

Government moves to liberalize Armenian energy sector



Armenia -- A thermal power plant in Hrazdan.

see page 3

**Karabakh Leader
sworn in for
another term**

p. 2

**China to provide
10 million yuan
in aid to Armenia**

p. 6

**VivaCell-MTS
News**

p.12

The Yerevan News

p.p. 14-17

Chief of Armenia's General Department of Civil Aviation reports progress in ongoing reforms

During a working meeting held with the President of the Republic of Armenia, Head of General Department of Civil Aviation by the Government of the Republic of Armenia (GDCA) Sergey Avetisyan reported progress in the reforms being implemented in the sphere of aviation, development programs, existing problems and the measures aimed at their solution. Sergey Avetisyan dwelt on the results of international cooperation, the aviation infrastructure development programs, as well as on the steps aimed improving the airspace and the business environment for air carriers in the Republic of Armenia.

Detailing the results of cooperation with the European Union, the Eurasian Economic Union and a number of partner countries, the GDCA Head reported on the ongoing EU-Armenia talks over the common aviation zone, which kicked off in 2017, the Eurasian Economic Commission-approved roadmap of coordinated policy and the outcome of negotiations with 27 nations' aviation



authorities.

The President of the Republic of Armenia instructed him to consistently work with partners in order to strengthen and develop relationship in the aviation industry, providing the necessary conditions for the implementation of international flights.

The meeting discussed issues related to the expansion of Armenia's air connec-

tivity, the development of airports and air transport markets and the level of air training in the Republic of Armenia. In this connection, the President gave relevant instructions.

The GDCA Head presented an action plan in the above-stated directions, as well as the upcoming programs and expected results of cooperation with international aviation organizations.

Karabakh Leader sworn in for another term



Bako Sahakyan, Nagorno-Karabakh's president, was sworn in for another term on September 7 almost two months after local lawmakers voted to extend his decade-long rule.

Sahakyan, 57, was re-elected after serving two consecutive five-year terms. He was not allowed to stay in power longer before Karabakh enacted a new constitution in a referendum held in February.

The new constitution calls for the Armenian-populated region's transition by 2020 to a fully presidential system of government which will lead to the abolition of the post of prime minister. The authorities in Stepanakert say this change will put Karabakh in a better position to cope with the unresolved conflict with Azerbaijan. Their opponents maintain, however that Sahakyan is simply keen to cling to power.

Sahakyan will continue governing Karabakh as an interim president until 2020. His candidacy for that post was backed in July by 28 of the 33 members of the Karabakh parliament representing three political parties allied to him.

Sahakyan pledged to implement democratic reforms, strengthen Karabakh's security and ensure continued economic growth of the local economy in his speech at an inauguration ceremony held in Stepanakert. "We are going to do everything to protect the honor and dignity of the Armenian people," he declared.

The Karabakh leader again did not clarify whether he will run in the next presidential election due in 2020.

Vitaly Balasanyan, the secretary of Karabakh's presidential Security Council, suggested in July that Sahakyan is unlikely to seek another re-election in 2020.

A retired army general, Balasanyan was the main opposition candidate in Karabakh's last presidential ballot held in 2012.

EU, Armenia share views on upcoming agreement and Common Assistance Framework

Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan received Head of EU Delegation to Armenia, Ambassador Piotr Świtalski. Issues related to Armenia's cooperation with the European Union, new EU-Armenia agreement were discussed at the meeting.

To begin with, the Prime Minister noted that regular meetings provide an opportunity to exchange ideas on bilateral cooperation agenda, speak openly and sincerely about various programs and activities.

"I want to reaffirm that in the face of its different structures, the European Union has always been and remains one of the most important partners on Armenia's foreign policy agenda," the Prime Minister emphasized.

Touching upon the current stage of the partnership, Ambassador Świtalski noted that they are preparing for a very serious event – the signing of a new EU-Armenia agreement – which will usher in a new era of cooperation. In this connection, he assured that everything will be done to achieve a new quality in all spheres of cooperation. According to the Ambassador, the Common Assistance Framework is very promising and will include new elements of cooperation.

"We greatly support your reform agen-



da. With the help of external experts, we have thoroughly analyzed your reform program. It is an ambitious program; now we are thinking about how to harmonize our efforts with your reform agenda. We wish to invest money where you think the reforms will be effective," he said.

The Armenian Prime Minister noted, in turn, that the European Union's cooperative stance and assistance programs add momentum to his government's reforms. "It is gratifying that your experts have analyzed my government's action plan and agreed that we are on the right path. I want to assure you that we know how to change the country as we are well aware

of our problems and shortcomings," the Prime Minister emphasized.

The parties noted that the work on the EU-Armenia Agreement and the Common Assistance Framework is proceeding normally and their views and approaches coincide. Both sides stressed the need for making the best possible choice of EU programs, ensuring transparency and stricter targeting in the implementation of all programs.

The interlocutors touched upon issues related to the agreement to be signed in the field of aviation, exchanged views on political development in the European Union.

Government moves to liberalize Armenian energy sector

The Armenian government approved on September 7 a package of draft legal amendments designed to liberalize the country's energy sector.

A government statement said they will help to attract new "suppliers" that will be able to engage in wholesale sales of electricity. It said the "liberal model" for regulating the sector will also "stimulate interstate trade" in electricity, suggesting that the new players will be able to import or export it to neighboring Georgia and Iran.

The statement added that the resulting introduction of "certain elements of competition" in the Armenian energy market will not only make the sector more efficient but also benefit consumers.

Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan's cabinet first announced plans for such a liberalization in July. "We have already presented a plan of actions which will ensure that the energy sector switches to a new, liberal model by 2021," Deputy Minister of Energy Infrastructures Hayk Harutiunyan said at the time.

The U.S. ambassador to Armenia, Richard Mills, declared

in June that U.S. energy firms could invest billions of dollars in the sector if the authorities in Yerevan open it up to competition and remove all obstacles to electricity exports to Georgia and Iran.

Harutiunyan said in that regard that senior officials from his ministry already hold "regular meetings" with Mills and U.S. businesspeople to explore possibilities of "expanding American companies activities in Armenia's energy sector."

Harutiunyan noted that one U.S. company, ContourGlobal, already privatized Armenia's largest hydroelectric complex two years ago in a \$250 million deal strongly backed by the U.S. government.

Russian natural gas and nuclear fuel currently generate at least 60 percent of Armenia's electricity. In addition, Russia's Gazprom monopoly owns the country's gas distribution network.

Karapetyan managed that network from 2001-2010. He held senior executive positions in Gazprom subsidiaries in Russia before being appointed as Armenia's prime minister in September 2016.

Armenia had never confirmed its participation in NATO drills in Georgia – Deputy DM

NATO has been and will always remain Armenia's partner, Armenian Deputy Defense Minister has said.

"We are a full member of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), which is the main guarantor of our security," Deputy Defense Minister Artak Zakharyan told reporters on the sidelines of a conference in Yerevan.

He advised not to divide all other cooperation issues into "black and white" and added that "Armenia's military-political diplomacy fully complies with the country's foreign policy."

The comments come in the wake of the announcement by the Georgian side that Armenia had refused to participate in NATO drills that kicked off in Georgia on September 4.

To disperse the various speculations about the causes of the decision, Deputy DM Artak Zakaryan said "Armenia had never confirmed it would participate in the exercises."

"We initially plan our participation in this or that event, but the official confirmation comes close to the date of the event. Armenia had never confirmed its participation. Therefore, it



has not refused to participate," Zakharyan said.

He assured that "Armenia is losing nothing by not participating in the drills."

The Deputy DM added that relevant departments of the Ministry of Defense are checking the sources of the Georgian side's information and will provide further comments, if necessary.

Religious leaders of Russia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan sign joint statement

On September 8, as a result of the trilateral meeting of the spiritual leaders of the region in Moscow, Russia; His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians; His Holiness Kirill I, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia; and Sheikh ul-Islam Allahshukur Pashazade, Grand Mufti of the Muslims of the Caucasus, made the following statement:

Today, we the spiritual leaders of Azerbaijani and Armenia, once again met in Moscow at the invitation of Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, to discuss ways of a peaceful settlement of the Karabakh conflict,



without which it is impossible to achieve reconciliation and comprehensive security in the Caucasus. We attach a special significance to the consistent development of the peacekeeping dialogue, the continuation of the negotiations, and the international community's mediatory efforts which will help to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the conflict. We are convinced that disagreements can be overcome, relying on the moral values of kindness, love for thy neighbor, mutual forgiveness, and benevolence; propagated by the principles of good-neighborliness and traditional religions.

