

## Installation of checkpoint in Lachin Corridor by Azerbaijan contradicts ceasefire agreement, says French FM



Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan (R) and French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna at a joint press conference in Yerevan, April 28, 2023.

Azerbaijan's installation of a checkpoint in Lachin Corridor contradicts the 9 November 2020 statement, French FM Catherine Colonna said during a joint press conference with Armenian FM Ararat Mirzoyan.

"If Azerbaijan is concerned over the transparency of flows, there are several other methods to approach this issue, rather than taking unilateral steps. Fair and sustainable peace means peace that respects and protects human rights. We work for our peoples and we want humanitarian steps to contribute to the formation of an atmosphere conducive to negotiations, be it the issues of prisoners of war or those missing, or other difficult issues. We continue to call for the restoration of unimpeded movement along the Lachin Corridor in accordance with the assumed obligations, as well as the ruling of the International Court of Justice. The blockade has been going on for already several months, this is not acceptable, this doesn't comply with commitments to international law and creates risks for a humanitarian crisis for the population of Nagorno Karabakh," FM Colonna said.

Colonna called for negotiations around the security and rights of the population of Nagorno Karabakh.

"The population of Nagorno Karabakh must be able to continue to live in peace and security, with respect to its culture and traditions," FM Colonna added.

The Lachin Corridor has been blocked by Azerbaijan since 12 December 2022.

The United Nations' highest court – the International Court of Justice (ICJ) - ordered Azerbaijan on February 22 to "take all steps at its disposal" to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions. Azerbaijan has so far ignored the ruling.

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# Azeri actions in Lachin Corridor aimed at committing ethnic cleansing in Nagorno Karabakh, Pashinyan warns EU's Michel

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has held a phone call with President of the European Council Charles Michel.

"Views were exchanged around the military-political and humanitarian situation in the region," the Prime Minister's Office said in readout.

The Armenian Prime Minister "emphasized that the Azerbaijani side's steps in the Lachin Corridor are aimed at the consistent implementation of its policy of committing ethnic cleansing in Nagorno Karabakh and fully depopulating Nagorno Karabakh."

PM Pashinyan also "stressed the importance of an adequate reaction by the



international community to Azerbaijan's actions undermining regional security, as well as implementation of practical steps in the direction of the unconditional fulfillment of the International Court of Justice ruling." The Armenia-Azerbaijan negotiations process was also discussed.

"The sides attached importance to consistent efforts in the direction of ensuring stability and peace in the region."

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# An international fact-finding mission in the Lachin Corridor is imperative. Armenian Deputy FM to French delegation



On April 25, Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia Paruyr Havhannisyan received the delegation led by Jean-Pierre Barbier, President of the Isère Department of France.

As Noyan Tapan was informed from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia,

welcoming the guests, the Deputy Minister emphasized the special ties and effective cooperation formed between Armenia, particularly Gegharkunik and Isère Department, which has its own place in the privileged Armenian-French relations.

Jean-Pierre Barbier, thanking for hosting the delegation led by him, confirmed the readiness to deepen and strengthen cooperation between Gegharkunik-Isère, as well as between French cities Grenoble and Vienne and Armenian cities Sevan and Goris in the fields of health, tourism, education, culture, and Francophonie.

Paruyr Hovhannisyan presented to the delegation the current challenges of the region and Armenia's continuous efforts

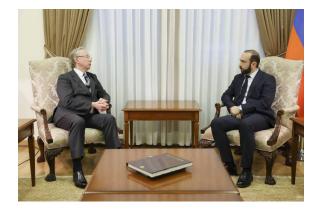
to establish peace.

Referring to the humanitarian crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh due to the illegal blocking of the Lachin Corridor and the establishment of a checkpoint by Azerbaijan in the Lachin Corridor on April 23, he emphasized that Azerbaijan's attitude is aimed at completely disrupting efforts to establish stability and peace in the South Caucasus. In this context, Paruyr Hovhannisyan emphasized the imperative of sending an international fact-finding mission to the Lachin Corridor and stressed the importance of implementing the February 22 decision of the International Court of Justice.

## Armenia expects actions by allies to restore Lachin Corridor

Foreign Minister of Armenia Ararat Mirzoyan has held a meeting with the Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Galuzin in Yerevan.

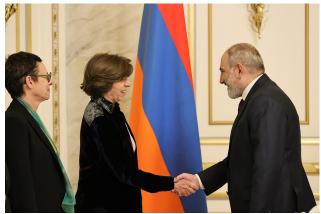
During the meeting, in the context of the dangerous situation in the region resulting from Azerbaijan's provocative statements and aggressive actions, including its actions in the direction of installing a checkpoint in the area of responsibility of the Russian peacekeepers, the Armenian FM emphasized the need for a clear reaction and practical steps by Armenia's allies and partners in the direction of restoring the function of the Lachin Corridor in line with the 9 November 2020 trilateral statement, the foreign ministry said in a readout.



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## Armenian PM, French FM agree Azerbaijan's unilateral actions are unacceptable



Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan received the delegation led by Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France Catherine Colonna.

The Prime Minister welcomed the visit of the French Foreign Minister to Armenia and emphasized the special attitude and attention of our country for Armenia-France relations.

"I want to emphasize that I am very happy about the dynamics we have in our relationship. Not only are these relations at a high level, but I also think we have the potential to develop them. I want to express special thanks to the President of France, to you, to the government for the attention that is given to the problems of our region, in particular, to the crisis around the Nagorno Karabakh and the Lachin Corridor. Once again, I welcome you and I will be happy to hear your evaluations, impressions

about the visit and the situation in our region," said Nikol Pashinyan.

In turn, Catherine Colonna thanked for hosting and added: "I am visiting your country for the first time and firstly I convey the friendly greetings of the President to you. You know that France is Armenia's friend, stands by Armenia, and there are many things that connect us with this country. But I want to personally say once again: we stand by your side during the reforms, efforts, and work that you are conducting, we are also by your side in the search for a just and sustainable peace".

Issues related to the further development and strengthening of cooperation between Armenia and France in various fields were discussed.

The interlocutors referred to the humanitarian crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh resulted by the situation around the Lachin Corridor, and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

The interlocutors emphasized the need for the immediate implementation of the decision of the International Court of Justice and the need for Azerbaijan to unblock the Lachin Corridor. Unilateral actions by Azerbaijan, including the establishment of a checkpoint in the Lachin Corridor, which is a gross violation of the statement of November 9, 2020, were considered unacceptable.

