

Armenian FM receives Ambassadors of OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries



Foreign Minister of Armenia Ara Aivazyan received on January 20 Ambassadors of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries accredited in Armenia – Sergei Kopyrkin (Russia), Jonathan Lacôte (France) and Lynne Tracy (USA), the foreign ministry told Noyan Tapan.

The meeting focused on the post-war situation in the Nagorno Karabakh conflict zone, the regional security and peace-related issues. The meeting participants highlighted the necessity for resuming the peace process within the frames of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairmanship.

The Armenian FM emphasized the need for complete implementation of the fundamental principles for the settlement, in this context highlighting the Artsakh people's right to self-determination and security.

Introducing the implementation process of the November 9 statement relating to the establishment of the ceasefire and the deployment of peacekeepers in Artsakh, the FM stressed the pri-

ority of full and uninterrupted addressing of humanitarian issues, in particular over the return of the prisoners of war, hostages and other detained persons.

The Armenian FM and the foreign Ambassadors also exchanged views on the humanitarian situation in Artsakh and the ongoing actions aimed at addressing the needs of Artsakh-Armenians. In this context a special importance was attached to the engagement of the international structures, in particular the UN and its specialized agencies.

The minister also drew the attention of the guests on the necessity of taking urgent measures for preserving the Armenian historical-cultural, religious heritage in the territories of Artsakh which have come under the Azerbaijani control, taking into account Azerbaijan's steps aimed at eliminating the Armenian cultural, historical heritage or distorting the identity.

The sides also discussed a number of issues of mutual interest.

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Yerevan, Stepanakert Welcome European Parliament's Condemnation of Azerbaijan

The foreign ministries of Armenia and Artsakh on Friday separately welcomed the European Parliament's condemnation of Azerbaijan for war crimes and Turkey for its role in aiding Baku in its aggression against Artsakh by, among other things, deploying Islamic jihadists to the war zone.

The two offices also welcomed the European Parliaments commitment to address the humanitarian crisis that has developed because of the war, including its insistence that POWs be returned to Armenia.

"There are a number of important provisions enshrined in the report-resolutions adopted by the European Parliament, which are related to the Azerbaijani aggression against Artsakh and Turkey's involvement in it, the committed war crimes, as well as the steps to be undertaken to eliminate the consequences of the aggression, especially to address humanitarian issues," said Anna Naghdalyan, the spokesperson of Armenia's Foreign Ministry on January 22 in response to a reporter's question.

"We particularly emphasize that the European Parliament not only condemned the war crimes, including the targeting of civilian population and infrastructure, places of worship, but also stressed that these crimes should not remain unpunished. We agree with the European Parliament's call for Turkey to refrain from any intervention in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, including offering military support to Azerbaijan, and to desist from its destabilizing actions. In this context, it is especially important that the European Parliament has also condemned the fact that Turkey transferred foreign terrorist fighters from Syria and elsewhere to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone," added Naghdalyan.

The spokesperson hailed the European Parliament's efforts to advance humanitar-



ian assistance, emphasize the need to return POWs and protect Armenian cultural sites from destruction.

"We would like to stress the importance of the efforts of international community, in the form of such resolutions, to contribute to the elimination of the causes and consequences of the war, which in accordance to the resolution, supposes the lasting settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict within the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs and the determination of the future legal status of Artsakh on the basis of the Basic Principles proposed by the Co-Chairs. As it was once again emphasized by this respective international body, right of the people of Artsakh to self-determination and security lies at the basis of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict," added Naghdalyan.

The Artsakh Foreign Ministry issued a statement, in which it highlighted the European Parliament's commitment to ensuring the security of the people of Artsakh and providing due condemnation of Azerbaijan's war crimes, including the use of cluster bombs against civilian targets and deploying poisonous gas in its attacks.

"We share the assessments of the European Parliament related to the events caused by the use of military force by Azerbaijan, as well as the ways out of this situation. In particular, we consider it im-

portant to stress the viewpoint of the European Parliament on the need to ensure the security of the Armenian population in Nagorno Karabakh, to preserve the Armenian cultural heritage, to ensure the safe return of internally displaced persons and refugees to their former places of residence, and to exchange the prisoners of war and the bodies of the deceased without delay," said the Artsakh Foreign Ministry.

"We acknowledge the importance of duly investigating all the alleged war crimes and bringing those responsible to justice. It is noteworthy that the European Parliament also specifically called for an international investigation into the alleged presence of foreign fighters, terrorists and the use of cluster munitions and phosphorus bombs," said the foreign ministry announcement. "We welcome the European Parliament's support for the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairmen for a comprehensive settlement of the conflict founded on the Basic Principles proposed by the international mediators."

"We join the European Parliament's condemnation of the destabilizing role of Turkey, which seeks to undermine the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group for the sake of its ambitions of playing a more decisive role in the conflict settlement process," added Stepanakert.

"We share the view of the European Parliament that a lasting settlement has not been found yet. We are convinced that a comprehensive and just settlement of the Azerbaijan-Karabakh conflict can be achieved on the basis of the recognition of the right to self-determination realized by the people of Artsakh and the de-occupation of the territories of the Republic of Artsakh," said the Artsakh Foreign Ministry.

President Sarkissian congratulates Biden, Harris on Inauguration

President Armen Sarkissian has sent a congratulatory message to Joe Biden on assuming the post of US President.

"I am confident that in the coming years you will do your best to ensure further progress and impressive achievements for your country," the President said.

"I expect that our cooperation will provide an opportunity to advance the Armenian-American friendly relations, will contribute to the long-awaited peace and

stability in the region," he added.

President Sarkissian wished Mr. Biden and his Administration every success.

The President also congratulated Kamala Harris on assuming the post of US Vice President and wished her further success.



President Armen Sarkissian seen here with President Joe Biden, when he was Vice-President

Armenian, French FM's discuss post-war situation in Artsakh, return of POWs



Armenian Foreign Minister Ara Aivazyan and French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian have thoroughly discussed the post-war situation in the Nagorno Karabakh conflict zone, issues of regional security and peace.

Presenting the process of implementation of the November 9 statement on

cessation of hostilities and deployment of peacekeepers, Aivazyan drew his French counterpart's attention to the need to fully address the humanitarian issues, namely the return of prisoners of war and other detainees.

The Foreign Ministers of Armenia and France also exchanged views on the steps

taken to address the humanitarian crisis in Artsakh, emphasizing the need for the direct and uninterrupted involvement of international organizations in the process.

