

Four Armenian soldiers killed in Azeri shelling



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Armenia, China vow to deepen comprehensive cooperation

On September 22, 2015, Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan met with China State Council Chairman (Prime Minister) Li Keqiang in Beijing, RA Government's Press Service reported.

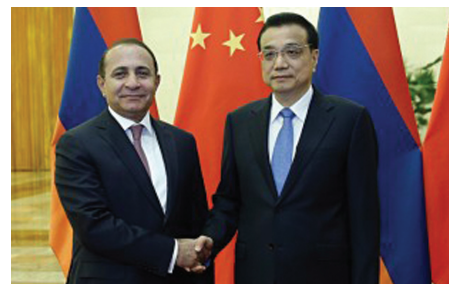
Welcoming the Prime Minister of Armenia, the Chairman of the State Council of China thanked him for accepting the invitation to visit China and attend the Eurasian Economic Forum. Highly appreciative of the Armenian-Chinese relations, Li Keqiang expressed confidence that his Armenian counterpart's visit might help promote the development and strengthening of bilateral cooperation.

Thankful for the warm welcome, Prime Minister Abrahamyan pointed out that the development of relations with China is a foreign policy priority for Armenia. Stressing that there is great potential for cooperation in the economic sphere, Hovik Abrahamyan expressed conviction that his visit would give fresh impetus to bilateral ties and economic cooperation.

Stating that a high-level political dialogue had been nurtured by the two countries in recent years, the interlocutors hailed RA President Serzh Sargsyan's State visit to China in March, 2015, which elevated the two nations' friendly relations to a qualitatively new level and boosted the momentum of the Armenian-Chinese interaction.

"I wish to emphasize that strong with the outcome of the meeting held between the leaders of Armenia and China, we are actively working toward boosting bilateral relations and implementing the agreements reached," Hovik Abrahamyan said.

Both sides stressed the importance of continued cooperation in the fields of infrastructure development, energy, transportation, chemical industry, agriculture, tourism, science, education, culture and civil aviation. In this context, they noted the importance of the Armenian-Chinese intergovernmental commission on trade and economic cooperation. Prime Minister

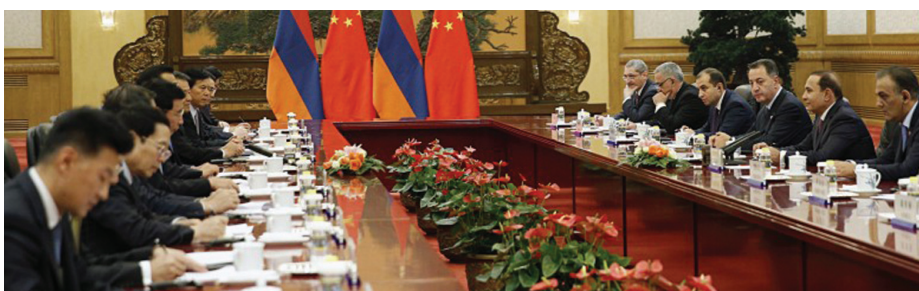


Abrahamyan said to be pleased with the fact that bilateral trade had been on the upgrade in recent years leading to a significant increase in trade turnover (more than half a billion dollars).

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang noted in turn that cooperation was developing effectively in all sectors - political, economic and humanitarian, and his country was keen to deepen and strengthen them ahead.

As the two prime ministers discussed Iran-Armenia Railroad and North-South Road Corridor investment programs, the Chinese Premier reiterated his country's interest in them. He expressed readiness to implement joint projects in infrastructure, industry, humanitarian and other spheres. Li Keqiang advised that Armenian students' scholarship was going to be raised in China next year.

At the end of the meeting, Hovik Abrahamyan invited his Chinese counterpart to make an official visit to Armenia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.



Three Armenian villagers killed in Azeri shelling: Defense Ministry vows 'equivalent actions'



Three Armenian civilians were killed as a result of ceasefire violation by the Azerbaijani side on September 24.

The rival used artillery weapons and mortars of different calibre as it opened fire in the north-eastern direction of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border. The shelling left three civilians killed in Tavuh Province (Paytsar Arakelyan, 83, Shushan Asatryan,

94, and Sona Revazyan, 41).

"As a rule, the Azerbaijani side resorts to provocative actions on the eve negotiations and meetings targeted at the peaceful resolution of the Karabakh conflict, intentionally escalating tension at the border. This comes to prove that the military-political leadership of the neighbouring country ignores initiatives aimed at peaceful settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict and periodically destabilize the situation at the line of contact," the Armenian Ministry of Defense said in a statement.

"The current situation is a result of insidious tactics of the Azerbaijani military-political leadership and contradicts the logic of negotiations within the framework

of the OSCE Minsk Group and the principles of international humanitarian law," the Ministry declared.

The Armenian Ministry of Defense urges the Azerbaijani side to refrain from steps aimed at escalation and take practical measures to stabilize the situation. It also urges residents of villages bordering Azerbaijan to avoid serving a shield for own Armed Forces.

"The Armenian Armed Forces will resort to equivalent actions to stabilize the situation and restrain the Azerbaijani troops," the Ministry said, adding that "the military-political leadership of Azerbaijan will bear full responsibility for the consequences."

Four Armenian soldiers killed in Azeri shelling



Tension in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict continued to rise on September 25 as four Armenian soldiers were killed in what military authorities in Stepanakert said was an Azerbaijan rocket attack on their positions in northeastern Karabakh.

A short statement by the Karabakh Defense Army said the conscripts -- Norayr Khachatryan, Robert Mkrtchyan, Harut Hakobyan and Karen Shahinyan -- suffered fatal injuries after Azerbaijani

forces fired rockets from Turkish-made TR-107 multiple-launch systems. It said that an unspecified number of other Armenian soldiers were wounded as a result.

"An investigation is underway to clarify to details of the incident," it said in a statement. It gave no further details.

In another statement released later in the day, the Defense Ministry accused Azerbaijan of deliberately heightening tensions and warned that this "criminal tactic" could lead to "developments fraught with unpredictable consequences." Baku will be solely responsible for them, it said.

Earlier in the day the Karabakh Armenian military said Azerbaijani troops stationed along "the line of contact" east and north of the disputed territory breached the ceasefire on the night from Thursday to Friday with TR-107 systems,

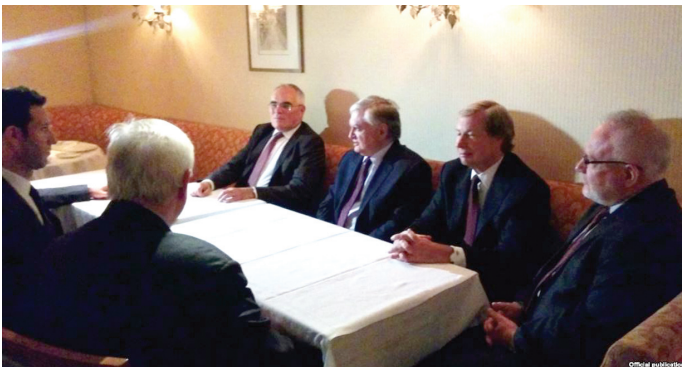
mortars, grenade launchers and automatic weapons.

The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry, for its part, alleged in the morning Armenian truce violations along "the line of contact" and Azerbaijan's border with Armenia. Skirmishes at the western section of the heavily militarized border have again intensified since Thursday.

The Armenian side suffered the latest combat casualties in Karabakh just hours after the U.S., Russian and French mediators expressed serious concern at the fresh upsurge in fighting and urged both sides to de-escalate the situation.

The mediators are due to hold a trilateral meeting with the Armenian and Azerbaijani foreign ministers in New York this weekend in another attempt to kick-start the stalled Karabakh peace process. The deadly incident in Karabakh could derail their efforts.

Mediators concerned about Armenian-Azeri Escalation



International mediators on September 25 blamed both Armenia and Azerbaijan for the latest upsurge in truce violations on the border between the two warring nations which has left three Armenian civilians dead.

The U.S., Russian and French diplomats co-heading the OSCE Minsk Group said they are "unable to determine with certainty how the violence originated since each side accuses the other." They voiced "serious concerns about Armenian and Azerbaijani forces using mortars and heavy weapons in and around civilian areas."

