

The Noah's Ark

Noyan Tapan

Weekly Newspaper

HIGHLIGHTS

Published Since 1993

#44 (941)

3 December 2012



Price: 1000 drams

Yerevan hosts European People's Party Eastern Partnership summit



The summit was attended by Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan, Georgia's President Mikheil Sahakashvili, Prime-Minister of Moldova Vladimir Filat, President of the EPP Wilfried Martens and President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso.

HIGHLIGHT

Russian President to visit Armenia in early 2013

Russian President Vladimir Putin is likely to visit Armenia early next year, member of the Federation Council of the Russian Federal Assembly Nikolai Ryzhkov told reporters in Yerevan on November 29 adding the date of the visit is not yet fixed.

To note, Armenia's President Serzh Sargsyan was in Russia on working visit this August. During the meeting, the two presidents discussed prospects for developing bilateral relations, as well as international and regional issues.

In particular, they touched upon interaction of Russia and Armenia within the CIS and CSTO, as well as security in the Caucasus.

The timeout on domestic political scene of Armenia

By David Petrosyan

Unlike the Armenian press in the 1990s and the early 2000s, the present-day press, for the most part, has one interesting peculiarity: it reports information, whose level of credibility is either questionable or extremely low. So a journalist specializing in political analysis, first of all in the analysis of Armenia's internal political situation, has to spend a lot of time each day clarifying the facts of this or that publication, and of this or that report.

The majority of external experts keeping track of the situation in Armenia are either unfamiliar with the abovementioned circumstance or do not attach due importance to it.

The whole thing is that the overwhelming majority of the mass media outlets in Armenia are controlled in a varying degree by President Serzh Sarsyan's administration directly or by his son-in-law Mikael Minasian. In general, this young man plays quite a great role in

making important decisions regarding economic and political problems.

Now let's take a look at some absurdities in publications of the Armenian press's part, which is under control of the presidential palace.

For instance, the November 28 issue of the daily "Zhoghovurd" ("People") reported that secret Armenian-Turkish negotiations with the mediation of Switzerland had resumed. According to the daily, the superpowers realized that it would be possible to normalize Armenian-Turkish relations only after the settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, so in Switzerland, the United States and Russia are holding discussions on the deployment of peacekeepers in the Nagorno Karabakh conflict zone. At the same time, citing the Armenian Foreign Ministry, the newspaper also reported that there are no negotiations between Yerevan and Ankara.

continued on page 6

EPP Eastern Partnership Summit adopts declaration

Yerevan hosted the 2nd European People's Party (EPP) Eastern Partnership Leaders' Summit on Friday, November 30.

Armenian President SerzhSargsyan, Georgian President MikheilSaakashvili, Moldovan Prime Minister VladFilat, EPP President Wilfried Martens, European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso adopted a declaration at the summit.

This declaration represents the vision of the Eastern Partnership's future, outlining the agenda of the Eastern Partnership Summit that will be held in 2013 in Vilnius, President SerzhSargsyan told a news conference.

The Armenian President stressed the role of the EPP in inter-parliamentary relations.

President Sargsyan noted that the European People's Party is a Christian Democratic Party and stressed that it cannot tolerate xenophobia, military rhetoric and threat to use force. Turkey seeking



European integration should also accept the European values, SerzhSargsyan added.

EPP president Wilfried Martens, in turn, underscored the importance of adoption of democratic values through dialogue and cooperation, highlighting the provision on conflict settlement in the Yerevan declaration.

"As members of one and the same political family, we have common concerns," he told a press conference.

For his part, European Commission President José Manuel Barroso stressed the necessity of strengthening public relations in deepening of ties between countries.

"We must follow the path of European integration and adopt democratic values," Georgian President MikheilSaakashvili, who was also present at the summit, said.

Armenian-Lebanese relations are based on goodwill, mutual respect and trust. Armenian President

On November 26, President Serzh Sargsyan has arrived in the Republic of Lebanon of the official visit

At the residence of the President of Lebanon, after the official ceremony of welcoming the President of Armenia, Presidents Serzh Sargsyan and Michel Suleiman conducted private negotiations which were followed by the negotiations in the extended format with the participation of the delegations of the two states.

After the negotiations, there took place the ceremony of signing official documents. In particular, signed were Agreements on the "Visa free regime for the holders of diplomatic and service passports" and "Mutual recognition of the higher education and academic titles."

After the ceremony of document signing, President Serzh Sargsyan planted a tree in the Presidential Garden as a token of the Armenian-Lebanese friendship.

At the Presidential residence, the President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan and the President of the

Republic of Lebanon Michel Suleiman recapped the results of the negotiations at the joint press conference.



Statement by President Serzh Sargsyan at the joint press conference with the President of Lebanon Michel Suleiman

"Dear Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, I once again express my thanks to President Suleiman for the invi-

tation to visit the friendly Lebanon and warm welcome extended to the delegation of Armenia. Last year, at the 20th anniversary of Armenia's independence, we had the honor to host the President of

tions.

Moments ago, we held productive negotiations with President Suleiman: we have discussed opportunities of engaging new areas in the Armenian-Lebanese

the establishment of diplomatic relations. We have noted with satisfaction that the interparliamentary, cultural, educational and scientific ties have been established, signed were over three dozens of documents, whose number will be augmented during this visit, or to be more precise, has already been augmented by two.

We have agreed to use every opportunity to boost our bilateral economic cooperation. We are glad that in the recent period presence of Lebanon in our economy has become more visible.

I have told President Suleiman about the importance we attach to the cooperation with Lebanon on the international arena. In forming its positions, Armenia takes into consideration pan-Arabic interests and interests of Lebanon in particular.

We are deeply concerned with the situation in Syria and with the fate of the Armenians living there. At the gravest time in our history, the people of Syria had heartily

continued on page 6

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov arrived in Armenia



At the invitation of President Serzh Sargsyan, on November 29 delegation headed by the President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov arrived to Yerevan on official visit.

The official ceremony of welcoming the President of Turkmenistan took place at the Zvartnots International Airport after which the Presidents of the two countries held a tête-à-tête meeting followed by the negotiations in the extended format.

After the negotiations, the Parties signed documents aimed at the expansion and development of the cooperation between the two countries in a number of areas. In particular, the President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan and the President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov signed a Joint Declaration. Signed were also "Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of

Turkmenistan on the mutual allocation of land in Turkmenistan for the Embassy of Armenia and allocation of land in the Republic of Armenia for the Embassy of Turkmenistan," "Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of Turkmenistan on Air Communication," "Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of Turkmenistan on Scientific Cooperation," "Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the Seismic Protection Area," "Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the Area of Veterinary Medicine," and "Agreement between the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia and Ministry of Agriculture of Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the Area of Agriculture."

At the meeting with the representatives of the mass media, the Presidents of Armenia and Turkmenistan summarized the results of the negotiations.

European closed borders should not be used as dividing lines. Serzh Sargsyan

President Serzh Sargsyan received on December 1 the President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso.

The President of Armenia and the President of the European Commission summarized results of the meeting at the press conference for the representatives of the mass media.

Statement by President Serzh Sargsyan on the results of the meeting with the President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso at the press conference for the representatives of the mass media

Mr. President,

I am glad to host you in Yerevan for the first time. I recall warmly our meeting in Brussels in March and greatly appreciate the established dialogue between us. Your visit to Armenia is an important impetus for the development of Armenia-EU relations.

Aspiration to have a state structured based on the European values - freedom, democracy, the rule of law, has been ever-present in the hearts of the Armenian people. We view our interaction with the European structures as an important factor of Armenia's institutional maturing and successful implementation of reforms.

It is no accident that I have reiterated our determination to continue to deepen and develop our cooperation with the European Union. Our goal is before the November 2013 Summit in Vilnius to conclude works on the Association Agreement, including Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Zone negotiations, elevating thus our

relations to a new level.

We have noted with satisfaction that negotiations on the EU entry visa facilitation for the citizens of Armenia have been concluded. It will be signed soon and we expect that it will enter into force in mid-2013. After that, we will be ready to move on to the negotiations regarding the next, more complex stage - abolishment of visa requirement. From January 2013, citizens of EU will be visiting Armenia without obtaining entry visas. This process has one objective - to facilitate contacts between our societies, increase the number of reciprocal visits, and provide new opportunities for the students, scientists, and creative people.

At the meeting, I have expressed our conviction that it is necessary to deepen cooperation in the framework of the Eastern Partnership program. Closed borders, threats to use force, xenophobia and racism have no place in the 21st century. Moreover, we must declare zero tolerance towards these evils on the territory of our partnership. All our statements and actions become deficient if against this background one of the partner states calls the entire nation of another partner state an enemy, offering a repulsive and classical example of xenophobia.

We cannot pretend that it is normal when Turkey, a member of G-20, which was created for the economic advancement and a country which aspires to become a member of the European Union, is unilaterally and illegally keeps border closed with Armenia, a member of the Eastern Partnership. It runs contrary not only to the simple

logic of the Partnership but violates the main principles and norms of international law. In Europe, borders must not be used as dividing lines.

I presented to Mr. Barroso our visions of the resolution of the NagornoKarabakh problem. It is gratifying that we share with the European Union full understanding regarding the resolution of the conflict. Armenia has mentioned on many occasions that NagornoKarabakh is part of the European family, living with the same values; in this regard, we attach importance to the direct contacts of the representatives of the European Union with NagornoKarabakh, particularly their regular visits.