One of the key topics of Minister Aivazyan's conversation with Le Drian was the steps taken to preserve the historical, cultural and religious heritage of Artsakh in the territories under Azerbaijani control, and the role of specialized international structures in that process.

Minister Aivazyan stressed that the issue is becoming more urgent in the light of Azerbaijan's efforts to destroy the Armenian heritage and distort its identity.

During the telephone conversation, reference was made to the resumption of the peace process within the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs and the forthcoming schedule of the Co-Chairs in this regard.

The interlocutors also exchanged views on a number of issues on the bilateral agenda, on the intensification of dialogue at different levels.

Armenian Ombudsman briefs French Ambassador on the issue of POWs and border demarcation

Armenian Human Rights Defender Arman Tatoyan briefed French Ambassador to Armenia Jonathan Lacote on the issues of Armenian captives held in Azerbaijan and border demarcation.

Arman Tatoyan first raised issues related to the rights of Armenian servicemen and civilians held captive in Azerbaijan and their immediate return. He stressed that the return or release of prisoners should be considered exclusively in the context of human rights or humanitarian processes, as an international requirement for automatic action.

The Ombudsman said the Azerbaijani authorities are artificially delaying the return of Armenian prisoners of war.



The Human Rights Defender also referred to the process of determining or clarifying Armenia's borders with Azerbaijan, noting that it is accompanied by gross violations of the rule of law and human rights.

"One of the main factors is that this process is taking place against the background

of obvious threats of war by Azerbaijan against the population of Armenia, as well as rhetoric of genocide," Tatoyan said, adding that Armenophobia and incitement of hostility also keep growing in Azerbaijan.

Therefore, he said, the process is illegitimate and needs to be stopped or revised immediately.

Moreover, Tatoyan said, the demarcation of borders with the described approaches will not only fail to contribute to the peaceful coexistence of the peoples in the region, but will also create fertile ground for the unceasing hatred and enmity for Armenians in Azerbaijan and its dangerous manifestations.

Other human rights issues were also discussed during the meeting.

Only ruling bloc votes to install members to Judicial Council

YEREVAN (RFE/RL)—Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan's My Step bloc installed on January 22 two new members of a state body empowered to nominate, sanction and fire Armenian judges.

The Armenian parliament appointed Gagik Jahangiryan, a controversial former prosecutor, and legal expert Davit Khachatryan to vacant seats in the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) in a vote boycotted by its opposition minority.

"We do not find it politically expedient to take part in the vote," Iveta Tonoyan, a senior lawmaker from the opposition Prosperous Armenia Party, told reporters. She said her party also has "reservations" about both candidates nominated by My Step.

"In the professional sense we have no problem with the candidates," said Taron Sahakyan of the opposition Bright Armenia Party. "Our decision is political and results from the fact that the opposition has been barred from participating in judicial reforms."

Jahangiryan served as Armenia's chief military prosecutor from 1997-2006 and



Gagik Jahangiryan (left) and Davit Khachatryan were installed as new members of Armenia's Supreme Judicial Council

was accused by civil activists of covering up crimes and abetting other abuses in the Armenian armed forces throughout his tenure. He always denied those allegations.

Khachatryan is the former head of the governing board of the Armenian branch of U.S. billionaire George Soros's Open Society Foundations. His brother Sasun Khachatryan runs Armenia's Special Investigative Service, a law-enforcement agency.

The two men joined the SJC amid tensions between Armenia's government and judiciary. Critics of the government say that Pashinyan expects them to help increase his influence on courts.

In recent months Armenian judges have refused to allow law-enforcement authorities to arrest dozens of opposition leaders

and members as well as other anti-government activists. Virtually all of those individuals are prosecuted in connection with angry protests sparked by the Pashinyan administration's handling of the autumn war in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Pashinyan charged last month that Armenia's judicial system has become part of a "pseudo-elite" which is trying to topple him after the disastrous war. Ruben Vartazaryan, the chairman of the SJC, rejected the criticism.

Jahangiryan criticized Pashinyan's political team for not "purging" the judiciary when he spoke in the parliament before Friday's vote. He said the government-controlled parliament should pass legislation to "get rid of judges who committed blatant human rights violations."

Pashinyan accused judges of remaining linked to Armenia's former leadership and controversially urged supporters to block court buildings after a Yerevan court released former President Robert Kocharian from custody in May 2019. His government subsequently abandoned plans for a mandatory "vetting" of the judges at the urging of European legal experts

Armenia set to dedicate a special day to national minorities

The Armenian National Assembly approved at first reading a draft that proposes dedicating a special day to national minorities.

The bill submitted by Rustam Bakoyan, who represents the Yezidi community at the Armenian Parliament, received an overwhelming majority of 101 votes in favor.

The draft proposes changes in the Law



on Holidays and Memorial Days which

will see the last Saturday of September celebrated as National Minority Day.

While presenting the bill at the National Assembly, Bakoyan noted that the importance of national minorities in Armenia is also reflected in the Constitution and reminded that Armenia even has a Council of National Minorities.

Political solution on NK status essential for securing regional peace – US Ambassador to Armenia

Lynne M. Tracy, U.S. Ambassador to Armenia has published an article titled “Democracy is Precious” where she says that the United States “renews its commitment to partnering with the Armenian people, Government, civil society, media, and the private sector to support the aspirations of the Armenian people who voiced their choice for meaningful, tangible reforms to strengthen the institutions of Armenia’s democratic institutions and for a more prosperous future”.

We present the Ambassador’s article: “On January 20, 2021 just before 12:00pm in Washington, D.C., President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. took the oath of office to become the 46th President of the United States. His Vice President, Kamala Harris, was also sworn in, becoming not only the first woman, but also the first Black and Indian American to hold the office.

In his inaugural address, President Biden said of the moment, “We’ve learned again that democracy is precious. Democracy is fragile. At this hour, my friends, democracy has prevailed.” As we have seen over the last few weeks, and as President Biden emphasized, democracy cannot be taken for granted, even after nearly two and a half centuries in the United States.

Since Armenia’s independence, the United States has supported Armenia in its fight for democracy – not because we have perfected it ourselves, but because we know how much work it takes to protect and defend. Critical to this task are building and



US Ambassador to Armenia Lynne Tracy pictured during an Oct. 5, 2020 meeting with Armenia’s MoD

maintaining strong democratic institutions and advancing the rule of law, providing economic opportunity for all, and broadening access to education. It is a process that demands unity, resolve and perseverance, often in the face of enormous challenges.

