PRIMARY SOURCES

Government Archives.

Governments that had a relationship with the Ottoman Empire in the late 19th century and early 20th century such as Great Britain, France, Russia, Germany and the United States, have extensive archives consisting of official and unofficial reports (consular, church, organizational, individual), various types of correspondence, eyewitness accounts, etc. about goings on in the Empire, particularly as relating to the massacres and forced deportations of the Armenians from the Eastern Provinces (historic Armenia) and elsewhere in Turkey (1915-1923). Parts of such archives have been published either in the form of microfilms, photoreproductions, or as published books.

[Austria-Hungary]


France. Ministère des affaires étrangères.


France. Ministère des affaires étrangères.


France. Ministère des affaires étrangères.


[Germany]

Great Britain. Foreign Office.

Great Britain. Foreign Office.

United States. Dept. of State.

United States. National Archives and Records Service.


Oral Histories

Oral histories of Armenian genocide survivors, especially of those that escaped into the Caucasus, exist in various archives. The conscious effort of collecting oral histories, especially in the West, started late. It seems to have its beginnings in the 1970s and the first person that comes to mind is UCLA’s Armenian history professor Richard Hovannisian who initiated the course Armenian Oral History and had his students interview and record the testimonies of survivors. Some 800 oral histories have been recorded and at the present time they are being digitally copied. The collection is in Prof. Hovannisian’s possession.

There are other organizations and institutions and individuals that have also collected oral histories in California and the East Coast, especially in Massachusetts and Washington D.C. Some oral histories have been published:
Personal Narratives

There are hundreds of published personal narratives by survivors in Armenian, English, French, etc. In libraries, these can be looked up under “Armenian massacres, 1915-1923 – Personal narratives”. Here are some examples in English:

Eyewitness Accounts

This type of account is also plentiful and usually takes the form of telegrams, letters, reports. The witnesses are either Armenians that have escaped slaughter, or foreigners such as journalists, doctors, nurses, teachers, clergymen, missionaries, officials representing western governments or western organizations in Turkey, travelers, etc. Their testimonies may be housed in various government archives, in personal archives located in various libraries (such as LC), or church and organizational archives such as the Near East Relief archives, the Patriarchate of Jerusalem archives, the Armenian National Delegation archive (now housed in the State Historical Archive of Armenia in Erevan). Many such materials have been collected and published. Many eyewitnesses have also published their own memoirs. Some examples of published works:

- Morgenthau, Henry. *Ambassador Morgenthau’s story*. Garden City, N.Y. : Doubleday, 1918. Morgenthau was the American Ambassador to Turkey during the genocide years. His memoirs have gone through several editions and many translations.

Stuermer, Harry. Zwei Kriegsjahre in Konstantinopel; skizzen deutsch-jungtürkischen moral und politik. (Two war years in Constantinople; sketches of German and Young Turkish ethics and politics). Stuermer was a correspondent of the German Kölner-Gazette. Lausanne : Payot, 1917. English and French translations in same year.


The Contemporary International Press


Official/Government Documents

To this category belong numerous types of official records such as telegrams, letters, orders, memoirs, minutes, communications, speeches, announcements, notes etc. among administrative members of a government, ambassadors, consuls and other types of government officials. In this group also belong various types of communications between two or more governments including notes, agreements, treaties, etc. Thousands of such documents exist in various government archives. Numerous such documents are available either in microform or printed form. Some examples:


Genotsid armian v Osmanskoi imperii : sbornik dokumentov i materialov (The Armenian genocide in the Ottoman Empire: collection of documents) / pod red. M.G. Nersisiana; [sostavitel M.G. Nersisian, R.G. Saakian. Erevan : Izd-vo AN Armianskoi SSR, 1966. Official documents as well as eyewitness accounts, letters, etc. in Russian or translated into Russian from Turkish, German, French, English, Greek, etc.

Germanskie istochniki o genotside armian : period pervoi mirovoi voiny : sbornik dokumentov i materialov v 2-kh tomakh (German sources on the Armenian genocide, WWI period: collection of docs. In 2 vols.) Erevan : “Aiastan”, 1991-.


Other Official Documents, Records (Minutes of court trials, e.g.)

The Armenian genocide and the trials of the Young Turks / Vartkes Yeghiayan. La Verne, Calif. : American Armenian International College, 1990. “Based on the Armenian translations by A.H. Papazian of the records and resolutions of the proceedings of the trials in Instanbul, 1919-1920, of members of the Young Turk government leaders and officials connected with the massacres and deportations of Armenians, that were published in part in the supplements of “Takvim-I vekayi”.


Local Histories by Armenian Compatriotic Unions
Documents of Armenian Organizations.
Interviews Between Official Figures.
Photographs, Songs, Prison Inscriptions, etc.

SECONDARY SOURCES

There are numerous studies of the Armenian genocide and in many languages. The most notable of those writing in the English language are Prof. Richard Hovannisian of
UCLA and Prof. Vahakan Dadrian of the Zoryan Institute (Boston and Toronto). Some important titles:

- Some other names to look into: Stephan Astourian, Hilmar Kaiser, Robert Melson, Moussa Prince, Gerard Libaridian, Jon Kirakosian, and many more.

Turkish Denial

- The Internet and Turkish TV are replete with this subject.

Books Dealing with Turkish Denial

- Akçam, Taner. The genocide of the Armenians and the silence of the Turks. New York : St. Martin’s Press, [199?].
- Dadrian, Vahakn N. The key elements in the Turkish denial of the Armenian genocide. Toronto : Zoryan Institute, 1999.
- ____________. Ottoman archives and denial of the Armenian Genocide, [S.l. : s.n., 1992?].


Documentary Films


Check listings of the documentary films of the Armenian Film Foundation (Thousand Oaks, Calif.) on the Internet.

Educational/Study and Teaching


Literary Works


Bibliographies on the Genocide