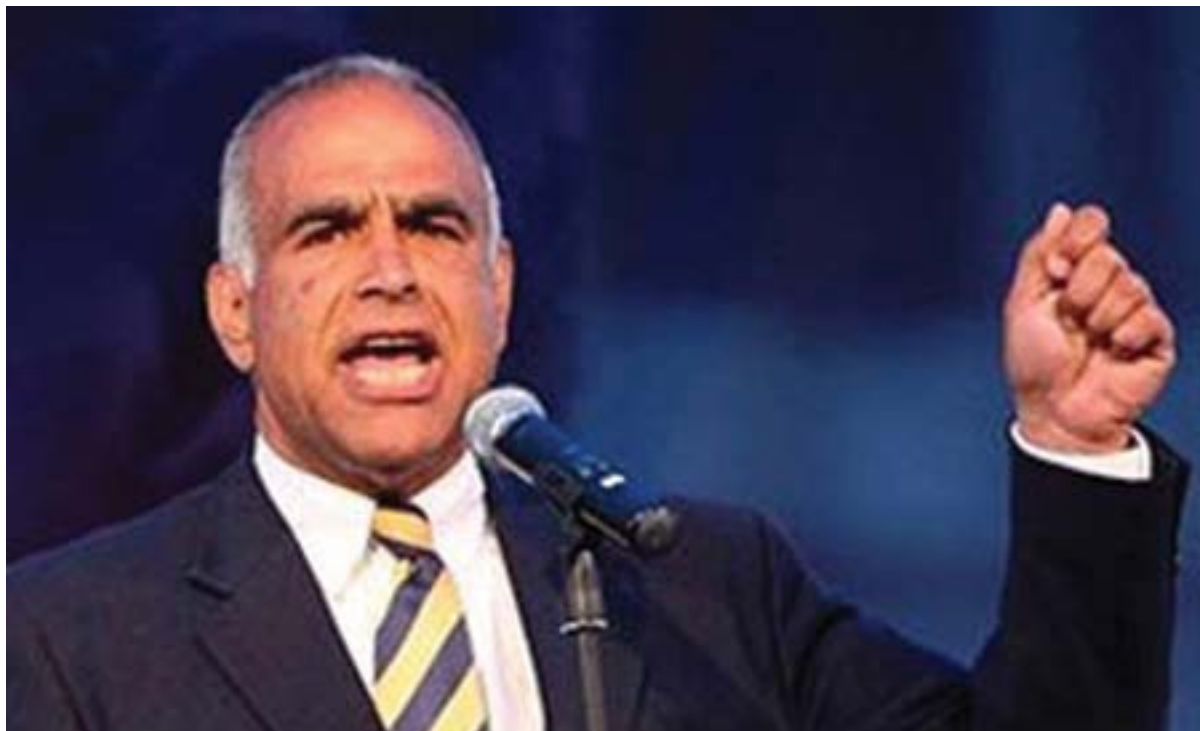
In the framework of our dialogue, we have discussed issues of mutual interest related to the human rights in the open and constructive atmosphere. I assured Mr. Barroso that we are committed to conduct presidential elections in February 2013 in line with the highest international standards.

I expressed gratitude to President Barroso for his assistance to the program of reformation in Armenia and readiness to increase that assistance based on the "More for More" approach. We have also discussed the preparation works for the donor conference to be held next year.

Dear Mr. Barroso,

In conclusion, I would like to express thanks for your persistent efforts aimed at the deepening of Armenia-EU relations, strengthening the Eastern Partnership, and establishment of peace and stability in our region.





Raffi Hovhannisian in Baku Proclaims Sovereignty and Integrity of Mountainous Karabagh

Raffi K. Hovhannisian, chairman of the Heritage Party and Armenia's first minister of foreign affairs, has returned from Baku, Azerbaijan, where he took part in the 7th General Assembly of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) between November 21 and 24. The meeting brought together 250 delegates representing 60 political parties from 25 Asian nations, together with a host of Azerbaijani functionaries.

The full text of his speech, which keyed the first plenary session on November 23, follows.

Address of

Raffi K. Hovhannisian

At the ICAPP 7th

General Assembly

Baku, 23 November 2012

Mister Chairman, distinguished colleagues:

I shall speak but once, so let it be crystal clear.

In a critical but good-faith search for peace, security, and reconciliation in Asia, I came to this beautiful city of Baku, where hundreds of thousands of Armenians once lived before they were forcibly dispossessed and expelled in January 1990 and whose erstwhile presence has been reduced to one remnant church which has been shut down and transformed to foreign purpose. Virtually none remains today, and although our Azerbaijani colleagues make reference to the existence of several thousand ethnic Armenians, I have seen no evidence of that claim. I have asked the authorities here to arrange for me a meeting with even one Armenian who dares to identify himself as such in current-day Baku.

I came here with a different, dialogue-driven spirit and intent, but have immediately faced a stark but expected reality of partisanship, selective propaganda, repetitive rhetoric, unparalleled xenophobia, and an untruthful presentation of parochial positions-not only in society and political circles but also at the presidential level.

Everything that stands against the precepts and principles of

ICAPP.

There can be no peace, security and reconciliation in our region as long as:

1) Azerbaijan launches a failed war of aggression against Mountainous Karabagh and its freedom-loving people, as well as against its own minorities living in its midst, and then blames the self-defenders for that failure;

2) Azerbaijan pursues an official policy of intentional destruction of cultural heritage, and most particularly the daylight destruction in December 2005 of thousands of hand-crafted khatchkars (cross-stones) at the medieval Armenian cemetery at Jugha, Nakhichevan-not as collateral damage of war, but 11 years after the ceasefire and hundreds of miles away from the conflict zone-and ever since has blocked all international missions to the site of this shameful desecration;

3) Azerbaijan continues to release and glorify convicted ax-murderers for the sole reason that the victim is Armenian, without even one voice of condemnation of this cowardly act of hatred in what the founder of ICAPP has referred to as "this inclusive democracy"; and

4) Azerbaijan, in a redundant war of words and terminologies, throws about at meetings such as this the loaded language of "occupation," when in reality it was liberation, decolonization and everybody's right to self-determination, and when "occupation" in fact applies most appropriately to Azerbaijani and Turkish control-through genocide, ethnic cleansing, and then the shame of official denialism-of large swathes of the Armenian patrimony from Shahumian and Nakhichevan to the western reaches of the Armenian Plateau.

Peace, security, and reconciliation are possible, however, when we all live by the same standards:

1) achievement of good, self-critical governance, public accountability, and the assumption of responsibility for safeguarding the equal civil rights and human dignity

of our own constituents, opposition parties, non-governmental organizations, and minorities;

2) empowerment of the average citizen, civil society, and true democracy, not rule by dynasty or dictatorship;

3) recognition of the liberty, sovereignty, and integrity of all states, old and new, including the Republic of Mountainous Karabagh, whose return to the status quo ante is impossible, but rather whose recognition within its constitutional frontiers will enable a simultaneous, multilateral, and reciprocal right of return for all refugees of all nationalities-not only the displaced Azerbaijanis, but also the more than half million Armenian deportees from Shahumian, Nakhichevan, Artsvashen, and Azerbaijan proper, together with the descendants of the victims and survivors of the great genocide and national dispossession of the Armenian people;

4) protection of all cultural heritage and condemnation of all desecration of that heritage, whether Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian, or other;

5) prevention and punishment of all genocides and crimes against humanity; and

6) the exercise of humanity and upholding of the common understanding that pain and suffering are universal and, in this connection, due remembrance of the thousands of righteous Turkish neighbors who demonstrated these virtues in saving Armenian lives, including my grandmother's, during the Genocide of 1915, as well as the hundreds of Azerbaijanis of good conscience who attempted to do the same during the anti-Armenian pogroms in Sumgait and Baku decades later.

For this I am grateful. And hopeful for a better day for the sake of our generations to come.

I thank you for your kind invitation, hospitality, and attention to the whole truth, however terrible or uncomfortable it might be.

Heritage Party Press Service

Opposition bloc's election strategy again questioned by prominent member

The Armenian National Congress (ANC) should stop "concentrating" on a possible electoral alliance with businessman Gagik Tsarukyan and nominate its own presidential candidate instead, a senior member of the opposition alliance said on November 27.

Former Prime Minister Hrant Bagratyan again voiced serious misgivings about the ANC's overtures to Tsarukyan's Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP), a former member of the country's governing coalition that now has the second largest parliamentary faction.

"I have even told our comrades, 'If you want to do a normal job, do it. Why do you keep concentrating on the PAP? Why do you tell the public about that all the time?'" Bagratyan told a news conference.

"In this sense, we may have gone a bit too far. In the end, it could turn out that everything was shallow," he said, seemingly questioning the PAP's opposition credentials.

The ANC and its top leader Levon Ter-Petrosyan have courted the PAP over the past year. Levon Zurabyan, a close Ter-Petrosyan associate, said last month that the two political groups should join forces to unseat President Serzh Sargsyan in the upcoming presidential election.

Zurabyan has since pointedly declined to rule out the possibility



of ANC endorsement of a PAP presidential candidate. Other senior ANC figures, including Bagratyan, have spoken out against this option.

Bagratyan, who is one of the ANC's seven parliament deputies, declared on Tuesday that Ter-Petrosyan's bloc will face self-destruction if it fails to field its own presidential candidate. "We must not kill the [Ter-Petrosyan-led] movement," he said.

Asked what he will do if the ANC leadership does throw its weight behind another contender, the outspoken oppositionist warned, "If we are to support some other party, then Hrant Bagratyan will find a way of talking to that party, thinking or quitting altogether."

Opposition critics say that the PAP cannot be interested in genuine change in Armenia because it was part of the government until last June. They also point to Tsarukyan's reputedly close ties to Kocharyan, the man who ordered a deadly crackdown on Ter-Petrosyan's opposition movement in the wake of the February 2008 presidential election.

Dashnaksutyun takes parliament majority to Ethics Committee over controversial boycott

The parliamentary faction of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (Dashnaksutyun) has lodged a complaint with the Parliamentary Ethics Committee over the conduct of representatives of two coalitional parties constituting the majority in the National Assembly that effectively boycotted a recent special session convened by a third of members.

Lawmakers of the Republican Party of Armenia (RPA) and its junior coalition partner Orinats Yerkir - jointly controlling 75 out of 131 parliament seats - did not attend the November 21 meeting called by the opposition Armenian National Congress (ANC) faction and seconded by the three other minority groups, including Dashnaksutyun, to discuss a raft of legal amendments related to the upcoming presidential election.

The failure of the deputies to show up in the chamber affected the quorum of the gathering (which

is 66) and led to the chairman cancelling the meeting.

The Dashnaksutyun said on Wednesday it wanted the parliamentary body to decide whether it was unethical of the majority lawmakers to scuttle the meeting.

The Ethics Committee has 10 working days to convene for a closed-door to consider the complaint.

Earlier, the ANC said it intended to take the matter to the Constitutional Court to decide on the constitutionality of the majority's step.

The RPA representatives have dismissed both moves, insisting that boycott is a legitimate tool in the arsenal of any political party and can be used as such under all circumstances.

Opposition and minority groups, too, have used boycott as a means of expressing their political position in the past, including in the National Assemblies of the current and previous convocations.





Morningstar Denounces Azeri Press Reports

U.S. Ambassador to Azerbaijan Richard Morningstar has denounced the Azeri state-run media for distorting his comments and alleging that he praised Azerbaijan's democratic developments, reported James Morrison in The Washington Times' Embassy Row column on Sunday.

After visiting Nakhichevan and not being allowed to visit Djulfa, the Azeri state media attributed comments to Morningstar where he praised democratic development in Azerbaijan.

In fact, Morrison reported that the U.S. Embassy in Baku "issued a blunt statement last week, accusing state media of distorting reports on Mr. Morningstar's visit to the Nakhchivan [sic] region on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1."

"The ambassador did not make such comments to anyone, and any reports claiming that he did so are not true," the embassy said of state media coverage that said he praised the progress of democracy during his trip to Nakhchivan, reported Morrison.

According to the Embassy Row report, the embassy said that contrary to state media, Mr. Morningstar used the visit to highlight the poor quality of democracy and human rights in Nakhchivan and made a point of meeting with human rights activist Malahat Nasibova, the embassy said.

