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Prehistoric loanwords in Armenian: Hurro-Urartian, Kartvelian, and the unclassified substrate

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STELLINGEN

behorende bij het proefschrift
Prehistoric loanwords in Armenian
van

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1. The Armenian language contains a prehistoric layer of loanwords from the Hurro-Urartian and Kartvelian languages.
2. Before Armenian began to borrow words from Hurro-Urartian, it formed a superstrate to the Kartvelian languages.
3. Armenian also contains a considerable layer of loanwords from one or more unidentified languages, which also loaned words to other Indo-European languages.
4. The precursor of the Armenian language was brought into the Caucasus from the north around 2000 BCE, probably by people from the Late Yamnaya and Catacomb cultures.
5. An etymology that postulates a word to be inherited is no more likely than a loan etymology (*ceteris paribus*). In other words, there can be no etymological null hypothesis.
6. The traditionally reconstructed Proto-Indo-European stop system is unlikely for the earliest (Proto-Indo-Anatolian) stage.
7. The linguistic tree model has significant limitations, but it remains the most useful explanatory device for the relationship between languages.
8. Computational methods can be valuable in linguistics, but they can also suffer from the same faults and constraints as manual work.
9. Although researchers should aim to eliminate their own biases, these can never be escaped completely, even in the exact sciences.
10. All scientific disciplines should aim for independence of for-profit publishing.
11. Fostering a fair and sustainable global economy requires increasing restrictions on the free market.
12. Immediate and resolute international action is needed to avoid a complete erasure of Armenian cultural heritage in Nagorno-Karabakh.