

Armenian President Approves Constitutional Reform Concept



President Serzh Sargsyan has given his general political endorsement to a constitutional reform that seeks to turn Armenia into a parliamentary republic despite still having "concerns" about the country's "external and internal security" and "stability of the government system."

In his remarks at a meeting with members of a specialized commission engaged in drafting the constitutional amendments Serzh Sargsyan described their concept as "progressive" and said that the changes will open "new opportunities for democratic development in Armenia".

But he also presented some concerns that he said will have to be addressed in drafting the text of the amendments proper.

On March 12, the Armenian president held a series of meetings with top members of the country's leading parliamentary and extra-parliamentary parties most of which had earlier expressed their opposition to the reform.

Only one parliamentary opposition party, Armenian National Congress (HAK), whose representatives did not

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Armenian, Slovenian FM's discuss bilateral relations, Armenia-EU cooperation

On March 9, Edward Nalbandian had a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia Karl Erjavec.

Welcoming the Foreign Minister of Armenia, Foreign Minister of Slovenia commended the excellent friendly Armenian-Slovenian relations, expressing hope that Edward Nalbandian's visit will bring new impetus to the development of bilateral relations.

Expressing gratitude for the invitation to visit Slovenia and for the good wishes, Minister Nalbandian mentioned that Armenia is willing to deepen cooperation in different areas with Slovenia, and that it is the main message of his visit.

During the talks, Ministers reflected on a wide range of issues on bilateral agenda.

Edward Nalbandian and Karl Erjavec agreed on exerting further efforts to intensify political dialogue, enhance interaction within international organizations, holding of periodic consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, expansion of legal framework and development of trade and economic cooperation.

Attaching importance to the intensification of inter-parliamentary ties, the sides agreed upon suggesting the Parliaments of both states to establish Friendship Groups. Activation of cultural exchanges, cooperation in the spheres of science and education and establishment of decentralized cooperation were on the agenda of the meeting of Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Slovenia.

Ministers touched upon Armenia-European Union cooperation. In this context Foreign Minister Nalbandian reaffirmed Armenia's readiness, based on reached achievements over the recent years, to deepen comprehensive cooperation in all possible areas, taking into account Armenia's obligations in other international, integration frameworks.

Foreign Minister of Armenia touched upon the commemoration events on the occasion of Centennial of the Armenian Genocide to be held in Armenia and abroad.

Minister Nalbandian presented to Minister Erjavec the latest



developments in the process of peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh issue, efforts exerted by Armenia and OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs towards the resolution of the Azerbaijani-Karabakhi conflict. In this context, Deputy Prime Minister of Slovenia reaffirmed his state's unconditional support to the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict on the basis of OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs' proposals.

The sides exchanged thoughts on a range of pressing international and regional issues, i.e. Ukrainian crisis, developments in the Middle East and Iran Nuclear Program.

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia Edward Nalbandian invited his counterpart to pay visit to Yerevan.

The ministerial meeting was followed by a joint press conference.

On the same day Edward Nalbandian delivered an extended speech on the foreign policy of Armenia at the University of Ljubljana. After the speech, Foreign Minister of Armenia answered numerous questions raised by the attendees.

Armenia, Lebanon discuss defense cooperation

Armenian Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan received on March 9 the delegation of Lebanon's Defense Ministry led by Brigadier General Manuel Kirejian. Lebanon's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Armenia Jean Makaron participated in the meeting.

The parties discussed issues related to the cooperation between the two countries in the field of defense. The Armenian Defense Minister stressed the need to establish high-level military-political relations and briefed the guests on the priority directions of cooperation.

The Lebanese side also reiterated the willingness to take the warm friendly relations between the two countries to a new level of cooperation.

The same day the delegation was hosted by Deputy Defense Minister David Tonoyan. A wide range of issues of reciprocal interest was discussed.

The parties reached agreements on the exchange of experi-



ence in a number of spheres. Issues related to the modernization of the agreement on military cooperation signed between the two countries in 2001 and the plan of cooperation for 2015 were discussed.

European Parliament calls on EU member states to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide



On 12 March, the European Parliament has adopted the Annual Report on Human Rights and Democracy in the world 2013. Several clauses of this document are relevant to Armenia, especially the paragraph that "calls, ahead of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide, on all the Member States to acknowledge it, and encourages the Member States and the EU institutions to contribute further to its recognition.

European Friends of Armenia (EuFoA) has warmly welcomed this European Parliament report. EuFoA Director, Mr Eduardo Lorenzo Ochoa, comments: "After a long break, the European Parliament reasserts its position on the Armenian

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Armenian President Approves...

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meet with the president as part of the consultations, refused to engage in any sort of discussions regarding the matter.

The HAK led by former president Levon Ter-Petrosian appears to be strongly in favor of the current presidential form of government, while the constitutional reform concept unveiled last year implies that Armenia will become a parliamentary republic with a powerful prime minister and a largely ceremonial president.

The Council of Europe's Venice Commission gave a mostly positive assessment to the draft concept last year, but noted that the transition to a parliamentary republic requires "broad consensus within society."

Earlier, a number of leading opposition parties expressed concern that the constitutional reform is, in fact, a means for Sargsyan and his ruling Republican Party of Armenia (HHK) to extend their political power for years ahead.

Serzh Sargsyan, however, has pledged not to seek a top government post after he leaves his current office in 2018, but as leader of the ruling party he is certain to remain influential in Armenian politics even without a formal government position. Meeting with members of the specialized commission on constitutional amendments that was set up by his order back in 2013, President Sargsyan presented his opinion on the concept submitted to him last year.

"Of course, the arguments of the specialized commission on the transition to the parliamentary system of government are

substantial. Moreover, the Venice Commission also considers that the parliamentary system of government can strengthen democracy in Armenia. At the same time, the consultations conducted with political forces show that there are no, nor objectively can be, unambiguously matching approaches: there are both those who speak for and against the system, there are also forces that consider their participation in this process to be important for their final decision, and the number of such forces is by far larger," Sargsyan said, as quoted by his press office.

"Still, I have to be honest and say that the objective prerequisites underlying my position in favor of the current system of government that I expressed before have not significantly changed. I still have concerns that are related to your professional approach to the change of the government system.

"To be more specific, I still have no clear idea on how the proposed model will unconditionally guarantee the two most important components: the country's external and internal security and stability of the government system, which, in my opinion, is ensured in conditions of the current model."

Serzh Sargsyan referred to the concerns regarding the stability of the government

system that the experts themselves expressed in the concept.

"Nevertheless, I will give political approval to the concept because I believe that we must use every opportunity to ensure a positive development for our state, especially that during my meetings no political party had any objection to the approval of the concept. At the same time, I ask you to draft such constitutional regulations that will unquestionably ensure the harmonious combination of a more democratic model of governance with the security and stability of the state," President Sargsyan said.

The head of state further stressed that in preparing the text of the constitutional changes it is necessary to develop an "effective format for professional discussions with representatives of political parties".

Sargsyan also emphasized that it is important that at all stages of the process there should be feedback from and "section-by-section, chapter-by-chapter discussions" with all political forces.

"A new, more complex and at the same time more responsible stage of the work begins. I am confident that within months we will have a document with clear approaches and solutions," the president concluded.

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Most Leading Armenian Parties Engage In Constitutional Reform Discussions

Most political parties in Armenia opposed to the current government appear to have agreed to participate in discussions of a controversial constitutional reform that will turn the country into a parliamentary republic.

This was announced by the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (HHK) after a series of meetings that President Serzh Sargsyan held with top members of the parties on March 12.

Of the major Armenian parties only representatives of the Armenian National Congress (HAK) effectively refused to engage in any dialogue on changing the Constitution, as this opposition party led by former president Levon Ter-Petrosian appears to be strongly in favor of a presidential form of government.

Under the draft concept of constitutional amendments unveiled by a committee of experts last year Armenia will become a parliamentary republic with a powerful prime minister and a largely ceremonial president.

While some of the opposition parties themselves are known to have advocated the idea of Armenia's having a parliamentary form of government, most fear lest President Sargsyan should use the change to remain in a senior government position after he has to leave his current post in 2018.

Sargsyan has pledged, however, not to seek such a post should the reform be carried out, but as leader of the ruling party he is certain to remain influential in Armenian politics even without a formal government position.

Still last year the Council of Europe's Venice Commission gave a generally positive assessment to the draft concept, saying that the proposed changes in the Armenian Constitution would "strengthen democratic principles and establish the necessary conditions for ensuring the rule of law and respect for human rights." At the same time, the commission noted that the transition to a parliamentary republic requires "broad consensus within society."

Only one parliamentary minority party, the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF), has so far openly backed the idea of reforming the Constitution to turn Armenia into a parliamentary republic. The other four minority factions in the Armenian parliament, including the HAK, the Prosperous Armenia Party (BHK), Heritage and Orinats Yerkir, have questioned the necessity of the reform.

Three of those opposition parties, including the HAK, the BHK, and Heritage, held a series of rallies in Yerevan and elsewhere in the country last fall demanding solutions to pressing economic and social problems as well as urging Sargsyan to abandon his plans to change the Basic Law.

The current administration's plans for amending the Constitution appeared to be the catalyst for the dramatic showdown in February in which President Sargsyan and his ruling HHK effectively forced tycoon Gagik Tsarukyan, one of the top opponents of the reform, to resign as BHK leader and retire from politics. Members of the BHK, which declared itself to be in opposition to the Sargsyan government after the change of the party's leadership last week, have been less vocal in their opposition to the constitutional reform since then.

The BHK's newly elected leader Naira Zohrabyan and other senior members of the party also met with President Sargsyan on the issue of the constitutional reform on March 12.



After meeting with representatives of the BHK, the ARF, Orinats Yerkir, Heritage, Free Democrats, the Armenian National Movement and the United Labor Party, President Sargsyan in the evening presented the results of the meetings to senior members of his ruling HHK.