As the United States begins a new chapter in our own country’s history, we renew our commitment to partnering with the Armenian people, Government, civil society, media, and the private sector to support the aspirations of the Armenian people who voiced their choice for meaningful, tangible reforms to strengthen the institutions of Armenia’s democratic institutions and for a more prosperous future.

Democracy and the rule of law are cornerstones of the U.S.-Armenia relationship, but we have an even broader common positive agenda. Supporting sustainable and inclusive economic growth, expanding trade and investment, promoting energy security, managing environmental resources respon-

sibly, fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, and investing in people through educational opportunities reflect a deep and wide U.S.-Armenia partnership that I am confident will continue to strengthen.

Above all, we recognize the urgent work to be done in moving forward following the devastating conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh. The U.S. government has responded to Armenia’s critical needs by providing clothes, food, child-friendly safe-spaces, and shelter to displaced peoples. The United States continues to call for the swift and safe return of the remaining detainees. We condemn the acts of atrocities connected with the conflict. Those responsible must be held to account. And, while the fighting has stopped, the need for an enduring political solution on the status of Nagorno-Karabakh is essential for securing regional peace and stability.

As I look ahead to the upcoming year, I acknowledge the many challenges we still face. But I am confident that, together, we are up to the task. We will continue to support Armenia as it rebuilds in the years to come. As President Biden said on Wednesday – “We have never ever, ever failed in America when we have acted together.” That emphasis on togetherness transcends our borders – together with our Armenian friends and partners, we will tackle the challenges before us, uphold our shared values, and ensure that democracy and the rule of law prevail, leading to a brighter future for us all”

Congress should recognize Artsakh – Adam Schiff

Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) says the Congress should recognize Artsakh’s independence and the OSCE Minsk Group should re-engage in Karabakh settlement talks. He also discussed measures to curb Turkey’s role in the region.

“There are pressing issues regarding territory, POWs, war crimes, preservation of historical and cultural artefacts, and the Minsk Group needs to get busy and initiate a meaningful process to resolve



these issues,” Rep. Schiff said in an interview with [Asbarez](#) editor Ara Khachatourian.

The Congressman hopes the Biden Administration will prioritize the issues.

“We don’t want Russia and Turkey to decide these questions. We want the Minsk Group to solve these issues in consultation with Armenia and Artsakh so that we have a lasting and meaningful peace,” he said.

Armenian Minister of Economy visits Iran to discuss perspectives of cooperation

The delegation led by the Minister of Economy of the Republic of Armenia Vahan Kerobyan left for the Islamic Republic of Iran on January 22 to discuss the prospects of developing bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

Meetings with high-ranking Iranian officials, representatives of the Armenian community, Armenian businessmen and exporters are planned. Visits to a number



of enterprises, companies and organizations are expected.

In particular, the Armenian Minister of Economy will have meetings with the Minister of Trade, Industry and Mines; the Minister of Economy and Finance; the Minister of Energy and Technology of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Chairman of the Central Bank of Iran, the Chairman of the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

No concrete routes of communication between Armenia, Azerbaijan discussed – Deputy PM



No concrete routes of communication through Armenia and Azerbaijan have been discussed, Deputy Prime Minister Mher Grigoryan said during a Q&A session at the National Assembly.

The comments come after the Russian Kommersant published a map of unblocking of transport routes following the January 11 statement issued by Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev.

Mher Grigoryan said the published map “means nothing.”

“No oral or written agreements have been reached. There has been exchange of

views, mostly with the Russian side, but no agreement on any concrete direction has been reached,” he said.

Moreover, the Deputy PM noted, all directions are being considered – both road and rail.

Mr. Grigoryan said lawmakers will also join the discussion at a certain stage to share opinions.

Deputy Prime Minister Mher Grigoryan will represent Armenia in the tripartite working group to discuss the unblocking of all economic and transport links in the region, pursuant to the [trilateral statement](#) issued by Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Azerbaijani President Aliyev on Monday, January 11.

The Working Group will hold its first meeting by January 30, 2021, according to the results of which it will draw up a list of primary tasks arising from the implementation of the Paragraph 9 of the Statement adopted by the leaders of Armenia, Russia and Azerbaijan on November 9.

The priorities shall include rail and road communications, as well as the identification of other directions as agreed upon by the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Armenia and the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as the Parties.

Within a month after the Working Group’s meeting, the expert subgroups will submit a list of projects, which should specify the necessary resources and activities for their implementation and approval at the highest level by the Parties.

By March 1, 2021, the Working Group shall submit for the Parties’ approval at the highest level a list and timetable of activities to restore or build new transport infrastructure necessary for initiating, implementing and providing for the safety of international traffic through the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia, as well as ensuring the safety of transportations carried out by the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia through the territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia.

UNDP to provide \$480,000 support package to Armenian farmers

In total 250 million drams (about \$480,000) worth of support package will be provided by UNDP in Armenia to more than 50 farmers in Lori, Shirak and Tavush regions of Armenia in the framework of the Green Agriculture Initiative in Armenia (EU-GAIA) project, funded by the European Union in Armenia and the Austrian Development Cooperation, UN Office in Armenia reports.

The support will be provided to the best applicants in the legumes, herbs and sheep breeding value chains, who will receive support through the provision of high value agricultural investments, machinery, equip-

ment and services aimed at strengthening agribusiness in the region, business capacity development, introduction of various green technologies, added value creation and increased production volumes.

During the past few weeks, UNDP signed corresponding Statement of Intent with 54 beneficiaries. Furthermore, some of the project beneficiaries have already received resources according to their farm development plans, such as purebred sheep, agricultural equipment, motoblocks, mini-tractors, high-efficiency mills, processing equipment and dryers.

Agreements were signed with several



farms on the creation of demonstration sites, where effective methods of production management, innovative, resource efficient and climate smart practices will be available for demonstration-study visits.

EBRD delivers record investment of €167 million in Armenia in response to Covid-19 pandemic



The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) responded to the Covid-19 pandemic in Armenia in 2020 with record investment of €167 million for projects in energy, banking and transport and through trade finance support. The Bank helped to address the immediate and longer-term needs of the country's economy.

