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**HIGHLIGHT****EU, Armenia free  
trade talks kick off**

The European Union has officially began negotiating with Armenia on a far-reaching free trade agreement that will significantly deepen the South Caucasus country's ties with the 27-nation bloc.

The first round of negotiations between officials from the Armenian government and the EU's executive body, the European Commission, on the Deep and Comprehensive free Trade Area (DCFTA) ended in Brussels late on June 20.

Armenia's trade representative to the EU, Varos Simonyan, told Radio Liberty that the two sides agreed to set up 14 working groups that will focus on concrete "chapters" of a future agreement on the creation of the DCFTA. The agreement will contain 15 such chapters, he said.

Simonyan added that the next round of talks will take place at the EU headquarters in early October. "The European side will present draft texts on some chapters of the agreement," he said, speaking by phone from Brussels.

## Armenian parliament passes government's activity program



**With 75 for, 47 against and 1 abstention the Armenian National Assembly approved the 5-year program presented by the Government**

### Tendency to deterioration of Azerbaijan's relations with neighboring countries becomes obvious

by David Petrosian

The skirmishes in the northeastern and eastern sections of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border in TavushMarz (Province) and at the line of contact of the sides in Nagorno Karabakh (in the southern section) have aggravated the situation in the conflict zone. According to official sources and press reports, the recent skirmishes have left five Armenian servicemen and ten Azerbaijani ones dead.

The skirmishes lasted three days and started after two Azerbaijani subversive groups filtered into the country near the Armenian border villages of Voskepar and Chinari, which are within about 60 kilometers of one another. The subversive sortie was timed to coincide with the U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's visit to Armenia as part of her regional trip. These actions of

Baku caused an outburst of emotions in the Armenian press, the essence of which boils down to the following claims:

- it appears that Mrs. Clinton has brought death and a new phase of destabilization into the region;

- Moscow urged Baku to commit aggression against Armenia in order to discredit the U.S. Secretary of State and to show that it is the "master of the situation" in the region.

Both versions do not stand up to criticism as they simply do not correspond to the reality for the reason that the position of Baku itself is not taken into account. Yet, its position is more than obvious because the purpose of President IlhamAliyev's administration is to demonstrate to all the external players without exception that:

- Baku is not happy with the cur-

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### Armenian parliament approves government's activity program

The Parliament of Armenia passed a five-year program for 2013-17 submitted by the Government after two-day heated discussions.

The program was passed by 75 votes for (voted by the Republican Party of Armenia and Rule of Law), 47 against and 1 abstention. The Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP), the Armenian National Congress (ANC), the Heritage and the ARF Dashnaksutyun have declared prior to and during the voting that they will vote against the program.

Program discussions were held in hot atmosphere where over thirty MPs delivered speeches blaming each other, while the opposition also claimed that program lacked precise mechanisms of implementation.

ARF faction leader Armen Rostomyan came forth with the speech stating while making the program the Executive Body took into consideration the discussions initiated by the ARF on the Government mistrust previously. "For the bad

activity of the program the Government brings an evidence three causes - the heritage received, economic and financial crisis and poor weather conditions, which are



not sufficient" Rustamyan concluded. Based on the marks made by the ARF Rustamyan urges to disapprove the Government program.

Ruben Hakobyan, on behalf of Heritage faction delivered a speech. In the speaker's words the main task our country faces is the manifestations of corruption, reportedly

the main junctions of the Government should have been mainly directed to it. Hakobyan called on to form anti-corruption commission, which would enjoy wide authority.

On behalf of the Armenian National Congress Hrant Bagratyan came up with a speech. According to the speaker, the faction has envisaged the Government program and came to the conclusion that the latter did not meet the requirements of the reality, so the ANC faction will vote against the program.

Naira Zohrabyan, PAP secretary came forth on behalf of the faction. In her opinion the Government program cannot solve the challenges that our country is facing, in particular, poverty, emigration and foreign debt, so the PAP will vote against the government's program.

The government's program envisages economic growth of 7 percent and cutting poverty rate by 8-10 percent, as well as establishment of 100,000 new jobs.



## Serzh Sargsyan receives representatives of the World Bank

President Serzh Sargsyan received on June 21 the World Bank (WB) Regional Director for South Caucasus at the Europe and Central Asia Department Asad Alam who was concluding his mission in our country and Henry Kerali, who will substitute him on this position.

The parties praised cooperation between Armenia and the World Bank and spoke with satisfaction about the results of the programs implemented in different areas.

President Serzh Sargsyan thanked the Bank for this cooperation and steady assistance to the social and economic reforms conducted in Armenia, stressing particularly the assistance provided to our country for the mitigation of the consequences of the global financial and economic crisis. According to the President, it has further strengthened and expanded partnership between Armenia and the World Bank. Serzh Sargsyan hailed the

WB Regional Director for South Caucasus Asad Alam's personal contribution to the deepening and development of cooperation and wished him success in his future activities.

President Sargsyan congratulated the newly appointed Regional Director Henry Kerali and expressed hope that during his visit, Mr. Kerali will have the opportunity to familiarize with the programs implemented in Armenia, our country's potential for development and existing challenges and contribute on his new position to Armenia's continued cooperation with the World Bank.

Henry Kerali assured that the WB has a good and able team in Yerevan, which will assist him in the strengthening and constant development of its relations with Armenia.

At the meeting, discussed were also priorities of Armenia's economy and in that context, future cooperation with the World Bank.



## Serzh Sargsyan convenes consultation on judicial system

On June 21 Serzh Sargsyan had a meeting pertinent to the problems and reforms of the judicial and legal structure.

At the meeting present were the Chairman of the RA Constitutional Court Gagik Harutyunyan, RA Prosecutor General Aghvan Hovsepyan, Head of the RA National Security Service Gorik Hakopyan, Head of RA Police Vladimir Gasparyan, Chairman of the RA Court of Cassation Arman Mkrtumyan, RA Minister of Justice Hrair Tovmassyan, RA Military Prosecutor General Gevork Kostanyan, Chairman of the RA Court of Cassation's Chamber on Criminal Cases David Avetissyan, and President of the RA Chamber of Lawyers Ruben Sahakyan.

The President of Armenia underscored that as he has mentioned before, the process of the reformation of the judicial and legal structure will constantly be in the focus of his attention and he would personally participate in each stage of the process. According to Serzh Sargsyan, all participants of the meeting and employees of their respective structures should understand that reforms concern not only the judicial or legal structures - it is an issue of bringing the activities of all state structures in line with the contemporary requirements.

In the framework of the agenda items, the participants of the meeting presented their views, observations and proposals regarding the draft program for the reformation of the RA judicial and legal structure. The draft will be amended in accordance with the presented proposals and by the Presidential decree the program of the judicial and legal reforms for 202-2016 will be adopted.

Among the main objective of the program, Serzh Sargsyan underscored the issue of ensuring full independence of the judicial branch. It was also noted that steps envisaged by the program have mostly anti-corruption connotation and their implementation will create serious prerequisites for the fight against corruption.

According to the participants of the meeting, the draft contains also indicators which allow to measure the accomplished works and efficiency of the planned actions. Stressed was also the importance of the efficient and transparent processing of the criminal, civil and administrative cases as well as the augmentation of the judicial and legal structure with the high-quality cadre.

In the framework of the agenda items, the participants discussed also issues related to the open letter of the RA Chamber of Lawyers. They also spoke about the situation with the draft of the RA Criminal and Judicial Code, a draft law on the Academy of Justice, and issues related to the policy on the criminal cases in the military.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Serzh Sargsyan gave instructions on a number of issues to the relevant officials.



## Armenian, Azeri FM's meet in Paris

The Armenian and Azerbaijani foreign ministers met in the presence of international mediators in Paris on June 18 to discuss the latest deadly fighting in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone and the future of the stalled peace process.

In a joint statement, the U.S., Russian and French diplomats co-heading the OSCE Minsk Group said the talks took place "in a positive, constructive atmosphere" but announced no concrete agreements.

"The Co-Chairs discussed with the Ministers the way forward on resolving the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, as well as further work on development of humanitarian contacts and the creation of a mechanism to investigate ceasefire violations, and preservation of sites of historic and cultural value," said the statement.

"The Co-Chairs also reiterated deep concern over recent incidents along the front lines and stressed the need to respect the 1994 ceasefire agreement," it said. "The Foreign Ministers expressed their determination to continue working with the



Co-Chairs to reach a peaceful settlement, and their readiness to carry out confidence-building measures that could improve the atmosphere for negotiations."

The statement did not specify whether they presented Armenia's Edward Nalbandian and Azerbaijan's Elmar Mammadyarov with new proposals to help the conflicting parties bridge their differences on the Basic Principles of a

Karabakh settlement put forward by the mediators.

The Paris talks came two weeks after at least nine Azerbaijani and Armenian soldiers were shot dead in truce violations along the Armenian-Azerbaijani border and around Karabakh. Baku and Yerevan have blamed each other for the deadly incidents amid mounting international concerns about a renewed war for the disputed territory.

## The Armenian minister of foreign affairs delivers a speech at the Rio+20 Summit

On June 20 Rio+20, the United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

High-ranking officials from 192 countries, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and heads of many international organizations attended the Summit.

Rio+20 summit takes place once in ten years in this format and is a global event of great importance dedicated to the implementation of the goals of sustainable development.

The Armenian Minister of Foreign Affairs delivered a speech at the Summit, touching upon Armenia's steps undertaken towards the sustainable development and environmental governance. Minister Nalbandian talked about the factors impeding regional development, in particular about the blockade, which is carried out by violation of the principles of international law, about actions which direct the revenues acquired from the sale of natural resources that push forward the arms race.

Minister Nalbandian mentioned that Armenia was actively involved in the 1992 Summit and during the following 20 years, under difficult conditions of transitional period and the policy of blockade, imposed on Armenia by some neighboring countries, has put all its efforts to try to accomplish its commitments towards the sustainable development of the country.

"Since 1994 Sustainable development theory and practice have been included in the educational curriculum of our Universities. In 2002 the Government of Armenia established the National Council on Sustainable Development, and later the Council for the Coordination of Sustainable Development Program



Activities.

In 2011 the National Coordination Committee was established for the purpose of coordinating preparatory work for ensuring the proper participation of Armenia to this summit. This committee has prepared and on the eve of this important event published a Rio+20 National Assessment Report, after intensive discussions and public debates.

Today Armenia acceded to 22 environmental Conventions and Protocols, and is actively cooperating in this regard with all relevant international organizations.

In the frames of this Summit on June 15 in Rio de Janeiro, Armenia, together with several international organizations and world leading universities, organized a side event and tried to share its views and experience on Environmental sustainability index, indicators and ecological footprint.

The Millennium Declaration has an entire section on peace, security and disarmament in which, alongside the commitment to overcome

poverty and strive for development, governments pledge to "spare no effort to free peoples from the scourge of war".

In that context, the proliferation of arms and weapons continues to pose a tremendous threat not only to peace and security but also, and increasingly, to economic and social development. It is unfortunate, that our region faces that danger.

Today, we are witnessing an unprecedented growth of the military budget of the neighboring Azerbaijan which has increased dramatically over the last few years.

The militaristic stance, adopted at the highest level in this country, poses a real threat to the regional security, stability and development," underlined the Armenian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Alongside other countries, Armenia was selected as a vice-president of Rio+20 Summit and respectively the meeting of the Summit was successively conducted by Vahram Kajoyan, the Head of the International Organizations Department of the MFA.



## 'Violent' Ex-Mayor brought back into government



Gagik Beglaryan, a controversial former mayor of Yerevan, has been reappointed to Armenia's government as minister of transport and communications more than 18 months after being forced to resign because of reportedly violent conduct.

Beglaryan stepped down as mayor in December 2010 after President Serzh Sargsyan effectively confirmed Beglaryan's involvement in an assault on an official at the presidential administration's protocol unit.

According to media reports, the official, Aram Kandayan, incurred Beglaryan's ire after asking the latter's wife not to sit next to the president during the November 2010 concert in Yerevan of Spanish tenor Placido Domingo. Such seats have traditionally been reserved for

Armenia's prime minister, parliament speaker and the supreme head of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

Beglaryan, who did not attend the concert, allegedly drove Kandayan to one of his properties in Yerevan and beat up the young official there the next day. He was never prosecuted for what a presidential spokesman condemned as an "unacceptable and intolerable" behavior.

The ex-mayor, who is also a wealthy businessman, remained a senior member of the ruling Republican Party of Armenia. He was reelected to the RPA's 20-member Executive Body during a party congress held in March.

Sargsyan appointed Beglaryan as transport minister on Saturday as part of a cabinet reshuffle resulting from the May 6 parliamentary elec-

tions. Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan introduced him to senior officials at the Ministry of Transport and Communications on Monday, June 18.

"I want to congratulate Mr. Beglaryan on his ministerial appointment and express confidence that he will manage to smoothly ensure continuity in the [ministry's] work," the premier said. "The projects that we have launched will be brought to a logical conclusion."

Beglaryan became Yerevan's first elected mayor in more than a decade after leading the RPA to a landslide victory in disputed municipal elections held in May 2009. The 48-year-old, who is also known to many Armenians as "Black Gago," had previously governed the Armenian capital's central administrative district.

Beglaryan has long held sway in a largely blue-collar section of the district notorious for election-related violence against opposition activists. Armenian opposition groups have long accused him of heading a local clan that rigs elections and bullies the government's political opponents. Both Beglaryan and the RPA have denied these allegations.

azatutyun.am

## Gorik Hakobyan: "Vardan Oskanian tries to present himself as a 'political innocent victim'"



During the last week in the centre of attention of Medias and society was the examination of former minister of Foreign affairs, deputy of National Assembly of Armenia Vardan Oskanian by investigation department of National Security Service of Armenia in the framework of the case about legalizing the profits received in culprit way. On this occasion "Armenpress" tried to receive comments from the Director of National Security Service colonel-general Gorik Hakobyan.

**- Mr Hakobyan, some Medias serving to different political aims qualified this fact as a political order.**

- At the first day of examination V. Oskanian hurried to declare that there is a political order behind the criminal case. The skillful diplomat, experienced

politician not finding another way out from the situation hurried to issue such statement and distract the attention of the society trying to give political inflection to criminal case, to create an image of a political "innocent victim". I would like to mention that the NSS issued a statement only after Oskanian applied to Medias.

**- Vardan Oskanian and the director of Civilitas foundation Salbi Ghazaryan refused to give evidence in the framework of criminal case.**

- During the examination there were put concrete questions about the criminal case after which they refused to give evidences. The law provides them this opportunity, but is not it strange that the leaders of Civilitas, whose mission is to strengthen the civic society in Armenia, instead of supporting the discovery of the truth, choose for

themselves a behavior proper to a representative of mafia? I can say that as a rule such behavior choose people who feel the possible consequences of the danger of the discovery. We can remember many examples when in democratic countries politicians of different levels are appeared in such situation or as a defendant or as a witness but none of them thinks to refuse to give evidence and avoid from responsibility in such way.

