

Background Reading on South Caucasus and Ukraine:

- [Azerbaijan's flashy façade obscures its human rights crackdown:](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/oct/03/azerbaijan-dissidents-warn-west-baku-friendly-facade?CMP=share_btn_fb)
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/oct/03/azerbaijan-dissidents-warn-west-baku-friendly-facade?CMP=share_btn_fb
- [Voice of America: Azerbaijan renews crackdown on human rights:](http://www.voanews.com/a/azerbaijan-human-rights-watch-report/3559524.html)
<http://www.voanews.com/a/azerbaijan-human-rights-watch-report/3559524.html>
- [Is war looming in the South Caucasus?](https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/russia-fsu/2016-10-10/south-caucasus-unfreezes)
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/russia-fsu/2016-10-10/south-caucasus-unfreezes>
- [The aftermath of the recent war between Armenia and Azerbaijan:](http://nationalinterest.org/feature/close-call-the-caucasus-15877)
<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/close-call-the-caucasus-15877>
- [Azerbaijan referendum makes way for president's teenage son:](https://www.meydan.tv/en/site/politics/17639/)
<https://www.meydan.tv/en/site/politics/17639/>
- [Making sense of the Armenian hostage crisis:](https://iwpr.net/global-voices/making-sense-armenias-crisis)
<https://iwpr.net/global-voices/making-sense-armenias-crisis>
- [Lack of progress on NATO may turn Georgia toward Russia:](http://www.reuters.com/article/us-nato-summit-georgia-idUSKCN0ZN11I)
<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-nato-summit-georgia-idUSKCN0ZN11I>
- [Post-mortem of the recent Georgian election:](https://www.opendemocracy.net/od-russia/stephen-f-jones/fate-of-georgian-dreams)
<https://www.opendemocracy.net/od-russia/stephen-f-jones/fate-of-georgian-dreams>
- [Excellent background piece on the Ukraine situation from Andy Kramer at the New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/20/world/europe/ukraine-russia-germany-talks.html?ref=world&_r=0)
http://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/20/world/europe/ukraine-russia-germany-talks.html?ref=world&_r=0
- [Radio Free Europe's Ukraine crisis "live blog"](http://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-live-blog-events/28023694.html)
<http://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-live-blog-events/28023694.html>
- [The War in Ukraine is Back](http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2016/02/03/the-war-in-ukraine-is-back-so-why-won-t-anyone-say-so.html)
<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2016/02/03/the-war-in-ukraine-is-back-so-why-won-t-anyone-say-so.html>

Resources for international relations classes

Useful indexes for tracking human rights, corruption, etc:

- [Corruption Perceptions Index](http://www.transparency.org/cpi2015)
<http://www.transparency.org/cpi2015>
- [Freedom House index](https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/freedom-world-2016)
<https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/freedom-world-2016>
- [Reporters Without Borders' World Press Freedom rankings](https://rsf.org/en/ranking)
<https://rsf.org/en/ranking>
- [Fragile State Index \(formerly Failed State Index\)](http://fsi.fundforpeace.org/rankings-2016)
<http://fsi.fundforpeace.org/rankings-2016>
- [Mapping Media Freedom](https://mappingmediafreedom.org/#/)
<https://mappingmediafreedom.org/#/>

Regional resources (South Caucasus, Ukraine, Afghanistan, etc):

- [Caucasus Barometer](http://caucasusbarometer.org/en/), social science data and analysis from the Caucasus region
<http://caucasusbarometer.org/en/>
- [Georgian attitudes regarding toward democracy](http://caucasusbarometer.org/en/cb2015ge/ATTDEM/)
<http://caucasusbarometer.org/en/cb2015ge/ATTDEM/>
- [Interactive 2016 election map from Georgia](http://agenda.ge/maps/election2016/)
<http://agenda.ge/maps/election2016/>
- [Meydan TV, Azerbaijan, opposition news source operating from Germany](https://www.meydan.tv/en)
<https://www.meydan.tv/en>
- [Daily reports on the Ukraine war from the OSCE's Special Monitoring Mission](http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/reports)
<http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/reports>
- [Pro-Russian news from Eastern Ukraine](https://dninews.com)
<https://dninews.com>
- ["English Lugansk,"](https://twitter.com/loogunda) Twitter account with constant updates from Ukrainian war zone
<https://twitter.com/loogunda>
- [Eurasianet](http://www.eurasianet.org)
<http://www.eurasianet.org>
- [Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty](http://www.rferl.org)
<http://www.rferl.org>
- [Radio Free Europe's Kabul bureau](http://www.rferl.org/p/5542.html)
<http://www.rferl.org/p/5542.html>
- [Afghan Analysts](https://afghanistan-analyst.org): everything you wanted to know about Afghanistan today
<https://afghanistan-analyst.org>
- [Tolo News, from Afghanistan](http://www.tolonews.com)
<http://www.tolonews.com>
- [Institute for War and Peace Reporting](https://iwpr.net)
<https://iwpr.net>
- [The Kiev Post: news in English from Ukraine](https://www.kyivpost.com)
<https://www.kyivpost.com>
- [Euromaidan Press](http://euromaidanpress.com/euromaidan/), very thorough guide to Ukraine's 2014 "Maidan" revolution with teaching resources
<http://euromaidanpress.com/euromaidan/>
- [Daily news from Georgia](http://agenda.ge)
<http://agenda.ge>
- [Voice of America](http://www.voanews.com)
<http://www.voanews.com>

Other useful sites:

- [Bellingcat](https://www.bellingcat.com), probably the world's leading open source forensics site
<https://www.bellingcat.com>
- [Committee to Protect Journalists](https://www.cpj.org)
<https://www.cpj.org>
- [The Carter Center](https://www.cartercenter.org)
<https://www.cartercenter.org>
- [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe](http://www.osce.org)
<http://www.osce.org>
- [National Democratic Institute](https://www.ndi.org)
<https://www.ndi.org>
- [International Republican Institute](http://www.iri.org)
<http://www.iri.org>
- [Pew Research Center](http://www.pewresearch.org), one of the most relevant polling organizations for international opinions
<http://www.pewresearch.org>
- [Wikileaks](https://wikileaks.org)
<https://wikileaks.org>
- [University of Maryland's Global Terrorism Database](http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/)
<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/>
- [The Long War Journal](http://www.longwarjournal.org/about), from the Foundation for Defense of Democracies:
<http://www.longwarjournal.org/about>
- [Strange Maps](http://bigthink.com/articles?blog=strange-maps), incredibly fun source for unusual mapping
<http://bigthink.com/articles?blog=strange-maps>
- [Carnegie Endowment for International Peace](http://carnegieendowment.org)
<http://carnegieendowment.org>
- [University of Texas map collection](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/)
<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/>
- [CIA World Factbook](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/)
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/>
- [CIA World Leaders](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/world-leaders-1/)
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/world-leaders-1/>

The above is an abridged list – for more resources, go to Karl Rahder's class blog at <https://karlrahderir.blogspot.com> and see the sidebars on the right side of the main page.

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