Convention of the Future Armenian

Participants' selection methodology

Final as of 23/I/2023

The following document sums up the methodology of random selection of the participants of the Citizens' Assembly, to be held March 10-12, 2023.

The following criteria are suggested as crucial for the current task, considering the peculiarities of Armenian society:

Group: Diaspora / Armenian residents & Artsakh residents

Gender: Male / Female

Age: 18-30 / 31-45 / 46-60 / 61 +

Education: Secondary or lower / College or vocational / University and higher

Location: Russia / the USA/ France / Georgia / Lebanon / Other (for Diaspora group)

Type of residence: Urban / Rural / Capital city (for Armenia and Artsakh groups)

Group	%	Gender	%	Age	%	Education	%	Location / Type of residence	%
Group 1 **Diaspora**	50	Male	49	18-30	22	Secondary or lower	22	Russia	39
		Female	51	31-45	27	College or vocational	42	USA	20
				46-60	25	University and higher	36	France	9
								Georgia	6
				61 +	26			Turkey	2
								Iran	2
								Europe (excl. France)	6
								Former SU (excl. Ru & Geo)	6
								Middle East (excl. Tr & Ir)	4
								Latin America	3
								Other	3

Group		Gender		Age		Education		Location	
Group 2 **Armenia**	45	Male	47	18-30	22	Secondary or lower	55	Urban	27
		Female	53	31-45	31	College or vocational	21	Rural	36
				46-60	23	University and higher	24	Yerevan	37
				61 +	24				
Group 3 **Artsakh**	5	Male	49	18-30	25	Secondary or lower	30	Urban	25
		Female	51	31-45	25	College or vocational	30	Rural	25
				46-60	25	University and higher	40	Stepanakert	50
				61 +	25				

Table 1. Basic selection criteria and their representation percentages

Rationale

Diaspora

To be able to effectively classify the general sample, it is recommended to base the selection on the statistical data as available. However, some data (gender or education split of diaspora Armenians, for example) may not be available in which case it is recommended to base the selection on the principles of fair representation of various groups.

It is believed that there are more Armenians residing in Diaspora, than in Armenia. However, exactly based on the fair selection principle, it is recommended to split the sample equally between Diaspora (50%) and Armenia and Artsakh (44+6%).

There are no reliable sources, which could provide compatible data on the number of Armenians in different countries, apart from the compiled data on the Wikipedia page[1] and Armenian Encyclopedias of 1986[2] and 2012[3], which were taken as basis for the methodology design. Based on those data, assumptive calculations were done, and taking into account the impossibility to compare the per-country data, the selection of participants from Diaspora is recommended from the 6 major diaspora communities of Armenians such as following countries: Russia – 39; United States – 20; France – 9; Georgia – 6; Turkey – 2; Iran – 2; as well as from the following 5 regions: Europe (excl. France) – 6; Former

[1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armenian_population_by_country
[2] https://hy.wikisource.org/wiki/%D4%B7%D5%BB:%D5%80%D5%A5%D5%AF%D5%A1%D5%AF%D5%A1%D5%B6_%D5%8D%D5%B8%D5%BE%D5%A5%D5%BF%D5%A1%D5%AF%D5%A1%D5%B6_%D5%80%D5%A1%D5%B6%D6%80%D5%A1%D5%A3%D5%AB%D5%BF%D5%A1%D6%80%D5%A1%D5%B6_(Soviet_Armenian_Encyclopedia)_13.djvu/27
[3] https://hy.wikisource.org/wiki/%D4%B7%D5%BB:Armenia_Encyclopedia.djvu/914

Soviet Union (excl. Russia & Georgia) – 6; Middle East (excl. Turkey & Iran) – 4; Latin America – 3; Other – 3.

This type of selection, although seemingly complicated, provides also geographical diversity and allows at least 23 country/communities to be represented. This can be very symbolic for the 1st convention – to show the large diaspora distribution and not create a sense of exclusion.