The sides also exchanged thoughts on issues related to the normalization of relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

In the context of ensuring security and stability in the region, the effective activity of the EU observation mission in Armenia was highlighted.

## Armenia, France reiterate readiness to enrich special relations

Armenia and France reiterated readiness to further expand the comprehensive agenda between the two countries and enrich the special relations in various sectors.

Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan and French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna delivered a joint press conference on April 28 after holding a meeting in Yerevan.

"The highest level of political dialogue between Armenia and France and the mutual determination to strengthen it is evident, which was reiterated with the participation of the leaders of the two countries in the Ambitions: France-Armenia forum last year, as well as with the signing of the

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2021-2026 Armenian-French Economic Cooperation roadmap. We agreed to ensure the implementation of the roadmap with practical steps, it is our mutual keenness to have tangible results in this sector which will match our political dialogue," Mirzoyan said.

He pointed out the productive cooperation with the French Development Agency as an important factor for promoting the economic agenda.

"We attached high importance to close cooperation in a number of other areas, such as education, science, culture and healthcare. I shared our satisfaction on how France shares Armenia's successes, for example the opening of the Tumo

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centers in Paris and Lyon," Mirzoyan said.

Mirzoyan said they also discussed the operations of the educational institutions encompassing all French educational circles in Armenia.

He said that every year Armenia holds the Days of La Francophonie events.

"We were pleased to note the inter-parliamentary cooperation both bilaterally and multilaterally in parliamentary platforms which has a special place in our bilateral comprehensive agenda. We underscored the importance of strengthening de-centralized cooperation, which is rapidly developing and has significant potential for expansion," the Armenian FM said.

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## Peace between Armenia, Azerbaijan the only goal of France and EU, FM Colonna says in Jermuk

The only goal of France and the EU regarding the regional situation and the Armenia-Azerbaijan relations is the restoration of peace and atmosphere of trust, French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna told reporters in Jermuk on April 28.

"Only a peace treaty will allow to truly resolve all outstanding issues stemming from this situation. That is why the EU sent a monitoring mission, which is a civilian mission, an unarmed mission. The goal of the mission is to record the situation on the ground, which allows the EU countries to have direct, first-hand reports on the situation. We believe that the mission is very useful, and it is also due to the work of this mission that we will be able to move forward on the path of peace," FM Colonna said.

She said it was important for her to visit Jermuk to express support to the EU monitoring mission and on the other hand to see the situation with her own eyes.

"Naturally we get informed on the situation based on documents, but seeing it with your own eyes on the ground is also very important, and with this visit we once again reiterate our support to the friendly people of Armenia," FM Colonna added.

"We understand the situation better by seeing the advancement on these new positions," she added.

## Armenia expects France's support in deploying international factfinding mission to Lachin Corridor, NK

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The Secretary of the Security Council of Armenia Armen Grigoryan said on April 28 that France can help Armenia in both resolving its security-related issues and the settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict.

"France can definitely bring much benefit in many issues and help Armenia," Grigoryan told reporters in Jermuk. "As you know, the EU civilian mission was deployed to Armenia as a result of the meeting in Prague, where the President of France had an important role. France continues to seek ways for helping Armenia. Also as a Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group it continues to be engaged in the NK issue. As you know, the French Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group has arrived to Armenia together with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of France. At this moment we see great interest from France for a resolution of the situation in Lachin Corridor," Armen Grigoryan said.

He added that Armenia is carrying out intensive work with its international partners in order for an international fact-finding mission to be sent to Lachin Corridor and Nagorno Karabakh. Grigoryan said that this issue is also being discussed with France and Armenia expects to receive support.

Secretary Grigoryan stressed that they offered Foreign Minister of France

Catherine Colonna to visit Jermuk in order to have a better understanding of the situation.

"From our discussions I have an impression that the minister has a full understanding of the situation," Grigoryan said.

Asked by ARMENPRESS about the current phase in conveying peace treaty proposals between Armenia and Azerbaijan given Baku's statement claiming that Armenia hasn't conveyed its proposals for more than 40 days, Grigoryan said: "Negotiations are expected soon, discussions are underway. Azerbaijan was also late in the past when we had conveyed our proposals. That's very normal. We didn't convey for one reason, because negotiations were planned, that's the reason. I think Azerbaijan is simply engaged in a policy of deviating the attention of the international community from other important issues."

## Journalists, businessmen, lawyers from Argentina conduct exploratory visit to Armenia

Deputy Foreign Minister Paruyr Hovhannisyan held a meeting on April 25 with a delegation of journalists, businessmen, lawyers and public figures from Argentina who are on an exploratory visit to Armenia.

Hovhannisyan presented the positive course of the traditionally friendly bilateral relations between Armenia and Argentina, the foreign ministry said in readout. In this context, the regular political dialogue, expansion of the legal framework, development of trade and inter-parliamentary ties and cultural relations were emphasized.

The Deputy FM presented the current situation around the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, the ongoing blockade of the Lachin Corridor by Azerbaijan and the latter's illegal installation of checkpoint on April 23 in violation of the clause 6 of the 9 November 2020 trilateral statement. The importance of international actors' targeted reactions was underscored to pressure Azerbaijan to end the blockade and fulfill the February 22 ruling of the International Court of Justice.

An exchange of views around urgent

regional and international issues also took place.

The Lachin Corridor has been blocked by Azerbaijan since 12 December 2022.

The United Nations' highest court – the International Court of Justice (ICJ) - ordered Azerbaijan on February 22 to "take all steps at its disposal" to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions. Azerbaijan has so far ignored the ruling.

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## Members of European Parliament slam Azerbaijan for "blatant disrespect" of int'l obligations regarding Lachin Corridor

Member of the European Parliament Marina Kaljurand, the Chair of the European Parliament Delegation for relations with the South Caucasus, Member of the European Parliament Andrey Kovatchev, the European Parliament's Standing Rapporteur on Armenia, and Member of the European Parliament Zeljana Zovko, the European Parliament's Standing Rapporteur on Azerbaijan, issued a joint statement on "the blatant disrespect by Azerbaijan of its international obligations regarding the Lachin Corridor."