"The use of such weapons represents an unacceptable escalation in the conflict," the mediating troika said in a joint statement. "We express our deepest condolences to the families of the deceased and recognize the casualties on each side of the international border and Line of Contact [around Nagorno-Karabakh.]"

"We appeal to the sides in the strongest possible terms to avoid civilian casualties," added the statement issued the day after three Armenian women were killed when their border villages came

under heavy fire from nearby Azerbaijani army posts.

The Armenian military was quick to vow a strong retaliation for their deaths.

Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian expressed "outrage" at the Azerbaijani ceasefire violation when he met with the Minsk Group co-chairs in New York later on Thursday. Nalbandian reportedly told them that the "Azerbaijani provocation" is aimed at derailing his upcoming meeting in New York with Azerbaijan's Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov.

The Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry claimed the opposite on Friday in a statement cited by Azerbaijani media. It alleged that the Armenian military deliberately stationed its border posts in or around villages to make their residents a "target of retaliatory fire." The ministry statement added that the root cause of the latest escalation is Armenia's continuing "policy of occupation and aggression towards Azerbaijan."

Despite the bitter accusations traded by the two sides, the mediators implied that Mammadyarov's talks with Nalbandian will go ahead as planned this weekend. "We expect the Ministers to have a serious discussion on the escalation of violence and the issues surrounding a negotiated settlement," read their statement. It said the parties should specifically try to work out a "mechanism" for international investigations of truce violations in the Karabakh conflict zone.

The Armenian government and Karabakh's leadership support the idea of such investigations that has for years been advanced by the three mediating powers. They have also backed the mediators' calls for the parties to withdraw their snipers from the frontlines. Official Baku has so far effectively rejected both confidence-building measures.

3 arrested in beating of Armenian activist



Law-enforcement authorities reported on September 24 the arrest of three men suspected of involvement in Monday's brutal attack on a member of an Armenian group at odds with the government.

Armenia's Investigative Committee said they were placed under arrest the previous night after being questioned by law-enforcement officials separately and in the presence of Smbat Hakobyan, the

injured activist still recovering from his wounds in a Yerevan hospital.

In a statement, the Investigative Committee did not clarify whether the suspects confessed to beating up Hakobyan shortly after an anti-government demonstration held in the capital. They were not immediately charged with assault.

Speaking to reporters from his hospital bed on Wednesday night, Hakobyan

said he recognized the three arrested men as participants of his beating. He expressed confidence that the high-profile case will be solved by the authorities.

"I am convinced that the police and the Investigative Committee are on the right track," added the activist affiliated with the Union of Freedom Fighters, which unites Armenian veterans of the Nagorno-Karabakh war critical of the government.

Immediately after the assault Hakobyan claimed that one of his attackers, a certain Tigran, is a bodyguard of Ruben Hayrapetyan, a notoriously violent tycoon close to the government. He said Hayrapetyan threatened to have him beaten up in June because of his political activities. The tycoon strongly denied any involvement in the beating.

On Wednesday night Hakobyan was careful not to implicate Hayrapetyan in the violence. "Let's leave Ruben Hayrapetyan alone," he said.

None of the detained suspects identified by the investigators is called Tigran.

Hundreds rally in Gyumri against Constitutional Changes



A coalition of opposition and civic groups launched its nationwide campaign against President Serzh Sargsyan's constitutional changes on September 25 with a rally in Gyumri attended by several hundred people.

Leaders of the group comprising the opposition Armenian National Congress (HAK) and Zharangutyun parties reiterated their claims that Serzh Sargsyan wants

to turn Armenia into a parliamentary republic as part of his plans to stay in power after his second and final term ends in 2018.

"Say no to these false constitutional changes and yes to free and independent Armenia without Serzh Sarkisian," Zharangutyun leader Raffi Hovannisian told the crowd that gathered in a central Gyumri square.

Levon Zurabyan, the HAK's deputy chairman, likewise called for a "no" vote in a referendum on the proposed amendments to Armenia's constitution due in November or early December. He said it would amount to a popular vote of no confidence in Sargsyan and his administration's policies.

"Our country, which is at war needs a president, but not Serzh," declared another senior HAK figure, Aram Manukyan. "Serzh is [effectively] abolishing the post of president in order to realize his dark, secret dream: to stay on as president forever."

It was announced that the No Front coalition, which comprises about three dozen organizations, will hold its next rally in Yerevan on October 2. The grouping also plans to rally supporters in other parts of Armenia.

Responding to the opposition allegations, Serzh Sargsyan has said that he will not seek to become prime minister or parliament speaker in case of Armenia's transition to the parliamentary system of government.

Armenian troops ordered to use artillery



The Armenian military pledged on September 26 to use heavier artillery against Azerbaijani troops after accusing them of firing howitzer shells at Armenian soldiers for the first time since a Russian-brokered truce stopped the war in Nagorno-Karabakh in 1994.

Four of those soldiers were killed and as many as 16 others wounded in north-eastern Karabakh on Friday evening.

According to Armenia's Defense Ministry, they were struck by Azerbaijani artillery fire several kilometers away from the Armenian-Azerbaijani "line of contact" around the disputed territory. A ministry statement said the Azerbaijani army used Russian-made D-30 howitzers in the attack.

The 122-milimeter artillery systems have a firing range of 15 kilometers. Karabakh's Armenian-backed army claimed that the Azerbaijani side fired a total of 30 D-30 rounds on Friday and

early Saturday.

President Serzh Sargsyan pointed to the soldiers' deaths and the fact that three Armenian civilians were killed by Azerbaijani shelling on Thursday as he vowed "punitive actions" against Baku on Friday. "We will certainly force Azerbaijan's government to be accountable to its people for more suffering inflicted on them," Serzh Sargsyan said at a meeting with senior officials in Yerevan.

The Defense Ministry elaborated on the promised retaliation in a special statement. "In order to silence the enemy, thwart its actions and thereby support the [Karabakh] peace process, from now on the Armenian Armed Forces will use adequate means of artillery and rocket fire, constantly targeting the sites of Azerbaijani troop deployments and movements, military hardware and personnel," it said.

There was no immediate reaction to these statements from Baku. Earlier in the day, the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry said that its frontline units are "using more powerful weaponry to resolutely thwart any action by the enemy."

Until last year ceasefire violations in the Karabakh conflict zone took the form of periodical exchanges of automatic and sniper fire between the two warring sides

and overnight incursions by their commando units. Over the past year, the Armenian side has accused the Azerbaijani army of increasingly resorting to mortar fire during skirmishes. Baku says that the Armenians themselves are now using 60-milimeter and 82-milimeter mortars.

The use of heavier and more devastating artillery, if it becomes a regular occurrence, would mark a further escalation of the conflict and seriously complicate international mediators' efforts to broker a peaceful settlement.

"The use of artillery by the Azerbaijani side ... is yet another step towards full-scale hostilities," warned the Armenian Defense Ministry.

Both the ministry and Serzh Sargsyan claimed that the Azerbaijani leadership has been emboldened by the international community's reluctance to explicitly blame Baku for increased truce violations. Serzh Sargsyan said that Yerevan is now left with no choice but to ensure that "the adversary does not think that it has gotten away with its impudent behavior."

"We are prepared to take up the gauntlet," Deputy Foreign Minister Shavarsh Kocharyan told reporters. "We know who we are dealing with. We have such experience."

Mediators urge Baku to accept Karabakh ceasefire safeguard



The U.S., Russian and French mediators urged Azerbaijan on Saturday to accept their long-standing proposal to set up a mechanism for international investigations of ceasefire violations in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone.

"Armenia has agreed to discuss the details of the mechanism, and we urged Azerbaijan to do the same," the three co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group said one day after hosting fresh talks in New York between the foreign ministers of the two

states.

The talks were overshadowed by recent days' fresh escalation of fighting along "the line of contact" around Karabakh and the Armenian-Azerbaijani border, which has left about a dozen soldiers and civilians dead.

"The Co-Chairs condemned in strong terms the use of artillery that caused additional casualties in the last twenty-four hours," read a joint statement issued by them. "We extend our deepest condolences to the families of the deceased. An escalation of violence is not in the interest of Azerbaijanis or Armenians, or a negotiated settlement."