After the meeting of the HHK executive body, Deputy Parliament Speaker Hermine Naghdalyan said that the purpose of Sargsyan's meetings with representatives of other parties was to ensure their engagement in the broader discussions of the reform.

She said that the meetings were held in a "constructive atmosphere", but acknowledged that some of the parties also conditions and proposals.

"But it was concluded after all the meetings that these discussions are really important and that they [the parties] should participate in these discussions," Naghdalyan said, adding that no specific agreements had been reached on several conditions advanced by some of the parties.

Speaking to RFE/RL's Armenian Service (Azatutyun) on Thursday, senior member of the opposition Heritage party Armen Martirosyan said that they had set a number of conditions to the government for engaging in discussions, including the transition from the current mixed system of parliamentary elections based on party-list and single-mandate constituency votes to a legislature elected solely on the party-list basis. Heritage also wants the names and addresses of citizens who go to the polls to be published after elections.

Government officials have insisted that abolishing elections from single-mandate constituencies will affect representation of provinces in the unicameral Armenian parliament, while the publication of lists of citizens who take part in the elections is against the principle of secret ballot.

HAK parliamentary leader Levon Zurabyan, meanwhile, reiterated the party's strong opposition to the constitutional reform and stressed that they will continue to oppose the changes even if they are left alone in this struggle.

The HHK's Naghdalyan also admitted that discussions with the HAK are "pointless". "Because they see no grounds for such discussions," she said.

Discussions regarding the concept of the constitution reform with political leaders and legal experts were set to continue on Friday.

Armenian, Russian President Discuss Bilateral Ties, EEU Integration



Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan on March 12 had a telephone conversation with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin that reportedly focused on relations between the two countries as well as integration as part of the Moscow-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU).

A statement by the press office of the Armenian president said in the context of bilateral cooperation the two leaders, in particular, discussed issues related to the spheres of "peaceful nuclear energy, oil and natural gas." It did not elaborate.

During the telephone conversation Sargsyan and Putin also reportedly agreed on the schedule of their upcoming meetings "within the framework of jointly participating in the events commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and the 70th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War."

The main events commemorating the centennial of the start

of the massacres of Armenians in Ottoman Turkey that are widely acknowledged as the first genocide of the 20th century are due to be held in Yerevan on April 24.

Moscow, in its turn, will see a large military parade in the Red Square on May 9 dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany and its allies in World War II.

Armenia joined the EEU established by Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan on January 2. But President Sargsyan had not been officially invited to attend the meeting of the Russian, Belarus and Kazakh leaders that was to have taken place in Astana on March 12-13.

Some local media suggested that the absence of Armenia from such a meeting would testify to the South Caucasus nation's inferior status in the EEU. But Deputy Foreign Minister Shavarsh Kocharyan told RFE/RL's Armenian Service (Azatutyun) earlier this week that the Astana meeting would mainly focus on disagreements that Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan have among themselves, while Armenia, he added, did not have any differences with any of its partners individually nor with the EEU as a whole.

It later emerged that the trilateral meeting of Russia's Putin and his Kazakh and Belarus counterparts, Nursultan Nazarbayev and Alexander Lukashenka, was postponed. No official reason was given for the postponement.

Also earlier this week the Russian president hinted at plans for a single currency to be introduced in the EEU. He reportedly instructed the Russian Central Bank and the government to work closely with the central banks of the EEU member states on the possibility of forming a monetary union in the future.

It is not clear from the report released by the Armenian president's press office whether any of these issues were also discussed during the Sargsyan-Putin telephone conversation.

European Parliament calls on EU member states...

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Genocide, and again reaffirms that genocides and their denials are a human rights matter. During this special year, we are thankful for this strong signal of European solidarity with the Armenian people."

In addition, the text adopted by the EP puts a particular focus on the question of human rights in the relations with EU partners. Indeed, the very first paragraph of the report states that "the preamble to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union affirms that the EU 'places the individual and human dignity at the heart of its activities'". The reports then adds that "the performance-driven 'more for more' approach should guide the EU's relations with all third countries, that the EU should grant partner countries advanced status only if clear human rights and democracy requirements are met, and that it should not hesitate to freeze this status if those requirements are no longer fulfilled."

"In practical terms it means that the European Parliament does not want the EU to compromise its stance on human rights,

democracy and rule of law when dealing with third countries." comments Mr Lorenzo Ochoa. "With these two paragraphs in mind, it becomes clear why the report insists on human rights clauses in EU international agreements, including trade agreements. This is also why the report, with its 215 paragraphs, is much longer than the previous yearly reports on that matter. We are very pleased that the EU reasserts its moral authority with this lengthy but clear report."

The adopted text also recalls the situation of religious minorities, particularly in the Middle East, mentioning among others the Apostolic Armenians. In that particular paragraphs, the Parliament "calls for the EU and its Member States to ensure that religious minorities are respected worldwide, particularly in the Middle East, where Christians, including Catholics, Apostolic Armenians, Copts and Yezidis, and Muslim minorities are being persecuted by ISIS and other terrorist groups."

The report was drafted by MEP Pier Antonio Panzeri (S&D, Italy) and adopted at the committee level on 9 February and will be published by the European Parliament in the coming days.

French Retail Giant Opens Store In Armenia

A French multinational retail group, Carrefour, has finally opened a hypermarket in Armenia after more than a year of speculation about its "imminent" coming to the South Caucasus country.

Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan and senior members of the Armenian government attended the ceremony at Yerevan Mall, a sprawling shopping center in the Armenian capital, on Wednesday.

The agreement between Carrefour and Yerevan Mall was signed still in May 2014 in the presence of President Sargsyan and French President Francois Hollande, who was on a visit to Armenia as part of his South Caucasus tour then.

After the ribbon-cutting ceremony performed by Yerevan Mayor Taron Markaryan and Carrefour Armenia Country



Manager Christian De Nale, President Sargsyan and other officials took a tour of the place.



Carrefour had planned to launch its first Armenian store at another Yerevan shopping center, Dalma Garden, shortly after the latter opened its doors to customers in late 2012. However, those plans were put on hold for still unclear reasons. The French company then cited the need for further "research of the Armenian market."

Reports in the Armenian press in 2013, however, accused a local businessman who owns a supermarket chain in Yerevan of using his close ties to the Armenian government to thwart Carrefour's entry into Armenia. The businessman, Samvel Aleksanyan, and the government denied that.

The Armenian government has insisted all along that it is interested in having the world-famous retailer set up its shop in Armenia, saying that its presence will send a positive signal to other foreign investors.

Armenia lays groundwork for dollar bond sale

Armenia is planning to meet investors in the U.S. and London about issuing its second dollar bond, one of the banks arranging the roadshow said on March 12, the Wall Street Journal reports.

Deutsche Bank, HSBC, and JP Morgan are the banks hired to run the meetings, which are due to start March 16.

Armenia last issued dollar bonds in September 2013, borrowing \$700 million at a yield of 6.25% for seven years.

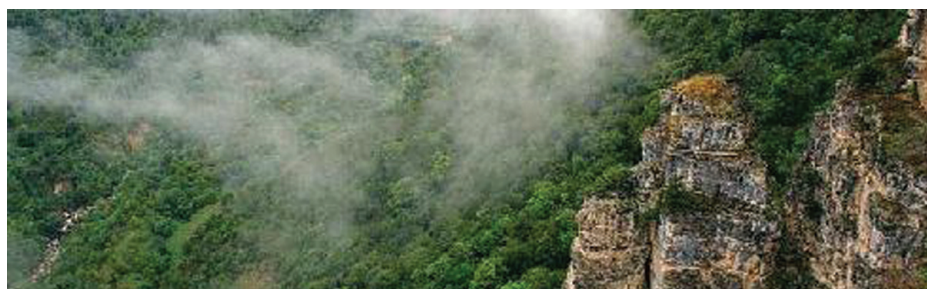
Armenia is likely to raise \$500 million for between seven and 10 years from the new bond sale, which could be issued as soon as Thursday next week.

In addition to the new deal, Armenia is offering to buy back up to \$200 million of its previous dollar bond issue. It will pay face value for the bonds, which are currently trading at around 98 cents on the dollar.

Work underway to create forest sanctuary in northern Armenia

Work is underway in the framework of the EU-funded forestry programme FLEG, to create a forest sanctuary in the Tavush Region of Northern Armenia with a total area of 13,000 ha, aiming to save the diversity of flora and fauna, ecosystems and landscapes, support socio-economic development of adjacent communities and promote tourism development, enpi-info.eu reports. Following a feasibility study under the first phase of the FLEG programme, the project is now working on mapping and clarification of the sanctuary bound-

aries. The overall initiative is aimed at strengthening the planning and management of forest reserves through pilot projects. The programme also plans to develop a sanctuary management plan and support the implementation of some of its measures. The €9 million ENPI FLEG II programme deepens reforms in forestry policy, and legal and administrative matters in the sector while carrying out pilot projects, and addressing forest fire and climate issues. It builds upon the achievements of its predecessor, ENPI FLEG I programme.



Armenia Says No Plans Yet To Switch To Single EEU Currency



Armenia has no plans nor has conducted any negotiations on a single Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) currency, a Central Bank official said on March 11, reacting to Russian President Vladimir Putin's statement on the possibility of a monetary union.

On March 10, Putin reportedly ordered the Central Bank of Russia and the Russian Government to work in conjunction with the national banks of the EEU member states to determine by September 1 "the further directions of integration in the cur-

rency and financial spheres". He also said that "the feasibility of establishing a monetary union within the framework of the EEU in the long term should be considered."

The EEU was founded and launched by Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan on January 1. Armenia joined the post-Soviet economic grouping on January 2.

"There is no document among those signed [by Armenia] within the framework of its accession to the EEU that would concern the feasibility study or prospects related to this matter," Armenian Central Bank Board member Armenak Darbinyan told RFE/RL's Armenian Service (Azatutyun.am).