Artsakh Foreign Ministry document circulated in the UN



On August 23, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh Republic) circulated in the United Nations (UN) a document, presenting its position regarding the Azerbaijani policy of isolation against Artsakh. The document has been published on the UN official web-site.

The document states that the policy of Azerbaijan aimed at isolation of Artsakh is a blatant violation of the right to development enshrined

in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the UN Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The right to development is an inalienable human right that can be invoked both by individuals and peoples, and includes: full sovereignty over natural resources; self-determination; popular participation in development; equality of opportunity; the creation of favorable conditions for the enjoyment of other civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

By making a reference to a number of norms of international law, the document emphasizes that the realization of individual and collective human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic and social rights, must not be dependent on the status of the territory where people live. Therefore, the lack of international recognition cannot affect the ability of a state to engage in international relations, including carrying out foreign economic activity.

The authorities of the Republic of Artsakh express readiness for co-operation with UN member states to ensure a stable and transparent framework for economic activity in the Republic.

The document concludes that: "The authorities of the Republic of Artsakh, for their part, are making every effort to ensure that everyone living in the Republic can equally enjoy all rights and freedoms, enshrined in fundamental international documents, to freely explore and realize his/her potential. By that the authorities of Artsakh contribute to the consolidation of a peaceful, stable and prosperous region of the South Caucasus".

Two Canadian MPs banned from Azerbaijan for visiting Nagorno Karabakh

Canadian MPs Tony Clement and Rachael Harder have been banned from Azerbaijan for visiting Nagorno Karabakh, the Globe and Mail reports.

Azerbaijan's foreign ministry has accused the MPs of falling for the "propaganda of the Armenian side" and ignoring four resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

The Conservative MPs are visiting the region on a trip paid for by One Free World International, a Toronto non-profit group headed by a Muslim-turned-Christian that advocates for persecuted minorities.

Azerbaijan has lodged a protest with the Canadian government about the MPs' trip and placed them on its list of undesirable persons.

In a telephone interview from Armenia's capital of Yerevan on Friday, Mr. Clement said he was taking part in a documentary that is being produced by One Free World.

"I am not here endorsing anyone. I want both sides to have a negotiated settlement of the situation but I am here on a fact-finding and humanitarian mission along with Rachael Harder," Mr. Clement said.

However, he conceded that he accepts Armenia's assertions that Azerbaijani forces have committed atrocities, citing beheadings and cutting off of the ears of Armenian soldiers.

"What I saw with my own eyes is very disturbing in terms of the atrocities that were committed by Azerbaijani forces. In terms of the political situation, I am sure I echo Global Affairs Canada when I say it is better to have a negotiated solution than a continuing war,"

Mr. Clement said.

A spokesperson for the Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland did not directly criticize the two MPs, but made clear that the Canadian government does not wish to take sides in the territorial dispute.

"It should be noted that Canada recommends against all travel to the Nagorno-Karabakh region. We fully support the [Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's] efforts to forge a peaceful and comprehensive settlement between Armenia and Azerbaijan in the region," press secretary Adam Austen said. "A military solution is not the answer. This is a position we have communicated to the governments of both Armenia and Azerbaijan."



China to provide 10 million yuan in aid to Armenia

Armenian Defense Minister Vigen Sargsyan had a meeting with his Chinese counterpart Chang Wanquan.

The parties discussed a wide range of issues on bilateral and global agenda. They pointed to the training of military personnel and humanitarian cooperation as promising fields of collaboration.

Reference was made to issues of international security. China has been largely involved in resisting global challenges. Armenia, in turn, attaches great importance to those efforts and is willing to contribute to them. "Despite being a small country, Armenia has its decent participation in international peacekeeping efforts," Vigen Sargsyan said.

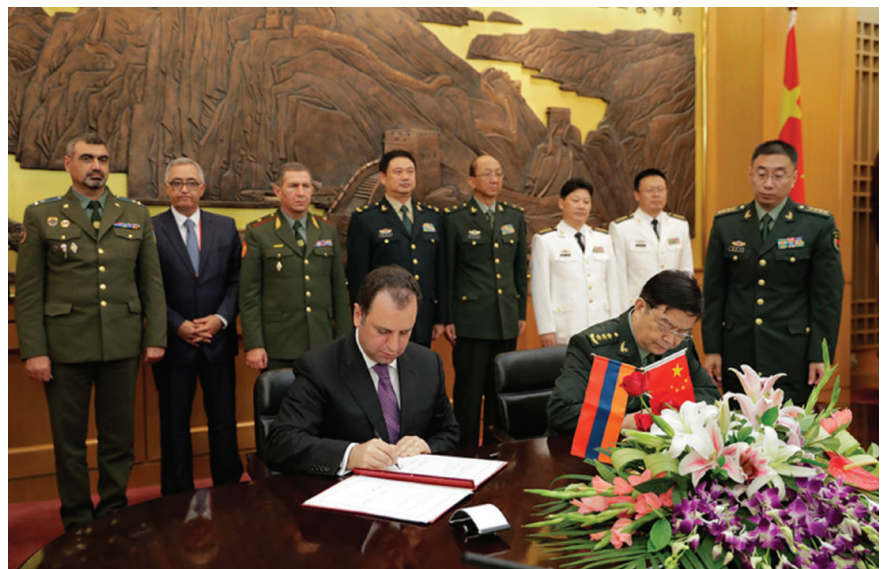
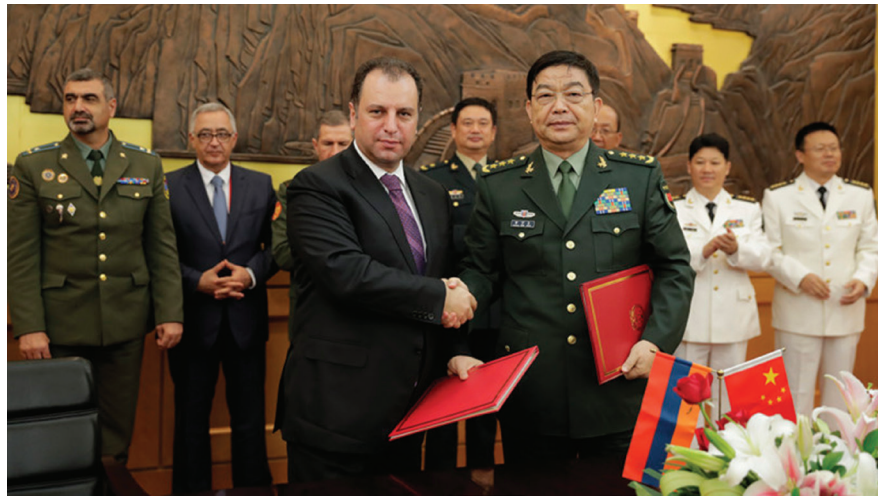
The Defense Ministers of the two countries hailed the reciprocal support within the framework of international organizations.

Speaking about the Karabakh issue, Chang Wanquan said his country stands for exceptionally peaceful settlement of the conflict. Vigen Sargsyan briefed his counterpart on the current state of the conflict and noted that Armenia is resolute to solve the issue through negotiations, but the Armed Forces are always ready for any development of events.

The parties agreed that it's necessary to double efforts towards the deepening of Armenian-Chinese cooperation.

Vigen Sargsyan thanked the Chinese party for the years of support to Armenia's defense sector, which, he said is an evidence of friendly relations between the two countries.

At the end of the meeting the parties signed an agreement on the provision of a 10 million yuan aid to Armenia.



Hitachi, Mitsubishi & Ericsson to feature at 2017 DigiTec Expo in Armenia



The 13th annual international DigiTec Expo technological exhibition will be held on September 29-October 1, in Yerevan Expo Center.

This year the DigiTec is unprecedented by its number of participants both local and international as well as wide geography. About 150 participants and 70k visitors are expected to attend the DigiTec.

The participants of DigiTec will introduce the last trends of the sector, the innovations and job opportunities of the current market to the society. Business meetings, different competitions, forums, seminars and other meetings will also be held.

Armenian leading companies like Joomag, Ucom, Arpinet, VOLO, Zangi, Monitis, SFL, ArmSoft will feature in DigiTec 2017.

DigiTec 2017 will host participants and delegations from Japan, China, India, Sweden, Russia, USA, Canada and other countries. Foreign companies include Dahua Technology from China, Hitachi Construction Machinery Eurasia and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries from Japan, Ericsson from Sweden, Jabra from Denmark and others. The overall list of par-

ticipants is being updated in digitec.am official website.