The mediators said that they discussed with Foreign Ministers Edward Nalbandian and Elmar Mammadyarov the "immediate need to reduce tensions" on the

frontlines. They believe that an "OSCE mechanism to investigate ceasefire violations" would help to defuse tensions.

Armenia and Karabakh's ethnic Armenian leadership have repeatedly said that they support the idea. Nalbandian reaffirmed this stance during the talks with Mammadyarov.

By contrast, Azerbaijan has objected to the proposed investigations until now. Its leaders have said that such an arrangement would be meaningless in the absence of an Armenian-Azerbaijani peace deal.

Significantly, the mediating troika also announced on Saturday that the two ministers "agreed to continue preparations with the Co-Chairs" for a meeting of the Armenian and Azerbaijani presidents. The summit is "expected to be held before the end of this year," it said.

Armenia, China consider investment opportunities



On September 23, Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan met with China Export-Import Bank (CEIB) Vice Chairman, President Liu Liange Government's Press Service reports.

Discussed were issues related to the possibility of China Export-Import Bank's involvement in a number of investment projects in Armenia and cooperation prospects.

Prime Minister Abrahamyan said Armenia would appreciate Chinese companies' involvement in our country's economy. In his words, the sides had discussed a number of large-scale investment projects over the past few years, including the construction of Armenia's southern railway.

Assuring of their keen interest in deepening economic relations with Armenia, Liu Liange expressed confidence that the cooperation would be expanded and developed ahead. He stressed the importance of Iran-Armenia railroad project, which may promote economic development in the region. During the meeting, the parties discussed other issues of mutual interest.

On the same day, the Prime Minister and the members of his delegation called at the Summer Palace in Beijing, which was built in 1750 AD during the reign of Qing Dynasty and used to be a royal summer residence. While being briefed on the history of the Summer Palace, the guests were shown ancient Chinese artifacts.

French Armenian International Network officially launched



The French Armenian International Network (FAIR) was officially launched at a solemn ceremony at Rhône-Alpes Regional Parliament attended by President of the Rhône-Alpes Regional Council Jean-Jack Queyranne, Armenian Ambassador to France Vigen Chitechyan, ex-Ambassador of France to Armenia Henri Reynaud, a number of French Armenian and French businessmen, officials and journalists.

President of the association Aramazd Abedi said entrepreneurs representing different fields of economy will be involved in the activities of the structure.

Vice-President Hilda Tchoboian said the association aims to promote economic

synergies between the business entrepreneurs of the Rhone-Alpes region and their

counterparts in Armenia for the creation of a regional hub providing

access to the region's markets, such as Georgia, Iran, and other CIS countries.

The worldwide networking of FAIR shall include the still-untapped economic potential of the Armenian diaspora, from the Middle-East countries to the Americas, as well as the countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Ambassador Chitechyan said the Association will help promote the existing economic cooperation between Armenia and France, taking note of the new realities. He added that Armenia's membership in the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) will provide French companies with an access to EEU markets.

The Ambassador stressed that "Armenia is ready to support the association by creating favorable conditions for all interested parties."

Armenia, IMF discuss issues of bilateral cooperation

Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan received on September 25 the delegation headed by Mark Horton, the Chief of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Mission to Armenia.

The interlocutors discussed issues of bilateral cooperation, namely the results of the regular inspection of the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) program. In this context the parties referred to the current state of Armenian economy, the trends of development, the tax-budgeting and fiscal and monetary policy, reforms implemented in different spheres. The perspectives of providing assistance to Armenia under the EFF program were discussed.

The Prime Minister noted that the government will continue reforms to ensure economic growth, improve the business environment, promote exports and attract investments.

Mark Horton, in turn, attached importance to the continuity of measures targeted at ensuring economic stability and growth.



PRESS OFFICE OF THE

ADB extends \$89.3 million to help Armenia build earthquake-resilient schools



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is extending assistance of \$89.3 million to help Armenia build earthquake-resilient schools and scale up its capacity for responding to natural disasters in one of the most earthquake prone regions in the world.

"Since the massive Spitak earthquake in 1988, national authorities have taken numerous steps to develop emergency management and response systems and to improve building design and construction," said Yong Ye, Principal Urban Development Economist in ADB's Central and West Asia

Department. "This assistance will support ongoing government efforts to rebuild and strengthen school buildings to higher earthquake-resistant standards and to further develop the government's capacity, ownership and initiative in the management of earthquake risks."

Armenia has about 1,400 schools and around 1,000 of them require strengthening and reconstruction works at an estimated cost of \$1.2 billion.

ADB's loan and grant will support improvements to at least 46 priority schools. It will also help the target schools develop disaster preparedness and response plans, with earthquake awareness campaigns to be carried out in neighborhood communities for each school.

The assistance program incorporates lessons learned from ADB's responses to natural disasters in other countries, including the recent Nepal earthquake. It will benefit around 58,700 students, teachers and other staff, as well as over 87,000 residents living near the target schools, who will have access to improved temporary shelters during earthquakes.

ADB's assistance includes an \$88.5 million loan from its concessional Asian Development Fund, and a technical assistance grant of \$800,000. The government will provide counterpart support equivalent to \$18.5 million. The program will run for 5 years with an estimated completion date of November 2020.

Armenia's growth forecasts trimmed for 2015 and 2016: ADB



"GDP growth in Armenia accelerated to 4.0% in the first half of 2015 from 2.6% in the same period in 2014 and to 3.5% for all of 2014. All major sectors contributed to growth, but a 4.2% slump in trade slowed growth in services to 1.8% from 3.7% a year earlier," the Asian Development Bank (ADB) said in a new "Asian Development Outlook 2015" report.

Agriculture saw double-digit growth at 15.5%, and industry including construction expanded by 3.7%. On the demand side, private consumption and investment declined, while public consumption showed only modest gains. The drag from the deficit in external trade and services moderated significantly, as exports fell much less than imports.

Despite strong growth in the first half, the growth forecasts are trimmed for 2015 and 2016, as problems in Armenia's major trading partners continue to reduce trade, remittances, and investments and so depress economic growth.

Agriculture is still foreseen as the primary driver of growth, along with a modest contribution from industry and services. On the demand side, the pattern of growth is expected to continue for the rest of the year, with a larger deficit in external trade and services, along with weaker investment and private consumption. The lagged pass-through of currency depreciation at the end of 2014 caused average annual inflation to accelerate to 5.0% in the first 7 months of 2015 from 3.4% in the same period in 2014 and 3.0% in all of 2014.

The 12-month inflation rate of 4.2% in July remained within the central bank's target band of 2.5%-5.5%. Despite these developments, inflation forecasts remain unchanged for 2015 and 2016, as strong growth in agricultural supply, weak domestic demand, and tight monetary policy should cause inflation to recede in the months ahead.

The current account deficit narrowed to 7.3% of GDP in 2014 from 7.6% in 2013. A slight improvement in the goods and services trade deficit was partly offset by a larger deficit for primary and secondary income, reflecting the drop in remittances. In line with this improvement, the projections for the current account deficit are narrowed for 2015 but kept unchanged for 2016.



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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

- ♦3046.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 9/9, 81sq.m.,with-out 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 repaired, 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,with-out 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 floor of 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
- ♦3576.**Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capitally repaired, heating system, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 850.000 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.**Antarayan 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.**Antarayan str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m,available sevices-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦131.**Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available sevices-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, capitolly repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- 2099. **Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 1 bedroom, capitolly repaired, gas, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 600 USD.
- 1972. **Northern ave.**, 8/4, 80sq.m., 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitolly repaired, climate control. Price: 1200 USD
- 2171. **Tumanyan str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 94 sq.m., 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, capitolly repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD
- 2367. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9th floor, 98 sq.m., capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

2 ROOMS

- 2302 **North Ave.**, Newly built, 11/4, 137sq.m, 2bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 2295 **North Ave.**, Newly built, 16/15, 173sq.m., 2bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 5000 USD
- 2290 **Bayron str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 220sq.m, 2bedrooms, study, open kitchen, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control, furnished, parking. Price: 4000 USD
- 1780. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 82 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD negotiable.
- 942. **Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- 1950. **Buzand/Mashtots area.** Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- 1681. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1535. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m, 2bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- 2089. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 8/6, 120sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control, furnished, equipped. Price: 2500 USD
- 1738. **Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 1951. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- 1406. **Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- 2109. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 2243. **Buzand str.**, Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- 2353 **V. Sargsyan str.** 8/5, Newly built, 98sq.m, 2bedrooms, capitolly renovated, furnished, Price 1500 USD
- 2347 **Teryan str.** Newly built, 10/8, 320sq.m, 3bedrooms, office, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: Negotiable

