

## Armenia, Iran Underscore Friendly Ties



Relations with neighboring Iran have vital importance for Armenia, President Serzh Sargsyan said as he received a high-ranking official of the Islamic Republic in Yerevan on October 15.

Iran's First Vice-President Eshaq Jahangiri arrived in Armenia on October 14 on an official two-day visit expected to revive Tehran's economic ties with its northern neighbor.

The visit is perceived by many observers in the context of the recent Iran-West nuclear agreement that envisages a gradual removal of sanctions against *continued on page 3*

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## CIS Leaders Sign Military Cooperation Pact

The leaders of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) have signed 17 agreements, including a statement on combating international terrorism and an agreement on military cooperation through 2020.

The agreements were signed at a summit of CIS leaders - representing Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan - on October 16 in the Kazakh village of Burabay.

Armenia was represented at the summit by President Serzh Sargsyan.

Representatives of Moldova, Turkmenistan, and Ukraine participated as observers.

At a press conference, Russian President Vladimir Putin said closer military cooperation is necessary because "the situation [in Afghanistan] is close to becoming critical."

He added that one of the goals of Islamist terrorists in Afghanistan is "to penetrate the Central Asian region."

The agreement on military coopera-



tion, he said, will furnish a "coordinated response" to that threat.

Putin also praised the CIS as a mechanism for members to address problems caused by "negative external actors," such

as "uncertainty in the global economy and rising political tensions."

CIS leaders agreed that the next CIS summit will be held in Kyrgyzstan on September 16, 2016.

## Armenia signs documents with a number of African countries

On the sidelines of the 31st session of the Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the International Organization of La Francophonie, Edward Nalbandian, Foreign Minister of Armenia, signed seven documents on the development of relations with the Foreign Ministers of six African states.

Memorandum of Understanding on Consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of two states was signed with the Republic of Senegal.

Protocol on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations was signed between the Republic of Armenia and Democratic Republic of Congo.

Memorandum on Cultural Cooperation and Memorandum on Cooperation between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs were



signed between Armenia and the Republic of Madagascar.

Memorandum on Cooperation was signed between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and Ministry of External Relations and Cooperation of the Comoro Islands.

Memorandum on Cooperation was also signed between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and African Integration of Togo.

Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Political Consultations was signed between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Armenia and Côte d'Ivoire.



## Perincek v. Switzerland: Armenia says the European Court satisfied all its claims



The requirements set by the RA Government in case of Perincek v. Switzerland were fully satisfied by the European Court, the Armenian Prosecutor General's Office said in a statement.

In a judgment delivered today the European Court said Switzerland had violated Turkish politician Dogu Perincek's right to freedom of speech by convicting him for denying that the killing of Armenians by Ottoman Turks in 1915 amounted to genocide.

Armenia was involved in the case as a third party. "By intervening in the case as a third party, the Republic of Armenia expected the European Court to exclude all kind of wording that would in any way question the fact of the Armenian Genocide," the statement reads.

"In the judgment delivered today the European Court underlined that it was neither required to answer that question, nor did it have the authority to make legally binding pronouncements on whether the

1915 mass killing and deportation of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire amounted to genocide as defined by international law," the Prosecutor General's Office said.

The Court declared that Armenians have "the right to respect for their and their ancestors' dignity including their right to respect for their identity constructed around the understanding that their community has suffered genocide."

Finally, as regards the Perincek case, the Court ruled that subjecting him to criminal penalty did not fully contradict the European case law. Instead, it confirmed that the Swiss law had been applied wrongly.

"Therefore, the criminalization of the Armenian Genocide and the criminal penalty is considered lawful. However, this should be done exceptionally in compliance with the European Convention on Human Rights," the Armenian Prosecutor General's Office said.

"Thus, all requirements set by the Armenian Government in case of Perincek v. Switzerland were fully satisfied by the European Court," the statement concluded.

## Armenia, Iran Underscore Friendly Ties

### From page 1

Tehran and possible expansion of Iran's ties with neighbors.

Hosting Jahangiri, Sargsyan emphasized that Armenia has mutual economic interests with Iran and is interested in "deepening high-level political dialogue and cooperation in all possible areas."

As quoted by his press service, the Armenian leader said that the discussions and arrangements made during the Iranian official's visit to Armenia "could mark the beginning of a new stage in bilateral relations."

Jahangiri, for his part, also attached importance to relations with Armenia, saying that his meetings in Yerevan will further strengthen the good-neighborly relations between the two nations. He emphasized that Armenia "has its own place in Iran's foreign relations".

"During the hard times for us Armenia was a friend and continues to be a friend,

with which Iran is willing to develop relations without limitations," said Iran's first vice-president.

The two also discussed a number of other issues, among them also those concerning the negotiations on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict settlement and the situation in the Middle East. Both attached importance to the settlement of the crisis in Syria through "dialogue and peaceful negotiations".

Earlier on Thursday Jahangiri and Armenian Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamian attended the opening of a large forum of Armenian and Iranian busi-

nessmen in Yerevan.

The economic agenda also dominated Jahangiri's talks with Abrahamian the previous night. This included cooperation in the energy, transport and other sectors as well as plans for the establishment of a free trade area between Iran and the Eurasian Economic Union, an economic grouping of Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan that Armenia joined in January.

The building of infrastructure making Armenia a more efficient transit country for Iran has also been on the agenda of meetings with the Iranian delegation.

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## Opposition Party Calls Upcoming Constitutional Referendum 'Illegitimate'

Armenia's leading opposition party has slammed the involvement of a Supreme Court official in the planned referendum on constitutional amendments, claiming that it makes the process "illegitimate" from the very beginning.

The Armenian National Congress (HAK) believes that the drafting of the changes themselves as well as the process ahead of the December 6 referendum have already violated Armenia's laws and cannot make the results of the vote stand whatever they are.

Under Armenia's law on referendums the outcomes of referendums can be contested at the Constitutional Court within seven days after the publication of the results. In a statement released on Friday the party noted, invoking the law, that the referendum process itself begins on the first day of the launch of the campaign and ends after the expiry of a seven-day period envisaged for appeals to the Constitutional Court after the ballot.

"During this period any circumstance that would predetermine the outcome of the referendum makes the referendum illegal and invalid," the HAK stressed, adding that Constitutional Court Chairman Gagik Harutiunyan's involvement in the process as head of the commission that drafted the set of amendments can already be viewed as "a major predetermining circumstance."

The HAK said that Harutiunyan not only was actively involved in drafting the

changes, but has also actively campaigned for them.

"By doing so he violated the clear requirements of the Constitution and laws, in essence engaging in political activities," the HAK said. "Secondly, publicly appearing as an advocate of the draft put to the referendum, he, as the Constitutional Court Chairman, cannot be fair and impartial in case its results are appealed."

The HAK stressed that "the constitutional referendum process will remain illegitimate and its results invalid from the outset unless Constitutional Court Chairman Gagik Harutiunyan resigns."

Earlier, responding to similar concerns voiced by other groups, Harutiunyan said they were ungrounded. He explained that the commission that drafted the amendments had already completed its work.

Meanwhile, HAK parliamentary leader Levon Zurabyan believes that Harutiunyan also has personal interest in it. "In 2018, he [Harutiunyan] will turn 70 and after that, under the Constitution, he cannot remain in the post of chairman of the Constitutional Court. He has found a good job for himself after that - the job of the president of Armenia under the new Constitution," he said.

The HAK, along with a number of other parliamentary and extra-parliamentary parties and groups, opposes the constitutional changes proposed by the current administration.



The party led by former president Levon Ter-Petrosian maintains that the proposed amendments to the Armenian constitution are aimed at enabling incumbent President Serzh Sargsyan to indefinitely stay in power in a different capacity after the end of his second and final presidential term in 2018.

Sargsyan has denied this, saying that he will not become prime minister or parliament speaker in case of Armenia's transformation into a parliamentary republic. The president, his ruling Republican Party of Armenia and other political allies say that such a radical change would, on the contrary, decentralize power and facilitate the country's democratization.

Legal experts from the Council of Europe's Venice Commission largely endorsed the draft amendments in September after most of the changes in the text recommended by them were accepted by the Sargsyan administration.

## Russian-Armenian Tycoon intends to set up Political Party

Ara Abrahamian, an affluent Armenian businessman based in Russia, has revealed his ambition to set up and lead a political party in Armenia.

Abrahamian, who heads the Union of Armenians of Russia (UAR), said on Wednesday that if he finally decides to do that, his party will also contest the next parliamentary elections in Armenia due in 2017.

Among Abrahamian's other immediate plans is also to set up what he described as a program of assistance to Armenia.

"If I see that there is a corresponding team, a correspondent political force..., leaders of corresponding countries or support from businesses as well as mechanisms of cooperation, of course I will take the final decision in March on whether I will take part in the elections or not," the UAR president said at a press conference in Yerevan.



The 58-year-old tycoon emphasized, however, that if he engages in political activities he is not going to criticize his opponents - political parties or figures - but will only be presenting his programs to voters.

Nor does Abrahamian want to seek a change of government. "Naturally, I don't want a change of power. I want to participate in elections," he said.