Karen Vardanyan, the executive director of the Union of Information Technology Enterprises (UITE), the organizer of DigiTec, emphasizes: "If till now the DigiTec has been a platform for only Armenian technological leading companies, then during the recent years and this year especially it became an effective platform of communications for local, Diaspora

and foreign techno-leaders.

DigiTec Expo is the biggest technological exhibition in the region, as well as B2B, B2C communicative platform. The 3-day Expo is held under the slogan "Fest for Armenian techno-society".

DigiTec has been held since 2005 by the UITE under the high patronage of the Prime Minister.

Armenian alcoholic beverages to flood the Chinese market

The Development Foundation of Armenia jointly with the Wine-growing and Winemaking Foundation of Armenia will promote the recognisability of the locally produced wines and cognacs: an agreement of cooperation was signed today by the heads of the Foundations Armen Avak Avakian and Zaruhi Muradyan.

As the first practical step, the Foundations will jointly organize the participation of Armenian companies in the Prowine China 2017 Exhibition to be held in Shanghai, China, from 14 to 16 November.

Prowine China is one of the largest international exhibitions of the sphere: 650 companies from 37 countries will attend the Exhibition; moreover, more than 12000 importers, distributors and wholesale buyers are envisaged to take part in it.

Fifteen wine, cognac and alcoholic drinks producers will represent the industry of Armenian alcoholic beverages with the joint pavilion at the Prowine China 2017. The participation of the Armenian companies will be co-financed within the framework of state support.

The Armenian beverages have already been exported to the Netherlands, Belgium, England, Germany and other countries under the contracts concluded with the support of DFA during the previous international wine exhibitions. Last year, with the support of the Wine-growing and Winemaking Foundation of Armenia, the Armenian wine-making companies took part in the MUNDUS VINI 20th Grand International Wine Awards international ceremony, returning with 10 gold and 13 silver medals and reaching new export markets.

"The Development Foundation of Armenia has a fruitful experience in promoting the Armenian products at international exhibitions.



Our delegations return with export orders after every exhibition". Besides "Prowine China", my team is ready to further use its experience to present the local products at their best to international buyers and suppliers in cooperation with partner Foundations", noted the CEO of DFA Armen Avak Avakian.

"In the short period of its activities, the Wine-growing and Winemaking Foundation of Armenia has already recorded significant results in raising recognizability and demand for Armenian wines. I am confident that this cooperation will create new opportunities for developing the sector and promoting export", added the CEO of the Wine-growing and Winemaking Foundation of Armenia Zaruhi Muradyan.

FMD KL Europe to establish biotechnological park in Armenia

FMD KL Europe – the Armenian branch of FMD K&L International Corporation – has announced plans to establish a biotechnological park in Armenia.

The company is currently making investments in order to equip the organization with devices and equipment meeting international standards.

"We are opening a new biotechnological park in Armenia that will enable the company to increase the number of its employees to 250 and to contribute to the development of the sphere," head of the company Kirit Velani said at a meeting with Armen Avak Avakian, CEO of the Development Foundation of Armenia.

"Our next step is aimed at establishing the basis of clinical research in Armenia, and we are planning to open our first clinic in 2018



that will start from the research of care products of first necessity, such as shampoos and creams, to the complex clinical trials. The Development Foundation of Armenia and the Armenian government have been very supportive to us since the beginning of our activities," Kirit Velani noted.

Kirit Velani presented the potential of biotechnological sphere, noting that it is at the

stage of industrial development and can become the driving force of the Armenian economy. "Two people, sitting in the Armenian lab, can create a material that can generate billions of revenue for the country", Velani said.

The interlocutors discussed the possible steps the government can take to develop the sphere of biotechnology.

"The main function of DFA is to facilitate the smooth operation of foreign companies and investors in our economy. Our job is to expedite all the procedures these investors and companies encounter in the state system, related to the customs, taxation, or communication, enabling the businesses to generate revenue and, hopefully, to reinvest it in our country", Development Foundation of Armenia CEO noted.

Theresa May challenged over Azerbaijani money-laundering scheme



Theresa May is facing calls to order an investigation into how UK companies were allowed to operate a £2.2bn lobbying and money-laundering scheme on behalf of Azerbaijan's ruling elite, *The Guardian* reports.

Opposition politicians urged the government to open an inquiry after the publishing of leaked information showing the Azerbaijani leadership made covert payments from 2012 to 2014 through a network of opaque British companies.

Some of this money went to politicians and journalists as part of an international lobbying operation to deflect criticism of Azerbaijan's president, Ilham Aliyev, and to promote a positive image of his oil-rich country. There is no suggestion that all the recipients were aware of the original source of the money. It arrived via a disguised route.

Tim Farron, the former Liberal Democrat leader, led calls for an inquiry, saying this was what happens "when the corporate landscape is too lightly regulated".

"Thanks to the *Guardian* investigation we learn of something called the Azerbaijani Laundromat," he said. "But now is the time to wash some fairly dirty laundry in public and find out exactly who paid money to whom and why."

"We need a full investigation to see

that dirty money has not been used to buy influence in the UK. The Azerbaijani government is guilty of systematic human rights abuses and it would appear the regime has been making payments on an industrial scale."

Margaret Hodge, the chair of the all-party parliamentary group for responsible tax who uncovered the use of tax havens as chair of the public accounts committee, added to calls for more transparency about the scandal.

Peter Dowd, Labour's shadow chief secretary to the Treasury, said: "Money laundering hurts our economy, steals from others and corrupts our society. The financial system should effectively and efficiently provide investment that benefits the whole economy, not boost the offshore bank balances of plutocrats and criminals here and abroad."

"We have seen too many of these shocking scandals in recent years because the Tories are incapable of taking on the rigged system, which hurts the many to support the very few."

"It's time Britain had a Labour Government that, with our Tax Transparency and Enforcement Programme, is serious about challenging these people and institutions that are taking us all for a ride."

Molly Scott Cato, a Green MEP who sits on the European parliament's eco-

nomics and monetary affairs committee and inquiry into the Panama Papers, said the revelations were shocking and reveal "once again that British claims to be a leader in transparency conceal a far grubbier reality".

"The relationship between UK companies and our murky offshore tax havens permit the world's corrupt elite to indulge their extravagant lifestyles at public expense," she said. "They then use these ill-gotten gains to buy political influence that prevents them from being held to account for human rights abuses and bad government."

The four firms at the centre of the Azerbaijani Laundromat were all limited partnerships registered in the UK. They were: Metastar Invest, based at a service address in Birmingham; Hilux Services and Polux Management, set up in Glasgow; and LCM Alliance, from Potters Bar, Hertfordshire. Their corporate "partners" are anonymous tax haven entities based in the British Virgin Islands, Seychelles and Belize.

Some of the cash from the £2.2bn fund was used to pay for luxuries such as cars, school fees, interior design and dentistry, while other sums went to European politicians and prominent figures linked to promotion of Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan's ruling family is not directly named in the leaked documents. But the *Guardian* investigation found evidence of a connection was overwhelming. Large sums came via the state-owned International Bank of Azerbaijan, which is the largest bank in an oil-wealthy country, and yet earlier this summer it filed for bankruptcy protection in New York. The defence and emergency situations ministries in Baku all contributed cash.

The scheme was used to pay for the government's incidental expenses including the medical bills of Yaqub Eyyubov, Azerbaijan's first deputy prime minister. There were separate payments to Eyyubov's son Emin, Azerbaijan's EU ambassador, and to the president's press secretary, Azer Gasimov.

New documentary links 1915 Genocide to recent Azeri massacres of Armenians



**Harut
Sassounian**

A new Armenian Genocide documentary will be screened in many theaters across the United States and also available “on demand” as of October 7. Unlike other documentaries on the topic, this one is different and more relevant to today’s non-Armenian viewers. The documentary titled, “Architects of Denial,” and sub-titled “Genocide denied is genocide continued,” links the mass killings of Armenians by the Ottoman Empire in 1915 to contemporary massacres of Armenians by Azeris, ethnic kins of Turks, in various cities of Azerbaijan, and threaten to kill Armenians living in the enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh).