#### Below is the joint statement:

"We express our strong concern related to the installation by Azerbaijan of a checkpoint on the Lachin Corridor on 23 April 2023. This can have possible negative consequences and be seen as a clear violation of the ceasefire statement of 9 November 2020, as well as an act of disrespect of the binding ruling of the International Court of Justice of 22 February 2023 which ordered Azerbaijan to 'take all measures at its disposal to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions'.

We recall that the Azerbaijani blockade of the corridor has been ongoing since 12 December 2022, causing humanitarian hardship to the population of Nagorno-Karabakh and greatly undermining prospects for peace. The recent actions further aggravate the situation. We urge Baku to reverse course immediately and commit to the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and to the respect of international obligations and norms. The European Union continues to stand ready to assist the parties in addressing all their differences through negotiations.

Moreover, it is regrettable that such actions were taken on the very eve of the Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day of 24 April, the anniversary of the launch of the extermination campaign by the Ottoman Empire 108 years ago. We commemorate the one and a half million victims who perished in the genocide and call on the international community to remain vigilant with respect to all instances of inflammatory rhetoric and actions that incite hatred and prevent reconciliation."

### PACE renews call to open the Lachin corridor

The co-rapporteurs of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) for the monitoring of Azerbaijan, Ian Liddell-Granger (United Kingdom, EC/ DA) and Lise Christoffersen (Norway, SOC), and the co-rapporteurs for the monitoring of Armenia, Kimmo Kiljunen (Finland, SOC) and Boriana Åberg (Sweden, EPP/ CD), have made the following statement:

"We renew our call for the restoration of freedom of movement along the Lachin corridor issued on 16 December 2022, and we recall the decision of the European Court of Human Rights of 21 December 2022 under Rule 39 of the Rules of Court, and the order made by the International



Court of Justice (ICJ) on 22 February 2023; the latter indicating that "Azerbaijan shall [...] take all measures at its disposal to ensure the unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin corridor in both directions.

We take note that Armenia has

indicated that it will appeal to the ICJ concerning the installation, on 23 April, of a checkpoint along the Lachin corridor.

We urge Azerbaijan and Armenia to refrain from any unilateral steps that could further complicate the negotiation efforts supported by the EU at the highest level and through the presence of the EU Mission in Armenia. We call for an intensification of negotiations on border issues and the settlement of all disputes by peaceful means."

PACE rapporteur Paul Gavan (Ireland, UEL) has also <u>sought access</u> to the Lachin corridor to see at first hand the situation on the ground.

## Azerbaijani checkpoint in Lachin Corridor is gross violation of 2020 statement - Pashinyan

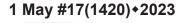
The Azerbaijani checkpoint installed in the Lachin Corridor is a gross violation of clause 6 of the 9 November 2020 trilateral statement, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said at the April 27 Cabinet meeting.

"Azerbaijan is continuously escalating the situation in the region, this time by installing a checkpoint in the Lachin Corridor linking Nagorno Karabakh with Armenia. And if so far the Lachin Corridor was closed under the pretext of an environmental campaign, now it is already officially closed by Azerbaijan. This provocative step is aimed at not only increasing the tension in the region but also worsening the humanitarian crisis in Nagorno Karabakh," Pashinyan said.

The Armenian Prime Minister noted that this time the international community has given a clear assessment to Azerbaijan's actions.

PM Pashinyan said the true and far-reaching goal of these actions, as well as preceding actions, is to perpetrate ethnic cleansing and genocide of Armenians in Nagorno Karabakh.

"The next issue which gets worse with the installation of the checkpoint in Lachin Corridor is the following, to what extent does Azerbaijan feel obliged to fulfill its internationally assumed obligations? The installation of a checkpoint in the Lachin Corridor is a gross violation of clause 6 of the 9 November 2020 trilateral statement. Azerbaijan has been violating basically every single clause of the statement ever since it was signed," Pashinyan said.



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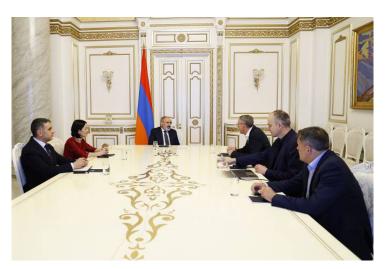
## PM Pashinyan receives representative of Gerkan, Marg and Partners architectural company to discuss Academic City

Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan received Stephan Schütz, Executive Partner at Gerkan, Marg and Partners architectural company, from the Office of the Prime Minister informs.

Issues related to the construction of the Academic City and cooperation in this issue were discussed at the meeting.

Stephan Schütz noted that together with his colleagues and representatives of the Ministry of Education, Sci-

ence, Culture and Sport of Armenia, he has already been to the territory of the Academic City and made the necessary studies. At the same time, he reflected on



his architectural projects in different cities around the world.

Prime Minister Pashinyan noted that the Academic City project has a very

important and strategic significance for the Armenian government and for him personally, and the Executive is consistently moving towards the successful implementation of the project.

The development of the master plan for the construction of the Academic City, ensuring the functionality of the three clusters, infrastructure and other issues were touched upon during the meeting.

An agreement was reached to continue the work with the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Armenia according to the timetable.

## Armenia, India interested in deepening cooperation in all directions

Speaker of Parliament Alen Simonyan held a meeting on April 25 with the Ambassador of India Nilakshi Saha Sinha.

Simonyan congratulated the ambassador on taking office and wished achievements in her responsible position.

"The sides stated that the Armenian-Indian relations are on the highest level ever and that the sides are interested in deepening partnership in all sectors," the parliament's press service said in readout.

Simonyan asked the ambassador to relay greetings to his Indian counterpart Om Birla with whom he had a comprehensive conversation during the latest



IPU Assembly.

The Speaker also noted the productive work of the Armenia-India Parliamentary Friendship Group and expressed hope that a friendship group will be formed in the Indian parliament as well.

The positive cooperation between Armenia and India in international platforms was noted and the mutual-trust over vital issues in international organizations was highlighted.

Issues relating to the region, Armenia and the crisis in Lachin Corridor were discussed.

The Ambassador of India thanked for the reception and expressed readiness to maintain contact with the Armenian parliament and contribute to the development of parliamentary diplomacy.

## Twin-engine plane landing in Syunik airport marks 'historic' moment

The L410 twin-engine aircraft has landed in the Kapan airport in Syunik province after taking off from Yerevan for a flight to test the airport approach systems.