"At this moment there are no such plans and there are no such discussions at the Central Bank," he added.

Still last April the Russian newspaper "Moskovsky Komsomolets" wrote, citing its sources in the Eurasian Economic Commission, that the EEU will have its single currency and that it will be called

"altyn". The publication claimed that unofficially the tentative name of the currency had been approved by the leaders in Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus. Sources also said that there were plans to create a Eurasian Central Bank with supranational powers that would be headquartered in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

"There have been no negotiations, no formal discussions in this direction yet. I would say more: the issue of forming a single financial market regulator was discussed within the framework of the EEU and it should happen after 2025. During this time, national laws and regulations should be harmonized and only then the issue can be put on the agenda," said Darbinyan, expressing the view that it will take years to ensure that conditions are created for switching to a single EEU currency.

"It cannot be an administrative decision. This requires relevant developments in the economy and in the financial markets," the Central Bank official concluded.

How an Armenian in Egypt donated a rare copy of the Old Testament to Israeli filmmaker



A rare copy of the Tanach (Old Testament) that reached Israel in a circuitous fashion and was donated to the University of Haifa by the late film producer and well-known Israeli director Micha Shagrir, was reunited with its "twin," a copy of the same edition that was already in the Rare Books Department of the University of Haifa's library, reads an article by Anav Silverman published by The Jewish Press.

When Shagrir informed the staff of the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library that he wanted to donate a 350-year-old copy of the Tanakh, the staffers welcomed the

idea, pleased that they could add another antique edition of the Book of Books to the library's collection. But they were quite surprised to discover that the volume, which had been printed in Germany in 1677, was a near-duplicate of a Tanach the library already had.

While the two volumes were very similar, they were not identical. The copy the library owned was narrow with almost no margins, the new copy had wide margins, in which there were numerous notes written in Latin, in tiny handwriting, by no less than 10 different readers in the 17th and 18th centuries. The editor of the edition and source of the commentary that accompanies the printed text was David Clodil (1644-1684), a theologian and Hebraist - a Renaissance-era scientific discipline in which Christian scholars studied the Hebrew sources of Christianity in depth.

How the volume made its way from a 17th-century Frankfurt printing press to finding its twin in Haifa is a fascinating

story. As Shagrir told it, a month after Egyptian President Anwar Sadat came to Israel in November 1977, Shagrir and a group of other Israelis made a secret trip to Egypt. Towards the end of the visit, as he was walking through the streets of Cairo, he found himself in a store that sold antique books. It turned out that the proprietor was not Egyptian, but Armenian, and he was a big fan of a film Shagrir had recently released about the Armenian genocide.

When the shopkeeper discovered that he was speaking to the producer of that film, he gave Shagrir a wrapped copy of a book, but made him promise not to open it until he returned to Israel. When he returned and opened the package, he was stunned to find the ancient volume. So nearly 350 years after it was printed, and 37 years after it arrived in Israel, the volume of the Tanach was reunited with the copy held by the University. Shagrir passed away last month on February 4 at the age of 77.



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1 ROOM

- 1696.**Tumanyan str.**, 5/4, stone bld, 1 bedroom, h-3m, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 160.000 USD.
- 1726.**Khorenatsi str.**, 4/4, 35sq.m., 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 55.000 USD.
- 1440.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 110 sq.m., 1 bedroom, h-3m, euro repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 350.000 USD.
- 1715-**Sayat Nova Ave.**, 5/4, 70sq.m, stone bld, h-4m, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 110.000 USD
- 1680-**Mashtots Ave.**, 5/4, 68sq.m, 1 bedroom, old repair, possibility of gas. Price: 86.000 USD.
- 1674-**Abovyan str.**, 2nd floor, 70sq.m., 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 135.000 USD
- 1698-**Aram str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 62sq.m, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, AC, security system, parking. Price: 120.000 USD.

2 ROOMS

- 3003.**Sayat-Nova str.**, 5/3, 105sq.m, 2 bedrooms, stone building, capitally repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1560.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 10/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.
- 2818.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, furnished. Price: 400.000 USD
- 1156.**Komitas Ave.**, Hambardzumyan str. 5/3, 110sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, kitchen is furnished. Price: 150.000 USD negotiable.
- 2949.**Aram str.**, Newly built, 1st floor, 143 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, zero state, Price: 2000 USD per sq.m.
- 2300.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.

3 ROOMS

- 3012.**Aram str.**, Newly built, 7th floor, 136sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking, facing to bulvar, Price: 300.000 USD negotiable.
- 2998.**North Ave.**, Newly built, 9/6, 181sq.m, 3 bedrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking, Price: 700.000 USD
- 2682.**Aram Str.**, Newly built, 13/6 187sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 open balconies, capitally repaired, heating system, 2AC, 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 550.000 USD negotiable.
- 2958.**Pushkin str.**, 5/2, 140 sq.m., stone building, 4 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: Negotiable.
- 2895.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, AC. Price: negotiable
- 2802.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 8/4, 166sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, security system. Price: 320.000 USD.
- 1104.**Komitas Ave.**, **Aram Khachatryan str.**, 5/2, 125sq.m., stone bld, h-2.75m., 3 bedrooms, office, 2 bathrooms, old repair, gas, garage. Price: 130.000 USD
- 2950.**Aram str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 176 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, office, zero state, Price: 310.000 USD
- 2836.**Pushkin str.**, 4/4, 5, 400sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 460.000 USD.
- 2990.**North Ave.**, Newly built, 11th floor, 295sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: Negotiable.

PREMISES

- 1789.**Charents str.** Land-1270sq.m, 5 storied building, each floor-400sq.m., basement, capitally repaired, parkings. Price: 4.000.000 USD negotiable
- 1598.**Komitas, Nairi Zaryan str.**, 1000 sq.m., working restaurant, 1st line, capitally repaired. Price: negotiable.
- 1603.**Northern Ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 160 sq.m., zero level, window glasses. Price: 2.600.000 USD.
- 2035.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capitally repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: Negotiable
- 2013.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 1.300.000\$ negotiable
- 2012.**Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitally repaired, AC. Price: 1.100.000\$ negotiable
- 2155.**Mashtots ave.**, 3storied building, 540sq.m., each floor-180sq.m, window glasses, parking. Price: 3.600.000 USD
- 2020.**Hr. Kochar str.**, Land-300sq.m, 1st line, 4storied building, 1080sq.m., each floor-270sq.m, h-3.6m, without divisions, parkings, 3 access. Price: 1.400.000 USD negotiable
- 1986.**Cascade**, Land 1000sq.m. 3storied building 1200sq.m., unfinished, parking. Price: 1.000.000 USD.
- 2167.**Sayat Nova str.**, newly built, 38sq. m, capitally repaired. Price: 200.000 USD
- 2175.**Tumanyan str.** Ground and 1st floor of the building, 600sq.m, ground floor 300sq.m, 1st floor-220sq.m, basement-80sq.m., - 1st line, zero level, 2 entrances, facade-15m, 4 window glasses, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, Price: 3500 USD per sq.m.
- 2172-**Isahakyan str.**, 92sq.m, 1st line, 7 degrees above zero level, facade-9m, 2 window glasses, h-3.20m, 2 halls, cabinet, bathroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 450.000 USD

LANDS

- 2122.**Davitashen**, 1800 sq.m., water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600 sq.m., and 1200 sq.m. Price: 150 USD per sq.m.
- 2121.**Demirchyan str.**, 1338 sq.m., building permits. Price: 2million USD.
- 2013.**Cascade**. 1000 sq.m. building permits, first line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price 460.000USD
- 1402.**Hr. Kochar Str.**, 1100 sq. m., facade -25 m. Price negotiable.
- 2090.**Lori region**, close to Stepanavan, Gyargyar village, 6 hectares, forest 2 hectare has building permits, 3 water source, electricity. Price: 100.000USD.
- 2406.**Avan**, Mher Mkrtchyan block, 1000 sq.m., electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price: 30USD per sq.m
- 2310.**Monument, Babayan str.**, 1000 sq. m, facade-25m, privatized, Price: 350 USD negotiable
- 2107.**Monument**, 2400sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: 400 USD per sq.m.
- 2413.**Ashtarak roadway**, 1000sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: Negotiable
- 2414.**Demirchyan str.** land-750sq.m., building permits. Price: 750.000 USD.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- 3348.**Blur, Barbys str.** Land - 800 sq.m, 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 1.2 million USD
- 3146.**Aygestan**, Land-500 sq.m., 5 storied bld-765 sq.m., each floor-180 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system, elevator. Price: 2.300.000 USD.

- 3583.**Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 1.350.000 USD.

- 3432.**Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m, 3 storied bld.-501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, boiler room garden, swimming pool, sauna, garage, security system. Price: 1.000.000 USD

- 3576.**Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capitally repaired, heating system, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 850.000 USD

- 3606.**Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur/near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-1.500.000 USD

- 3574.**Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 2.000.000 USD

- 3590 **Blur**,

- Barbyus str.**,

- Land - 450

- sq.m., 4 storied

- building -

- 470sq.m., 3bed-

- rooms, 3 bath-

- rooms, capitally

- repaired, heating

- system, AC, garden.

- Price:

- 680.000 USD

- 3651 **Blur**,

- Barbyus str.**,

- Land-900sq.m., 5

- storied building-

- 800sq.m., 4 bed-

- rooms, 3 bath-

- rooms, capitally

- repaired, heating

- system, AC, garden.

- Price: 1.700.000 USD.

- 3401.**Antarayan str.**, Newly built, land-

- 700sq.m, 3 storied bld-690sq.m, 5 bedrooms,

- capitally repaired. Price: 1.300.000 USD

- 3712 **Cascade** Newly built, land-450sq.m, 4 sto-

- ried bld-600sq.m, zero state. Price: 550.000 USD

NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

- 74.**Cascade**, Verin Antarayin. 136-315 sq m., walls plastered, electricity, water, gas, euro windows, no exploitation fees. Price: 1200 USD per sq.m, parking -15.000 USD.