- 2277. **Kievyan str.** duplex, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, with or without furniture. Price: Negotiable.
- 2310 **Busand str.**, Newly built, 190sq.m, 3bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD
- 2316 **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6th floor, 227sq.m., 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, guest toilet, capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD
- 2303 **Hanrapetutyun str** Newly built, 9/5, 165sq.m, 3bedrooms, 1bathroom, 1 guest toilet, capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 2286. **Sose str.**, Newly built, 12/2, 154sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD
- 2257. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 17/16, 160 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 2021. **Teryan Str.**, Newly built, 9/8, 9, 245 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.
- 2005. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.
- 1723. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4, 170 sq.m 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitolly repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1981. **Vardanants Str.**, Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2261. **Hin Yerevantsi**, /North Avenue/, Newly built, 10/3, 124sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 1700 USD
- 2084. **Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2252. **Northern ave**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capitolly repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- 1335 **Baghramyan str.**, Land-200sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 3000 USD
- 1336 **Aygedzor**, Land-1000sq.m, 2 storied bld-240sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- 1337 **Davtashen** Land-406sq.m, 3 storied bld-306sq.m, 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 3900 USD
- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str**, Land-400sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitolly repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m, 3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished, 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 8000 USD
- 1312. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- 1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- 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, capitolly repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.
- 1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capitolly repaired, AC, parking. Price: 10.000 USD.
- 1945. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitolly repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- 1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capitolly repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- 1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capitolly repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.
- 2087. **Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m, 1st line, zero level, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

PREMISES

Brazilian Ambassador Edson Monteiro: Armenia has to consider Brazil as a market for its production

"Countries under the Same Roof" 2015 Held in Yerevan

Page headed by

Gourgen James Khazhakian

Annual expo-forum "Countries under the same roof" started in 2011, according to its organizers of GMG Group, "...gives an opportunity to Armenian and foreign business owners to exhibit their services and products, to discuss the future cooperation in the frames of implementation of export and investment projects..."

And on the Forum 2015 held on 22 September at the RA Government Hall, as usual, several Ambassadors – of Brazil, Belarus (newly appointed Ambassador **Igor V. Nazaruk**, second on the right hand side from the Ambassador of Brazil on a pic), DCM at the Embassy of Sweden as well as trade-commercial attaché at the Embassy of Bulgaria - talked to a large audience that included Armenian Deputy Ministers, other officials, businessmen, mass media reps.

Below The Highlights readers might find speech of the Brazilian Ambassador H.E. Mr **Edson Duarte Monteiro**:

"Let's start with some information about Brazil that might help Armenian Businessmen to see the potential of the country as an economic and trade partner.

I – BRAZIL IN NUMBERS - HIGHLIGHTS

A dynamic emerging country

- 8th largest economy; • Accounts for 50% of the South American economy; • Very modern and advanced banking system in the world; • Very modern telecommunication system; • Offers excellent tourism infrastructure.

A huge consumer market

- Over 100 million consumers; • 8th largest consumer market; • 3rd largest market for beauty & healthcare products; • 3rd largest market for PCs; • 4th largest market for mobile phones, automobiles and TVs; • 5th largest market for medical equipment.

World food provider

- Largest exporter of coffee, orange juice, sugar and soybean; • Largest exporter of beef and chicken meat and 4th largest

- exporter of pork; • 2nd largest exporter of soybean oil and meal and 2nd largest exporter of corn; • Largest producer of coffee, sugarcane, orange and soybean; • 2nd largest producer of corn; • 2nd largest producer of beef, 3rd largest producer of chick-



Ambassador Edson Monteiro

- en meat and 4th largest producer of pork; • Largest commercial cattle herd, with over 198 million head of beef cattle; • 2nd largest producer of organic foods; • 3rd largest producer of fruit; • Vast areas available for agricultural expansion, and largest expanses of



agricultural land.

A dynamic and diversified industry

- Most diversified industrial base in Latin America and the Caribbean; • World's foremost producer of regional jets and 4th largest producer of commercial airliners; • 6th largest producer of motor vehicles; • 7th largest chemical industry; • 8th largest producer of steel (27 million tonnes per year); • 10th largest pulp and paper industry; • Important producer of consumer durables.

World fuel provider

- Largest exporter and 2nd largest producer of ethanol; • One of the world's major

- producers of biofuel; • 10th largest petroleum reserves, and 11th largest oil producer;

World natural resources provider

- 2nd largest producer of iron and 3rd largest of bauxite; • Leader in the production of eucalyptus pulp; • Largest forestry products industry in Latin America; • Vast deposits of manganese, tin and gold.

Strategically located

- Shares borders with ten countries: Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Venezuela, Bolivia, Colombia, Peru, France (French Guiana), Guyana, Paraguay, and Suriname; • Gateway to MERCOSUR.

A peaceful and multiracial country

- Respects immigrants and their creeds; • Sustains a democratic regime; • Sustains stable public institutions, as the Chamber of Deputies, the Federal Senate and the courts of law; • Is free of conflicts, defends international law and promotes peace and progress among nations.

According to NEWS.am, in Ambassador Monteiro's words, the existing trade-commercial cooperation between Armenia and Brazil is not a very big one, but there are good prospects.

"The main message of my report is what we have to do for the effective use of opportunities existing between Armenia and Brazil. First, Brazil may become a good partner for Armenia, as a country with large, mainly young population. Brazil has a stable economy, foreign trade partners from Asia, EU, Africa and the entire world," the Ambassador said.

Armenia has to consider Brazil as a consumer of its production, and the Brazilian companies are seeking ways for development of cooperation with the Armenian colleagues, His Excellency said.

He urged Armenians to visit Brazil to meet with entrepreneurs and participate in trade fairs that can open up opportunities for development of cooperation.

Brazilian business people should be informed about Armenia's possibilities, especially in terms of membership in the Eurasian Economic Union, Ambassador Monteiro added.

Ambassador Igor Nazaruk: Political Dialogue between Armenia and Belarus is at Highest Level

Political dialogue between Armenia and Belarus is at the highest level. Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Belarus to Armenia H.E. Mr. **Igor Vasilyevich Nazaruk** gave such an evaluation to the bilateral relations when speaking with "Armenpress" journalist.

"Open relations, similar views and approaches to international issues; this promotes further development of our constructive relations," noted Ambassador Nazaruk. At the same time he noted that (a significant) distance complicates more intense relations.

"We must work to prevent Armenians and Belarusians from feeling far away from each other. Especially if take into account that now both countries have been members to the Eurasian Union since January, this year. I wish prosperity to my Armenian friends and brothers," stressed His Excellency.

Ambassador Nazaruk also attached great importance to EAEU summit, - on the level of heads of the government to be held in Yerevan in November.

"I've just started my posting as

Ambassador of Belarus to Armenia, and currently we've been working to hold a number of events, and I hope that the mentioned summit will become the most serious of them, and a kind of "exam" for myself...", Ambassador of Belarus said.

To remind, diplomatic relations between Armenia and Belarus were established in June 12, 1993. The Embassy of Armenia opened in Minsk in 1993 and the Embassy of Belarus opened in Yerevan in 2001.

ARMENPRESS
Armenian News Agency

Media Cooperation Forum on 'One Belt and One Road' opens in Beijing



The Media Cooperation Forum on "One Belt and One Road" hosted by the People's Daily opens in Beijing Monday. (Photo/people.cn)

The Media Cooperation Forum on "One Belt and One Road" hosted by the People's Daily opens in Beijing at 21 September.

In the autumn of 2013, Chinese President **Xi Jinping** put forward the initiative of jointly building the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road when visiting the Central and Southeast Asian countries. In March 2015, the Chinese government

issued the "Vision and Actions on Jointly Building the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road", which comprehensively elaborates on the content and layout of the "One Belt and One Road".

Inspired by the vision, the People's Daily hosts the 2015 Media Cooperation Forum on "One Belt and One Road", with the theme "Common Destiny and New Patterns of Cooperation". The forum aims

at deepening the media cooperation among the "Belt and Road" countries to facilitate the construction of the "One Belt and One Road".

