

The

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Noyan Tapan

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HIGHLIGHTS

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# U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton arrives in Armenia



President  
Serzh Sargsyan  
received  
on June 4  
the US Secretary  
of State  
Hillary Clinton  
who arrived  
in Armenia  
on a  
working visit

HIGHLIGHT

Nalbandian-  
Mammadyarov  
forthcoming  
meeting to take  
place in Paris

RA Foreign Ministry con-  
firms the information on the  
meeting between Armenian and  
Azerbaijani Foreign Ministers  
Edward Nalbandian and Elmar  
Mammadyarov in Paris.

As Foreign Ministry  
spokesman Tigran Balayan told  
Noayn Tapan, the meeting, due  
on June 18, will be held through  
mediation of OSCE Minsk  
Group co-chairs.

Issues related to Nagorno  
Karabakh conflict settlement  
will be in focus of the meeting.



## The United States demonstrates total support of President Serzh Sargsyan's policy line

by David Petrosian

The U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has paid a visit to the South Caucasus. The visit showed that as before, the region continues to be the focus of the U.S. administration's attention not only owing to the Caspian energy projects and the long-standing conflicts, but also in connection with the fact that the region has a long frontier (646 km) with Iran. Besides, Iran has a coastline of 740 km on the Caspian Sea.

This was the second visit of the U.S. Secretary of State to the South Caucasian region in the past two years, which definitely indicates that at the moment the United States attaches importance to the situation here in pursuing its foreign policy, although it is probably

not the priority number one.

In recent years the U.S. has considerably extended its influence in the region and in this case the matter concerns not only Georgia, which was promised membership in NATO, but also Azerbaijan, and more importantly, Armenia that remains the only military and political ally of Russia in the South Caucasus.

The last parliamentary elections in Armenia have notably strengthened the positions of the Americans in Yerevan. As a matter of fact, the parliament of the previous term of legislature (2007-2012) in its majority was oriented towards Brussels and Washington; it is another matter that the boundary between the relatively pro-Russian and pro-Western forces

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## Serzh Sargsyan hosted US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton who visited Armenia

As press service of Armenian President informs Serzh Sargsyan welcomed the guest and said in particular:

"In Armenia you are always a welcome visitor. This year celebrates the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Armenia and the United States, and I am glad we can state that in these twenty years our relations have been developing, moving upward and today they are on the highest level in their history. Certainly, history of our peoples' relations is much deeper, and I am glad we can register that our good relations have been promoted also by the relations of our two peoples, by the large Armenian-American community as well as by the ideas of liberty, justice and democracy.

I am also content that our relations have always been based on mutual respect and trust and that we

can at any time speak frankly about any issue which interests either party. We highly value the role of the United States in our region.

I would like to once again express gratitude for the assistance extended by the United State to Armenia in the last twenty years. I am glad to see you, welcome to Armenia."

The US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said, "Mr. President, I am honored to be here since this year we celebrate the 20th anniversary of our diplomatic relations. In the last twenty years, the United

States has been closely working with Armenia. We highly value our cooperation with Armenia and will continue to support Armenia's and its people's development and growing prosperity.

President Obama and I highly value our contacts with You. You and I have had many conversations, and as You have mentioned, they have been very frank as it should be between friends. And I also know how hard You have been working for finding solutions on regional issues related to Armenia. So, we are looking forward to our continued dialogue. The United States is ready to support and assist Your continued work as an excellent leader.

I am also happy to see this wonderful sunny weather. We have been in the Arctic and far North and of course all Americans traveling with me are happy to see nice and sunny weather in Yerevan."





## Armenian President and Japanese PM Issue joint declaration

Within Serzh Sargsyan's official visit to Japan, the President of Armenia and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda have issued a joint declaration on expansion of friendship and cooperation, president's press service told Noyan Tapan.

In the joint declaration Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda express gratitude on the long-term and large-scale friendly relations formed between Armenia and Japan since the establishment of diplomatic relations on September 7, 1992, and taking the chance of the 20th anniversary of those relations, express a wish to continue

developing friendship and partnership in different spheres.

The parties also refer to the mutual support shown during the earthquakes that struck Armenia in 1988 and Japan in 2011 and express readiness to continue assisting each other in emergency situations.

The parties also highly appraise the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group engaged in Nagorno Karabakh issue and express confidence that the final resolution must be based on the norms and principles of International Law, UN Charter, Helsinki Final Act, non-use of force, territorial integrity, equal and self-determination rights of people.



## The changes achieved through the revolutionary way are not accepted in Armenia: Tigran Sargsyan

The changes achieved through the revolutionary path are not acceptable in Armenia. We are going through the evolution changes. The Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia Tigran Sargsyan in the centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Brussels June 5, was quoted as responding to the European politicians' and analysts' questions why the succeeded fight against the corruption in Georgia is not being applied in Armenia too.

"Evolution path demanding more efforts to be exerted, provides stability instead, which is a priority for Armenia, taking into account the relations with our neighbors. When implementing reforms we always appreciate our internal abilities. Geopolitical situation significantly reduces that potential. For that reason we have more long-term strategy, and perhaps more vulnerable" Sargsyan noted.

In the words of the head of the Cabinet Armenia has small wealth and large poor stratum; whereas the country lacks the middle class social stratum, pushing the country ahead. "For that reason we have intentions to control the activities of the rich, turn their activities public and controllable, simultaneously creating favorable conditions for the boost of the small and medium businesses, viewing it as the best strategy for poverty reduction" the PM noted.



Answering to the question what are the peculiarities of the fight against the corruption in Armenia, the head of the Cabinet said, the Government of the Republic of Armenia has adopted a very simple strategy" We must target the most important goals leading to success in the fight against corruption. The events must be not as much quantitative but effective. We should start fight against corruption from above. We have targeted 500 high ranking officials; their income must be controllable, which will reduce the risks of corruption. Besides those 500 offices want be so much wished for the businessmen. Thanks to the political will of the Armenian President we sailed through that law in the National Assembly" Tigran Sargsyan noted.

The PM informed the Europeans that this year for the first time Ethics committee was established in Armenia; which will control the announcements submitted by the high ranking officials. Currently all the members of the Executive Body, 131 MPs, judges and public prosecutors have publically submitted the notes on their income and assets.

"The expectations should be justified, and I am sure current year we are facing serious debates on the income of 500 high ranking officials" Tigran Sargsyan concluded.

## Serzh Sargsyan pays an official visit to Japan

On June 5th President Serzh Sargsyan has arrived in Japan on official visit.

In Sendai city, President Sargsyan visited the Yuriage-Hiyoriyama Memorial and paid tribute to the memory of the victims of the 2011 earthquake in Japan and those who perished in tsunami. He also familiarized with the works aimed at the elimination of the consequences of the natural disaster and visited the temporary shelter of the tsunami victims; at the Natori rehabilitation center met with the residents.

The President greeted the residents of Sendai who suffered during the natural disaster on behalf of his delegation and his own behalf and conveyed to them sympathy of the Armenian people. Serzh Sargsyan underscored that one year ago, Armenia was shocked with the news of the earthquake in Japan, and was following the events and praying for the people of Japan. "In those days, a solemn mass was



offered at the Saint Grigor Illuminator in Yerevan for the victims of the earthquake, and the prayer of the Armenian Catholics was joined by thousands of Armenians who prayed for the memory of all victims. We were well aware of the impact that natural disaster can make. You lost numerous relatives and friends, and I bow to their memory," the President of Armenia said.

He also noted that the grateful Armenian nation didn't forget assistance and warm attitude of the Japanese in 1988 when Armenia was going through tough times and at the same time was eliminating the consequences of the devastating earthquake.

Serzh Sargsyan

expressed confidence that the people of Japan, who during their history had withstood great disasters, will overcome this one too and the Government of Japan together with the people will be able to totally eradicate every trace of the disaster.

"The people of Japan will emerge from this disaster even stronger. I wish that every one of you get a new home and that these homes are filled with children's cry and the families get a great deal of warmth and peace," President Sargsyan said.

In Sendai, the President of Armenia was also shown the works on the reconstruction of the airport which was ruined during the tsunami.

From Sendai, Serzh Sargsyan left for Tokyo. On June 6, the President of Armenia commenced his official meetings with the highest leadership of Japan.



## Serzh Sargsyan: Actions against RA and Artsakh won't remain unanswered

Azerbaijani provocations in the contact line will get the firm answer of Armenian side. About this declared President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan answering to the question of the journalist of panorama.am concerning the border incidents.

"Loss of each Armenian soldier is the loss of our whole nation. We all mourn the death of our soldiers, together with the families of the victims. Regarding the response given to the rival, nothing can console our grief. I've been always saying that the instigations on the line of contact are very dangerous. I've also said they will get severe responses. Recent incidents are evidence of it," stressed President Sargsyan.

Remarking on the issue of responsibility for the border incidents, President said: "Either the instigations have been recommended by the Azerbaijani authorities, and in that case, they are responsible for the violation of the ceasefire regime an international obligation that Azerbaijan assumed, or the armed forces of that country are out of control, and in that case we are to cope with separate field commanders, and not an organized army."

"We don't find any reason to apply armed force, since we consider negotiations the only way to settle the Nagorno Karabakh conflict,



and the resolution must comprise implementation of right of self-determination of people of Artsakh. To move forward and advance, as the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs have repeatedly stated, people should be prepared to peace. The Azerbaijani side is committed to do quite the opposite - using encouragement of xenophobia as a tool to distract people's attention from domestic affairs," said the President and stressed two factors: "It's especially painful that the provocative actions occurred on the day when intellectuals of Armenia and Azerbaijan, on the initiative of the Russian side, were holding a meeting aimed to strengthen atmosphere of trust, and

the Secretary of State of another co-chairing state - the USA, was paying a regional visit to South Caucasus."

Speaking about the plans of the Armenian side, President Sargsyan said: "We are not committed to strain the situation, but we won't leave unanswered any action against our citizens, state borders and Nagorno Karabakh. The armed forces of the Republic of Armenia are strictly ordered to perform restraint and vigilance, at the same time to prevent and punish any provocation by the rival. I am sure the international community and the people of Azerbaijan understand who is responsible for the blood of the victims."





## First members reappointed to new Armenian cabinet

Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan and three key ministers have been reappointed to Armenia's new government being formed as a result of last month's parliamentary elections.

President Serzh Sargsyan reinstalled him as prime minister after a meeting with senior members of the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (RPA) on Saturday.

Speaking to journalists after that meeting, Tigran Sargsyan acknowledged that he anticipated the appointment. He said the new cabinet will be fully formed by June 15.

The first three members of the cabinet were named with presidential decrees signed on Monday. As expected, Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan, Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian and Emergency Situations Minister Armen Yeritsyan retained their posts.

Yeritsyan represents the Rule of Law Party, the RPA's junior partner in the new governing coalition. The Rule of Law is expected to also

receive two other ministerial posts. The remaining portfolios will be given to the RPA.

The ruling party's chief spokesman, deputy parliament speaker Eduard Sharmazanov, reiterated on Monday that the government will not undergo significant personnel changes. "We believe that Tigran Sargsyan's government has managed to achieve its tasks and go down the right path at this time of crisis and minimize negative consequences of this [2009 economic] crisis," he told Radio Liberty.

Sharmazanov blamed external factors for the 2009 recession and the resulting rise in poverty in Armenia.

Predictably, opposition leaders were highly critical of Tigran Sargsyan's four-year socioeconomic track record. "No promise has been fulfilled, nothing has been done," said Hrant Bagratyan, a former prime minister affiliated with the opposition Armenian National

Congress (ANC).