**- In your opinion what is the reason of such a strategy?**

- I think that creating all this noise Vardan Oskanian tries to distract the attention of the society from the main issues of the case and present himself as a "political innocent victim". Otherwise, the attention of the society would be concentrated on the fact that any Armenian foundation or politician did not receive such financing from American and European Governments, embassies and other organizations as Civilitas. Our imperfect legislative field does not exclude such financing. The attention would be concentrated on the fact that a diplomat representing the interests of Armenia for many years today has a political activity in Armenia and publishes newspaper being financed from abroad. Mr Oskanian chose another way of speaking with facts - to avoid from them, mask them under other circumstances, the issues cannot be left unanswered regardless of someone's wish.

## Armenian government lends salaries and pensions, while next generations will pay for it - opposition



The government of Armenia lends salaries and pensions, which the next generations will pay off, opposition Armenian National Congress group MP Hrant Bagratyan said expressing the group's viewpoint on the 2012-

2017 government program.

"What steps has the Government taken to overcome consequences of global crisis? External debt reached \$6.5 billion out of which \$4.5 billion is state debt, while \$2 billion is the private sector's, which is more dangerous, including the banking system," Bagratyan said.

According to him, there is no need to state Armenia's government was able to pay salaries and pensions during the crisis, as later on next generations will pay off the entire debts.

## Heritage party wants to look at Armenian government's backyard

The opposition should have the opportunity to control authorities' job to some extent, Heritage party parliament group member Ruben Hakobyan said in the parliament on June 21 presenting the party's viewpoint on the 2012-2017 government program.

"We are sure that the program has no space for its implementation. The only system of values of independent Armenia's government for over 20 years is professional corrupted pyramid," Hakobyan said.

He believes that controlling the

process of fighting against corruption will be productive only by the opposition.

"There will be no results when the government itself controls its corruption. It is opposition which should control for the budget expenses and state apparatus. Let us look beyond the closed curtains of the government," Hakobyan said adding the minimum consumption expenses are twice of the minimal monthly salary, which testifies to the increasing poverty in the country and causes migration.

## Tycoon denies role in severe beating



An influential businessman and parliament deputy close to the government strongly denied any responsibility for the severe beating of three men at Harsnakar restaurant owned by him.

The men, all of them military doctors, were hospitalized with serious injuries. One of them, Major Vahe Avetyan, remained in critical condition on Tuesday. Avetyan suffered life-threatening head injuries in a reported dispute with restaurant staff on Sunday.

Artak Bayadyan, another doctor taken to a Yerevan hospital, told that the violence was triggered by Avetyan's verbal argument with a waiter. Bayadyan said he, Avetyan and their three companions were told to leave the restaurant before being attacked by 10-15 other men. He said they were repeatedly punched and kicked.

Some Armenian media were quick to suggest that the attackers were security guards of the expensive restaurant belonging to Ruben Hayrapetyan, a wealthy businessman affiliated with the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (RPA). He is also the chairman of the Armenian Football Federation.

Hayrapetyan has faced opposition allegations of politically motivated violence in the past and is also notorious for insulting journalists. The tycoon has been accused in

some media outlets and online social networks of possibly sanctioning or even ordering the beatings.

Hayrapetyan strongly denied those suggestions, urging the media to be "absolutely accurate" and not to "exploit" the incident. "My immediate work is confined to the National Assembly and the Football Federation," he said in a statement. "Managing business structures, which were founded by me, belong to my family and employ hundreds of people, is not my immediate duty, and it is inadmissible to attribute everything happening there to me."

"I sincerely and humanely feel sorry for the unacceptable incident," added Hayrapetyan. He pledged to "do everything" to help law-enforcement authorities identify and punish the culprits "regardless of whether they are security guards, waiters or do other work."

Later, on June 21, Hayrapetyan refused to make further comments on the incident that has sparked media criticism of the tycoon and calls for a public boycott of his restaurant. He said that he will speak up only after the police investigation is over.

A police spokesman said on June 21 that seven individuals were currently under arrest in connection with the severe beating of Vahe Avetyan and two other doctors. He said five of them were security guards working at the Harsnakar restaurant owned by Ruben Hayrapetyan.

Meanwhile, doctors working at Armenia's basic military hospital continued to fight to save Avetyan's life. One of them, Hayk Antonyan told that the 35-year-old remained in "extremely grave" condition.



## Phil Gordon responded to the letter of ANCA

The State Department, once again, failed to properly condemn Azerbaijan's escalating violence against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh, in a June 13th letter responding to Armenian National Committee of America concerns about Azerbaijan's recent cross-border attacks, Asbarez reports.

The response came to a letter from ANCA Chairman Ken Hachikian on the Azerbaijani attacks against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh from June 4 to 6 that left eight soldiers dead and more wounded. Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Phil Gordon, responding for Secretary Clinton, "deeply regret[ed] this senseless loss of life" and went on to note that "the United States has urged the parties to refrain from the use or threat of force."

"We remain deeply disturbed by the ongoing artificial even-handedness applied to a belligerent Azerbaijani leadership, which has repeatedly shown - through threats and violence - a blatant disregard for international calls for a peaceful resolution of the



Karabakh conflict," said ANCA Chairman Ken Hachikian. "This time it was 8 soldiers who were killed on the front lines - brazenly timed to coincide with Secretary Clinton's visit to the region. How many more must die before we hear a clear rebuke from the U.S. and international community of Azerbaijan's escalating violence and war-rhetoric?"

Commenting on the ANCA's concerns about reports of an impending sale of military equipment to Azerbaijan for use on helicopters for border monitoring, Gordon noted "the United States' security assistance to the region is carefully considered to ensure it does not undermine efforts for a peaceful settlement in Nagorno Karabakh."

## Armenian MFA's response to Los Cabos statement on Karabakh

Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian issued a statement on June 19, commenting on the joint statement by the leaders of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries on Nagorno Karabakh adopted at G20 Summit in Los Cabos.

Edward Nalbandian noted that the statement adopted by Putin, Obama and Hollande "may serve as a stimulus for the negotiation process."

"Armenia, together with the Co-Chair states, is full of resolve to reach a peaceful settlement of the problem.

As Russia, USA and France, we also regret that despite of the urge voiced in Deauville statement on May 26, 2011, the parties failed to reach progress in Kazan on June 24, 2011 because of Azerbaijan's destructive and maximalist position.

Staying committed to agreements reflected in Sochi statement passed by Armenian, Russian and Azerbaijani leaders this January, Armenia will continue its efforts aimed at coordinating

the Basic Principles of the settlement.

We, like Co-Chair countries, have frequently urged to respect the ceasefire of 1994 and abstain from militaristic rhetoric that increases tension.

Unlike Armenia, Azerbaijan rejected and still rejects the mediators' proposals to reinforce the ceasefire, withdraw the snipers and create a mechanism for investigating the incidents on the contact line. For the last time, Azerbaijan did it during the recent visit of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office to Baku. Azerbaijan not only rejects these proposals but constantly violates the ceasefire regime and makes provocations.

Unlike Azerbaijan, Armenia has frequently voiced its readiness to continue negotiations to achieve a settlement on the basis of statements adopted by the leaders of Co-chair states in L'Aquila, Muskoka and Deauville, and already also in Los Cabos," the statement by Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian reads.



## Presidents of Russia, France and USA issued a statement on Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

Presidents of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries, Barack Obama (United States), Francois Hollande (France) and Vladimir Putin (Russia), issued a joint statement on June 18 during the G-20 Summit in the Mexican city. The three presidents urged Armenia and Azerbaijan to fulfill their promise and work toward progress on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict resolution process, Asbarez.com reports.

Below is the text of the statement:

We, the Presidents of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries - France, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America - are united in our resolute commitment to a peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The parties to the conflict should not further delay making the important decisions necessary to reach a lasting and peaceful settlement. We regret that the Presidents of Azerbaijan and Armenia did not take the decisive steps that our countries called for in the joint statement at Deauville on May 26, 2011. Nevertheless, the progress that has been achieved should provide the momentum to complete work on the framework for a comprehensive peace.

We call upon the leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan to fulfill the commitment in their January 23,



2012 joint statement at Sochi to "accelerate" reaching agreement on the Basic Principles for a Settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict. As evidence of their political will, they should refrain from maximalist positions in the negotiations, respect the 1994 ceasefire agreement, and abstain from hostile rhetoric that increases tension. We urge the leaders to be guided by the principles of the Helsinki Final Act - particularly those relating to the non-use of force or the threat of force, territorial integrity, and equal rights and self-determination of peoples - and the elements of a settlement outlined in our countries' statements at L'Aquila in 2009 and Muskoka in 2010.

Military force will not resolve

the conflict and would only prolong the suffering and hardships endured by the peoples of the region for too long. Only a peaceful, negotiated settlement can allow the entire region to move beyond the status quo toward a secure and prosperous future.

Our countries will continue to work closely with the sides, and we call upon them to make full use of the assistance of the Minsk Group Co-Chairs as mediators. However, peace will depend ultimately upon the parties' willingness to seek an agreement based on mutual understanding, rather than one-sided advantage, and a shared vision of the benefits that peace will bring to all their peoples and to future generations.

## The Senate foreign relations committee approves the nomination of Morningstar for US ambassador to Azerbaijan

Following intense questioning by Senators Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Robert Menendez (D-NJ) on a range of issues dealing with the Aliyev regime's ongoing attacks against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh and the demolition of the centuries old Armenian cemetery in Djulfa, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today approved the nomination of Richard Morningstar for US Ambassador to Azerbaijan, reported the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA.)

In a statement submitted at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee meeting earlier on June 19, Senator Boxer outlined a number of issues she hoped Ambassador Morningstar would prioritize during his tenure in Azerbaijan. "It is absolutely critical that Ambassador Morningstar use his position to respond to and counter the Government of Azerbaijan's escalating acts of aggression and threats against Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh," explained Sen. Boxer, who went on to call on the nominee to "urge the Azerbaijani government to comply with the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) Minsk Group 1994 ceasefire agreement," and carry out an investigation into the Azerbaijani demolition of the Armenian cemetery in Djulfa. Senator Boxer's complete statement is provided below.

Senator Boxer submitted a series of questions in the days leading up to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee vote, where her concerns about the June 4-6 Azerbaijani attacks against Armenia and Karabakh were evident. "If confirmed, how will you respond, publicly and privately, to new acts of aggression that now extend beyond the Nagorno-Karabakh region into the Armenian-Azerbaijani border area?" asked Sen. Boxer, followed by "How will you specifically work to ensure that the Azerbaijani government respects the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group negotiated ceasefire?"

Ambassador Morningstar reiterated the blanket calls by Secretary Clinton urging all sides to "exercise restraint, comply with their obligations under the 1994 ceasefire agreement, and take the steps necessary for peace." He then went on to explain, "If confirmed, I will work with U.S. Minsk Group Co-Chair Robert Bradtke and engage at the highest levels of the Azerbaijani government to urge respect for the ceasefire and strengthen its implementation." In response to a follow up question by Senator Boxer where she referenced President Ilham Aliyev's recent proclamation that, "[Azerbaijan's] main enemies are Armenians of the world," Ambassador Morningstar

was more direct. "If confirmed, I will make the case that irresponsible rhetoric is unacceptable and undermines our efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the conflict. I will urge the Azerbaijani government to show restraint in its rhetoric and to prepare its people for peace, not war," noted Morningstar.

Referring to the Azerbaijani Government's destruction of the centuries old Armenian cemetery in Djulfa as "an affront to religious freedom," Sen. Boxer asked, "Will you commit to attempt to travel to Djulfa to investigate the destruction of the cemetery? What steps will you take to ensure that other religious sites and monuments in Azerbaijan are protected?" Ambassador Morningstar pledged to "make every effort to visit the cemetery at Djulfa. I will also amplify our concerns to the Government of Azerbaijan and stress the need to respect and safeguard Armenian religious and cultural sites in Azerbaijan."

Morningstar responded similarly during robust questioning by Senator Menendez during his confirmation hearing last week. "What we need to do is to take very strong positions as an Administration and in Baku, if I'm there, to protect the rights of the Armenian Church, as well as to rectify the situation with respect to the cemetery. And that would be a major part of the agenda."





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## 3 ROOMS

- ♦ **2474. Koryun Street**, 5/3, 100 sq.m., 3 turned into 4, euro repair , euro windows, permanent gas, balcony, 2 AC, opportunity. Price 160.000 USD
- ♦ **2454. Moskovyan str.**, 5/2, 180sqm, normal state, 3 bedrooms, lavatory, permanent water, gas. Price 370.000USD
- ♦ **2453. Koryun str.**, 6/4, 100sqm, 4 rooms, euro repaired, 2 lavatories. Price negotiable
- ♦ **2429. Ekmalyan street**, 10/9, 178sqm, 3bedrooms, 3lavatories, capitally repaired, AC, parking. Price-360.000USD
- ♦ **2393. Moskovyan street**, 5/3. 110 sq.m., euro repair, logha balcony 17 sq.m., permanent hot and cold water, cube 700 l, electric heating system, natural gas, Ariston, 2AC, satellite. Price: 400 000 USD
- ♦ **2335. Mashtots Avenue**, 4/4, 95 sq.m., 3 rooms, 2 bedrooms, stone building, euro repaire, euro doors and windows, open balcony, permanent hot and cold water, concrete cover, beech parquetry, h 3 m, closed attic. Price 125000 USD
- ♦ **2348. Abovyan Street**, 4/2, 177.8 sq/m, euro repaired, concreted, laminate furniture in the bedroom, cupboards in the kitchen, tiled, Baxi system, Price: 250000 USD preliminary
- ♦ **2395. North Avenue**, 130 sq.m., newly built, h-3 m, a view to Abovyan street. Price: 1 sq.m.-1600 USD

## PREMISES

- ♦ **1710. Sayat - Nova str.**, 1st floor, 420sqm, 2 rooms, 2 lavatories, entrance from street. Price 1.000.000USD
- ♦ **1727. Baghramyan str.**, 2 storied, 230sqm, capitally repaired, entrance from street, garage. Price 350.000USD
- ♦ **1725. Hanrapetutyan str.**, 1storied, 171sqm, 2 entrances, capitally repaired, permanent hot and cold water. Price 500.000USD
- ♦ **1703. Northern Avenue**, 9/7, 66sqm, capitally repaired, heating, lavatory, 30000AMD service rent, view to Teryan street. Price 220,000USD
- ♦ **1553. Kasyan street**, 170sq.m., working fashion saloon, large windows, facade-15m, 1room+foyer, h=2.80 m, cellar 30 sq.m. Price 500 000 USD preliminary
- ♦ **1598. Nairy Zaryan street**, 180 sq.m., 1st floor, a working restaurant, hall-100 sq.m. 1st line, repaired, tonir. Price: negotiable
- ♦ **1383. Nalbandian St**, cellar + 1 story, 30 sq. m. cellar, 90 sq. m. story, Euro repair, hall, kitchen, lavatory, 24-hour hot and cols water, gas supply, suitable for a bar or restaurant. Price: 512.000USD
- ♦ **1603. North avenue**, 159 sq.m., 1st floor. Entrance on ground floor also, construction is in process, suitable for a shop. Price: 1 sq.m. 10 000 USD
- ♦ **1588. Tigran Mec street**, 256 sq.m, 5/1.2 ,

trade area, stone building, euro repair, 1st floor trade area - 210 sq.m., 2nd floor 46 sq.m. residential Area. Price: 600 000 USD

## LANDS

- ♦ **1756 H. Qochar str.** 1000 sq m, 2-storey brick building - 1200 sq m, old repaired. Price: 1.200.000 preliminary
- ♦ **2122. Davitashen**, 1800sqm, water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600sqm, 1200sqm. Price-150USD per sqm.
- ♦ **1869. Cascade**, 720 sq.m. 1st line, permission for construction, suitable for a new building or a business. Price: negotiable
- ♦ **2121. Centre**, land-1338sqm, 1100 sqm has permission for building. Price-2million USD
- ♦ **2107 Monument**, 2400sqm, permission for building, 2 projects to build 3 storied building, possibility of water, gas, electricity, beautiful view of city and Ararat. Price-500USD per sqm.
- ♦ **2033. Tsakhkadzor**, New Quarter, 600 sq.m., 1st line, asphalted road, premises, designed for construction of residential house, with all communal conveniences. Price: 120 USD for 1 sq.m.
- ♦ **1939. Kotayk region**, Aghavnadzor district. Land 5000 sq.m., suitable for building a resort place. Price negotiable
- ♦ **2011. Proshyan street**. Land 400 sq.m. for building a house, privatized, 2nd line/ near the garden/. Price 1 sq.m. beginning from 700 USD
- ♦ **2013. Cascade**. Land 1000 sq.m. For public construction needs, First line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price for 1 sq.m. 580 USD
- ♦ **2028. District of Erebuni**, Arin-Berd street. Land 2 acr. With a 2 storied partially built building, water, electricity plastered.h=4.20m. Price 1 sq.m, 50 USD
- ♦ **1402. Hr. Kochar St**, 1,100 sq. m, personal plot, front -25 m, privatized, empty, possibility for building communications. Price negotiable.
- ♦ **1351. Monument**, 2,000 sq. m, privatized, front - 17 m, APZ permission, for social purposes: suitable for a restaurant, hotel. Price negotiable.

## PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦ **2725. Nork-Marash**, building - 733.25sqm, land-620sqm, semi-basement +2floors, euro repaired, semi-basement is sport room, sauna, summer room, pool, fireplace, 1st floor- sitting room, 1 bedroom, cabinet, kitchen, lavatory, 2nd floor - 4 bedrooms, permanent hot and cold water, gas, Spanish tiles, 2 AC. Price - 500.000USD
- ♦ **3063. Komitas A.** Avetisyan street, 3storied+cellar, total-500sqm, 3 bedrooms, 3 lavatories, capitally repaired, cabinet, possible to sell with furniture. Price-negotiable
- ♦ **3059. Vahagni community**, total-1500sqm, building-280sqm, 2.5 storied, newly built, not lived in, 1st floor-living room-44sqm, kitchen, family room-24sqm, 2nd floor-3bedrooms, 3 lavatories, garage for 2 cars, cellar, security system, possible to sell with furniture. Price-negotiable.
- ♦ **3210 Aygestan community**, 2 stories, land: 480 sq.m, building: 310 sq.m, 1st floor is not repaired, garage, 2nd floor: repaired, kitchen, lavatory-tiled, permanent hot and cold water, Baxi system, a place for barbeque, garden, trees Price: 270.000 USD
- ♦ **3105. Cascade, Antarain**, 4 stories, land 1800 sq.m., building 1000 sq.m., newly built, need of cosmetic repair, windows, permanent hot and cold water, heating system, 4 bedrooms, ramparted, solar lamps, security system, cameras, external lighting. Price: 1. 300.000 USD
- ♦ **3054. Blur, Kharkovyan street**, 3 storied building, land 400 sq.m., building 450 sq.m., new, euro repair, ramparted, 4 bedrooms, 5 lavatories inside, 2 lavatories outside, Baxi system. Price 800 000 USD
- ♦ **2916. Ashtarak highway**, village Nazrvan. 3 storied building. Land 3500 sq.m., building 760 sq.m., euro repair, 3 tiled lavatories, a sauna, billiard, permanent hot and cold water, gas, heating system, garden, pool, garage.The building is ramparted. Price 50000 USD

## NEWLY BUILT

- ♦ **74. Cascade, Verin Antarayin**. electricity, water, gas, euro window, drywall, no exploitation fees, parking - 15.000 USD. 136-315 sq m. 1 sq m - 1200 USD
- ♦ **107. Monument, Verin Antarayin**. inhabited, 8th floor cockloft, gas, window, street view - 1 sq m -1000 USD, city looking - 1 sq m -1500 USD, parking - 4 million preliminary, price: started from 40 sq m
- ♦ **100. Leo str.** half basement parking, 1st floor - shops, 2nd floor - office spaces, elevator, equipped kitchen, central heating, water, height - 2.80 m, beautiful view, will be ready to for use at the end of 2013. 60-300 sq m. 16 floors
- ♦ **87. Sayat-Nova street**, newly built building Given to the operation in December 2012. Climate control, gas, the fasad sector has 3 bedrooms-188 sq.m, 199 sq.m, 1 sq.m- 1900 USD, 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight- 117 sq.m, 120 sq.m, 124 sq.m, 1 sq.m-1700 USD Price: 1 sq.m- 1900-1700 USD

- ♦ **93. Kievyan street**, newly built building Given to the operation in October 2011, gajats.



windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas supply, the second floor has a parking lot, parking is possible for sale. Price 12 000 USD possible with mortgage, for 13 years term

- ♦ **94. Masiv**. Newly built, , coupling, 8 flats, in each cottege 4 flats, totall-2000 sq.m, each flat has 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking: 80 sq.m. Price: 160 000 USD

## FOR RENT

## 1 ROOMS

- ♦ **1109 Teryan Str.**, 4/2 1 room transformed into 2, 47 sq.m, newly euro repaired, euro windows and doors, furnished, equipped, security camera, Ariston. Price: 500 USD
- ♦ **1009. Teryan str.**, 4/3, 1room changed into 2, 50sqm, euro repaired, furnished, permanent hot and cold water, gas, AC, spanish tiles, technique, ariston heating system. Price 800USD per month, 60USD per day
- ♦ **1096. City Centre, Heratsu Str.**, 5/3, 1 room, newly repaired, furnished, equipped, bedroom sheets and dishes, heating, satellite. Price: 400 USD, 15.000 AMD per day.
- ♦ **1005. Lalayanc str.**, 11/5, 1room changed into 2, euro repaired, furniture, permanent hot and cold water, gas, AC, spanish tiles, technique. Price 600USD per month, 40USD per day
- ♦ **853. Amiryran street**, 10/7. 1 turned into 2, 50 sq.m., euro repair, Italian furniture, bed, utensil, techniques, permanent water, gas, antenna, Baxy system. Price 700 USD, 50 USD per day

## 2 ROOMS

- ♦ **2064. Aygedzor**, 7/1. 2 rooms, 60 sq .m, capital repair, euro windows, Baxi system, AC, heating floor, camera, cabin. Price 800 USD
- ♦ **2037. Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, modern furniture, spanish tiles, permanent hot and cold water, gas, baxi, AC, technique. Price 100USD per day
- ♦ **2189 Vardanants str**, 24/12, 1 bedroom, newly built, 90 sqm, repaired, furnished, with elevator. Price: 450 000 AMD
- ♦ **2057. Sayat-Nova**, 11/4, 2 turned into 3, 78 sq.m., capitally repaired, Baxi system, furniture, techniques, AC, satellite. Price: 1 day- 80 USD, a month- 900 USD
- ♦ **1961. Tumanian street**, 4/2, 86sq.m., 1 bedroom, Euro repair, Euro windows, Furnished, permanent hot and cold water. Price: 1200 USD, 1day: 70USD
- ♦ **2186 Buzand str**, 7th floor, 2 rooms, newly built, euro repaired, furnished, equipped, internet, security system, permanent hot and cold water, gas, heating system, underground parking, beautiful view. Price: 900 USD, 20 000 AMD per day.
- ♦ **2099. Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 2 rooms, all the conveniences, repaired, furnished, water, gas, Baxi heating system, AC, washing machine. Price: 220.000 AMD, per day - 50\$

## 3 ROOMS AND MORE

- ♦ **1998 Buzand Str.**, 9/6 3 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, repaired, furnished, equipped, AC, water, gas, heating, view to Republic Square, parking, no service fee. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦ **2008 Komitas, Vagharshyan Str.**, 7/3, 3 bedrooms, newly built, capitally repaired, furnished, heating, 2 bathrooms. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1739. Pushkin str.** 6/5, 3 bedrooms, newly built, capitally repaired,2 bathrooms, parking, price: 1600 USD
- ♦ **1723. Northern Ave.** 8/4. 3 bedrooms, 170 sq.m., 3 bedrooms,3 bathrooms, newly built, repaired, furnished , open kitchen, Falcon system. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1942. Teryan str.**, 4/2. 3 bedrooms, 120 sq.m, repaired, furnished kitchen, washing machine, AC, 2 bathrooms, open balcony. Price: 1200 USD
- ♦ **942. Teryan str.** 4/3. 2 bedrooms, 130 sq.m, concrete, Hgt. 3.50, loggia-2, tile/ital., renovation. Price: 1500 USD
- ♦ **1969. Amiryran str**, 12/11. 3 bedrooms, newly built, 180 sq.m, capitally repaired, fur-

nished, 2 bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed, climate control. Price: 1700 USD

- ♦ **1970. Vazgen Sargsyan str.**, 10/8. 2 bedrooms, newly built,, 150 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦ **1967. Pushkin str.**, 8/6. 2 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1966. Ekmalyan str.**, 10/5. 3 bedrooms, newly built, 170 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed. Price: 1300 USD
- ♦ **1951. Buzand/Mashtots crossroad.** /13, 2 bedrooms, newly built, 122 sq.m, capitally repaired, 2 bathrooms, furnished, heating system, climate control, usage fee included. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1950. Buzand/Mashtots crossroad.** /8, 2 bedrooms, newly built, 163 sq.m, capitally repaired, 2 bathrooms, pantried, heating system, climate control, open balcony, view to the garden, usage fee included. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦ **1137. Moskovyan str.**, 6/1, 2 bedrooms, lavatory, pool, normal state, furnished, technique, DVD, AC, permanent hot and cold water. Price 1100USD, possible daily rent.
- ♦ **1790. Byuzand street**, close to Abovyan st., 7/5, newly built, 2bedrooms, euro repaired, 2 balconies, furnished, baxi, technique, 2 lavatories, garage. Price 1600USD per month.
- ♦ **1787. Koghbaçi street**, 13/6, 2bedrooms, newly built, euro repaired, furnished, 2 lavatories, central heating. Price 1700USD per month, 100USD per day.
- ♦ **1793. Teryan street**, 260 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 3 lavatories, capital repair, climat control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), newly built Price: 3500 USD



- ♦ **1564. Tumanyan street**, 7/4. 110 sq.m., euro repaire, 2 lavatories, Spanish tyles, permanent hot and cold water, gas, Baxi system, satellite, modern furniture, techniques, garage. Price 1200 USD.
- ♦ **1720. Amirian Street.**, 18/10, 2 bedrooms, 190 sq/m, newly built, euro windows, permanent hot and cold water, gas, central heating, 2 open balcony, nice view to the city, possible with or without furniture, parking for 3 cars. Price 3000USD per month negotiable, for long term - 6 months and more.

## PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦ **1191 Aygestan**, 2 floors, land 350-400 sqm, building - 270 sqm, 1sr floor - living-room, kitchen, study. 2-nd floor - 4 bedrooms, bathroom, storage room, partly furnished, summer garden, garage, swimming- pool. Starting Price: 3500 USD.
- ♦ **1218. Cascade, freeway**, 3700 sq m, 3 floors brick building - 1490 sq m, capitally repaired, walls - otto chento, 5 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, heating, gas, Price: 12.00 USD
- ♦ **999. Aygedzor 1st lane, Land** -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors' 310 sqm, capitally repaired, 4 bedrooms, living room, hall, 4 bathrooms, new furniture, equipped, 3 AC, Baxi, sauna, swimming-pool, house garden, barbeque equipment. Starting Price: 5000 USD
- ♦ **1094. Noy block**, 2 storied building - 400sqm, garden, permanent hot and cold water, furniture, technique, 1 lavatory, gas. Price 2000USD
- ♦ **1095. Aygestan**, 1 storied building - 105sqm, 3bedrooms newly built repaired, furniture, technique 1 lavatory, garden. Price 1000USD per month, 100USD per day.
- ♦ **1096. Blur**, 4 storied building, each floor-160sqm, total-400sqm, euro repaired, 1st floor-garage, sport room, swimming pool, 4 bedrooms, summer kitchen, 3 lavatories, capitally repaired, furnished, gas, permanent hot and cold water. Price 4000USD
- ♦ **455. Norq**, 3 storied building-150sqm, total -600sqm, 3bedrooms, lavatory, capitally repaired, furnished, technique, gas, permanent hot and cold water. Price 2000USD
- ♦ **1197. Blur str**, 2 floors, land -779 sqm, building-720 sqm, first floor from the yard, basement on the street side, swimming-pool, sauna, living room, 1st floor - hall, study, dining room, 2 bathrooms, 2ond floor -4 bedrooms, 1 study, 4 bathrooms, barn, no furniture. Price 8000 USD
- ♦ **1096. Blur**, Qeru, 5 floors, each floor 160 sqm, land-400 sqm, euro repaired,1st floor-gym, garage, 3rd floor-4 bedrooms, open balcony, nice view, summer kitchen, fireplace, swimming-pool, 5 bathrooms, Jacuzzi. Price: 4000 USD
- ♦ **211. Ajgedzor**, 2 storied, 3 bedrooms, permanent water, capitally repaired, beutifull view. Price: 1300-1500 USD

- ♦ **721. Blur Qery street**, land 150 sq.m., 2 stories+ a cellar, 200 sq.m., newly built, telephone, refrigerator, washing machine, 3 bedrooms, garage, 2 lavatories, a pool, camin, permanent hot and cold water, a cellar is used as a sport hall. Price : 3000 USD

- ♦ **1117. Aygestan**, land-420 sq.m., building 646 sq.m., 3 storied, 4 bedrooms, open kitchen, euro repair, new tiles, furnished, techniques. Price" 5000 USD

- ♦ **1195. Nork**, Armenakyan str, 4 floors, land - 2000 sqm, building-520 sqm, capitally repaired, furnished, basement, 1st floor-1 living room, study, kitchen, bathroom, living room, swimming-pool, sauna, 2nd floor - 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3rd floor - open balcony, 1 bedroom, bathroom, gym, garden. Price: negotiable

- ♦ **1142. Djrvj**, Bagrevand community. 3 storied, land-1000 sq.m., building-700 sq.m., 1st floor-cellar, pantry, playing room, kitchen, lavatory, 2nd floor- a big hall, kitchen, dining room, 4 bedrooms, 3rd floor- resting room, 1 bedroom repaired, each bedroom has its lavatory, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary/garage for 2 cars, parquet, Spanish tiles. Price: 4 000 USD.

- ♦ **1114. Gulakyan Str. in parallel with Baghramyan Str.** 3 storied building 500 sq.m., euro repair, 1st floor: sauna, a pool, kitchen, 2nd floor: kitchen, dining room, 3rd floor 3 bedrooms, lavatories in each floor. Price: 3300 USD

- ♦ **1190. Aygestan str**, 3 floors, capitally repaired, furnished. Starting Price: 5000 USD

- ♦ **1203. Blur**, H. Emin str, 3 floors, land - 550 sqm, building-450 sqm, capitally repaired, furnished. Starting Price: 6000 USD.