The forum invites more than 160 foreign guests from 60 countries and international organizations as well as 122 mainstream media. It is an international media forum with the largest scale, most participating countries and foreign media organizations which has been held by the Chinese media in recent years.

Wang Jiarui, Vice-chairman of the CPPCC and minister of the International Department of the Central Committee of the CPC, delivers a speech at the opening ceremony. **Yang Zhenwu**, President of the People's Daily, also addresses the opening ceremony.

The participants from Armenia in "One Belt and One Road" Media Cooperation Forum were **Tigran Harutyunyan**, President of "Noyan Tapan" Media Holding and **Aram Abrahamyan**, Head of "Aravot" Daily.



Wang Jiarui, vice-chairman of the CPPCC and minister of the International Department of the Central Committee of the CPC, gives a speech at the opening ceremony. (Photo/people.cn)



Yang Zhenwu, president of the People's Daily, gives a speech at the opening ceremony. (Photo/people.cn)



Li Baoshan, editor-in-chief of the People's Daily, gives a speech at the opening ceremony. (Photo/people.cn)



Tigran Harutyunyan, President of "Noyan Tapan" Media Holding



Aram Abrahamyan, Head of "Aravot" Daily

"El Pais": "Violinist Ara Malikan of the Armenian Descent Plays with the Armenian Youth Orchestra for the Armenian Genocide Centenary"

The Youth Orchestra's European Tour: Absolute Success



By **Gourgen James Khazhakian**

**Chief
Correspondent**

As The Highlights has informed its readers already, recently the State Youth Orchestra of Armenia (SYOA) headed by its Founding Artistic Director and the Principal Conductor **Sergey Smbatyan** was on the European tour that, according to a number of sources, was an absolute success.

In this story we'd like to give some details to confirm the aforementioned.

On the 18th and the 21st st of September the SYOA conducted by Sergey Smbatyan played concerts at the famous scenes of Austria. The first concert was held on 18 September in Linz, in the framework of Brucknerfest International Festival. It should be noted that every year this Festival gathers the world famous musicians, as well as that Linz is famous for its long musical traditions and exquisite public.

On 21 September the Orchestra played in one of the world-renowned concert halls, the Vienna's Musikverein. The both concerts were held within the frames of the "Roots of Revival" project presented by composer and musical director **Vig Zartman** and which was dedicated to the memory of the Armenian Genocide victims. "Roots of Revival" introduced millenia old Armenian musical culture reflecting the long history of the Armenian people - birth, tragedy and rebirth. **Liana Aleksanyan** (soprano), **Nareh Arghamanyan** (piano), **Emmanuel Hovhannisyan** (duduk) and Art Vocal Ensemble of Armenia performed with the State Youth Orchestra of Armenia. According to our sources, the audience enjoyed an interesting mix of folk, spiritual and classical music and was involved in a kind of "unique journey".

And The Highlights has written in its previous issue on the concerts in Spain, Zaragoza and Madrid to be held respectively on 25 and 26 September.

And the both concerts were featured by the faery play of the famous and universally beloved violinist **Ara Malikian**, who, being a classical violinist by trade, plays with a special passion rock, gypsy music, country, jazz as well. (See The Highlights info on Maestro Malikian in the previous issue).

Below we'd like to put some extracts from a story published in one of the most popular newspapers for the Spanish speaking world, *El Pais* on Friday 25

September and entitled "*Ara Malikian Returns to Real after his Nomination to the Latin Grammy*", with a subtitle "*The Violinist Acts Accompanied by the Youth Symphony Orchestra of Armenia*" (i.e. the SYOA):

"...Ara Malikian (Beirut, Lebanon, 1968),... has just received the news of his nomination for a Latin Grammy for his latest live DVD recorded at the Teatro Real in Madrid. On Saturday he will play again at the Coliseum at the Plaza de

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**ROOTS
OF
REVIVAL**
by **VIG ZARTMAN**

STATE YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF ARMENIA (SYOA)
CONDUCTOR **SERGEY SMBATYAN** SOPRANO **LIANA ALEKSANYAN**
CHORUS ART VOCAL ENSEMBLE OF ARMENIA PIANO **NAREH ARGHAMANYAN**
DUDUK **EMMANUEL HOVHANNISYAN**

Oriente (i.e. the Teatro Real) on Saturday where he'll remember his years spent in the pit, but now he will be a soloist playing from the stage. Proceeds from the concert will go to benefit the Prodis Foundation that works for young people with intellectual disabilities. "When you are up on a stage, it is always exciting, -

Radiohead, Led Zeppelin, some flamenco and some of my compositions."

To note, during the concerts, among others, were performed "1915" composition written by Malikian himself, and Khachaturian and Mendelssohn Violin Concertos... "...Concerts of Malikian that are usually a *fiesta* that sometimes is

own way. "I got into classical music, but then, in my travels, I learned other sounds and cultures. It bothered me that in the world of the classical music there are so many rules, the frames sometimes, and I was a little envious to the rock concerts, with a mass audience, and sorried why that did not happen with classical music.



no matter if you're in the Real, in a small town or in a cafe, because if you're an artist you always have to give everything. The Royal Theatre is a wonderful and special place; because I worked there many years in the pit, I feel like home there, he says. Malikian is accompanied on this occasion by the Youth Symphony Orchestra of Armenia with which he will celebrate his 15 years



in Spain, but there is also another, - a much more painful anniversary, the Centenary of the Armenian Genocide. (Notably, Malikian's photo attached to the story signed "Armenian violinist Ara Malikian" - G.Kh.) "One part (of the concert) will be devoted to the country music, but then we'll play classics, other - more traditional pieces, songs of

charged with a wasteful inventiveness, are the result of the very concept of an instrumentalist musician of the Armenian descent. "I always want the violin amuse me, it excites me, tell me things..", says Malikian.

During his childhood he learned to play the violin from his father who said he was a fan of music. Then he sought his

"The violinist is also very much concerned with education projects which always have a place in his agenda, trying to bring those values to the society."

Importantly, the both concerts' tickets were sold out yet a month before. Interestingly, in the very hours when Real Madrid, the legendary football team was playing at the stadium in the evening of 26 September, the Teatro Real was jam-

packed with numerous listeners including the Ambassador of Armenia to Spain who were no spare their applauses, "Bravo"-s and "Encore"-s for the soloists and the Orchestra.

Acknowledgement:
Mrs Anna Ter-Hovakimyan



Reflections on the 24th Anniversary of Armenia's Independence



*By Harut
Sassounian*

*Publisher, The
California Courier*

On the occasion of the 24th anniversary of Armenia's independence, I had the honor of delivering the keynote address at the celebration organized by the Armenian Consulate in Glendale, Calif. Here are excerpts from my remarks reflecting on some of the accomplishments since independence, and the challenges that still lie ahead.

The most remarkable achievement in the early years of the Armenian Republic was the liberation and establishment of the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabagh). As a result, a whole generation of Armenians under age 20, born and raised in independent Artsakh, has not spent a single day under Azerbaijan's oppressive regime-and, God willing, never will! Artsakh's independence is an irreversible reality. Artsakh will never again be a part of Azerbaijan!

However, our challenges in Artsakh are not yet over. While it is true that we sacrificed much to win the war, we must now win the peace! This is not the time to let our guard down. Armenia's border towns come regularly under attack from Azeri bombardment.

Armenians must take a series of important steps to ensure that Artsakh's independence is secured. Artsakh must not only survive, but thrive! To accomplish this imperative necessity, we must first bolster Artsakh's defenses. The best way to avoid war is to have a good defense against Azerbaijanis, for whom recovering Nagorno-Karabagh is a hollow luxury. But for Armenians, Artsakh is an existential necessity!

Besides reinforcing Artsakh's defenses, Armenians need to replenish their population. We must create new facts on the ground so that the Azeri regime is convinced that Armenians, rather than abandoning Artsakh, are relocating there in larger numbers, thus

making the return of that territory practically impossible.

Another key objective is putting Artsakh's independence on firm legal grounds and gaining international recognition! The Armenian-American community has successfully countered the massively financed Azeri lobby in Washington and all 50 states.

Lastly, we must create better living conditions in Artsakh, by providing housing and jobs, so that Armenians currently there, and those planning to relocate, can enjoy safe and comfortable lives.