"He had promised to improve the situation -- boost the state budget, raise wages, reduce poverty -- but just the opposite has happened," he told Radio Liberty.

Bagratyan dismissed Sargsyan's assertions that the government has diversified the Armenian economy and thus made it more immune to global shocks. He argued that economic growth in the country was now mainly driven by the domestic mining industry heavily dependent on global metal prices.

"The problems that faced our country before 2008 had remained the same and not been addressed," said Armen Martirosyan, a leader of the opposition Heritage party.

But Sharmazanov dismissed the opposition criticism. "Do you remember any Armenian prime minister not subjected to criticism? I don't," he said.

## Alexander Iskandaryan calls to distinguish war from firing



The regional visit of the United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton cannot be called a visit to different countries. During the meeting with the journalists on June 6, political scientist Alexander Iskandaryan noted that each purpose of Clinton's visits was a different one. "The subversive activities of Azerbaijan have the aim to draw America's attention, I doubt that Clinton's displeasure will be very impressive, anyhow it will be" he noted.

He said that there was a tendency in Azerbaijan, to update the threat of war from time to time, but

the one, who knew the issue, may differ firing from the war resumption. "The amount of concessions that is required from Azerbaijan is not profitable for him, but Armenia cannot do such an amount of concessions as well"- mentioned the political scientist. He noted that he followed to the Azerbaijani media publications. In his words, it is a n ungrateful task to put the stresses on politician's each word, forcing to reproduce the desirable things. This is how the Azerbaijani media acts, we shall realize, that they are just politicians, and not prophets.

In Iskandaryan's opinion, the real goal of Azerbaijani side to leave the situation like it is now. The political scientist does not exclude the possibility for Azerbaijan to go on with justifying and making surreal explanations. He is convinced that the CSTO has a lot of functions regarding Armenia's security; anyhow the recent cases of ceasefire's violation are not a basis for an intervention.

## Free Democrats to back Raffi Hovhannisyan if he runs for presidency



The Member of the Free Democrats Party, National Assembly member Alexander Arzumanyan said on June 8 that the Heritage faction will try to cooperate with all forces in the new parliament,

including the ANC and the ARF Dashnaktsutyun.

The ANC and the ARF Dashnaktsutyun are representatives of the opposition like us. This is why we have more common approaches," Arzumanyan said.

He noted that the Free Democrats and the Heritage would try to promote their vision of new Armenia in the new parliament.

Commenting on the position of the Free Democrats ahead of presidential elections, Alexander Arzumanyan said they would support the Heritage Party leader Raffi Hovhannisyan if he put forward his candidacy.

The Heritage faction has 5 members in the National Assembly, two of whom - Alexander Arzumanyan and Khachatur Kokobelyan, are representatives of the Free Democrats.

## Tsarukian's party awaits new government program



The Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP) is waiting for the new Armenian government's program before clarifying whether it is officially in opposition to President Serzh Sargsyan, a top PAP representative said on June 7.

The party led by businessman Gagik Tsarukyan decided to pull out of the country's governing coalition after finishing second in last month's parliamentary elections. Still, Tsarukian and his associates have so far been careful not to explicitly call the PAP an opposition force. The PAP's 37-strong faction in the new Armenian parliament has also not clarified its political status yet.

According to the former Foreign Minister Vartan Oskanian, who was second on the PAP's list of election candidates, there will be more clarity on the issue when the new government being formed by Tigran Sargsyan submits its program for a vote of confidence in the National Assembly.

"I personally don't have much hope that something will change because the main personnel change hasn't occurred. That is, the Prime Minister [Tigran Sargsyan] has been reappointed," Oskanian told Radio Liberty.

"I wish there had been some serious changes [in the government] because a team that has carried out economic policy for five years and hasn't reached success cannot instill trust in the society and business," he said. "The starting point is already not quite positive."

"But I don't want to prejudge things. Let's wait and see what kind of a program will be submitted," added Oskanian.

Only Tigran Sargsyan and three government ministers have been formally appointed by President Sargsyan so far. Representatives of the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (RPA) said the cabinet's formation will be completed by June 15.

It also remains to be seen whether Tsarukian's party will support Sargsyan's candidacy in next year's presidential election or field its own candidate.

## War could resume - Armenia's former FM

The Azerbaijani diversion operations during US Secretary of State Hilary Clinton's visit to the region were a message as to how official Baku will resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict if the resolution is not in its favor, stated Alexander Arzumanyan-Armenia's former FM, opposition Free Democrats Party Vice-Chairman, and MP-during a press conference on Friday.

In his view, the US State Secretary's visit to the region shows that the US is attempting to keep this region at the focus of its attention and it has no intentions on yielding its positions.

And with reference to Clinton's statement in Baku, according to which the conflicting parties will be introduced new approaches

toward resolution of the matter, Armenia's former FM said the conflict cannot be resolved without the participation of Nagorno-Karabakh representatives.

The MP noted that the war could resume if Azerbaijan finds that the balance of power is disturbed and it could resolve the conflict through military means.

"The Azerbaijanis are provoking and accusing Armenia, in an attempt to push [it] into the conflict. Their operations are directed at Armenia, not Karabakh. Azerbaijan shows that the conflict is with Armenia," said Alexander Arzumanyan.

He added that everything must be done to make Azerbaijan understand that a military solution has no prospect.

## Azerbaijani diversion group tried to penetrate into Nagorno-Karabakh: there are victims

In the southern part of Karabakh-Azerbaijani contact line (in direction of Horadiz) on June 6 at 04:15 by the diversion group of the opponent was taken another attempt to penetrate into one of Nagorno-Karabakh defense army's military positions.

NKR Defense Army press department informed that the vanguard subdivisions of Karabakh forces noticing in time the initiating attack of the opponent held a defensive fight and threw back the latter to its initial position. At the results of skirmish the opponent had significant losses. During the defensive battle Armenian side also had losses. Junior sergeant Vardan Ohanyan was killed; private soldiers Arayik Mavreyan and Volodya Tsatryan were wounded.

"Only during June this is the 4th diversion activity attempt imple-

mented by the Azerbaijani army in Armenian-Azerbaijani and Karabakh-Azerbaijani borders, which gives a reason to believe that official Baku is not tend to give constructive character to peace settlement process of the conflict, promote increasing efficiency of efforts made by international institutions and does everything to change the status-quo in the region.

It seems that the Azerbaijani authorities and particularly the Command of its armed forces don't realize that the tactics chosen by them is not only non-effective but in case of continuing can lead to unpredictable consequences for Azerbaijan" is mentioned in the announcement of NKR Defense Army.



## Serious Escalation In Armenia-Azerbaijan Violence Greet Clinton

by Joshua Kucera

Just as Hillary Clinton is making a trip through the Caucasus, the Azerbaijan-Armenia border is seeing some of the worst violence in years. On Monday, three Armenian soldiers were killed by Azerbaijani forces, and on Tuesday, the Armenians retaliated, killing five Azerbaijanis. Alex Jackson, in a very worthwhile post at his blog Caspian Intel, notes that the violence was not on the "Line of Contact" separating Azerbaijanis and Armenians at the de facto border of NagornoKarabakh, but at the state border between Armenia and Azerbaijan proper. Further, the two incidents took place about 25 miles apart, "which indicates that the clashes are not linked by local geography (i.e. an Armenian incursion followed by a local Azerbaijani counterattack) but part of a broader pattern of probing attempts along the border," Jackson writes.

The implication is that, on one side or both, there was a degree of regional-level coordination by military commanders and a willingness to test the defenses of the other side across a wide swathe of territory. This expansion of the battlefield marks a serious escalation.

The violence came at an awkward time for Clinton, who issued a bland statement in Armenia "calling on everyone to renounce force as well as refraining from violence." There was a discussion of NagornoKarabakh on Tuesday at the Wilson Center in Washington, and regional expert Tom de Waal addressed the question of why international officials can't make more direct statements "naming and

shaming" whichever side started the violence. The problem, de Waal said, is that there's no way for them to know. There are 20,000 soldiers dug into trenches on each side of the line, and six monitors from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Another stark statistic: since the beginning of 2011, 63 people have been killed in skirmishes between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

The pessimism at the Wilson Center event was stark, but entirely warranted. Wayne Merry of the American Foreign Policy Council suggested that we should be moving from a "post-war" frame of mind to a "pre-war" one, given that the renewal of serious conflict seems so inevitable. Charles King, a Caucasus expert at Georgetown University, observed that this is the most militarized border in Eurasia, "yet it's received the least amount of attention over the years" compared to the unresolved conflicts in Georgia and Cyprus. Perhaps the only comfort, given the news of the last few days, was that the experts seemed to agree that full-scale war is less likely to begin from an accidental escalation of these sorts of border skirmishes than from a strategic decision by one of the parties (obviously most likely Azerbaijan) to think that war is in their interest. "The only thing that will alter the strategic calculations on both sides," King said, was for the "international community" to raise the stakes for starting a conflict. But then you think of those six lonely European monitors, and what a small priority this is for anyone outside of Armenia and Azerbaijan. How often in history has the breakout of a war been so obvious?

## Commandos: Azerbaijan is not ready to the war against Armenia, and it will not be allowed to start new adventure

Azerbaijan is not ready to the war against Armenia, but even if it is eager to do that, nobody will allow Azerbaijan to start a new adventure despite the last sabotage at the border to Armenia, the Karabakh war hero, Major-General Arkadiy Ter-Tadevosyan (Commandos), said on June 8 at press-conference.

"Today about 60% of Azerbaijan's population are national minorities - the Talish, the Avars, the Lezgins and the Tats. The level of the national identity has been gradually growing among these nations. And in such conditions one cannot hope for consolidation of the society for successful battle actions. Baku understands very well that until the problems of ethnic minorities are not resolved, resumption of aggression against Armenia is like suicide", - Commandos said.

"All the leading military specialists of Russia, NATO and the USA confess that when comparing combat readiness of the armies of



Armenia and Azerbaijan, the Armenian armed forces possess obvious advantage", - he said.

Except the military factors, numerous geo-political and economic interests of the leading world players in the South Caucasus are also against the war. "In case of resumption of the Azerbaijani aggression, Armenian Armed Forces will strike a strong blow upon the pipeline through which Azerbaijani oil is delivered to Europe. And it is clear that the West will not let Baku to make such an adventure as it does not want to lose hydrocarbon", - he concluded

## Armenia has progress on democracy - Freedom House

Freedom House organization has released its next report on the situation in the countries which are considered to be in transit.

"The Nations in Transit is Freedom House's comprehensive, comparative study of democratic development in 29 countries from Central Europe to Eurasia", the official website of the organization informs.

"Findings in Nations in Transit 2012 suggest that the countries that have achieved the greatest democratic success since the Cold War's end are now displaying serious vulnerabilities in their young democratic systems. Over the past five years, stagnation and backsliding is evident in key governance indicators across the new EU member states and countries of the Balkans. Hungary, a powerful example of this trend, continued on a negative trajectory that was propelled by the current government's drive to concentrate power. Ukraine's scores similarly continued to worsen, with declines in five of the seven Nations in Transit categories, as authorities undertook a broad assault on institutional accountability and transparency. Difficult economic conditions and harsh austerity measures posed challenges to democratic development in the region. In the Balkans, critical reforms stalled in nearly all countries in 2011.