- ♦ **1219. Monument**, Aram Cholakyan str, 3 floors, land - 800 sqm, building - 300 sqm, newly capitally repaired, partly furnished, euro windows and doors, 1st floor - 2 rooms, garage, 2nd floor - 1 bedroom, 2 rooms, 2 kitchens, 2 bathroom, 3rd floor- 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, water, gas, heating system. Starting Price: 5000 USD

- ♦ **1085. Aygestan destrict**, 2 storied stone building, land 500 sq.m., each floor 12 X 14, 3 bedrooms, a cabinet, 3 lavatories, a cellar, a sauna, kitchen with cupboards, Baxi system, AC. Price 3000 USD

- ♦ **1139. Komitas, Sundukyan street**, 2 stories, stone building, land : 700 sq.m, each floor 185 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, cellar 185 sq.m, , capital repair, Baxi system, swimming pool, a place for barbeque, 2 lavatories, garden, 1 cabinet. Price: 3000 USD

- ♦ **333. Nork**, 3 storied, 250sq.m, euro repair, 4 bedrooms,7 lavatory, permanent hot and cold water, central heating, natural gas, garden, pool. Price negotiable.

- ♦ **1014. Norq Marash district**, 2 storied, a cellar, capitally repaired, land 567sq.m., building 551 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 1 cabinet, furnished, a heating system. Price 2500 USD primary.

- ♦ **1076. Nork**, 2 storied, 220 sq.m., euro repair, in the 1st floor 2 rooms, kitchen, lavatory, in the second floor, separate entrance, open kitchen, 3 bedrooms, lavatory, furnished, view to city, garage, garden. Price: 2000USD

- ♦ **990. In Monument, Papazian street**, 2 storied stone building + half-cellar, has mansard,5bedrooms, 2 kitchens, 2bathrooms, laundry, permanent hot and cold water, gas, plot of land 250sq.m, the size of whole construction is 370 sq.m. Price 2500USD

## PREMISES

- ♦ **1694. Komitas, H. Qochar str**, newly built, vitrines, front 20 m, 196 sq m, Price: 3500 USD
- ♦ **1693. Malatia-Sebastia**, 4rh floor., repaired, stone building, 2 entries, no artificial walls separating the territory, climate control, 2 elevators, storage space at the ground floor, parking, two-sided parking in the street. 1200 sq.m. Price: 10.000 USD
- ♦ **1525. Hanrapetutyan street**, 1st floor, 3steps up, h-3.20m, repaired, 1 large hall+3 rooms, 2 entrances, kithen, lavatory. Price 1400USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦ **1526. Byuzand street**, 5/semi-basement, 170sqm, 4-5 step down. cellar-50sqm, has 6 rooms, the largest is 30sqm, 2 entrances, 2 lavatories, 6 windows from street side. Price 2000USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦ **1528. North Avenue**, 9/1, 2 floors, total area 159sqm, 1st floor-66sqm, 2nd floor 93sqm, newly built, euro repaired, has the entrance from the street, security system, heating system. Price 7500USD per month.
- ♦ **1482. North Avenue**, 210 sq.m., 1st floor, with 2 floors, h=8m. Price 10.000 USD
- ♦ **1408. Zarobyan street**, parallel to Baghramyan, 2 storied, 300sq.m.construction, 600 sq.m. land, in a first floor hall and kitchen, in a second floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capital euro repair, gas, baxi system, permanent hot and cold water, telephone, garage, fruit garden. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦ **1438. Komitas**, 6 floors, cellar, mansard. Each floor is 120 sq.m., hasa need for cosmet-ic repair, walls are plastered, floor is leveled, hanging ceilings, permanent hot and cold water, gas, parking for 15 cars. Price: Negotiable
- ♦ **1462. Teryan street**, 3 stored, capital repaired, AC, capital repaired, parking, 800sq. Price: 10.000USD



## Tendency to deterioration of Azerbaijan's relations with neighboring countries becomes obvious

From page 1

rent status quo and the course of the negotiating process;

- the OSCE Minsk Group cannot ensure the maintenance of the ceasefire regime and achieve the settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict;

- it is necessary to transfer the conflict settlement and the whole negotiating process to another international organization where decision is taken not through a consensus as is done in the OSCE, but by a simple majority vote.

The aggravation of the situation contributes to the strengthening of the Ilham Aliyev regime as it justifies the suppression of democratic and civil freedoms in the country in the face of external danger.

One should do justice not only to the co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group, but also to the presidents of the co-chairing countries - they promptly reacted to what had happened and also issued quite tough statements, however, without... naming the guilty.

No doubt, all the problems related to strengthening the ceasefire regime are obvious. As before, the co-chairs take no steps for the implementation of the Agreement on the Strengthening of the Ceasefire Regime, which was signed in early February 1995 by the defense ministers of the three conflicting parties (Azerbaijan, Armenia, and the Nagorno Karabakh Republic) on the orders of

the presidents.

In view of the recent incidents, it is hard to disagree with the viewpoint of Vladimir Kazimirov, who in 1992-1996 headed the Russian mediatory mission and was the Russian president's plenipotentiary

wise all attempts aimed at settling the conflict, including the reconciliation of the main principles for the future peace accord, will be futile because, in V. Kazimirov's opinion, a fundamental question arises: Will the accord be implemented?



representative on Nagorno Karabakh and the Co-Chair and participant of the OSCE Minsk Group. It should be reminded that V. Kazimirov was the diplomat who formalized the ceasefire signed by the conflicting parties in Moscow in May 1994.

In his latest article "Incidents as Political Line of Baku" published in Nezavisimaya Gazeta (Russia), Vladimir Kazimirov expressed an idea that the leniency of the mediators towards Baku's disruption of the fulfillment of its obligations is totally inappropriate. It is necessary to openly record this disruption, other-

As regards the incident investigation mechanism, which is so frequently mentioned by the co-chairs, V. Kazimirov believes that it cannot be perfect as long as there are no neutral observers. "Yet, there is already more than enough information to reveal their political reasons," V. Kazimirov wrote.

In general, what is happening along the contact line of Armenian and Azerbaijani sub-units is only part of the developments taking place in the South Caucasian region.

In particular, we should note that in addition to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict with Yerevan and

Stepanakert, a serious tendency to the deterioration of Azerbaijan's relations with its neighbors is obvious:

- the relations of Baku and Tehran have never been particularly good, but after President Ilham Aliyev was declared the leader of the Azerbaijan is throughout the world, the relations have notably deteriorated, to which border incidents (both land and naval ones) between the two countries have contributed. The recent purchase of a large consignment of Israeli weapons by Azerbaijan gave renewed impetus to the deterioration of relations. The total cost of the deal is \$1.6 billion. The specification of the purchased weapons indicates that most of them can be used against Iran (including in naval operations), rather than against Nagorno Karabakh and Armenia;

- the problems with Russia are increasing. These problems include not only issues related to the lease of the Gabalin radar station, for which Baku for some reason wants to charge 40 times the previous amount (!). From the military and technical point of view, the Gabalin radar station is currently not as important to Russia as it used to be in the 1990s and the 2000s. Moscow attaches more importance to maintaining its military presence in Azerbaijan, whereas Baku - to all appearances - has decided to put an end to it. Meanwhile, the Ilham Aliyev administration ought to have



become alerted by the activity of Lezgin and Avar organizations in Russia as they actually began to make demands for better conditions of their compatriots in Azerbaijan;

- the relations with Turkmenistan have become strained in connection with Ashgabat's intention to start seismic work at the trans-border oil and gas field Kyapyaz (the Turkmen name of the field is "Serdar"). The revival of an old bilateral conflict is evident. The absence of agreements between the countries of the Caspian Sea on its status forms the basis of the mentioned conflict. For the time being, it is not clear how the conflict will proceed, but the fact that it exists is more than obvious.

Georgia remains the only neighbor of Azerbaijan, with which Baku has relations that can be described as allied.

The saber-rattling in the Nagorno Karabakh conflict zone may result in new problems not only with Stepanakert and Yerevan, but in other directions as well. For this reason, perhaps, Baku had better be more reserved.



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## By the time of Serzh Sargsyan's election much of Armenia was already sold - Chatham House

Home of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House has published its 2012 report - The Long Goodbye: Waning Russian Influence in the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

In his report, the author, James Nixey, states that Russian influence in the independent states of the South Caucasus and Central Asia is weakening; the drift is inexorable but Russia employs multiple instruments to counter this. "In the South Caucasus, Armenia has already succumbed to Russia economically, with ramifications for its sovereignty. But Azerbaijan and Georgia, via different paths, have moved away from Russia's embrace," the report states.

"The levers of Russian influence here vary. They are economic and military in Armenia, scarcely present in Azerbaijan, and essentially related to negative publicity as well as economics with regard to Georgia. Russian influence in Armenia is so great that lack of sovereignty should be Armenia's number one concern," the author says.

According to the report, Russian influence in South Ossetia and Abkhazia has

increased. The costs and problems associated with these dependencies suggest to some that Abkhazia and South Ossetia are milestones around Russia's neck. However, the Rs7.7 billion (\$250 million) Russia spends on them each year is a trivial sum.

Referring to Nagorno Karabakh, the report says Russia's support of Armenia in the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute has been based on several interests: limiting Turkish influence, countering a Russophobic Azerbaijan in the early years of independence, and long-standing cultural ties reflected in the large Armenian diaspora in Russia. "Russia's positioning has given it a powerful lever of influence over Armenia and Azerbaijan, as well as external parties. However, its backing of Armenia's stance has changed in recent years: during his presidency, Medvedev invested more effort in mediation than his predecessors and the Azerbaijani first family has strong interests in Russia," the report continues.

The author writes that a full-blown renewal of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict would jeopardize Russia's position in

Azerbaijan and Turkey, particularly if the Armenians required military assistance. Pipeline security would also be affected, and Russia prioritizes energy security and financial profit over conflict manipulation.

"In 2003, the CEO of United Energy Systems (UES), Anatoliy Chubais, outlined plans to integrate the South Caucasus into a Russia-led energy-supply network through ten former Soviet republics, as well as plans to ensure electricity outflows from Armenia to Turkey and Azerbaijan. Chubais denied that UES sought political gains but he has been a leading proponent of the concept of a Eurasian 'liberal empire' and his actions gave Russia almost total control of Armenia's energy market. It was Robert Kocharian, Armenia's president from 1998 to 2008, who effectively sold off Armenia to Chubais and other Russian commercial and political interests.

Through Gazprom's ownership of its Armenian subsidiary, ArmRosGazprom, 80% of Armenia's energy structure is Russian-controlled, including the majority of the Iran-Armenia gas

*continued on page 12*



## Third Armenian-Turkish Business Conference: Good Potential Revealed

By Gourgen James Khazhakian  
Chief correspondent

Over 70 businessmen from Armenia and Turkey participated in the Third Armenian-Turkish Business Conference organized by the Union of Manufacturers and Businessmen (Employers) (UMB(E) of Armenia on June 15-16 in Kars, - as a part of the "Support to Armenia-Turkey Rapprochement" (SATR) Project, supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by the Consortium of the Eurasia Partnership Foundation, Yerevan Press Club, International Center for Human Development and the UMB(E).

USAID and the Consortium Members support Armenia-Turkey rapprochement by facilitating engagement between civil society groups, establishment and development of business partnerships and regional professional networks, and enhanced understanding between the people, for peace and economic integration in the region.

UMB(E) coordinates the business strand of the SATR program. As part of the project, the Union is working to enhance business-to-business cooperation between Armenia and Turkey through facilitating the establishment of new bilateral partnerships and joint business platforms. The target fields of the business strand include

but are not limited to: Manufacturing, Tourism, Agriculture, IT/Communication, Transport, Construction / building materials, Construction Engineering.

Through joint efforts of UMB(E) and the Consortium, in cooperation with Turkish partners, the scope of the business strand is constantly extending to include

links.

To note, the first and second Conferences were held in July and November, 2011 in Yerevan, where over 100 businessmen from both countries participated. The conferences resulted in the establishment of the Association of Armenian and Turkish Travel Companies, as well as the Joint

the owner of Kars-based Serhat TV channel **Alijan Alibeyoglu** and Head of the SATR Project **Arthur Ghazaryan**.

"Despite Armenian-Turkish border is closed for Kars, goods turnover makes \$500 million. It will become \$3 billion if borders are open," Mr Alibeyoglu claimed.

According to Turkish official

"There are 40 companies based on Turkish investments in Armenia. To some extent, Armenian-Turkish business relations do indeed exist. Our goal is to transfer them into legal field," Mr Ghazaryan said.

Armenian and Turkish businessmen hold active negotiations within two days of the Conference. Some of businessmen of both states managed to arrive to an initial agreement.

Information and Support Center reps of both countries also participated in the Conference and offered their services on providing legal information. The SATR Coordinator **Armen Melkonyan** presented bilateral trade turnover, its volumes and areas.

As Arthur Ghazaryan told to your correspondent, it is noteworthy that in the Third Conference participated Turkish businessmen not only from Kars, but also from Van, Mush, Istanbul, Ankara, which, in his words, is an evidence of a really good potential to develop Armenian-Turkish business relations furthermore.

According to the President of the Union of Manufacturers and Businessmen (Employers) of Armenia **Arsen V. Ghazaryan**, despite the Armenia-Turkey Normalization Protocols did not come true (yet? - **The Highlights**), nevertheless, citizen diplomacy in areas such as business and culture should be go on.



Second Armenian-Turkish Business Conference. November 2011, Yerevan, Armenia. Far left - President of UMB(E) Arsen V. Ghazaryan. Galip Ensarioglu, a Turkish MP, far right



Third Turkish-Armenian Business Conference. June 2012, Kars, Turkey

new areas of cooperation between businesses in Armenia and Turkey. UMB(E) works closely with the Turkish-Armenian Business Development Council (TABDC) in Turkey to promote advancement of common interests across the region through establishment of business

Business Platform of Armenian and Turkish Businesswomen.

This time, businessmen gathered in Kars presented fields of construction, mining industry, fishing, furniture production, tourism, cargo transfer and jewelry.

The Conference was opened by

data, turnover with Armenia does not exist, while Armenian official data claims it is \$240 million. Export from Armenia to Turkey makes just \$1 million. Goods from Turkey arrive in Armenia via Georgia, where the documents are changed on the border.

## Elite Life Fair 2012: More Diversity, More Order and More Intellectuals

By Gourgen James Khazhakian  
Chief correspondent

...Yours truly believes that it wouldn't be a very great exaggeration to say that the Exhibition Elite Life Fair 2012, - the fifth already held on June 15-16 under sponsorship of HSBS Bank Armenia at its permanent venue, Golden Palace Hotel, was one of the City's cultural/high life recent central events.