"Ambassador Morningstar met with a wide range of leading governmental and nongovernmental figures

during his visit, including human rights activist Malahat Nasibova, whose office he visited in a show of support, and whose important work he praised during his public comments. Ambassador Morningstar also called publicly and privately for an open dialogue between local authorities and human rights defenders such as Ms. Nasibova," the embassy said.

In a U.S. Embassy statement on November 5, Morningstar stated that, when he was recently in Nakhchivan, he "discussed at length with local authorities one such site in Julfa, where, according to evidence from credible sources, an ancient Armenian cemetery was desecrated or destroyed. I regret that the authorities, citing security reasons, made it impossible for me to visit the site and personally see what is there."

"Ambassador Morningstar cannot take no for an answer," said Armenian National Committee of America Executive Director Aram Hamparian at the time. "He can either keep knocking on the Ilham Aliyev's door until this baseless ban is lifted or simply travel to the site of the Julfa cemetery on his own. Either way, it's clear that, as Americans, we should neither sell arms to an Azerbaijani military that destroys cemeteries, nor send any aid to a government in Baku that blocks U.S. ambassadors from visiting sites of peace-time cultural desecration."

Border between Armenia and Turkey must be open - Turkish rector



Rector of Turkey's Kadir Has University does not share the view there is enmity between Armenia and Turkey.

"There is definitely disagreement but I would not call it enmity. The countries are not at war," Mustafa Aydin told reporters in Yerevan during annual international forum "Dynamics of Regional Security in the South Caucasus."

Turkish rector shares opinion that enmity between Armenia and Azerbaijan affects relations between Yerevan and Ankara.

Aydin said the border between Armenia and Turkey must be opened and relations normalized, although it would take much time and long talks. He expressed regret about Turkey's decision to freeze relations with Armenia back in 1993.

The forum is organized by D. Kanayan Institute for National Strategic Studies and Political Science Association of Armenia. The forum brought together regional security experts from the U.S., Turkey, Israel, Armenia, UK and Russia.

Europe's caviar diplomacy with Azerbaijan must end

By Jacqueline Hale

The recent revelation that Azerbaijan has pursued a policy of bestowing gifts of caviar on parliamentarians and officials at the Council of Europe comes as no surprise to those who follow the interactions of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly (Pace) with the Caspian petro-state.

Amid growing evidence of Azerbaijan's deteriorating human rights record and entrenching authoritarianism, voices continue to speak out in favour the regime.

A recent Pace vote to define "political prisoners" in response to Azerbaijan's obfuscation on the issue came down to a knife-edge after intensive lobbying by the government trying to magic away the problem with the help of its allies among the elected assembly.

A sorry tale when we consider that the Council of Europe - whose work is based on the European Convention on Human Rights - has a specific role as guardian of European standards in this field.

Officials in the EU, which conducted a human rights dialogue with Azerbaijan last week, admit privately that caviar has also been on the menu in Brussels. Whilst there has been no concrete evidence of bribe-taking linked to policy outcomes, Azerbaijan's relations with parts of the European Parliament are cosy.

The largest political grouping in the parliament, the European People's Party, held a February conference attended by Azerbaijan's foreign minister during which some of its leading members extolled the virtues of Azerbaijan's political reforms and the fact it "has made clear its intention of building democracy."

In comparison to other neighbours, the EU appears to practice a form of exceptionalism towards Azerbaijan.

Catherine Ashton, the EU's first High Representative for Foreign Affairs, recently released two widely contrasting statements on Belarus and Azerbaijan within days of each other.

Though both feature side by side in various democracy indices and ongoing repression in the two

countries is in many ways comparable, Belarus comes in for censure while Azerbaijan receives fulsome praise.

Ashton's congratulatory statement on Azerbaijan confirms the argument that the European Union is taking a different posture towards its neighbours depending on whether or not they have energy to sell.

In the event, Ashton welcomed the release of nine political prisoners under amnesty but neglected to mention that a further 60 remain behind bars.

Following May's Eurovision song contest, pressure on activists has intensified. Arrests continue, including blogger Zaur Garibali on drugs charges, days after he criticised the inclusion in school text books of a poem by the president's daughter eulogising her grandfather and former president.

Senior government officials have targeted democracy activists and independent media calling for a campaign of public hatred against them.

Activists involved in the recent Sing for Democracy campaign point to arrests of their colleagues on politically motivated charges, including photo-journalist Mehman Huseynov, who was targeted as a warning to others.

Two journalists - Avaz Zeynalli and Hilal Mammadov - have been sentenced to prison terms on trumped up charges, bringing the number of journalists in detention to nine, according to the Baku-based Media Rights Institute.

Repression is also being stepped up in the regions, away from international scrutiny and the recent UN Internet Governance Forum, held in Baku, offered further opportunity for arrests and intimidation.

With intensive diplomatic efforts underway by the EU to secure a Southern Energy Corridor, Baku - presenting itself as a king-maker in the initiative - poses a policy challenge to EU officials and parliamentarians, sharpened by the economic crisis and Europe's strategic interest in energy diversification.

Commissioners travel to Baku to pay court or scold, depending on their portfolio.

This is often, and incorrectly, framed as a values-versus-interests dilemma.

The Arab spring demonstrated that when it comes to EU foreign policy towards its neighbours, values and interests are deeply intertwined, rather than mutually exclusive.

Azerbaijan may be riding high on new gas discoveries at Shah Deniz and other fields which will likely fill the shortfall in hydrocarbon revenues as its oil output declines. But as much as the EU remains hooked on foreign gas, energy-dependent Azerbaijan, which sources 90 percent of its revenues and 47 percent of annual GDP from hydrocarbons, also craves legitimacy.

Besides Eurovision, its overtures to join key international bodies, such as the UN Security Council, its failed bid to host the future 2020 Olympics and its attempt (with the help of a bribe) to secure a boxing gold medal at the recent London Olympic Games, attest to this need to seek the appearance of having met the standard - whatever it takes.

Both in Brussels and Strasbourg a more vocal response to abuses and an end to the indulgence of Azerbaijan's ever increasing authoritarianism is needed.

For the EU this means putting its new "more for more" policy into meaningful practice by spelling out that it expects Azerbaijan to improve basic human rights and fight corruption in return for more direct investment and closer economic ties with the 400-million-strong consumer market.

The EU's human rights dialogue can play a role, by establishing benchmarks against Azerbaijan's performance on core rights issues, and by making them public - following the example of commissioner Neelie Kroes' critical speech to the Internet Governance Forum in Baku.

For the Council of Europe, the continent's premier rights institution, it means putting an end to the caviar-fuelled farce and showing Azerbaijan the door.

Jacqueline Hale is a senior analyst at the Open Society European Policy Institute in Brussels



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FOR SALE

1 ROOMS

- ♦ **683. Argishti street**, Glendel Hills, 14/10, 35.4sqm, newly built, euro repaired, gas in the building, permanent water, beautiful view of ravine. Price 45.000USD
- ♦ **667. Nalbandyan street**, 7/5, 48sqm, 1room changed into two, excellent state, euro repaired, AC, lift. Price-86.000USD
- ♦ **684. Mashtoc avenue**, 5/4, 37.4 sq.m., 1 room, stone building, a need to repair, old tiles, no water and gas, balcony looks at the avenue. Price: 70.000 USD
- ♦ **69. Khajaznuni street**. 9/2, habituated. 50.6 sq.m, 1 room, capitally repaired, euro windows, Ariston, permanent hot and cold water, no balcony. Price: 52.000 USD
- ♦ **645. Baghramyan Street**, 5/1, 48 sq/m, newly repaired, iron door, euro windows, doors, AC, cabin, water tank. Price: 72.000USD

2 ROOMS

- ♦ **1579** Krtu str. 17/11, 100 sq.m, newly built, 2 rooms, euro repaired, furnished, not inhabited, swimming-pool, tennis court, view to canyon.Price: 270.000 USD
- ♦ **1560** Northern Ave., 10/3 130 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, climate control, parking, windows looking to the Northern Avenue, exploitation rent 28.000 AMD. Price: 400.000 USD
- ♦ **1445. Sayat-Nova street**. 5/4, 73 sq.m. 2 rooms, stone building, capitally repaired, furnished, h-3 m. Price: 150 000 USD
- ♦ **1467. Mashtoc av**. 8/5 81sq.m.2 made 3 , stone , special project , old but repaired, always running hot and cold water, looking at the Sun. Price 125.000\$
- ♦ **1440. North Avenue**, 3rd floor, 110sqm, 1 bedroom, newly built, euro repaired, furniture, parking, h-3m, spanish tiles, permanent hot and cold water, heating system. Price 350.000USD
- ♦ **1459. Baghramyan Avenue**. 5/3, 55 sq.m., 2 rooms, capitally repaired, h-3.8 m, balcony, iron door, permanent hot and cold water, telephone, furniture and techniques. Price: 49. 000.000 AMD
- ♦ **1458. Bryusov street**. 9/8, 68 sq.m., 2 rooms, normal state, Baxi system, Czech tiles, showcases, wood doors and parquet. Price 75.000 USD
- ♦ **1469 Tumanyan st.** 4/3 50sq.m. 2 rooms, repaired, furnished. Price 47.5mln. AM dram
- ♦ **1357. Pushkin street**, 8/6 floor, 77 sq.m., 2 rooms, newly built, furniture, techniques. Price 165000\$

3 ROOMS

- ♦ **2682** Aram Str. 13/6 187sq.m, newly built,4 rooms, 3 bedrooms, drywall, buckle,2 open balconies, beautiful view. 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 1sq.m 574 000 AMD
- ♦ **2676** Amiryan Str. 16/12 259 sq.m, 4 rooms, 3 bedrooms,N-3 meters, capitally euro repaired,view to yard, concrete floor, heating system, water, gas, AC, underground parking, separate furnished kitchen Price: 550.000 AMD % included
- ♦ **2674** Qeru Str, 17/3 103 sq.m, 3 rooms, 2 bedrooms,N-3U meters, elite building, 2 bathrooms, swimming-pool, tennis court,parking(not included in the price) heating, gas, water, AC, sold with and without furniture Price: without furniture 160000 USD with furniture 175000 USD
- ♦ **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, conreted, 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.
- ♦ **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
- ♦ **3348. Blur, Barbyusi**. 3 floors, land - 800 sq.m, building-700 sq.m, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 1.5 million USD
- ♦ **3059. Vahagan 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 490.000\$.
- ♦ **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
- ♦ **3292. Arabkir**, 2 floors, land - 1200 sq.m, building - 340 sq.m, 4 rooms, newly built, repaired, euro windows and doors, sauna, 2 swimming-pools, 5 bathrooms, permanent hot and cold water, heating system, Jacuzzi, fire-place, laundry room, cameras, 2 satellites, garage for 2 cars, basement, fruitful garden, brick fence. Price: 1.2 million USD
- ♦ **3313 Blur, H. Emin**, 3 floors, land - 550 sq.m, building - 450 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished, 6 bedrooms. Price: 1 600 000 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

- ♦ **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. Amiryan 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

- ♦ **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
- ♦ **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

- ♦ **2021** Teryan Str, building 8, 9/8,9 4 bedrooms, newly built, 245 sq.m, capitally repaired, euro doors and windows, not inhabited,3 bathrooms, 2 halls, heating system. Preliminary price: 3500 USD
- ♦ **2043** Saryan Str., 24 apt 8/2 3 bedrooms,147 sq.m, 2 bathrooms, tiled floors, AC, heating system. Price: 1200 USD
- ♦ **2005. Northern Ave.**, 8/8, 3 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD
- ♦ **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, Falkon 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.** Amiryan str, 12/11. 3 bedrooms, newly built, 180 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed, climate control. Price: 1700 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, furnished, 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.
- ♦ **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. Amiryan 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 black**, 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
- ♦ **1152. Baghramyan**, 3 floors, land - 800 sq.m, each floor - 200 sq.m, 10 rooms, 7 bathrooms, newly capitally repaired, furnished, equipped, AC, 3 TV, heating system, garage. Price: 3000 USD
- ♦ **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. Djrevej**, 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 distriect**. 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. Zarobyany 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

Armenian-Lebanese relations are based on goodwill, mutual respect and trust. Armenian President

From page 2

received hundred of thousands of the Armenians, and their pain is our pain.