Meanwhile, the failure of virtually any of the



countries of Eurasia to shed old governance habits and end monopolies on political and economic power has been one of the greatest disappointments of the past two decades. The overall democracy scores of most Eurasian countries either declined or remained unchanged. Reverberations of the Arab Spring in authoritarian states like Belarus, Azerbaijan, and Kazakhstan led to harsher repression of civil society and an increased use of the judiciary as an instrument to punish political opposition".

According to the report Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova and Georgia have had progress on the topic. Armenia now has 5.39 points, Georgia has 4.82 points and Azerbaijan has 6.57 points.

## EU is very concerned at reported serious armed incidents' over Karabakh conflict

The spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission issued a statement Friday on "serious armed incidents along the border of Armenia and Azerbaijan."

"The High Representative is very concerned at the reported serious armed incidents on 4, 5 and 6 June along the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan and the Line of Contact in the context of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and deeply regrets the loss of human life.

The High Representative calls on both sides strictly to respect the ceasefire and exercise restraint on the ground and in public statements in order to prevent a further escalation of the situation, which has been deteriorating during the last several months.



Threat or use of force as well as the status quo do not contribute to a resolution of the persisting conflict.

These incidents highlight the importance of a functioning incident investigation mechanism as proposed by the OSCE. Moreover, they reinforce the need for progress in the negotiation process.

The High Representative urges Armenia and Azerbaijan, as partner

countries, to step up their efforts to reach agreement on the Madrid principles, as a basis for peace, and to fully implement the commitments made by their Presidents in the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group. The EU reiterates its full support of the OSCE Minsk Group and the efforts of its co-chairs aimed at a peaceful conflict resolution," statement reads.

## Clinton, Lavrov and Juppe urge Yerevan and Baku to complete work over the final settlement of the Karabakh conflict

Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation Sergey Lavrov, Secretary of State of the United States Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Foreign Minister of France Alain Juppe, issued the statement on NK Conflict on June 7

The statement particularly reads:

"On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the formal request to convene a conference on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, we, the Foreign Ministers of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries, call upon the sides to demonstrate the political will needed to achieve

a lasting and peaceful settlement. As Presidents Medvedev, Obama, and Sarkozy reiterated in their joint statement at Deauville on May 24, 2011, only a negotiated settlement can lead to peace, stability, and reconciliation, and any attempt to use force to resolve the conflict would bring only more suffering to a region".

Heads of OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries recalled that any delay in reaching a settlement will only prolong hardships of the peoples of the region which suffered due to the war.

The mediators urged the sides

to prepare their populations for peace, not war.

"We urge the leaders of the sides to complete work as soon as possible on the framework agreement and subsequent final settlement - based on the Helsinki Final Act principles of non-use or threat of force, territorial integrity, and self-determination and equal rights of peoples; the United Nations Charter; and norms and principles of international law - which will allow the entire region to move beyond the status quo toward a more secure and prosperous future."





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- ♦ **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. Hanrapetutyán 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+foye, h=2.80 m, cellar 30 sq.m. Price 500 000 USD preliminary
- ♦ **1598. Nairy Zaryan street**, 180 sq.m., 1st floor, a working restaurant, hall-100 sq.m. 1st line, repaired, tonir. Price: negotiable
- ♦ **1383. Nalbandian St**, cellar + 1 story, 30 sq. m. cellar, 90 sq. m. story, Euro repair, hall, kitchen, lavatory, 24-hour hot and cols water, gas supply, suitable for a bar or restaurant. Price: 512.000USD
- ♦ **1603. North avenue**, 159 sq.m., 1st floor. Entrance on ground floor also, construction is in process, suitable for a shop. Price: 1 sq.m.

10 000 USD

- ♦ **1588. Tigran Mec street**, 256 sq.m, 5/1.2 , trade area, stone building, euro repair, 1st floor trade area - 210 sq.m., 2nd floor 46 sq.m. residential Area. Price: 600 000 USD

## LANDS

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

## PRIVATE HOUSES

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

## NEWLY BUILT

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

Climate control, gas, the fasad sector has 3 bedrooms-188 sq.m, 199 sq.m, 1 sq.m- 1900



USD, 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight- 117 sq.m, 120 sq.m, 124 sq.m, 1 sq.m-1700 USD  
Price: 1 sq.m- 1900-1700 USD

- ♦ **93. Kievyan street**, newly built building Given to the operation in October 2011, gajats, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas supply, the second floor has a parking lot, parking is possible for sale. Price 12 000 USD possible with mortgage, for 13 years term
- ♦ **94. Masiv**. Newly built, , coupling, 8 flats, in each cottege 4 flats, total-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

- ♦ **1031. Byuzand street**. 1 room, 34 sq.m, capitally repair, newly built, furniture, techniques, heating, AC, cabin. Price 600 USD
- ♦ **1009. Teryan str.**, 4/3, 1room changed into 2, 50sqm, euro repaired, furnished, permanent hot and cold water, gas, AC, spanish tiles, technique, ariston heating system. Price 800USD per month, 60USD per day
- ♦ **1057. Argishti str.**, 14/9, 1 room, furnished, heating system, permanent hot and cold water, AC
- ♦ **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. Amiryán street**, 10/7. 1 turned into 2, 50 sq.m., euro repair, Italian furniture, bed, utensil, techniques, permanent water, gas, antenna, Baxy system. Price 700 USD, 50 USD per day

## 2 ROOMS

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

## 3 ROOMS AND MORE

- ♦ **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. Amiryán str**, 12/11. 3 bedrooms, newly built, 180 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed, climate control. Price: 1700 USD
- ♦ **1970. Vazgen Sargsyan str.**, 10/8. 2 bedrooms, newly built,, 150 sq.m, capitally

repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, climate control. Price: 2500 USD

- ♦ **1967. Pushkin str.**, 8/6. 2 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1966. Ekmalyan str.**, 10/5. 3 bedrooms, newly built, 170 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed. Price: 1300 USD
- ♦ **1951. Buzand/Mashtots crossroad**. /13, 2 bedrooms, newly built, 122 sq.m, capitally repaired, 2 bathrooms, furnished, heating system, climate control, usage fee included. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1950. Buzand/Mashtots crossroad**. /8, 2 bedrooms, newly built, 163 sq.m, capitally repaired, 2 bathrooms, 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.
- ♦ **1787. Koghbaci street**, 13/6, 2bedrooms, newly built, euro repaired, furnished, 2 lavatories, central heating. Price 1700USD per month, 100USD per day.
- ♦ **1793. Teryan street**. 260 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 3 lavatories, capital repair, climat control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), newly built Price: 3500 USD
- ♦ **1564. Tumanyan street**, 7/4. 110 sq.m., euro repaire, 2 lavatories, Spanish tyles, permanent hot and cold water, gas, Baxi system, satellite, modern furniture, techniques, garage. Price 1200 USD.
- ♦ **1720. Amirian Street.**, 18/10, 2 bedrooms, 190 sq/m, newly built, euro windows, permanent hot and cold water, gas, central heating, 2 open balcony, nice view to the city, possible with or without furniture, parking for 3 cars. Price 3000USD per month negotiable, for long term - 6 months and more.



## PRIVATE HOUSES

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

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

- ♦ **1117. Aygestan**, land-420 sq.m., building 646 sq.m., 3 storied, 4 bedrooms, open kitchen, euro repair, new tiles, furnished, techniques. Price" 5000 USD
- ♦ **1195. Nork**, Armenakyan str, 4 floors, land - 2000 sqm, building-520 sqm, capitally repaired, furnished, basement, 1st floor-1 living room, study, kitchen, bathroom, living room, swimming-pool, sauna, 2nd floor - 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3rd floor - open balcony, 1 bedroom, bathroom, gym, garden. Price: negotiable
- ♦ **1142. 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 street**. 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 district**. 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 Marshak 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. Hanrapetutyán street**, 1st floor, 3steps up, h-3.20m, repaired, 1 large hall+3 rooms, 2 entrances, kithen, lavatory. Price 1400USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦ **1526. Byuzand street**, 5/semi-basement, 170sqm, 4-5 step down. cellar-50sqm, has 6 rooms, the largest is 30sqm, 2 entrances, 2 lavatories, 6 windows from street side. Price 2000USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦ **1528. North Avenue**, 9/1, 2 floors, total area 159sqm, 1st floor-66sqm, 2nd floor 93sqm, newly built, euro repaired, has the entrance from the street, security system, heating system. Price 7500USD per month.
- ♦ **1482. North Avenue**, 210 sq.m., 1st floor, with 2 floors, h=8m. Price 10.000 USD
- ♦ **1408. Zarobyan street**, parallel to Baghramyan, 2 storied, 300sq.m.construction, 600 sq.m. land, in a first floor hall and kitchen, in a second floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capital euro repair, gas, baxi system, permanent hot and cold water, telephone, garage, fruit garden. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦ **1438. Komitas**, 6 floors, cellar, mansard. Each floor is 120 sq.m., hasa need for cosmetic 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



## Ankara Rejects Clinton's Call to Normalize Ties with Armenia

ANKARA - Turkey on Tuesday rejected a call by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to normalize relations with Armenia, citing a 2010 ruling by Armenia's Constitutional Court on the validity of the Turkey-Armenia protocols.

While in Yerevan Monday, Clinton said that the "ball was in Turkey's court," when asked about the two countries' efforts to normalize relations.

"We are committed to seeing Armenia and Turkey normalize relations because we think this is a better path forward for the citizens of both countries and we strongly support ratification of the protocols [of normalization] without preconditions," said Clinton. "We believe these are countries that should have open borders, should work together, should trade, and they should have people to people exchanges because it would be mutually beneficial to all concerned."

"Turkey's position on the issue is clear," a Turkish diplomat told the Hurriyet Daily News, adding that the Armenian court's 2010 ruling made reference to the Armenian Genocide, which has angered Turkey.

At the time Turkish Prime



Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said that Armenia's Constitutional Court reference to the Armenian Genocide was against the spirit of the normalization process with Yerevan.

"We have never taken the protocol to our Constitutional Court. We took it directly to our Parliament, without making changes. We didn't employ a mediator on the text. We didn't carry out any read-between-the-lines operations. This is proof of our sincerity. Armenia has tried to change the text," Erdogan said at the time.

The Turkish diplomat also cited a provision of Armenia's Declaration of Independence, which was referenced in the Armenian court ruling as problematic for Turkey. That provision states: "The Republic of Armenia stands in support of the task of achieving international recognition of the 1915 genocide in Ottoman Turkey and Western Armenia."

## The United States demonstrates total support of President Serzh Sargsyan's policy line

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was "blurred". Now the conditional boundary between those two forces has become much more distinct and conditionally, no more than 50 deputies of the parliament are on the Russian side.

Quite naturally, in this situation the Secretary of State publicly demonstrated political support for President Serzh Sargsyan and his policy line. In particular:

- it was stated that President Barack Obama highly appreciates contacts with the Armenian president. Besides, Mrs. Clinton noted the sincerity of bilateral talks, as well as the zeal, with which Yerevan and Washington worked to solve the problems facing Armenia;

- Secretary of State Hillary Clinton told President Serzh Sargsyan that the U.S. was preparing to provide assistance to his advancing activities as a remarkable leader;

- Hillary Clinton positively appreciated the May 6 parliamentary elections, noting that there were only some shortcomings.

Some Russian experts believe that these statements of the U.S. Secretary of State were of a pre-election nature and were made so that the Armenian community in the United States will back the incumbent President Obama at the upcoming presidential election in November. In our opinion, this point of view is not quite correct because:

- the circumstance that Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton did not fulfill their pre-election promise to recognize the Armenian Genocide committed in the Ottoman Empire during World War I is of greater importance to the Armenian community of the United States;

- due to the Armenian-Turkish protocols signed in October 2009, the attitude of the U.S. Armenian

community towards President Sargsyan is rather ambiguous because the public political support given by the State Department to the incumbent president of Armenia is perceived not quite unambiguously, either.