According to its founder, President of the Elite Life Holding **Avetis Khakhamyan**, "the exhibition Elite Life Fair is the only exhibition of luxury goods in the region. The basis of its conception



No doubt, the universal attention was focused on this couple of couples... (Poghosyan sisters, Sofya (left) and Maya with their husbands Avetis Khakhamyan and Narek Gevorgyan)



is the idea to represent the whole spectrum of luxury services and goods - antiques, cars, clothing, jewelry, real estate, yachts, furniture and more, in the frames of one space... During three years of its existence the residents and the guests of the capital loved the Elite Life Fair exhibition so much that it created new era of luxury industry. Presented brands will be distinguished not only by their wide range, but also by presentations, as well as flexible system of specially created discounts, what guests can use after the exhibition."

As usual, within the two days of



ticed among the guests reps of a real, i.e. the intellectual elite, and they looked pretty happy...

Acknowledgement:  
**Nona Gevorgyan,**  
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(**Bravo.am**),  
**Davit Khazhakyan**  
and courtesy  
**EL Holding**

Expo the visitors (especially of the first day as they all were VIPs, i.e. "STATUS" clients of HSBC) had got an opportunity to meet luxury products and services of more than forty companies, - jewelry, clothes, alcohol drinks, furniture, cars and even yachts.

Notably, a show presented by Philip Morris (presenting its Parliament brand) was a special and so memorable one. And their (the most beautiful) girls, - **Hasmik, Flora**, others were very polite and educated (which is, alas, is a quite rare thing today in our society, - especially in the area of service), not speaking about breathtaking acrobatic numbers (see far right pics, with your author in)...

...And, - I would not like, not at all - to exaggerate, but it seemed to me that the organizational level of EL Fair' 2012 was sensitively higher than before... This point of view was shared also by the Ambassadors were present at the Fair. And the music was obviously better indeed...

...And, importantly: even on the first ("VIP") day of the Fair your correspondent no-





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**On June 21 was the 20th death anniversary of Leonid Azgaldyan. Here is an article about him by Edik Baghdasaryan.**

In Karabakh in 1991, a foreign journalist asked Liberation Army Commander Leonid Azgaldyan, "What color are you? I mean, what political party do you belong to?" Leonid knelt down, scooped up a handful of earth and said, "Here, this is my color."

On June 21, 1992, Commander Leonid Azgaldyan was killed near the village of Tonashen in the Martakert region. In an enemy ambush, the commander's car drove off the road in a hail of gunfire. His driver, Pavlik Tadevosyan, managed to leap out the car and escape. The circumstances of Leonid's death remain a mystery until now. His comrade-in-arms, Sargis Hatspanyan, says, "Leonid was the victim of treacherous bullets."

The Karabakh Movement originated in 1988 and attracted hundreds of thousands of Armenians to the Opera Square. For many, the Karabakh struggle meant going to Opera Square; for some it meant making speeches there. At the time, Leonid was already warning friends that the struggle would turn into an armed conflict and that people should be prepared. And he was getting prepared. Leonid's apartment turned into a laboratory where he and his friends tested different weapons. Then he gathered like-minded people and began studying and teaching how to be a soldier.

Leonid was born in 1942. Some time later his family moved to Yerevan. He was a physi-

cist by training, graduating from the Physics Department of the Yerevan State University and working at various scientific institutions.

At the beginning of the Karabakh Movement he found himself on the front line of the struggle. From February 1990 he was the commander of a military unit called the Liberation Army. He organized the self-defense of a number of regions and participated in the first liberation battles.

In 1991, he and his friends founded a military organization called the Independence Army. He served as its commander-in-chief till



the end of his life.

"Until now, we have only surrendered our lands to enemies and the nation's psychology has been such that the spirit of resistance has languished. This comes from the fact that those who make up our nation's intellectuals are poor in spirit; they don't know how to struggle. And here are, in fact, our nation's outposts - Getashen, Shahumyan, Artsakh, Zangezur. They are under direct threat of destruction, and these are not empty words, this is true. At any moment, a small well-organized force might attack, cut the roads off, and repeat 1915," Leonid Azgaldyan said in a March 1991 interview.

In those years, Azerbaijani military groupings supported by the Soviet Army were launching attacks on various Armenian settlements in Karabakh and in the Shahumyan region. Leonid's detachment orga-

nized the self-defense of these settlements.

"In the process a selection was made, only those stayed who came to defend their land, who truly understood that not a single inch of land could be surrendered, that it was, in fact, Armenia. Whatever international or national figures say, this is Armenia. Period. No one can say that it is not Armenia. No one has the right to put it up for sale, to exchange or surrender it. No idea can justify the surrender of Shahumyan, Getashen, Artsakh," Leonid said in the same interview.

There is no place in Karabakh

where people don't know Leonid. Before he received an award from the government, he was decorated by the people. His photographs are displayed in all Artsakh schools and state institutions.

"We are creating efficient military camps here. We select from among the local boys those who are gifted militarily, and we train them according to a special program; we create groups of commandos for special assignments. Our Army is based on ideas of national rehabilitation, independence, fulfillment of national aspirations," Leonid said.

There were several Diaspora Armenians in his detachment, a fact that Leonid found inspiring. "It is no accident that Armenians gather here who understand the meaning of the nation's struggle. The presence of guys from the Diaspora here is an important source of inspiration, from

a spiritual point of view. One guy's being in the camp, in itself, attracts others. People realize that their work is not in vain, that this is a pan-national cause, that we are indeed right, and that's why Armenians from very distant countries come and stand side-by-side with us and say, we are going to fight here."

In 1991 the Soviet Army and Azerbaijani military groupings were the masters of the situation in the Shahumyan region. Under these circumstances, Leonid and his comrades managed to carry out the self-defense of Armenian villages.

The Liberation Army stood out compared to other military detachments for its discipline. In the course of four years and dozens of battles, Leonid lost six only soldiers. He trained his soldiers to be ready for every hardship. Smoking and drinking were strictly prohibited. There was no other detachment like this in Karabakh. His boys trained for eight hours a day. He was preparing soldiers for a regular army.

Before combat he would always order, "Don't shoot at unarmed people," and would add, "Don't shoot at fleeing soldiers either. Let them go."

He gave that order the day the military station near the village of Aghdaban was destroyed. That same day the Azerbaijanis came and massacred the peaceful residents of the village of Maragha. Leonid and his unit rushed to Maragha. The enemy suffered heavy losses and retreated, leaving behind the villagers they had killed, dozens of mutilated bodies of children, women, and old people.

Leonid admired the natural beauty of Karabakh and said, "Armenians have no sense of beauty; if they had they wouldn't have given up Karabakh, for that reason alone. Giving something so beautiful away to somebody else is a crime."

Leonid's dream was to create a national army with a powerful Armenian state behind it. But the Army was taking shape slowly at that time. When we last met (it was after the opening of the Lachin corridor) he said, "These victories will



come to nothing because there is no regular army behind them."

He could not reconcile himself to the surrender of the Shahumyan region and parts of Martakert after the opening of the Lachin road. The fact that some soldiers left these regions before the residents did filled Leonid with rage. He said that they should be punished. He was planning to liberate Shahumyan with his soldiers.

Leonid's best friend and his favorite soldier was the commander of the Artsakh Front unit of the Liberation Army, Vladimir Balayan.

Leonid considered Vladimir a born military expert. Vladimir Balayan was killed on June 9, 1992 defending the village of Chailu in the Martakert region. That day Leonid's soldiers saw their commander crying like a baby for the first and last time.

"He was killed, he went to the gods because they needed him there. Therefore, we have to defend our country so that he doesn't become a martyr. He is a victim, not a martyr," Leonid told the people who gathered for the funeral.

After Vladimir's funeral, he did not speak to anybody for two hours; he just stood by himself. Then he waved his hand and said, "I'll go and meet Vladimir there - in heaven."

Twelve days later Leonid Azgaldyan was killed.

On different occasions, Leonid used to say, "The nation that loses Karabakh will be completely overthrown."

*Edik Baghdasaryan*

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## IMF approves fresh loans to Armenia



The International Monetary Fund offered a cautiously positive economic outlook for Armenia as it announced the release of \$50.7 million in fresh loan tranches to the authorities in Yerevan on June 18.

The two installments are part of a three-year lending program for the country worth \$404 million that was launched by the IMF in June 2010.

Their disbursement raised to almost \$270 million the total amount of low-interest funds allocated to the Armenian government and Central Bank under that scheme.

In a written statement, the IMF praised the Armenian authorities for adhering to macroeconomic policies favored by the Washington-based fund. It said that they have translated

into "solid growth" and falling inflation.

"The outlook for 2012 and the medium-term is positive, but not without risks, particularly stemming from Europe and affecting Armenia via Russia," read the statement. "Growth picked up to 4.6 percent in 2011, but is expected to moderate to just below 4 percent in 2012."

The IMF also praised the authorities for slashing the state budget deficit last year and planning to keep it under control in 2012. "The authorities plan to implement further business environment and tax and pension reform measures," added the fund. "Together with enhanced exchange rate flexibility, these actions should improve productivity and support growth and diversification of exports."

## Rio+20: protecting the environment is not enough



**Antonio de Aguiar Patriota**  
Minister of  
External Relations of Brazil

A three-dimensional approach to development is now needed - one that combines social, economic and environmental concerns.

Rio+20 is a landmark for the future. As more than 190 countries gather in Rio, we are witnessing a historic moment. The recent global crisis has shown that old-fashioned views about development are misleading. It is now time to rethink the very foundations of how we consider development, wellbeing and wealth.

Over the past four decades, the world has increasingly realised that our natural resources are under serious pressure. A growing awareness of the need to ensure sustainability has led a whole new generation to consider the requirements of sustainable development in its decisions to produce or consume. This is no small achievement. Rio 92 was a major step forward. Important legal texts on key issues were adopted. These conventions ensured important progress that we must maintain and build on.

We now face a complex challenge. Protecting the environment is not enough. We need to encourage public and private decision-makers to incorporate environmental and social concerns into

economic planning and growth strategies. This will require a new thinking from policymakers, experts, business people, project managers and many other public and private actors in order to plan and implement sustainable development initiatives.

From now on, a three-dimensional approach to development is crucial, one that combines social, economic and environmental concerns. Rio+20 is endeavoring to become the launch pad for this new development model. This is why one of the main topics of Rio+20 is building consensus around the need for "sustainable development goals". They will offer a blueprint for international co-operation on sustainable development for years to come. Future strategies, be it for govern-

ment, expressing views on 10 issues related to the conference. Topics ranged from energy and water to sustainable cities and food security. During four days in Rio, sharing the venue of the summit, experts, businessmen, activists and journalists engaged in live debates and streamlined the proposals that will be handed to the heads of state and government. The "Rio dialogues" were so successful that the UN is now considering turning this initiative into a standard practice for future summits.

Another key objective of Rio+20 is the strengthening of the UN framework for sustainable development, with a view to greater efficiency and consistency across issues.

Rio+20 has launched an



ments, entrepreneurs or civil society, must offer a balanced and integrated approach encompassing the three pillars of sustainable development.

In order to achieve this result, Brazil decided to adopt new methods. Innovative tools for multilateral meetings were introduced, bringing national governments and global civil society together. The Dialogues for Sustainable Development, a Brazilian initiative enthusiastically embraced by the UN, opened straightforward means of communication between interested groups and civil society on key aspects of decision-making. Through an online platform, more than 1 million votes were

cast, expressing views on 10 issues related to the conference. Topics ranged from energy and water to sustainable cities and food security. During four days in Rio, sharing the venue of the summit, experts, businessmen, activists and journalists engaged in live debates and streamlined the proposals that will be handed to the heads of state and government. The "Rio dialogues" were so successful that the UN is now considering turning this initiative into a standard practice for future summits.

Rio+20 involves an assessment of the past 20 years and a look into the next few decades. We are confident that this message will echo through the years, fostering new initiatives which can lead to a more sustainable future for all.

## Armenia's economic growth accelerates

Armenia's economic activity index comprised 7.4 percent in January-May 2012, the National Statistical Service informs.

And an 8-percent economic activity was registered in May 2012, as compared with May 2011, and this is a repeat of this year's highest indicator.

The economic activity index was at 7.2 percent in January-April.

The economic activity's primary engine continues to be industry, with a 15-percent growth. Agriculture registered a 3.2-percent

growth. To note, May is the beginning of the country's agricultural season, and therefore the agricultural growth will accelerate in June.

The services sector registered a 10.4-percent growth, trade turnover increased by 1.7 percent and it rose by 9.6 percent in May as compared with April.

Construction continues to fall and this comprised 8 percent within the past five months. And the construction volume dropped by 12.8 percent in May 2012 as compared with May 2011.

## NKR President and head of GDCA of Armenia discuss the issue of restarting operation of Stepanakert airport



President of Republic of Artsakh Bako Sahakyan and head of the General Department of the Civil Aviation (GDCA) at the Armenian government Artem Movsesyan discussed the issue of restarting the Stepanakert airport on June 19.

During the meeting, special attention was paid to the prospects of cooperation in the sphere between

relevant departments of the two Armenian states, Mediamax reports.

Talking to Mediamax earlier, head of the Department of the Civil Aviation at the NKR government Dmitri Adbashyan said that foreign specialists arrived in Stepanakert to conduct trainings for future associates of the Stepanakert airport.

The Artsakh side is currently engaged in purchasing aircrafts. According to Adbashyan, the Stepanakert airport will be provided with aircrafts of British Aero Space production.

"The main works are already finished. I hope the airport will be put into operation by mid-2012", concluded Dmitri Adbashyan.

## The name of the company launching activity in free economic zone in Armenia is known

R&D Arts Canadian Company is scheduled to launch activities in Yerevan Mathematical Machines Research Institute's free economic zone. The Armenian Development Agency's Director General Robert Harutyunyan noted that at the beginning of the year the Agency has been engaged in negotiations with IT best representatives: R&D Arts was the first to accept the proposal of free economic zone.

The company's vice-president Sergey Zotin informed that R&D Arts has its headquarters in many countries. The company will establish its Office in Armenia as well.

"When receiving the proposal we realized that it is quite interesting to enter Armenian market, by the way Armenia is nearer to

Europe than to Canada" Zotin noted.

As Armenpress reports, the interlocutor added he had come to Armenia on a mission to study the possibilities and estimate the situation. The company has intentions to implement 2.2 US million dollar investment and create about 25 jobs during the coming five years.

The free economic zone due to be created both in the area of "RAO MARS" and "YMMRI" CJSC companies will have innovative technologies' high production and export orientation in electronics, precision engineering, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology, information technology, alternative energy, industrial design, and telecommunications sectors.

## Armenia ranks 102 in Failed States Index

The Fund for Peace today released the eighth edition of its annual Failed States Index (FSI), highlighting global political, economic and social pressures experienced by states.

Armenia has the best indicators among the regional states and is ranked 102nd in the 2012 Failed States Index. Among the regional states Azerbaijan is ranked 68th, Georgia -51st and Turkey - 85th.

The FSI ranks 178 countries using 12 social, economic, and political indicators of pressure on the state, along with over 100 sub-indicators.

Each indicator is rated on a scale of 1-10, based on the analysis of millions of publicly available documents, other quantitative data, and assessments by analysts. A high score indicates high pressure on the state, and therefore a higher risk of instability.

The 2012 FSI ranks Somalia as number one for the fifth consecutive year, citing widespread lawlessness, ineffective government, terrorism, insurgency, crime, and well-publicized pirate attacks against foreign vessels.