Armenia has always expressed the viewpoint that the bloodshed must stop. We are against the use of force and violence, and not only in Syria. It is impossible to reach a durable resolution without cessation of all clashes from all sides or without a comprehensive political dialogue, which will take into consideration interests of all Syrians. Armenia welcomes the mission of the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General and Arab League, Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi, aimed at the stabilization of the internal situation and establishment of peace.

Please be assured that if the mentioned above initiatives are called to life, there will be peace in Syria and in the nearest future it will be possible to implement democratic reforms which will reflect the collective will and aspirations of all segments of the Syrian people.

We have also spoken about the NK conflict resolution. We have reiterated that in the South Caucasus, Armenia continues to conduct a policy aimed at the establishment of peace and stability in the region. We rule out any possibility of the use of force and remain true to our commitment to solve the problem through the negotiations with the mediation of the OSCE Minsk Group.

Unfortunately, the neighboring Azerbaijan rejects every proposal of the Minsk Group aimed at the confidence building and continues an unprecedented accumulation of weapons, preparing its people for a new war. It is gaudily proved by pardon extended to the murderer Safarov by the President of Azerbaijan and his glorification. It constitutes the continuation of the murder, conducted on ethnic grounds, and presents a telling example of xenophobia and racism.

The Armenians and Lebanese have always stood out for their love for peace. Today too, we have concurred with President Suleiman that changes which reflect the will of the people should be implemented through peaceful means, without use of force, without victims, without terrorism. We learned with great sorrow the news of a terrorist act in Beirut on October 19 and did not hesitate to condemn such a repulsive act which, we hope, will not shatter peace in Lebanon. Present situation in the Middle East is tightly linked to the security of Armenia. We are deeply interested in a speedy resolution of the existing problems and are ready to assist the process within the limits of our capabilities.

In conclusion, I wish that the historical procession of our brotherly nations will be incessant and upward. Let peace, justice and optimism be our constant companions."

The timeout on domestic political scene of Armenia

From page 1

Simultaneously, another pro-government newspaper - "Hraparak" ("Square") reported on the same day that the representative of the Hay Dat (Armenian Cause) Office in Moscow Yura Navoyan allegedly said within the family circle that President Serzh Sargsyan had suggested that Navoyan should return to Armenia and - after the presidential election - head one of the humanitarian ministries (the Ministry of Culture or else the Ministry of Diaspora). The newspaper believes that, since Y. Navoyan is a member of ARF-Dashnaksutyun, it means that following the election that traditional Armenian party will enter into the ruling coalition with the Republican Party of Armenia.

The abovementioned reports are both fabrications, which were invented not even by the editorial staffs of the indicated publications, but by those structures that are engaged in information and political PR actions, aimed at preventing the consolidation of the political forces not making part of the ruling coalition and impeding the nomination of a single presidential candidate by these forces in the upcoming election.

According to the logic of the abovementioned two reports, the traditional Armenian party ARF-Dashnaksutyun, which left the ruling coalition in April 2010 due to its disapproval of the Armenian-Turkish protocols, has now decided

to re-enter into the ruling coalition, while being aware of the new Armenian-Turkish negotiations. If this is the case, then why did the ARF-Dashnaksutyun quit the ruling coalition in order to re-enter it for the sake of minor ministerial portfolios?

It is noteworthy that the above-mentioned as well as other pro-government publications portray things in such a way that the election of Serzh Sargsyan as the next President of Armenia is already a decided matter, the more so because on November 30 Yerevan hosts a summit of leaders of the European People's Party (EPP) with the participation of not only Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili and Moldovan Prime Minister Vladimir Filat, but also an impressive "landing force" from Brussels in the person of President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso and EPP President Wilfried Martens.

Although the officials from Brussels show their unabashed political support for Serzh Sargsyan, their protégé is creating some problems.

For example, during his recent visit to France, he gave an interview to France-3 Television Channel on November 14. According to the newspaper "La Tribune de Lyon", the correspondent Olivier Michel's questions about corruption in Armenia and official Yerevan's possible support for Syrian President Bashar al-Assad made President

Serzh Sargsyan obviously nervous during that interview. Interestingly, one of the Armenian government members accompanying the president wagged his finger at Olivier Michel. It should be noted that the president was accompanied by three ministers: Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian, Minister of Economy Tigran Davtian, and Minister of Diaspora Ms. Hranush Hakobyan. Out of them, only E. Nalbandian knows French.

In an effort to balance somewhat the situation concerning the relations with Moscow amid close contacts with Western partners, a delegation of journalists from a number of Russia's leading mass media outlets was invited to Yerevan. The visit's result was an interview of Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan, published in "Izvestiya" and "Interfax".

For the time being, one can say there is a timeout on the domestic political scene of Armenia in connection with the fact that there is still some uncertainty about the presidential candidates. The major players in the political field are bidding their time for tactical reasons and will apparently announce their political plans regarding the upcoming presidential election in mid December. A number of decisions will almost certainly be related to the positions of some external players who have not yet decided on their preferences.

Baku Threatens to Close Mexico Embassy

The Azeri Ambassador to Mexico has threatened that should a statue of Azeri dictator Heydar Aliyev be removed from a popular park in Mexico City then Baku will close its embassy in Mexico.

"If the monument is removed, it will undoubtedly lead to a sharp deterioration in relations between Azerbaijan and Mexico, including closure of investments and the most extreme measure - closing of the embassy itself," Azerbaijan's Ambassador to Mexico Ilgar Mukhtarov stated.

He also was quick to claim that the Armenian community of Mexico was marshalling the opposition to the statue.

Over the summer, Mexico City mayor Marcelo Ebrard unveiled the statue at the main park in the city after Baku reportedly paid \$10 million for renovation and landscaping.

The large bronze statue has not only been an eyesore for many Mexicans, but also a source of contention for activists and press who have objected to having a statue of a known despot adorn their city and in the very park that also houses monuments to Mahatma Gandhi and Abraham Lincoln.

After complaints from citizens, the mayor appointed a committee to probe the matter. The committee recommended on Friday that the statue be removed.

"In addition to Mexico, I repre-



sent Azerbaijan in six other countries of the Latin American region, I can theoretically move to one of these states, in the case of the decision to move the monument," explained Mukhtarov.

He said if another location if offered by the government, there will be room for discussion.

"If we are suggested a better place, then we can agree, but currently we are acting in a lawful manner, as the agreement on the placement of the monument to Heydar Aliyev on the boulevard was signed by the federal government, city authorities and the Embassy," Mukhtarov said.

Mukhtarov also said Azerbaijan would cancel \$4 billion in investment projects for Mexico.

Ebrard, for whom the entire episode has been a major embar-

rassment, said he would study the recommendations, according to Los Angeles Times.

"If Ebrard decides to remove the monument, we will cancel the projects, close the embassy, it would hurt the relationship between the two countries, and it would not be good for his image to be the person who prevented a \$4-billion investment," the ambassador was quoted as saying.

The issue of the statue, as well as an earlier Mexican Senate decision to adopt pro-Azeri legislation was a topic of discussion when Armenia's Foreign Minister Eduard Nalbandian made his first visit to Mexico.

In talks with federal authorities, including the foreign minister, Nalbandian raised Armenia's concerns over these developments.



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*There are so many places in the world where you
can spend your money ...
Give us a chance to spend it on you
unforgettable trip!*



By Gayane Ghandilyan

From the first moments of my arrival I felt myself at home: Crina Prunariu

Armenia was the night I arrived in Yerevan. The city was not lightened. Today, after 6 years, Yerevan has become a clear, clean and an open city. Even people have changed. They have become more open both to the foreigners and to the locals.

tant and key positions in the official levels of Romania. By this, they naturally affect the political, cultural and social life of Romania.

What about today's Armenian Diaspora in Romania?

Nearly 8000 Armenians live in



that when a person changes his/her cultural environment, a culture shock may occur. People working in diplomatic spheres are somehow prepared for this kind of changes. Have you experienced a culture shock here? What was the most surprising thing for you in Armenia?

I can not say that I was very

diately?

Yes, it is apricot, of course. Also, whenever I see an Armenian, be it on TV, in a newspaper or anywhere else, I can immediately tell that he/she is Armenian. You know, Armenian eyes are different.

December 1 is the national holiday of Romania. How do Romanian people celebrate this holiday? What does this day mean to them?

This is the 94th anniversary of the national holiday of Romania. This day memorializes the unification of three Romanian provinces in 1918. The union of these three provinces was a great achievement for us as it helped us to form the modern Romania. Many countries celebrate the Independence Day but we celebrate the Great Union Day.

I also want to add that we had many events this year that were crucial to the relations between the two countries. In August of 2012 His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of all Armenians, visited Romania to be present to the opening ceremony of a 500 years old monastery. On this occasion a joint Romanian-Armenian stamp was created.

This year's anniversary is of a great importance for all Romanians, because this year we also celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Romanian diplomacy.

How would you characterize today's relations between Romania and Armenia?

The relations between Romania and Armenia are developing in a dynamic way. We are partners in almost all spheres: political, economic, cultural, etc. We have a joint commission on economic affairs, which was signed, if I am not mistaken, in 1993. So by this commission we are economic partners.

You took your post in 2007. What has changed during these years in Armenia?

A lot has changed since then. The first impression I got from

What can you say about Romanian and Armenian people? Do we have something alike or there are only differences that can be mentioned?

I can not say we are very different. May be this is the reason why I felt myself at home from the first moments of my arrival. People here are hospitable, they like receiving guests. And by these characteristics they are like Romanian people.