We should also point out the circumstance that supporting the balanced position of Serzh Sargsyan on the settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, that is to say, his readiness to sign the Madrid Principles, at the Chicago summit NATO led by the United States adopted an openly pro-Azerbaijani resolution.

The recent report on human rights released by the U.S. Department of State and Armenia's problems in this sphere indicated in the report further underline the circumstance that despite the serious problems with human rights and democracy, Washington carries out a consistent policy of supporting the Serzh Sargsyan administration, first of all for geopolitical reasons. Among the U.S. administration's public levers of exerting pressure on official Yerevan are the suspended activities of the Lincy Foundation and the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

The systemic support of the Serzh Sargsyan administration by Washington and Brussels (Armenian Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan was on a visit to Brussels at the time when Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was in Yerevan during the first leg of her regional tour) is conditioned in many ways by the fact that Vladimir Putin, who has made a Kremlin comeback, is making and will make efforts to implement the project of the Customs and Eurasian Union. So far three big players - Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus are prepared to enter into that union. There are prerequisites for Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan to join

the Customs and Eurasian Union. The recent visit of President Vladimir Putin to Uzbekistan and the outcome of his meetings with President Islam Karimov show that there is a fair chance that Uzbekistan, too, may join the union.

From this aspect, Armenia's position is also interesting as its leadership declares the European vector of its policy to be a priority, which Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan reaffirmed in his famous article published in the Russian newspaper Vedomosti and during his latest meetings in Brussels.

In this connection we should mention the interview of German Ambassador to Armenia Hans-Jochen Schmidt with the Russian news agency Regnum, in which he clearly stated that the combination of Armenia's European integration with its membership in the Eurasian Union is impossible.

Most probably, in addition to issues related to regional security, the Nagorno Karabakh conflict settlement, and the normalization of Armenian-Turkish relations, the main purpose of Hillary Clinton's visit to Yerevan as well as the main purpose of her colleagues who received the head of the Armenian government in Brussels was this very circumstance: to explain to Serzh Sargsyan and his administration that in the future, too, he can count on total political and other support of the West if he is oriented not in favor of the Eurasian Union i.e. if he completely abandons the policy of complementarity.

On the whole, one can say that the visit of the U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to Yerevan showed that with eight months left until the presidential election in Armenia, the incumbent president Serzh Sargsyan had the complete political support of Washington.

## Sharmazanov responded to "epoch-making" statement of Turkish foreign Minister

Vice President of Armenian National Assembly reacted to the statement of Turkish foreign Minister: another "epoch-making" statement made Ahmet Davutoglu who had said: "when Armenia leaves the occupied territories it will be possible to establish relations with that country". Armenpress reports that reacting to Davutoglu's speech Vice President of Armenian National Assembly Eduard Sharmazanov said:

"Turkey stubbornly is going on ignoring his international responsibilities and distorts reality. It proves one more time that today concepts Turkey and Euro integration cannot be synonyms. To consent of leaders of countries west from Armenia and east from Artsakh I would like to state one more time that of course there are occupied territories and from that



territories must go out Turks and Azerbaijanis. Refreshing the memory of Turkish foreign ministry leader I would like to inform that his country has occupied the northern part of Cyprus and Azerbaijan has occupied Shahumyan,

Getashen, Martunashen which are territories of Artsakh Republic...

I consider unacceptable Turkey's practice to speak with ultimatums and confirm once again that we are determined to achieve our national goals".



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## ABA Annual Meeting renews commitment to rule of law initiatives, elects new executive leadership

On the weekend of May 18-20, 2012, the Armenian Bar Association hosted its 23rd Annual Meeting at the Glendale Hilton in Glendale, CA. The weekend was highlighted by the presentation of the coveted Hrant Dink Freedom of Speech Award to Edik Baghdasaryan, Editor-in-Chief of Hetq.am, a forum for honest and investigative reporting of issues dealing with democracy and justice in Armenia.

The weekend also included the election and swearing in ceremony of the Association's Board of Governors. Well-known and highly-respected criminal defense attorney Garo B. Ghazarian of Glendale, California was selected by unanimous vote of the entire Board as the Association's new Chairman. In addition to his federal and state litigation-based law practice, Ghazarian also serves as Dean of the People's College of Law in Los Angeles and as a Civil Service Commissioner for the City of Glendale. Among numerous television and radio appearances as an expert legal commentator, Ghazarian has been interviewed on Larry King Live and shared his expertise with Jane Vellez-Mitchell on her program concerning current legal issues.

"I am humbled and very honored for the opportunity to serve as Chair of the Armenian Bar Association and I pledge to continue to fulfill the vision of Raffi K. Hovannisian, the founder of our organization, in assisting those in need, of helping to establish the rule of law in Armenia, and protecting the legal rights of Armenians everywhere," said Ghazarian during a sold-out gala banquet held on May 19, 2012, at the luxurious Armenian Society of Los Angeles Banquet Hall.

Chairman Ghazarian expressed further gratitude when he stated "I wish to thank immediate Past Chair Edvin Minassian for his exemplary and tireless service of the last two

years, with whom I was honored to serve as Vice-Chair of the bar the last two terms and whose insight and wisdom I will continue to seek and employ." Ghazarian also noted the continued service on the Board of Governors of Minassian's predecessor Chair, Sonya Nersessian, and vowed to build upon the legacy of these two

fellow colleagues and friends on the Board of Governors."

Court Justices Marvin Baxter,

The afternoon sessions of the conference saw one of America's most prominent attorneys, David M.

Balabanian of Bingham, McCutcheon, and Kate Nahabetian, an attorney with the Armenian National Committee in Washington, D.C., discuss the history and potential implications of the United States Court of Appeal's Genocide-related decision in the case of Movsesian v.

legal forums, such as the United Nations and the World Court.

The final panel of the day provided a personal, insightful look at the recent parliamentary elections that took place in the Republic of Armenia on May 6, 2012. The panel featured Edik Baghdasaryan and ArmenBar Chair Garo Ghazarian. Both were present in Yerevan and traveled to the Armenian countryside to monitor and observe the election process. The presentation took a critical look at Armenia's electoral process and noted irregularities that continue to persist, recognized some improvements over previous elections, and suggested remedies which would possibly bring about positive change in the areas of the electoral process which fail to meet international and local norms for free and fair elections.

On the evening of May 19, 2012, with ArmenBar Treasurer, Sara Bedirian, serving as the graceful and eloquent Mistress of Ceremonies, nearly 300 members, guests and family were treated to keynote speech-

Versicherung.

Harut Sassounian, the Editor-in-Chief of the California Courier, whose editorials are reprinted in over 200 newspapers, journals and periodicals worldwide, presented his dynamic proposal on the formation of a democratically-elected representative body that would be a cross-section of every aspect of diasporan Armenian society, organizations and religious denominations. The elected body would then make decisions and represent the interests of the entire diaspora before international political and

es from Eric Garcetti, current member and former president of the Los Angeles City Council, Carmen Trutanich, the City Attorney for the City of Los Angeles, and the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America, His Eminence Hovnan Derderian, and Archbishop of the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America, His Eminence Moushegh Mardirossian. Association members were also recognized for their pro bono efforts during the year.

The weekend closed with a meeting of the Board of Governors, on Sunday, May 20, where the Association's goals and agenda were set and plans were made for the Association's Mid-Year meeting in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, the weekend of October 19-20, 2012.



Edvin Minassian, two-term chairperson of the Armenian Bar Association (center), receives highest honors from Garo Ghazarian, the ABA's newly-elected chairperson, and treasurer Sara Bedirian



ABA banquet keynote speaker Eric Garcetti (3rd from left) and the ABA's "Hrant Dink Freedom of Speech Award" recipient Edik Baghdasaryan (4th from left) flanked by (from left to right) Judge Zaven Sinanian, David Balabanian, Garo Ghazarian, Edvin Minassian, Sonya Nersessian, Armen K. Hovannisian, Gary Moomjian, Robert Cannuscio and Harry Dikranian



Los Angeles City Attorney Carmen Trutanich bestows great acclaim on newly-elected Armenian Bar Association chairperson Garo Ghazarian



Walter Karabian (center) receives Honorary Membership from the Armenian Bar Association's (from left to right) Harry Dikranian, Michael Amerian, Edvin Minassian, and Garo Ghazarian

Armand Arabian and Chuck Poochigian, and Association Founder Raffi K. Hovannisian, to name a few.

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## NORK INFORMATION ANALYTICAL CENTER

### Technologies will change YOUR LIFE

#### Who we are & what we do

Nork Information-Analytical Center CJSC was established in 2000 for the purpose of implementation and application of state-of-the-art ICTs to reality in the state and private sector. The activities implemented by the Company within last years have substantially enhanced the effectiveness of policy carried out especially within the social sphere.

A number of databases have been designed and maintained within the social security cards system; besides, some new information systems of statistical analyses and forecasts have been developed and implemented.

Nowadays, NORK is one of the leading Armenian ICT companies with qualified and experienced staff.

The main focus of NORK's business activities is optimization of business processes of companies. NORK's specialists analyze companies' existing processes and suggest the most convenient IT solutions for their optimization.

We are a team of qualified IT professionals specialized in development of Information Systems, Websites. The works carried out by the company have greatly improved the actions directed to the ICT infrastructure design, installation and maintenance assistance, databases development and maintenance, information systems development and implementation.

The works have been completed successfully thanks to the comprehensive software development policy based on up-to-date methodologies.



#### Mission

During the years of its activity NORK has obtained professional experience, qualified specialists, trustworthy partners and customers due to its adopted mission: To develop and introduce IT solutions which will help our customers to become preferable for their customers, the best for their consumers and the most attractive for investors, as well as to increase competitive advantages.

#### Reliable IT Partner

The partners of NORK always mention the advantages of company such as:

- Wide range of services
- Experienced IT staff
- Complete chain of services
- More than 10 years experience
- Experience in state sector
- About 40 developed and implemented software packages
- Development of technical solutions according to market requirements

- Successful experience in the implementation of nation-wide, multi-level, multi-site IT projects
- Experience in cooperating with international organizations within the scope of Different projects
- Implementation of PMBOK project management standard



#### Business Lines

NORK provides the following services:

- IT Solutions design and development
- Local and global computer network construction
- Maintenance and support
- Training
- Publishing
- Actuarial research
- Consulting

#### Work Principals

It is well known that not every project has successful outcome. What is the reason, and how to avoid such situations? The answer is very simple: as the experience shows, one of the most important factors of IT projects' success is the right organization of project management system based on the best world practices. Taking into account all these, NORK implements each project in accordance with the following principles:

- Regardless of its size, any project is implemented in compliance with the best world practice of project management.
- During implementation of projects we use information systems development leading technologies and methodologies.
- An individual approach to every client.
- Transparent relations are established both with clients and inside the company, between members of a project team.

#### Our Team

We are a team of qualified IT professionals specialized in development of State-of-the-Art IT Solutions. Our excellent results are based on the creativity, personality, initiative and high-quality work results of each individual as a member of the team.

Our team is composed of information literate people who "know when they need information, and are then able to identify, locate, evaluate, organize, and effectively use the information to address and help resolve personal, job related, or broader social issues and problems".