- 107.**Monument**, Verin Antarayin. inhabited, 8 floors, gas, windows, street view -1000 USD per sq.m., city looking -1500 USD per sq.m., parking - 4 million USD preliminary.

- 87.**Sayat-Nova str.**, 21 floors, 3 bedrooms - 188 sq.m., 199 sq.m., Price 1900 USD per sq.m., 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight - 117 sq.m., 120 sq.m., 124 sq.m., Price: 1700 USD per sq.m., climate control, gas.

- 93.**Kievyan str.**, Given to the operation in October 2011, 16 floors, walls plastered, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas, parking. Price: 1500-1600USD per sq.m, parking-12 000 USD. Possible with mortgage, for 13 years term.

- 94.**Masiv**. 3floors, 8 flats, each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.

- 130 **Antarayan str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable

- 131.**Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable





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1 ROOM

- 2037.**Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, gas, heating system, AC, modern furnished, equipped. Price: negotiable
- 2189.**Vardanants str.**, Newly built, 24/12, 90 sqm, 1 bedroom, capably repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- 2099.**Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 1 bedroom, capably repaired, gas, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 600 USD.
- 1972.**Northern ave.**, 8/4, 80sqm, 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capably repaired, climate control. Price: 1200 USD
- 2171.**Tumanyan str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 94 sqm, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, capably repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD
- 2367.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9th floor, 98 sqm, capably repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

2 ROOMS

- 2302 **North Ave.**, Newly built, 11/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 2295 **North Ave.**, Newly built, 16/15, 173sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished. Price: 5000 USD
- 2290 **Bayron str.**, Newly built, /5th floor, 220sq.m, 2 bedrooms, study, open kitchen, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, climate control, furnished, parking. Price: 4000 USD
- 1780.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, /13th floor, 82 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD negotiable.
- 942.**Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capably repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- 1950.**Buzand/Mashtots area.** Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- 1681.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1535.**Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- 2089.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 8/6, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, climate control, furnished, equipped. Price: 2500 USD
- 1738.**Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 1951.**Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- 1406.**Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- 2187.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9/5, 120 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2.200 USD
- 2109.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 2243.**Buzand str.**, Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- 2310 **Busand str.**, Newly built, 190sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD
- 2316 **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6th floor, 227sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, guest toilet, capably repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD

- 2303 **Hanrapetutyan str** Newly built, 9/5, 165sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 guest toilet. capably repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 2286.**Sose str.**, Newly built, 12/2, 154sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD
- 2257.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 17/16, 160 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 2021.**Teryan Str.**, Newly built, 9/8, 9, 245 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, furnished. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.
- 2005.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.



- 1723.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4, 170 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capably repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1981.**Vardanants Str.**, Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, 3 open balconies, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1793.**Teryan str.**, Newly built, 8th floor, 260 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, capably repaired, climate control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), Price: 3500 USD.
- 1720.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 16/10, 179 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, central heating, AC, cellar- 25sq.m, with or without furniture, parking. Price 3000 USD negotiable
- 2195.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capably repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2261.**Hin Yerevantsi**, /North Avenue/, Newly built, 10/3, 124sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 1700 USD
- 2084.**Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2252.**Northern ave.**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capably repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- 1335 **Baghramyan str.**, Land-200sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished. Price: 3000 USD
- 1336 **Aygedzor**, Land-1000sq.m, 2 storied bld-240sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- 1337 **Davtashen** Land-406sq.m, 3 storied bld-306sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished. Price: 3900 USD
- 1323.**Monument, Babayan str.**, Land-400sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capably repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1248.**Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m, 3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capably repaired, central heating, AC, sauna, boiler room garden, swimming pool, garage, alarming system, security system. Price: 8000 USD.
- 999.**Aygedzor**, Land -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors- 310 sqm, capably repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, newly furnished, equipped, sauna, swimming-pool. Starting Price: 5000 USD.
- 1094.**Noy black**, Land-450sqm, 2 storied building - 220sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden. Price: 2000USD.
- 1195.**Nork, Armenakyan str.**, Land - 2000 sq.m, 4 storied bld.-520 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished,

- swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.
- 1142.**Djirvej**, Bagrevand community. Land-1000 sq.m., 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capably repaired, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary /garage for 2 cars. Price: 4 000 USD.
- 1293.**Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520 sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 7.000 USD
- 327. **Nork-Marash**, Land-500sq.m, 4 storied building-600 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-4000 USD
- 1306. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capably repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking, with or without furniture. Price: 6000-8000 USD negotiable
- 1288. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capably repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 1197. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m, 2 storied building-720sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capably repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 8000 USD
- 1312. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- 1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m, 5 storied building-880sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable.
- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str**, Land - 400 sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, each floor-100sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable

PREMISES

- 2049.**Teryan str**, ground floor+basement, 1st line, 200sq.m, repaired. Price: 6.000 USD
- 1693.**Malatia-Sebastia** 4 storied building, 1200sq.m, each floor-300sq.m, 2 separate entrances, climate control, 2 elevators, basement, parking. Price: 15USD per sq.m.
- 1526.**Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sq.m., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.
- 1408.**Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghramyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capably repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.
- 1462.**Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capably repaired, AC, parking. Price: 10.000 USD.
- 1945.**Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capably repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- 1943.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m, 1st line, capably repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- 1868.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m, 1st line, facade-55m, capably repaired, h-5m, cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.
- 2087.**Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m, 1st line, zero level, capably repaired, window glasses. Price: Negotiable.
- 2033.**Abovyan str.**, 388sq.m, Ground floor of the building, 3 degrees above zero level, window glasses, h-3m, basement-235sq.m, capably repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 15.000 USD
- 2031.**Vardanants str.**, 500sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, facade-20m, window glasses, without divisions, basement-250sq.m, Price: 8000 USD
- 2027.**Sayat Nova str**, 95sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, 7 degrees above zero level, 4 window glasses, capably repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

VivaCell-MTS: Some Recent Pieces from Patriotic Activities...

“Response after 100 Years: The Past in The Present” - the presentation of 24 works created based on documents proving the fact of the Armenian Genocide

On the occasion of the Armenian Genocide centennial, the Charents Museum of Literature and Arts has organized the “Response after 100 Years” project with the support of the RA Ministry of Culture and VivaCell-MTS. The project is related to the letters and other documents proving the fact of the Armenian Genocide which were written in the period from 1894 to 1923 and were left unanswered.

On 6 March a press conference was held at Yeghishe Charents Museum of Literature and Arts, summing up the results of the contest of paintings, graphic works and sculptures. The press-conference hosted the RA Deputy Minister of Culture **Nerses Ter-Vardanyan**, director of the Charents Museum of Literature and Arts

Karo Vardanyan, Viva Cell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**, responsible person of the competition, art critic **Armen Gasparyan**, the coordinator of “Response after 100 Years” project **Hasmik Hakhverdyan** and the acting director of the National Gallery of Arts **Anush Hakobyan**.

“The “Response after 100 years” project is an effective means of presenting the demand of the Armenians through the medium of art.

The reflection of the Genocide in works of art is a decent way of making our claim heard by the world and commemorating the one and a half million victims of the Genocide. The claim to recognize the Armenian Genocide is addressed not only to Turkey but to the whole civilized world. By not remembering, not voicing and not demanding condemnation we will lose our identity, will betray ourselves and will also be dishonest towards the nations which became victims of genocide or are under the threat of being annihilated,” VivaCell-

MTS General Manager Ralph Yirikian commented.

Till June 1, 2015, two sub-projects will be realized in the frames of the program that will result in the publication of the illustrated book “Answer after 100 years”. The sub-projects include:

1. Selection of 11 letters proving the fact of the Armenian Genocide, which were written in the period from 1894 to 1923. The selected letters will be sent to famous figures in Armenia and outside the country; their responses will be collected.

2. A contest of paintings, graphic works and sculptures on the themes of 11 documents, proving the fact of the Armenian Genocide, with the purpose of organizing a thematic exhibition at the National Gallery of Arts of Armenia.

The final stage of the contest took place on February 24-25; 12 members of the professional committee visited in turn the closed contest-exhibition at the Charents Museum of Literature and Arts and gave their professional evaluation of the works. This is a new attitude which will allow the



committee members to avoid getting affected by each other's opinion.

The best 20 works presented at this stage of the contest will be included in the illustrated book “Response after 100 Years”. At least 11 of the works created exclusively on the basis of the provided documents will be displayed at the National Gallery of Armenia at the “Answer after 100 years” exhibition which will include also works on the theme of the Armenian Genocide created by the representatives of the older generation. One of

the works participating in the contest – Narek Knyazyan's sculpture “The Last One” received a “Special” status. The author will be awarded by the RA Ministry of Culture and VivaCell-MTS.

High-quality neonatal care equipment provided to the maternity department of Talin hospital

VivaCell-MTS General Manager Ralph Yirikian has visited the maternity department in Talin hospital.

Owing to the joint project by VivaCell-MTS and “BirthLink” NGO, the maternity department of the hospital has received high-quality medical equipment for neonatal care: a mobile warmer, a phototherapy device, infusion pumps, a pulse oximeter, heated mattress, an emergency bag and other facilities. The provided equipment is essential for quality healthcare of sick and low birth weight babies in case of complications around the time of birth or complications due to prematurity.

“There are projects which are important not only from strategic point of view or for their perceptiveness, but they also give us a feeling of individual gratification for being a part of a worthy cause. It is impossible to stay indifferent when witnessing these infants' struggle for life. This is the reason why our Company wanted to give them a part of hope and confidence by providing equipment of essential necessity,” VivaCell-MTS General Manager Ralph Yirikian commented.

In 2015, in the frames of the joint project by VivaCell-MTS and the British NGO “BirthLink”, state-of-the-art medical equipment will be provided to 14 maternity hospitals, encompassing Ararat, Aragatsotn, Kotayk, Armavir, Lori regions and Yerevan.