We should not forget that a part of the Armenian Diaspora lives in Romania and the representatives of this community have many impor-



Romania in the present. They are recognized in many spheres such as music, culture and also politics, as I have mentioned. One of the outstanding representatives of Armenian Diaspora in Romania is Varudzan Voskanyan, who published his book, "Book of Whispers", last year.

We live in the diversity of cultures. It is a common knowledge

shocked or surprised. I have studied the history and the culture of the country. I have a lot of friends from the Armenian Diaspora in Romania. So I knew where I was coming. I knew the essence of the Armenian nation. The only thing that greatly impressed me was the antiquity of the nation.

Is there anything that reminds you of Armenia imme-



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PM Tours Microsoft IT Academy, Innovation Center

Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan visited on November 28 the State Engineering University-located Microsoft's IT Academy and Innovation Center. The Prime Minister was briefed on the ongoing activities and the student-developed innovative programs.

Academic institutions around the world were said to be following the Microsoft IT Academy program in an effort to propose educational projects for Microsoft-developed IT technologies. In this way, institutions may be recognized by the Microsoft brand, get comprehensive training programs, software and resource permits for students and teachers. In addition, communities and businesses benefit from the services of highly skilled and capable workforce.

The Academy is going to host training programs intended for the engineering university's teaching staff and students, based on Microsoft-provided programs, materials and methodology.

The Academy has arranged to place orders from a number of local IT companies. All the students of the Academy can sign in free of charge for software and teaching materials available under the DreamSpark program.

The Microsoft Innovation Center was co-founded in May, 2011 by Microsoft, the Government of Armenia and the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Enterprise Incubator Foundation and the State Engineering University of Armenia. The Center is unique in its format and meaning as in the region.

The objective is to set up new companies and create innovative products and

solutions through enhanced creativity, culture of innovations and greater access to new technologies.

Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan instructed those concerned to get acquainted with the student-developed innovative projects and, if possible, apply them in the services provided by State agencies.

For example, one such program offers to send SMS-borne notices to those drivers responsible for offences recorded by street cameras and speedometers. The Premier suggested that the project should be forwarded to police authorities for consideration. The head of government singled out another project, which helps to identify the composition and the level of water pollution by means of special equipment.

The center has been established to provide comprehensive support to more than 50 companies. It has incubated 15 teams so far, one of which is registered as a start-up company and was successfully engaged in the activities based on the latest Kinect technology of Microsoft.

The Center has had over 1600 beneficiaries under its capacity building component during the first year of operations. 50 long-term courses have been organized involving 600 students and IT specialists.

5 idea-generation competitions have been held in the period under review, including the "Your phone, your apps" online contest, thanks to which Armenia boasted an unprecedented growth in student add-ons ensuring it the 2nd position in the Central and Eastern European region.



PM Signals no Armenian entry into Russian-Led Customs Union



Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan appears to have reaffirmed his objections to Armenia's membership in the customs union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan that Moscow hopes will develop into a closely-knit bloc of friendly ex-Soviet states.

In an interview with the Russian daily "Izvestia" published on November 26, Sargsyan indicated that the Armenian government is more enthusiastic about its ongoing negotiations with the European Union on the creation of a Deep and Comprehensive and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA).

"Our priority today is the agreement on the comprehensive free trade zone," he said. "We want to

sign it in 2013, even though our European colleagues think that this will happen in 2014."

"Armenia has specificity: we do not border on the Customs Union and need to work out mechanisms for cooperation. We have formed a working group that will help us to sort this out," he added.

The Russian-Armenian group was set up after Russian President Vladimir Putin's most recent talks with his Armenian counterpart Serzh Sargsyan, which were held in Moscow in August. Putin said it "will look at how the latest cooperation agreements between Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus within the framework of the customs union could be used with regard to Armenia with all specificities

involved."

"We have no common borders [with Armenia] but we could think about using some instruments that have already been agreed upon by the three states," Putin told a joint news conference with Serzh Sargsyan.

The absence of common borders has been the main declared reason for Armenia's reluctance to join the customs arrangement Putin hopes will form the backbone of a future Russian-led "Eurasian Union" of former Soviet republics. Top Russian officials actively promoted the would-be union during visits to Yerevan this summer, fuelling speculation that the Armenian government is under growing pressure to embrace the idea.

Prime Minister Sargsyan told "Izvestia" that the customs union will put Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan one step away from introducing a common currency, which he said would benefit all three nations. "Those countries have similar levels of development and they are not going to live at the expense of others," he said.

In that context, the Armenian premier spoke of no benefits of the union and common currency for his country.

A number of investors from the USA, Japan and Near East are interested in the construction of the new atomic station in the Republic of Armenia

A number of investors from the USA, Japan and Near East are interested in the construction of the new atomic station in the Republic of Armenia. There are not negotiations yet, although various mechanisms are being considered. This was announced by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia in an interview to Russian Interfax news agency. The Prime Minister stated: "According to the preliminary agreement we are creating joint enterprises with our Russian colleagues with the percentage of 50-50. This means that 50 percent is being financed by the Russian side, other 50 percent by the Armenian. We have already discussed several mechanisms for this program. We

have an operator, who has been developing a business program for already two years. He is also engaged in the calculations regarding the efficiency of the new atomic energy block. A number of issues regarding the investments, amount and sizes of the investments alongside with other important topics are also considered in the aforesaid program. It's not excluded that we will take into consideration the amount of the percentage of our participation in the construction of the atomic station involving investors from the private sector as well."

Among other things the Prime Minister stressed that the Russian colleagues were willing to discuss

this model either, as there have been interesting suggestions put forward by a row of large investors, who are searching for new spheres for the investment of their capital. The Head of the Government did not exclude the involvement of the credit resources either and stated that they are considering all possible variants. In addition Tigran Sargsyan said that the chief partner of Armenia in the realization of this program was "Rosatom".

In accordance with the program the construction works of the new atomic station will launch in 2014. Notwithstanding the Prime Minister emphasized that they have lost a lot of time due to the events in Fukushima nuclear plant.

Global Asset Management interested in Armenia's capital market



One of the world huge investors Global Asset Management is interested in Armenia's capital market, deputy Minister of Finance Vardan Aramyan told the journalists.

The company's assets make about \$400 billion, and it intends to resume a manager role of Armenia's pension funds asset. According to Aramyan, the company's investments may raise significantly trust toward pension funds. In addition, the current Capital Asset Management offers services for volunteer fund system, however, it does not meet demands for asset managers in the obligatory fund system.

Government revises 2013 budget draft after lawmakers' proposals



The Armenian government has reported some revision of next year's state budget draft that Finance Minister Vache Gabrielyan said reflected several hundred proposals received from the National Assembly.

At the meeting of the Cabinet on November 29 Gabrielyan said the changes primarily concerned

increases in certain items or redistribution in budget allocations.

The minister did not elaborate, adding that 67 out of 406 proposals were accepted, while 137 were rejected, another 202 proposals will be considered during further programs of the government.

The original draft submitted to the National Assembly earlier this month drew criticism from all minority groups that said they would vote against it. The parliament majority represented by the main ruling Republican Party of Armenia is in a position to pass the budget even without the votes of the minority factions.

Yerevan's "Zvartnots" is among top 5 CIS airports

Armenian capital city Yerevan's Zvartnots International Airport is nominated for the Emerging Markets Airports Award (EMAA) by the United Arab Emirates based Arabian Reach marketing/promotions company.

Aside from Zvartnots, Moscow's Domodedovo and Sheremetyevo (Russia), Saint Petersburg's Pulkovo (Russia), and Bishkek's Manas (Kyrgyzstan)

International Airport were selected from the CIS countries.

An online voting is in progress and, as a result, the top airports of the CIS countries will be selected, Armenia International Airports Company-which owns Zvartnots International Airport-informs.

Anyone can vote online and irrespective of location.

The awarding ceremony will be held in January 2013.



EU hopes to complete negotiations with Armenia on deep and comprehensive free trade agreement till November 2013

Armenia is a very important partner for EU both from the point of bilateral relations and in frames of Eastern partnership. This was stated by José Manuel Barroso during the joint briefing with Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan. "We are building a strong partnership based on association, economic integration and closer from the point of human interaction. Negotiations over the association agreement including deep and comprehensive free trade agreement have recorded a great progress" Barroso noted.

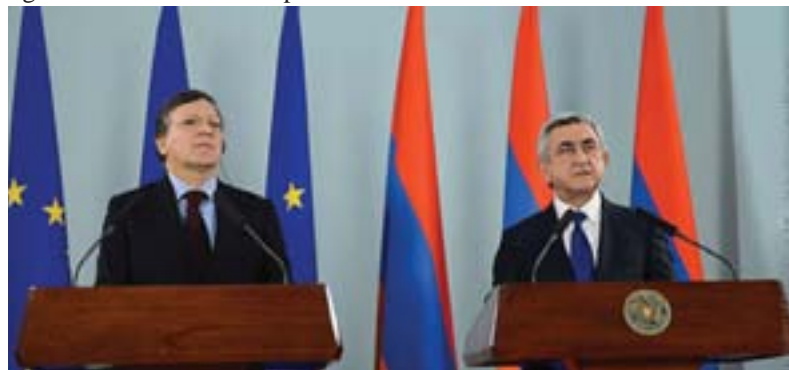
European Commission President Manuel Barroso also hoped that negotiations on deep and comprehensive free trade agreement would be completed till

November 2013.

"The end of negotiations will strengthen the European prospect of Armenia" Barroso underlined.

He also reminded that lately Armenian and EU had completed negotiations on facilitation of movement and that till the end of the year the Visa facilitation and readmission agreement will be signed. "Our aim is clear, we want the visa free transportation between Armenia and EU" said President of European Commission.

José Manuel Barroso expressed gratitude to Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan for the enormous contribution made personally by President in the development of Armenia-EU relations.



EU stresses importance of Karabakh issue peaceful settlement and deplores lack of progress in negotiations

EU believes there can be no alternative to the peaceful solution of the Artsakh [Nagorno-Karabakh] conflict deplores the lack of progress in the negotiation process and stresses the importance to move beyond the current status-quo towards a secure and prosperous future, EU-Armenia Parliamentary Cooperation Committee thirteenth meeting held on Wednesday and Thursday Brussels informs.

According to the meeting, the Committee has adopted Final Statement and Recommendations pursuant to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between Armenia and EU. The meeting took place under the co-chairmanship of Milan Cabrnach (EU) and Samvel Farmanyan (Armenia).