The Moscow-based businessman, who anecdotally lost up to \$1 billion in investments in Libya after the fall of the Gaddafi regime in 2011, said he had numerous plans for Armenia ranging from promoting democracy and dealing with vote rigging to rebuilding the country's economy. "We know and understand a thing or two, some mechanisms must be created to avoid violations during elections. We must turn to the president of the republic," he said vaguely.

Abrahamian also said that when he decides on his plans regarding political activities he will travel to his native village of Malishka in the southern Vayots Dzor province of Armenia where he will announce the decision.

Some observers in Armenia believe that if Abrahamian establishes a political party it will be a pro-Russian type of party that will lobby Moscow's interests in Armenia.



## Francophone countries undertake to reinforce genocide prevention mechanisms

Five resolutions were adopted during the 31st Ministerial Conference of the International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF) in Yerevan, one of them related to the "prevention on genocide" initiated by Armenia. The resolution refers to the OIF Secretary General Michaëlle Jean's statement on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, in which she paid tribute to the memory of the Armenian Genocide victims and expressed her support to the Armenian people.

The resolution notes that the Organization strongly condemns all genocides and crimes against humanity that have claimed a huge number of human lives, pays tribute to the memory of the victims of those crimes and pledges to take measures to reinforce the mechanisms of prevention of genocides and crimes against



humanity.

Under the resolution, the Organization undertakes to reinforce the cooperation between states and governments to put an end to the impunity of those responsible for the crimes.

Also, the Ministerial Conference adopted resolutions on "Francophonie as

an area of peace, tolerance, plurality, dialogue and mutual understanding," "Challenges to the 21st Conference of the member states of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Changes (UNFCCC)," "Refugees and Migrants," "Youth Participation in Francophone Structures." The first two were initiated by Armenia.

## Moscow calls for renewed dialogue on Karabakh settlement

Moscow urges the parties to the Karabakh conflict to refuse form application of force and demonstrate political will to reach a compromise, official representative of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Maria Zakharova has declared RIA Novosti reports.

"Unfortunately, the renewal of political dialogue gets more complicated because of escalation of situation in the conflict zone, increased number of victims, including civilians," she said, adding that "further escalation is simply inadmissible."

"We call on the parties to refuse from the use of force and demonstrate political will necessary for reaching a compromise," she said.

According to her, the issue of Karabakh conflict settlement was discussed in detail during the visits of the Armenian and Azerbaijani Foreign Ministers to Moscow in April-May.

"The topic is on the agenda of Russian FM Sergey Lavrov's contacts with foreign counterparts. We are working in that direction in close cooperation with France and the United States.

The Minister recently held a meeting with the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs on the sidelines of the 70th session of the UN General Assembly, during which the parties referred to practical issues of conflict settlement ahead of the forthcoming visit of the mediators this month," Zakharova said.

## Construction of oncology center starts in Stepanakert

The Hayastan All-Armenian Fund has begun the construction of a state-of-the-art oncology center in Stepanakert. The project is sponsored by the fund's French affiliate, with additional financial support from the government of NKR.

Having laid the foundations, crews are now building the ground floor of the facility, which is located on the same campus along with the Stepanakert Republican Hospital and the Stepanakert Polyclinics. The Oncology Center of Stepanakert will comprise three floors, with a total area of close to 2,520 square meters, and will be connected to the Republican Hospital via the ground floor. The center will offer the full complement of oncological diagnosis and treatment services, with the exception of radiotherapy. According to Dr. Armen Hayriyan, NKR's top oncologist and executive director of the Oncology Center, annually more than 700 cancer patients receive inpatient care at the center's old building, which is a run-down, 1960s structure sorely lack-

ing modern amenities. Given the old facility's limited capabilities, Dr. Hayriyan says, many patients opt to receive treatment in Yerevan or even abroad. Currently a staff of medical professionals is being to receive advanced training in France. "The new Oncology Center is poised to be one of the best in the region," Dr. Hayriyan says.

The center will comprise general and clinical-pathomorphology laboratories; X-ray, mammography, and MRI departments; and departments of surgery and intensive therapy, including chemotherapy. The facility will have 35 patient beds.

The French-Armenian community continues to sponsor major health and education projects in Armenia and NKR alike. They include the Zangezur Cardiology Center, in Armenia's Goris Region; and the Yeznik Mozian Vocational School, in Shushi, a critically needed, ultra-modern institution which officially opened its doors some weeks ago.

## Armenia, Iran pledge to expand bilateral cooperation

Top officials from Armenia and Iran pledge to expand the bilateral cooperation on the basis of the deeply rooted friendship between the two countries.

At a meeting in Yerevan Armenian Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan and Iran's First Vice President Eshaq Jahangiri discussed a wide range of issues related to the expansion of trade and economic relations, energy projects, transport infrastructures, the perspectives of cooperation in the fields of agriculture, education and culture.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, the Armenian Prime Minister said they discussed the construction of the third high-voltage power line, which is expected to be completed by 2018. They also agreed on the future steps connected with the construction of Meghri HPP and gas distribution network in Armenian villages bordering Iran. The parties referred to the North-South highway and the Armenia-Iran rail project, stressing their key role in the improvement of regional cooperation and economic growth.

PM Hovik Abrahamyan assured of the willingness of the Armenian Government to contribute to the establishment and deepening of cooperation between Iran and the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), particularly in the context of a future free trade agreement.

The Armenian PM praised the positive momentum reached in the talks on Iran's nuke program and stressed that agreements reached within that framework will benefit the region, contribute to regional and international security and steady development, as well as open perspectives for the development of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Iran's First Vice-President Eshaq Jahangiri noted, in turn, that "there is no obstacle for the development of relations between the



two countries."

"The success achieved within the framework of 5+1 talks creates new and positive conditions for the development of relations and opens new spheres for the development of bilateral economic cooperation," he said.

He said construction of the third high-voltage power line that had been halted for a while is currently under way and will be completed in the shortest term.

"We held discussions on the railway and cargo transportation, and we are confident we'll link the Persian Gulf to the Black Sea within the framework of cooperation with other countries of the region," the Vice-President said.

He added that Armenia's accession to EEU opens a new window from the perspective of development of economic relations between the two countries.

## Armenia hails EU authorization of talks on new deal

Official Yerevan has welcomed the European Union's decision regarding new talks on a legal framework for relations with Armenia.

The EU Foreign Affairs Council on Monday authorized the European Commission and the High Representative to open negotiations on a new, legally binding and overarching agreement with Armenia.

"We attach importance to the decision of the EU Council to provide the European Commission with a mandate to open negotiations with Armenia on the creation of a new legal basis," Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian said in a statement released by his office on October 13.

"We are hopeful that the documents to be worked out as a result of the negotiations will best express the depth of Armenia-EU mutually beneficial cooperation, reflect the joint commitment to raise our relations to a new level and outline the comprehensive partnership in all areas of mutual interest," the minister stated.

The EU and Armenia have been moving towards the opening of the talks since 2013 when the South Caucasus nation unexpectedly decided to withdraw from the process of EU association following more than three years of negotiations on a relevant agreement.

Instead, the government in Yerevan signed up to a Moscow-led customs union and became a member of the Eurasian



Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) formed by Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan in January 2015.

It is expected that the new deal replacing the current EU-Armenia partnership and cooperation agreement will cover concrete areas of political and economic cooperation, but, as has repeatedly been stated by the two sides, will not contradict Armenia's membership commitments to the EEU.

The EU says it is committed to "further develop and strengthen comprehensive cooperation with Armenia in all areas of mutual interest within the Eastern Partnership framework."

The official launching of negotiations is expected to take place before the end of the year.



## Ex-Armenian PM to become Eurasian Economic Commission Chief



Armenia's former Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan, who currently serves as the country's ambassador to the United States, will be appointed head of the Eurasian Economic Commission next year, it emerged on October 16.

Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan, who was, along with his opposite numbers from Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan, attending a summit of the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) in the Kazakh village of Burabay, was asked to name a candidate for the post from Armenia that is going to assume the rotating presidency in the EEU's executive body in February.

"We have made a decision on who will be the head of our commission after February 1, after Russia's presidency, after Viktor Khristenko," Russian Interfax news agency quoted Belarus President Alyaksandr Lukashenka as saying in addressing Sargsyan. "Please, tell us the name of Armenia's representative."

"Sargsyan Tigran Surenovich, former Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia," replied Serzh Sargsyan.

Lukashenka stressed that Russian President Vladimir Putin had approved the candidacy of Tigran Sargsyan, who headed the Armenian government in 2008-2014 and before that served as governor of the Central Bank of Armenia. He was appointed Armenia's ambassador to the United States in July 2014.

"His [Tigran Sargsyan's] candidacy was supported by the Russian president, who worked with him. They say he is a very experienced professional," the Belarus leader said.

At present, the head of the Eurasian Economic Commission Board is Russia's Viktor Khristenko, while Belarus at present holds the chairmanship of the EEU.