The documentary is produced by two Hollywood celebrities, Dean Cain and Montel Williams. It interviews world famous personalities and experts on the Armenian Genocide, some of them for the first time, such as Julian Assange (WikiLeaks), FBI whistleblower Sibel Edmonds, prominent international lawyer Geoffrey Robertson, Prof. Taner Akcam, one of the first Turkish scholar to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide, Dr. Gregory Stanton, President of Genocide Watch, Armenia’s President Serzh Sargsyan, Tom de Wall, an expert on the Caucasus region, Former U.S. Ambassador to Armenia John Evans, Cong. Adam Schiff, former Kurdish mayor of Sur, Diyarbakir in Turkey, Abdullah Demirbas, His Holiness Catholicos Karekin II, Bako Sahakyan, President of Artsakh, Prof. Ugur Ungor, an expert on the Armenian Genocide, Baroness Caroline Cox, a member of the UK House of Lords, eyewitness accounts of survivors of both the 1915 Armenian Genocide and the massacres in Baku and Sumgait, Azerbaijan, since 1988, and earlier in the 20th century, and this writer.

The interviews were conducted in several countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, Armenia, Artsakh, Azerbaijan, Turkey, and Russia by camera crews sent to these places at major expense and great risk. The documentary also weaves the commonality of various genocides from Cambodia to Sudan (Darfur), the Holocaust, the Bosnian and Rwandan genocides.

Here are important excerpts from statements made by some of those interviewed by the documentary-makers:

Julian Assange: “Turkey has gone all around the world aggressively lobbying diplomatically to make sure there are no references to the Armenian Genocide, including even the major powers such as the United States.”

Pres. Serzh Sargsyan: “The leaders of Turkey and Azerbaijan announce from time to time that they are one nation, but live in different countries. And naturally along with that one nation, they are injecting the ideology of denial.”

Perhaps the most scandalous revelation in the documentary was made by Sibel Edmonds who was fired from her FBI job for informing her superiors about the involvement of high-ranking U.S. politicians in illegal Turkish schemes: “The justification to the excuse the United States government has been using, we are doing this [denial of the Armenian Genocide] for sensitive diplomatic relations. This is a hypocrisy that I have been witnessing, especially with inside knowledge of what takes place in the United States. It started with trying to do the right thing and we fought criminal activities bought and abused and basic retaliation for that.”

Explaining why Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert killed the genocide recognition bill at the last minute, Sibel Edmonds stated: “It was a move that came with a price. He had bribery with cash to lock this vote. He also took bribery in the form of sexual favors during his junket trips to Turkey in a particular hotel that he would stay. Sexual favors would be delivered to him – under-age males. Also it was delivered in his townhouse; it was bribery, foreign bribery which constituted

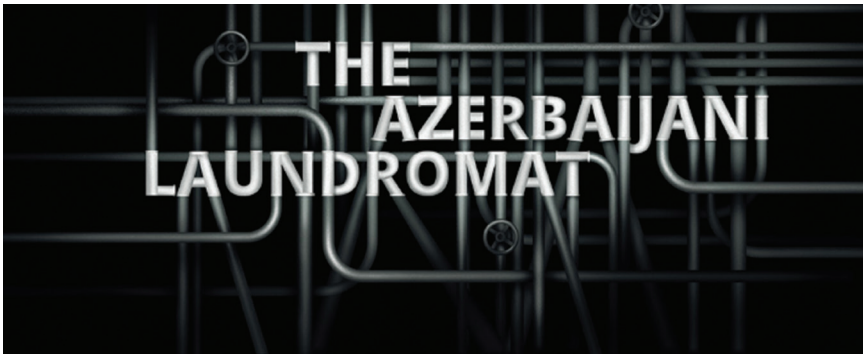
treason. But that was a very small portion of what the FBI has already gathered. In Chicago, he also was directly involved with the notorious Turkish network that handled very large percentage of heroin-related activities, operations, sales in the United States, including receiving cash in suitcases from these particular people, and he and his Chief of Staff; their evidences were monitored. They were bugged not only for audio, but also for video. The FBI had in its possession, starting from 1997 slam dunk evidence in their hands, criminally implicated Dennis Hastert. The State Dept. knows, many people in Congress whom I testified to, they know. And I said, ‘you watch, there would be no accountability and mockery of the entire system.’”

The documentary also shows an original footage in which Azeri soldiers barbarically cut off the heads and ears of Armenian soldiers and civilians during Azerbaijan’s attack on Artsakh during April 2016!

Finally, the documentary-makers question several members of Congress who refuse to answer whether they believe the Armenian Genocide actually took place, except Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (Dem.-Texas) who is shown giving a speech at an Azeri energy conference, where she boasts: “I am a member of the [congressional] Azerbaijan Caucus, enthusiastic member, and supportive member!”

The documentary-makers then ask Cong. Johnson on camera: “do you deny that the Armenian Genocide happened?” She shamelessly answers: “I do deny that!” This is a major scandal for a serving member of Congress to make such a categorical denial which is rarely denied by Members of Congress. The Armenian-American community nationwide and their friends should support her opponent in the next election and those in her district should vote against her to remove her from Congress. Once one of these denialist scoundrels is kicked out of office, other members of Congress will be very careful not to deny the Armenian Genocide. We need to make an example of her!

Transparency International calls for investigation into Azerbaijani money laundering case



Transparency International, the global anti-corruption organisation, is calling for politicians, banks and businesses that helped to launder the reputation of Azerbaijan across Europe to be investigated and, if appropriate, for the perpetrators to be sanctioned.

The anti-corruption organisation will launch national and international advocacy campaigns targeted at strengthening anti-money laundering practices, identifying individual wrong-doing and calling for international organisations, including the Council of Europe, to investigate allegations of inappropriate behaviour and take corrective action.

This follows an investigation carried out by journalists in six countries (Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, United King-

dom and United States) into a shady financial network that appears to have funnelled money from a US\$2.9 billion Azeri slush fund to pay decision-makers and prominent individuals across Europe.

"It is shocking to see that some politicians at respected bodies like the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe are up for sale and are willing to turn a blind eye to corruption and human rights abuses for cash. They must be sanctioned and we will put pressure on the authorities to take action. The story does not end here," said José Ugaz, Chair of Transparency International.

The investigation names, Danske Bank, a prominent bank in Denmark and specifically its branch in Estonia as the centre of the financial network. It also identifies four

shell companies set up in the UK with secret offshore owners that received money from the slush fund. In addition, individuals and businesses are reported to have received payments from these companies in Germany and the UK.

The reports describe how politicians and consultants who received the money were in a position to influence decisions about Azerbaijan's human rights record at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE). The purpose of the payments appears to have been to limit the effects of damaging information regarding human rights and election fraud that would have brought the country into greater disrepute.

"These investigations show that even in countries where corruption risks are considered low like Denmark, which ranks at the top of Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index, the regulatory bodies are still behind in enforce anti-money laundering legislation," added Ugaz.

Transparency International, as part of a partnership with the Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project that broke the story, will pressure the appropriate authorities to ensure that any wrongdoing is both investigated and punished, and that regulatory loopholes are closed.

Taner Akçam to receive 2018 'Upstander' honor from World Without Genocide



Clark University history Professor Taner Akçam will be honored with the 2018 Outstanding Upstander Award from the World Without Genocide organization for his tireless work promoting justice and the rule of law, the Armenian Weekly reports.

World Without Genocide, housed at the Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, Minn., works "to protect innocent people around the world; prevent genocide by combating racism and prejudice; advocate for the prosecution of perpetrators; and remember those whose lives and cultures have been destroyed by violence."

Akçam, one of the first Turkish intellectuals to acknowledge and

openly discuss the Armenian Genocide, holds the only endowed chair dedicated to research and teaching on this subject. As Robert Aram and Marianne Kaloosdian and Stephen and Marian Mugar Professor of Armenian Genocide Studies at the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark, he is committed to research, teaching and training future scholars. An outspoken advocate of democracy and free expression since his student days at Middle East Technical University in Ankara, he is an internationally recognized human rights activist.

"We have long admired your bold and dedicated work to document the atrocities perpetrated by the Ottoman government against the Armenian people. You have persisted in speaking out about the genocide, despite being marked for death by Turkish ultra-nationalists," Ellen J. Kennedy, executive director of World Without Genocide, wrote to Akçam.

Previous recipients of the World Without Genocide award include Eli Rosenbaum, director of human rights enforcement strategy and policy at the U.S. Department of Justice; Claudia Paz y Paz, former attorney general of Guatemala; and Magistrate Judge Peggy Kuo, former prosecutor at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia.

Akçam will formally receive the award at the organization's annual gala in May 2018 in Minneapolis.

House approves funding for Artsakh de-mining

The U.S. House today adopted an amendment by Rep. David Valadao (R-CA) backing continued Congressional appropriations for the HALO Trust's life-saving de-mining across the interior farmlands and villages of the Artsakh Republic.