Aviation authorities hailed it as a 'historic' moment because the Syunik airport was closed since the 1990s, with the exception of one day in 2017 when a private jet landed there.

The 19-seat L-410 UVP E20 aircraft took off from Zvartnots airport at 10:10 and landed in the Syunik airport at 10:58.

The Syunik airport has been renovated in accordance with international standards and is certified by the Civil Aviation Committee since 2020, the Civil Aviation Committee said in a statement.



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### Armenia has low debt burden – PM

Armenia is a country with a low debt burden with its 46% debt-to-GDP ratio, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said at the Cabinet meeting on April 27.

He said that the debt's share in the national currency has increased while the debt in foreign currency has dropped. "This means that our state debt has become more resistant to currency risks within the framework of this process," Pashinyan said.

The debt-to-GDP ratio decrease is due to the dram appreciation because most of



the debt is in foreign currency, and on the other hand it has to do with the progressive economic growth pace. Moreover, the fact that the deficit was lower than projected also had impact.

"We could involve new amounts if the government were to reach that stance. The problem isn't the debt, the problem is how we use the debt to increase the potential of our economic growth," the PM added.

Pashinyan highlighted the use of debt for capital investments.

The debt-to-GDP ratio stood at 46,7% in 2022 against the projected 60,2%. The figure is

a 13,6% drop compared to 2021. Armenia's government debt stood at 10 billion 86 million USD as of December 31, 2022.

## Taxes paid by top 1000 taxpayers have doubled compared to 2018

Recently, the State Revenue Committee (SRC) published information on top 1,000 taxpayers, according to which, in the first quarter of the current year, the amount of tax revenues paid by them to the state budget amounted to more than 381 billion 104 million AMD, which compared to the same period last year, increased by more than 54 billion AMD or by 16.5%.

It is noteworthy that over the past 6 years, the tax revenues paid by top 1,000 taxpayers have recorded dynamic growth, including in the first quarter of 2023, increasing 2.1 times compared to the same period in 2018.

In the first quarter of the current year, 212.1 billion AMD in tax revenues were collected from top 100 taxpayers, which



makes 55.7% of the total amount collected from the top 1000 taxpayers, that is, more than half of the taxes paid by top 1000 taxpayers are generated by the top 100 taxpayers.

In 2023, Gazprom Armenia heads the list with 20.9 billion AMD in taxes paid to the state budget. Compared to the same period last year, taxes paid by the company increased by 4.2%. The second largest taxpayer is "Zangezur Copper-Molybdenum Combine" (ZCMC), followed by "Grand Tobacco" with taxes paid to the state budget of 15.5 and 11.7 billion AMD, respectively. It is noteworthy that the volume of tax revenues paid by all organizations included in the top ten large taxpayers has increased, except for ZCMC.

The total amount of taxes paid to the state budget of Armenia in the first quarter of 2023 was 461.4 billion AMD, surpassing the indicator of the same period of 2018 by 190.3 billion AMD or 70.2%. It is noteworthy that the share of taxes paid by 1000 large taxpayers in January-March of this year was 82.6% of the total, compared to 65.5% in 2018.

## ANIF, Air Arabia Group, Fly Arna executives discuss development of airline

David Papazian, Chairman of the Board of Fly Arna Armenia's national airlines and CEO of ANIF, held a working meeting with the CEO of Air Arabia Group Mr. Adel Al Ali and the CEO of Fly Arna Mr. Anthony Price, ANIF said in a press release on April 27.

During the meeting issues related to the

development of Fly Arna Armenia's national airline a joint venture company between ANIF and Air Arabia Group were discussed. The emphasis was on the improvement of the quality of passenger services and the expansion of the geography of flights.



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## EXCLUSIVE: French Foreign Minister on Armenia relations, Nagorno Karabakh conflict



Minister of Foreign Affairs of France Catherine Colonna says the obstruction by Azerbaijan of movement along the Lachin Corridor is unacceptable and is fraught with serious dangers of economic and humanitarian crisis for the population of Nagorno Karabakh.

In an exclusive interview with AR-MENPRESS, French FM Catherine Colonna stressed that this conduct by Azerbaijan also obstructs the peace talks with Armenia. She also expressed concern over the installation of a checkpoint in the Lachin Corridor by Azerbaijan.

Colonna said that France will support any solution that would allow to guarantee the Armenian population in Nagorno Karabakh to continue to live there safely, by preserving its history, heritage and culture.

FM Colonna also talked about the Armenian-French relations and addressed her message on the occasion of the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

ARMENPRESS: Your Excellency, Nagorno Karabakh has been blockaded by Azerbaijan for already four months and the people of Nagorno Karabakh have appeared on the verge of a humanitarian disaster. The international community, including France, have found the blockade of the Lachin Corridor to be unacceptable and have urged Azerbaijan to ensure free movement of people and vehicles along the Lachin Corridor. Recently the International Court of Justice ordered Azerbaijan to immediately open the corridor and ensure free movement; however Azerbaijan continues to keep the corridor closed, ignoring all calls by the international community and the International Court of Justice ruling. Don't you think it is time for the international community to start taking clear actions in order for Azerbaijan to end the blockade of Nagorno Karabakh? What steps is France ready to take in this direction? Do you consider the option of sanctioning Azerbaijan? Given the fact

that Azerbaijan doesn't stop its aggressive actions also against Armenia, what practical steps are the EU and France ready to take in the direction of implementing the solution proposing to deploy the troops at a safe distance along the 1991 border of Armenia and Azerbaijan?

Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna: The obstruction of movement along the Lachin Corridor since 12 December is unacceptable. I've had multiple occasions to express the position of France in this regard. This situation is unacceptable because it is fraught with serious dangers of economic and humanitarian crisis for the population of Nagorno Karabakh. It is also obstructing the continuation of the peace talks between Armenia and Azerbaijan, to which Prime Minister Pashinyan is decisively committed to, and it poses a serious threat to regional stability, which is already deeply impacted by the current geopolitical context. We must together assess the consequences of the Russian aggression against Ukraine.

What we are going through today is the return of war to our continent. However, more fundamentally, this is also a conscious attempt to dispute the fundamental principles of the international order which is based on law, substituting it with the law of strength. This is a crucial moment, which must force each and every one to assess their responsibility and realize that peace is our most precious value.

