

# Armenia Hails Tentative Deal On Iran's Nuclear Program



Armenia swiftly welcomed late on April 2 a framework agreement to curb neighboring Iran's controversial nuclear program which was reached by the Islamic Republic and world powers during marathon negotiations in Switzerland.

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## Armenian FM attends the sitting of CSTO Foreign Ministers' Council

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia Edward Nalbandian participated in the session of Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) Foreign Ministers' Council. Ministers exchanged thoughts on the issues impacting global and regional security, current situation in Central Asia, South Caucasus, as well as developments unfolding in the Middle East, reflected on efforts towards establishment of stability in Afghanistan. Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian delivered a speech on those issues.

During the meeting, issues of coordination of CSTO member-states' foreign policy were discussed, the development of mil-

itary and military-technical cooperation, fight against terrorism and illegal drug trafficking were reflected on.

The Ministers touched upon the process of implementation of decisions adopted at Collective Security Council session held in December 2014.

At the session, the Foreign Minister of Tajikistan Sirodjiddin Aslov presented the process of implementation of Tajikistan Chairmanship priorities.

Secretary General of the Collective Security Treaty Organization Nikolay Bordyuzha reported about the current activities of the Organization, results reached in the framework of cooperation.

Chairperson-in Office of the OSCE, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia Ivica Dačić was invited to the CSTO Foreign Ministers' Council.

During the session views were exchanged on cooperation between CSTO, the UN, OSCE and other international and regional organizations.

The Ministers decided on the 10 subjects of statements to be made on the behalf of CSTO in 2015, three of which on Armenia's initiative.

The Ministers adopted joint statement on the 70th anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War.



## Russian Jets Start War Games In Armenia

Russia's newly modernized fighter jets deployed in Armenia began on Thursday three-day exercises aimed at boosting their combat readiness and interoperability with ground forces of the Russian military base headquartered in Gyumri.

"The exercises involve around 100 servicemen from the flying and servicing personnel of the [Russian Air Force] detachment and 30 pieces of military aviation and special hardware," the Russian military's Southern District said in a statement.

"For the next three days the MiG-29 fighter jets will perform tasks related to supporting ground troops from the air as well as hitting and destroying air targets that imitate bombers and cruise and ballistic missiles of an imaginary enemy," it said.

The statement added that some of the participating pilots graduated from

Russian Air Force academies less than a year ago. The drills will determine which of them are fit to patrol Armenia's airspace on a regular basis, it said.

The MiG-29 war games are part of a broader "command and staff exercise" currently held by the Russian base at two shooting ranges in central Armenia. They will help to improve the interoperability of Russian ground troops and the Air Force unit stationed at Yerevan's Erebuni airfield, the unit's commander, Colonel Aleksandr Petrov, was quoted by the statement as saying.

The unit is known to have 18 MiG-29s that were modernized last year. The warplanes were reportedly equipped with more advanced electronic targeting and navigation systems. According to the Russian military, they have been steadily increasing the frequency of their flights.

In 2014, Russia also began deploying at Erebuni about two dozen combat heli-



copters as part of a broader reinforcement of its base in Armenia numbering up to 5,000 military personnel.

The Russian military presence is a major element of the South Caucasus country's defense doctrine. Armenian leaders say it is primarily needed for precluding Turkey's direct military intervention on Azerbaijan's side in the event of another war for Nagorno-Karabakh. Russian and Armenian soldiers practiced a joint operation against an imaginary enemy codenamed "Ottomania" when they last held joint drills in September.



## Cyprus Criminalizes Denial Of Armenian Genocide



In a move hailed by Armenia, Cyprus enacted on April 1 a law making it a crime to publicly deny the 1915 Armenian genocide in Ottoman Turkey.

A bill unanimously passed by the Cypriot parliament made corresponding changes in the country's existing legislation dealing with denial of crimes against humanity. Until now it required prior rulings by international courts.

"Today is a historic day," the parliament speaker, Yiannakis Omirou, said, according to the Reuters news agency. "It allows parliament to restore, with unanimous decisions and resolutions, historical truths."

The east Mediterranean island, partly occupied by Turkey since 1974, was one of the first countries worldwide in 1975

to recognize as genocide the World War One-era slaughter of some 1.5 million Armenians by the Ottoman Turks. Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades is one of the world leaders expected to attend the April 24 commemorations in Yerevan of the 100th anniversary of the genocide.