The decisive move was welcomed by the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA), which spearheaded the launch of Artsakh aid in the 1990s and has, over the past two decades, secured tens of millions of dollars in life-saving U.S. assistance to the independent republic.

The Valadao Amendment was approved by voice vote, as part of the FY 2018 foreign aid appropriation, which, in turn, is part of a broader spending measure (H.R. 3354), which will be voted on as early as Friday, September 8th. Congressman David Valadao (R-CA), who serves as a Co-Chair of the Congressional Armenian Caucus, was joined in supporting this bipartisan measure by House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA), House Intelligence Committee Ranking Democrat Adam Schiff (D-CA), and his fellow Armenian Caucus Co-Chairs Frank Pallone (D-NJ) and Jackie Speier (D-CA). Rep.

Valadao introduced his measure on the House floor, as part of an en bloc series of amendments, and spoke passionately in support of its adoption.

"Progress for Artsakh. The Valadao Amendment's overwhelming adoption

by the full U.S. House of Representatives powerfully affirms, over Aliyev's relentless opposition, America's enduring support for Artsakh's safety and security," said ANCA Chairman Raffi Hamparian.

"We join with friends from Fresno, across America, and from as far away as Artsakh in thanking Congressman Valadao and all his colleagues for his leadership in the victory of this pro-peace, life-saving legislation."

Immediately following his amendment's passage, Rep. Valadao shared with the ANCA that: "It is a grave reality that families in Nagorno Karabakh live under the very real threat of landmine accidents each and every day. However, with the funding secured in my amendment today, I am optimistic significant strides will be made to ensure the region is landmine free by 2020, restoring these communities so they may live without fear of mine-related accidents."

Rep. Pallone concurred, noting that "I was proud to work with my colleagues to extend aid to Nagorno Karabakh. U.S. aid especially towards demining efforts in Nagorno Karabakh has helped the HALO Trust to clear mines, cluster munitions, and other explosive remnants of war since 2000. This aid will help HALO Trust to complete this important work by their 2020 deadline and I will continue to work to support efforts relating to Nagorno Karabakh in the future."

Rep. Speier thanked her colleagues for "providing critically needed funding

for the ongoing effort to remove deadly landmines from Artsakh. Given the danger posed to the people of this Republic – an area that suffers the highest per capita incidence of landmine accidents in the world, with a third of these casualties involving children – this modest \$1.5 million amendment is destined to have a major impact on the physical and mental health of the people of Artsakh. It also shows our government's strong and abiding commitment to securing peace and prosperity for Artsakh, which has achieved great progress and has an even brighter future on its horizon."

The Valadao Amendment represents the first time in four years that the full U.S. House has gone on record affirming its official support for the Artsakh assistance program. The Senate has traditionally been more consistent in its support in this area. The Executive Branch is responsive to Congressional intent, as reflected in legislative and report language, particularly on appropriation priorities.

Thanks to the efforts of the ANCA and the leadership of Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT), former Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL), Congressional Armenian Caucus Co-Chair Frank Pallone and former Republican Co-Chair Joe Knollenberg (R-MI) and many others – the U.S. has provided millions in funding to The HALO Trust, which has successfully demined approximately 97% of Artsakh. Over the last 16 years, the HALO Trust has destroyed over 8,733 anti-personnel mines, 2,584 anti-tank landmines, 180,858 small arms ammunition, 12,423 cluster bombs and 48,572 other explosive items.

The ANCA's efforts to secure direct U.S. assistance to Artsakh date back to May of 1997, when Congressman Brad Sherman first offered an authorization amendment, as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, to the Foreign Policy Reform Act, to authorize direct U.S. funding for Artsakh. This effort led to subsequent support, later that same year, by appropriators, notably then-senior Congressman Joe Knollenberg of Michigan, who successfully worked to ensure that the House Appropriations Committee approved a Foreign Aid bill (Public Law 105-118) that ultimately led to the allocation of an initial \$12 million FY 1998 allocation for Artsakh.



"With the funding secured in my amendment today, I am optimistic significant strides will be made to ensure [Artsakh] is landmine free by 2020."

**- David Valadao (R-CA)
U.S. Representative**

anca.org

VivaCell-MTS News: The Results of the 6th "WebApricot" Pan-Armenian Online Award Announced and...

New "Samsung Galaxy Note8" with Preorder Option

21 films of 4 different genres received main, special and incentive awards. The Pan-Armenian Online Award has become an important initiative among the younger generation of film professionals. For 6th year now the award has been organized by the "Golden Apricot" International Film Festival in collaboration with webtv.am cultural online TV.

The General Partner of the "WebApricot" Pan-Armenian Online Award is VivaCell-MTS. This year, for the first time the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia has joined the initiative by allocating a special prize.

During the submission process 21 feature, short, documentary, and animation films by both aspiring and renowned film directors were streamed by webtv.am cultural online TV.

The jury members of the 6th "WebApricot" Pan-Armenian Online Award were Member of Public Television and Radio Council of Armenia, Head of Journalism Department at Yerevan State Pedagogical University Levon Galstyan, Editor in Chief of "Newmag" journal, screenwriter Gnel Nalbandyan, TV journalist Marat Ordyan and producer Narine Kochar. The award ceremony took place at "Loft" center for self-development.

The speakers of the event were the Founder of the "Golden Apricot" International Film Festival **Harutyun Khachatryan**, VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager **Ralph Yirikian** and founder of webtv.am online TV **Arayik Manukyan**.

The main prize, a monetary award in AMD 400,000 provided by VivaCell-MTS, was granted to director **Nayira Muradyan** for "Ballet" animated film.

"If you want to reveal the best in a person, create favorable conditions and give him or her opportunity to realize personal potential. It is bound to give the expected results. The format of the "Web Apricot" serves exactly this purpose. It is a platform for aspiring professionals in the film industry to make own dreams come true. There are no financial difficulties connected with buying professional cinema equipment or overcoming other obstacles. All one needs is a device

with a camera and talent. I congratulate the winners of the festival throughout the years and wish them new achievements," said VivaCell-MTS Founding GM Mr **Ralph Yirikian**.

The Special Prize provided by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, in the amount of AMD 300,000, was handed over to the film "The Road" by director **Angela**

Ophelia Harutyunyan, received the incentive awards of the festival.

The Audience Award, which was defined by the number of views, went to the film "Beautiful Arus" by **Varuzhan Galtakyan**.

Winners of Incentive and Audience awards have the opportunity of using professional cinema equipment for free for 10 days within a year.



VivaCell-MTS informs that in case of ordering "Samsung Galaxy Note8" smartphone till September 21, 2017, inclusively, one can also get a "Samsung DeX" accessory.

The price of the "Samsung Galaxy Note8" smartphone is AMD 579 900. The device can be purchased both in cash and by installment.

The order can be made online or by visiting a VivaCell-MTS service center. In case of an online order, one should visit the nearest service center till September 21, 2017, inclusively, to make a payment. In case of cash purchase, one should pay the whole price of the smartphone; in case of a purchase by installment, one should pay the sum of the respective down payment (if applicable) again till September 21, 2017, inclusively.

Subscribers will receive the "Samsung Galaxy Note8" smartphone and "Samsung DeX" accessory starting from September 22, 2017, by submitting their ID.

"Once again VivaCell-MTS offers its subscribers a new high-end smartphone, this time the Samsung Galaxy Note8, which stands out with its state-of-the-art features and unique design. It is important that we give our subscribers an opportunity to use the most innovative, high-quality and convenient mobile devices, in case of a willingness to do so," VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian** said.



Frangyan. The film was produced by "Bars Media" Documentary Film Studio.

By the decision of the jury, films "Diana's Gift" by the student of Yerevan State Institute of Theatre and Cinematography **Mar-tin Matevosyan** and "The Frame", diploma work of the Columbia University graduate

For more information, one can visit www.mts.am, contact 111 free of charge hotline, chat with us through "111 Online", or approach one of our service centers across Armenia. For updates on our news, join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MTSArmenia/>

Mossessian Architecture plans two buildings in London clad in tuff stone from Armenia

Mossessian Architecture – an award-winning London-based architecture practice – has lodged plans for another new office building in King’s Cross, central London, the Architects’ Journal reports.

The proposals include a 26,172m², eleven-storey office block – called S1 – on the corner of Handyside Street and Canal Reach, with a roof terrace as well as restaurants and shops at ground level.

Backed by Argent, the new proposal accompanies another office scheme by Mossessian Architecture known as S2 which is on site nearby and is set to complete in Autumn 2018. That block has already been pre-let to DeepMind Technologies, a Google-owned artificial intelligence company.