Dimitri Gvindadze, EBRD Head of the Yerevan Resident Office, said: "The EBRD team worked to help our clients deal with the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Our

support included the provision of liquidity and trade finance. We invested in energy and transport infrastructure. Our support to the banking sector fostered companies' access to finance. In 2021, supporting the recovery is our priority. We work closely with the European Union (EU) in Armenia and we thank our EU partners for this strategically important cooperation in the context of both public- and private-sector projects."

The EBRD stepped up its investment to address immediate needs and to create the foundations for recovery, with a focus on building back better economies in the future. The Bank continued to concentrate its support on the private sector, which accounted for more than 90 per cent of total EBRD investment in Armenia in 2020.

In a pioneering project, the EBRD financed the first utility-scale 55 MW solar power plant in Armenia and in the Caucasus. The project will help boost Armenia's supply of clean energy and reduce its reliance on imported fuels.

Keeping vital trade flows going, the EBRD supported a new record of close to €70 million in trade finance transactions in Armenia, involving eight local partner banks, under its Trade Facilitation Programme.

The EBRD further increased its support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), with the provision of loans to commercial banks for on-lending to businesses. These loans included Women in Business credit lines.

In the infrastructure sector, the Bank funded the reconstruction and modernisation of the border-crossing point near the town of Meghri to meet modern safety and security requirements. The project received significant grant support from the European Union.

In addition, the EBRD supported Electric Networks of Armenia, which continues to modernize its electricity distribution network.

Armenian Robin the Robot vying for Golden Kitti Award 2020

Robin the Robot developed by Armenia-based Expper Technologies is vying for Golden Kitti Award 2020.

The Armenian-made product has been shortlisted for the award along with Apple MacBook Pro, iPhone 12 Pro, PlayStation 5, Apple Watch and others.

Voting is open on [Producthunt](https://www.producthunt.com/products/robin-the-robot).

Robin is the first "emotionally intelligent" companion for children.

Developed by the [Expper Technologies](https://www.expper.com) Robin is a friendly robot that expresses



emotions and builds interactive dialogues with children.

By engaging them in play and peer-to-peer conversations, Robin reduces their feeling of loneliness and mitigates their stress during their hospital stay.

The purpose is to support children during medical treatment and alleviate their pain by creating positive experiences.

"Hospitalized children have certain emotional needs and I'm here to address them in a new, personalized way," a post on the company's website says on behalf of Robin.

Armenian research institute bids for participation in NASA's Artemis human lunar lander program

The Center of Cosmology and Astrophysics of the Alikhanyan National Science Laboratory (Yerevan Physics Institute) has sent a white paper to the American Artemis program, the center's head, Professor Vahagn Gyurzadyan told a press conference at Armenpress press center.

With the Artemis program, NASA will land the first woman and next man on the Moon by 2024, using innovative technologies to explore more of the lunar surface than ever before.

The program collaborates with com-



mercial and international partners to establish sustainable exploration by the end of the decade. It will then use what they learn on and around the Moon to take the next

giant leap – sending astronauts to Mars.

"They made a call for proposals, and mostly American and European companies were the ones to respond. We also submitted a project," Gyurzadyan said, adding that the proposal is currently being considered in Houston.

The Professor said the technologies developed at the Alikhanyan National Science Laboratory (Yerevan Physics Institute) are applicable in a number of spheres including space research, medicine, military industry, etc.

Polish politician offered \$50,000 to refuse from publishing a brochure on Azerbaijan's war crimes against Armenians

Polish politician Tomasz Lech Buczek says he was offered \$50,000 for canceling the publication of a brochure on Azerbaijani war crimes against Armenians.

Buczek shared a screenshot of a message he received from an Azerbaijani user reading "The Azerbaijani government will give you \$50,000, if you don't publish the publication about Azerbaijani crimes. If interested, please post a photo of Baku on January 25th on Facebook."

"President Aliyev probably heard about



my publication?" My response to Baku is: 'Release the Armenian prisoners of war',” Buczek captioned the screenshot.

Buczek earlier announced a fundraiser

to publish the brochure that would be the world's first printed publication on Azerbaijan's war crimes against the Armenian population in Artsakh.

The [publication](#) specifically details the tortures and inhuman treatment of Armenian war prisoners held in Azerbaijan.

Tomasz Lech Buczek, author of "The Cry of the Armenian Mother, Genocide in Sumgait, 1988" has also initiated the establishment of a civilian committee for recognizing the independence of Artsakh.

Armenian FM's letter to UN chief on Azerbaijani war crimes circulated as official UN document

The letter of Armenia's Foreign Minister Ara Aivazyan regarding Azerbaijan's violations of international humanitarian law in the aftermath of the large-scale military offensive against Artsakh is [circulated as document](#) of UN General Assembly and Security Council, Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Anna Naghdalyan informs.



In a [letter](#) to UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, the Foreign Minister comprehensively presented the situation over the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict following the large-scale military aggression launched by Azerbaijan on September 27, 2020.

The Minister noted that amid the unprecedented global health crisis, the violation of the decades-long ceasefire in the region has led to numerous casualties, large-scale ethnic cleansing of the indigenous people of Artsakh, deliberate destruction, desecration and vandalism of

the Armenian religious and cultural monuments.

In the letter, the Foreign Minister of Armenia touched upon the cases of violations of the November 9 trilateral statement's provisions by Azerbaijan, noting that more than a month after the ceasefire was established, Azerbaijan carried out military operations in Hin Tagher and Khtsaber villages in Hadrut region of Artsakh. It was noted that during the military attack, the Azerbaijani armed forces captured 64 Armenian servicemen, violating Azerbai-

jan's commitments to maintain the ceasefire established by the trilateral statement.

The Foreign Minister emphasized the incomplete implementation of the Article 8 of the trilateral statement, which mandates the "exchange of prisoners of war, hostages, and other detained persons and bodies of the dead." He stressed that Azerbaijan, in fact, refuses to implement its commitment which is a blatant violation of international humanitarian law.

Minister Aivazyan drew the attention of the UN Secretary General to the reluctance of Azerbaijan regarding the cooperation with international organizations in cultural heritage protection. "Lasting and sustainable peace in the region could be achieved only through the comprehensive resolution of the conflict that will include the status of Nagorno-Karabakh based on the realization of the right of self-determination of the people of Artsakh", - concluded the Foreign Minister of Armenia.

Blinken: Biden Administration will consult with Congress on April 24th statement

President Biden's nominee to serve as Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, confirmed that the incoming Administration will consult with Congress on the wording of its April 24th statement, reported the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA).