The next summit of the Eurasian Economic Commission will be held in Moscow in December. An arrangement was made that before that a 10-member commission will be formed, with two members appointed from each country. A member of the commission by his or her status is, in fact, equivalent to an EEU minister.

## New owner of Electric Networks of Armenia vows financial optimization, service quality improvement



Samvel Karapetyan, President of Tashir Group issued a statement today, welcoming the purchase of Electric Networks of Armenia. The statement reads:

"As previously announced, on September 30, 2015, Tashir Group and Inter RAO signed the sale and purchase agreement for power assets in the Republic of Armenia.

The Parties have agreed that CJSC Electric Networks of Armenia (ENA) will continue fulfilling its existing obligations in

full. Tashir Group has also fully undertaken its obligations in ENA managing. The company management will be transparent and socially clear, based on corporate social responsibility as its key component.

ENA development priorities include introducing a bailout plan; financial optimization; service quality improvement; and financial and economic activity control, i.e. via adaptation of advanced technology.

Our first steps will include modernization of distribution facilities infrastructure through efficient investments. We shall stand strong against any wrongdoings, corrupt employees and malevolent consumers. We shall save on the Company's costs by concentrating internal resources, i.e. minimizing power losses, which will help to avoid higher electricity tariffs in part of ENA.

We see the interests of the three million Armenians as our top value. To serve those, we must stop corruption practices both in and out of the Company.

To support the people of the Republic of Armenia, a resolution was taken to reimburse the difference between the increased electricity tariffs and the ones previously applied before August 1, 2015 for citizens and small business, at the expense of myself and the Government of Armenia on parity basis.

We are all ready for new approaches, new quality of work, and honest and constructive partnership.

Thank you in advance for your strong cooperation."



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### 1 ROOM

- ♦1696.**Tumanyan str.**, 5/4, stone bld, 1 bedroom, h-3m, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 160.000 USD.
- ♦1440.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 110 sq.m., 1 bedroom, h-3m,euro repaired, heating system, furnished,parking,. Price: 350.000 USD.
- ♦1715- **Sayat Nova Ave.**, 5/4, 70sq.m, stone bld, h-4m, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 110.000 USD
- ♦1680- **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/4, 68sq.m, 1 bedroom, old repair, possibility of gas. Price: 86.000 USD.
- ♦1674. **Abovyan str.**, 2nd floor,70sq.m., 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 135.000 USD
- ♦1698-**Aram str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 62sq.m, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, AC, security system, parking. Price: 120.000 USD.

### 2 ROOMS

- ♦3003.**Sayat-Nova str**, 5/3, 105sq.m, 2bedrooms, stone building, capitally repaired. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1560.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built,10/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired,climate control, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.
- ♦2818.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms,2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, Ac, furnished. Price: 400.000USD
- ♦1156.**Komitas Ave.**, Hambardzumyan str. 5/3, 110sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, kitchen is furnished. Price: 150.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦2949.**Aram str.**, Newly built, 1st floor, 143 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, zero state, Price: 2000 USD per sq.m.
- ♦2300.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC,parking. Price: 400.000 USD.



### 3 ROOMS

- ♦3090. **Busand str, /Near Republic Square/,** Newly built, /6th floor,116sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms one in master bedroom, capitally renovated, open balcony. Price: 350.000 USD negotiable
- ♦3046.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 9/9, 81sq.m., without divisions. Price:Negotiable.
- ♦3012.**Aram str**, Newly built, /7th floor, 136sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking, facing to bulvar, Price:300.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦2998.**North Ave**, Newly built, 9/6, 181sq.m, 3bedrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking, Price: 700.000 USD
- ♦2682.**Aram Str.**, Newly built,13/6 187sq.m., 3 bedrooms,2 bathrooms, 2 open balconies, capitally repaired,heating system, 2AC, 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 550.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦2958.**Pushkin str.**, 5/2, 140 sq.m., stone building,4 bedrooms, capitally repaired,heating system. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦2895.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m,3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaied, climate control, AC. Price: negotiable
- ♦2802.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built,8/4, 166sq.m,3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, central heating,AC,security system. Price:320.000 USD.
- ♦1104.**Komitas Ave.**, **Aram Khachatryan str.**, 5/2, 125sq.m.,stone bld, h-2.75m.,3 bedrooms, office, 2 bathrooms, old repair, gas, garage. Price: 130.000

### USD

- ♦2836.**Pushkin str.**, 4/4,5, 400sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 460.000 USD.
- ♦2990.**North Ave.**, Newly built, 11th floor, 295sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: Negotiable.

### PREMISES

- ♦1789.**Charents str.** Land-1270sq.m,5 storied building, each floor-400sq.m.,basement, capitally repaired, parkings. Price:4.000.000 USD negotiable
- ♦1598.**Komitas, Nairy Zaryan str.**, 1000 sq.m., working restaurant,1st line, capitally repaired. Price: negotiable.
- ♦1603.**Northern Ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 160 sq.m.,zero level, window glasses. Price: 2.600.000 USD.
- ♦2035.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m.,1st line, facade-55m.,capitally repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2013.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m.,1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 1.300.000\$ negotiable
- ♦2012.**Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1,2, 140sq.m.,window glasses, capitally repaired, AC. Price: 1.100.000\$ negotiable
- ♦2155.**Mashtots ave.**, 3storied building, 540sq.m., each floor-180sq.m, window glasses, parking. Price:3.600.000 USD
- ♦2020.**Hr. Kochar str.**, Land-300sq.m,1st line, 4storied building, 1080sq.m.,each floor-270sq.m, h-3.6m.,without divisions, parkings, 3 access. Price:1.400.000 USD negotiable
- ♦1986.**Cascade**, Land

- 1000sq.m. 3storied building1200sq.m., unfinished, parking. Price:1.000.000 USD.
- ♦2167.**Sayat Nova str.**, newly built, 38sq. m, capitally repaired. Price: 200.000 USD
- ♦2175.**Tumanyan str**, Ground and 1st floorof the building, 600sq.m, ground floor300sq.m, 1st floor-220sq.m, basement-80sq.m, - 1st line, zero level, 2 entrances, facade-15m, 4 window glasses, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, Price: 3500 USD per sq.m,
- ♦2172. **Isahakyan str**, 92sq.m, 1st line, 7 degrees above zero level, facade-9m, 2 window glasses, h-3.20m, 2 halls, cabinet, bathroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 450.000 USD

### LANDS

- ♦2122.**Davitashen**, 1800 sq.m., water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600 sq.m., and 1200 sq.m. Price: 150 USD per sq.m.
- ♦2121.**Demirchyan str.**, 1338 sq.m.,building permits. Price: 2million USD.
- ♦2013.Cascade. 1000 sq.m. building permits, first line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price 460.000USD
- ♦1402.**Hr. Kochar Str.**, 1100 sq. m.,facade -25 m. Price negotiable.
- ♦2090.**Lori region**, close to Stepanavan, Gyargyar village, 6 hectares, forest 2 hectare has building permits, 3 water source, electricity. Price: 100.000USD.
- ♦2406.**Avan**, Mher Mkrtchyan block, 1000 sq.m., electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price: 30USD per sq.m
- ♦2310.**Monument, Babayan str**, 1000 sq. m, facade-25m, privatized, Price:350 USD negotiable
- ♦2107.**Monument**, 2400sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: 400 USD per sq.m.

- ♦2413.**Ashtarak roadway**, 1000sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2414.**Demirchyan str.** land-750sq.m., building permits. Price:750.000 USD.

### PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦3739.**Nork Marash** Land- 2000sq.m, two separate houses, total bld-600sq.m, capitally repaired, swimming pool, sauna, guard house. 2 car parking, garden. Price: 950.000 USD
- ♦3348.**Blur, Barbyus str.** Land - 800 sq.m, 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 1.2 million USD
- ♦3146.**Aygestan**, Land-500 sq.m., 5 storied bld-765 sq.m.,each floor-180 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, hjeating system,elevator. Price: 2.300.000 USD.
- ♦3583.**Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m,2 storied bld-520sq.m,6 bedrooms,5 bathrooms, capitally repaired,heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price:1.350.000 USD.
- ♦3432.**Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m ,3 storied bld.-501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, boiler room garden, swimming pool, sauna, garage, security system. Price:1.000.000 USD
- ♦3606.**Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur/near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m.,3 storied building-750sq.m.,6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-1.500.000 USD
- ♦3574.**Blur**, Land-779sq.m.,2 storied building-720sq.m,4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system,sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 2.000.000 USD
- ♦3590 **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450 sq.m.,4 storied building-470sq.m.,3bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 680.000 USD
- ♦3651.**Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m.,5 storied building-800sq.m.,4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price:1.700.000 USD.
- ♦3401.**Antarayin str**, Newly built, land-700sq.m, 3 storied bld-690sq.m, 5 bedrooms, capitally repaired. Price: 1.300.000 USD
- ♦3712 **Cascade** Newly built, land-450sq.m, 4 storied bld-600sq.m, zero state. Price: 550.000 USD

### NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

- ♦74.**Cascade**, Verin Antarayin. 136-315 sq m.,walls plastered, electricity, water, gas, euro windows,no exploitation fees. Price:1200 USD per sq.m, parking - 15.000 USD.
- ♦107.**Monument**, Verin Antarayin. inhabited, 8 floors, gas, windows, street view -1000 USD per sq.m., city looking -1500 USD per sq.m., parking - 4 million USD preliminary.
- ♦87.**Sayat-Nova str.**, 21 floors, 3 bedrooms -188 sq.m., 199 sq.m., Price 1900 USD per sq.m., 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight - 117 sq.m., 120 sq.m., 124 sq.m.,Price: 1700 USD per sq.m., climate control, gas.
- ♦93.**Kievyan str.**, Given to the operation in October 2011, 16 floors, walls plastered, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas,parking. Price: 1500-1600USD per sq.m,parking-12 000 USD. Possible with mortgage, for 13 years term.
- ♦94.**Masiv**. 3floors,8 flats,each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.
- ♦130.**Antarayin str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m,available sevice-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦131.**Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available sevice-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable





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## 1 ROOM

- 2037. **Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, gas, heating system, AC, modern furnished, equipped. Price: negotiable
- 2189. **Vardanants str.**, Newly built, 24/12, 90 sqm, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- 2099. **Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, gas, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 600 USD.
- 1972. **Northern ave.**, 8/4, 80sq.m., 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 1200 USD
- 2171. **Tumanyan str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 94 sq.m., 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, capitally repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD
- 2367. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9th floor, 98 sq.m., capitally repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

## 2 ROOMS

- 2302 **North Ave.**, Newly built, 11/4, 137sq.m, 2bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 2295 **North Ave.**, Newly built, 16/15, 173sq.m., 2bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: 5000 USD
- 1780. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, /13th floor, 82 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD negotiable.
- 942. **Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- 1950. **Buzand/Mashtots area.** Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- 1681. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1535. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m, 2bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- 2089. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 8/6, 120sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, furnished, equipped. Price: 2500 USD
- 1738. **Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 1951. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- 1406. **Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- 2109. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 2243. **Buzand str.**, Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD

## 3 ROOMS AND MORE

- 2358 **V. Sargsyan str.**, Newly Built, 7/4, 145sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, one guest toilet, capitally renovated, furnished, underground parking. Price: 3000 USD negotiable
- 2353 **V. Sargsyan str.** 8/5, Newly built, 98sq.m, 2bedrooms, capitally renovated, furnished, Price 1500 USD
- 2347 **Teryan str.** Newly built, 10/8, 320sq.m,

3bedrooms, office, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: Negotiable

•2277. **Kievyan str.** duplex, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, with or without furniture. Price: Negotiable.•2310 **Busand str.**, Newly built, 190sq.m, 3bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD•2316 **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6th floor, 227sq.m., 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, guest toilet, capitally repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD•2303 **Hanrapetutyan str** Newly built, 9/5, 165sq.m, 3bedrooms, 1bathroom, 1 guest toilet. capitally repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD•2257. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 17/16, 160 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: Negotiable•2005. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.•1723. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4, 170 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitally repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD.•1981. **Vardanants Str.**, Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, 3 open balconies, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.•1793. **Teryan str.**, Newly built, 8th floor, 260 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, climat control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish). Price: 3500 USD.•1720. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 16/10, 179 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, cellar- 25sq.m, with or without furniture, parking. Price 3000 USD negotiable•2195. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD•2261. **Hin Yerevantsi, /North Avenue/,** Newly built, 10/3, 124sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 1700 USD•2084. **Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD•2252. **Northern ave.**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

## PRIVATE HOUSES

•1335 **Baghramyan str.**, Land-200sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: 3000 USD•1336 **Aygedzor**, Land-1000sq.m, 2 storied bld-240sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathroom, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD•1337 **Davtashen** Land-406sq.m, 3 storied bld-306sq.m, 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: 3900 USD•1323. **Monument, Babayan str.**, Land-400sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired. Price: Negotiable•1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m, 3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, sauna, boiler room garden, swimming pool, garage, alarming system, security system. Price: 8000 USD.•999. **Aygedzor**, Land -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors- 310 sqm, capitally repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, newly furnished, equipped, sauna, swimming-pool. Starting Price: 5000 USD.•1094. **Noy block**, Land-450sqm, 2 storied building - 220sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden. Price: 2000USD.•1195. **Nork, Armenakyan str.**, Land - 2000 sq.m, 4 storied bld.-520 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, fur-

nished, swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.

•1142. **Djrevej**, Bagrevand community. Land-1000 sq.m., 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capitally repaired, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary /garage for 2 cars. Price: 4 000 USD.•1293. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520 sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 7.000 USD•327. **Nork-Marash**, Land-500sq.m., 4 storied building-600 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-4000 USD•1306. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking, with or without furniture. Price: 6000-8000 USD negotiable•1288. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 5000 USD•1197. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 8000 USD•1312. **Blur, Barbysus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable•1317. **Blur, Barbysus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable.•1323. **Monument, Babayan str.**, Land - 400 sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, each floor-100sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable

## PREMISES

•2049. **Teryan str**, ground floor+basemnet, 1st line, 200sq.m, repaired. Price: 6.000 USD•1693. **Malatia-Sebastia** 4 storied building, 1200sq.m, each floor-300sq.m, 2 separate entrances, climate control, 2 elevators, basement, parking. Price: 15USD per sq.m.•1526. **Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.•1408. **Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghramyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capitally repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.•1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capitally repaired, AC, parking. Price: 10.000 USD.•1945. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitally repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD•1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD•1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capitally repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.•2087. **Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m, 1st line, zero level, capitally repaired, window glasses. Price: Negotiable.•2033. **Abovyan str.**, 388sq.m, Ground floor of the building, 3 degrees above zero level, window glasses, h-3m., basement-235sq.m., capitally repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 15.000 USD•2031. **Vardanants str.**, 500sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, facade-20m, window glasses, without divisions, ,basement-250sq.m, Price: 8000 USD•2027. **Sayat Nova str.**, 95sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, 7 degrees above zero level, 4 window glasses, capitally repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

## The 8<sup>th</sup> ArmTech Armenian Global High Tech Industry Conference Held in Yerevan and Stepanakert

By Gourgen James Khazhakian  
Chief Correspondent

### Part One: Yerevan

Armenian IT sector has made significant progress in recent years, shifting from outsourcing to development and marketing of their own products, **Tony (Anthony) Moroyan**, CEO and Chairman of Viasphere International and Co-Founder and Chairman of the ArmTech Congress, said on 12 October at the opening of the eighth annual ArmTech Congress in Yerevan. Mr Moroyan said Armenia's IT sector had a steady position in the global IT field, and it was now the time to actively promote start-up companies which are very important for the development of small countries like Armenia. In Tony Moroyan's words, the ArmTech has been instrumental in significantly improving the recognition of Armenia as a technological country which might help it establish cooperation with the titans of Silicon Valley. According to him, this co-operation and recognition of the country will attract additional investment into the sector that acquires strategic importance. The eighth annual ArmTech congress is being held this year in Yerevan and Nagorno-Karabakh on October 12-14.

This year a venture conference was conducted along with ArmTech, where 25 companies presented their ideas and programs. Five of them were to receive grants in the amount of \$15,000 each for further development.

The money was thought to be enough to prevent those companies from wasting their potential, according to **Bagrat Yengibaryan**, Director of Enterprise Incubator Foundation (EIF).

"We need to understand what we offer assistance for. We have two key projects, one aimed at assisting the absolute neophytes (whose ideas are yet to be tested) and the other offering a grant worth up to 50,000 Dollars," he told at a news conference.

Yengibaryan said he thinks that the amount of US \$10,000-\$15,000 was an absolutely attractive offer for start-ups which have high chances of failure (estimated 90%).

"We have already provided thirty grants in the amount of 50,000 Dollars; 16 of them are for Gyumri and Vandzor.



We now have the technological center in Gyumri, which is working very actively," he noted.

Bagrat Yengibaryan said he finds the conference an important platform for



developing new projects. "The Microsoft Innovation Center, the National Engineering Laboratory and last year's initiative to propose the engineering city project Jrvezh came into being thanks to ArmTech," he added.

Another feature of the event was a contest of business ideas entitled as "Clean Technologies: Armenia" involving 24 companies, of which the four best

received a prize of \$10,000, while the winner was granted opportunity to present its program in Silicon Valley. ArmTech Congress is being held under the high patronage of the Armenian Prime Minister, with the assistance of the Governments of Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, the World Bank and with the support of Enterprise Incubator Foundation (EIF). Sponsors of this year's event were PicsArt, National Instruments, Cronimet Charitable Foundation, the American Foundation for Armenia. The Partners of the Congress were Microsoft, Viasphere Technopark, Synopsys Armenia, UNIDO, CRDF, Philip Morris Armenia, Feinberg and Green Travel. To remind, ArmTech is being held alternately in the USA and Armenia. The first Congress

was held July 4-7, 2007 in San Francisco, USA.

As Armenian Prime Minister **Hovik Abrahamyan** said at the opening of ArmTech Congress 2015, the annual high-tech ArmTech Congress in Armenia is an important platform that helps disseminate innovative technologies, identify new investment and business opportunities, and showcase the achievements of the sphere.