#### NORK in Nagorno Karabakh

The branch of NORK was established in 2009 in the capital of Nagorno Karabakh Stepanakert. During the years of activ-

ities the social sphere of Nagorno Karabakh was provided with the appropriate Information Systems and other IT solutions, as well as the IT trainings were organized for the citizens of country.

Some projects were implemented for the Ministry of Social Protection, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Defense.

#### Company Portfolio

Here the list main projects of NORK are presented:

##### State-of-the-Art IT Solutions

- Data Exchange Information System
- Social Security Cards Information System
- Employers and Job Seekers Registration Information System
- Disabled Persons Registration Information System
- Family Benefit Information System
- Children's Care Allowance Information System
- Investors' Contributions Compensation Information System
- Children in Difficult Conditions of Life Registration Information System
- State Labor Inspection Information System
- Charitable Projects Registration Information System

##### IT Solutions for Corporate Management

- HRM Information System
- DocFlow Information System
- School Management Information System
- Armenian Legislation Information System

##### Web-Sites

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- www.norq.am
- www.employment.am
- www.nkrmil.am
- www.apr.am
- www.disabilityarmenia.am
- www.gumiso.am
- www.caa.am
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## Tigran Sargsyan-led delegation on visit to the Kingdom of Belgium



Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan-led government delegation started their official visit to Belgium.

First, the Prime Minister visited IBA Molecular Company in Leuven town. The company carries out activities in the field of nuclear medicine and is engaged in the production of equipment: Accompanied by Vice President of IBA Molecular Board of Directors Pierre Motte, Tigran Sargsyan toured the Company, getting acquainted with production processes.

Attended by the Prime Minister, a cooperation agreement was signed between the Armenian Ministry of Economy and IBA Molecular. The document was signed by Minister of Economy Tigran Davtyan and Vice President of IBA Molecular Board of Directors Pierre Motte.

As a result, the National Competitiveness Fund-supported modern oncology center of Yerevan will get technical assistance and Euro 2.5mn-worth equipment through February 1, 2013.

The center is founded based on

the memorandum of understanding signed between Armenia's National Competitiveness Fund and the Belgian Global Medical Solutions. The Center features 3 highly sophisticated units: a laboratory equipped with a cyclotron device for the synthesis of radioisotopes, a diagnostic center strong with a state-of-the-art PET scanner and a clinic where treatment will be carried out.

Modern technologies will be applied for early detection of tumors that will enhance the treatment efficiency and reduce the number of fatalities. It will lead to individual approaches for each patient and will promote the development of nuclear

medicine in Armenia.

The Center will be managed by Global Medical Solutions which boasts long a experience in this field with similar centers run in Australia, Brazil, China, Hong Kong, New Zealand, the Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand. Based on public-private sector partnership, the project will have a total cost of Euro 35mn.

According to statistics, every year some 2 thousand 700 Armenians get disabilities due malignant tumors. The annual economic loss is more than AMD 75mn. Indicators of the disease, the rate of growth that number would double each year is 100 thousand. Population estimates in 1995 that number was 125 cases, and in 2000, 185 cases, today it has reached about 235 cases.

The delegation is composed as follows: Chief of Government Staff David Sargsyan, Acting Minister of Economy Tigran Davtyan, Acting Minister of Education and Science Armen Ashotyan, National Assembly Foreign Relations Standing Committee Chairman Artak Zakaryan, National Competitiveness Foundation Executive Director Arman Khachatryan.



## First Armenian growth data for 2012 released



Economic growth in Armenia continued unabated in the first quarter of this year, with Gross Domestic Product increasing by 4.7 percent, according to government statistics released this week.

Data from the National Statistical Service (NSS) shows the Armenian economy continuing to expand on the back of strong growth in industry and services other rather trade.

Armenian industrial output was up by 16.4 percent year on year and generated more than one-third of GDP in January-March. The export-oriented mining and metallurgical

sectors accounted for much of that gain. Growth in the services sector was similarly strong: 11.5 percent.

Other major sectors of the economy fared much worse in this period. The NSS recorded zero growth in agriculture and trade and a more than 5 percent drop in construction.

The first-quarter GDP performance is virtually identical with the full-year growth figure registered in 2011. The Armenian government forecast late last year that the growth rate will ease to 4.2 percent in 2012.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) initially agreed with this projection but revised it downwards

to 3.8 percent in March. An IMF mission that visited Yerevan at the time pointed to the likely impact of "weak external environment" on Armenia's economic performance.

One external factor that could influence the economic situation in the country is recent months' sizable decrease in international prices of copper and other non-ferrous metals, the number one Armenian export.

Artak Baghdasaryan, a senior official at the Armenian Ministry of Economy, portrayed the latest GDP data as a further indication that the country is continuing to steadily recover from the 2009 recession. Baghdasaryan echoed government claims that Armenia is now more immune to external shocks because industry and services, rather than construction, are the main driving forces behind its economic growth. "This is certainly a better guarantee of steady growth," he told.

However, Bagrat Asatryan, an economist critical of the government, downplayed the NSS figures, saying that the growth is not benefiting most Armenians. He said poverty in Armenia, which rose during the 2009 crisis, has still not started to fall.

## Armenia, Iran set new date for power plant construction

After years of delay, Armenia and Iran will finally start building this August a major hydroelectric plant on a fast-flowing river marking their border, officials said on Monday.

Official Armenian and Iranian sources said an agreement to that effect was reached during Iranian Energy Minister Majid Namjou's weekend visit to Yerevan.

Namjou met with President Serzh Sargsyan and Energy and Natural Resources Minister Armen Movsisyan for talks reportedly focusing on Armenian-Iranian energy projects that have fallen behind schedule. Sargsyan's press office quoted Namjou as saying that work on the hydroelectric plant will start "soon."

A spokeswoman for the Armenian Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Lusine Harutiunyan, told Radio Liberty that Namjou and Movsisyan agreed to kick off the project's implementation in August.

Citing unnamed Iranian government sources, the Tehran-based Press TV reported on Monday a more precise date for the project launch: August 22. It said the construction work will get underway simultaneously on both banks of the Arax River that separates Armenia and Iran.

The Armenian and Iranian governments agreed, in principle, to build the 140-megawatt facility about a decade ago and have since

been working out practical modalities of the project estimated to cost \$350 million.

Movsisyan announced in July 2010 the impending start of its construction by Iranian firms. He said the Armenian government will pay for its 50 percent share in the project with future electricity supplies to the Islamic Republic. The minister said late last year that the power plant's construction has still not begun because of "situations in Iran."

Also having fallen behind schedule are long-standing plans by Yerevan and Tehran to build a third high-voltage transmission line connecting the two countries' power grids and a pipeline to ship Iranian fuel to Armenia. Iran's President Mahmud Ahmadinejad and Sargsyan pledged to speed up the implementation of all three projects when they met in Yerevan last December.

According to the Armenian presidential press office, Sargsyan and Namjou agreed that this will give a further "considerable" boost to Armenian-Iranian trade, which rose by 13.6 percent to \$323.4 million last year. The Armenian leader was reported to describe Iran as his country's "reliable neighbor and good friend."

Namjou also conveyed to Sargsyan Ahmadinejad's invitation to take part in a summit of the Non-Alignment Movement nations scheduled to place in Tehran in late August.



Armenia - President Serzh Sargsyan (R) meets with Iran's Energy Minister Majid Namjou in Yerevan, 2 Jun 2012.

## High economic growth registered in Armenia



High economic growth making 7.2 % has been registered in Armenia during the fourth months of 2012. At the Cabinet regular session by the request of the Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan, Vache Gabrielyan the Minister of the Finance presented the economic growth on June 7.

"During the five months half-percent inflation rate was recorded, which is a quite low and stable index. The most gratifying is the

industry index, which makes 115, 3 %. Simultaneously Armenia faces electricity production growth as well; which comes to prove the industrial employment" Gabrielyan noted.

In the words of the high ranking official during the first fourth months the export makes 117, 8 %, the import 108, 7%. Referring to the budget indicators Interim Minister stated that during the first five months tax revenues and social payments amount 322 billion AMD.

"According to the verified forecast the State Revenue Committee has allocated about half billion more" Gabrielyan came forth with, adding state budget expenditure part made 341 billion AMD, while deficit 9, 5 billion.

In the words of Gabrielyan certain imperfection connected with the expenses are due to the season.



## Baruch Ben Neria: Without concrete solutions and initiatives the political and military tension over Nagorno Karabakh will continue

ArmlInfo's interview with first Israeli Ambassador to Armenia Baruch Ben Neria

First, do you think the past parliamentary elections in Armenia were free and fair?

Considering the elections polls which were supervised by our organization there were very little disturbances and problems during the election procedures. It seems like they were free, where were acting in the cities of Yerevan and some others, where we didn't reveal frauds and obstacles disturbing the free course of elections.

There were plenty claims of bribes that were presented by certain political parties as gifts. Do you think these gifts are legal ones or no?

Fortunately, we didn't discover any bribes or gifts given voters and naturally we couldn't be present in these occasions. Of course, if there we had discovered these frauds, we would have reported them immediately.

As a result of the elections, the leading party won, what does this victory mean for the geopolitical disposition of the country and its relations with the neighbor countries, in particular - Azerbaijan, Turkey, Russia and if possible, I would also like you to comment on the geopolitical situation in the region and potential threats here in the light of Iran problem and the fueling Karabakh problem?

The situation in your Transcaucasian region, and the complicated reality between the regional powers such as Turkey, Russia and Iran, and the activity of the United States and the European community due to the energetic and economical and geopolitical problems make this region very important for different regions in the world, especially the ME, central Asia and others. The dissolution of the USSR created some ethical regional conflict between them Armenia and Azerbaijan on NagornoKarabakh, Georgia with Abkhazia, South Ossetia and Ajaria and the problems of Russia in the North Caucasus, in Chechnya and other Caucasian republics. The prolonged conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan should be resolved only by the international standards of conflict resolution, meaning that all the sides have to come to an agreement on the subjects and the condition which are signed.

Do you think there are prerequisites for situation to be worsen and war could be broken in Karabakh?

Because of the non recognition of Nagorno Karabakh by the international organizations and states as an independent state, the chances for a new military activity still exist. But it is very important to regulate the conflict to a situation of conflict management, and mutual trusting relations between the opponents. Without concrete solutions and ini-



tiatives, that both sides know they will need to give up on some of their dreams, the political and military tension will continue on different level of tension. This situation doesn't demonstrate any advantages to the most relevant countries of the region.

Israel has sold military armament to Azerbaijan, don't you think that Israel is playing not only against Armenia but also against itself since Azerbaijan is a brother of Turkey with whom Israel has strained relationship?

Israel as all other states in the world has its own strategic and national interests, which are very important to keep the defense of the state and also to prevent military and strategic threats on Israel. The cooperation between Israel and Azerbaijan is by no mean against Armenia, but because of the real and concrete threats and intimidation from the side of Islamic fundamentalist Iran which is developing its nuclear weapons and is ready to use terror all over the world against the USA, Israel and other countries. It is very important for Israel to have a good relationship with all the countries of the region, like Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan. The Israeli Turkish diplomatic crisis which occurred two years ago, I hope it is a temporary one, and will bring both sides to reconciliation and appeasement eventually.

How would you generally estimate the level of relationship of Israel and Armenia and the potential for the Armenian Genocide bill motion in Knesset on the eve of 100 anniversary?

As the first Ambassador to Armenia and Georgia, establishing and developing relations between the countries, I would wish for better relations between Israel and Armenia, but it depends not less on the Armenian side as well. Armenia has its own national interests in the region and abroad, and has to develop its economy, international trade and foreign investments, and as far as I know there are number of Israeli business men who are interested in such a mutual relationship.