However, none of these burdens should be borne alone by the people of Artsakh, but by the collective will of all Armenians and their supporters throughout the world.

To ensure Artsakh's survival, we need a strong Armenia, which is also a necessity for the preservation of Armenian communities worldwide.

Now, almost a quarter century after independence, we must do everything in our power to ensure that the homeland is secure and prosperous.

Regardless of our ideological, political, and religious differences, we must all unite under the banner of the Yerakouyn-the Tricolor. It matters not whether we agree or disagree with any particular leader. Government officials come and go, but the Armenian people and the homeland are everlasting!

However, we must keep in mind that the relationship between citizens and their government is a two-way street. Government officials are duty bound to create a social environment that is fair, conducive to a prosperous life, and free of discrimination and intimidation. Citizens must have the chance and the choice, through democratic processes, to elect their preferred representatives without any interference from authorities.

The political opposition, on the other hand, has the responsibility to hold the government accountable for its actions through constructive criticism and peaceful means, without risking the

country's stability and security.

Unfortunately, there is still widespread poverty and unemployment in Armenia. Immediate solutions must be found to feed the hungry, help the needy, and heal the sick, which will stem the tide of emigration-an existential threat to the homeland!

Despite the hardships that many Armenians continue to suffer from-some man-made, and others due to circumstances beyond government control, such as blockades by Turkey and Azerbaijan-we must acknowledge that there has been, over the past 24 years, a gradual progress in the living conditions of Armenia's population.

Another successful accomplishment was the worldwide commemoration of the Armenian Genocide Centennial earlier this year. Thanks to the persistent efforts of the Armenian Diaspora in the last 100 years, and the Armenian government's international diplomatic contacts in the past quarter century, the recognition phase of the genocide is pretty much accomplished. We must now seek justice through restitution. The Turkish government must return everything that was confiscated during the genocide and pay compensation for whatever cannot be returned.

The challenge ahead is creating a more efficient mechanism for coordinating the efforts of all 10 million Armenians from Armenia to Artsakh, and throughout the diaspora.

One such approach would be to rename and transform the existing Centennial Committees in various countries as well as the Central Centennial Committee headquartered in Yerevan into permanent bodies responsible for:

- 1) managing all pan-Armenian issues and crises affecting Armenian communities such as Syria;
- 2) boosting Artsakh's security, economy, and autonomy;
- 3) halting and reversing emigration from Armenia; and
- 4) seeking restitution from Turkey for all human and material losses suffered by Armenians during the genocide.

Schiff Warns Warlick to not encourage Baku to 'act with impunity'



Rep. Adam Schiff, the ranking Democrat on the US House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence called on the State Department to refrain from responding to future acts of Azerbaijani aggression with statements suggesting a "false equivalence between Azeri and Armenian behavior," reported the Armenian National Committee of America.

In a letter addressed to Ambassador James Warlick, the State Department's representative to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group's Nagorno Karabakh peace process, Representative Schiff warned that any "unwillingness to speak plainly about the aggressor in this conflict sends the message to Azerbaijan that it can act with impunity."

"We join with friends of Armenia from across California and throughout the United States in thanking Representative Schiff - a leading Congressional voice on foreign affairs and intelligence issues - for challenging Ambassador Warlick's continued refusal to directly confront Azerbaijan's escalating aggression," said ANCA Executive Director Aram Hamparian. "We share Congressman Schiff's concern about the very real dangers of State Department's reckless and irresponsible policy of artificial evenhandedness. We join his call for a transition from this demonstrably failed approach to an accountability-based model of peacekeeping that will help save lives, prevent war, and create the conditions for a just and durable peace."

Rep. Schiff noted, in this letter, the "disturbing increase in Azeri violations of the cease fire along the Line of Contact,"

citing Azerbaijan's unscheduled military exercises along the border and the September 2nd shelling of Armenia, which led to the death of two soldiers and a number of injured civilians. "Simply put, it is evident that Azerbaijan continues to be the aggressor along the Line of Contact, terrorizing civilians and military forces with shelling and snipers," explained Schiff. "This has been the case throughout the period of the cease fire, in which Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh have readily agreed to measures such as international observers or the withdrawal of sniper positions, while Azerbaijan rejects such steps."

Congressman Schiff added that, while he joins with Ambassador Warlick in seeking a peaceful and durable resolution to the Karabakh issue, "I do not believe the cause of peace is served by ignoring Azerbaijan's increasing belligerence and the suggestion that both parties are equally to blame for violence along the Line of Contact when that is not the case."

The complete text of Congressman Schiff's letter is provided below.

The ANCA has long been on record protesting the artificial-evenhandedness displayed by the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs, and has organized advocacy campaigns to encourage U.S. leaders to directly challenged Azerbaijan's escalating aggression. Most recently, the ANCA has called for the international funding for the purchase and placement of a gun-fire locator system along the Armenia, Artsakh and Azerbaijan line of contact. Such equipment, when deployed, will empower mediators and on-the-ground observers by reliably and quickly identifying the source and direction of gunfire and artillery attacks.

Text of Congressman Adam Schiff's Letter to OSCE Minsk Group CoChair, Ambassador James Warlick

Dear Ambassador Warlick,

As you know, over the past few weeks there has been a disturbing increase in Azeri violations of the cease fire along the Line of Contact. Artillery and mortar barrages have reportedly killed multiple military personnel and injured civilians. Azerbaijan has announced unscheduled military exercises with 65,000 troops along the border. And on September 2nd,

Azeri forces shelled Armenian territory, killing two soldiers and injuring civilians. This pattern of escalation is dangerous, and threatens to cause an already unstable situation to spiral into open conflict.

In light of these actions, and the increasingly bellicose rhetoric coming from Baku, I am dismayed that your statements have suggested a false equivalence between Azeri and Armenian behavior. This posture is perhaps best typified by a photo you tweeted on September 4th of unexploded ordinance within Nagorno-Karabakh, while neglecting to mention that it was fired by Azeri forces.

Simply put, it is evident that Azerbaijan continues to be the aggressor along the Line of Contact, terrorizing civilians and military forces with shelling and snipers. This has been the case throughout the period of the cease fire, in which Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh have readily agreed to measures such as international observers or the withdrawal of sniper positions, while Azerbaijan rejects such steps.

I appreciate your service on the OSCE Minsk Group, and your commitment to securing a diplomatic solution to Nagorno-Karabakh's status. I also share your support for a peaceful settlement of the issue of Nagorno-Karabakh's status. But I do not believe the cause of peace is served by ignoring Azerbaijan's increasing belligerence and the suggestion that both parties are equally to blame for violence along the Line of Contact when that is not the case. To the contrary, any unwillingness to speak plainly about the aggressor in this conflict sends the message to Azerbaijan that they can act with impunity.

The people of Artsakh deserve to live free from the dangers of artillery barrages, mines, and the constant threat of war. I hope that you will work to reduce tensions and pursue a permanent settlement, but I also urge you to be forthright regarding Azeri aggression and provocation.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Adam B. Schiff

Armenian Peacekeeping forces earn NATO combat readiness certification

After a nearly decade-long process working closely with the Kansas National Guard, the Armenian Peacekeeping Brigade earned certification as a NATO partner following a large-scale exercise in the Republic of Armenia Sept. 15-18, according to dvidshub.net.

The brigade earned the accreditation by passing NATO Evaluation Level 2 of the Operational Capabilities Concept of NATO's Partnership for Peace program. The endorsement certifies Armenia's capabilities to support NATO peacekeeping operations worldwide and adds them to the NATO Pool of Forces.

Command and control, communication, logistics, tactics, techniques and procedures were all under the microscope as four evaluation teams analyzed the various metrics and performance measures under the close supervision of a team of NATO monitors representing Germany, Austria, Ukraine, France and Sweden.

The brigade was evaluated according to NATO standards to ensure operational readiness.

Lt. Col. Ingo Schoeppler, Armed Forces of Germany, serves as a NATO monitor and noted the improvements he has seen.

"We witnessed that the Peacekeeping Brigade is in great shape with motivated, well-trained, young and experienced soldiers and are a very strong partner to the NATO alliance," Schoeppler said.

Schoeppler also credited the Kansas National Guard's efforts in helping Armenia in this certification process. Kansas and Armenia are partners in the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program.