The passage of the Cypriot bill coincided with a visit to Nicosia by an Armenian parliamentary delegation headed by speaker Galust Sahakyan. The latter met with Omirou and addressed the Cypriot parliament later on Thursday.

"I express our profound gratitude for the adoption by the Cyprus House of Representatives of the bill criminalizing denial of the Armenian Genocide," Sahakyan said in his speech. He described Cyprus as a "country that has for centuries displayed its friendly and brotherly attitude towards Armenia."

Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian was also full of praise for the Greek Cypriots. "This is a symbolic event coming on the eve of the centenary of the Armenian Genocide," Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian said in a written statement.

"With the passage of this bill Cyprus has made an important contribution to the noble task of preventing genocides and crimes against humanity," added Nalbandian.

There was no immediate reaction to the development from official Ankara.

Official Yerevan reacted just as positively to the passage in recent years of similar bills by the parliaments of Switzerland, Slovakia and Greece. The French parliament also criminalized Armenian genocide denial in 2012. However, France's highest court subsequently declared the move unconstitutional, citing French legislation guaranteeing freedom of speech.

The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) cited similar grounds when it struck down in 2013 a Swiss court ruling against a Turkish politician who branded the Armenian genocide an "international lie" during a lecture tour in Switzerland.

The Swiss government responded by appealing against the ECHR verdict. The Strasbourg-based court's Grand Chamber opened hearings on the appeal, strongly backed by the Armenian government, in January.

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"That will contribute to the strengthening of stability and cooperation in the region," Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian said in a statement. "This serious progress in the process of solving the Iranian nuclear issue shows that even the most complex problems can be settled through negotiations."

The tentative agreement cleared the way for a comprehensive deal which Iran, the United States, the European Union, Russia and China aim to conclude by June 30. Such a deal would lead to a gradual lifting of crippling international sanctions imposed on Tehran because of what the West sees as Iranian efforts to develop nuclear weapons.

The sanction relief would not only increase Iran's vital oil revenues but also facilitate its commercial ties with other nations, including Armenia. Successive Armenian governments have maintained warm relations with the Islamic regime in Tehran, reflecting their landlocked

country's unresolved conflicts and closed borders with two other Muslim neighbors: Azerbaijan and Turkey.

For over two decades Iran as well as Georgia have been Armenia's sole conduits to the outside world. Armenia also imports natural gas and limited amounts of other fuel from Iran and hopes to significantly boost electricity exports to the Islamic Republic in the coming years.

The Western sanctions have long hampered the implementation of large-scale Armenian-Iranian energy projects. In particular, the Armenian government has had to impose serious restrictions on cash operations between Armenian and Iranian banks. Officials have blamed these curbs for a delay in the construc-

tion of a big hydroelectric plant on the Arax river marking the Armenian-Iranian border and a new power transmission line connecting the two countries.

An Iranian diplomat said in December that the easing of the sanctions, which already began in 2014, bodes well for the launch of these projects. Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, Iran's chief negotiator in the nuclear talks concluded in Lausanne, spoke of further progress towards their implementation when he visited Yerevan in January. Zarif also sounded optimistic about chances of a far-reaching nuclear settlement between Iran and the world powers.

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## Diaspora Armenians Urged To Join Yerevan Rallies

A radical opposition group on April 3 urged Diaspora Armenians to travel to Armenia later this month and join its campaign of nonstop street protests aimed at ousting President Serzh Sargsyan.

The Founding Parliament movement plans to launch the campaign on the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide in Ottoman Turkey to be officially marked on April 24.

The timing has been condemned by Sargsyan's political allies and some mainstream opposition parties represented in parliament. They say that the planned rallies could overshadow the high-profile commemorations of the genocide centenary that will be attended by many foreign dignitaries.

"I want to stress that we will take no steps that could interfere with the events of that day. We will only gather to start the practical phase of our struggle," Zhirayr Sefilian, the Founding

Parliament's Lebanese-born leader, said in a written appeal to the worldwide Armenian Diaspora.

Sefilian said that regime change is imperative because of the "disastrous" state of affairs in Armenia. "On the eve of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide we are being subjected to a white genocide," he charged in reference to the Sargsyan administration's socio-economic policies.

Sefilian said ethnic Armenians from around the world should therefore converge on Yerevan on April 24 and join their "sisters and brothers" there in forcing the government into resignation.

Samvel Farmanyan, a parliament deputy from Sargsyan's Republican Party of Armenia, dismissed the appeal, saying that the Founding Parliament will fail to attract a large Diaspora following. Farmanyan also argued that foreign nationals are not legally allowed to participate in the country's political processes.