As basis for gender/age/education split of the diaspora Armenians, it is recommended to base on the national statistics of those countries and/or regions from where the participants will be selected – attributing proportional priority, based on those countries' presence share. However, this statistics is principally impossible to calculate, given that the final list of countries is not clear. That is why the following regional approach is suggested, instead: to use a partial UN global demographic data set (limit to only Europe, North America and Western Asia)[4]. If this is taken as basis, the proportion for the gender groups is following: male – 49.4%, female – 50.6%. For the given age groups the distribution is the following: 21.6% of the world population is 18-30 yo, 27.3% are 31-45 yo, 24.6% are 46-60 yo and 26.5% are 61 years and older. As in regard of education, the accumulation of information about Europe[5] (23.6% secondary, 45.3% college and 31.1% university), Northern America[6] (26.3% secondary, 38.8% college and 34.9% university) and Western Asia[7] (14.5% secondary, 38.3% college and 47.2% university) makes it possible to calculate the average rates of education split for the Diaspora sample as follow: 22.4% secondary or lower, 42.1% college or vocational and 35.4% university and higher.

Armenia

The official recent national statistics from 2021-2022[8] is taken as basis for the gender and age split in Armenia. As observed, the gender split in Armenia is 47.2% males and 52.8% females[9] as of 2022. The age split of the Armenian population within designated groups (and among 18+ yo) is the following: 21.5% of Armenian residents are 18-30 yo, 31.4% are 31-45 yo, 22.9% are 46-60 yo and 24.1% are 61 years and older[10]. The education split of the population of Armenia is taken from Census 2011[11] (as more recent data is not available and the new census of 2022 is not yet published) and is the following[12]: 54.6% have secondary education or lower, 21.5% have college or vocational education and another 23.9% have university or higher education. 36.9% of the population resides in Yerevan[13], 27.0% in other urban communities and 36.1% in rural communities.

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[4] https://population.un.org/wpp/Download/Standard/Population/ Population by single age - both sexes, Male, Female (downloadable links), as of 01.07.2021

[5] https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Educational_attainment_statistics#:~:text=In%202021%2C%2023.6%20%25%20of%20people,attainment%20level%20i.e.%20tertiary%20education.

[6] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_U.S._states_and_territories_by_educational_attainment#:~:text=34.9%25%20of%20Americans%20over%20the,was%20West%20Virginia%20at%2024.1%25

[7] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Education_in_Asia

[8] https://www.armstat.am/en/?nid=82&id=2535

[9] https://www.armstat.am/file/article/demog_2022_2.pdf, p.38

[10] Same, p.45, proportionally distributed among selected age groups

[11] https://armstat.am/file/doc/99478273.pdf, p.156

[12] This figure includes current students

[13] https://www.armstat.am/file/article/population_04_2022.pdf, p.3

As an alternative suggestion for urban/rural/Yerevan split – proportional distribution of the participants through Marzes (regions) of Armenia can also be considered. In that case, the split will look like this:

Marz (region)	Total Population[14]	Urban	Rural	Proportion in total (%)	№ of participants	Urban participants	Rural participants
Ararat	257,000	72,200	184,800	8.7	8	2	6
Armavir	264,700	82,600	182,100	8.9	8	2	6
Aragatsotn	124,700	26,500	98,200	4.2	4	1	3
Gegharkunik	227,700	65,800	161,900	7.7	7	2	5
Kotayk	251,400	136,800	114,600	8.5	7[15]	4	3
Lori	211,300	124,200	87,100	7.1	6	4	2
Shirak	230,000	133,700	96,300	7.8	7	4	3
Syunik	134,500	90,400	44,100	4.5	4	3	1
Tavush	119,600	49,800	69,800	4.0	4	2	2
Vayots Dzor	47,500	16,200	31,300	1.6	1	0	1
Yerevan	1,093,200			36.9	34[13]	0	0
Total	**2,961,600**	**798,200**	**1,070,200**	**100**	**90**	**24**	**32**

Table 2. Sample split among Yerevan/Marzes of Armenia for 90 participants

If there is a need to go further and select participants proportionally from each Marz with urban/rural split, the suggested calculations are given in the last two columns of Table 2.

