

FLAG OF ARMENIA - A BRIEF HISTORY



Where In The World



Trivia

Before the first flag in 189 BC the armies would go into battle with carvings of animals mounted on poles.

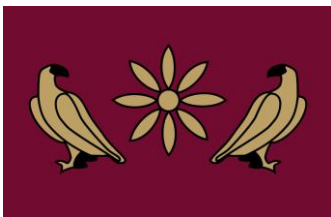
Technical Specification

Adopted:	24 th August 1990
Proportion:	1:2
Design:	A tricolour of red, blue and orange horizontally.
Colours:	PMS – Red: 199 C, Blue: 285 C, Orange: 021 C CMYK - Red: 0% Cyan, 100% Magenta, 65% Yellow, 0% Black; Blue: 90% Cyan, 45% Magenta, 0% Yellow, 0% Black; Orange: 0% Cyan, 50% Magenta, 90% Yellow, 0% Black

Brief History

In ancient Armenia, before the tricolour was adopted, there were many flags that represented the various ruling dynasties at the time. These flags featured objects or animals, such as lions and birds. The known flag of this kind was that of the Artaxiad Dynasty that began at 189 BC.

The first time a tricolour appeared was on the flag of the French-Armenian Lusignan Dynasty in the 14th Century.



**Artaxiad Dynasty Standard
(189 BC – 1AD)**



**The Flag of Bagratid Armenia
(885 – 1045)**




**The Flag of the Armenian Kingdom
of Cilicia under Lusignan Dynasty
(1341 – 1375)**

It wasn't until the end of the 19th century that another Arminian flag existed. This was when The Armenian Students Association of Paris asked Father Ghevont Alishan to design a new flag for his funeral of the writer Victor Hugo in 1885.

This was the first modern flag Arminian and was a tricolour of red-green-white. The colours were chosen to represent "red" and "green" Sunday of Easter. Father Alishan also created a second red-green-blue design which was inspired by the Flag of France. This flag was seen as the "Nationalist Armenian Flag".

		
<p>Alishan's Flag for Victor Hugo's Funeral</p>	<p>The Second Alishan "National Armenian Flag"</p>	
<p>When Russia occupied Ottoman Armenia during World War One they brought the Flag of the Administration of Western Armenia. This flag was replaced when Russia signed a peace treaty in 1918 and retreated out of Ottoman Armendia.</p> <p>The state of the Transcaucasian Federation was created out of the Georgian , Armenian and Azerbaijan countries and so a new tricolour flag designed that was strikingly similar to the modern German flag.</p> <p>When Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan declared independence in May 1918 the first modern Armenian state since 1375 created. The new flag featured the modern red-blue-orange tricolour but only lasted till 1922.</p>		
		
<p>The Flag of the Administration of Western Armenia (1915 - 1918)</p>	<p>The Flag of Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic (1918)</p>	<p>The Flag of Democratic Republic of Armenia (1918 - February 1922)</p>
<p>When the Soviets took control in 1920 they brought the The Democratic Republic of Armenia into the Soviet Union and in 1922 the first Soviet flag was introduced. It was a simple red flag featuring CCPA in the top left hand corner.</p> <p>However, this new flag only lasted one month because the Soviets brought Georgian SSR and Azebaijan SSR back together with Armenian SSR to create the Transcaucasian SFSR. The flag was updated to reflect the change, adding a hammer and sickle inside a star with "ЗСФССР" in sans-serif script that stood for "Transcaucasian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic".</p>		
		
<p>The Flag of Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic (Feb 1922 - March 1922)</p>	<p>The Flag of Transcaucasian SFSR (1922 - 1936)</p>	
<p>In 1936 the TSFSR broke up and Armenia went back to being called the Armenian SSR. Between 1936 and 1990 the Armenian SSR changed its flag three times.</p> <p>The first and second flag of Arminian SSR were very similar. A yellow hammer and sickle on a red flag, the only change between those two was the swapping initials going from H-Kh-S-H to H-S-S-R. This was due to the change of pronunciation from Western to Eastern. The third change came in 1952, a blue horizontal stripe was added and the initials removed.</p>		

		
<p>The Flag of Armenian SSR (1936 – 1940)</p>	<p>The Flag of Armenian SSR (1940 -1952)</p>	<p>The Flag of Armenian SSR (1952 – 1990)</p>

<p>In 1988 the Armenian tricolour of the DRA was flown for the first time in over sixty years to ease the rising nationalist tensions. It wasn't until the Soviets left Armenia in 1990 that the red-blue-orange tricolour was officially reinstated.</p>	
	<p>The Flag of Armenia</p>