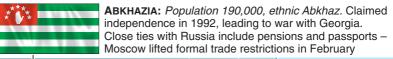
Russia may recognise breakaway republics

Kosovo's declaration of independence has inspired separatists across the Caucasus, with several thought to receive tacit support from Moscow. The EU is now concerned that Russia is preparing to recognise the breakaway Georgian region of Abkhazia – a move that could spark further conflict





NAGORNO-KARABAKH: Pop. 138,000, ethnic Armenian. Under Armenian military control since 1994. Still formally at war with Azerbaijan, clashes again on increase