We present the Final Statement and Recommendations pursuant to Article 83 of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement. The Parliamentary Cooperation Committee:

1. applauds the intensification of Armenia-EU relations over the last years and the opening of ambitious perspectives for cooperation in the political, economic, cultural and other fields;

2. reminds that Armenia's active participation in multilateral parliamentary cooperation in the framework of Euronest provides an example of commitment to European values and principles, the importance of which is acknowledged by a wide public consensus in Armenian society; welcomes Armenia's readiness to host the Euronest Plenary Session in 2014;

3. welcomes the dynamic political dialogue between Armenia and EU as demonstrated by recent productive high-level visits in Yerevan / Brussels;

4. is encouraged by both the fact that all stakeholders met by EP Observers in the framework of the May 2012 general elections underscored their commitment to international standards, and by the progresses witnessed by the EP Delegation to the IEOM; stresses it is important to see the OSCE/ODIHR relevant findings and recommendations as the beginnings of a process, and not as an end, in view of the upcoming presidential elections;

on the EU-Armenia Association Agreement

5. welcomes that negotiations on the EU-Armenia Association Agreement have been progressing at a good pace in line with the adoption of the European Parliament Resolution of 18 April 2012 on negotiations of the EU-Armenia Association Agreement; further recognizes Armenia's European aspirations and considers them a catalyst leading to the strengthening of Armenia's commitment to the principles of the rule of law, respect for human rights and good governance;

6. calls upon the negotiating Parties to exert all efforts to finalize negotiations of the Association Agreement and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA), if possible before the EaP Vilnius summit;

7. stresses that the Association Agreement ought to provide a comprehensive and forward-looking framework for the future development of relations between Armenia and the EU, enhancing political association, economic integration and legal approximation;

8. welcomes that a strong parliamentary dimension is to be included in the Association Agreement, providing for the full involvement of the National Assembly of Armenia and the European Parliament in its implementation and monitoring;

9. emphasizes the importance of including in the Association Agreement provisions on

the fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of assembly and association, the development of civil society, the rule of law, the continued fight against corruption, ensuring market competitiveness, and the independence of the media;

10. warmly welcomes the incorporation of EU best practices and recommendations in Armenia during the preparation of national work plans in the field of justice, freedom and security; notes, in particular, the tangible results achieved in the migration sector by the signing of the Joint Declaration on Mobility



Partnership;

11. takes note of the European Parliament Plenary calling on the need to adopt legislation to prohibit discrimination on any ground, encourages further strengthening of the office of Human Rights Defender, by providing him both additional financial and human resources;

12. welcomes the finalization of the negotiations of the EU-Armenia Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements and calls for its prompt signing and ratification and effective implementation; reaffirms the shared objective of visa-free travel for the citizens of the Republic of Armenia in due course provided that the conditions for well-managed and secure mobility are in place;

13. welcomes the decision of Armenia to lift, as from 10 January 2013, for all citizens of the EU & Schengen-area Member States, visa requirements when travelling to Armenia;

on EU assistance

14. fully recognizes Armenia's ambitious reform agenda under the EaP and calls for adequate assistance to be provided in accordance with the 'more for more' principle; welcomes the launch of preparatory work for an international donors conference next year to further boost reforms, stressing that the EU would expect the "Upgrading Armenia" proposal to build upon the country's own Sustainable Development Strategy";

15. shares the belief that the EU could provide better-targeted financial and technical assistance to ensure that Armenia could meet the commitments stemming from the negotiations on the Association Agreement and the DCFTA as its integral part, by continuing to offer Comprehensive Institution-Building programs, including such areas as economic governance, civil service, justice reform and the parliamentary dimension; welcomes the work of the High-Level EU Advisory Group and calls for sustained continuation of its increasingly effective mission in advising on the strategy and implementation of the Association Agreement and DCFTA in particular;

on regional stability issues

16. believes there can be no alternative to the peaceful solution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict; deplores the lack of progress in the negotiation process and stresses the importance to move beyond the current status-quo towards a secure and prosperous future;

17. reiterates its support to the work of the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs for the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and to the set of Madrid principles, without exception, presented by the Presidents of the Minsk Group Co-Chair Countries:

condemns any provocation that would add further tension to an already tense and fragile situation;

22. is deeply concerned that such acts could jeopardize reconciliation attempts and further undermine the future development of peaceful people-to-people contact in the region, which is a significant way to achieve lasting and sustainable peace;

23. welcomes all statements contributing to the peaceful settlement of the conflict and reminds that regarding the planned opening of an airport in Nagorno-Karabakh, the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs have received renewed assurances from all sides that, in accordance with international law, they reject any threat or use of force against civil aircraft and will refrain from politicizing the issue;

24. deplores the non-ratification of the two Armenia-Turkey protocols, signed in Zurich in 2009, in that context urges all parties, Turkey in particular, to meet their commitments; stresses the importance of ratifying the Zurich protocols and stepping up efforts to facilitate the normalization of relations without any preconditions, with the subsequent opening of the unilaterally closed border;

25. believes that the Armenia-Turkey normalization process and the OSCE Minsk Group negotiations should not be linked and supports all initiatives aimed at facilitation of regional cooperation, thus ending the policies of economic isolation of any country in the region;

26. recalls the European Parliament resolution of 1987 on recognition of the Armenian Genocide; is however encouraged by the fact that the issue has, in recent years, become the focus of open and public debate in Turkey itself, which could contribute to reconciliation between the two neighbouring nations ensuring their peaceful co-existence and lasting cooperation;

on sectoral issues

27. welcomes increasing sectoral cooperation between the institutions of EU and Armenia, and expresses its satisfaction with the efforts of the Armenian Government, which have led to launching of the DCFTA negotiations on 19 June 2012;

28. notes the European Parliament's encouragement to Armenia to fully utilize the potential of DCFTA to boost its economy, export opportunities and access to the EU market, by upgrading its national standards, and stresses the importance of implementation of the areas such as technical regulations, sanitary and phytosanitary standards, and intellectual property;

29. further welcomes Armenia's decision to rejoin the WTO Plurilateral Agreements on Public Procurement on 15 September 2011;

30. welcomes the accession of Armenia, with observer status, to the Energy Community, which can contribute to improving regional energy cooperation through a better regulatory framework for future partnerships between the EU and partner countries;

31. takes note of the value the European Parliament attaches to the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, especially from countries with a European aspiration;

32. emphasizes the potential benefits of using the Association Agreement as a platform to promote regional synergies and cooperation, notably in the areas of transport and energy;

33. finally supports the integration and active engagement of Armenian political forces into the European Union political families with the continuous assistance of the EU Advisory Group.

The Hayastan Fund Annual Telethon: A Constructive Critique



By **Harut Sassounian**
Publisher, *The California Courier*

A few thoughts may be in order on the occasion of the Hayastan All-Armenian Fund's 20th anniversary and its 15th annual telethon. The intent is not to intrude into the fund's internal affairs, but to offer constructive criticism and suggestions that could help improve its humanitarian mission and public image.

In the absence of an elected structure representing Armenians worldwide, Hayastan Fund is the only pan-Armenian body that brings together, under a single umbrella, all major Armenian political, religious and community entities. The fund's board of trustees is comprised of leaders of the Republics of Armenia and Artsakh, heads of large Diasporan Armenian organizations, and prominent benefactors. As such, the fund serves as a unique platform where all segments of the Armenian world can address their common concerns. In view of this globally singular role, the board may wish to consider expanding the organization's functions beyond its philanthropic activities.

The most urgent Armenian issue at this moment is the tragic condition of Syrian-Armenians whose very survival is at stake, as their situation worsens on a daily basis. Hayastan Fund and its 25 affiliates worldwide should have acted much sooner by organizing an emergency telethon and donating all the proceeds to alleviate the dire needs of Syrian-Armenians, be they in Syria, Armenia, or elsewhere.

After much delay, the fund decided to allocate 10 percent of the amount it would collect from this year's telethon to Syrian-Armenians. This small percentage, compared to the vast needs of that threatened community, disappointed many potential donors. Instead of assuming collective responsibility for this unwise decision and reversing it, the fund's representatives engaged in unnecessary finger pointing. When complaints from the public grew louder, some of the fund's affiliates grudgingly revised the 10 percent quota to an unspecified portion of the total amount raised, after setting aside the funds earmarked for other projects. Also, the fund allowed donors the option of designating 100 percent of their contributions to Syrian relief. Of course, it would have been preferable if Hayastan Fund had designated all donations to Syrian-Armenians, except those earmarked by donors for other projects.

The situation became more

confusing when Bedros Terzian, the chairman of Armenia Fund in France, made a surprising announcement at the conclusion of the fund's European phonethon (fundraising by telephone) on Nov. 18. In a euphoric mood, he promised to allocate a portion of the \$1.8 million raised to reconstruct housing for Armenians in Aleppo after the war. Terzian, a distinguished corporate executive, may not have realized that Syrian-Armenians need food, medicine, and other basic necessities for survival right now, rather than after the war, at which time the Armenian community may have dwindled along with its housing needs!

Now that the telethon and phonethon are over, one can take note of some interesting numbers in the announced results. Amazingly, Armenians in Armenia and Artsakh contributed \$2.5 million, whereas Armenian-Americans donated only \$2.1 million (\$1.5 million from the West Coast and \$600,000 from the East Coast). The \$21.4 million announced at the end of the telethon includes all of the amounts pledged or actually raised throughout the year at different fundraising events in over a dozen countries, such as the \$12 million pledged by Armenian businessmen in Moscow on Nov. 8. Another surprising number is the substantial contribution of \$600,000 received from India. Since there are only a handful of Armenians in that country, there must be an interesting explanation as to the source(s) of such a large sum!

To avoid further confusion regarding the disposition of the raised funds, Hayastan Fund's Lebanon affiliate may consider allocating the entire proceeds of its Dec. 8 radiothon fundraiser to the thousands of Syrian-Armenians refugees. The displaced Syrian-Armenian families in Lebanon are in desperate need of financial assistance to pay for basic necessities, as well as their children's schooling. Lebanese-Armenian schools, which are in dire financial need, are now additionally burdened with hundreds of Syrian-Armenian students whose parents cannot afford to pay tuition. Keeping its collected funds in Lebanon would enable Hayastan Fund to simultaneously help the Syrian-Armenian refugees, while ensuring the survival of Armenian educational institutions.

In the coming days, as Hayastan All Armenian Fund sums up the fundraising results of its worldwide affiliates, it should announce: (1) the final amount raised, (2) the breakdown of the amounts allocated to specific projects, and (3) its plans to extend immediate assistance to Syrian-Armenians.

AGBU Announces Appointment of Arpi Vartanian as New Director of Yerevan Office



AGBU is pleased to announce the appointment of Arpi Vartanian as the new director of its Yerevan Office. She will oversee the organization's extensive operations and its growing programs and initiatives in both Armenia and the surrounding region.

A Michigan native and alumna of the AGBU Alex and Manoogian School in Southfield, Ms. Vartanian comes full circle by joining the AGBU Yerevan staff. She obtained her graduate degree at the American Graduate School of

International Management (Thunderbird), and went on to pursue her career in Armenia. She brings to AGBU nearly two decades of experience supporting NGO's on the ground in Armenia and raising public awareness of Armenian issues from Washington, D.C.