In response to a written question from Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) during his confirmation hearing, Blinken noted that: "As a presidential candidate, President Biden pledged in his Remembrance Day statement to support a resolution recognizing the Armenian Genocide," adding: "The Administration will determine the wording for the White House statement to mark Remembrance Day once in office and will consult with Congress on this important issue." The U.S. House and Senate nearly unanimously passed Armenian Genocide Resolutions in 2019.

Senator Markey also asked about what steps the Administration plans take "to ensure the immediate return of POWs being held by Azerbaijan." Blinken stressed, in response, that: "the United States should be leading a diplomatic effort to find a lasting resolution to the conflict, working together with our European partners, including facilitating the return of prisoners of war."

"We join with Armenian Americans and our pro-Armenian allies from across Massachusetts and around the country in thanking Senator Markey for his leadership in calling out and confronting the continuity of official Turkish and Azerbaijani genocidal intent and actions against the Armenian people," said ANCA Executive Director Aram Hamparian. "In the wake of Baku's war crimes against Artsakh – armed and incited by Ankara – it is more urgent than ever for the United States to signal both Turkey and Azerbaijan that the U.S. will no longer turn a blind eye to their genocidal drive to destroy the Armenian



nation."

The full text of Senator Markey's questions and Secretary of State-designate Blinken's responses are provided below.

Sen. Markey: Will you formally recognize the crimes committed against the Armenian people by the Ottoman Empire as Genocide?

Blinken: As a presidential candidate, President Biden pledged in his Remembrance Day statement to support a resolution recognizing the Armenian genocide. Our administration will be committed to prioritizing human rights and ensuring such a tragedy is not repeated. The Administration will determine the wording for the White House statement to mark Remembrance Day once in office and will consult with Congress on this important issue.

Sen. Markey: In the aftermath of the war between Azerbaijan and Armenia last year, what steps will the Administration take to ensure the immediate return of POWs being held by Azerbaijan?

Blinken: As the President has said, the United States should be leading a diplomatic effort to find a lasting resolution to the conflict, working together with our European partners, including facilitating the

return of prisoners of war. If confirmed, I will reinvigorate U.S. engagement to find a permanent settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict that protects the security of Nagorno-Karabakh and helps to ensure another war does not break out. This includes stepping up our engagement via the Minsk Group, of which the United States is a co-chair, and additional diplomatic work to prevent any further interference by third parties.

Sen. Markey: Will the Administration restrict funding to Azerbaijan, fully enforcing Section 907 of the Freedom Support Act, as President-elect Joe Biden urged the Trump Administration to do?

Blinken: In light of the recent outbreak of hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh, the Biden-Harris administration will review our security assistance to Azerbaijan. If the circumstances warrant, we will be prepared to suspend waivers of requirements under section 907 of the Freedom Support Act. If confirmed, I look forward to working with Congress and the Secretary of Defense to determine the appropriate level of assistance to meet the security needs of Armenia and the region.

What is the vocation of the Armenian people?

By Rev. Dr. René Léonian

Armenia, Artsakh and the Armenian Diaspora are in danger, following the recent war that ended in widespread defeat: human losses, injured, displaced populations, loss of territories, psychological trauma...

It is difficult, to this day, to understand and expose all the mechanisms that led to this disastrous situation. The time will come when the truth will come out.

The current context has prompted me to reflect on the existence of our Armenian people.

The Armenians represent a very old civilization, several thousand year old. Many nations contemporary to Armenians, older or even newer, have disappeared along the way, but the Armenians are still there.

Certainly, Armenians did not always enjoy an independent state, but lived mainly on their ancestral lands. At the beginning of the 20th century, the Genocide of 1.5 million Armenians decimated our people and led to their exile and the formation of a large Diaspora.

Remember that Armenia lost its independence in the 11th century, regarding «Greater Armenia» and in the 14th century, regarding «Little Armenia» (Cilicia).

From 1918, Armenia returned to its independence. By the very end of 1920, Armenia became Soviet. From 1991, Armenia is independent again.

Today, Armenia's territorial integrity and security are in danger. We all need to get back. Of course, we have the right to have our opinions, our convictions about the way to get out of the crisis in Armenia, with or without the current government.

In fact, this problematic situation prompts us to reflect in a more comprehensive way on the *raison of being* of our people, their role and their future. We each have our part to assume. We cannot continue in an attitude of spectator, judge or indifference. It's time to react.

All specialists, Armenian or not, agree to take inventory of and praise Armenian culture and civilization. Our people have given a great heritage to all of mankind.

According to the Bible, the earthly paradise (the Garden of Eden) is located between Euphrates and Tigris, in the territory of historical Armenia.

Also according to the Bible, after the flood and the episode of Noah's ark on

Mount Ararat, human life resumed in the Ararat valley.

In 301 AD, Armenia became the first Christian state in the world.

These simple references should help us reflect on the privilege and responsibility of Armenia, and of Armenians in general, within the framework of the concert of nations. Not to mention, that on many occasions the Armenians could have been wiped out completely from the face of the earth!

Yes, the Armenian people are a witness people. Its vocation is to bear witness to a certain spirituality that has accompanied it throughout its history.

It is often said that the Armenian is very individualistic and does well in his life as a person. But when it comes to the group, citizens in Armenia or members of the Armenian community in the Diaspora, the results are rather disappointing.

Perhaps it is time to realize this state of affairs and raise the bar.

Personally, I am convinced that the presence of Armenia and Armenians in the world is no hazard.

I have a feeling that God certainly has a plan for Armenians. Exposing these few thoughts, I have a special respect for all those who, for various reasons, are atheists or agnostics. We can have different philosophical beliefs while still appreciating each other.

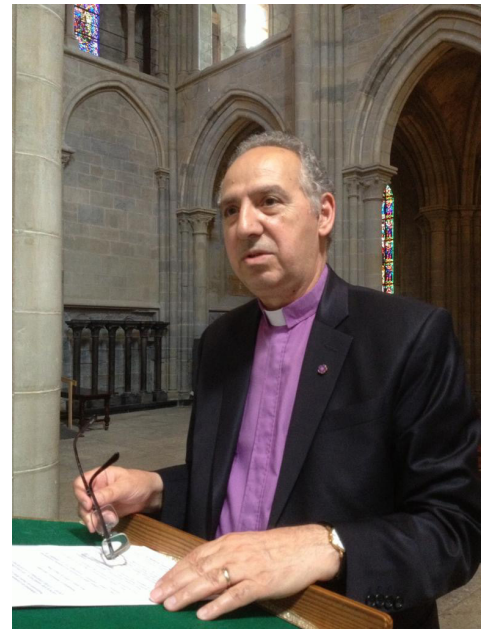
It seems to us that the role of Armenia and Armenians must go well beyond our mere belonging to this people.