In PM's words, in the recent years Armenia has made significant progress in IT and high-tech sectors which is also due to the efficient government policy.

The Prime Minister reminded those present that in a bid to give renewed impetus to the sector's development and encourage the creation of new companies and jobs, a legislative package was adopted last year. The package aims to support the IT industry, with tax privileges given to certified start-up companies in the sector.

"As a result, about 50 startup companies and over 200 new jobs were created in the sector within a few months," Mr Abrahamyan said.

"We are consistent while continuing with the policy on the further development of IT industry in Armenia," Hovik Abrahamyan noted.



## Part Two: Stepanakert

On 14 October, the Armenia's 8th Global High Tech Industry Conference Special Session Held in Stepanakert, the capital city of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic.

According to Artsakhpress, IT sector in Artsakh, development trends and education, start-up accelerator topics were on the agenda.

The Session moderator Bagrat Yengibaryan said that this special session in Artsakh aimed at making Stepanakert one of the main knots of IT and added that adequate professional potential was available in Stepanakert.

**Arayik Harutyunyan**, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh, welcoming the participants of "ArmTech 2015", thanked for holding special session in Artsakh and expressed hope that it will be the best platform for business contacts, and the technology community will have a chance to get acquainted with Artsakh technological development potentials.

*"We value the role of IT, as a key factor for economic development and improving living standards,"* he noted.

*"Taking into account the Artsakh unique situation and the troubling events taking place around us, I would like to emphasize the role of the development of local technologies and their application in our country's defense sector. We plan to provide tax privileged conditions for the organizations of this sector. The government will continue to support technological development in Artsakh,"* said NKR PM Harutyunyan.

As Artsakhpress reported, answering questions of the attendees, Artsakh Prime Minister said that it was planned to found an innovative technological university in the Shushi Branch of Armenian National Agrarian University, in accordance with the requirements of modern teaching methods.

The conference participants discussed the IT sector related issues and make recommendations for their solution.

Senior government officials, executives of leading technology companies, Artsakh young IT specialists and students attended the conference.

And...

## Armenian Vice President of "Microsoft": You can have great dreams being small country

YEREVAN, OCTOBER 12, ARMENPRESS. "Microsoft" Vice President **Vahe Torosyan**, an honorary guest of the ArmTech 2015, was greatly excited seeing students and pupils at the Presidential Palace of Armenia, who



received awards from the President of the country. Being born and grew up in Paris, Vahe Torosyan received Armenian upbringing and now is glad to return to his Armenian roots. *"I mentioned during the meeting with the President a little ago that my heart has always been with*



*Armenians. And I quickly realized, first of all thank to my parents, that being hard working, and returning to Armenia with great results will be the best way to contribute to my motherland. When in 2006 I decided to open "Microsoft" office in Armenia, first of all I was thinking about you, the younger generation,"*

"Armenpress" reports, Vahe Torosyan informed.

He describes knowledge, particularly in digital and high-tech sector, as the best foundation for future. *"You should never forget that size does not matter in the sphere of modern technologies: In the current interconnected world you can be a small company, a small country, but have great dreams"*, Torosyan said, adding that he wishes the new generation to do their best for Armenia.

\* \* \*

In an interview with "Armenpress" Tony Moroyan said that *"...thanks to the "ArmTech" brand Armenia has become recognizable among the world largest hi-tech/IT corporations, in the center of the most competitive and aggressive companies in Silicon Valley"*. He stressed that in a very short time the "ArmTech" managed to achieve such results that have not yet reached any country in the world. *"Despite the fact that Armenia is a small country, its presence and influence in Silicon Valley has been noticeable. We have 30-40 Executive Directors in Silicon Valley who work in a leading way companies... On the other hand, within the Forum, we were able to bring to Armenia 5 major global experts who could be decorated with the Nobel Prize, if it were given in the field of the information technology"*, Anthony Moroyan noted.

Talking on the future plans, the Founder of the "ArmTech" Forum noted two objectives: to create an international Pan-Armenian network and a platform which will unite the government, the industry and the education. *"We are able to contribute and to increase foreign investment as well. But to do this, you need to create a favorable business-environment"*, said Moroyan who has been having experience of several decades in engineering and the management as well in Silicon

Valley.

Tony Moroyan proudly noted that during this year "DigiTec Expo" exhibition has become very popular. According to a leading Armenian IT/hi-tec expert, *"...Not only the number of participants increased, the Expo also has become even more diverse."*



## Armenia hosts 31<sup>st</sup> Ministerial Conference of the Francophonie

President Serzh Sargsyan participated on October 10 in the opening session of the 31st Ministerial Conference of the International Organization of La Francophonie at Karen Demirchyan Sports and Concerts Complex. About 500 representatives from organization's member countries and of the General Secretariat of the International Organization of La Francophonie have arrived in Armenia to take part in the 31st session of the conference. Armenia's president delivered an address at the conference.

### Address by President Serzh Sargsyan at the 31st Ministerial Conference of the Francophonie

Honorable Chairperson  
of the conference,  
Mrs. Secretary-General,  
Dear heads of delegation,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

I am greatly honored to herald the beginning of this representative meeting, the 31st Ministerial Conference of the International Organization of La Francophonie. This is an exceptional event for our country, and Armenia is hosting the members of the great Francophone family with the same exceptional sincerity and devotion. This conference is a wonderful chance for all of us to once again honor the Francophone culture and sum up the solemn Francophone atmosphere prevailing in Armenia during the whole year. I cordially welcome all of you to Yerevan.

Let me also congratulate Michaëlle Jean, the newly-elected secretary-general of the International Organization of La Francophonie, who is participating in the works of the organization's ministerial conference for the first time since taking office. Throughout this brief period of tenure, Mrs. Jean has



tried her best to present the organization and its constituent institutions in the international arena. I am confident that under her able leadership, the organization will continue the best traditions of more than decade-long activities carried out by previous Secretary-General Abdou Diouf, the former president of Senegal, and will achieve further success in the organization's works. Congratulations, Mrs. Michaëlle!

Armenia has ages-old ties with many of the Francophone family countries. About one millennium ago, French was the language of official business correspondence and arts in the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia which was situated along the coasts of the Mediterranean Sea. Today Armenia consistently fulfills the commitment undertaken under its membership in the Francophonie to popularizing and advancing the French language.

Currently, being a part of an organization representing 80 states and governments from five continents, including also separate entities, affords us new opportunities to reinforce our historical ties and establish and deepen new ones.





Mr. Chairperson,

Presently, we live under conditions of new crises and threats that have emerged in the international arena, and can witness further widening of dividing lines. Hence, special importance have begun to acquire international and regional organizations which try to unite and not to divide. We must reinforce our institutions, raise their effectiveness and importance. In this respect, the International Organization of La Francophonie holds vital significance: our unity is grounded first of all on values - isn't it? - which is a precious and eternal unifying factor in the present world.

Unfortunately, there are also conflicts and crises that continue to pose a threat to the security of some regions of the Francophone space and endanger their sustainable development. It was no accident that the main subject of the conference proposed by Armenia is "The Peace, Tolerance, Dialogue and Mutual Understanding in the Francophone Space." We believe that through tolerance we can avoid a lot of problems and on the contrary, intolerance can result in crises, conflicts and even in the commitment of genocide, the gravest crime against humanity. We know about it from our own experience.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to stress the Francophone family's solidarity and support for the Armenia people in the context of the commemoration of the Armenian Genocide Centennial, which was expressed in the statement made by the organization's secretary-general. We strongly believe that such crimes are possible to prevent only through concerted efforts and taking lessons from the past, preserve and respect universal values, including those of the Francophonie. Our goal is to build a society grounded on the principles of tolerance, peaceful existence and democracy.

There are other fields where we can work together - protection of human rights, migration, environmental protection, issues pertaining to economic development and youth: those all have long been classified as priorities by the Francophonie.

I would like to lay special emphasis on the problem of cli-



mate change monitoring. It is the overall responsibility of each and every one of us to secure a healthy and safe future for our generations. In this respect, I am confident that the Francophone community will made its contribution to the success of the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Paris at the end of this year.

Mr. Chairperson,  
Dear colleagues,

By hosting this conference in Yerevan three years after Armenia's full-fledged membership, we want to reaffirm our country's devotion to the International Organization of La Francophonie, a space of cooperation and dialogue, under the auspices of which flourishes the Francophonie's treasure - its diversity. For us, the Francophonie is a culture, mentality and a set of moral values.

I wish the conference productive work, and I also wish you an active and pleasant cognitive stay in Armenia.

I welcome you!





## Genocide scholars urge Germany to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide

In a letter addressed to Norbert Lammert, President of the German Bundestag, Norbert Röttgen, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Bundestag, and the heads of two factions, the International Association of Genocide Scholars urges Germany to recognize the Genocide of Armenians, Assyrians and Greeks in the Ottoman Empire. The letter reads:

"We write to you as the past presidents of the International Association of Genocide Scholars, the largest body of scholars who study genocide, concerning the resolution on the Armenian genocide that may be before you now.