Ms. Vartanian has served the Armenian Assembly of America (AAA) extensively as Director of its both NGO Training and Resource Center and its Internship Program, as well as acting as the

Assembly's Acting Executive Director, Yerevan Office Director and the Country Director for the Armenia and Karabakh Offices. In each role, she has spearheaded countless programs and built the capacity of Armenian NGO's.

AGBU Central Board member Vasken Yacoubian welcomed Ms. Vartanian, stating, "True to AGBU's General Assembly slogan of 'Engaging the Future,' the organization is expanding the scope of its projects and activities for the betterment and prosperity of the Armenian nation. As such, the role of AGBU Yerevan Office is becoming more important and significant in fulfilling our vision locally, regionally and worldwide. We are confident that Ms.

Vartanian's experience, motivation and knowledge of both the Diaspora and Armenia will be instrumental in helping the office in meeting these new challenges."

AGBU looks forward to watching its Armenia-based programs continue to thrive under Ms. Vartanian's capable leadership.

Armenia's Oscar entry enrages Azerbaijan

Armenia's entry for Best Foreign Film at the Oscars was conceived as a story of how humanity triumphs over prejudice. But since it also touches on Azerbaijan, it has become yet another subject for the toxic feud between the two nations. According to the material published by IWPR the film caused Azerbaijani hysteria.

The film, *If Only Everyone*, is about an Armenian man who helps a half-Russian, half-Armenian woman to go to her father's grave and plant a tree there. The father died in the early-1990s conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, which pitted Armenians against Azerbaijanis.

Since a ceasefire was signed in 1994, Karabakh has been controlled by an Armenian administration. No peace deal has been signed, and little progress has been made towards an agreement on a final status for Karabakh. The Armenians - who call it Artsakh - are not prepared to cede control, while Azerbaijan demands the restoration of sovereignty over Karabakh. The film's protagonists have to cross over the

front line from Armenian-held to Azerbaijani-held territory. There they befriend a local shepherd, an Azerbaijani, who asks them to plant a tree on his son's grave when they return to the Armenian side. "This story perhaps touches on the most sensitive issue for our nation today - Artsakh. Why did people die, what was the war about, what motivated the heroic deeds? Some have found the answers; others are still searching," a synopsis on the film's website says. "But these questions eclipse the real lives of real people, who we often think about the least, unfortunately."

The Academy of Motion Pictures Art and Science accepts a single submission from each country for the best foreign-language film prize, and its members vote for a shortlist and then the winner. This year, a record 71 films have been accepted as submissions, including entries from Azerbaijan as well as Armenia. In Azerbaijan, writer Elchin Huseynbayli, insists that the idea for the film was stolen from his 2010 story "Dazzled by the Sun",

but twisted to make the Azerbaijanis appear as the aggressors. "The story for the film was written in early 2010, and filming began in spring 2010. Before we wrote the story, we met people who had lived through the war. It was after our meetings and talks with these people that the idea of the film was born," he told IWPR. "We could similarly accuse the Azerbaijanis of stealing the story of our film longing, where the main hero crossed a border to die in his homeland." Poghosyan said the film sought to encourage harmony and peace between different peoples. The chair of the Armenian National Film Academy, David Muradyan, said its members chose the film by secret ballot, adding, "I am saddened that the Azerbaijanis are trying to politicise this and put pressure on the Oscars committee. This kind of behavior is unprecedented and runs contrary to all rules of good manners."

"We proposed this film as a work of art, and nothing more. This film has no message other than a humanitarian one," he said.



Aivazovsky's canvas sold at Sotheby's auction for £ 825,250



Ivan Aivazovskiy's canvas "The Galata Tower by Moonlight" was sold for £ 825,250 in the Sotheby's Auction House of London on November 26. "Armenpress" reports this citing website of

Sotheby's Auction House of London. The worldwide marine artist's ten canvases are put forward in the auction in the Sotheby's Auction House of London. Among other pictures one can mention

"The Galata Tower by Moonlight" alongside with a number of other canvases in the auction of November 26 and 27. These Landscape scenes have been depicted in Constantinople.

Besides, aforesaid four works were sold by record price Ivan Aivazovsky's "The Galata Tower by Moonlight" in the Sotheby's Auction House on November 26. Those canvases are "Portrait of Praskovia Mamontova" by Valentin Serov sold for £ 1,217,250, "Transportation of the Wounded" by Vasily Vereshchagin sold for £ 937,250, Ivan Shishkin's landscape sold for £ 881,250 and a canvas by Lado Gudiyashvili, which was sold for £ 937,250.

Harvard University to Cooperate with Artsakh

Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh Republic) President Bako Sahakian discussed cooperation components between Artsakh and Harvard University during a meeting on November 28 with Harvard's National Security Program director Sergey Konoplyev at presidential office.

Konoplyev was briefed on the status of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict resolution process.

The two sides emphasized the development relations between the Harvard University and Artsakh's scientific, educational and academic circles.

Sahakian told Konoplyev that all necessary conditions exist for such cooperation adding that it would be beneficial to both sides, stated the Artsakh Presidential Press service.



National Archives Publishes Genocide Testimonials



The Armenian National Archive published a three-volume book entitled "Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Turkey: Testimonies of the Survivors." The book presents eyewitness accounts of the Genocide, valuable archive documents, maps and photos.

In 1916 the Baku Committee of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation set up a fact-finding team to collect information about the organization and perpetration of the massacre of the Armenian population in Western Armenia.

The fact-finding team comprised of Zabel Yesayan, Stepan Zorian, Vahan Totovents, General Andranik and others. All the documents have been included in the "Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Turkey: Testimonies of the Survivors" published at the initiative of the Armenian National Archive and financed by Van non-governmental organization.

"The fact that the eyewitness testimonies were collected just one year following the massacres ensures the authenticity and validity

of the information, therefore strengthening their importance in the process of the comprehensive study of the Armenian Genocide," editor-in-chief of the publication, Director of the Armenian National Archive Amatuni Virabyan told reporters on November 28.

The publication presents the concrete programs and actions aimed at annihilation of the Armenian population, the real names of the organizers and perpetrators. Also, the archive documents tell about the material losses of the Armenian population, their self-defense struggle, the migration of survivors and the losses incurred on the way.

The three-volume edition will be translated into Turkish, Russian and English. The proceeds from the sale will be spent on its translation. The electronic version of the publication will also be available.

Ahead of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide the National Archive will publish another book, which will include thousands of documents on the economic losses the Armenian nation has incurred.



Chairman of FIDE suggests organizing chess meetings in NKR

FIDE Chairman Kirsan Ilyumzhinov has suggested organizing chess meeting in Nagorno-Karabakh Republic. This was noted in Ilyumzhinov's interview with itogi.ru.

"Another idea of mine is about establishing peace on Arab-Israeli border. It is supposed to install thousand chess boards for children there. I have already discussed this idea

with Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas and he is completely for it. It seems that Israeli government is also not against it. It remains to be implemented. It would be reasonable to implement the same idea in NKR for Armenian and Azerbaijani children" Ilyumzhinov said.

The Chairman of FIDE has underlined that chess has an important peaceful mission.

International philatelic exhibition will be dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide

International philatelic exhibition will be dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, which will be held in 2015. Chairman of the Armenian Union of Philatelists Hovik Musayelyan stated that in frames of the exhibition all stamps, postcards and envelopes regarding the Armenian Genocide from the collections of philatelists worldwide will be introduced to the public. He said: "The joint exhibition is a good opportunity to introduce all those stamps to the public from various parts of the world."

They have already made an agreement with the Director of the Museum-Institute of the Armenian Genocide and now the organizers

are in the process of collection of information about the stamps, postcards and envelopes regarding the Armenian Genocide. Musayelyan stated: "Hayk Demoyan does not miss any chance to inform foreign philatelist about this event. Presently we are in the stage of preliminary inventory to find out the exact sizes of the exhibition."

Notwithstanding the organizers are considering to hold the exhibition in Yerevan, they also have a desire to introduce it in foreign countries as well. Hovik Musayelyan said: "We must organize everything on a very high level, so that we can introduce it in other countries as well, including Turkey."



Baku Pledges to Ensure Armenian Chess Players' Security

Azerbaijan will ensure the security of Armenian participants of the World Chess Cup 2015 and the World Chess Olympiad 2016, Azerbaijani Youth and Sports Minister Azad Rahimov said on November 28 during contract signing ceremony, reported the Trend news agency.

In February, Armenian Grandmaster Levon Aronian, in an open letter warned the World Chess Federation (FIDE) Chairman Kirsan Ilyumzhinov that he would not be able to take part in the federation's World Championship tournament if it is held in Azerbaijan.

"I'd like to inform you that the general atmosphere in Azerbaijan and the continuous tensions between our countries make my participation in such a high-level tournament in Azerbaijan impossible," Aronian wrote in his February letter.

Armenia had put in a bid to host the events, but a final decision was made in September at the General Assembly of the World Chess Federation in Istanbul that Baku would host the next round of cham-

pionships.

Armenia won the World Champion title in September, returning to Yerevan as heroes, amid the controversial extradition by Hungary and pardon by Azerbaijan of convicted axe-murdered Ramil Safarov, who in 2004 killed Armenian soldier Gurgen Markarian at a NATO Partnership for Peace gathering in Budapest.

"An important event, such as the Candidates Tournament, requires peace of mind and special concentration. No circumstances, if they are not chess-related, should prevent the grandmaster from demonstrating all of his skills. Unfortunately, at this moment no Armenian can find favorable or adequate psychological atmosphere in Azerbaijan, whereas that is something absolutely necessary. In my opinion, all the participants should be in equal conditions, which is impossible in the event the tournament is held Azerbaijan. Security guarantees and any kind of additional support cannot be a remedy," explained Aronian.

"Taking into account the aforementioned considerations, I would like to inform you that I would be delighted to take part in the Candidates Tournament in any other country. However, my participation in the candidates' tournament in Azerbaijan has to be excluded," said Aronian.

"We are ready to host chess players from Armenia, with all security issues to be addressed at the appropriate level. This is not the first time Azerbaijan is hosting Armenian players," Rahimov said.

Ilyumzhinov announced that Yerevan will play host to the FIDE presidential council from January 18 to 20, 2013, which will focus on the safety, accommodation and participation of Armenian players at the events.

Commenting on FIDE proposals on holding a children's chess tournament with participation of young Azerbaijani and Armenian chess players in Nagorno Karabakh, Rahimov said that Baku could support the initiative if security of all Azerbaijani guests were ensured.