Both buildings will be clad in tuff stone – a black volcanic lava stone from Armenia.

London-based French-Armenian architect Michel Mossessian, founder of Mossessian Architecture said: ‘King’s Cross is one of today’s templates for urban placemaking, so our priority was to develop spaces that both convey a strong identity and continuum with the public realm.’

‘The key is to acknowledge that there is a fine line between public spaces and tenants’ private realms, from the ground up to the rooftops of the buildings. This second building works to engage the space between the two, making the spaces hang together and generating a strong and engaging urban and spatial character for both the eventual tenant and the visiting public.’

Subject to planning approval, S1 is expected to start on site in December this year.

S1 is located on the corner of Handyside Street and Canal Reach. Both buildings will be clad in tuff stone, black volcanic lava stone from Armenia, a first for buildings of this scale in the UK.

Sitting next to each other, buildings S1 and S2 respond to each other to form an urban piece where the mass of the buildings and void created between them relate to the urban flow



and place making. The space in-between forms a dramatic sculptural void and acts as a passageway leading to a new public square – Keskedee Square – that will offer a variety of restaurants, retail spaces and meeting places.

S1 completes the architectural language of its sister building, offering the same black stone as mass with natural anodized window frames sequenced in rhythmic modulation, in contrast with a variegated textured glass defining the public realm.

The building consists of eleven floors of office space – NIA from 1,124 to 2,145 m² – with restaurants and retail units at ground level. Three levels are equipped with large terraces, and the eleventh floor has a generous landscaped roof terrace accessible to all tenants.

Taron Margaryan's Delegation in Saint Petersburg with Official Visit on the Occasion of "The Yerevan Days"

On 6-8 September delegation headed by Yerevan Mayor **Taron Margaryan** was in Saint Petersburg with an official visit at the behest of Saint Petersburg Governor **Georgy Poltavchenko**.

It should be noted that on September 6-8 "Yerevan Days in Saint Petersburg" program of events was held in the RF "Northern Capital". To say that the visit was saturated means to say nothing as within the frames of the Program a number of official meetings, round tables related to the culture, tourism, health, general education, investments were held. Besides, numerous cultural events representing Yerevan were held.

So below The Highlights readers could see detailed chronicle of the events held within the visit:

van Mayor and Saint Petersburg Governor walked about the Exhibition and familiarized themselves with the exhibited photos. The persons in charge noted that photos from the collection of Yerevan History Museum and historical and archaeological reserve-museum "Erebuni" represent the old and new streets, quarters, public buildings, monuments, citywide and festive events of Yerevan and the people who played an important role in political, economical and cultural life of the City.

The exhibition "Yerevan: City and People" opened at Peter and Paul fortress will last until 20 September.

Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan meets Saint Petersburg Governor Georgi Pol-

cities for 2015-2020 proves the effective, successful and perspective bilateral partnership. In this issue, Mister Mayor, an important role belongs to Your consistent attitude to effective implementation of the cooperation program between the two Cities which makes it possible to make interaction more practical and noticeable. Yerevan is a reliable partner City for us and we highly appreciate it. I am sure that Yerevan Days in Saint Petersburg will be held at high level", said Georgy Poltavchenko.

Expressing gratitude for warm welcome, Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan outlined that Yerevan Days in Saint Petersburg one more time prove the high level of the relationship established between the two Cities and expressed confidence that this meeting will



The right of noon salvo from Peter and Paul fortress was given to Mayor Taron Margaryan

06.09.2017

Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan visited Peter and Paul fortress where he got the right of firing the noon salvo of September 6. It should be noted that the noon salvo from Narishkin Tower of the fortress is fired every day.

This tradition began in the period of Peter the Great Emperor reign. From time to time the right of firing the cannon salvo is given to honorary guests of Saint Petersburg. Yerevan Mayor also left an entry in the book of honorary guests of the fortress.

Photo exhibition "Yerevan: City and People" at Peter and Paul fortress

06.09.2017

Within the frames of "Yerevan Days in Saint Petersburg" photo exhibition "Yerevan: City and People" has opened at Peter and Paul fortress.

Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan and Saint Petersburg Governor Georgy Poltavchenko were present at the ceremony of opening the exhibition consisted of 86 photos. Yere-



tavchenko
06.09.2017

Within the frames of Yerevan Days started in Saint Petersburg Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan who is in the RF northern capital with an official visit met Saint Petersburg Governor Georgy Poltavchenko in the Smolni Palace. Greeting Yerevan Mayor, Governor Georgy Poltavchenko attached importance to holding Yerevan Days within the scope of tight cooperation between the two Cities.

"The process of implementation of the cooperation program signed between the two



give a new impetus to realization of programs between Yerevan and Saint Petersburg.

"Mister Governor, we highly appreciate the efforts of Saint Petersburg government and Your personal efforts aimed at strengthening and expansion of bilateral ties. The relationship established between Yerevan and Saint Petersburg undoubtedly ensures not only excellent practical results but also outstand with faithful friendship. Holding Yerevan Days in Saint Petersburg and Saint Petersburg Days in Yerevan has become a good tradition which plays a big role in recognition increasing of the two cities. Memoranda to be signed between Yerevan Municipality and the organizations subordinated Saint Petersburg government prove the practical basis of our cooperation", said Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan.

The parties attached particular importance to organization of round tables during the meeting noting that they serve a good platform for discussion of the pace of implementation of cooperation programs in various spheres of urban economy.

At the end of the meeting Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan invited Saint Petersburg

Governor Georgy Poltavchenko to visit Yerevan next year to participate in the celebration of "Erebuni-Yerevan 2800". Accepting the invitation, Saint Petersburg Governor promised to visit Yerevan and take part in jubilee events dedicated to Yerevan foundation day.

Memoranda of Cooperation have been signed within the frames of Yerevan Days in Saint Petersburg **06.09.2017**

After the official part of the meeting of Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan and Saint Petersburg Governor Georgy Poltavchenko the ceremony of signing the memoranda of cooperation was held in the Smolni.

The Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the music school after Alexander Speniaryan and Saint Petersburg music college after Rimski-Korsakov. Similar memoranda were also signed between Yerevan library after Avetik Isahakyan and Saint Petersburg central library after Vladimir Mayakovski and the library after Mikhail Le-

Georgi Poltavchenko noted that it is another evidence of the faithful friendship between the two Cities which obliges to strengthen and expand the bilateral mutually beneficial cooperation.

Yerevan Mayor renders memory tribute to the great Armenian composer Komitas **06.09.2017**

Within the scope of Yerevan Days held in Saint Petersburg from 6 to 8 of August, Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan who is in the City with an official visit, accompanied by the RA General Consul in Saint Petersburg **Hrayr Karapetyan** and the Head of the official representation of Yerevan Municipality in Saint Petersburg **Armenak Karapetyan** and the members of the official delegation, rendered the tribute to the memory of the founder of Armenian classical music school, the great Armenian composer **Komitas**.

The monument to Komitas was erected in Vasileostrovski district of Saint Petersburg within the frames of the Armenian Genocide

charge noted that the documents of XIII-XIX centuries came from the chancery of Catholicos of Echmiadzin, Cilician and Jerusalem Patriarchies. It was also noted that approximately 2000 Armenian manuscripts are kept currently in the RF state archives.

Exhibition "My Yerevan" is open within the scope of Yerevan Days in Saint Petersburg **07.09.2017**

Yerevan Deputy Mayor Aram Sukiasyan and the RA General Consul in Saint Petersburg Hrayr Karapetyan were present at the ceremony of opening of "My Yerevan" exhibition. Within the frames of the exhibition opened at the Museum of Applied Arts of Saint Petersburg, pictures by Saint Petersburg painters **Olga Veselova**, **Konstantin Konstantinov** and **Levon Beybutyan** are exhibited. The main theme of the work of art is the view of Yerevan and Armenia with the eyes of Saint Petersburg artists who show in their works not only the nature and architectural beauties



montov. The Memorandum was also signed between Yerevan school N181 and Saint Petersburg school N489.

Cooperation memoranda were also signed between Yerevan medical center "Surb Astvatsamayr" and Saint Petersburg children's hospitals N1 and N19, as well as between Yerevan medical center "Grigor Narekatsi" and Saint Petersburg maternity home N17.

After signing the memoranda the parties expressed confidence that the mentioned memoranda will become additional stimulus for cooperation expansion and strengthening bilateral ties which will serve for the welfare of Yerevan and Saint Petersburg residents.