The State Partnership Program builds relationships between a state's National Guard and the armed forces or equivalent of a partner country in a cooperative, mutually-beneficial rela-

tionship.

"NATO is extremely grateful that the Kansas National Guard has such a close cooperation to Armenia and especially to this peacekeeping brigade," said Schoeppler. "The Kansas National Guard plays a crucial part in the success and improvement of the capacity and capabilities of the unit."

The exercise scenario played out over the course of 76 hours as Armenian soldiers were evaluated in three phases beginning with an in-bar-racks inspection focused on reviewing the units' documentation and plans followed by a field inspection and live exercise.

The Kansas National Guard OCC team has had many interactions with their Armenian counterparts since being partnered in 2003. One month prior to the exercise, a nine-Soldier Kansas Guard team visited Armenia to assist with evaluation preparations.

"The peacekeeping brigade has improved vastly," said Lt. Col. Richard Fisher, officer in charge of the KSARNG OCC team. "My first time in Armenia was in 2003. One thing that hasn't changed is the motivation, professionalism and dedication of the soldiers."

Fisher worked closely with Armenian Lt. Col. Armen Martirosyan in evaluating staff procedures.

"There's a huge improvement both in procedures and paperwork, and performance as well," said Martirosyan. "From my personal point of view, I'm very happy with what we've seen this year."

Master Sgt. Samantha Wier, who has served as logistics subject matter expert on a number of information sharing trips to Armenia, also remarked on the improvement in Armenia's forces.

"I've seen tremendous progress," said Wier. "The Armenian army has their own version of how they manage to do things, but they have come a very long way in embracing the NATO tactics and paperwork, supply chain and systems that were unfamiliar to them."

According to Wier, working with her Armenian counterparts is a give and take relationship.

"I enjoy working with my Armenian counterparts," she said. "They enjoy practicing English with us. They're very jovial, very smart in their fields. I've learned so many things that I can take back with me for my logistics career."



Vatican Cardinal opens new Catholic Church in Armenia



Underscoring Armenia's warm relationship with the Vatican, President Serzh Sargsyan attended on September 24 the inauguration of a newly constructed Catholic church in Gyumri which was led by a visiting Vatican cardinal.

The Church Of Holy Martyrs was consecrated by Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, head of the Vatican's Congregation for the Oriental Churches, five years after the start of its construction financed by Roman Catholic structures in Europe and the United States. The Lebanon-based Patriarch Gregory Peter XX, the head of the Armenian Catholic Church, also took part in the ceremony.

Armenia is home to some 20,000 Catholics following traditional Armenian religious rites. They are concentrated in the northwestern Shirak province, of which Gyumri is the capital. All Catholic churches in Gyumri were shut down shortly after Armenia was incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1922.

Thousands of other Armenian Catholics live in Georgia's Javakheti province bordering Shirak.

"I'm a believer of the Armenian Apostolic Church but decided to come to the Catholic Church. It doesn't make any difference," a Gyumri resident attending the consecration told RFE/RL's Armenian service (Azatutyun.am).

Senior clerics of the Apostolic Church, to which the vast majority of Armenians belong, were also present at the ceremony. They included Bishop Mikael Ajapahyan, the head of its Shirak diocese.

Officials said that the Church of Holy Martyrs is dedicated to some 1.5 million Armenians who were massacred by the Ottoman Turks during the First World War.

Pope Francis referred to those massacres as "the first genocide of the 20th century" in April while holding a special mass at the Vatican's St. Peter's basilica on the 100th anniversary of the tragedy. Turkey reacted angrily to that characterization, accusing the pontiff of distorting history and recalling its ambassador to the Vatican in protest.

Armenia rejected the Turkish criticism. Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian praised Francis for delivering the "important message of solidarity with and support to the Armenian people."

Francis again paid tribute to Armenians massacred "just for being Christians" after holding a mass with Gregory Peter XX at the Vatican's St. Martha chapel earlier this month. He compared their suffering with the ongoing persecution of ancient Christian communities of the Middle East.

Armenia attends World Routes 2015 forum



World Routes 2015

The 21st World Route Development Forum

Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa • 19 - 22 September 2015

An Armenian delegation led by Deputy Minister of Economy Sergey Avetisyan and Executive Director of the Armenian Development Agency Arman Khachatryan attended the 21st World Routes 2015

forum held in Durban, South Africa September 19-22.

The World Route Development Forum is the largest global annual event of its kind. The largest and most prestigious

event in the Routes portfolio, the event attracts the most senior representatives from airlines, airports and tourism authorities, who wish to meet, plan and discuss new and existing global air services.

This year the event brought together representatives of about 250 airlines, 650 airports, 2,500 specialists of the sphere and 170 tourism authorities from more than 100 countries of the world.

The Armenian delegation presented the "Open sky" policy of the government and the steps targeted at promoting tourism in the country. Reference was made to the process and perspectives of Armenia's integration with the global tourism market.

On the sidelines of the forum the Armenian side held negotiations with about twenty airlines to discuss the perspectives and formats of their entry into Armenian market.

Getty Museum and Armenian Church reach agreement over 13th-century manuscript

The Getty Museum will keep eight brilliantly illustrated table of contents pages from a 750-year-old Armenian Bible after settling a long-running lawsuit brought by an American branch of the Armenian Apostolic Church, the Los Angeles Times reports.

The church contended they had been illegally separated from the rest of the book amid the Armenian genocide during World War I.

The Getty and the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America jointly announced the settlement Monday. Both sides said they were happy with the outcome, but for very different reasons.

The Getty gets to keep the art, and the church gets recognition that all along it has been the rightful owner of the pages, which were separated about 100 years ago from a complete Bible called the Zeyt'un gospels.

The rest of the book is at the Matenadaran, a museum and library for manuscripts in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia. The Getty bought its pages in 1994 from an Armenian American family for \$1.5 million in today's dollars.

Under the settlement, attorneys said, the church will donate the eight pages, known as a "canon table" that prefaces the rest of the Bible, to the Getty on Jan. 1, 2016. The Getty will pay all legal expenses from the suit the church had brought in 2010 - a sum attorneys for the two sides declined to disclose.

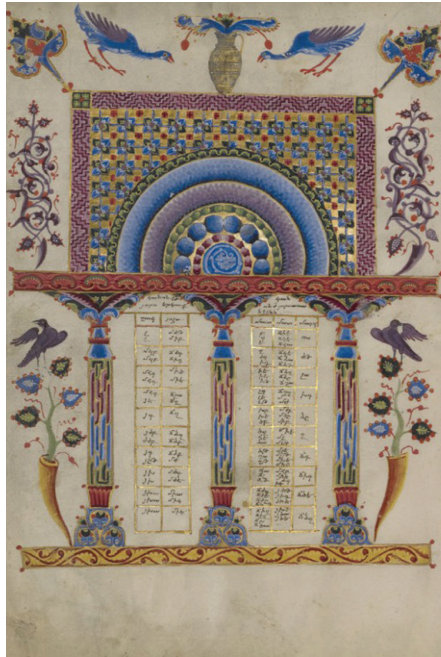
"It's a resolution both sides are equally happy with, a win-win," said Timothy Potts, director of the Getty Museum. "It's an acknowledgment of their ownership, but maintains the work as an integral part of the collection here."

Potts said that the Getty will keep custody of the manuscript pages until it officially takes ownership.

They were created during the mid-1200s by a renowned Armenian artist, T'oros Roslin, but were separated from the rest of the Zeyt'un Bible sometime during the upheaval caused by the Armenian genocide of 1915 to 1918. It claimed the lives of about 1.2 million Armenians under the Ottoman Empire, which became the modern republic of Turkey. The Turkish government disputes that a genocide took place.

Lee Boyd, the attorney for the Armenian church, said its main objective was not to wrest the pages from the Getty, which it feels has been a good custodian and offers continuing access to a Southern California public that includes a large number of Armenian Americans.

The foremost goal, she said, was to set the historic record straight and draw attention to the fact that there is much unfin-



ished legal business for heirs of Armenian families or institutions that lost property during the genocide.

"This is the first restitution of an artwork from the Armenian genocide," Boyd said. "I hope it's not the last. The case was brought to acknowledge the ownership of the church and [establish] recognition that they were taken during the Armenian genocide. It had devastating effects felt for generations, including much loss of cultural patrimony, particularly of the Armenian church."