A few weeks ago the International Court of Justice delivered a ruling during a brief hearing, demanding Baku to take all means within its authority to ensure movement along the corridor. The ruling is binding for everyone, and it must be respected. In this regard, the decision by Azerbaijan to install a checkpoint at the entrance of the new road in Lachin Corridor is deeply concerning, as noted by the European Union and the United States.

France wants all disputes to be resolved exclusively through negotiations. This is the foundation of France's commitment, next with the EU. And I am visiting Azerbaijan and Armenia this week to make this call to responsibility, resumption of talks and respect for the law to be heard.

**ARMENPRESS:** The President of Azerbaijan insists that the Nagorno Karabakh issue is an internal matter and that they

are not going to discuss it with anyone, whereas the Armenian side, in context of normalizing relations with Azerbaijan, is advancing the issue of forming an international mechanism for dialogue between Baku and Nagorno Karabakh and international guarantees for ensuring the security and rights of Nagorno Karabakh. What is the position of France, also as a Co-Chairing country of the OSCE Minsk Group, in this issue?

**Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna:** We want negotiations to begin – with support of the international community – between the representatives of Nagorno Karabakh and the Azerbaijani authorities around the content of the population's rights and guarantees. This implies that favorable conditions must be created for the negotiations, namely around the issue of restoring free movement along Lachin Corridor.

France will support any solution that would allow to guarantee that the Armenian population of Nagorno Karabakh can continue to live there safely, by preserving its history, heritage and culture. It is their inalienable right.

**ARMENPRESS:** Could you please also comment on the current level of the Armenian-French relations? How do you assess the cooperation between Armenia and France in various fields and in which sectors do you see the potential for deepening partnership?

**Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna:** The relations between our two countries are exclusive and developed over the course of a common history, with both joyful and painful moments. Today, these relations are developing between both the two governments and civil societies.

France is decisively supporting the efforts by Mr. Pashinyan's government aimed at strengthening democracy and the rule of law in Armenia and developing the economy. The courageous choice of democracy by Armenia must receive support, to which we are committed to together with other members of the international community and the European Union.

In December 2021 we signed an ambitious roadmap for economic cooperation, and recently the Ambitions: France-Armenia Forum was held in Paris, and we opened

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## Wider international presence in Artsakh and Lachin Corridor becoming more and more urgent – PM Pashinyan

A wider international presence in Nagorno-Karabakh and the Lachin Corridor is becoming more and more urgent, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said at the government sitting on April 27.

"Azerbaijan continues to escalate the situation in the region, this time by illegally setting up a checkpoint in the Lachin corridor linking Armenia to Nagorno Karabakh. If until now the Lachin corridor had been closed under the fake pretext of "eco-activists," now it has been officially closed by Azerbaijan," the Prime Minister said.

He noted that the provocative step aims at not only escalating the situation in the region, but also deepening the humanitarian crisis in Artsakh.

"This time the international community has given a clear assessment to the establishment of the Azerbaijani checkpoint in the Lachin corridor," he noted.

The Prime Minister said "the deeper goal of this and previous actions is to subject the population of Nagorno Karabakh to ethnic cleansing and genocide, and this should be in the focus of all of us, the international community."

an office of the French Development Agency (AFD) in Yerevan. The AFD is engaged in productive dialogue with the authorities of Armenia to implement new projects, particularly in the fields of water and sustainable energy. Last year the volumes of our bilateral trade grew significantly, and we try to continue this trend, including by supporting French companies who want to invest in Armenia, like Veolia, Pernod Ricard, Carrefour and Amundi-Acba.

Regarding defense, the establishment of a defense mission in the French Embassy in Armenia must enable us to deepen bilateral cooperation in this key area as well.

And finally, in the cultural and educational cooperation we want to rely on the huge success of the French University of Armenia, and we are opening the French Institute in Armenia which will allow to create a rich cultural program, at the same time to offer training courses of French



PM Pashinyan emphasized that the establishment of the checkpoint goes counter to Point 6 of the November 9, 2020 trilateral statement, adding that Azerbaijan has actually violated all of its provisions.

Presenting Armenia's vision of the settlement of the situation, PM Pashinyan said: "The peacekeeping contingent of the Russian Federation should exercise control of the Lachin corridor and therefore ensure its normal functioning, i.e. no one should exercise control in the Lachin corridor except the peacekeepers, and Azerbaijan should not impede the free movement along the road. This is what the November 9 statement envisages."

"The security and rights of the people of Nagorno Karabakh should become a subject of negotiations between

language for all levels. The development of our cooperation in La Francophonie, the areas of science, culture, sports and heritage is also noteworthy, which shows the exclusive dynamics of the relations between France and Armenia, to which I am deeply committed to.

**ARMENPRESS:** Your Excellency, April 24th of 2023 marked the 108th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. As Foreign Minister of a country which has recognized and condemned the Armenian Genocide, what is your message to the world and especially Turkey so that such crimes against humanity don't ever happen again?

**Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna:** On April 24th, like every year, we commemorated the victims of the 1915 Armenian Genocide, which France officially recognized by law on 29 January 2001. This tribute became more solemn since the President of France included it in the list of national commemorative events in 2019. Stepanakert and Baku within an international format," he noted.

As for a possible peace treaty between Armenia and Azerbaijan, the Prime Minister said "obviously, it should have a a clear and functioning system of implementation guarantees and dispute settlement. The parameters of border delimitation should be outlined, and clear mechanisms should be implemented to exclude any escalation."

He said concrete efforts on the part of Armenia and the international community are needed to prevent further escalation of the situation and reach a comprehensive settlement, and stressed that the Republic of Armenia will continue to take efforts in that direction.

"Along with these efforts, a wider international presence in Nagorno-Karabakh and the Lachin Corridor is becoming more and more necessary with each passing day," he said.

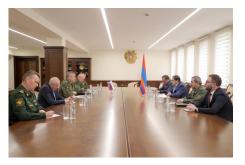
The Prime Minister noted that as a first step it's necessary to dispatch an international fact-finding mission to the Lachin corridor and Nagorno Karabakh.

Commemoration is especially resonant because many French people are descendants of survivors of the genocide whom France took in. However, commemorating the genocide is also a message to humanity for such horrendous events to never happen again in a turbulent period of time, where regrettably conflicts are increasing and many minorities are being threatened.