What do you think about the possibility of the Israeli Knesset adopting an Armenian Genocide bill?

The question of the Armenian Genocide bill in the Knesset, it is not an easy task, but I believe there is a serious majority in the Knesset to accept such a bill, but it takes time and has to be decided by the members of the Israeli Parliament

## Remains of Shakespeare's Curtain Theatre found

Archaeologists in London have discovered the remains of an early playhouse used by William Shakespeare's company where "Romeo and Juliet" and "Henry V" were first performed.

Pre-dating the riverside Globe, the Curtain theater, north of the river Thames in Shoreditch, was home to Shakespeare's company - the Lord Chamberlain's Men.

Remains of walls forming the gallery and the yard within the venue have been discovered by archaeologists from Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA).

"This is a fantastic site which gives us unique insight into early Shakespearean theatres," said Chris Thomas from MOLA, who is leading the archaeological work.

The theatre was immortalized as "this wooden O" in the prologue of Henry V with the lines: "Can this cock-pit hold within this wooden O, the very caskes that did affright the Ayre at Agincourt?"

The discovery will delight historians and Shakespeare fans as excavations offer a picture of where the writer's early productions were performed, although little further detail is known about the early playhouse.

"This is an outstanding site - and a fortuitous find in the year of the worldwide celebration of Shakespeare," said Kim Stabler, Archaeology Advisor at English Heritage.

London has been celebrating its cultural heritage with a world Shakespeare festival taking place at the Globe theatre and across the UK, as part of a festival to coincide with the Olympics this summer and will last to November.



"The find is another wonderful opportunity to further our understanding of Shakespeare's theatres," said Neil Constable, Chief Executive of Shakespeare's Globe.

The Curtain Theatre opened in 1577 close to London's first playhouse "The Theatre" and was one of a number of early theatres built outside the city's walls.

The venue took its name from nearby street Curtain Close.

It was the main arena for Shakespeare's plays between 1597 and 1599 until the Globe was completed in Southwark, but it is unclear what happened to the playhouse after that when it seemed to vanish from historic records after 1622.

Some experts say it may have remained in use until the Civil War in the 1640s.

Archaeologists stumbled upon

the Curtain Theatre's remains on Hewett Street after work began on a regeneration project led by local developers last October.

Soon after the remains were found on an exploratory dig, architects began drawing up plans to preserve the remains while allowing the development to go ahead.

A spokesman for Plough Yard Developments, the company leading the regeneration project with the Estate Office Shoreditch, said the excavations could become a preserved centerpiece of a new housing and shopping area.

The plans are set to go on display on June 8 and 9 at the site.

"Although the Curtain was known to have been in the area, its exact location was a mystery," the Plough Yard spokesman said.

Reuters

## UFO seen in Armenia after Russian missile test

Armenia was abuzz with speculation on June 8 about a mysterious flying object that was observed in the South Caucasus and the Middle Eastern and subsequently linked with a ballistic missile test in Russia.

The swirling spiral of light could be seen in the skies over nearly a dozen regional countries for almost ten minutes late on Thursday. Its photographs and videos quickly appeared on Internet social networks and other websites, sparking conflicting theories.

"I saw a white spot that slowly grew to look like a flower," said one woman in Yerevan. "It kept opening up and the sky turned white. It then flashed strongly and resembled a big mushroom."

"Many people say it looked like an unidentified flying object," said another woman.

The Russian Defense Ministry announced on Friday that it test-fired an intercontinental ballistic missile from the Kapustin Yar firing range in Southern Russia at a time that coincided with the sightings. It suggested that the UFO watched in Armenia elsewhere in the broader



region was the burning trail of the Topol missile.

Areg Mikaelian, the co-chairman of the Armenian Astronomical Association, found this explanation credible. "When I saw photographs of the object and started examining them, I realized that it's very artificial," Mikaelian told RFE/RL's Armenian service (Azatutyun.am). "A natural phenomenon does not look like that. It was apparently a military object."

Relevant authorities in Armenia were more careful in explaining the

blaze. "When that object appeared in the sky our crisis management center received numerous alerts," said Nikolay Grigorian, the deputy head of the National Rescue Service subordinate to the Ministry of Emergency Situations.

"Our officials photographed and filmed it," Grigorian Radio Liberty. "We contacted the Ministry of Defense and the National Security Service and even the [Metsamor] Nuclear Plant to clarify all matters. No problem related to us was identified."



## Sassounian: Armenians should form a united front before any negotiations with Turkey

My latest column on Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu's efforts to initiate a dialog with the Diaspora generated numerous reactions from both Armenians and Turks.

Turkish newspapers, TV stations, and websites gave extensive coverage to Davutoglu's reported overtures to Armenians. The Turkish media linked the Foreign Minister's initiative to Armenian plans for the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Genocide in 2015.

Armenians posted dozens of comments on websites and Facebook in response to my column which was circulated worldwide in English, Armenian, Turkish, French, and Russian. The Armenian reaction was understandably skeptical and cautious. Armenian government officials quietly followed the reports on Davutoglu's meetings without making any public comment, while the Armenian press in Istanbul simply reprinted what the Turkish media had published on this topic.

Armenian readers raised two key issues: Who would represent the Diaspora if and when Armenians start negotiating with Turkey, and what should be the specific Armenian demands from the Turkish government?

These are highly complex issues deserving serious consideration by Armenians worldwide. Ideally, Diaspora representatives should be selected through elections in various countries, as proposed in my earlier columns. Those elected would have the right to represent Diaspora Armenians in any negotiations.

These representatives would have to coordinate their decisions and actions with the Armenian government, particularly on the critical issue of negotiating with Turkey, by forming a joint delegation. As

Armenians learned from the recent fiasco of the Armenia-Turkey Protocols, it would be unthinkable to reach a settlement with Turkey without the participation and agreement of both Armenia and the Diaspora.

In the absence of an elected Diasporan structure, representatives of the three main Armenian political parties, jointly with the Armenian government, could take the lead in forming a single negotiating team. To make the delegation more inclusive, several major community organizations and prominent individuals could be asked to join, including representatives of Armenians in Turkey.

Another critical issue is framing the agenda of negotiations with Turkish officials. What are the Armenians' concrete demands from Turkey? This is an extremely serious and sensitive matter that requires in depth knowledge of the Armenian Cause and expertise in negotiating strategies and tactics.

It would be instructive for Armenians to review how Israel and 23 major Jewish organizations came together as the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, to obtain restitution for Holocaust victims; and how these organizations coordinated their positions with the State of Israel which signed a separate Reparations Agreement with West Germany? Over the years, as a result of their collaborative efforts, the coalition of Jewish Diaspora organizations and Israel received more than \$70 billion dollars in restitution from Germany.

Additional lessons could be learned from examples of financial settlements resulting from mass torts, asbestos exposure and product liability, and claims arising from destruction of the World Trade Center and the Gulf oil spill.

There is, however, a significant difference between the Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide. While the Jewish people were exterminated in European countries under Nazi rule, Armenians were massacred and forcefully driven from their ancestral homeland. Therefore, no amount of monetary payment will fully compensate Armenians for the loss of their historic lands. Armenians should seek not only compensation for their personal losses, but also the return of Western Armenia as arbitrated by Pres. Woodrow Wilson—a claim Turkey has repeatedly rejected.

Should serious negotiations materialize, the joint Armenian delegation could ask Turkey to take the following preliminary actions to show its good faith:

- Compensate all Genocide victims;

- Rebuild and return all religious sites to the Armenian Patriarchate of Istanbul;

- Return all confiscated private and community properties to their Armenian owners;

- Provide the Republic of Armenia with special access to the Turkish port of Trabzon for commercial purposes;

- Give Armenians visa-free entry to Ararat, Ani, and other Armenian historical sites in Turkey;

- Lift the blockade of Armenia;
- End Turkey's official policy of denial of the Armenian Genocide and annul Article 301 of the Turkish Penal Code;

- Refrain from all hostile policies directed against Armenia and Artsakh (Karabagh).

These measures, if agreed upon, would represent significant progress in the pursuit of Armenian claims from Turkey, whereas the issue of territorial restitution could be addressed separately through international legal action.

## All three branches of US government recognize the Armenian Genocide



By Harut Sassounian  
Publisher, The California Courier

While readers are generally aware that the Executive and Legislative branches of the US government have recognized the Armenian Genocide, it is not as widely known that the US Judiciary has also reaffirmed the facts of the Armenian Genocide on several occasions. Indeed, all three branches of the US government have gone on record confirming that the Armenian Genocide was indeed genocide.

The first time that the Executive branch made reference to the Armenian Genocide was back in 1951 in a key document filed by the US government with the International Court of Justice (World Court). It stated: "The Genocide Convention resulted from the inhuman and barbarous practices which prevailed in certain countries prior to and during World War II, when entire religious, racial and national minority groups were threatened with and subjected to deliberate extermination. The practice of genocide has occurred throughout human history. The Roman persecution of the Christians, the Turkish massacres of Armenians, the extermination of millions of Jews and Poles by the Nazis are outstanding examples of the crime of genocide."

The second reference by the Executive branch to the Armenian Genocide was made by Pres. Ronald Reagan when he issued Presidential Proclamation 4838 on April 22, 1981, in which he stated: "Like the genocide of the Armenians before it, and the genocide of the Cambodians which followed it -- and like too many other such persecutions of too many other peoples -- the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten."

The Legislative branch of the US government adopted two resolutions confirming the historical facts of the Armenian Genocide. The first resolution, approved by the US House of Representatives on April 8, 1975, designated April 24, 1975 "as a day of remembrance for all the victims of genocide, especially those of Armenian ancestry who succumbed to the genocide perpetrated in 1915." A second resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives on September 10, 1984, designating April 24, 1985 "as a day of remembrance for all the victims of genocide, especially the one and one-half million people of Armenian ancestry who were the victims of the genocide perpetrated in Turkey between 1915 and 1923." In addition, the House adopted two amendments on the Armenian

Genocide in the 1996 and 2004 Foreign Operations Appropriation Act.

However, most people are unaware that the Judiciary, the third branch of the US government, has issued at least three federal court rulings concerning the Armenian Genocide:

The first judicial reference to the Armenian Genocide was the unanimous ruling of a three-judge panel of the First Circuit Court of Appeals on August 11, 2010. In a decision written by former US Supreme Court Justice David Souter, the court rejected a claim by an American-Turkish group that a curricular guide issued by the Massachusetts Education Commissioner explicitly referring to the Armenian Genocide should have included "contra-genocide" references.

The second court case involving the Armenian Genocide was the ruling of federal Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly on January 26, 2011, in the lawsuits regarding the Armenian Genocide Museum & Memorial in Washington, D.C. In the opening paragraph of her decision, Judge Kollar-Kotelly quoted the chilling words of Adolf Hitler: "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?" She explained that Hitler was referring to "the largely successful efforts by the Ottoman-Turkish government to eliminate the Armenian population living on its historical homeland during the World War I era, known today as the Armenian Genocide." The Judge stated in a footnote that "the Court's use of the term 'genocide' is not intended to express any opinion on the propriety of that label."

The third judicial reference to the Armenian Genocide was made on May 3, 2012, by a three-judge panel of the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, denying the claim of the Turkish Coalition of America against the University of Minnesota. In a unanimous opinion, the judges referred unambiguously and without qualification to the Armenian Genocide, describing it as "the Turkish genocide of Armenians during World War I."