Artsakh

Although the proportion of the population of Artsakh to Armenia is 1:20 or 1:19, here in this particular project it is viewed as a separate entity with the minimal acceptable number of selected participants, which can sound logical and also provide equal representation for Artsakh. It is important to note, that in the proposed methodology Artsakh is viewed as a separate entity (since it has its government and cannot be considered part of Armenia) and the percentage is determined based on the relevance of small figures in the general set. In Artsakh, the reliable statistics is from 2017[16], thus the impacts of the 44-day war on demographics cannot be assessed statistically. According to 2017 data, 48.8% of Artsakhi population is male, and 51.2% is female. The age groups distribution and education levels are not possible to identify, thus it is suggested to take 25% for each age group. As for education, again the priority is given to university degree (40% in contrary to other two groups with 30% representation each) and for the types of communities it is suggested to have 50% of the participants from Stepanakert and the remaining 50% equally split between urban and rural communities.

Summary

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[14] https://www.armstat.am/file/article/population_04_2022.pdf Same, p. 3-6

[15] The descending rounding is taken for number of Kotayk participants (7.6 is rounded to 7) in order to make the urban/rural split for that Marz more precise. Number of Yerevan participants is correspondingly rounded ascendingly.

[16] https://artsakhpress.am/arm/news/69194/ (in Armenian)

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If the number of suggested participants of the Citizens Assembly is estimated at 200, then their selection and split should be as follows:

Group	№	Gender	№	Age	№	Education	№	Location / Type of residence	№
Group 1 **Diaspora**	100	Male	49	18-30	22	Secondary or lower	22	Russia	39
		Female	51	31-45	27	College or vocational	42	USA	20
				46-60	25	University & higher	36	France	9
								Georgia	6
				61 +	26			Turkey	2
								Iran	2
								Europe (excl. France)	6
								Former SU (excl. Ru Geo)	6
								Middle East (excl. Tr, Ir)	4
								Latin America	3
								Other	3
Group 2 **Armenia**	90	Male	42	18-30	20	Secondary or lower	49	Ararat	8
		Female	48	31-45	27	College or vocational	19	Armavir	8
				46-60	21	University & higher	22	Aragatsotn	4
				61 +	22			Gegharkunik	7
								Kotayk	7
								Lori	6
								Shirak	7
								Syunik	4
								Tavush	4
								Vayots Dzor	1
								of which urban	24
								of which rural	32
								YEREVAN	34

Group	№	Gender	№	Age	№	Education	№	Location / Type of residence	№
Group 3 **Artsakh**	10	Male	5	18-30	2	Secondary or lower	3	Urban	3
		Female	5	31-45	3	College or vocational	3	Rural	2
				46-60	3	University & higher	4	Stepanakert	5
				61 +	2				

Table 3. Final sampling for 200 participants

If this methodology is accepted, the Citizens' Assembly will have the following seat structure:

Group	№	Gender	№	Age	№	Education	№	Location / Type of residence	№
Diaspora	100	Male	96	18-30	44	Secondary or lower	74	Yerevan	34
Armenia	90	Female	104	31-45	57	College or vocational	64	Stepanakert	5
Artsakh	10			46-60	49	University & higher	62	Other urban (Armenia & Artsakh)	27
				61+	50			Rural (Armenia + Artsakh)	34
								USA	20
								France	9
								Europe (excl. France)	6
								Russia	39
								Georgia	6
								Former SU (excl. Ru & Geo)	6
								Middle East (incl. Tr & Ir)	8
								Latin America	3
								Other countries	3
Total	200	**Total**	200	**Total**	200	**Total**	200	**Total**	200

Table 4. Final sample split based on groups, gender, age, education and location