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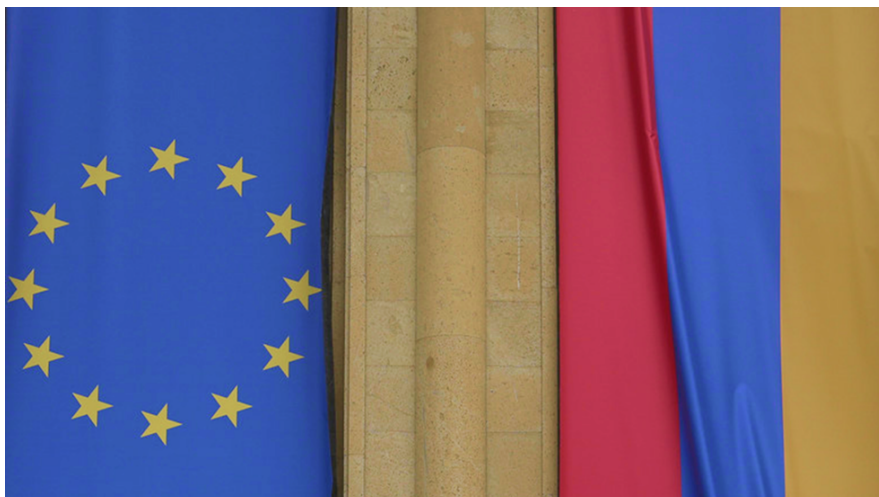
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Armenia could face deep crisis over EU push – expert

Yerevan risks losing economic preferences from Moscow that many take for granted, Aleksandr Bobrov told RT

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Armenia will eventually have to make a final geopolitical choice, because the prospect of integration with the EU is incompatible with membership in the Eurasian Economic Union, Aleksandr Bobrov, an associate professor at MGIMO, Russia's leading international affairs university, told RT.

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan claimed victory in the country's parliamentary elections overnight, saying his ruling Civil Contract party would form the next government on its own.

"This effectively means the continuation of the course set by the current authorities toward integration with the European Union and the United States, and, in turn, the gradual reduction to nothing of ties with Russia, the Eurasian Economic Union, and the CSTO," Bobrov said.

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While Pashinyan is likely to keep straining relations with Moscow and scaling down Armenia's participation in post-Soviet multilateral formats, Bobrov said the process could be gradual.

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“The rather confrontational nature of our ties in recent months and weeks was driven by the elections and the need to mobilize his core electorate. Now, having come to power, he has the opportunity to pursue a more flexible policy, without always resorting to methods of megaphone diplomacy,” he said.



Armenia is one of five members of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), alongside Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, and Kyrgyzstan. The bloc operates a single market and harmonizes regulations to facilitate trade, investment, and other forms of economic cooperation.

“It is absolutely clear that, at some point, Armenia will have to make its final geopolitical choice, because the prospect of integration with the European Union is incompatible with membership in the Eurasian Economic Union,” Bobrov said.



Russia remains Armenia's key economic partner. Trade turnover between the two countries stood at \$6-8 billion in 2025, with Armenian exports to Russia alone reaching \$2.9 billion. Moscow also supplies Yerevan with natural gas on preferential terms, with Russian President Vladimir Putin previously saying Armenia receives gas at \$177.50

per 1,000 cubic meters, compared with a European spot price of around \$600.

“If Armenia ultimately makes the sovereign choice to leave the EAEU, this could of course have a very deep impact on Armenian society. The country could face a powerful socioeconomic crisis, because it would lose the preferences it currently enjoys and which many now take for granted. In such circumstances, Nikol Pashinyan's position would no longer be so strong,” Bobrov said.

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