With all three independent branches of the US government going on record reaffirming the Armenian Genocide, the United States has gained its rightful place in the list of righteous nations that have recognized the Armenian Genocide. In fact, in many respects, the United States has compiled a more extensive record of acknowledging the Armenian Genocide than most other countries that have merely adopted a legislative resolution on this issue.

## Nagorno-Karabakh will be offered to become full party of negotiations: political scientist



The aim of recent boarder incident was the failure of regional visit of Hilary Clinton. This opinion was expressed by Regional Research Center Director Richard Kirakosyan, during the press conference on June 8.

"Azerbaijan does not prefer the

perspective of peaceful settlement of the conflict, and now is taking diversions to the Armenian border hoping for a motivation of new actions" he said. In his opinion Azerbaijan wants to show its strengthening and show the fact that it can afford itself to buy new weapons.

"Azerbaijan can use the threat of war for reaching new achievements, but it is not ready for a war yet. In fact, if the war begins now, Azerbaijan will be defeated"- noted Kirakosyan. Political scientist mentioned, that Armenia is ready to protect its borders. "Azerbaijan ought to pay for each attack. International community must force him to be responsible for the attacks"- highlighted Kirakosyan.

Rebounding to the U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's statement, that Foreign ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan will be offered now approaches to the conflict settlement in Paris, Kirakosyan said, that during that meeting Nagorno-Karabakh will be offered to become a full party of negotiations. "One thing is evident, Clinton could not make any announcement on new approaches without an agreement with France and Russia"- said Kirakosyan.



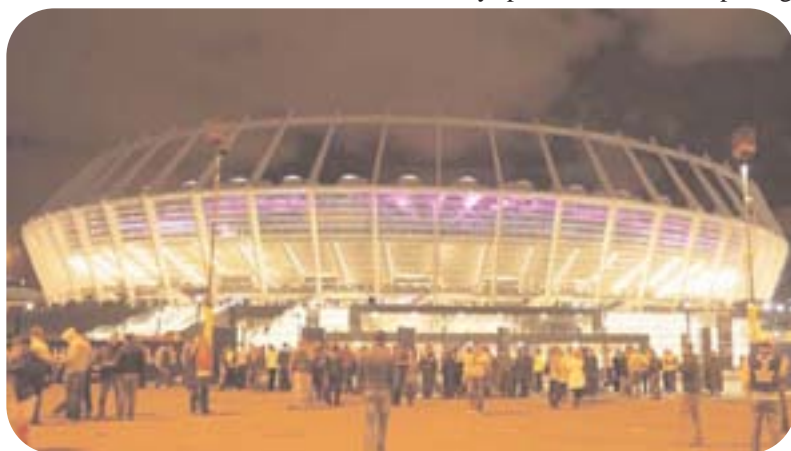


UEFA Euro 2012 Opening Ceremony was held at National Stadium in Warsaw, Poland, on Friday 08 June 2012.

The concept for the UEFA EURO 2012 opening ceremony has been developed by Marco Balich, creative director and executive producer of Italian events and cere-

Marco Balich has amongst other created the opening and closing ceremonies of the Turin Olympics in 2006 and is also known in Ukraine, having produced the opening ceremony of the Donbas Arena in Donetsk in 2009.

Euro 2012 will be held over a 24-day period from the opening



monies company Film master Events.

The 12-minute show combined heritage and innovation, to bring sport and culture together and mark the start of a historical event, the first UEFA European Football Championship to be staged in Central and East Europe.

The opening ceremony includes mass choreographies involving more than 800 volunteer performers, coming from as many as 63 countries around the world.

match to the finals. There will be five match-free days in-between, meaning, there will be 19 match days. For the most part, there will be two matches daily on those days.

The tournament is being co-hosted by Poland and Ukraine so there's a fair bit of traveling involved. There are four stadiums in each country: Warsaw, Gdansk, Poznan and Wroclaw in Poland; Lviv, Kiev, Donetsk and Kharkiv in Ukraine.

## Science fiction legend Ray Bradbury has died

Ray Bradbury has died at 91 after a lengthy career of writing everything from science-fiction and mystery to humor. Reached at Bradbury's home, his daughter, Alexandra Bradbury, says her father died Tuesday night in Southern California. She did not have additional details.

Bradbury transformed his childhood dreams and Cold War fears into telepathic Martians, lovesick sea monsters, and his vision of a high-tech, book-burning future in "Fahrenheit 451."

He also scripted the 1956 film version of "Moby Dick" and wrote for "The Twilight Zone."

Bradbury's series of stories in "The Martian Chronicles" was a



Cold War morality tale in which events on another planet served as

a commentary on life on this planet. It has been published in more than 30 languages.

The writer's grandson, Danny Karapetian, said: "He influenced so many artists, writers, teachers, scientists, and it's always really touching and comforting to hear their stories."

"His legacy lives on in his monumental body of books, film, television and theatre, but more importantly, in the minds and hearts of anyone who read him, because to read him was to know him".

Tributes have been paid by famous fans of the writer, Moon director Duncan Jones mourned "another amazing sci-fi visionary gone".

## 8th Aram Khachaturian International Competition opens

8th Aram Khachaturian International Violin Competition is open to the audience. State Youth Orchestra of Armenia and Jaroslav Nadrzycki, the 1st prize winner of Aram Khachaturian International Violin Competition performed during the solemn opening of the competition in Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall.

The project is implemented with the support of the Armenian Ministry of Culture, Aram Khachaturian cultural foundation, Yerevan State Conservatory after Komitas and under the high patronage of First Lady of Armenia Rita Sargsyan, who is the honorary chairperson of the competition's

Council of Trustees.

From 2010 the general partner of the competition is CIS Interstate

Competition in CIS states.

The geography of the participants of the competition is very broad; it includes representatives from 20 countries of the world - Russia, China, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus, Poland, China, Korea, Columbia, Italy, Spain, USA, Japan, Great Britain, and France.

The organizational committee of Aram Khachaturian International Competition has defined the following awards -- \$ 15 000 and a diploma of a laureate for the 1st place, \$ 10 000 and a diploma for the 2nd place, \$ 5000 and a diploma for the 3rd place.

All the other participants of the finals will be awarded with diplomas and \$ 2000.



Fund for Humanitarian Cooperation (IFHC), which helped to conduct the program at a more high level and to spread the compe-

### APARTMENT FOR RENT

A comfortable, western style apartment in the center of the city. The second floor of the nice private house with a separate entrance from the street. The apartment has a dining room, two bedrooms, a kitchen, a bathroom and two balconies. It has a heating system, permanent cold and hot water, TV satellite, air conditioners and other facilities. A nice view to Mount Ararat. The house has a nice garden.

Price for a long term: 1000 -1100 USD monthly including gas, heating, electricity and water. for a short term 60-80 USD daily.

Address: 3 Aygedzor Street, Yerevan.

For more information call (37410). 278-709, mob. 093. 229 570



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DID YOU KNOW?



Heading by  
Marina Harutiunyan  
marina@nt.am  
Comments are  
welcomed!

continued from the  
previous issue

Clue 5: Rippled, pitted nails

Look for: Tiny indentations or holes in the nail bed called "pits." The nail may also appear to be rippled rather than smooth. (You can also feel these abnormalities by rubbing your finger across the nail, which is normally as smooth as the inside of a seashell.)

What it might mean: Psoriasis. Between 10 and 50 percent of patients with this common skin disease have pitted, hole-pocked nails, according to a 2000 report in Primary Care. So do more than three-fourths of those with psoriatic arthritis, a related disorder that affects the joints as well as the skin. More rarely, Reiter's syndrome and other diseases of connective tissue show this symptom.

Next steps: A doctor can prescribe medications to treat the underlying conditions. The nail bed can often be restored in psoriasis when the treatment starts early.

Clue 6: Brittle nails

Look for: Peeling, splitting, or easily cracking nails. Sometimes vertical ridges mar the surface, too. These telltale wrecked nails are sometimes called "hypothyroidism nails."

What it might mean: Thyroid disease. Hypothyroidism, or underactive thyroid, occurs when the thyroid gland doesn't make enough thyroid hormone. (Typically a patient's hair is also thin and brittle.) Metabolic functions throughout the body are disrupted, including the delivery of moisture to the nails. Pale, dry skin and hair that may fall out are related

What your nails say about  
your health

signs. Hyperthyroid (overactive thyroid) diseases, such as Grave's disease, may also cause brittle nails.

Next steps: Skip the over-the-counter nail strengtheners for persistently brittle nails and get thyroid levels checked; if thyroid disease is the cause, it's important



to treat the root problem.

Clue 7: Nails that seem to be  
"lifting off"

Look for: The nail itself separating from the nail bed, which is the layer of skin directly under the nail. This effect, known medically as onycholysis, often begins at the fourth or fifth fingernail. Toes can also be affected. It's also called "Plummer's nails" (after the physician Stanley Plummer, who described them in 1918) or "dirty nails," because debris can accumulate and be seen.

What it might mean: Thyroid disease. Hyperthyroidism, in which too much thyroid hormone is produced, can cause excessive nail growth and lead to this deformation. Plummer's nails tend to occur in younger patients rather than older ones.

Next steps: Other hyperthyroidism symptoms to be aware of include fatigue, difficulty concentrating, increased

appetite, weight loss, sweating, hair loss, itching, and protruding eyes.

Clue 8: Depressions running across the  
nail horizontally

Look for: White ridges running across the width of the nail bed. These so-called "Beau's lines" (after the French physician who described them) can occur in all or just one nail; if in all nails, they're at about the same place on all of them. They're actual ridges in the nail plate itself.

What it might mean: Diabetes, psoriasis, Raynaud's disease -- or just a trauma to the nail. Beta-blockers and drugs used in chemotherapy can also produce Beau's lines. Some people develop them simply as a result of aging.

Next steps: Consider this effect just one piece of a puzzle. Nails grow about 1 mm every six to ten days, so doctors use this measurement to estimate when the problem might have begun.

Clue 9: White bands running across  
the nail horizontally

Look for: The white-colored bands, known as "Mees' lines," run transverse (parallel to the white tips of the nails). They may affect one nail or several, occurring at about the same spot on each nail. Because the problem is in the nail itself, the line moves forward as the nail ages -- allowing doctors to date the time the problem began.

What it might mean: Arsenic poisoning! Hair and tissue samples should be tested to verify. It's pretty rare these days, Anderson says, but worth knowing about.

Next steps: Make an appointment to see a doctor -- and avoid eating anything you don't prepare yourself!

ARMENIAN POETRY

VahanTerian

(Translations by Diana Der Hovanessian)

CAROUSEL

Turn and turn again, carousel.  
Your tunes are old familiar tunes.

It is an old familiar story  
about the spell a smile can cast  
across a lifetime, across pink mists,  
a warm smile that can heat the soul.

The words that pledge love end in kisses  
with words that praise the sweet, sad world.  
Do we use them, knowing we are lying?  
Do they use us to be heard?

Spin and spin again, carousel.  
I am long familiar with your song.

Once there was a land, distant and golden.  
Once a world blessed by the sun.  
Once there were illusions, now faded.  
Once they shone in glory. Now they're gone.

Is it you or the world that changed  
with suffering and sorrow's tears?  
Let the dream go. It deceives you  
gilding the past and the by-gone years.

Turn and turn again, carousel.  
Your path is an old familiar route.

In that far-off world the song  
I sang was one we all knew:  
"I love you but you don't love me."  
How banal and predictable. Now.