The project commenced in 2008, and till now VivaCell-MTS has provided over AMD 535 million for the realization of the program.

The winners of the “Best Love Confession” contest get their prizes

From January 30 till February 4 the VivaCell-MTS Facebook official page hosted the “Best Love Confession” contest organized on the occasion of the St Sargis Day. The participants had to leave a comment with a beautiful love confession beneath the contest announcement. According to the rules of the contest the authors of the confessions that would gather the most number of “likes” would be the winners.

Based on the contest results the winners were *Anahit Mamyan* and *Hayk Mikayelyan* who were invited to VivaCell-MTS headquarters to get the prizes. Each of the winners got two Alcatel One Touch POP S7 smartphones for them and their loved ones.

VivaCell-MTS supports the National Center for Oncology in getting a state-of-the-art fluoroscopy and radiography device

VivaCell-MTS continues cooperating with the National Center for Oncology after V. Fanarjyan. This year the center has acquired a “Plessart VIVO” (“Toshiba”, Japan) universal remote control digital fluoroscopy and analog radiography comprehensive device. The company has provided AMD 60 million for the acquisition of the equipment.

“The Armenians often have to go abroad in order to undergo oncological examinations and receive medical treat-



ment. This has a negative effect on the patient both from financial and psychological perspectives. The reason for their decision is the lack of necessary equipment in the Armenian medical centers: even highly qualified doctors need state-of-the-art

devices to carry out comprehensive examination of the patient. I hope that the support VivaCell-MTS provides will add to the efficiency of the doctors' efforts and will relieve the worries of patients,” VivaCell-MTS General Manager Ralph Yirikian commented.

Annually, the National Center for Oncology provides treatment to over 10 000 patients suffering various oncological diseases. Having a status of a national cen-

ter, the hospital provides medical assistance to the whole country. 80 to 100 X-ray examinations (of lungs, osteo-muscular, gastrointestinal systems and other) are carried out at the center every day. The device used at the center till recently has been in exploitation since the Soviet times. The introduction of the newly obtained equipment will



considerably increase the accuracy of examinations and improve the results of the treatment.

VivaCell-MTS has been readily stretching hand to the National Center for Oncology since 2010; as a result of the cooperation the center has been refurbished with state-of-the-art devices. For this end, the company has already made a total investment of more than AMD 178 million.



**भारत का राजदूतावास
येरेवान**

The Embassy of India in Armenia in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science of RA and TUMO Center for Creative Technologies conducted All-Armenia Painting and Essay Competition “India is in my imaginations” among the schoolchildren of Armenia among two age groups in December 2014. This first ever event has encouraged over 1500 children to participate in this competition and create their own image of India. The second, third

and consolation prize winners received their certificates and prizes during the Reception dedicated to the 66th Republic Day of India on 26 January, while the first prize winners had to hold their breath in joy, as the first prize was a one week trip to India.

Today, the Embassy is glad to announce that all the four children, who have won the first prize, will be enjoying their spring vacation in India from 16-24 March 2015. Their programme includes

visit to Delhi, Agra and Jaipur, known as “Golden Triangle” in tourism world. They will also get an opportunity to tour in Rashtrapati Bhavan (official Residence of the President of India) during their stay in Delhi. The visit of the Armenian children is sponsored by Ministry of Tourism of the Government of India.

**Embassy of India
Yerevan
13 March 2015**

Embassy of India Press release

Lithuania Celebrates 25th Anniversary of the Independence Restoration: Nice Concert Organized by the Embassy in Yerevan

"The Sea in the Forest": Interesting Combination of the Classics and the Avant-garde Jazz based on Ciurlionis



By **Gourgen James Khazhakian**
Chief Correspondent
Journalist Emeritus
of Armenia

...Sharp a quarter century ago, in these March days of 1990, **Eduardas**, a friend of mine from Lithuania with who we were doing our PhD theses in Moscow in the 2nd half of 80s, called me from Vilnius and told: "*Gourgen(as), we are free, free, free at last !!!*"

...Neither him nor myself completed our scientific research as we both abandoned our "aspirantura" in the Soviet Union capital - we both left for our native republics to join "nationalist" (a Kremlin *cliche*) Movements, mine - Karabakh Movement and the Lithuanian - Sajudis (initially known as the Reform Movement of Lithuania, *Lietuvos Persitvarkymo Sajudis*) led by **Vytautas Landsbergis**, the first President of the Independent Lithuania.

Those years Sajudis activists were frequent visitors in Armenia, and vice versa - ours were in Vilnius to support to each other, to teach to each other THE FREEDOM...Really unforgettable, romantic times... But THE ROMANTISM retreated soon - after tragic events "authored" by **Gorbachov-The Chatterbox** - when the Soviet army attempted suppress "the nationalists" (i.e. THE PATRIOTS) - bloodsheds in Tbilisi - 1989, Yerevan and Karabakh - spring' 90, 91, Vilnius - January' 1991...

...So on March 11 2015 Lithuania celebrated 25th Anniversary of its INDEPENDENCE RESTORATION.

And on this solemn occasion Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Lithuania to Armenia H.E. **Erikas Petrikas** and Mrs **Ilona Petrikiene** invited friends for a nice concert held at the Arno Babajanyan Philharmonic Small Concert Hall entitled "The Sea in the Forest" by two

famous Lithuanian contemporary artists - classical pianist **Petras Geniušas** and multi-reeds player and improviser **Liudas Mockunas** who came together with a new polystylistic project "The Sea in the Forest" that looks into the work of one of the greatest Lithuanian artists of all time, **Mikalojus Konstantinas Ciurlionis** (1875 -1911). The Project's epigrammatic title serves both as a reference to his best known symphonic poems and as a pretext to reflect on the important symbols encountered throughout his work. Two musicians, coming from different generations and genres, team up and use Ciurlionis music as a source of inspiration.

guerilla killed in the forest in 1953. And today Lithuania is a fully-fledged EU, NATO member country, and, for 2014-15, a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Noting that his country was a very first state that recognized Armenia, - right after Independence referendum held on 21 September'91, His Excellency stressed that both peoples has been connected for many years with friendship based on the similar history, and the culture indeed.

As a very recent example of cooperation between already independent Lithuania and Armenia, Ambassador Erikas Petrikas mentioned recent visit of the

Lithuanian Justice Minister to Armenia Mr **Juozas Bernatoniš** who signed a MoU with his Armenian counterpart, Mr **Hovhannes Manoukian**.

Ministers of Culture, Sport and Youth Affairs of Armenia Mrs **Hasmik Poghosyan** and **Gabriel Ghazaryan**, Deputy FM Ambassador **Karen Nazaryan**, Deputy Ministers of Culture and of Ecology, reps of the Armenian political, business and intellectual elite, Ambassadors of the EU, OSCE, USA, Switzerland, Poland, Brazil, India, Iran, Lebanon, Argentina, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia (from Tbilisi), Heads of Armenia Offices of IMF, UNDP, other organizations, high-ranking diplomats were present at this interesting concert followed by a reception featured delicatessen of the Lithuanian cuisine.

And the last, but not the least: within the framework of the Francophonie en Arménie '2015 and on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Independence of Lithuania Embassy of Lithuania and the Embassy of France in Armenia invite for demonstration a documentary entitled «Comment nous avons joué la révolution» ("How We Played in Revolution", with French subtitles) telling about Lithuanian revolution 1987-91 to be held on 19 March at 18.00 at the "Moskva" cinema's Small Hall.



This collaborative project ripened in 2011, a year that marked the centennial of Ciurlionis' death and an occasion that provoked many attempts to use his work as the inspiration for new sounds, cross-genre and interdisciplinary interpretations.

In his welcome remarks Ambassador Petrikas mentioned that in that solemn day Lithuanians worldwide pay tribute to the memory of all of them who struggled and sacrificed their lives in the name of the country's freedom - from the fighters in the very first days when foreign (Soviet) troops entered the country in the 1940 to the last

Americana Shopping Center Bans Sale of Genocide T-Shirts



*By Harut
Sassounian*

*Publisher, The
California Courier*

Three young Armenian entrepreneurs rented a cart last month at the Americana - a large shopping-restaurant-theater complex in Glendale - to sell T-shirts, hats, and other clothing items advertised on their shop1915.com website.

After Americana's leasing staff approved their merchandise, Tina Chuldzhyan, Alex Kodagolian, and Armin Hariri (a rapper known as 'R-Mean') began selling their merchandise.

On February 12, the opening day of their business, the three Armenians were unexpectedly told by Americana's management to keep their cart family-friendly and remove all pictures of protests. Even though there were no pictures of any protests on the cart - just posters of people wearing the T-shirts on sale - Chuldzhyan told The California Courier that she immediately took down the posters to avoid any conflict with Americana.

On Feb. 25, Americana issued an ultimatum telling Tina and her two partners that within 24 hours they had to change the kind of merchandise they were selling, claiming that there had been public complaints about the 'genocide' clothing. Otherwise, they would have three days to vacate the premises.

Fearing that they were on the verge of eviction, the three entrepreneurs agreed not to display the Armenian T-shirts, and sell them only if requested by a customer. Later that afternoon, an Americana offi-

cial reiterated that all clothing items with the 'genocide' theme had to be completely removed from the cart.

This was a clear interference in the three Armenians' business. Americana had no right to ban the sale of 'genocide' T-shirts - a violation of the owners' freedom of expression. Furthermore, the T-shirts I saw while visiting the cart last week did not carry the word genocide, but had the following inscription: "WE ARE STILL HERE - 2015." There were other T-shirts for sale displaying just the letter P for Pentagon Records, the name of the Armenian entrepreneurs' company.