Saint Petersburg Governor Georgy Poltavchenko is awarded with Memorial Medal "Argishti the First" **06.09.2017**

For close cooperation and significant contribution to strengthening the ties between the RA capital city Yerevan and the RF northern capital Saint Petersburg Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan awarded Saint Petersburg Governor Georgy Poltavchenko with the memory medal "Argishti the First".

Expressing gratitude for the high award,

Centennial, becoming another evidence of indestructible friendship and mutual respect between the two nations.

In Saint Petersburg Mayor Taron Margaryan was present at the event dedicated to Industrial Workers Day **07.09.2017**

Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan and Saint Petersburg Governor Georgy Poltavchenko were present at the event dedicated to RF Industrial Workers Day.

Within the frames of Yerevan Days exhibition of Armenian manuscripts is open in Saint Petersburg **07.09.2017**

Within the frames of Yerevan Days held in Saint Petersburg Deputy Mayor of Yerevan **Aram Sukiasyan** and the RA General Consul in Saint Petersburg **Hrayr Karapetyan** were present at the ceremony of opening of the exhibition "World on Pages". Handwritten books and documents in Armenian preserved in the Russian National Library since 1805 will be exhibited in the Manuscripts Hall of the library.

Presenting the samples, the persons in

of Armenia but reveal the features of urban and rural routine, familiarize people with the dwellers of the country.

The exhibition is open at the Museum of Applied Arts in Saint Petersburg from 7 to 26 September.

Issues related to tourism sphere of Yerevan and Saint Petersburg are discussed **07.09.2017**

Meeting-discussion related to tourism development in Yerevan and Saint Petersburg took place. Yerevan Mayor's Assistant, tourism sphere coordinator **Maria Baraghanyan**, the Head of tourism division of Yerevan Municipality **Gevorg Orbelyan** and the Chairman of Tourism Development Committee of Saint Petersburg **Andrey Mushkaryov** participated in the discussion. The representatives of Saint Petersburg museums, tourism agencies, Russian printed and electronic tourism periodicals as well as the representatives of such tourist agencies of Yerevan as "Travelon", "Armenia Travel +M" and "United Travel" took part in the round-table discussion.

"Within the recent years significant attention was paid by Yerevan Mayor to the development of the sphere of tourism in Yerevan

Taron Margaryan's Delegation in Saint Petersburg with Official Visit on the Occasion of "The Yerevan Days"

and in this regard we attach importance to co-operation expansion with Yerevan sister and partner cities. Being the leader among the RF cities with developed sphere of tourism Saint Petersburg gives wide cooperation possibilities for Yerevan.

As a result of the tight cooperation with Saint Petersburg tourism development committee within the last three years an effective working program was worked out within the frames of which social advertising exchange was carried out, joint mutual visits were organized. However all this is not enough and we set new tasks before us. In particular, the time has come to start active cooperation between tourism information centers of the two cities", said Maria Baraghamyan.

During the meeting Gevorg Orbelyan presented the tourism potential of Yerevan inviting the participants of the round table to visit Yerevan next year to take part in the celebration of the 2800th anniversary of the capital of Armenia.

"Today Yerevan is represented with a new, modern tourism result, with rapidly developing infrastructures, with tourist festivals. Taking the opportunity we'd like to invite our Saint Petersburg partners to visit Yerevan next year to participate in the celebration of the 2800th anniversary of our beloved city",

said Gevorg Orbelyan.

The tour operators arrived from Yerevan in their turn presented the attractiveness of Armenia and the proposed tourist packages to the Russian companies engaged in outgoing tourism.

The chairman of Saint Petersburg tourism development committee Andrey Mushkaryov attached importance to the expansion of the programs aimed at tourism development between the two cities and stressed that new initiatives are planned for near future.

"There are wide perspectives for interaction in the sphere of tourism of Armenia and especially Yerevan. It's highly important that the two cities are tightly cooperating today which benefits development of mutually beneficial interaction. We are interested in development of direct flights and why not in having an office representing Saint Petersburg in Yerevan", said Mr Mushkaryov.

Within the frames of the discussion the working program of Yerevan Municipality tourism division and Saint Petersburg tourism development committee provided for 2017-2019 were outlined as well.

Round-table discussion concerning health sphere within the frames of Yerevan Days in Saint Petersburg

07.09.2017

Within the frames of Yerevan Days held in Saint Petersburg from 6 to 8 of September the round-table discussion was held with the participation of the persons in charge for the sphere of health care. The Head of Yerevan Municipality Department of Health Kamsar Babinyan presenting the priorities and programs fulfilled in the sphere in Yerevan outlined that consistent work was being carried out during the last year to improve conditions in the medical establishments subordinated to Yerevan Municipality. Stressing the importance of delivering high-quality services to population **Kamsar Babinyan** informed his Saint Petersburg colleagues that clear program policy is carried out to complete medical establishments with new up-to-date medical equipment.

The representatives of Saint Petersburg government health committee in their turn attaching importance to systematic development of the health care system noted that it's highly important to apply new technologies and provide medical establishments with new up-to-date equipment to ensure high-quality services.

The parties arranged to expand interaction and develop experience exchange within the programs of cooperation between the cities to



improve professional skills.

So, the directors of Yerevan medial centers “Grigor Narekatsi” and “Surb Astvatsamayr”, Anti-tuberculosis dispensary, “Polyclinic N15” CJSC and the chief obstetrician-gynecologist visited Saint Petersburg city ambulance station, children’s hospitals N19 and 1, as well as the polyclinic of Moskovski District and Anti-tuberculosis dispensary N5, familiarized themselves with the conditions and management system of the establishments and on the spot watched the process of treatment and service of patients. Attaching importance to the necessity of experience exchange the parties expressed willingness to make mutual visits more frequent.

Yerevan Days in Saint Petersburg: active cooperation in education sphere 07.09.2017

Within the scope of cooperation established between Yerevan and Saint Petersburg active interaction is also developed in the sphere of education. The issues related to the process of implementation of joint project were discussed by the persons in charge for the sphere of education. Outlining the importance of the cooperation established between a number of Yerevan and Saint Petersburg schools, the Head of Yerevan Municipality Department of



General Education *Anna Stepanyan* noted that Yerevan basic school N181 and Saint Petersburg school N489 were added to this list. According to the signed memorandum these schools will develop tight cooperation and experience exchange.

The head of Saint Petersburg government education committee *Zhanna Vorobyova* in her turn outlined that within the frames of successful cooperation between the two cities numerous programs are being fulfilled in teachers’ experience exchange, organization of online classes between pupils, as well as in replenishment of library fund of the schools.

The parties arranged to carry on tight interaction. Afterwards the members of Yerevan delegation together with their Saint Petersburg colleagues visited a number of educational establishments in the northern capital of the RF.

Yerevan Days gala-concert in Saint Pe-

tersburg 08.09.2017

Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan and Saint Petersburg Governor Georgy Poltavchenko together with the reps of Saint Petersburg government and Yerevan delegation were present at the gala-concert organized in State Academic Capella of Saint Petersburg. Jazz quintet of jazzman *Vahagn Hayrapetyan*, duduk player *Norayr Kalashyan* and the “Hover” Chorus took part in the concert. Popular jazz compositions sounded during the gala-concert called “Yerevan Sketches”. The repertoire of “Hover” choir included compositions by Komitas and contemporary authors. All the performances were warmly greeted and got high appreciation.

Cultural cooperation of Yerevan and Saint Petersburg is developing 08.09.2017

Within the frames of Yerevan days held in Saint Petersburg from 6 to 8 September the meeting-discussion was organized with the persons in charge for the sphere of culture. The parties particularly referred to the implementation of the activities provided for within the cooperation program between Yerevan and Saint Petersburg and outlined the direction for activation of the cultural life of the two cities.

close cultural cooperation between the cities.

Memory tribute to the victims of the Siege of Leningrad 08.09.2017

Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan visited Piskaryovski Memorial Complex where he took part in commemorating ceremony dedicated to the victims of the Siege of Leningrad. Together with Saint Petersburg Governor Georgy Poltavchenko, top-officials of the RF “Northern Capital”, members of Yerevan delegation and numerous citizens, Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan laid flowers at the monument “Mother Homeland” and rendered tribute to memory of innocent victims of the Siege of Leningrad.

420 thousand citizens of Leningrad and 70 thousand defenders of the City are buried in 186 common graves.

The members of Yerevan delegation also visited the Memory Alley situated along the eastern border of the cemetery where they laid flowers at the memorial board of Armenians participated in the battle for Leningrad.