"Time beyond reaching," say the verses;  
"Waltz me again," says the tune.  
Such an old tired story full of  
night, a kiss and moon.

Spin again slowly, carousel.  
I know your tune.

Do you know the secret they are singing  
at the frenzied banquet as they dance?  
Do you know the song without end or beginning?  
"Yesterday I was, today your turn, tomorrow  
someone else will be."

Turn and return, carousel.

Zodiac Weekly Forecast

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

You may have been poised for a leap, but waiting for the "right" moment. It is possible that this week brings the piece of information or the event that tells you the time is now. To others the change you make might appear sudden, but it has been on your mind for a long time.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

Financial activities are especially noteworthy now. You are tempted to make a purchase that is showy and probably beyond your means. It is an old habit of the Bulls to go shopping when you are feeling stress. Leave the checkbook and credit cards at home to prevent impulsive purchases.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

Your personal decisions may serve as a catalyst for others in your life to open up, or make what appears to be sudden changes. Issues of finances and legacies are prominent. Though it may be demanded, try not to make decisions in haste.

Cancer (June 21--Jul y 21) :

If you have felt stressed at work or with your partner, this week may bring tensions to the surface with no more than a simple raised eyebrow. One of you will be inclined to railroad the other's point of view. The issue is over matters of control and it may be subtle. Dig until you reach solid ground.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

A new beginning from one year ago has come to a turning point. You may not even recognize it anymore because so much time has passed. This is the time to decide to pour significantly more energy into it or quietly let it slip back to the ethers. (Clue: It probably is in the arena of friends or organizational contacts.)

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

The Virgins usually prefer to remain on the sidelines, but right now you are bursting with the need to protect your boundaries. Pent up anger may take control. Make an effort to think before you speak. Drive very carefully. Observe yourself. You may be an accident looking for a place to happen.

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

The "transit of Venus" that I wrote about last week is still significant for you. Somehow you are in the spotlight and it may be a surprise to you. Contain your ego's need to preen and hold to your personal ethics. For some the light will be much brighter than you wish.

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

Think carefully about what is truly important to you now, at this time in your life. Don't allow old habits or rules from the past to make your decision for you. If you allow that to happen, you will truly resent the outcome. Rise above your circumstances to a level that can see beyond your ego and the situation becomes more workable.

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

If you have been channeling your energy into a project that has positive value for many you may be receiving recognition and applause now. If, instead, you are working on something that is purely to make your ego more shiny, you will find others are fighting you every step of the way. Think about it.

Capricorn ( Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

You occasionally confuse what you think with who you are. There are those who will disagree with you this week. Just don't let it become a battle to the death. Your identity is not at stake in this situation. You may not like what is happening, but you can choose a better time later to argue the point.

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

Give special attention to your driving this week. Surprises may be waiting on the roads. Otherwise this is a great week for a getaway. Do something novel, even if you don't leave home. Your mind is open to whatever seems fresh and unique.

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

News concerning lovers or children is favorable. Creativity is high. Take care that you not exceed the "rules" or the "law", because the probability is that you would be discovered. The same holds true concerning excesses on any other level.

HUMOR

Ever since we got married, my wife has tried to change me. She got me to stop drinking, smoking and running around until all hours of the night. She taught me how to dress well, enjoy the fine arts, gourmet cooking, classical music, even how to invest in the stock market," said the man. "Sounds like you may be bitter because she changed you so drastically," remarked his friend. "I'm not bitter. Now that I'm so improved, she just isn't good enough for me.

\*\*\*

A couple had been married for 45 years and had raised a brood of 11 children and was blessed with 22 grandchildren. When asked the secret for staying together all that time, the wife replies, "Many years ago we made a promise to each other: the first one to pack up and leave has to take all the kids."

Quote of the week



Remember that not getting  
what you want is sometimes  
a wonderful stroke of luck.

Dalai Lama



## WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

Enjoy your leisure

# MEZZO

*classic house club*

## CLUBS

## MEZZO CLASSIC HOUSE CLUB

**June 16, at 9:30 p.m.**  
Chigapo & The Geniuses Band  
**June 17 at 9.30 p.m.**  
Impression Band  
**June 18 at 9.30 p.m.**  
Marina and City Project Band  
**June 19 at 9.30 p.m.**  
Upstairs Band

## ULIKHANYAN CLUB

**June 15 at 9 p.m.**  
Suren Arustamyan Blues Band  
**June 17 at 9 p.m.**  
Spanish Day

## BARD CLUB

**June 15 at 9 p.m.**  
Bard Club

## ARMENIAN CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY EXPERIMENTAL ART

**June 12-30 at 6 p.m.**  
"Remote Sensing" A Group Exhibition of Contemporary Art from Italy  
**June 21 at 7 p.m.**  
Rusty Pumpkin 4 +, Rusty Teenagers, Rusty Pumpkin Annual Alternative Media Festival

## THEATRES

## STATE MARIONETTE THEATRE

**June 16 at 12.30 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m.**  
The Princess and the Pea  
**June 17 at 12.30 p.m., 2p.m., 3.30 p.m.**  
Play for kids  
The Tailless Fox

## SUNDUKYAN NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE

**June 17 at 12 a.m.**  
Children of Big Forest

**June 18, 19, 23, 24, 25 at 7 p.m.**

The Adventures of Masha and the Bear

## MHER MKRTCHYAN ARTISTIC THEATRE

**June 16 at 7.01 p.m.**  
Filumena Marturano  
**June 17 at 3.01 p.m.**  
Play for kids  
Sweet Bite

## H. TUMANYAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE

**June 16 at 12 a.m., 2 p.m.**  
Play for kids  
Gnome's Song  
**June 16 at 7 p.m.**  
Mimomania  
**June 17 at 12 a.m., 2 p.m.**  
Play for kids  
Abu Hasan's Slippers  
**June 20 at 7 p.m.**



Operation Nemesis

## H. PARONYAN STATE THEATRE OF MUSICAL COMEDY

**June 15 at 7 p.m.**  
Love Stir  
**June 16 at 7 p.m.**  
Eastern Dentist  
**June 17 at 7 p.m.**  
How Long Will Be Like This?

Napoleon Korkotyan

## YEREVAN STATE CHAMBER THEATRE

**June 15 at 7 p.m.**  
It Doesn't Matter With Whom Royal Concert  
**June 16, 22 at 7 p.m.**  
Scotch & Whisky  
**June 17, 23, 24 at 7 p.m.**  
Gentlemen, Everything is Collapsing but We Can Still Live and Have Fun

## K. STANISLAVSKI STATE RUSSIAN DRAMA THEATRE

**June 15, 16 at 7 p.m.**  
Filumena Marturano  
**June 17, at 1 p.m.**  
Play for kids  
The Immortal Koschey Marries  
**June 17 at 7 p.m.**  
The Left Breast of Aphrodite

## CONCERT HALLS

## ARAM KHACHATURIAN CONCERT HALL

**June 12**  
8th Aram Khachaturian International Competition  
Third and final round of the competition.

**June 13, at 7 p.m.**

The Award Ceremony and Gala Concert.

State Youth Orchestra of Armenia:  
Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Sergey Smbatyan and the winner of 2012 Aram Khachaturian International Competition.

**June 15 at 7 p.m.**

State Dance Ensemble of Armenia

**June 16 at 7 p.m.**

Iannis Xenakis, Stepan Rostomyan, Ian Krouse, George Crumb, Dmitri Shostakovich  
Movses Pogossian violin

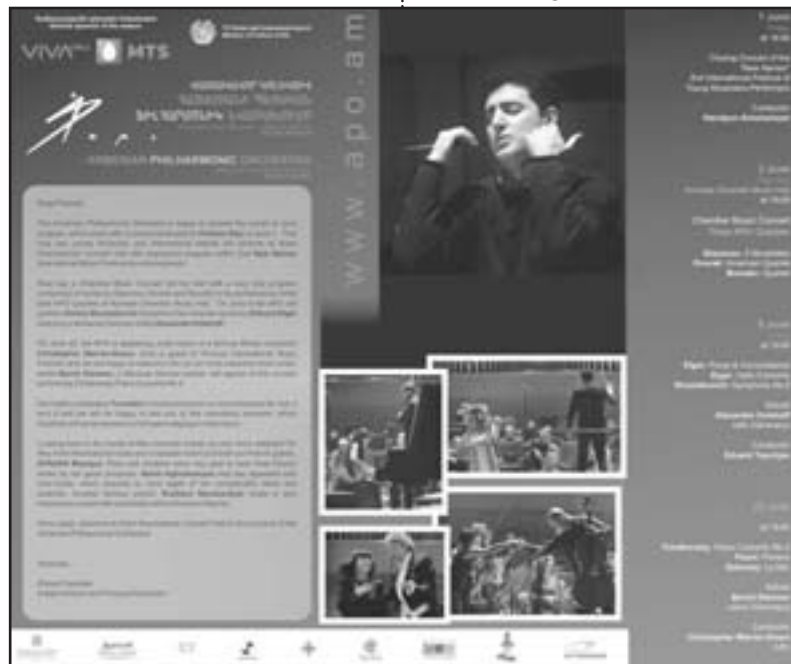
Varty Manouelian violin  
Kim Kashkashian viola  
Rohan de Saram cello  
Tony Arnold soprano  
Artur Avanesov piano  
Kuniko Kato percussion

**June 13 at 7 p.m.**  
SOUND SPACE EXPERIMENT - STEEL DRUM WORKS

STEEL DRUM WORKS /ARMENIAN Premiere/  
Kuniko Kato percussion

**June 15 at 7 p.m.**

Vache Sharafyan, David Halajian, Dmitri Shostakovich, Artur Avanesov, Komitas, George Crumb  
Movses Pogossian violin



Varty Manouelian violin  
Guillaume Sutre violin  
Richard O'Neill viola  
Rohan de Saram cello  
Antonio Lysy cello  
David Parmeter bass  
Ian Krouse conductor  
Hovhannes Papikyan oboe  
Tigran Gevorgyan flute  
Michele Zukovsky clarinet  
Tony Arnold soprano  
Vladimir Chernov bariton  
Artur Avanesov piano  
Kyung-Hee Kim-Sutre harp  
Kuniko Kato percussion  
Threnody String Quartet:  
Ambroise Aubrun, Kristapor Najarian, Alison Spieth, Jasmine Lau  
Flora Martirosyan. Recital  
**June 19, 20 at 7 p.m.**

## KOMITAS CHAMBER MUSIC HOUSE

**June 14 at 7p.m.**  
Dedication to Lusine Zakarian  
**Yerevan Perspectives International Music Festival presents**

**June 12 at 7 p.m.**

John Asatryan, Paolo Cavallone, Luciano Berio, W. A. Mozart, Zoltan Kodaly  
Guillaume Sutre violin  
Movses Pogossian violin

Varty Manouelian violin  
Richard O'Neill viola  
David Parmeter bass  
Hovhannes Papikyan oboe  
Tigran Gevorgyan flute  
Michele Zukovsky clarinet  
Tony Arnold soprano  
Vladimir Chernov bariton  
Artur Avanesov piano  
Kyung-Hee Kim-Sutre harp  
Kuniko Kato percussion  
**June 17 at 7 p.m.**  
Ashot Kartalyan, Antonin Dvorak, Ashot Zohrabian, Johannes Brahms  
Movses Pogossian violin  
Varty Manouelian violin  
Guillaume Sutre violin  
Richard O'Neill viola  
Alison Spieth viola  
Rohan de Saram cello  
Antonio Lysy cello  
David Parmeter bass  
Artur Avanesov piano



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