Regarding Turkey, it is noteworthy that at the initiative of courageous civil society organizations the Armenian Genocide is commemorated there as well, and Turkish academics and historians are working around this topic. We must continue to support the efforts around the world, both by institutional actors and civil society representatives to fight against the denial of the genocide and ponder upon the horrendous lessons of history. Together we can preserve the ability of peoples to live together, which is now endangered.

#### Shant Khlghatyan

## Armenian DM, new chief of Russian peacekeepers in Artsakh discuss ways to increase the effectiveness of the mission



Armenian Defense Minister Suren Papikyan received Colonel-General Alexander Lentsov, the newly appointed commander of the peacekeeping forces of the Russian Federation in Nagorno-Karabakh.

The meeting was attended by Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Armenia Sergey Kopirkin, military attaché, Colonel Igor Shcherbakov and former commander of the Russian peacekeeping forces in Nagorno-Karabakh, Major-General Andrey Volkov.

The Armenian Defense Minister congratulated Colonel-General Alexander Lentsov on assuming the new position and wished him success during the peacekeeping mission. The parties discussed the operational situation and existing problems around Nagorno-Karabakh and in the area of responsibility of the peacekeeping troops, a number of issues aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the Russian peacekeeping mission in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Minister Papikyan emphasized the need for steady implementation of all the points of the tripartite statement of November 9, 2020, and highlighted the importance of making efforts to unblock the Lachin Corridor as soon as possible.

## Armenian military works to gain advantage over Azeri troops near Tegh village

Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Armenia Major-general Edward Asryan said on April 28 that the situation in the Armenian-Azerbaijani border is "relatively stable", but ceasefire violations by Azerbaijan are taking place in the direction of Syunik and Gegharkunik.

"The goal behind these ceasefire violations is to keep the situation constantly tense, but the situation is under our control," the Major-general told reporters.

Asked on cooperation with the EU observers, Major-general Edward Asryan said he highly appreciates the cooperation



and that all issues are being resolved properly. "First of all, we ensure their military security, both during their work on the ground as well as during their transit. We also cooperate around other issues set before us, I highly appreciate the cooperation. I can also say that they are fulfilling their objectives," Asryan said.

Speaking about the situation in the section of the Tegh village, the Chief of the General Staff said the Armenian troops there already have a frontline and the positions are being improved. "Every day we are carrying out the relevant work to gain advantage over the adversary in some directions. In all other parts the military is fulfilling its objectives too," he said.

## Raising the NK issue in European Parliament is a necessity – Armenian MPs receive MEPs

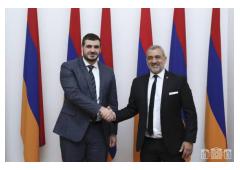
On April 25, the Chair of the Standing Committee on European Integration of the National Assembly of Armenia Arman Yeghoyan and the Deputy Chair of the Committee Meri Galstyan received the Member of the European Parliament from Cyprus, the Chairman of the Friendship Group with Armenia Loucas Fourlas, Noyan Tapan was informed from the parliament of Armenia.

The MEP being in Armenia for the first time visited Syunik Marz (Region), got acquainted with deploying illegal checkpoint in the Lachin Corridor by Azerbaijan and the works of officially blocking the Corridor. Arman Yeghoyan noted that this step by Azerbaijan is aimed at carrying out ethnic cleansing consistently implementing its policy and completely depopulating Armenians from Nagorno Karabakh. The parliamentarian also informed his European colleague that the Azerbaijani officials already publicly propose the NK population to receive Azerbaijani passports.

The interlocutors considered urgent the necessity of raising the issue in the European Parliament.

The MPs also discussed issues regarding Armenia-European Union cooperation, particularly, the implementation of the joint restoration programmes in the border settlements.

At the end of the meeting, the sides also spoke about the issues on the Armenian-Cypriot friendship and the overcoming of problems facing the two peoples.



The Noyan Tapan Highlights

## Turkish Sergeant Provides Grisly Details Of Massacring Dersim Alevis & Armenians

#### BY CA\_COURIER

Turkish Sergeant Ali Oz, who participated in the massacre of thousands of Alevi Kurds and Armenians in Dersim. Turkey, in 1937-38, wrote a shocking confession about his role in those killings. It is very disturbing to read the gruesome details of the killings. The source of Oz's letter is the archive of Hasan Saltık who was the founder of Kalan Music which produced valuable records of Turkish and Armenian music. He passed away two years ago. Saltik had hundreds of Turkish governmental documents and photos which he shared with several researchers. One of them was Nevzat Onaran who wrote extensively about the confiscated Armenian properties. Prof. Taner Akcam gave me a copy of Oz's letter which he had received from Onaran. Akcam thanked Nilufer, Saltik's wife, for giving him permission to use the letter. Sergeant Oz wrote a letter on December 17, 1946 to Minister of Interior Sukru Kaya, thanking him for having helped him get a job at the intercession of powerful General Abdullah Alpdogan, who was the Governor-Commander of the Dersim region, sent by Ataturk to organize the Dersim massacre. Oz was Alpdogan's bodyguard in Dersim. Oz told Minister Kaya in his letter that his army colleague, Ethem, who was with him during the Dersim massacre, had recently come to visit him. "He had lost his mind completely. He rose out of bed startled. He went out into the street screaming.... I could barely restrain him. The children they killed constantly troubled him. He couldn't sleep or anything. With great difficulty I took him to Izmir, brought him to his family and handed him over to them. After I came back, I got the news. He cut his wrists and committed suicide." Sergeant Oz described the impact of the crimes he had committed in Dersim. "This incident affected me profoundly. The saddening incidents that I experienced began one by one to return to my mind. The eyes of the children I killed pounded