Finland, Sweden and Denmark have the best 3 rankings.



# The Army News: Broadening International Cooperation and Spring Recruitment

## Minister Ohanyan Marks his Half-Centennial Jubilee



**By Gourgen James Khazhakian**  
Chief correspondent

On June 14, in order to get acquainted with the spring recruitment campaign, Minister of Defense **Seyran Ohanyan** accompanied by the First Deputy DM **Davit Tonoyan**, other high-ranking officers visited the RA Central Recruitment Station in Yerevan.

Minister Ohanyan talked to the conscripts, asked them about their health condition, their hardiness, education and wished them a good service.

After that Mr Ohanyan talked to the parents of the draftees and answered their questions. Minister Ohanyan thanked the parents for, in his own words, "shaping the Homeland defenders" and said they "should be proud for having sons defending the Motherland". As he told to both conscripts and their parents, he ordered "to carry out the spring recruitment campaign as it befits, taking into account physical, professional and intellectual abilities of any and each conscript".

And a day later, on June 15 the three day 6th Annual Educators Program sponsored by the Partnership for Peace Consortium of Security and Defense Academies held at the Ministry of Defense completed its work. This year's conference was held under the slogan "New Students, New Methods and New Assessments" aimed at holding interacting discussions on new approaches and methods in

defense, military education and training sector by exchange of best practices among the participants.

The conference brought together representatives from Armenia, Albania, Belarus, Canada, Czech

**John Kanegave** had speeches. Highlighting the importance of this event in Armenia, **Davit Tonoyan** told in his speech that in order to face current threats and challenges, first of all we ought to be interper-

wished him success in is further activity. By the decree of the RA Defense Minister **Seyran Ohanyan** Major **Justin Budd** was awarded the "Medal of Military Cooperation" for the personal contribution to the development of the Armenian-American military cooperation.

\*\*\*

As it is known, in the Harsnaqar restaurant (owned by the family of MP **Ruben Hayrapetyan**) brutal beating took place on Sunday June 17 around 11 p.m. Among the injured was



Republic, Georgia, Germany, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Macedonia, Mauritania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Ukraine, and the United States.

At the conference, the RA First Deputy Defense Minister **Davit Tonoyan**, Head of National Strategic Studies Institute Major-General **Hayk Kotanjian**, former Dean of the Royal Military College of Canada **Allan James Barrett**, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Mid-America Christian University **Kathaleen Reid-Martinez** and Coordinator of the Partnership for Peace Consortium of Security and Defense Academies

able, - first of all from the intellectual perspective, and that this cooperation can become a vital factor to confront the fragile security environment where Armenia currently finds itself. Importantly, there were active discussions and the wide contacts during the conference.

On June 16, the RA First Deputy DM **Davit Tonoyan** hosted the Deputy US Military Attache to the RA Major **Justin Budd** on the occasion of the completion of his mission in Armenia.

Mr Tonoyan thanked **Justin Budd** for the effective work carried out throughout his tenure and

Major of the Military Service **Vahe Avetyan** who was heavily beaten. He was transferred to the hospital with a critical head injury and underwent surgery. He is still kept at the hospital reanimation dept. and is in critical condition. A criminal case had been launched. The case was moved from the Police to the MOD Investigation Dept, but the Prosecutor's Office sent the case back to the Police. Seven suspects have been detained, among them manager of the restaurant, a waiter and five guards. Five of them have been arrested already.

On June 21 Armenian Minister of Defense **Seyran Ohanyan** visited the injured. The Minister met their relatives in the MOD hospital and assured that law enforcement bodies will find all the guilty and will punish them. A day earlier the Ministry issued a statement in which they condemn strictly such a brutal actions against any citizen of Armenia, no matter he is an ordinary citizen, soldier or officer, express support to the families of the injured, ensuring that the Ministry will be not indifferent to such kind of licentious actions.

...Well, here your author recollected words by a retired lieutenant, a war vet whom he met by chance in the eve of New (2012th) Year: "In those years **Seyran** (Mr Minister) was a real father for the soldiers..."

...On 1 July Hero of Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh), Knight of the RA and NKR First Degree "Combat Cross" Orders, other high awards, Colonel-General (of reserve), Defense Minister of the Republic of Armenia His Excellency **Seyran M. Ohanyan** marks his 50th jubilee. And today, probably, as never before, THE ARMENIAN VICTORIOUS ARMY needs such kind of Commanders who would be considered by its soldiers and officers the above-mentioned "Fathers"...  
**CONGRATULATIONS MR MINISTER, AND GOD BLESS YOU, YOUR SPOUSE MRS RUZANNA, YOUR FOUR CHILDREN AND THE ARMENIAN VICTORIOUS ARMY!**

## VivaCell-MTS presents Samsung Galaxy SIII, free unlimited Internet, lower prices for BB smartphones and continues equipping universities with modern technics

**By Andy Barsamian**

On last Wednesday June 20 VivaCell-MTS together with Samsung Electronics Armenia Representation presented Samsung Galaxy SIII to the smartphone's fans and media reps gathered at Northern Avenue. Highlighted by music, the launch was a real surprise to its participants.

People had an opportunity to test the new Samsung Galaxy SIII in VivaCell-MTS service center and participate in an attractive game.

An additional excitement to the event was added by the break dance, hip hop and (Brazilian) Capoeira (which is an interesting synthesis of dance and martial arts) dancers, with rollers and skaters rolling around the dance floor showing people their tricks. A screen was set up next to the dance floor where graffiti painters were painting.

The Samsung Galaxy SIII launching event also hosted an interesting competition. The visitor who had achieved the highest score in solving the computer-based promotional puzzle with the SIII handset and VivaCell-MTS logo, projected on a wide LED screen, received a Samsung Galaxy SIII smartphone. Other winners received other Samsung phones. The valuable prizes were handed to the winners by VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian** and Head of Samsung Electronics Armenia Representation **Andranik Shahbazyan**.

Powered by Android™ 4.0, Ice Cream Sandwich, the Galaxy S III allows to do two things at once with the Pop Up Play feature. With the enhanced 8MP camera and a zero-lag shutter speed, the photos will be transformed - and one can capture moving objects (and people) without delay. The Burst Shot function helps take pictures like a professional,

with the ability to instantly capture 20 continuous shots, while Best Photo takes eight pictures and chooses the best one. The 4.8" HD Super AMOLED™ screen has an ultrafast response time and displays gorgeous, saturated colors. The large viewing area and higher resolution is great for every task, from viewing a document to watching a movie.



According to Mr Yirikian, "the highly anticipated and in fact unprecedented Samsung Galaxy SIII will be available at present in the 24/7 service centers of VivaCell-MTS on Northern Avenue and Amiryani street, as well as other service centers of the Company. Notably, among its advantages is that it contains the Armenian alphabet. But not only the smartphone itself is unprecedented; its price also is unprecedented - while it costs AMD 339 thousand, for those who reserved their smartphone by pre-ordering it via [www.vivacell.am](http://www.vivacell.am), before its market release, it will cost 329 thousand together with a nice number as a gift. Moreover, for those VivaCell-MTS subscribers who'd like to get a bonus package paying 399 thousand AMD, the smartphone, in fact, will cost mere 199.500 AMD as

another half of price could be used for free calls, SMSs, Internet, etc."

As your correspondent noticed, just after Mr Yirikian's interview to numerous cameras and journalists was over, a venerable gray-haired gentleman approached him and shook his hand. He proved to be Professor **Sergey Hayrapetyan** who thanked the General Manager of



Armenia's leading telecommunications operator company for, in his own words, "patriotic activities".

Below the readers can find novelties by Armenia's leading telecom operator introduced within last week.

### VivaCell-MTS presents new tariff plan "Hot Nights"

On June 19 VivaCell-MTS announced that the new "Hot Nights" prepaid tariff plan offers free unlimited Internet at night hours throughout the summer months.

The price of the card is AMD 1000 and includes AMD 1000 initial balance.

Subscribers of the "Hot Night" package have an opportunity to use one of the most acknowledged virus scan software in the world - the well-known Dr.Web antivirus program,

absolutely free of charge.

### More Internet and on-net air-time from VivaCell-MTS

And on June 18 they presented new improved Internet packages for prepaid subscribers. Now subscribers have more choice of packages and more Internet and free on-net minutes for the same price.

Now it is possible to activate the new "inet 5" package. Besides, the package for AMD 400 now includes 25 MBs instead of the 20 before, as well as 25 minutes of free on-net minutes. Instead of "inet 200" now one can activate the "inet 250" for AMD 2500, which includes 250 on-net minutes instead of the 150 before. And finally, the "inet 1000" package now includes 1000 free on-net minutes, instead of the 500 minutes before.

### More affordable prices for BlackBerry smartphones

On the same day VivaCell-MTS announced that BlackBerry® Bold™ 9000, BlackBerry® Bold™ 9700, BlackBerry® Storm™ 9520 and BlackBerry® Torch™ 9800 smartphones are now available at more affordable prices.

And as we touched upon smartphones, it should be mentioned that...

### ...Eight more Samsung phones already available at VivaCell-MTS service centers

On June 15 VivaCell-MTS announced that eight more Samsung phones are now available at VivaCell-MTS service centers.

The offered Samsung Ch@t 222 (E2222) and Samsung Star II Duos (C6712) are meant especially for those, who prefer using two numbers

simultaneously.

This report would not be a complete one without mentioning that the program of technical equipment of Armenian universities continues.

### So VivaCell-MTS has extended support to two more higher educational institutions implementing international programs.

On June 15 they informed that in the frames of the universities' technical equipment project the Eurasia International University and the Yerevan branch of the St. Petersburg Institute of International Economic Relations, Economics and Law have been fitted with modern equipment.

With VivaCell-MTS support an auditorium with 6 computers was opened in the Eurasia International University. The interactive blackboard with a projector is another means of developing teaching methods and improving the quality of education. This technological solution allows the professors to significantly reduce the loss of time while presenting the necessary information to the students. The auditorium was also fitted with a laser printer.

New educational achievements are as well expected at the Yerevan branch of the St. Petersburg Institute of International Economic Relations, Economics and Law, where an IT auditorium with 6 computers connected to the Internet was opened. The Internet connection is secured with a 3G router working within "Home-Zone Turbo" package.

"We are eager to encourage educational and research aspirations of students. Our desire to have a developed country is reflected in our commitment to make serious investments in the educational sphere. We are sure that VivaCell-MTS' cooperation with universities will result in a long-term impact on the entire country," noted VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**.



## PM introduces Armenian Government program

*The Cabinet met on June 18 in an extraordinary session. The meeting was welcomed by Republic of Armenia President SerzhSargsyan.*

*The meeting first approved the 2012-2017 program of the Government of the Republic of Armenia which was introduced by Prime Minister TigranSargsyan.*

*The full text of Prime Minister's speech is presented below:*

"Dear Mr. President,  
Dear Colleagues,

Before giving you the summary of the program, on behalf of the newly appointed Government and myself, I would like I thank the President for high trust and assure that we will do our best to meet your confidence and our people's expectations.

The program of the government was developed to meet the fundamental provisions of the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Armenia, to comply with the programs of the President of the Republic of Armenia, the Republican Party and the Rule of Law party, as well as the programs of parliamentary parties.

The government program proceeds from the idea that the State must create better and dignified living conditions for the population.

First of all, we must strengthen the foundations of our independent statehood.

The second focus is to get the public institutions to face the man - every member of society.

We went through numerous new challenges during the past few years. In the meantime, we were able to:

- significantly alleviate the manifestations of internal political divisions and intolerance

- keep the country safe from the shocks caused by regional hostilities,

- through army building efforts and a pro-active foreign policy, ensure the security of our country by strengthening the guarantees of peace,

- mitigate the economic impact of the global financial crisis and create a more diversified economy,

- amid escalating economic and financial crisis, increase the level of welfare benefits, pensions and salaries, soften the social impact of the crisis,

- build on the relationship with our CIS partners, and substantially expand the field of cooperation,

- start negotiations with the European Union over the zone of deep and comprehensive free trade

- facilitate the provision of many public services.

In 2008, we initiated a new phase of large-scale reforms covering all spheres of public life.

We spent a lot of resources while overcoming the negative impact of external challenges. As a result, some reforms have not yet been brought to logical conclusion.

At this stage, our task is to convert the first results of reforms into sustained and long-term institutional relationship and make them tangible and visible to everyone. Everyone should see and feel the effect of the ongoing transformations. Each citizen should be provided with the opportunity of self-expression and

self-realization.

The program of the Government will be based on the following 3 priorities:

### **Priority 1. Improved economic competitiveness as a prerequisite for sustainable growth.**

In this regard, we will carry out actions in the following areas:

- continued improvement of business and investment environments,

- increased use of innovative technologies,

- ensuring equal competitive conditions for all

- ensuring economic diversification with a greater share of export-oriented sectors

- harmonious territorial development based on the progressive pace of the regions' economic activity, and the shaping of comfortable villages

- development affordable and sustainable industrial infrastructures aimed at closer public-private sector partnership-propelled economic growth

- modernization of agriculture and agribusiness development assistance,

- ensuring availability of financial resources for businesses and citizens, as well as variety of financial instruments

- achieving a progressive pace of growth comparable with the developed countries, in particular by adhering to a more targeted industrial policy that would help reduce the gap between the incomes of Armenian citizens and those of developed countries,

- expansion of economic partnership by enhancing Armenia's international integration, increasing opportunities of entering different export markets, emphasizing the importance of partnership within the CIS and the European Union,

- ensuring increased country immunity against external shocks,

- implementation of integrated programs aimed at ensuring economic security.

### **Priority 2. The development of human capital**

In this regard, we will carry out actions in the following areas:

- ensuring broader access to quality education, health and cultural services

- elimination of causes leading to poverty and inequality by providing access to education and employment for vulnerable and active layers of the population

- creation of favorable conditions for the preservation of the Armenian spiritual and cultural heritage, reproduction and development of national values and traditions,

- expansion of the middle stratum of society as a solid foundation of human capital,

- providing targeted services for vulnerable and disabled groups,

- ensuring a decent old-age for each member of society,

- providing jobs and a favorable environment for life, self-realization and social justice as an effective tool to prevent emigration,

- harmonious development of both humans and the nature,

- increased involvement of dias-

poras in the development of human capital.

### **Priority 3. Development of institutional capacity.**

In this regard, we will carry out actions in the following areas:

- strengthening of public institutions through the development of human capital, streamlining of internal and external activities of different institutions to avoid duplication in functions, building up dynamic co-operation with the private sector and civil society,

- in the public sector, ensuring priority of the principle of "fair play" and providing quality services,

- elimination of the root causes behind corruption through increased transparency and emphasis on the preventive approach in the fight against corruption,

- ensuring increased confidence in public institutions through improved transparency, accountability, responsibility,

- application of stronger professional standards in the system of public administration and establishment of clear-cut enrollment mechanisms,

- building such systems of tax and customs administration and competition protection as would provide for equal and unreserved application of legislation for all business entities.

Weak global demand and uncertainty in economic developments curb the possibility of attracting resources from external economies. Over the next five years, the internal resources-based scheme of development will prevail in Armenia.