Yerevan Mayor visits Armenian Apostolic Church of Saint Catherine in Saint Petersburg 08.09.2017



The delegation headed by Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan visited the Armenian Apostolic church of Saint Catharineh in Saint Petersburg. The church was built during the reign of Catherine the Great at the initiative of the Head of Armenian community, outstanding statesman *Hovhannes Lazaryan* and at the donations of the Armenian community. The church is a center of national culture for 25,000 Armenians living in Saint Petersburg. Attaching particular importance to the role and significance of the Armenian church in preservation of Armenian traditions in Diaspora, Mayor Taron Margaryan thanked the hieromonk *Poghos Vardanyan* for the contribution to uniting the Armenian community. As Poghos Vardanyan said, the Church which has three-century history plays an important role in uniting the Armenian community of Petersburg.

*Compiled by Gourgen Khazhakian,
Chief Correspondent*

Yerevan Home Care is the first and the only one company launched in 2011 in Yerevan. The company is providing a 24/7 qualified care service to older adults, disabled people, people suffering from chronic diseases or those who need postoperative care, as well as to people with dementia.

Creating the company we concider to support many families that live abroad and have their elderly family members staying in Armenia. We succeed in supporting these families to have not only a solution of the raised problem but to have a deep feeling of satisfaction that their relatives are in good hands.

The organization's greatest wealth is educated, professional, skilled, experienced staff and people with high values and psychological knowledge.

We treat each patient with a strong sense of responsibility and show an individual approach to the families, at the same time maintaining the accepted norms and using contemporary approaches.

Taking your relative's care on our shoulders, we bring harmony between the different generations.

Apart from the professional knowledge the company pays a great attention to the human-



ԱՆՎԱՍՏԱՅԼԱԿՈՎ ՀԱՃԱԽՈՐԴՆԵՐԻ
ՏԵՂԱՓՈԽՈՒՄ



yerevanhomecare.am 010 546 546

itarian qualities of the serving staff, to their kindness, patience, attention and courteous manner.

We assure that we will be your irreplaceable assistant in helping and surrounding your relative with care and support.

We provide service to all type of patients who needs care assistance.

Personal care is for elderly people who are alone and need support in daily living, such as dressing, bathing, feeding, or meal preparation.



Անկողնային հիվանդների լոգանքի կազմակերպում իրենց իսկ անկողնում



yerevanhomecare.am

Մարշալ Բաղրամյան պողոտա, 1-ին փակուղի, 2-րդ շենք 2-րդ հարկ
010 546 546



This type of care includes personal care aides, home care aides, and home health aides. Home health aides might also provide limited assistance with things such as taking blood pressure or offering medication reminders.

Nursing care is more related for patients after surgery, traumas, different chronic diseases

Rehabilitation service is for people who need professional rehabilitation in their recovery periods after some types of diseases and surgery. Dementia /Alzheimer /special care is for people with dementia in all stages when you worried about their safety or a health problem.

Yerevan Home Care provides all type of medical equipment that will increase the quality of life of your loved ones. (rent of the equipment is acceptable)

Transportation is a key issue for older adults and for people with temporary or permanent disabilities especially in Armenia where the streets and buildings are not adjusted for disabled people. Yerevan Home Care is providing a transportation service for people that are in wheelchairs.

Contacts:

Phone: +37410 546 546, +37491 403 979,
+37493 401 982

E-mail: info@yerevanhomecare.am,
hripsime.deghdzunyan@gmail.com

Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/YerevanHomeCare

Website: www.yerevanhomecare.am

Address: Yerevan, Baghramyan 1 impasse,
2 Building, 2nd Floor

ARMENIA

Yezeguelian Hotel & Residence



In the Green Park
Near Congress Hotel
24 Studios and Apartments
€250 Per Week
(Payment Upon Arrival)

**In the Center
of Yerevan**



Warm Welcome
24/7 Security
Free Cafe & Bar

All Conveniences
Air Conditioned
Apartments



Kitchen, Refrigerator
Safe, TV, Internet



Modern
Rest Rooms

RESERVATIONS:

011 374 91 57 01 70
011 374 91 73 91 91

Yezeguelian@aol.com

Paris Office: 34 Avenue des Champs Elysees
Phone: 011 33 1 43 59 66 72
Yerevan Address: 8, Khorenatsi St.

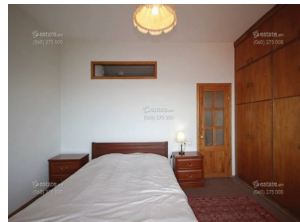
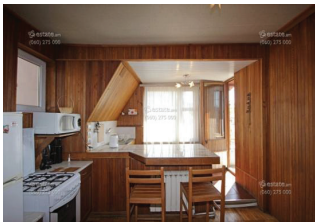
APARTMENTS FOR RENT



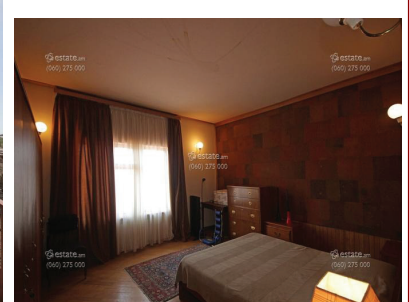
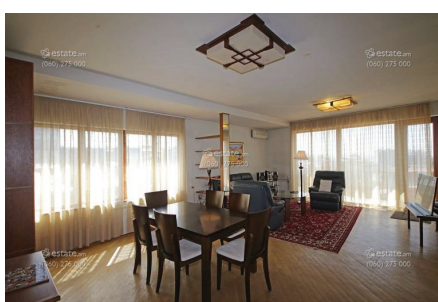
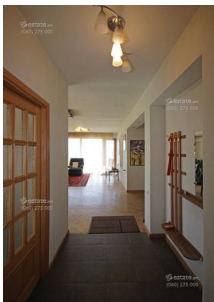
Comfortable two bedrooms apartments in the center of Yerevan, close to the hotel BASS. Each apartment is 110 sq.m., has two balconies, nice view to mount Ararat and separate entrance from the street. Both have central heating system, Wi-Fi, air conditionings, washing machines, TV sets, etc.
Address: Aygedzor Street 3, Yerevan.
Tel. (374) 095-27-87-09; 093-22-95-70 (landlord)



The apartment on the 2nd floor. Price for a long-time: \$ 850 per month; for a short time period: \$ 40-50 daily.



The apartment on the 3rd floor. Price: \$ 1300 per month.



Noyan Tapan Press-Center

Noyan Tapan Press-Center holds different discussions, press conferences, round tables, teleconferences, seminars each week which are broadcast live on the internet. We invite you to take advantage of the Center, as well as the place your banner in our Press Room.

Tel.: 060 35 11 22.

**Address: Isahakyan 28, 3rd floor,
Yerevan, 0009**

Noyan Tapan Printing House

is offering coloured and black and white offset and digital printing of:

- books,
- brochures,
- booklets,
- journals, etc with high quality and low prices

Tel.: 060 35 11 22.

**Address: Isahakyan 28, 1st floor,
Yerevan, 0009**

The Noyan Tapan
 HIGHLIGHTS
 The publisher: NT Holding LTD
 Circulation: 1500 print copies and
 15.600 copies by e-mail list in PDF format
 Տպվելը՝ 2.25 մամուլ, տպարանակը՝ 1500
 Լրատվական գործունեություն իրականացնող՝
 ՆՏ Խղիկինգ ՍՊԸ
 Գրանցման վկայականի համարը՝
 03Ա898368, տրված 11.01.2013 թ.

President of the NT Media Holding:
Tigran Harutyunyan
 Editor-in-Chief of the Media Holding:
Gayaneh Arakelyan
 Director of the Weekly:
Marina Harutyunyan
 Chief Correspondent: **Gourgen Khazhakian**
 Proofreader: **Susanna Mkrtchian**
 Layout: **Diana Grigoryan**
 Համարի թող. պատ.՝ Մ. Հարությունյան
 Weekly Newspaper, Since May 4, 1993.
ISSN 1829-0604
 Registration certificate and the date:
 273.110.00512, 15.12.1995

E-mail: contact@nt.am
 URL: www.nt.am
 Address in Armenia: 28 Isahakian Str., Yerevan, 0009, RA.
 Tel.: (+374 60) 35-11-23
 (+374 60) 35-11-22
 Address in France: Masion De L' Armenie, Paris 17e - 95
 Bld. Gouvion, France.
 Tel.: (+33) 01 43 59 66 72
 Address in USA: 1146 E. Lexington Dr., #112, Glendale,
 CA, USA, 91206.
 Tel.: (+1 818) 646 10 72
 Հասցի՝ Բասիկյան 28, Երևան, ՀՀ, 0009