in my head, and I too began to not sleep, to not eat. I rise up shaking, I lose myself. It has become such that I don't know where I have gone, what I have done." Oz wrote that he was referred to a psychiatrist. "The doctor had me write everything that I had experienced and sign it. Now I am taking medicine. They gave me a leave [of absence] for three months. But my Minister, our General said, 'don't talk about what happened here [in Dersim] to any civilian, not even to your mother or father. Otherwise, you will all be hanged.' I wrote those things and signed them. Now I have begun to fear whether something might happen to me. I asked the doctor to give me back what I wrote. It's impossible, he won't give it." Oz told the Interior Minister exactly what he had written to his psychiatrist: "I participated in the Dersim operation of 1937-38. I was the bodyguard of my General. There was a lot of conflict with the bandits. Those bandits we caught or those who surrendered we killed, whether women or children. We poured petrol on them all and burned them. Sometimes the General said to pour petrol on them alive and burn them. Yelling and screaming they burned and turned to ashes, the smell of flesh burned our whole nasal passage." Oz continued his horrible recollections: "News came to the General from Tersemek [Dersim]: 'Women and children were hidden somewhere steep alongside the river, what shall we do?' 'Kill and burn them all,' said the General. Two hours later the Lieutenant gave directions. But, no one wanted to harm the children. They didn't listen to the orders. The General was very angry. We set out with a squad of soldiers. Everyone stood at attention. He began to hit the Lieutenant and the soldiers. Cursing, he said: 'bring them all to where it's flat.' The women and children, yelling and screaming, wailing and moaning, begged at the General's feet. There was nothing proper on them or their feet. He had all their hands and feet bound. their mouths gagged with cloth. 'Now soldiers, I address you, these Qizilbash

[Alevi] offspring are all the bastards of traitors, the bastards of those who killed your friends, and if they grow up they will continue to kill your brothers. They should be exterminated. We eradicated the Armenian offspring. All that's left are these Kurds and Qizilbash. If you want your children to live happily in this country, you will kill without mercy. The government, our President, gave instructions to raze, burn, demolish. No one will be judged for the things done, I promise you,' he said." The General then ordered: "'Everyone will take turns to kill one or two people.' There was silence in the squad. 'Lieutenant, begin, bring two people,' he said. They brought two children, and he shot them in the head. They both died. When it came to the third soldier, Salih from Divarbakir, he went to the children and fell in front of them. 'My Commander, I can't do it, I have children too. Children are innocent,' he said, 'these poor things.' The General said, 'you fucking Kurd, it's your race, that's why you take pity, isn't it?' He shot the soldier in the forehead. He said, 'whoever doesn't carry out the order will end up like him.' So, everyone started to kill one or two women and children. After each execution, the General himself shot them once or twice in the head to make sure they were dead. Everyone had to do his duty. 'Come to me Sergeant [Oz], it's your turn.' There were three little girls left. 'You take care of them,' he said. The children were hunched over on the ground and had soiled themselves. They were crying in their ragged state. I looked into their eyes. I killed the three of them. Their eyes pierced my depths. I can't forget their eyes. 70 to 80 children and 30 women were executed that day. They were all thrown into the waters of the Murat. The river was soaked with blood. Many soldiers prayed for forgiveness. I killed and burned many people, but I've never seen eyes that pierced like those of the children." Sergeant Oz concluded his letter with the following agonizing note: "How can I look my children in the face?"

## Monument commemorating the heroes of Nemesis operation unveiled in Yerevan



Almost a century after the Armenian Genocide, a fountain-memorial was solemnly opened in downtown Yerevan to commemorate the heroes of the Nemesis operation – Soghomon Tehliryan, Aram Yerkanyan, Armen Garo, Grigor Merjanov, Ara Sargsyan, Avetik Isahakyan, Hratch Papazian, Shahan Natalie, Hakob Melkumov, Yervand Fundukyan, Misak Torlakian, Arshavir Shiragian, Arshak Yezdanyan, Stepan Tsaghikyan, Artashes Gevorgyan, Petros Ter-Poghosyan.

Generations from now on will get to know the history of the heroic Armenians who took revenge on the leaders of the Young Turks who organized and carried out the 1915 Armenian Genocide, as well as the organizers of the 1918 Baku massacre of Armenians, through this monument, which is a tribute, a unique bow and a message of responsibility towards the motherland.

The fountain-memorial was installed by the decision of the Yerevan City Council, the author of the sculpture is the architect Tigran Barseghyan.

The petition for the installation of the memorial was submitted by the descendants of the avengers of the Armenian Genocide.

# The evil of genocide is also present in the 21st century. Permanent representative of Artsakh in the USA

On 19-24 April, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Artsakh to the United States Robert Avetisyan participated in a series of events dedicated to the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, including at the US Congress, the Massachusetts Legislature, the Armenian Embassy in the United States, and

New York's Times Square, ARMENPRESS was informed from the Foreign Ministry of Artsakh.

In his address, the Permanent Representative of Artsakh expressed gratitude to the United States and all those countries that saved many Armenian lives through diplomacy and humanitarian programmes during those difficult times.

He noted that the evil of genocide is also present in the 21st century, a striking manifestation of which is the large-scale war unleashed by Azerbaijan in 2020



against the newly established democracy of Artsakh with the support of Turkey and terrorist organisations from the Middle East and accompanied by war crimes and gross violations of international humanitarian law.

Robert Avetisyan also spoke about the terrorist policy pursued by Azerbaijan against the people of Artsakh, in particular, Azerbaijan's blockade of Artsakh, which has been ongoing for almost five months, the deliberate disruptions of natural gas and electricity supplied to Artsakh from Armenia.

"The blockade of Artsakh has a clear genocidal intention, the perpetrators want the indigenous Armenian population of Artsakh to face a dilemma: either leave their historical homeland, or stay and die from hunger, cold and disease," said Robert Avetisyan.

In this context, the Permanent Representative of Artsakh highlighted the importance of adequate action by the international community aimed at preventing new genocides.

"The Armenian Genocide began in 1915, but unfortunately it is not over yet. We have to fight it together. Geopolitical or mercantile interests have no place when it comes to fundamental human rights and protection from genocides, fascism or aggressive expansionism," said the Permanent Representative of Artsakh.

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## Schiff Introduces Resolution Recognizing Artsakh's Independence and Condemning Azerbaijan's Aggression

#### BY ARA KHACHATOURIAN

Representative Adam Schiff introduced a resolution in Congress on April 24 calling for the recognition of Artsakh's independence and self-determination, while condemning Azerbaijan for its continued aggression against Artsakh and Armenia.

"I am desperately concerned that Azerbaijan is planning another war on Artsakh or on Armenia itself. I think this would be a powerful message to the dictator in Baku that on a bi-partisan basis we are going stand for the people of Artsakh," Schiff told Asbarez. "We need to end this blockade; we need to end to this unprovoked violence by Azerbaijan."

"This resolution will signal the United States' commitment to democratic people everywhere and in particular, Artsakh," Schiff emphasized.