The Government expects to achieve this through increased share of export-oriented industries, which implies systematic and effective use of internal resources. The Government will implement the following steps under its 2012-2017 program:

- providing progressive growth comparable to developed countries with a 5.7% GDP growth,

- achieving a progressive exports/imports ratio,

- providing at least a two-fold increase in minimum wages,

- ensuring at least a 140% minimum wage / poverty index,

- boosting the nationwide birth rate to 1.8,

- providing access to preschool education for children 5-6 years, at least 90 percent,

- raising the level of average employment (insurance) pension to 125-135 percent over the poverty line,

- reducing poverty by 8-10 percentage points,

- creating over 100 thousand new jobs, while the number of non-agricultural employment shall increase by 30-50 thousand

- ensuring annual growth in revenue collection at the rate of 0.3-0.4% of GDP.

All these measures and targets are based on the activities and reports made by the Government, the ministries and State departments of the Republic of Armenia. I am convinced that we can succeed in making them realistic through joint efforts. Thank you."

## Israel has one good reason for recognizing the Armenian Genocide



*By Harut Sassounian  
Publisher, The California Courier*

Israel's Parliament -- the Knesset -- held "an historic session" on June 12, during which "seven different political parties overwhelmingly endorsed recognition of the Armenian Genocide," according to Dr. Israel Charny, Executive Director of the Institute on the Holocaust and Genocide in Jerusalem. He cautiously predicted that the Knesset would complete its legislative procedures leading to recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

While acknowledging the Armenian Genocide would be salutary, Israel should have done so long ago. In fact, the Jewish State should have been the first country to recognize the genocide, in view of the awesome legacy of the Holocaust -- Shoah. Who should empathize more with the victims of genocide than those who have suffered a similar fate themselves? As Knesset member Nino Abesadze pointed out during the hearing: "It is precisely because we have been a victim people that we do not dare fail to identify with another victim people." Another influential Knesset member, Zeev Elkin, Chair of the Likud Caucus stated: "We are one of the last nations in the world that has still not recognized the Armenian Genocide. It is our moral responsibility that we have still not met."

During the June 12 hearing, Knesset Chairman Reuven Rivlin spoke "firmly and inspiringly" with "profound feeling of both a Jewish and an Israeli imperative to extend a long overdue recognition," Dr. Charny reported. Chairman Rivlin announced that there was no need for a new vote to recognize the Armenian Genocide since the Knesset had already voted unanimously for its recognition last year. Dr. Charny explained that unlike the US Congress, Knesset resolutions first go to the plenary session before being considered by one of its committees. The next step for the Armenian Genocide resolution is the Education Committee, after which it would be sent back to the Knesset for a final vote. Only then it could be said that the Knesset has officially recognized the Armenian Genocide.

One of the unexpected developments at the June 12 hearing was a statement by Minister of Environmental Affairs Gilad Erdan who announced that he was speaking officially on behalf of the government. He stated unambiguously that Israel had decided to recognize the Armenian Genocide. Furthermore, Minister

Erdan claimed that "the State of Israel has never denied it, on the contrary, we deplore the [Armenian] genocide." This was a surprising statement, since it is well known that, under Turkish pressure, Israel has persistently opposed recognition of the Armenian Genocide. Nevertheless, in defiance of Israeli state denialism, on April 24, 2000, Minister of Justice Yossi Beilin and Minister of Education Yossi Sarid acknowledged the Armenian Genocide, prompting the government to repudiate their statements. Beilin had also recognized the genocide in 1994, while serving as Deputy Foreign Minister.

The fact that serious discussions on the Armenian Genocide are now taking place at a time of deteriorating relations between Turkey and Israel raises troubling questions about the motives of the Israeli government. It would be morally repugnant to see the mass murder of a nation being exploited for crass political calculations. Yet, one has to realize that international relations are rarely based on moral principles. Were it not for economic and political considerations, the whole world would have long ago recognized the Armenian Genocide.

While critics may be displeased that Israel is considering recognition of the Armenian Genocide at a time of discord with Turkey, the greater wrong, in my view, was not doing the right thing for all these years. Even now, despite efforts to rectify the past and uphold the truth, some Israeli officials are concerned that raising the Armenian Genocide issue would further exacerbate relations with Turkey. Knesset member Arie Eldad dismissed such objections by pointing out the illogical stance of the naysayers: "A few years ago, people said we couldn't talk about it because of our good relations with Turkey. Now people say we can't talk about it because of our bad relations with Turkey." Eldad added that when people are reluctant to address moral and ethical issues there is always a claim that the timing of such a discussion is wrong.

There is, however, one red line that no Armenian should cross. Israeli officials have sought to obtain political concessions from Armenia and Armenians in return for genocide recognition. Such demands should be rejected outright since Armenians do not owe anything to Israel for recognizing the genocide -- a universally acknowledged historical fact. Israel should recognize the Armenian Genocide simply because it is the right thing to do, reflecting the sentiments of all righteous Jews worldwide.



## Former US Ambassador to Armenia writes reviews for Armenian Genocide books

**"The Young Turks' Crime Against Humanity: The Armenian Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing in the Ottoman Empire By Taner Akcam, and Judgment at Istanbul: The Armenian Genocide Trials By Vahakn N. Dadrian and Taner Akcam.**

These two books are the latest, and perhaps most conclusive, of the many I have read about the 1915 Armenian Genocide. Dr. Taner Akcam's *The Young Turks' Crime Against Humanity: The Armenian Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing in the Ottoman Empire* constitutes a major breakthrough in our understanding of the social engineering that led to the near destruction of the Armenians of Anatolia, and of the dual-track mechanism for organizing it that the Young Turks employed.

*Judgment at Istanbul: The Armenian Genocide Trials* co-authored by Akcam and veteran Armenian historian Vahakn Dadrian, gives the English-speaking world, for the first time, the full story of the courts-martial constituted by the Ottoman Government in 1919 to hold to account the perpetrators of the deportations and massacres (seven of the most important of whom had already escaped to safety on a German warship)," John Evans, former US Ambassador to Armenia writes.

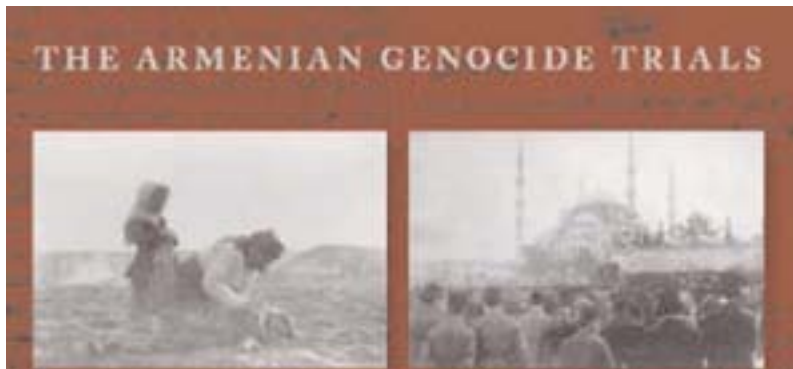
Evans writes both volumes are a must for serious scholars of the Armenian Genocide.

Writing about Akcam Evans says, "A close friend of the Turkish Armenian journalist Hrant Dink, who was assassinated on an Istanbul street in January, 2007, Akcam has himself been the target of death threats, yet he has continued to mine the Ottoman archives, which he is able to read in the pre-reform script, with jaw-dropping results".

The former ambassador writes, "In a way, Akcam's account is oddly reassuring, as it gets to a basic and banal, if also horrifying, truth: the Turks did not so much loathe the Armenians as view them as competitors in the impending challenge of building a new state, inspired by extreme Turkish nationalism, on the ruins of the defunct Ottoman Empire. This is not to understate the crimes committed, which included rape, forced assimilation and murder, as well as wholesale expropriations of land and property: genocide, in short."

"With less than two years to go until the centenary, much will yet be written, but I doubt as much light will be shed as by these two valuable volumes," Evans concludes.

John Evans' review was published by American Diplomacy, noting that John M. Evans, a career Foreign Service Officer who served as the U.S. Ambassador to Armenia from 2004 to 2006, stirred controversy in February 2005 by publicly dissenting from the policy of the Bush Administration on the 90-year-old issue of the Armenian Genocide.



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## Reputable Armenian architect awarded Ellis Island Medal of Honor

Kevork Karajerjian, the reputable architect of Encino was honored with the Ellis Island Medal of Honor for his lifelong architectural achievements and community services, Asbarez reports.

After completing his primary education at Guiligian Elementary School, and his secondary education at Aleppo College, he attended the American University of Beirut and graduated in 1958 with a degree in Architectural Engineering.

Fresh out of school Karajerjian was involved in the design of the "Shell Building", the first high-rise to be constructed on the Mediterranean coast in Beirut.

In 1963 His Holiness Khoren I. Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia commissioned Mr. Karajerjian to prepare a master plan for the renovation of the Catholicosate of Cilicia in Antelias, Lebanon. As a result of his hard work, the magnificent Catholicosate of today became a reality. Henceforth, he was awarded the honorary title of National Architect by His Holiness Catholicos Khoren I. and later was granted the PONTIFICAL Encyclical of Blessing by His Holiness Catholicos Karekin II, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia.

Other landmark structures by Karajerjian include:

*Near East School of Theology "NEST" an award winning architectural landmark which was one of the first buildings with fair faced concrete "beton brut" facades constructed in Lebanon*

*Haigazian College, Rue Du Mexique, Beirut, Lebanon*

*TarouhieHagopian School for Girls, Hazmieh, Lebanon*

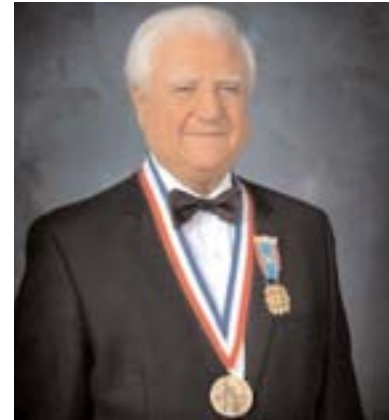
*Armenian Educational Foundation-Sofia Hagopian College, Bourj-Hamoud, Lebanon*

*Public Parks at Bourj Abi Haidar, Medawar and Remeil Districts in Beirut, Lebanon*

*"HABEAS" Public Housing*

*Project (HLM) in Fanar, Lebanon. Under the auspices of the Catholicosate of the Great House of Cilicia and financed by Karageuzian Foundation of New York*

*Asdvadzadzin (St. Mary's) Cathedral, a monumental structure with a soaring dome in classical Armenian style in Aleppo, Syria*



*Centers for the Armenian Handicapped in Lebanon "CAHL" and Tutunjian Home for the Elderly rmenian Prelacy of Lebanon in Beirut Modernization of Emerson Elementary School in Burbank, California*

Karajerjian had an active role in rebuilding Los Angeles after the January 17, 1994 Northridge Earthquake, which was recognized with a Commendation by City of Los Angeles Mayor James Hahn. His company is actively involved in School Rehabs and Residential Sound Proofing Programs and numerous commercial and residential projects in the Cities of Los Angeles, Inglewood, and Burbank. His company has participated in the Redevelopment of the City of Inglewood and was commended as one of the three best finalists for Century Corridor Development Project near the LAX Airport.

Karajerjian has always been active in community matters being on the board of directors of numerous cultural, architectural, educational and social organizations. For his lifelong

professional and community services he was awarded the Pontifical Encyclical by His Holiness Karekin II Catholicos of all Armenians in the Holy See of Etchmiadzin and was awarded the Gold Medal Of Knight Of Cilicia with a Pontifical Encyclical by Catholicos Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia.

He was also recognized with Commendation from President George Bush who wrote to Karajerjian: "Outstanding accomplishments are achieved through dedication, integrity, and skill. I appreciate all those who live by the principles of excellence. Your efforts contribute to the success of our Nation and reflect the true spirit of America." He also received Commendation from Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. The American Institute of Architects presented Karajerjian the President's Citation Award for exemplifying distinguished architectural service to the community with highest standards of architecture.

Karajerjian was also awarded with the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Karajerjian, a family oriented person with strong dedication to preserving Armenian values and traditions, is married to Sato Yerevanian, a renowned artist and a certified interior designer. The Karajerjians have raised three children. Their oldest son, Ara is a civil Engineer honors graduate, with master degree in engineering management from USC, and is currently the CEO of Karabuild Development, Inc. Their daughter, Maral, a celebrity stylist, is married to VikenKrajjian, founder and chief officer of Krajjian Importing Corporation of Glendale, CA, and has a son Arlen who is a second year student at USC School of Business. Apo, their youngest son graduated from CalState Northridge majoring in Anthropology and Zoology and is working toward his master's degree in clinical psychology at Pepperdine University.

## By the time of Serzh Sargsyan's election much of Armenia was already sold - Chatham House

from page 6

pipeline, thus ensuring that Armenia cannot become an independent transit country should Iranian gas ever reach European markets. Russia has also bought up all but two of Armenia's hydro-electric and nuclear power stations, in exchange for writing off Armenian debt. The extent to which Russia has acquired concrete political gains from energy and infrastructure ownership is a source of debate within Armenia. Kocharian's successor, Serzh Sargsyan, is ostensibly less pro-Russian but by the time of his election in 2008 much of his country had already been sold," the report states.

According to it, in the non-energy commercial sectors, the Russian airline Sibir owns 70% of



the Armenian airline Armavia. The state-controlled Russian bank Vneshtorgbank owns 70% of the Armenian Saving Bank. "Russia has effectively bought up Armenia's national railway network with a \$570 million investment. Russia's greatest economic

lever with Azerbaijan and Armenia is in the form of migrant workers and their remittances," the report states.

You can read the full article here: <http://www.chathamhouse.org>



Snorers may be silenced

A VIBRATING collar worn round the neck at night could help to curb chronic snoring. The new device which is being developed in the Netherlands works by switching itself on when it detects that the person wearing it is lying on their back. That is when snoring is at its worst.

A tiny position sensor hidden inside a ring-shaped device at the back of the collar activates the vibrations in much the same way as a call, text or alarm does on a mobile phone.

The gentle vibrations are designed to prompt the wearer to change position but without waking them from a deep sleep.

They continue until the position sensor detects that the sleeping position has changed to either the side or the front.

The collar is a modern take on some of the traditional remedies for snoring such as sewing a tennis ball into the pyjama lining to stop snorers lying on their backs. These rarely proved successful.

A recent study published in the Journal of Sleep Research showed the vibrating collar significantly reduced snoring in 30 patients who wore it every night for a few weeks.

An estimated three million people in Britain suffer with sleep apnoea which is the snoring-related condition that can raise the risk of heart attacks and strokes.

As sleep begins the muscles in the airway relax. For most



people this does not pose a problem but in sleep apnoea it leads to a complete collapse which shuts off breathing for at least 10 seconds.

It also disrupts breathing and triggers the sound of snoring as air vibrates against the soft tissue that stands in its way.

Once the brain realizes breathing has stopped it sends out a signal for the airway muscles to contract again.

ARMENIAN POETRY

Arshile Gorky

Sing when you receive this letter

(In homage to Karlen Mooradian, Gorky's nephew, biographer and translator of his letters)

Sing when you receive this  
And recall our mountains!  
Would that we were together  
So that we could sing of the homeland!  
I believe that you all are here  
And that we are singing sad songs  
Together as I paint.