All over the world, Armenians must continue to participate in the development of the countries in which they have settled.

As for Armenians of Armenia, they have a strategic place, not only on the national territory, but on all countries of Eurasia (ex-Soviet), in the South-Caucasus and in the Middle East. In these regions, Armenia can play a leading role. It can help bring the various civilizations together, in a spirit of openness and tolerance.

Armenia's asset is its human potential. It is also its cultural, intellectual and spiritual heritage.

For many centuries, it is his roots in Christian values that allow him to survive. These Christian values remind us of the existence of God, his love for human beings manifested in Jesus Christ, his invitation to love our neighbor, the other, even if he is



different from us.

Christian values are the search for truth, for justice and the concern to live in peace.

We want to make a solemn appeal to the Armenian people, in Armenia, in Artsakh and all over the world. We all love our homeland and we love the sons and daughters of our people. We must find a new unity, a new harmony, in short, a new *raison of being*. Our fight must take on a new dimension. We must adopt a new strategy in which we will each find our place.

We must leave behind the spirit of defeat, animosity and division. We must be audacious. Let us imagine once again the challenges that lie ahead. Let's be sure that we'll get there.

Rev. Dr. Léonian was Chief of the Chancery of Armenian Embassy in France, Consultant for the President of the Republic of Armenia, Consultant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Artsakh Republic.

René Léonian is Dr. of Theology and of Education Sciences.

He was member of the Board of Directors of the Hayastan All-Armenian Fund, President of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in Eurasia.

In Armenia and Artsakh, from 1994-2011, Rev. René Léonian was a Representative of the Armenian Evangelical World Council and of the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

For many years, René Léonian accomplished pastoral works (ministries) in Europe, Canada and Uruguay.

Letter of Condolence from Tony (Anthony) Moroyan, President and Chairman of Viasphere International, Inc. on the Death of the CANDLE Synchrotron Research Institute Director Prof. Vasili Tsakanov



As it is known, recently at the age of 61, Director of CANDLE Synchrotron Research Institute (Yerevan State University), a prominent scientist Professor Vasili Tsakanov passed away.

CANDLE – Center for the Advancement of Natural Discoveries using Light Emission – is a project of 3 gigaelectronvolts energy, third generation synchrotron light source for fundamental, industrial and applied research in biology, physics, chemistry, medicine, material and environmental sciences.

Was established at the Yerevan State University in 2002.

The spectrum of the light cover the region from the ultraviolet to hard X-ray region enabling the investigations at the cell, protein, virus, molecular and atomic levels. The brightness of CANDLE light exceeds the conventional X-Ray tubes by billion times. In total the facility can serve more than 40 research groups simultaneously supporting the spectroscopy, scattering, imaging and the time resolved experiments. The facility emphasized by the state-of-the-art design providing the stable operation with the beam lifetime of more than 18 hours.

V. Tsakanov began his scientific career at Yerevan Physics Institute in 1981 after graduating from Rostov State University. In 1990 he defended his PhD thesis on new methods of charged particles acceleration. In the 90's V. Tsakanov was a visiting scientist at Technical University of Darmstadt and at the German accelerator center DESY. His research activities were dedicated to beam physics in linear accelerators for electron-positron colliders and free electron lasers. In 1998 he defended a doctoral thesis on this topic and initiated a group of Beam physics at Yerevan Physics Institute.

Under his scientific leadership, a new

CANDLE third generation synchrotron light facility project in Armenia was developed and eventually a great philanthropist Mr. Jirair Hovnanian founded CANDLE Institute in 2002. From that day on V. Tsakanov was the Director of the Institute.

Prof. Tsakanov made every effort to establish close cooperation between Armenian and foreign research centers due to his high reputation in scientific community and exceptional merits. CANDLE was in close cooperation with German DESY national research center, Swiss Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) and a number of international centers and laboratories. Along effective scientific activities, Prof. Tsakanov had a big contribution in the education and training of young specialists. In 2006-2012 he headed the Nuclear Physics Department of Yerevan State University.

Vasili Tsakanov is the author of many internationally recognized scientific works. In 2019, prof. Vasili Tsakanov was awarded

the “Gold Medal” of Science Committee of Armenia for his significant contribution to the accelerator physics, international cooperation, student training and exchange.

Prof. Tsakanov was an outstanding scientist, a caring father and a husband, a devoted friend and an exceptional leader, who was highly respected by his colleagues and the Institute staff.

On his timeless death many prominent persons and organizations addressed the CANDLE and Tsakanov family with letters of condolence. Among them is the President and Chairman of the Viasphere Intl, Inc., Member of the CANDLE Board of Directors, well-known in the US, Diaspora and Armenia engineer, entrepreneur, manager, scientist, philanthropist Tony (Anthony) Moroyan.

Below you could find his letter of condolence:

Date: January 15, 2021

Dear Ms. Ani Mikayelyan and fellow Board of Directors of Candle SRI,

The news was very hard to accept about a person that has achieved so much in so little time and with so little funds. He was able to build and retain probably one of the very few remaining fundamental research activities remaining in Armenia and was able to inspire so many young researchers, the future potential top scientists.

To be the director of Candle SRI was not an easy assignment. On one hand, orchestrating worldwide consensus and strong scientific collaborations and powerful and sustainable network with world top laboratories while trying to secure the proper funding to drive the project towards the realization of the bold but achievable vision and objectives of Candle SRI in spite of economic situation in the newly borne little Armenia in size and population but very big and giant in terms of vision, aspiration and goals. Professor Tsakanov cared about Armenia and wanted only the best for the future scientists of Armenia.

His untimely death has left a very big hole that will be very difficult to fill. Professor Vasili Tsakanov was needed by Armenia for another decade or two to drive Candle and its very ambitious and enviable objectives and leadership that delivered results no matter how hard the going got.

It was a great shock to me when I received the late-night news tonight. I could only utter “Oh My God! Oh My God!”.

May God grant a well-deserved eternal rest to our dear and caring professor and encourage all his teams and partners to continue his sacred and worthy mission with the same passion as he led Candle SRI. So sorry to pass away during such an inopportune time when the world is plagued with such a vindictive virus. So sorry that I could not be there.

