenia nor Azerbaijan will lose. Karabakh people will win. Eastern Timor model is also recommendable. Even the Cyprus model can be useful. Azerbaijanis and Karabakh Armenians can unite and Azerbaijan can recognize them. But Armenians in Karabakh are not ready for that. Armenians in Karabakh do not want to be independent; they want to be a part of Armenia. Or UN might prepare a new model.