Before the settlement, according to court files, the church had sought the pages' return, along with damages of at least \$35 million. But both sides would have been on unpredictable legal terrain had the case proceeded, complicated by what Potts described as "lots of gray areas and facts we don't know" relating to the manuscript pages' whereabouts during and immediately after World War I.

According to court documents, the Zeyt'un Gospels were housed at a church in a traditionally Armenian area of what's now Turkey. As chaos broke out, members of the Armenian community removed the prized Bible from the church for safe keeping. At some point the front pages with the most beautiful art were separated from the rest.

They wound up in possession of an Armenian man who immigrated to the United States in 1923, settling in Massachusetts. That family handed them down through generations until the Getty bought them more than 70 years later.

The pages became a highlight of the Getty's collection of illuminated manuscripts. The materials - paint on vellum, a

parchment made from calf's skin - are too fragile and light-sensitive to be on permanent or frequent display, Potts said. But as delicate medieval manuscripts go, the Zeyt'un canon tables have been in heavy rotation, with one or more pages displayed in 11 exhibitions since 1997 - 10 at the Getty and one at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

They will have been out of view for 19 months when all eight pages go back on display Jan. 26 in the Getty's exhibition "Traversing the Globe Through Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts."

The church's legal position got a boost in December 2013 from a ruling in another art-restitution case brought against a Spanish museum, involving California heirs of a family that lost a painting by Camille Pissarro during the Holocaust.

The U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals refused to declare unconstitutionally a special 2011 California law that extends the statute of limitations for claims to recover allegedly stolen works held by museums and art dealers. That took away some of the Getty's legal ammunition.

But Boyd, the Armenian church's attorney, said that pushing forward rather than settling the suit would have meant fighting additional procedural battles over whether the church had waited too long to sue.

In court documents the Getty had pointed to articles published in 1943 and 1952 that showed church officials were fully aware that the family in Massachusetts possessed the canon tables, and did not take action to get them back.

Also important to the settlement, Boyd said, was the knowledge that the Getty can give the artworks the best scholarly attention and technical care. "The Matenadaran has expanded its preservation abilities, but [Armenia] is still an emerging economy and the resources are not there as they are at the Getty," she said. Boyd said "there are hopes this resolution will forge a relation between the Getty and the Armenian church" in which the Getty, which has an international program for art conservation, would take on projects in Armenia.

Potts said that "it could happen...but that hasn't been a part of the [settlement] agreement."

The museum director said another future possibility is a joint exhibition in which the Getty would loan its pages to the Matenadaran for an exhibition of the entire Zeyt'un gospels in Armenia, and in turn the full book would be shown at the Getty.

More likely in the near term, Potts said, is a ceremony to mark the church's donation of the art to the museum. It's an important moment for both parties, and we would love for there to be some such event," he said.

Zodiac Weekly Forecast

Aries

(March 20-April 19)

The new Saturn cycle calls upon you to study your beliefs for flaws. If they are sound, then commit yourself to establish practical ways in which to manifest them. The arena may be legal, religious, philosophical or educational. You must apply what you have learned in the secular world. You must "walk your talk". The world requires that you expand your mental framework to include a larger social structure.

Taurus

(April 20-May 19)

Saturn in Sagittarius will require you to focus on the consequences, responsibilities and liabilities of sharing resources with others. There may be work related to managing your own finances or those of someone else. This is a good period to tackle internal roadblocks that interfere with your ability to achieve genuine intimacy. Resources may be reduced for a time.

Gemini

(May 20-June 20)

The new Saturn cycle rivets attention on the quality of your important relationships. It is time to begin realistically considering your responsibilities in this area and clarify your commitment. Existing relationships will be evaluated and new purposes carved. On the other hand, it may be time to release those persons who are wasting your precious time and energy.

Cancer

(June 21-July 21)

This (2015-2017) will be a period of apprenticeship. Now is the time to perfect your broad index of experience and knowledge, to practice until the accumulated bits of wisdom become second nature and highly efficient. The subsequent cycle (beginning in 2018) will yield the improvement in status resulting from work now. Give special attention to routine health regimens.

Leo

(July 22-August 21)

This (2015-2017) is the time for intentional application of your creative energy and to take steps toward manifesting your dreams of fulfillment. Something deep inside you, no more than 3 years in your consciousness, wants to be expressed. Don't anticipate grandiose results on this cycle, but there should be reasonably positive responses from the world if you are on the right track.

Virgo

(August 22-September 22)

In terms of worldly influence, you are at the lowest point in the Saturn cycle. It is time now to lay the foundations for the next 28 years and it begins with inner work. We can produce little in the outer world until we develop a sense of a stable internal sanctuary. Define what you must have to feel solidly secure and initiate the steps that will produce it. Family and property concerns may dominate for a time.

Libra

(Sep. 23-Oct. 22)

This is the beginning of a period for you to define and clarify your level of knowledge. You may be called upon to adopt a project requiring close concentration and sharpened communication skills. Learning to speak or write volumes in a few chosen words will become important as this cycle progresses. Work toward efficiency and streamlining all communication methods over these two years.

Scorpio

(October 23-November 21)

The new Saturn cycle asks you to more clearly define your values. You may have fewer resources available now, whether that refers to money, energy or time. Discrimination will be necessary to maximize efficiency. You are likely to voluntarily forego expenditures on immediate pleasures for longer range objectives. People commonly purchase a home or make important investments on this cycle. Thus they have to tighten the budget.

Sagittarius

(November 22-December 20)

It is time to redefine yourself. The old way was good for a long time but it has outlived its purpose and you must now look at yourself more seriously. What are the potentials not yet developed? What is the best way to contribute your gifts to a greater whole? Focus your attention on personal identity and tighten up all life agendas to support who you wish to become.

Capricorn

(December 21-January 19)

This Saturn cycle asks that you be directed inward and you may choose to withdraw from the world (if not physically, then mentally). Attempts to capitalize on the social and political power of the last few years will fail to make you happy. You may be drawn to work with those who are deprived or mistreated. Now is a time for spiritual refurbishing and R&R before the next 28 year cycle begins in 2018.

Aquarius

(January 20-February 17)

Saturn's new cycle calls you to take responsibility for your niche in life and clarify the role you wish to play in society. You have much knowledge coupled with many social and communications skills and talents. It is time to consider extending these gifts beyond the personal and offer them in service to a larger group. You will experience the outcome of many years' work during the next three years.

Pisces

(February 18-March 19)

This is a highly productive period. For those who are happy with life goals of the recent two years, the following two years brings greater responsibility. Long term goals and desire for achievement in your outer life may press you to temporarily sacrifice personal life and leisure. It is likely you are either adding responsibilities or departing an old lifestyle to begin a fresh adventure.

Armenian Genocide Museum Institute obtains a rare 1915 photo



The Armenian Genocide Museum Institute has obtained a rare original photo taken by an unknown photographer in 1915.

The photo depicts homeless Armenian orphans wandering in the streets of Diyarbakir and Austrian soldiers giving them bread.

Hayk Demoyan, Director of the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute, uploaded the photo on his Facebook page.

Most likely, the photo was taken by German servicemen, as it was discovered in Germany.

Acting Together: A new attempt to build bridges between Armenia and Turkey

The Bundestag may consider an Armenian Genocide resolution this fall, but the concrete timing is yet to be confirmed, German Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Armenia Matthias Kiesler told reporters on September 22.

Ambassador Kiesler said hearings on an Armenian Genocide bill pending at the Bundestag are under way. "I cannot say, however, when the measure will be discussed and be put on a vote."

The Ambassador participated today in the discussion of the results of the "Acting Together" initiative, a program funded by the German Federal Foreign Office, which aims at building bridges between the people of Turkey and Armenia through adult education, journalism, oral history and art.

As part of the project twenty young people and two writers from Armenia and Turkey are taking in a joint road trip from Armenia to Turkey, retracing the routes of 1915.

Next year in Turkey they will look for signs of former Armenian life and its extinction in the collective memories of peoples with different ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds.



Among other places the participants will visit Istanbul and Haydarpasha station from where Armenian intellectuals were deported on April 24th, 1915, and Aydash, a former concentration camp near Ankara.



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