It is not certain if anyone had actually complained to Americana's management about the Armenian T-shirts. No one had ever said anything critical to the owners of the business. Moreover, even if someone had complained, does it follow that Armenian clothing, with or without the word genocide, should not be sold at Americana? This is a slippery slope! Should anyone complain about Holocaust and Genocide books being sold by Barnes & Noble bookstore at Americana, would the shopping center's management ban the sale of such books? How about the movie theaters at Americana showing films that may be offensive to some shoppers?

Realizing that Americana was violating her civil rights, Tina consulted an attorney to see what legal steps she could take to defend her business interests. She informed the lawyer that her contract with Americana did not prohibit the sale of genocide themed clothing. The contract simply restricted the sale of pornographic material, drug paraphernalia, and second hand merchandise. The attorney

told Tina that even though Americana's actions were clearly illegal, she had no choice but to comply, since she was up against a major corporation with a powerful legal team.

While disappointed that she was unable to defend her legal rights, Tina decided to follow her attorney's advice, and reluctantly complied with Americana's illegal and draconian orders, not to lose her fledgling business. "I felt as if I was back in the prohibition days, selling bootlegged merchandise," Tina told The California Courier.

Last week, Tina continued to receive warnings from Americana not to display any genocide related clothing, even after she had taken down all other Armenian T-shirts, except the one that said, "WE ARE STILL HERE - 2015."

This controversy goes far beyond the personal interests of three young Armenians. Americana's actions affect the civil rights of all tenants and the entire Armenian community, particularly on the eve of the Armenian Genocide Centennial. Glendale Armenians and city officials, who had granted Americana generous tax exemptions, should immediately intervene in this matter, by defending the rights of these three small business owners.

Americana is owned by Rick Caruso who has enjoyed friendly relations with Glendale's large Armenian community. Hopefully, Mr. Caruso will take the necessary corrective steps when he learns about his staff's inappropriate and illegal actions.

No one from Americana's office responded to my phone call, after I left a message requesting an explanation for the ban on the sale of Armenian clothing.

Buenos Aires adopts resolution on Armenian Genocide centennial

The Buenos Aires City Legislature has unanimously passed a resolution on recognition of the Armenian Genocide in the year marking the Centennial of the massacres of 1.5 million Armenians perpetrated by the Turkish government, Prensa Armenia Agency reports.

"The Legislature of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires commemorates the Centennial of the First Genocide of the 20th Century that took the lives of Armenians and will be marked on the 24th of April this year," the declaration reads.

Besides, the Legislature announced

that "it joins all the events that are being held" and that "it sympathizes with the survivors and the descendants of the victims and advocates for memory, truth and justice for that crime against humanity within the frames of the "Day of Action for Tolerance and Respect Among Peoples."

Nevada Governor issues Armenian Genocide proclamation

Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval, issued a proclamation commemorating the Armenian Genocide, declaring April 19-26 as the "Day of Remembrance of The Armenian Genocide," reported the Armenian Council of America (ACA).

Spearheaded by the ACA Nevada Chapter, the proclamation condemns the systematic murder and deportations of 1.5 million Armenians in the Ottoman Empire, highlighting the plight of the Armenian people and the refuge they sought in the U.S. during that time, Massis Post reports.

The proclamation also honors the Armenian-American community in Nevada, citing that the "thriving community is a proud reminder of survival and determination even in the face of extreme injustice."

Calling upon the House of Representatives and the President of the U.S. to recognize the atrocities, the proclamation also reiterates Turkey's responsibility "to acknowledge the facts of the Armenian Genocide."

A full text of the proclamation can be found below.

WHEREAS, on the night of April 24, 1915, more than 200 leaders in the

Armenian community, in the city known today as Istanbul, were arrested. Sent to prison, most were executed, beginning a horrible, systemic killing and forced relocation of the Armenian people that would last until 1923. During these years, the government of the Ottoman Empire claimed the lives of 1.5 million Armenians and forced 500,000 more from their homeland. The Armenian Genocide was a terrible breach of human rights and an event that has outraged the world; and

WHEREAS, the atrocities carried out against the Armenian people were grave and unimaginable, as they were subjected to deportation, abduction, torture, starvation, and more. And as with any violent conflict, Armenian women and children suffered the worst abuses. The bulk of the Armenian population that was displaced from their homes was forced to escape to neighboring as well as faraway countries. Many fled to the United States; and

WHEREAS, today Nevada is honored to be home to a vibrant growing Armenian-American population. This thriving community is a proud reminder of survival and determination even in the face of extreme injustice; and

WHEREAS, as Americans and



Nevadans, it is our duty to raise awareness of the Armenian Genocide and to participate in the remembrance and mourning of the loss of innocent lives a century ago; and

WHEREAS, as Americans and Nevadans, we call upon Congress and the President of the United States to recognize the atrocities committed against the Armenian people, and call upon the Republic of Turkey to acknowledge the facts of the Armenian Genocide and work toward a just resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SANDOVAL, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim April 19-26, 2015, as

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

George Clooney joins humanitarian leaders to launch new Global Prize as part of 100 LIVES initiative



George Clooney joined humanitarian leaders to launch a new global prize, the Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity, as part of the 100 LIVES initiative.

Mr. Clooney and 100 LIVES co-founder Ruben Vardanyan discussed

their goals to combat genocide and explained how apathy-one of the biggest challenges to addressing the issue-must be confronted by real and sustained awareness:

"We really want people to get involved with 100 LIVES," said Clooney, "to celebrate those that overcome adversity and give back to others, just as the Armenian community is doing in this centenary year."

"The humanity, generosity, strength and sacrifice shown by those who saved so many Armenians compels us to tell these stories," added Vardanyan. "Now is the time to shine a light on those most extraordinary lives, to build on the lessons they teach us, and to express our gratitude for what they did."

The Aurora Prize will be given to

those who put themselves at risk and enable others to survive and thrive. Its annual grant of \$1 million will be awarded to a recipient who will, in turn, present it to the organization identified as the inspiration for their action. Mr. Clooney will award the inaugural Prize at a ceremony in Yerevan, Armenia on 24 April, 2016.

The Prize's Selection Committee will feature Mr. Clooney alongside human rights luminaries including Nobel laureates Elie Wiesel and Oscar Arias, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson; UN Secretary-General Advisor on Genocide, Gareth Evans; respected human rights activist Hina Jilani; and Vartan Gregorian, President of the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

German historian says there is proof Pope Benedict XV tried to stop Armenian Genocide



Just before the world commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, well-known German historian Michael Hesemann announced the discovery of 2000 pages of hitherto unpublished documents on, what he calls "the greatest persecution of Christians in history" in the Vatican Secret Archives.

In this in-depth analysis with ZENIT, the historian discusses his findings, what's often not realized about the Armenian genocide, and its victims, items which he discusses in his new book.

He also speaks about the Holy Father's recent visit to Turkey, why he didn't speak on the subject, and what people should realize about the tragedy which happened then, and what's happening now.

ZENIT: What compelled you to start going through the documents? What did you feel you had uncovered?

Hesemann: Actually, I was fascinated by the Armenian genocide after reading a letter written by the Cologne Archbishop - and I am from the Archdiocese of Cologne - Cardinal von Hartmann, who in 1913 wrote a letter to the German Chancellor of the Reich requesting German support to prevent a new Armenian Genocide after the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Northeastern Turkey. And his words were very impressive. He confirmed the Armenian genocide of 1915/1916 and compared it with the early persecutions of Christians like the Diocletian persecution of early 4th century.

He said because Germany was such a close ally to Turkey it would also cause shame on the German name for future generations if it wouldn't do anything to stop it. I immediately realized how right he was and that he was a voice of justice in the middle of this horrible World War I. And then I asked myself: What did Germany do after World War I and even today to tell the world what it knew about these horrible events, just to prevent that history repeats

itself - nothing indeed!

Then in 1939, Adolf Hitler met with his leading generals in his "Berghof" near Berchtesgaden, his headquarters in the mountains, and announced his plans for Poland: the completely recklessly slaughter of the Polish elite and all the other atrocities. He ordered to proceed with the utmost, merciless brutality, since "history is always written by the victors" and, anyway, "Who is talking about the Armenian Genocide today?" So obviously the denial or the cover up of the Armenian Genocide made Hitler's brutality in Poland and eventually the Holocaust possible? It seems so. If you do not tell the story, history will always repeat itself. So I thought it was my responsibility as a historian who has access to the Vatican Secret Archives since 2008 to look for more documents. I became curious and in some way fascinated by the subject. I wanted to know what really happened.

So I found documents and documents and documents, more than 2000 pages, most of them never before published, researched, or evaluated by any historian. Of course, I educated myself on any aspect of the Genocide, read the works of all the leading contemporary historians in this field like Kevorkian, Dadrian and others and just realized that I am entering a brand new territory, adding a new aspect to their important work. The sources we have on the Armenian Genocide are, of course, the German documents, both coming from the officers and diplomats stationed in the Ottoman Empire, which we find in the Archives of the German foreign office. Another important stock were the American diplomat's reports and, of course, the brilliant report by the American Ambassador in Constantinople, Henry Morgenthau. Of course we also have intelligence reports from both the British and the French and the reports of the Italian diplomats in Turkey. But the Vatican documents are an excellent, first class new source of information.

ZENIT: Why did these massacres happen?

Hesemann: Well, the massacres happened after the Turks searched the Armenian's homes for weapons and used any weapon they found as an "evidence" for a conspiracy or planned revolt, which, of course, was nonsense - people on the countryside needed to have their guns for self-defense. Then all men were arrested, tortured, lead outside the towns or villages and were massacred. Well, how can you resettle the people if you kill all the men?

This is the end of future generations. Without men, you can't have families.

Then all the women, the elderly and the children were sent on foot to the new destination, hundreds of miles through the mountainous highlands of Anatolia, often enough with no food and water at all. Sometimes they were not even allowed to drink from the rivers they passed. They were raped and robbed, by mountain tribes, released prisoners and their own police guards, and of the few which survived those death marches - often enough only 5 percent - many were left completely nude, dirty and ashamed, under the hot Turkish sun and in the cold of the nights.