The Democratic Congressman who represents the largest Armenian-American constituency in the county raised the alarm about the worsening humanitarian conditions in Artsakh and warned that it is becoming more dangerous.

"We need to bring attention to this issue. We need to reach out to all members of Congress throughout the country, all the U.S. Senators, to weigh in with the [Biden] Administration," Schiff said.

"The Administration needs to do more than talk in morally equivalent terms. There is no moral equivalency here. It does no good to call on both sides to refrain from violence and provocation when only one side is a belligerent, and that's Baku," emphasized Schiff.

He said that elected officials must hear from the community and their constituents "because we need to amp up the



pressure on the Administration to do something for Artsakh. Foreign capitals, as well as our own people, pay attention to what goes on in Congress and where what our priorities are—and what members of Congress are willing to do and say," Schiff said.

The Congressman said that the resolution "will certainly get attention in Azerbaijan. They need to know that we are going to stand up for Artsakh and their provocations are just accelerating the timetable to recognize Artsakh."

"At a time when Artsakh's very existence is threatened every day by Azerbaijan and after more than thirty years of proof that the people of Artsakh have the ability and desire to live in a free and democratic state, this initiative by Congressman Adam Schiff to take a stand recognizing Artsakh's independence and condemning Azerbaijan's ongoing aggression will send a clear signal to Baku that the status quo is untenable," Nora Hovsepian, the chair of the Armenian National Committee of America-Western Region said.

"The ANCA Western Region is grateful to Congressman Schiff for his leadership on this issue and looks forward to continue working with him toward U.S. recognition of Artsakh's independence through remedial secession as the only way to protect the people of Artsakh from the oppressive Azeri regime," added Hovsepian.

The language of the resolution:

Recognizes the independence of the Republic of Artsakh, consistent with the right to self-determination enshrined in various UN instruments and the people of Artsakh's 1991 vote and decision to declare their independence from Azerbaijan;

Urges the United States to engage proactively in supporting international recognition of the status of the Republic of Artsakh;

Condemns the ongoing blockade of the Lachin Corridor and unprovoked attacks by the Azerbaijani forces on Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, and calls for Azerbaijan to immediately cease its blockade and aggressions against Armenia and Artsakh without conditions;

#### The resolution also:

Calls for all United States foreign and military assistance to Azerbaijan to be immediately ceased pursuant to the section 907 of the Freedom Support Act and for the Administration to make clear to the government of Azerbaijan that further attacks on Armenia and Artsakh will result in sanctions and other measures;

Stands firmly in support of our democratic partner Armenia's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and against Azerbaijan's military aggression and blatant violations of international laws and norms; and

Supports the United States and international humanitarian assistance programs to meet the urgent needs of victims of Azerbaijani aggression in both Armenia and Artsakh.



## Armenia calls on organizers of 2023 Formula 1 Grand Prix not to be part of cover-up of Azerbaijan's policy of ethnic cleansing

The Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia has called on the organizers of the "2023 Formula 1 Grand Prix" European tournament – due to take place in Baku – and the international sports community to raise a voice of protest regarding Azerbaijan's policy of ethnic cleansing in Nagorno Karabakh.

Below is the full statement released by the Ministry.

The Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia calls on the organizers of the 2023 Formula 1 Grand Prix European tournament and the international sports community to raise a voice of protest regarding the ethnic cleansing policy of the Azerbaijani authorities in Nagorno-Karabakh.

The Ministry draws the attention of the sports community to the fact that since December 12, 2022, the Republic of Azerbaijan has illegally blocked the Lachin Corridor, the only road connecting Nagorno-Karabakh to both Armenia and the world, creating an ongoing humanitarian crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh.

On February 22, 2023, the United



Nations International Court of Justice satisfied Armenia's claim, obliging Azerbaijan to open the Lachin Corridor immediately. To this day, Azerbaijan has not only failed to comply with the court's decision but has also cut off gas and electricity supplies.

On April 23, the Azerbaijani authorities set up an illegal checkpoint on the humanitarian corridor connecting Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia, taking 120,000 Armenian residents of Nagorno-Karabakh hostage. With this policy, the Azerbaijani authorities are trying to ethnically cleanse the Armenian population of Nagorno-Karabakh, forcing them to leave their native land.

"The organization of the 2023 Formula 1 Grand Prix European tournament in Baku aims to cover up the policy of extermination of the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh," the Ministry said in a statement.

It called on the organizers and participants of the 2023 Formula 1 Grand Prix not to be part of the cover-up of the policy of ethnic cleansing.

Nasdaq spotlights the Armenian tech company Krisp in New York Times Square

Nasdaq American stock exchange presented the Armenian Krisp tech company in New York Times Square, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Hakob Arsahakyan informs.

Two Armenian companies – Picsart and Krisp – have now been in the center of attention in international arenas in recent years, among many other companies, keeping Armenia's technological ranking at a proper level, Arsahakyan says.

Krisp is an AI-powered application that



removes background noise in real-time cal

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The goal of the Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) non-profit organization is to unify Armenians worldwide in a common platform so that through contacts, queries and referenda they can express their views and positions regarding issues of general interest to Armenians around the world and issues of particular interest to Armenian communities in various countries.

Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) also makes it possible to establish business networks, the cardholder can participate in various charitable projects, and can obtain discounts from Armenian and non-Armenian businesses all over the world. Armenians should feel themselves to be full-fledged "citizens" of a reborn Armenia and the Armenian Identity Card is the «passport» for all Armenians.

The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) network is an effective environment where Armenians can implement various projects and pan-Armenian programs. At the heart of HyeID is the creation of an Armenian database which will become the reliable and objective basis to realize the potential of all Armenians around the world. Based on that database, it will be possible to implement various permanent and temporary initiatives through the Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) organization.

• The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) worldwide network enables cardholders to elect and get elected to the leadership of The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) network structures.

 The Armenian Identity Card (Hye-ID) cardholders can benefit from the

possibility of discounts intended for HyeID cardholders when shopping for products and services in various countries of the world. The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) cardholders can participate in queries and referenda initiated by the Hye-ID network and vote on issues of national interest to Armenians. • Ensure the security

and privacy of The Armenian Identification Card (HyeID) cardholders. The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) cardholders who live in the Diaspora intend to utilize the possibilities made available through HyeID to form a Diaspora representative body — Diaspora Armenian Parliament — through democratic elections.

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