ARMENIAN POETRY

Sona Van

A STRANGE SUPPER

-For Vahan Vardanyan

Am I not the hero in reality
who withstood your savage effusion
and captured the voice of your primal pain
in the chaos
clear and tactless like the first cry
like the scream of the birthed Father
with the accurate curve of my effort?
Wasn't it me who overcame
the noisy splitting of your self into the word
the dual parade of your existence
in the mirror of your unmoving eyes
restraining your unknown essence
with the rattling of my naïve words?
Go and don't leave the address of eternity
I will tiptoe back there
as a criminal returning to the crime scene
and wipe the pompous universe
clean of all the traces of your sins
with the edge of my skirt
what is it that you want? Should I be
thrilled with the irritating laugh of the genius
the beat of the awesome wings of
your mind's giant birds
or the asthmatic breath of the universe?
I didn't resist the quiet torrent of your epileptic
wisdom's ravings of the Lord
as a foaming river
in your blood
like primal pain
in the hollow nadir of vanity
let's assume that it's the Father speaking
through your lips
or that you have returned from the dead-
what would surprise me from now on
who should I wait for . . . have you thought
about that?
p.s. tiptoeing as a ballet dancer
with a cat's memory
I will return again
to your oval table
before the new supper
as a criminal returning to the crime scene

Zodiac Weekly Forecast

Aries (Mar. 20–Apr. 19) :

Legal, ethical or educational issues are emphasized. Travel is punctuated, whether it be of body, mind, or spirit. Exposure to those of different backgrounds or cultures opens your heart and leads you in new directions. Renewal may be necessary related to vehicles, relationships to roommates or siblings, or neighborhood. A household move may be on the way or may be just completed.

Taurus (Apr. 20–May 19) :

The eclipse pattern emphasizes issues of sexuality, intimacy, and material accumulation. Your attitudes in these areas need renewal. Reorganization of debt and investments may be in progress. You may be more conscious than usual about existential matters related to life, death, and what is on "the other side" of normal, waking consciousness. It could feel important to arrange your will or estate.

Gemini (May 20 – June 20) :

What is your pattern in Significant Relationships? What needs to be repaired or improved? How might you contribute to a fuller, richer life for yourself as well as the important persons in your life? It is crucial to search out solutions that favor everyone concerned. Recapitulation of old habits will simply regenerate trauma.

Cancer (June 21–July 21) :

It is important to concentrate on work related relationships and health maintenance. Diet, exercise and improvement of physical regimen will serve you well. Honing your management systems in personal and work arenas is necessary to improve the efficiency of the daily work routine. You must balance concerns of recent years with better self-care.

Leo (July 22 –Aug. 21) :

The eclipse season is bringing things to a conclusion concerning your community networking and development of friendships. Certainly you will continue to have the friends you have chosen to keep. But now it may be time to let go of the extras, some of the less meaningful relationships.

Virgo (Aug 22–Sep. 22) :

Matters concerning your family are accented. Old problems in relationships, even with the deceased, are brought to consciousness for cleansing and healing. A new family member may enter the scene. Property and real estate matters require concentration. Bringing career into alignment with your true self is an important focus.

Libra (Sep. 23–Oct. 22) :

The accent of this eclipse period is on travel, education, care of vehicles and relationships to siblings, roommates, neighbors, or others who daily traverse your life. Lifelong habit patterns of thought must be reviewed and negative thinking corrected. Habits of speech and communication improved. Now is the time to focus on learning new and practical life skills. Let go of outmoded belief systems.

Scorpio (Oct. 23–Nov. 21) :

This eclipse series accents personal and financial resources. Greater understanding is developing related to expenditures of time, energy and money. Debts need to be repaid. You need to eliminate or recycle whatever is no longer useful in your life. Conditions of intimate life and sexuality are stale and call for renewal.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 –Dec. 20) :

Your personal identity is the subject under consideration. Who are you becoming and who do you need to be? How do you wish to define yourself before the world? How can you develop an individual identity that is workable while simultaneously maintaining a personally rewarding relationship?

Capricorn (Dec 21 – Jan 19) :

This eclipse emphasizes your need for internal order and self-reflection. Consider hypnosis or meditation, psychotherapy, dream work or journaling as resources to help you contemplate. Solitude can be healing now. Streamlining daily routines and exercising your body will help you preserve energy for thought.

Aquarius (Jan. 20–Feb. 17) :

Involvement in your community, networking, and developing friendships has occupied a center role in your life at this time. You have lessons to learn about discerning who is truly a friend. Those with children must concentrate on fostering those relationships. Some may decide not to have any more babies.

Pisces (Feb. 18–Mar. 19) :

There has been emphasis on career, life goals, and community reputation. Honors may have occurred during this period if you have previously built a solid foundation. Family members plead for more attention in subtle and overt ways. Property may require repair, rejuvenation, or replacement. Family patterns are changing. You may experience a sense of loss, but renewal occurs in its wake.

HUMOR

The Happiest Day

Harry was finally a groom and was very excited about his upcoming marriage. He was on his way out of the office when his boss came over to him with an outstretched hand, "congratulations Harry, I just wanted to tell you I've been married for twenty two years, and I am sure that you will always remember this day with the fondest of memories, as the happiest day of your life." "But sir", said Harry, "a little bit confused, I'm not getting married until tomorrow!" "Yeah, I know", said his boss.

Quote of the week



"God will not look you over for medals, degrees or diplomas but for scars."

Elbert Hubbard

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

Enjoy your leisure

MEZZO

classic house club

CLUBS

MEZZO CLASSIC HOUSE CLUB

28 Isahakyan Street

December 3 at 21:30

"Nuance" Ethno Jazz

December 4 at 21:30

CROSSROADS Blues Band

December 5 at 21:30

Mezzo Club's Birthday

"Hayway" Band

"Imagine" Band

Anushik Alaverdyan and

Karen Mamikonyan Band

Suren Arustamyan Blues

Band

DJ Guevo - after midnight

THE CLUB

40 Tumanyan Street

Every Monday at 19:00

Tea Master invites to tasting Chinese teas

Every Tuesday at 20:00

Film Screening

Every Friday at 21:00

Bard Club

CAFESJIAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Cascade Complex

December 5 at 20:00

Italian and Spanish Music Evening

Performers:

Alina Pahlevanyan, soprano

Liparit Avetisyan, tenor

Lilit Hakobyan, piano

December 6 at 20:00

The encounters with art

series presents

Sayat - Nova 300

In program: Sayat-Nova.

True Stories and Invented

Tales

December 8 at 20:00

Music Cascade series presents

Vahagn Hayrapetyan Jazz

Trio

Vahagn Hayrapetyan, piano

Nikoghayos Vardanyan, bass

Laurent Robin, drums

(France)

NAREGATSI ART INSTITUTE

Vardanants 16/1

December 3 at 19:30

Audiobooks's Presentation

"Audiobook" LLC initiative

December 4 at 15:00

Group exhibition | photography

"Moving Ahead"

"Manana" group adults' initiative

Exhibition on view till

December 8

December 4 at 18:00

Meeting with philosopher

Levon-Harutyun

Abrahamyan (philosophy

department at Yerevan State

University)

"A Road to Philosophy"

December 5 at 19:00

Wednesday Film Night

Series

The Color of Paradise

Iran/ drama/ 1999/ 90 min.

CONCERTS

ARAM KHACHATURIAN CONCERT HALL

46 Mashtots Ave.

December 3 at 19:00

Light Forever...

Concert dedicated to the

International Day of People

with Disabilities

Symphonic Orchestra of the

National Academic Theater

of Opera and Ballet Music

Director and Principal

Conductor: Honoured Artist

of RA Karen Durgaryan

Soloists: Levon Karapetyan,

piano Alexander Zhuykov,

tenor

KOMITAS CHAMBER MUSIC HOUSE

December 5 at 19:00

Tigran Mansuryan Recital

Evening

Armenian Chamber

Choir Artistic Director and

Principal Conductor:

Robert Milkeyan

Program: Tigran

Mansuryan

THEATRES

RUSSIAN DRAMA THEATER AFTER K. STANISLAVSKI

7 Abovyan Str.

December 4 and 5 at 19:00

Mea Culpa

Tragic comedy in 2 acts.

NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATER AFTER G. SUNDUKYAN

Grigor Lusavorchi St., 6 Bld.

December 9 at 19:00

No Comment

H. TUMANIAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE

Sayat-Nova av., house 4

December 4-6 at 19:00

Play for kids

Madagascar

Puppet Show

December 7 at 12:00 and

14:00

Play for kids

Gnome's Song

December 8 at 12:00 and

14:00

Sweet Bite Operation

December 8 at 19:00

Cherchez la femme

Premiere By Aldo Nikolai

Lead roles by Varuzhan

Manukyan, Tamara

Petrosyan, Narek

Duryan Staging, music and

adaptation by Narek Duryan

December 9 at 19:00

Aunt from Paris

Comedy

Lead roles: Narek Duryan,

Zaven Abrahamyan, Ara

Deghtrikyan and others.

STATE MUSICAL CHAMBER THEATER

Proshyan I, blind alley 1

December 8 at 14:00

Beauty and the Beast

French folk tale Children's

Musical Fun Show Director:

Armen Margaryan

December 9 at 14:00

Cinderella

Author: Charles

Perrault Staged by: A.

Miridjanyan

Staging: Hrachya

Gasparyan

December 8 and 9 at 19:00

The problem of bread

Premiere Basen on P.

Proshyan's novel Artistic

Director: Sos

Sargsyan Author of Staging:

Ruben Hovsepyan Author

and Director of current ver-

sion: Vigen

Stepanyan Composer: Martin

Vardazaryan



YEREVAN STATE CHAMBER THEATER

Mashtotsi Ave., 58 Building

December 5 at 19:00

Obstacle

Sergei Danielyan's mono-

performance on the Small

stage of Chamber Theater.

HAMAZGAYIN STATE THEATER

Amiryan St., 26 Building

December 6 at 19:00

Blaise

C. Magnier

YEREVAN STATE PANTOMIME THEATER

December 6 at 19:00

Flowers Manuscript

Mime play in one act.

Duration: 55 minutes.

Author and Director:

Zhirayr Dadasyan Music by:

Vahan Artsruni



Weekly Newspaper
Since May 4, 1993,
Yerevan, Armenia

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Noyan Tapan Media Holding:
Tigran Harutyunyan

Editor-in-Chief of the Noyan Tapan:
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Proofreader:
Susanna Mkrtchian

INFORMATION AND ARTICLES
by Noyan Tapan News Agency
PHOTOGRAPHS
by Noyan Tapan TV&Photo Studio
ADS & NEWSPAPER DESIGN
by Noyan Tapan Advertising Agency
PRINTING
by Noyan Tapan Publishing House

The publisher: Noyan Tapan Holding LTD,
28 Isahakian Str., Yerevan, 0009
Republic of Armenia
Registration certificate and the date:
273.110.00512, 15.12.1995
Circulation: 1000 copies
Tel.: (374 60) 27-64-62, Fax: (374 60) 27-64-61
E-mail: contact@nt.am
URL: www.nt.am
ISSN 1829-0604