The German government's engagement with the Armenian genocide is vitally important to the international perspective in the aftermath of this history. The German Bundestag's non-binding resolution of June 2005 concerning the annihilation of the Armenians in Turkey provides an important context for the new proposal that is now being considered in the Foreign Committee of the Bundestag.

In order for progress toward reconciliation to be made between Turkey and the Armenian Republic and the Armenian people, acknowledgement of the historical facts about one of the most devastating human rights atrocities of the modern era must be made. As the Bundestag noted in 2005. "The German Bundestag is painfully aware from its own national experience how hard it is for every people to face the dark sides of its past. But it also believes that facing one's own history fairly and squarely is necessary and constitutes an important basis for reconciliation."

Furthermore, the 2005 resolution read: "The German Bundestag honors and commemorates the victims of violence, murder and expulsion among the Armenian people before and during the First World War. The Bundestag deplores the deeds of the Young Turkish government in the Ottoman Empire that resulted in the almost total annihilation of the Armenians in Anatolia. It also deplores the inglorious role played by the German Reich which had made no attempt to intervene and stop these atrocities."

In the centennial year, the opinions of Pope Francis I, the governments of Austria, Brazil, Belgium and

Luxembourg, as well as the European Parliament, were significant and have joined 20 other countries (including France, Russia, Poland, Greece, Sweden) that have called for Turkey to deal with its Armenian past honestly. The front page New York Times headline of April 17, 2015 underscored the importance of this ethical issue: "A Century After A Genocide, Turkey's Denial Only Deepens."

The outpouring of world opinion in the spring of 2015 underscored the moral importance of official acknowledgement of the Ottoman government's genocide because its successor state, the Republic of Turkey, continues to carry on an aggressive campaign of denial and falsification of the historical facts. Not only has there been no restitution, but Turkey's campaign to pressure foreign governments and institutions (museums, school boards, media) to disallow the representations of the Armenian genocide is a violation of sovereign democratic rights and is ethically deplorable.

German documents on the Armenian genocide are an important part of the historical record. The documentary scholarship of Johannes Lepsius, the collection of eyewitness photographs of Armin T. Wegner, the eyewitness accounts of numerous German diplomats, officers, missionaries, nurses, engineers and railway workers, and the massive collection of German diplomatic correspondence in the archives of the German Foreign

Office, and in Wolfgang Gust's major collection of foreign office records: *The Armenian Genocide: Evidence from the German Foreign Office Archives, 1915-1916*, all constitute a significant part of the international historical record.

Germany, more than any country in the 20th century, has dealt with the aftermath of genocide with exemplary courage and moral reckoning. Germany has been a world leader in its ability to face its past, create a powerful culture of historical memory and deal with issues of recompense and social justice in the wake of the Holocaust. Thus, a statement from Germany affirming the historical facts and historical record of the Ottoman Turkish genocide against more than 3 million Christians—including more than a million Armenians according to the estimate of the German Embassy in Constantinople in October, 1916—would have great moral significance for this centennial moment.

We call on German legislators in this centennial year of 2015 to officially resolve in written form the forceful legal opinions made by speakers of all parliamentary factions on, April 24, 2015, confirming the genocide against the Armenian, Assyrian and Greek populations of the Ottoman Empire. We believe German leadership will help Turkey to address its own struggles with historical memory and will help support progressive forces inside Turkey, and Turkey's forward progress as a proud nation."





## Who should demand Armenian territories from Turkey?



*By Harut  
Sassounian*

*Publisher, The  
California Courier*

I just became aware of an important interview Pres. Serzh Sargsyan had given to Turkish journalist Cansu Camlibel of Hurriyet newspaper on April 24, 2015 in Yerevan. The article was buried under the avalanche of media coverage during the commemorations of the Armenian Genocide Centennial.

Here are key excerpts from Pres. Sargsyan's lengthy interview as published in the Turkish Daily News, the English edition of Hurriyet:

- The President rightly pointed out that "the emotional and non-diplomatic reaction of the Turkish leadership [to Pope Francis's acknowledgment of the Armenian Genocide in The Vatican on April 12] was yet another proof that Turkey continued its policy of evident denial pursued at a state level, thus taking upon it the burden of the responsibility for the crime perpetrated by the authorities of the Ottoman Empire."

- "As a mighty power and champion of democratic values, the United States has on numerous occasions stated its position regarding the Armenian Genocide. Out of 51 U.S. constituent states 44 recognized and condemned the Armenian Genocide. Throughout history various American presidents, such as Ronald Reagan, Gerald Ford, described the atrocities against the Armenian people as genocide. Even those U.S. presidents, that had not used the word 'genocide' during their tenure, had used that term while campaigning. It means that they never questioned the veracity of what had happened, and only due to certain political considerations refrained from uttering the word 'genocide.'" While Pres. Sargsyan correctly characterized U.S. recognition of the Armenian Genocide, there

were a couple of inaccuracies in his answer: The United States has 50, not 51 states; and Gerald Ford acknowledged the Armenian Genocide as a Congressman, before becoming President.

- "The Turkish proposal of establishing the so-called commission of historians has only one goal, which is to delay the process of the Armenian Genocide recognition, and divert the attention of international community from that crime. That is not only our view but also the view of the international community that goes on recognizing and condemning the Armenian Genocide. The protocols contain no clause of establishing any commission on historical studies. The respective paragraph in the protocol envisages a dialogue aimed at restoring mutual confidence between the two nations, which entailed the establishment of a sub-commission. Throughout the negotiations, the Armenian side has stressed on numerous occasions at various levels also to the Turkish side that the veracity of the genocide cannot be questioned under any circumstances." Armenians who opposed to the Protocols, including this writer, had made similar objections.

- "It is already the sixth year since the protocols have been signed: when is the expedient time? ...The years past have demonstrated that Turkey is looking forward not to some convenient moment, but instead is trying to prevent the manifestation of the unambiguous position of the international community on the Armenian Genocide by imitating a process of the Armenian-Turkish rapprochement, claiming that recognitions were something that hindered the reconciliation. The process of the Armenian-Turkish reconciliation was launched upon my initiative, and pursued a very simple goal - to establish diplomatic relations without any preconditions, and unseal the last closed border in Europe, safeguarding peaceful

and neighborly coexistence of our nations. Unfortunately, the lack of political will on the part of the Turkish authorities, distortion of the letter and spirit of the protocols, fresh manifestations of denial, and continuously brought up preconditions intended to feed groundless demands of Azerbaijan thwarted the implementation of the protocols.... After six years of unfulfilled expectations, I have decided to recall the protocols from the parliament. On one occasion I said the Armenians are not going to wait indefinitely for the Turkish authorities to be able to find a convenient moment to finally ratify those protocols." In my opinion, the Armenian Foreign Minister should immediately withdraw his signature from the Protocols and declare them obsolete.

- "The Republic of Armenia has never declared any territorial claims either on Turkey or any other country since our independence. There has never been such an issue on the foreign policy agenda of our country, and there is none today. That is a clear-cut position."

If not read carefully, Pres. Sargsyan's last answer could easily be misunderstood. He is neither saying that Armenia has territorial claims from Turkey nor that it does not! Armenia simply has not raised this issue officially because doing so could have serious national security implications given its powerful and hostile neighbor on the Western Front. Political parties, organizations, and individuals like this writer have frequently made territorial claims from Turkey, but it is understandable that Armenia's Head of State has to be much more circumspect in his public pronouncements.

Pres. Sargsyan stated several years ago that he leaves the pursuit of Armenian territorial claims to a future generation, which implies that Armenia does indeed have territorial demands from Turkey!

## American TV Host Dives into Armenian Culture 'Headfirst'

From herding sheep while wearing traditional clothing to experiencing modern life in the bustling Armenian capital, Yerevan, well-known U.S. television host and comedian Conan O'Brien says he's dived into Armenian culture headfirst while on a trip inspired by his ethnic Armenian assistant.

The 52-year-old TV personality is regarded as the longest-working of all current late-night talk show hosts in the United States, at 22 years.

A writer and producer for *The Simpsons* for two seasons, O'Brien later took over David Letterman's position as host of *Late Night* in 1993. Since 2010, he has hosted Conan, another talk show, on the cable channel TBS.

O'Brien has been in Armenia since last week filming an episode of his show that will air in November.

O'Brien, who also shot an episode in Cuba a few months ago, says it was his longtime assistant who gave him the idea of visiting Armenia.

"This all happened because I have an assistant who I've worked with for five years, Sona Movsesian, and she is always very active on behalf of the Armenian community of Los Angeles in the United States, and she is always talking about Yerevan," O'Brien said in an interview with RFE/RL's Armenian Service ([Azatutyun.am](http://Azatutyun.am)). "A few years ago, she asked me to wear a Yerevan T-shirt and she took a picture of me wearing this

Yerevan T-shirt, and she put it on Facebook... and a lot of Armenians saw it and were very excited. And I finally said to Sona: 'Why don't I take you to Armenia?' because she has never been there before. And so that was the story behind the trip."