Still some 350,000 who arrived in the Syrian Desert were put into concentrations camps, with no food and very little water and deadly epidemics going around. And those who survived for another half a year were sent on new death marches deeper into the desert or were just massacred. So at the end, maybe a couple tens of thousands survived. Many of them orphans. Benedict XV later donated two orphanages to give at least some of them shelter.

If you read the eyewitness testimony, this is really heartbreaking. You read even of nuns who were raped and all their clothes were stolen. Many of them went mad afterward because they couldn't handle all these terrible experiences. Mothers threw their children into gorges, into rivers, to kill them, so they wouldn't have to suffer as much as they suffered. Suicides were in the daily order.

For a couple of months, the populations of Mosul and other cities were warned by the government, the Muslim population of course, not to drink any water from the river because it was polluted by the thousands of corpses which were drafting down the Euphrates and the Tigris rivers. All of this is very well documented. But it is still officially denied by the Turkish government.

ZENIT: Can you elaborate on this?

Hesemann: For example, if you read a book by the department of Tourism of the Republic of Turkey "2,000 years of Turkish history" - a strange title since Turkey has more than 5000 years of documented history - you read the following quote: "The Ottoman government decided to immigrate the Armenians who were involved in the uprising to a safer place, namely Syria and Lebanon ... The immigration process was carried out in a successful way as most of the Armenians were safely transferred to

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German historian says...

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Syria", you can only call this a cynical lie!

And as passionately, the Turkish government tries to do everything to suppress the treatment of the Armenian genocide in the schoolbooks of the free world, or to prevent recognition of the Armenian genocide as genocide.

Of course, the term genocide can be discussed, but according to the definition by the United Nations any mass killing of a group or population, also if it is a religious group, is termed "genocide".

Because in the end, Armenians weren't killed because they were Armenian, but because they were Christians. Armenian women were even offered to be spared if they convert to Islam. They were then married into Turkish households or sold on slave markets or taken as sex slaves into brothels for Turkish soldiers, but at least they survived. A whole group of Islamized Crypto-Armenians was created by this offer to embrace Islam. But at least it shows that the Armenians were not killed because they were Armenians, but because they were Christians, and for the same reason the Syrian Christians were killed too.

ZENIT: So based on the statistics, how should it be considered?

Hesemann: It was both: A genocide by definition of the United Nations and, at the same time, the greatest persecution of Christians in history, when altogether 2.5 million were killed - 1.5 million Armenians and about one million Syrian and Greek Christians.

ZENIT: What is your view on Pope Francis' visit to Turkey and on how he addressed the Armenian subject?

Hesemann: He was not the first Pope in history to speak about the Armenian genocide because Benedict XV and John Paul II did so, too. But I am very grateful that Pope Francis even before he became Pope, in his book with Rabbi Skorka, for example, mentioned the Armenian genocide. Even in the first months of his pontificate, in May 2013, when he received one of the Armenian Patriarchs, he called the events of 1915-1916 a genocide, which caused a lot of unrest and a very unfriendly reaction from the Turkish side, as did John Paul II's remarks on the Armenian genocide did. So I am very grateful that he continued the long row of Popes who openly spoke about the Armenian genocide.

I was a little bit disappointed that he didn't bring it up when he met Erdogan because his visit took place on the eve of this year commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide. Then again, he was a guest and he didn't

want to provoke an even more hostile situation for the Christians, [...] the still persecuted Christian minority in Turkey. So from a diplomatic point of view, he did the right thing.

ZENIT: Is the Holy Father doing anything in April to commemorate the anniversary?

Hesemann: Yes, indeed. Pope Francis announced that on April 12 he will celebrate Holy Mass in the Armenian rite in commemoration of what happened 100 years ago. I hope that he will find clear words in his homily on that occasion. And I hope that he will follow the invitation of the Armenian president and the Armenian Patriarch Catholikos Karekin II to come to Armenia. Even if he won't come to Armenia on the 24th of April, he might come later this year. Sometimes, truth and solidarity with the martyrs are more important than diplomacy. Everyone who reads the Vatican documents on the events of 1915/6 gets a very clear idea about what happened. Even Pope Benedict XV, who was a very careful diplomat, stressing neutrality, wherever he could, could not remain silent and protested three times, two times in personal letters to the Sultan and one time in his speech during a consistory. Indeed, his attempt to stop the Armenian genocide by public protests is one of the most impressive examples in history how the Vatican's diplomacy tried everything humanly possible to stand up for those persecuted brothers and sisters and save innocent victims of one of the biggest crimes in history. At the same time, it's also a very frustrating example that Vatican diplomacy cannot change the minds of fanatic ideologists who just demonstrated that "conscience" and "compassion" are foreign words for them.

ZENIT: As we are now approaching the 100-year anniversary, is there anything you think people should realize or take away in a way they have not already?

Hesemann: One thing should be learned: Nobody should ever turn around and look away if he hears about atrocities in any part of the world. If you are ignorant today, you will bear the consequences tomorrow. So it's better to act and react now.

Hitler believed he was on the safe side, but he wasn't. So I hope that the atrocities of 100 years ago wake up Christians and responsible people from the world of politics, of art, science, and moral [realms], of all fields of life to look what is happening to Christians in the same area today.

When I saw reports and videos of what is going on in the ISIS controlled areas, I had

a déjà vu. I have to admit that when I studied these files, pictures, and everything from the Armenian genocide, I wondered sometimes if some of my sources were not just exaggerating. It sounded so unreal, all those atrocities, this violence, these reports about crucifixions and mountains of skulls of decapitated men and so on. And then all this happens in front of my eyes in the news. So history repeats itself: If you don't learn from history, if you aren't aware of what happened in the past, we allow people to commit the crimes again. That is why every crime has to be [prosecuted]. So that people learn that crimes don't pay off. In 1915, the German chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg knew everything about the Armenian genocide, since he received all those careful reports from his diplomats. But he was not willing to stop the slaughter, but, instead, declared: "We have to keep Turkey as an ally on our side until the war is over, even if the Armenians perish over it." Because of this, Germany is guilty, too, of what it allowed to happen. Today, we shall not follow Germany's example and ignore what is happening in order to not jeopardize diplomatic or trade relations. We should stop ISIS and end the slaughter of Christians right now!

And finally: As a Catholic, I believe that everyone can be forgiven if you confess your sins. But that is the first condition. I don't want any revenge or punishment for Turkey. Not at all. I want reconciliation. Reconciliation between the Armenian and Turkish people, but the condition for this, for forgiveness, is the truth. If I go to confession and deny my sins, it is worthless and I won't find forgiveness. Forgiveness I will only find if I honestly confess what truly happened. Only the truth can set us free!

The historical facts are so crystal clear. They are as clear as those of the Holocaust, or any other event that you'd find in any history book...so many documents, sources, clear statistics, clear evidence that 1.5 million Armenians and another 1 million Syrian and Greek Christians were murdered. You cannot deny it. You cannot excuse it. You can only, and that it's overdue, admit it. This is the first step for reconciliation. Any historians looking at all the evidence would come to the same conclusion of what happened, unless they were being paid or put under pressure. But facing the evidence we have, there's no other conclusion possible. It was genocide. It was the biggest persecution of Christians in history. If you still deny it, you protect the perpetrators, you side up with murderers. And you allow that it will happen again.

"KAAR-MED"

PRIVATE CLINIC CENTER FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

The Private Clinic "KAAR-MED" has been functioning on the market for medical services for more than 15 years. The Clinic is located in Warsaw (10 Bitwy Warszawskiej street) close to the centre of the city within easy reach of Dworzec Zachodni railway station and other city communications networks.

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The Clinic specialisation is gynaecology and obstetrics including full pregnancy care, "one day surgery" and aesthetic medicine procedures as well as plastic and cosmetic gynaecology. "KAAR-MED" employs gynaecologists and physicians of all specialisations who have clinical experience gained in leading Warsaw hospitals.

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- Toshiba ultrasound imaging system
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- Electrocoagulation apparatus
- ELLMAN Pelleve Unit (radio frequency surgery and wrinkle reduction system)
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WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

Enjoy your leisure

16 March

19:00. Don Juans in Amrseille. Based on the play by the 20th century French playwright Marc Camoletti. Play | Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski

17 March

12:00. The Dog and the Cat. By Hovhannes Tumanyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Traviata. Opera in 4 acts. G.Verdi. Opera | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
19:00. Glamorous Chobans. Transparent comedy. Author: Armen Vardanyan. Director: Karo Balyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
20:00. Stop Band + Friends. Jam session!. Concert | Stop Club

18 March

19:00. Don Juans in Amrseille. Based on the play by the 20th century French playwright Marc Camoletti. Play | Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski
19:00. Eastern Dentist. Operette in 2 acts. Authors: Artemi Ayvazyan, Hakob. Paronyan. Stage Director: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. The Sick. Comedy. Author: Hermine Mons. Music Design: Tigran Atayan. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. From Here and There. Premiere. Sergey Danielyan's mono-play. Author and Staging Director: Sergey Danielyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
20:00. Sukhishvili. Georgian National Ballet. Dance | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
20:00. The Stop Band & Garo Daghdvirenian. Concert | Stop Club

19 March

18:00. Ak. Ak. Based on N. Gogol's "The Overcoat". Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Blaise.C.Magnier. Staging: Hrachya Gasparyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater
19:00. Il Trovatore. Opera in 3 acts. G. Verdi. Staging Director: Honoured Worker of Art, Norayr Sargsyan. Opera | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
19:00. Flowers of Evil. Mimodrama in 1 act. Director: Zhirayr Dadasyan. Play | Yerevan State Pantomime Theater
19:00. Mister Babik and Others. Comedy

in 2 acts. Author: Zhora Harutyunyan. Staging: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. Abanamat (Once We Lived in the Mountains). S. Dovlatov. Play | Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski
19:00. Royal Concert. Musical-amusing show. Author and director of the play - Ara Yernjakyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater

20 March

16:00. The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. Mark Twain. Stage Director: Hranush Chichakyan. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater
16:00. David of Sasun. Author: Hovh. Tumanyan. Staged by David Hakobyan. Play | State Musical Chamber Theater
19:00. The Sick. Comedy. Author: Hermine Mons. Music Design: Tigran Atayan. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Royal Concert. Musical-amusing show. Author and director of the play - Ara Yernjakyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
19:00. Twelfth Night. Comedy in 2 acts. Author: William Shakespeare. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. Woe from Wit. A. Griboyedov. Play | Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski
19:00. Jesus of Nazareth and His Second Disciple. Drama in 2 acts. P. Zeytuntsyan. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan
19:00. The Caucasian Chalk Circle. Play in 2 acts .Author: Bertolt Brecht. Translation, staging and design: Tigran Gasparyan. Play | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan
19:00. 44 degree. Author: Astghik Simonyan. Stage director: Zohrap Bek-Gasparyants. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater
19:00. Philharmonic Orchestra - 90. Program.: Mozart: Symphony No. 39. Bruckner. Symphony No. 4. Concert | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian

21 March

12:00, 14:00, 16:00. Adventures of the Wolf and the Little Goats. Author: Petros Martirosyan. Staging: Tigran Zahalyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
12:30, 14:00, 15:30. The Tailless Fox. Hovhannes Tumanian. Stage Director: Lily Elbakyan. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater
14:00. Tom & Jerry. Premiere. Children's

Musical Fun Show. Staging: Artur Saribekyan. Play for kids | State Musical Chamber Theater

18:00. Du-Dum the Wise Man and the Ignorant. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Sale. Author: A. Galin. Staging: V. Stepanyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater
19:00. Twelfth Night or I am Dying of Love. Premiere . W. Shakespeare. Comedy without intermission. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan
19:00. Lorkiana - Carmen-Suite. Ballet | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
19:00. Amnesia. Drama. Staging: Gor Margaryan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
19:00. Rich Girl Can't Be Ugly. Comedy, 2 acts . Author: Alexander Ostrovski. Director: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan

15 March

12:00, 14:00, 16:00. The Tailless Fox. Author: Hovhannes Tumanyan. Staging: Ruben Marukhyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
12:00, 14:00. Lazy Huri. A. Aghasaryan. Play for kids | Hamazgayin State Theater
12:30, 14:00, 15:30. Little Red Riding Hood. Charles Perrault. Version and Staging: Armen Elbakyan. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater
14:00. Cinderella. Author: Charles Perrault. Staged by: A. Miridjanyan. Play for kids | State Musical Chamber Theater
16:00. Magic Ball. Author: Ara Yernjakyan. Director of the play: Lusine Yernjakyan. Play for kids | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
17:00. The New Adventures of The Three Piglets. Directed by Samson Stepanyan. Choreographer: Sevag Avakian. Musical | State Musical Chamber Theater
18:00. Golden Chicken. Author: Vladimir Orlov. Director/Producer: Karen Khachatryan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Jackpot. Premiere. Ray Cooney. Comedy in 1 act . Director: Samson Stepanyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater
19:00. Nazar, Nazar, Till the End. Staging director: Ara Yernjakyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
19:00. Romeo and Juliet. W. Shakespeare. Tragedy in 2 acts. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan
19:00. You Can't Get Rid Of Me. Comedy in 2 acts. Author: Gurgen Khanjyan. Staging: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan

Zodiac Weekly Forecast

Aries (Mar. 20–Apr. 19) :

There will be an explosion in the sign of Aries. You may set a bonfire, have an accident, or join activist movements. Motion and taking action are prominent. There is potential for your explosion to bring some kind of reprisal having to do with career or life direction. Maybe you have already done this recently.

Taurus (Apr. 20–May 19):

Be aware that you are in a sensitive frame of mind and may misinterpret that which is said to you. You may be the one who hears what you want to hear. So take your impressions with a grain of salt until you clarify what was originally intended. Don't talk yourself into a funk.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

You may be in the midst of a negotiation. It appears that you want to create something new and different for your future. You are attempting to persuade the Powers That Be to find a way to help you. However, this is probably a lost cause this spring. Don't waste energy if you find a push-back. There is a better opportunity in the future.

Cancer (June 21–Jul y 21) :

The torque of tension is all around you. It seems everyone you meet is needy somehow. You may want to stay home and pull your crab shell around you. It will be well for you to practice some kind of meditation or yoga on a daily basis, which is healthier than staying under the covers.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

Those who have experienced physical ill health in the last two months are recovering. This is a time in which you have "go" signals in the arenas of distance travel, internet activities, publishing, teaching, and legal activities. The rules and regulations are hot on your heels.

Virgo (Aug 22–Sep. 22) :

Beware the liar. The probability is high you will encounter one this week, someone who believes his own story, thus making it unclear if he is telling the truth. Check out the sources and ask other people who may know something about the situation. Don't accept anything of importance at face value.

Libra (Sep. 23–Oct. 22)

This is a week to bring projects toward closure, so you can prepare for a new cycle next week. You may feel bored or disenchanted with your everyday routine, but this will be relieved soon. Let your imagination flow and consider adding something beautiful, maybe inspirational, to your everyday surroundings. It will perk up your attitude.

Scorpio (Oct. 23--Nov. 21) :

You and Aries have things in common this week. An emotional explosion or accident may suddenly alter the picture. There may be consequences on your health, at your workplace, or in rental property that you own. Drive and handle tools very carefully.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 --Dec. 20):

Saturn entered your sign in December, adding a serious or somber level to your thinking process. This week Saturn turns retrograde for the next several months. This will reduce the pressure or weight of your concerns. The overall task continues to be how to grow a new identity, but for now you are given time to prepare.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

There are developing problems in and around your home that may suddenly become visible. If not property, then the restlessness and potentially surprising events may become apparent in your family life. Usually there are clues ahead of time about the nature of the dis-order.

Aquarius (Jan. 20–Feb. 17) :

Since mid-December, Saturn's position has altered your perspective on your community. You have felt the obligation to offer your talents for a greater social purpose. Alternatively, you may have felt a strong need to back out of social commitments. This week Saturn turns retrograde and the pressure on these issues will be reduced for four months.

Pisces (Feb. 18–Mar. 19) :

You may be more than a little bit tempted to pursue a dangerous course of action this week. This could be really expensive. Stay alert to how you talk yourself into something, just because you want it. Your mental side knows this isn't a good idea.

ARMENIAN POETRY

Alicia Ghiragossian

LOVE

I received love
with open arms – my Lord
and they remained open.
Open arms
are the prologue of a hug.
Open arms
are the sign of freedom
but they are also the design
of a hurting Christ.

Love is not only
a chemical formulation
where the attraction occurs
in the rhythm of the blood
where two in discipline
survive
in their own substance.
It is the alchemy
of a miracle
where souls fuse
in the encounter.
It is you and I
beyond a plural
touching a time
without boundaries.
It is a universe
of a huge us.

True love
does not allow interruptions.
How can welded souls
be separated
when they have lost
their own shape
in the fusion?

Do not detach from me.
The loves that vanish
are not true love
but mirages.
The love that is
never stops being.
I am your first love
and the last
and the ones in between.
I am all the women
whenever you loved
and every time you will.
I am love itself.

Tonight I could love forever.
I could cross the universe
mounted on the frequency
of the wildest dreams.
Tonight I could unlock my chains
create a soulmate
with the endless energy
of those who pray
and I could travel through matter
bless the earth
and build a new crown
for magic.
Tonight
I have conquered death.

Discussion, entitled "Women and Diaspora: From Past to Post-2015" held at the UN



On March 9, the Permanent Missions of Armenia and Cyprus to the United Nations, in partnership with the Armenian Relief Society (ARS), University of the Highlands and Islands, and Diaspora African Women's Network (DAWN), held a side event on the margins of UN CSW 59th session to discuss the role of diaspora women.

Permanent Representatives of Armenia and Cyprus, former judge of Civil Court of the City of New York, lecturer of History at University of the Highlands and Islands, CEO of DAWN, expert at UN-Women and representative of Armenian Relief Society delivered speeches at the event at the UN Headquarters.

The discussion was chaired by editor of weekly newspaper "Hayrenik".

Attended by representatives of the member states and civil society, as well as a number of UN agencies, the panel discussion revealed that women of the diaspora are uniquely positioned to use their exposure to and experience of different cultural, social and gender norms to drive transformational development at multiple levels of society. They discussed how Homeland and Diaspora can influence and reinforce each other and build synergies to promote women empowerment and gender equality, enabling women to continue playing a crucial role in preserving culture and traditions in post-2015.

Permanent Representative of Armenia to United Nations Zohrab Mnatsakanyan noted that Diaspora has a "consolidating power for a revival of the sense of identity, which promotes minority communities' integration in host societies, contributing to and benefiting from these societies and strengthening the link with ancestral homeland", adding that this topic deserves a due attention also in the broader context of women empowerment and the 59th session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

Armenians of Diaspora in their speeches reflected on the struggle and courage of their families, mothers and forefathers, who survived the Armenian Genocide.

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The Noyan Tapan Noah's Ark
HIGHLIGHTS
Weekly Newspaper, Since May 4, 1993.
The publisher: NT Holding LTD.
Circulation: 1500 print copies and
15.600 copies by e-mail list in PDF format

President of the NT Media Holding:
Tigran Harutyunyan
Editor-in-Chief of the Media Holding:
Gayaneh Arakelyan
Director of the Weekly:
Marina Harutyunyan
Chief Correspondent: **Gourgen Khazhakian**
Proofreader: **Susanna Mkrtchian**
ISSN 1829-0604
Registration certificate and the date: 273.110.00512, 15.12.1995

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