My sincere condolences to his family, Dr. Samvel Harutyunyan and all other board members of Candle, his teams, the students and fellow scientists and colleagues including all the related institutes, universities and the Academy of Sciences and Engineering as well as the government of Armenia.

Indeed, Armenia and Armenian Diaspora as well as the World has lost a very talented, passionate, sincere, dedicated and “never give up” scientist, leader, executive and a very dear and true friend.


Tony Moroyan
Board of Directors of Candle

European lawyers rally in front of Azerbaijani Embassy in Brussels, denounce aggression against Artsakh

A demonstration organized by the Brussels bar, the association of the European democratic lawyers and human rights organizations took place on January 22 in front of the Embassy of Azerbaijan in Belgium, the European Armenian federation for Justice and Democracy (EAFJD)

The lawyers and activists protested against the human rights situation in Azer-



baijan.

They also denounced Azerbaijan's aggression against Nagorno Karabakh/Artsakh and called on the authorities to adhere to the respect of human rights.

The demonstration was held i.a. on the occasion of the "Day of the endangered lawyer," which this year focuses on Azerbaijan.

Armenians request Larnaca authorities to rename the street called Grey Wolves



The Armenian National Committee of Cyprus has applied to the Larnaca City Hall, requesting to rename the street called BOZ KURT (Gray Wolves).

The reasons for the request for name change were presented to the Deputy Mayor.

The Deputy Mayor promised that the issue would be examined by the Municipal Council. The Armenian National Commission will closely monitor the process and inform the community.

The ultranationalist Grey Wolves group is linked to a top ally of the Turkish pres-

ident and is seen as a militant wing of the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP), which is allied with Erdogan's Justice and Development Party (AKP) in the Turkish parliament.

The Grey Wolves was a nickname given to members of a fringe Turkish movement that emerged in the 1960s and 1970s.

The group was recently outlawed in France after its members desecrated the Armenian Genocide Memorial in Lyon.

Small donation for a big cause in Artsakh: Arsinée Khanjian joins "We are our Forests" campaign

Canadian Armenian actress Arsinée Khanjian has joined FPWC's "We are our Forests" campaign, which aims to provide emergency relief to the forests and ecosystems of Artsakh.

"This is a most timely campaign both for short term remedy required for our beloved Artsakh and the South Caucasus in general. I have donated to the FPWC organization for various ecological projects and seen Armenia benefit from those projects through education, engagement, preservation of nature, and advocacy for our homeland's biodiversity," Arsinée Khanjian said in a Facebook post.

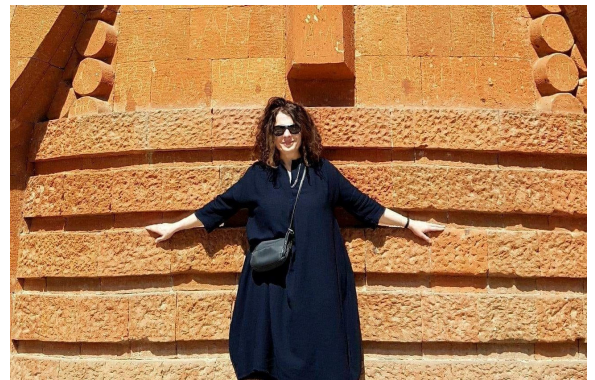
She called on her 25 thousand followers to send at least one dollar to cover half of the campaigns need.

The Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets launched its We are our Forests campaign as part of its

Aid for Artsakh project, in order to provide emergency relief to the forests and ecosystems of Artsakh.

By raising \$50,000, the FPWC will be able to plant 50 000 site-specific trees as part of its mission to protect and conserve the biodiversity of the region.

Trees will be grown in a tree nursery owned by FPWC with a Target Plant Concept (TPC) methodology. The TPC is an effective framework for selecting seedlings based on specific characteristics best-suited to a given site. These characteristics are often scientifically derived from testing the factors that can be linked to outplanting success, such as seedling morphology and physiology, genetic source, and overcoming limiting factors



on outplanting sites. The method allows to have very high survival rates (80-90%).

The growing cycle will begin in March, 2021. By October, 2021 plants will be ready for the outplanting. The planting season starts from mid-October to late November. The days can vary based on weather conditions. It's also possible to maintain some part of the trees during winter and plant during March and early April next year.

AGBU London Trust announces new Scholarships for Classical Armenian Studies at Oxford University

In keeping with its core commitment to advance Armenian education, the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU) London Trust recently made a substantial gift to support a scholarship programme for graduate students pursuing a master's degree in Classical Armenian Studies at Oxford University. It is the leading university for Armenian studies in the UK and has pursued the subject since the mid-nineteenth century.

By providing support for one graduate student per year for five years, the new scholarship programme will play a key role in helping to foster greater understanding of Armenian culture and heritage. The first scholarship will be awarded in October 2021, with the programme running through to 2026.

Scholars studying for the MSt in Classical Armenian Studies gain experience in reading and interpreting a wide range of Armenian texts, thus enabling them to develop a critical understanding of the literary culture and historical background of their



chosen period. During their time at Oxford, students will have access to the Bodleian Library's unique collection of Armenian manuscripts, which includes a very rare copy of the first book printed in Iran: an Armenian Psalter from New Julfa.

The course is directed by Professor Theo Maarten van Lint, who holds the Calouste Gulbenkian Professorship of Armenian Studies. He says: 'Funding is an indispensable element in offering worthy candidates access to the Master's in Classical Armenian Studies. Therefore, I am extremely grateful to Joseph and Jenny Oughourlian and the AGBU for this generous and strategic donation.'

The creation of the AGBU London Trust Scholarship represents the next stage in an already fruitful partnership between the organization and Oxford, which for the past seven years provided financial support to Armenian students reading a range of subjects at the University. The new scholarship programme, which will be open to students from all over the world, aligns with the AGBU's mission to uphold Armenian heritage through educational, cultural and humanitarian spheres.

Joseph Oughourlian, AGBU London Trust Chairman and Vice-President of the AGBU Central Board said: 'AGBU is absolutely honoured to partner with the prestigious global institution that is the University of Oxford. The University's Faculty of Oriental Studies has been thriving for years and as the world's largest Armenian organization, it is a logical development for AGBU to support the faculty's MSt in Classical Armenian Studies. We deeply thank Professor van Lint and his team for allowing this cooperation to happen.'

