
The alteration of place names and construction of national identity in Soviet Armenia

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When the drafts of the Armenian, Azerbaijani, and Georgian constitutions were published in 1978, there was no mention in the local press of the state languages of the republics. The authorities apparently expected discontent over the absence of the state language article in the constitution and as a concession to the national feelings the drafts of the Armenian and Georgian Constitutions mentioned "state concern for the development of the language." This encroachment attempt generated resentment and protests took place in Tbilisi and Yerevan in April 1978.³⁸