O'Brien said they've had a lot of adventures around Yerevan and across Armenia during their four or five days of filming, getting immersed in local culture.

"I went to a lot of different places and had a lot of really fun interactions. We tried to explore as much of Yerevan and Armenia as we could in the time that we've been here. ... So I think people will be surprised at how much we actually accomplished while we were here. They'll see that we really did dive into the culture headfirst."

The American comedian said he has noticed a few things that seemed funny to him, such as the presence of the fast-food chain KFC. "When you get to a place like Armenia, you're so excited to be on the other side of the world, away from all the Western influences, all the stuff that we think may be not the best thing for the world, and then you see a KFC and you think: 'Oh my God. Why? Why did they let KFC here?'"

O'Brien says watching Armenian men walk with their arms interlocked was also very unusual. "You don't see that in the United States, and so when you first see it here, you think: Why are they doing that? But then, I think, that's a great idea. So, I

started walking with one of my producers. We started linking arms and I actually thought: 'This is fantastic.' We should adopt this in the West. It's time for us to catch up." O'Brien said that while he knew that the country marked the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide this year, it wasn't the reason he came at this time.

"But it certainly adds a lot of importance to the visit," he said.

"I'm not an expert on world affairs. I know that it's very complicated because of Turkey's relationship with the United States and there's a whole geopolitical set of questions that are beyond me. But I take it from a very human, simple level, which is, I wanted to bring Sona here, and I wanted to experience her culture with her and meet her people with her," O'Brien said. "And you cannot come here and not go and visit the genocide memorial. It is an integral part of this country's history and Sona's history so ... It was very moving to go. ... I just thought, 'I don't know what the politics are,' but I'm not gonna worry about that."

While not noticing anecdotal gold iPhones in Armenia, O'Brien says he did notice the trait that he also sees with Armenians that live in the United States, especially in Los Angeles.

"They [Armenians] are very intelligent people, but they are also very strong, and I don't just mean physically strong, but spiritually very strong people," the popular TV host says.

## Congressman Ted Lieu supports U.S.-Armenia Double Tax Treaty

*Asbarez*

The Armenian National Committee of America - Western Region (ANCA-WR) is expressing its appreciation to Congressman Ted Lieu for authoring a letter to U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew in support of a U.S.-Armenia Double Tax Treaty. The accord, if concluded, would, by limiting the prospect of double taxation, remove a major barrier to the growth of US - Armenia bilateral trade and investment - a major goal of the ANCA.

In August of this year senior Armenian National Committee of America officials met with U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew in Washington, DC to press for a new U.S.-Armenia Double Tax Treaty. The current treaty governing double taxation issues between the two countries is the

1973 U.S.-U.S.S.R. Tax Treaty, an outdated forty year-old accord. The ANCA strongly believes that the lack of a double tax treaty between the United States and Armenia creates legal uncertainty that deters potential U.S. investors, diverts investment flows and disadvantages American businesses seeking to invest in the Republic of Armenia.

"Our many ANCA supporters in California's 33rd Congressional District greatly appreciate Congressman Lieu's leadership in seeking to bolster economic ties between the United States and Armenia," said ANCA-WR Chair Nora Hovsepian. "We are pleased that Congressman Lieu is so actively supportive of updating a tax treaty that, if adopted by the U.S. Senate, would serve to facili-

tate the flow of investment between America and Armenia. It is our hope that the Obama Administration responds positively to Congressman Lieu's principled support for this critical initiative," added Hovsepian.

In his letter to U.S. Treasury Secretary Lew, Congressman Lieu asserted that a "modern tax treaty [between the U.S. and Armenia] could facilitate the growth of commercial relations, enhance job creation in both countries and provide Armenia with greater regional autonomy." The Congressman's letter went on to state that he is encouraged that "the United States already has a number of tax treaties with relatively small countries, such as Estonia, Jamaica, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta and Slovenia."



## Rare Armenian masterpieces to go on display for the first time at the Bodleian Libraries

A new exhibition at the Bodleian Libraries celebrates more than 2,500 years of Armenian history and culture with a sumptuous display of manuscripts, books, sacred objects and everyday artefacts from the Armenian community that have been handed down through the generations.

Armenia: Masterpieces from an Enduring Culture features treasures from the Bodleian's magnificent Armenian collections alongside items from private and national collections in Armenia, the Netherlands and the UK.

Opening on 23 October, Armenia is the second exhibition to be held in the Bodleian's newly renovated Weston Library. The Bodleian Library has been collecting Armenian manuscripts and printed books since the seventeenth century, but this is the first time items from the Libraries' rich Armenian collection have gone on public display in a major exhibition.

Armenia: Masterpieces from an Enduring Culture showcases more than 100 stunning objects that demonstrate the enormous achievements of a nation with a rich, fascinating and often turbulent history. The 'enduring culture' in the exhibition's title refers to the great antiquity of Armenian culture. This landlocked country situated along the route of the Great Silk Road boasts a long history spanning more than two and a half millennia, from its first mention, carved into stone, in the reign of King Darius I (c. 550-486 BCE) to the modern Republic of Armenia and the numerous diaspora communities worldwide. The endurance highlighted in this new exhibition also refers to the suffering and hardship which has befallen the Armenians. 2015 marks the centenary of the genocide perpetrated against the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire by the Young Turk government during World War I.

In their honour, the Bodleian's Armenia exhibition displays a rich cache of objects spanning more than two thousand years of cultural history: from coins minted in the first century BCE during the reign of King Tigranes II to sumptuously and more modestly decorated manuscripts from the Middle Ages. The diverse range of books, maps, art and artefacts on show reveals a culture that is both religious and secular. The exhibition also features the treasured objects of survivors of the 1915 genocide including traditional Armenian needlework and needle lace items, family photographs and an Armenian family's

century-old tea set.

'The Bodleian Libraries is honored to take part in the commemorations for the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide by helping to share the history and culture of the Armenian people,' said Bodley's Librarian Richard Ovenden. 'We have collected Armenian books and documents for over 400 years, and the University has taken seriously the study of Armenian culture for a very long time. Through this exhibition, which features items of exceptional beauty, we are able to share with a much broader audience the vibrancy and richness of this ancient culture.'

Highlights of the exhibition:

- A rare and outstandingly beautiful gospel illustrated by Mesrop of Xizan, an Armenian master of the 17th century.

- A venerated holy book on loan from a UK-based Armenian family who have passed down their copy through the generations. The book - known as The Narek - is an 18th century copy of The Book of Lamentation containing mystical prayer poems by Saint Gregory of Narek. This is the most venerated book in Armenian culture after the Bible, and healing powers are ascribed to it. Often called the 'Saint of the House', it is believed to protect the family with whom it resides.

- A brightly colored gospel manuscript featuring a 'hidden demon' that has been rubbed out over the centuries by pious readers. Using hyperspectral imaging tools, conservators at the Bodleian have revealed the hidden demon and will display the newly-discovered image alongside the original manuscript.

- A collection of 20 ancient coins from a private collector and benefactor to the exhibition, which tell the story of Armenia's tumultuous political and economic history.

- The only known copy of the first book printed in Iran, a book of psalms dating from 1638.

- The Bodleian's oldest Armenian manuscript dating from the 11th century: a copy of John Chrysostom's Commentary on the Epistle to the Ephesians.

- Religious artefacts such as a silk altar curtain embroidered with silver thread, a priest's staff, and a ceremonial brass bowl.

- Personal treasures that have been carefully kept and passed down through generations of Armenian families including a traditional needlework headdress, a

woman's needle lace collar, an Armenian family's samovar (hot water vessel used to prepare tea), and personal photographs from families affected by the Genocide.

The exhibition will also feature videos of the Oxford Armenian Choir performing in the Weston Library and a short film titled The Blessing by artist Krikor Momdjan.

'Armenian culture has shaped humanity and given it great gifts, from precious manuscripts, literature and art to religious and secular music,' said Theo Maarten van Lint, Calouste Gulbenkian Professor of Armenian Studies at the University of Oxford. 'In this exhibition, we present to the public the historical, artistic and other cultural achievements of a people not often in the focus of the public eye, in an effort to educate, fascinate and create a dialogue between nations and peoples.'

Scholarly interest in Armenian culture at the University of Oxford dates back at least 400 years, when the first Armenian texts entered the newly founded Bodleian Library through benefactions from Archbishop Laud (1573-1645). This year, the University commemorates the 50th anniversary of the establishment of an endowed Chair in Armenian Studies: the Calouste Gulbenkian Professorship. The current holder of the Professorship, Professor Theo Maarten van Lint, curated the exhibition with Robin Meyer, Lector in Latin and Greek Languages at the University of Oxford. The exhibition is the first major exhibition in the UK of Armenian materials in almost 15 years.

Armenia: Masterpieces from an Enduring Culture follows Marks of Genius, the inaugural exhibition at the Bodleian's new Weston Library, which opened to the public in March 2015. The Armenia exhibition runs until 28 February 2016 and a programme of talks and events will be held over the course of the exhibition. Admission to the exhibition is free and booking is not required.