Armenia, Iran keen to deepen cooperation in cinematography



Armenian and Iranian cinema workers have re-signed the agreement on the Armenian-Iranian cooperation in the field of cinematography ratified in Yerevan in 2017.

The bilateral agreement was ratified by

Shushanik Mirzakhanyan, director of the National Cinema Center of Armenia, from the Armenian side, and Alireza Tabesh, director of the Farabi Film Foundation, from the Iranian side.

Present at the ceremony were Armenia's Deputy Minister of Education and Science Ara Khzmalyan, the adviser on culture at the Cultural Center of the Iranian Embassy in Armenia Seyed Hossein Tabataba, Iranian-Armenian director Anahit Abad and others.

Representatives of both sides are confident that the re-signing of the agreement

opens up new perspectives for further expansion and deepening of long-standing Iran-Armenia cultural cooperation, and believe it could become a new beginning.

The agreement envisages cooperation in different directions, including preservation of film heritage, implementation of children's film programs, development of joint film production, implementation of bilateral educational programs, formation of the Armenian-Iranian film market, distribution of films and participation in bilateral festivals.

New UK Covid variant could be more deadly – Boris Johnson

Early evidence suggests the variant of coronavirus that emerged in the UK may be more deadly, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said, the [BBC](#) reports.

However, there is still huge uncertainty around the numbers – and vaccines are expected to work.

The data come from mathematicians comparing death rates in people infected with either the new or the old versions of the virus.

The new more infectious variant has already spread widely across the UK.

Mr Johnson told a Downing Street briefing: "In addition to spreading more quickly, it also now appears that there is some evidence that the new variant – the variant that was first identified in London and the south east – may be associated with a higher degree of mortality.

"It's largely the impact of this new variant that means the NHS is under such intense pressure."

The evidence has been assessed by scientists on the New and Emerging Respiratory Virus Threats Advisory Group



(Nervtag), which has briefed government.

The group concluded it was a "realistic possibility" that the virus had become more deadly, but it was not certain.

New book examines the history of Armenians of Musa Dagh



Vahram Shemmashian, head of the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Northridge, explores the history of Armenian resistance in the Musa Dagh region of the Ottoman Empire in his latest book, *The California State University Northridge (CSUN) informs.*

"*The Armenians of Musa Dagh: From Obscurity to Genocide Resistance and Fame 1840-1915*" is the second book by the Armenian scholar that chronicles the lives of the Armenian people living in the Ottoman Empire, as well as their resistance during the Armenian genocide. His first book in the series was "*The Musa Dagh Armenians: A Socioeconomic and Cultural History, 1919-1939.*"

Shemmashian said he sees parallels between what happened 100 years ago to what is happening today in the region, with the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan over the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh sandwiched between the two states.

"Turkey has been providing Azerbaijan

with arms, and terrorists from Syria to help dispose of Armenians and, more specifically, to ethnically cleanse the country in order to obtain land," he said. "The same resistance against tyranny and extermination that happened in the past is occurring again now, as an attempt to fully dispose of Armenian culture and the people apart of it."

"*The Armenians of Musa Dagh*" is a comprehensive history of the people of Musa Dagh, who rose to prominence with their resistance to the genocide in 1915. Shemmashian presents a thorough analysis of the social, economic, religious, educational, and political history of the six villages that constituted Armenian Musa Dagh. He focuses on the important period of the mid-19th to the early 20th century, offering new insights into the people whose courage and persistence ultimately led to their successful self-defense.

The last (and longest) chapter of his book details the Armenian resistance to genocide, he said.

"We are all angry about what's happening with Armenia and Azerbaijan, because they are finishing what Turkey started during World War I," Shemmashian said. "Many war crimes were committed against Armenia last year, almost identical to the genocide that was happening a century ago.

In addition to his work, Shemmashian pointed to "*The Forty Days of Musa Dagh,*

" a novel by Franz Werfel that tells the struggles the Armenian community faced, as a work that can help people understand, on a more intimate level, what happened to the Armenian people during the genocide..

The publication of "*The Armenians of Musa Dagh*" comes on the heels of an anonymous \$3 million gift to CSUN's Armenian Studies Program, to support research and scholarships for students.

Shemmashian said he hopes his books provide a historical context for what is happening in Armenia today, as the past continues to influence Armenians.

"The final product, the publication of my books, is the most fulfilling feeling that one can have," he said. "They are a legacy. At some point, we all die. I'm glad that I'm leaving something behind for future generations to read and learn."



French Armenian surgeon leads operation on world's first double-arm-and-shoulder transplantation



Patient lost both arms in work accident 23 years ago and it took years to find suitable donors for the complex operation.

French Armenian surgeon Aram Gazarian led the first double-arm-and-shoulder transplantation operation in Lyon, *The Guardian* reports.

An Icelandic man who got the world's first double-shoulder-and-arm transplant is recovering well after the operation, two

decades after the accident that cost him both limbs, doctors have said.

They said it was still uncertain how much mobility Felix Gretaarsen, 48, will recover following the operation earlier this month in the southeastern French city of Lyon.

But "giving a little to somebody who was missing so much, that's already a lot" Aram Gazarian, the lead surgeon in the operation, told a news conference on Friday.

"If he can recover the possibility to actively bend his elbow, that would be a life-changer," he said.

On 12 January, 1998, Gretaarsen, an electrician, was working on a high-voltage power line when an 11,000-volt surge burned his hands and flung him to the icy ground.

He sustained multiple fractures and in-

ternal injuries, and went into a three-month coma during which surgeons amputated both arms.

He underwent several more operations, including a liver transplant.

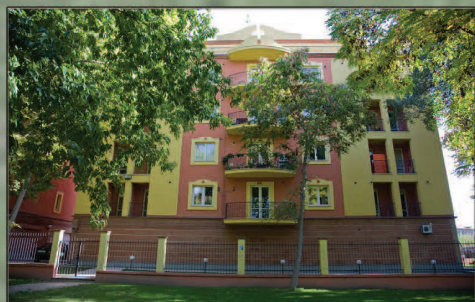
The operation was "his biggest dream", Gretaarsen's wife Sylwia told Friday's news conference, adding that she herself never felt that the operation was truly necessary as he "wasn't missing anything".

It took years to find suitable donors, during which some 50-medical staff in total became involved in the preparations for the operation.

Doctors said the outlook for the right arm to become functional was better than for the left, which had also required a complete rebuild of the shoulder. No serious complications had been detected nine days after the operation, they said.

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