Dance the Shadakhtzi dance  
And I will join you!  
Sing of Van and I will hear you!  
Sing the mountains and I will  
Climb them with you!  
Sing of sorrows  
And I will grip your hand!

Sing of Van, sing of apricots  
And wheatfields, of plows,  
Sing of songs!  
Oh, Moorad, sing  
When you receive this letter--  
Sing, Kashehgutanariyarvailelele.  
(Pull the plow, Oh come my sweetheart).



Better than antibiotics



Garlic compound beats antibiotics in fighting foodbourne illness

Researchers have found that a compound in garlic is 100 times more effective than two popular antibiotics at fighting the Campylobacter bacterium, one of the most common causes of food poison-

ing. The work, carried out at Washington State University, was published recently in the Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy.

In it researchers looked at the ability of the garlic-derived compound, diallyl-sulphide, to kill the bacterium which is protected by a slimy biofilm that makes it 1,000 times more resistant to antibiotics than the free floating bacterial cell. They found the compound can easily penetrate the protective biofilm and kill bacterial cells by combining with a sulphur-containing enzyme, subsequently changing the enzyme's function and effectively shutting down cell metabolism.

Packing a powerful punch

The researchers found the diallylsulphide was 100 times more effective than the same dose of the antibiotics erythromycin and ciprofloxacin and often would work in a fraction of the time.

Campylobacter is the most common bacterial cause of food poisoning in the UK and US and probably the world. It causes symptoms such as diarrhoea, cramping, abdominal pain and fever. The

bacteria also are responsible for triggering nearly one-third of the cases of a rare paralysing disorder known as Guillain-Barré syndrome.

Most infections stem from eating raw or undercooked poultry or foods that have been cross-contaminated via surfaces or utensils used to prepare poultry.

The scientists cautioned that while eating garlic is a generally healthy practice, it is unlikely to prevent Campylobacter-related food poisoning.

However, the discovery, say the scientists, opens the door to new treatments for raw and processed meats and food preparation surfaces. Diallylsulphide could, for instance be an effective preservative in packaged foods like potato and pasta salads, coleslaw and deli meats, but also used to clean preparation surfaces.

While the scientists congratulate themselves on proving garlic's antibiotic properties against specific bacterial strains, the concept of garlic as an alternative antibiotic is hardly new. There are decades of good evidence to show that garlic as a supplement is a useful alternative to antibiotics.

Zodiac Weekly Forecast

Aries (Mar. 20--Apr. 19) :

There is significant emphasis on your health at this time. Your reflexes are either too fast or too slow. This is a temporary aberration and will pass soon. You have a major challenge from an authority figure. Maybe this is one side of yourself that says you "must". But the more conscious part of you is looking for freedom.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

It is possible that you are taking a sober look at one or more relationships. Perhaps you are choosing to disengage from relationships altogether while you pause for reflection. Even the very closest friends cannot know each other from the inside and it is times like these when we recognize our existential solitude. We all have such moments.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

Communications with lovers and children may be challenging this week. Not everything that glitters is gold. If you are considering a proposal or an idea that sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don't invest what you cannot afford to lose and don't promise what you may not be able to deliver.

Cancer (June 21--Jul y 21) :

Any effort toward becoming more acquainted with the deeper parts of yourself will be well rewarded. Positive results can be achieved through psychotherapy, dream work, meditation, hypnosis and/or prayer. Assistance will come to you through unexpected (and possibly mysterious) sources. Your desire to contribute to the greater social good will increase and yield good "karma".

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

The Lions experience an annual twist of fate. For one month, beginning at the summer solstice every year, it is a time of retreat. This time is meant to help you recharge, refuel, and become more clearly in touch with your inner self. Allow extra time to meditate, reflect, journal, and read spiritually uplifting material.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

You may feel challenged by a financial matter early in the week, but you will find a solution. Your struggle to set boundaries is bearing a positive yield. People around you are giving you more space. Clear the decks toward the end of the week for a shift in gears on the 25th.

Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22) :

You are usually tactful, but this week you may slip here and there. You are delivering news that is not the best, but your message is practical and as honest as you know. Libra always wants to keep people happy and it may be hard for you to deliver such messages. Do the best you can to present your ideas with compassion.

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

It is possible you are experiencing major tension with co-workers, tenants, or employees. This could also include pets. You are following the rules but the others do not, which puts you in a really uncomfortable place. Don't tattle or things will look worse for you. Drive with intentional caution.

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

You may be feeling discouraged by circumstances related to your partner right now. The time moves on fairly quickly. Perhaps you are feeling victimized by the holes in your childhood. Maybe you have fresh news that has lifted the veil on some of your perceptions. It is sad, but brief.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

One part of you is looking for escape from the crucible of your own belief systems. If this does not come from the inside, you will be challenged from the outside to crack a belief system and allow the rush of a gulp of fresh air. The freedom will be exhilarating, once the struggle is over.

Aquarius (Jan. 20--Feb. 17) :

Your power of concentration is particularly strong. You might be prone to somber thinking or at worst, pessimism and fear. It is important that you use your focus for the good in your life rather than in self-criticism and destructive thinking. If you are hearing negative self-talk, change the channel.

Pisces (Feb. 18--Mar. 19) :

The intuitive visionary in you is especially strong at this time. You may serve as the Voice for a greater spiritual purpose if you keep your ego out of the picture. Give to the Greater Whole whatever is within you that needs expression. But if you do this in service of the ego, you could make a mockery of it.

HUMOR

What is your name?

Walking through Chinatown, a tourist is fascinated with all the Chinese restaurants, shops, signs and banners. He turns a corner and sees a building with the sign, "Hans Olaffsen's Laundry."

"Hans Olaffsen?," he muses. "How in hell does that fit in here?" So he walks into the shop and sees an old Chinese gentleman behind the counter.

The tourist asks, "How did this place get a name like 'Hans Olaffsen's Laundry?'" The old man answers, "Is name of owner."

The tourist asks, "Well, who and where is the owner?" "Me...is right here," replies the old man.

"You? How did you ever get a name like Hans Olaffsen?"

"Is simple," says the old man. "Many, many year ago when come to this country, was stand in line at Documentation Center. Man in front was big blonde Swede. Lady look at him and go, 'What your name?' He say, 'HansOlaffsen.' Then she look at me and go, 'What your name?'"

"I say Sem Ting.

Quote of the week



The more I see,  
the less I know for sure.

John Lennon



## WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

Enjoy your leisure



## CLUBS

**MEZZO CLASSIC HOUSE CLUB***28 Isahakyan*

**June 25 at 9.30 p.m.**  
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**June 26 at 9.30 p.m.**  
Art Voices Band at Mezzo  
**June 27 at 9.30 p.m.**  
Arto Tunçboyacıyan and  
Armenian Navy Band  
**June 29 at 9.30 p.m.**  
Imagine Band  
**June 30 at 9.30 p.m.**  
Chigapo & The Geniuses Band

**ULIKHANYAN CLUB***Gevorg Kochari St., 4*

**June 25 at 9 p.m.**  
Beer Party with Euro 2012  
**June 26 at 9 p.m.-11.30 p.m.**  
Los Locos  
**June 28 at 9 p.m.**  
Rak & Roll Party with Euro 2012

**June 29 at 9 p.m.-11.30**  
Suren Arustamyan Blues Band  
**June 30 at 9 p.m.**  
Karen Mamikonyan Band  
**July 1 at 9 p.m.**  
Beer Party with Euro 2012 Final

**ARARAT VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB***Vahagni Taxamas*

**June 29 at 6 p.m.**  
Open air party  
Summer Time

**THE CLUB***40 Tumanyan Street*

**June 25 at 7 p.m.**  
Tea Master invites to tasting chinese teas  
**June 26 at 8 p.m.**  
Film Screening  
**June 29 at 9 p.m.**  
Author songs evening

**TORTUGA PUB***Pushkin 51*

**June 26 at 8 p.m.**  
Piano night  
**June 28 at 7 p.m.**  
Crayfish day

**METRO MUSIC PUB***Ghazar Parpetsi str., 24*

**June 28 at 6 p.m.**  
Crayfish day

**KAMI CLUB***Abovyan st. 18*

**June 28 at 8 p.m.**  
Kami Club & The Laboratory present "Summer Voices"/ Private event for Friends

**CLUB 12***41/1 Abovyan St.*

**June 28 at 9.30 p.m.**  
Greek Party  
**June 29 at 9.30 p.m.**  
Retro Disco Party

**FRIENDS BAR CLUB***Pushkin str., 49*

**June 29 at 8 p.m.**  
Meloman Game  
**June 30 at 8.30 p.m.**  
Dance Night

**BOURBON ST.***Teryan 19*

**June 29 at 8.30 p.m.**  
Hayway Band (Live Music)

**STOP MUSIC CLUB***Moskavian Str. Building 37*

**June 29 at 9 p.m.**  
Author's songs evening  
**June 30 at 9 p.m.**  
Fiesta Caliente

**SPEAKEASY COCKTAIL BAR***Hin Yerevantsi st.*

**June 1 at 9 p.m.**  
Euro 2012 Football

**CAFESJIAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS***Cascade Complex*

**June 26 at 7 p.m.**  
Cafesjian Classical, Music Series:  
Geghard Ensemble  
**June 27 at 7 p.m.**  
Geghard Ensemble Artistic  
Director Mher Navoyan  
**June 29 at 7 p.m.**  
Music Cascade: Armenian Jazz

Band  
**June 30 at 8 p.m.**  
Music Cascade: Armenian Jazz  
Band

**NAREGATSI ART INSTITUTE***Vardanants 16/1*

**June 25 at 7 p.m.**  
Henrik and Geronty Talalyan  
Viola and Cello Third Festival

2012  
Film presentation: "Nota"  
/about R. Barshai/  
Elena Barshai presents  
**June 26-02 at 6 p.m.**  
Group Exhibition, ceramics, salt-cellars  
**June 27 at 7 p.m.**  
Wednesday Film Night Series  
Present "Melancholia" Denmark-Sweden- France- Germany drama

## THEATRES

**YEREVAN STATE PANTOMIME THEATRE***Moskavian str. Building 3*

**June 29 at 7p.m.**  
Demon

**STATE MARIONETTE THEATRE***Mashtots Ave. 43.*

**Play for kids**  
**June 30 at 12.30 p.m., 2 p.m.**  
Nazar The Brave

**G. SUNDUKYAN NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE***Grigor Lusavorich st. , house 6*

**Play for kids**  
**June 25 at 7 p.m.**  
The Adventures of Masha and the Bear  
**June 29, 30 at 7 p.m.**  
Yelena Vorobey. Star Ride

**MHER MKRTCHYAN ARTISTIC THEATRE***Movses Khorenaci st., house 18*

**June 29 at 5.01 p.m.**  
Don't Go Away Mad  
**Play for kids**  
**June 30 at 1.01 p.m.**  
The Will of Unlucky Panos

**H. TUMANYAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE***Sayat-Nova av., house 4*

**June 28 at 7.30 p.m.**  
C'est la vie  
**Play for kids**  
**June 30 at 1 a.m., 2 p.m.**  
Alice in Wonderland

**HAMAZGAYIN THEATRE***26 Amiryan Str.*

**June 28 at 7 p.m.**  
A Cup of Kindness  
**June 29,30 at 7 p.m.**  
The three penny opera

**H. PARONYAN STATE THEATRE OF MUSICAL COMEDY***Vazgen Sargsyan st.*

**June 28 at 7 p.m.**  
Twelfth Night  
**June 29 at 7 p.m.**  
You Can't Get Rid Of Me  
**June 30 at 7 p.m.**  
Love Stir

**YEREVAN STATE CHAMBER THEATRE***Mashtots ave, 58.*

**June 29 at 7 p.m.**  
Nazar, Nazar, Till the End  
**June 30 at 7 p.m.**  
Cabaret

**THE STATE MUSICAL CHAMBER THEATRE***Proshyan 1, blind alley 1*

**June 27 at 7 p.m.**  
Sexual chaos at hotel

**K. STANISLAVSKI STATE RUSSIAN DRAMA THEATRE***Abovyan st., house 7*

**June 28 at 7 p.m.**  
Filumena Marturano  
**June 30 at 7 p.m.**  
Enough Stupidity in Every Wise Man  
**July 7 at 7 p.m.**  
Classmates

**HENRIK MALYAN THEATRE OF FILM ACTORS***Vardanants 18 (entrance from Vernissage)*

**June 25 at 7p.m.**  
Train Stories  
**June 29 at 7 p.m.**  
Extreme Communists  
**Play for kids**  
**June 30 at 7 p.m.**  
Tales

**YEREVAN THEATRE OF THE YOUNG SPECTATOR***Moskovyan St., 3 Building*

**June 29 at 7 p.m.**  
Demone

## CONCERT HALLS

**KOMITAS CHAMBER MUSIC HOUSE***Isahakyan 1*

**June 27 at 7 p.m.**  
NCOA & Uri Caine (USA)  
National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia  
Artistic Director and Principal Conductor: Vahan Mardirossian  
Soloist: Uri Caine, classical jazz pianist and composer (USA)  
Program:  
Komitas/Aslamazyan: Miniatures  
Uri Caine: Amusements for piano & strings  
Antonin Dvorak: Serenade for strings  
**June 28 at 7 p.m.**  
**Hayk Melikyan (piano)**  
"1900 +" 5th concert of the Armenian-Swiss 20th century and contemporary music  
**July 2 at 7 p.m.**  
"Music from past century"

**ARNO BABAJANYAN CONCERT HALL***Abovyan St.*

**June 29 at 7 p.m.**  
The Fifth Concert: Polish-Armenia 20th Century Piano Music

**ARAM KHACHATURIAN CONCERT HALL***46 Mesrop Mashtots Poghota*

**June 26 at 7p.m.**  
Gala Concert  
Opera Theatre Symphonic Orchestra  
Musical Director and Principal Conductor: Karen Durgaryan  
Soloists:  
RA Merited Artist Gevorg Hakobyan  
Artsvik Demurchyan  
Syuzanna Melkonyan  
Perch Karazyan  
Kristine Sahakyan  
Hayk Tigranyan  
Tamara Dadoyan  
Greta Bagiryan  
Arnold Kocharyan  
Gurgen Baveyan  
Anna Mnatsakanyan  
Artavazd Khachikyan  
Program: Armenian and Western European composers' works  
**July 3, 6 at 7 p.m.**  
Turandot  
Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra  
Artistic Director and Principal Conductor: Eduard Topchyan  
**July 5 at 7 p.m.**  
Barekamutyun Troupe

**WRITERS UNION HALL***Baghramyan 3*

**June 27 at 7 p.m.**  
Henrik and Geronty Talalyan  
Viola and Cello Third Festival 2012  
Concert in memory of S. Aslamazyan and G. Adamyan  
"From Bach to Bachiana"

## CINEMA

**CINEMA MOSCOW***18 Abovyan Str.***Red Hall**

**June 25 at 11 a.m.**  
Wrath of the Titans  
**June 25 at 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m.**  
Dark Shadows  
**June 25 at 9 p.m.**  
Innocent

**Blue Hall**

**June 25 at 12 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m.**  
Madagascar 3 3D  
**June 25 at 4 p.m., 10 p.m.**  
President Lincoln: Vampire Hunter



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