The Bodleian Libraries is grateful to Mr Raffy Manoukian for his generous support of the exhibition.

The exhibition is accompanied by a 276-page catalogue, Armenia: Masterpieces from an Enduring Culture, edited by the exhibition's curators Theo Maarten van Lint and Robin Meyer (Bodleian Library Publishing, 2015). The publication was produced with the generous support of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and The Hakop Kevorkian Fund.

## System Of A Down to receive arts award for raising awareness of Armenian Genocide

Rockers System Of A Down are to receive a special award for raising awareness of the Armenian Genocide, Contact Music reports.

The Armenian-American musicians are the recipients of the 2015 Parajanov-Vartanov Institute Award, a prize named after groundbreaking filmmakers Sergei Parajanov and Mikhail Vartanov, who fought persecution for their work in the Soviet Union.

Serj Tankian's band launched the Wake Up The Souls Tour earlier this year to mark 100 years since the Armenian Genocide, in which up to 1.5 million citizens were systematically murdered by the nation's government.

The tour culminated with the group's first ever show in the country on the anniversary of the start of the atrocity on 24 April.

"(The) 2015 Parajanov-Vartanov Institute Award will honor the Grammy-winning rock band System Of A Down for their virtuous commitment to justice exemplified by their historic 2015 Wake Up the Souls tour," a statement from the Parajanov-Vartanov Institute reads.

The prize will be handed to the band at a ceremony in Los Angeles on 21 October.

Previous recipients of the award include Hollywood director



Martin Scorsese, who accepted the honour in 2014 for his work with The Film Foundation's World Cinema Project on the restoration of Parajanov's 1969 film *The Color of Pomegranates*.

## Khachkar inaugurated in Buenos Aires

On the afternoon of Saturday 10 October the Armenian community of Argentina unveiled a Khachkar in Vicente Lopez, an important region of the province of Buenos Aires, specially brought from Yerevan, Prensa Armenia reports.

The author of the Khachkar was the young Armenian sculptor Artak Hampartsumian, one of the finest stone carvers in their specialty.

With the presence of Mayor Jorge Macri and over 500 members of the Armenian community, the Armenian cross-stone was placed

as part of the activities for the centennial of the Armenian Genocide. "Argentina should thank the communities who built the country, not the other way," said Macri.

Jorge Tossounian gave a speech on behalf of the Armenian community of the region, said: "Our grandparents, those direct survivors who were refugees like the ones wandering around Europe today, reached the shores of this blessed country, seeking peace and tranquility lost. Argentina only asked them to be men of good will."

## Eurovision 2016: Iveta Mukuchyan to represent Armenia

Armenia has chosen: Iveta Mukuchyan will represent the country at Eurovision 2016 in Stockholm.

"I'm very happy, thankful and honored to be chosen by the Public TV Company of Armenia to represent Armenia," Iveta commented.

"I love Eurovision and it's amazing to get a chance to represent my country on the big stage. Your support is very important to me, so I hope you will be next to me on this responsible and important journey."

The Public TV Company of Armenia has announced an open contest for songwriters from all over the world. Entries can be submitted by Email to [selection@armtv.com](mailto:selection@armtv.com) no later than November 13. More details can be found on the official Armenian Eurovision website.

Iveta Mukuchyan was born in 1986 in Armenia. When she was 5 years old her family moved to Germany, but after living there for 20



years Iveta decided to come back to her motherland, Armenia.

Iveta studied at the State Conservatory in Yerevan. In 2012 she participated in the talent show *The Voice of Germany* where she made it all the way to the live shows. Today, Iveta is a well-known and loved singer-songwriter on home ground, and acts as a role model for many young women. She definitely is an eye-catching and dynamic artist.



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**Zodiac Weekly Forecast**

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**Aries****(March 20-April 19)**

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Your charisma is powerful and you can be at your most persuasive now. Manipulation in order to get what you want is not necessary. Step aside from such temptations. Activities requiring physical energy are accented and favored now. You have a need to get out and about to refresh your spirit.

**Taurus****(April 20- May 19)**

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The scales fall from your eyes as an illusion is vaporized. This occurs in the territories of friendship, lovers, children, or yourself. Nothing really has changed. You simply see what is and what is not there. Whatever the disappointment, it is short lived. You will recover quickly.

**Gemini****(May 20-June 20)**

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You may be recognizing an illusion you have had about yourself and your direction. This may be disappointing, but you need to see it. Monitor your inner critic this week. It may be serving up a plate of neurotic guilt to interfere with your attitude. You are not better or worse than anyone else. We all have inner dreams and expectations, some of which are only hopes.

**Cancer****(June 21-July 21)**

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Your attention is still focused on home, hearth, and family during this period. September's eclipses may have brought unsettling news that you are still chewing on. You were born with the wisdom of your ancestors. Look to past experience to help you deal with the present dilemmas.

**Leo****(July 22-August 21)**

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You or someone else may want you to feel guilty because you are unable to make things better. Recognize that you are not the magician you would like to be and let go of the guilt. Whatever happens now, you are highly prone to think dark thoughts about yourself. This is passing. Let it go.

**Virgo****(August 22-September 22)**

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You are ready for an adventure. It may already have begun, but now you are clearly on target. Love life and creative output have "go" signals and you can move forward without hesitation. You have plenty of energy and this is a joyful time in your life. Exercise serves you well now. Your spirits are high.

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

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Beware the temptation to feel sorry for yourself this week. If you want attention, then ask for it, rather than sulking because someone cannot read your mind. Your imagination is vivid and may be dark right now. Recognize that the scenario playing in your head is probably not the whole truth.

**Scorpio****(October 23-November 21)**

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This is a time to believe your dreams and make that push toward success. The Force is with you now. Activities requiring strength and/or endurance are favored. A transformation is at hand and available if you will reach for it. Help from those more powerful than yourself is available if you need it.

**Sagittarius****(November 22-December 20)**

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You finally have permission to seek expansion of an important goal. Travel, whether in body or by the digital pathway, brings a door opener. Teaching and any educational activities will flow favorably. You have an opportunity to show the world what you can accomplish.

**Capricorn****(December 21-January 19)**

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This fall you are given a boost of power by Mars and Jupiter. They represent the help that comes to you from behind the scenes. Legal, educational, and religious interests are bent in your favor. You can make progress in these arenas at this time. This is the week of greatest forward motion.

**Aquarius****(January 20-February 17)**

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This is a quiet time for you. It is an opportunity to gather your thoughts and research options. Rest your mind and your body. There is a huge output of energy just ahead and you need to be ready to accommodate it. You are probably working on a project: How to blend the new ways with the old. Maybe you need to modernize your style.

**Pisces****(February 18-March 19)**

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Much of your attention is focused on one or more significant others during this period. Give as much as you truly want to give. If you have a sense that your help is being extracted from you, stop and look carefully at what you are doing. Allowing someone to "take" your energy is not a healthy practice.

# Turkish writer's wish is to see the copy of Tsitsernakaberd Memorial built in Ankara

My wish is to see the copy of Tsitsernakaberd Memorial opened in Turkey, Turkish writer Kemal Yalcin told a press conference in Yerevan.

Kemal Yalcin is a Turk and a Muslim. He has nothing to do with Armenians. As a student he read in Turkish textbooks that Armenians were traitors. He met the first Armenian in Germany, where he has been living since 1980. It was Meline, an Istanbul Armenian teacher.

"Meline was teaching us, telling

about different countries - China, Finland, India, but never about Armenia and Armenians. 'It's impossible to tell about our pain,' she said, when I asked her why she avoided telling about her Motherland and her people. When I revealed my plans to write about Armenians, she made me promise I would visit Cilicia to find the heirs of Genocide survivors and talk to them. Only after that she agreed to speak about her pain," Kemal Yalcin said.



The Turkish writer visited the Tsitsernakaberd Memorial today. "I'm shocked and extremely excited," he said. "I have dedicated more than 5,000 pages to the Armenian people and the Armenian Genocide, but I know it's nothing compared to the sufferings the Armenian people went through. Believe that I carry that pain in my soul and I'm aware I have a lot to do to support your just cause," Kemal Yalcin added.

The author's dream is to see the copy of Tsitsernakaberd built in Ankara. "I want Turks to lay flowers at the memorial to the innocent victims every April 24 just like Armenians do," he concluded.



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**The Noyan Tapan**  
HIGHLIGHTS

Weekly Newspaper, Since May 4, 1993.  
The publisher: NT Holding LTD.  
Circulation: 1500 print copies and  
15.600 copies by e-mail list in PDF format

President of the NT Media Holding:  
**Tigran Harutyunyan**  
Editor-in-Chief of the Media Holding:  
**Gayaneh Arakelyan**  
Director of the Weekly:  
**Marina Harutyunyan**  
Chief Correspondent: **Gourgen Khazhakian**  
Proofreader: **Susanna Mkrtchian**  
**ISSN 1829-0604**  
Registration certificate and the date: 273.110.00512, 15.12.1995

E-mail: [contact@nt.am](mailto:contact@nt.am), URL: [www.nt.am](http://www.nt.am)

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