The Founding Parliament, which has so far failed to attract large crowds to its rallies, initially planned to begin the campaign in downtown Yerevan's Liberty Square. However, the municipal authorities have refused to sanction the protests, citing the genocide centenary commemorations and offering the opposition group to rally supporters in the city's southern Erebuni suburb instead.

Sefilian and his associates have accepted the offer but said they want to occupy Liberty Square on April 26, something which has also been refused by the municipality.

## EU Official Expects 'Fast Progress' Towards New Deal With Armenia



Negotiations on a new treaty between the European Union and Armenia will likely progress rapidly after they are formally authorized by the EU member states later this year, according to a senior European diplomat.

In an interview with RFE/RL's Armenian service (Azatutyun.am), Traian Hristea, head of the EU Delegation in Yerevan, confirmed that the bloc's executive body, the European Commission, hopes to receive a "mandate" for the talks at next month's EU summit in Latvia's capital Riga.

The talks will center on a deal that will serve as a less ambitious alternative to a planned Association Agreement which was cancelled by the EU after

Armenia's abrupt decision in 2013 to join a Russian-led union of ex-Soviet states. Armenian and EU officials completed last month a "scoping exercise" aimed at identifying concrete areas of closer ties to be covered by the deal. The European Commission is now due to present its results to the 28 member states.

"If the mandate to negotiate will be ready by Riga, all the more better," said Hristea. "In any case, the Riga summit will somehow take note of our achievements and our better understanding of how to proceed further."

"After we receive the mandate from the member states, of course we will engage in negotiations," he went on. "I not only hope but also believe that these negotiations should not last forever because actually we already agreed in Vilnius [in 2013] that we should use to the maximum what we already negotiated in the Association Agreement."

"So I hope that as soon as we have the mandate we can make very fast progress. The Commission will be very much determined to have this done as soon as possible," stressed the diplomat.

European Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn discussed the matter with Armenian leaders when he visited Yerevan on March 18. The visit coincided with a session in the Armenian capital of the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly, a body bringing together lawmakers from the EU and ex-Soviet republics involved in the EU's Eastern Partnership program.

Addressing the Euronest, President Serzh Sargsyan reiterated that Armenia remains committed to forging closer links with the EU despite its recent accession to the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU). "We act on the premise that it is possible to combine Armenia's membership in the EEU ... with a deep and extensive agenda with the EU," he said.

Hristea said the Euronest meeting and Hahn's visit underlined the seriousness of Yerevan's European integration drive. "In all these discussions we were actually witnessing a willingness and commitment to engage with the European Union up to the level of new internationally assumed commitments by Armenia," he said.



## "INVEST ARMENIA 2015" Business Forum to be Held in Armenia for the First Time



BFA Company is going to implement INVEST ARMENIA annual project aimed at investment promotion and business environment improvement, within the framework of which INVEST ARMENIA Business Forum will be held on May 8, 2015 at Armenia Marriott Hotel and INVEST ARMENIA Business Expo on September 25-27, 2015.

According to the information given by Vruyr Penesyan to NOYAN TAPAN, the objective of the project is to introduce in detail Armenia's economic potential and investment opportunities. Many visits abroad are scheduled beforehand for presenting the project among foreign and Diaspora Armenian businessmen, which, according to Vruyr Penesyan's assessment, will provide the latter's interest in the abovementioned events, inciting willingness to take part in them.

It has been also noted that Heads of

various RA state bodies, representatives of Chambers of Commerce and Industry from 22 countries, Armenian Diaspora and foreign businessmen are going to participate in this year's events.

Tours to Armenia's best enterprises /for instance, to ARARAT GROUP mineral water factory/ will be organized to get acquainted with production processes and quality standards on the spot within the framework of the project.

Exhibition and sampling of Armenian wines and brandies will be held during the Business Forum.

According to Vruyr Panasyan's word, the second stage of the Business Forum, Business Expo, will essentially differ from other similar events in terms of the presentation opportunity given not only to renowned and successful companies, but also to those who are ready to wholly or partially sell their companies; this will give an exceptional opportunity to get acquainted with Armenia's investment opportunities. "This seems to become a special exhibition for businesses, which is unique in its form," stated Vruyr Penesyan.

According to him, this Business Expo has one more peculiarity: representatives of international supermarket chains invit-

ed to Armenia will be provided with separate pavilions within the framework of this event, so that the Armenian businessmen get the chance to introduce their products directly to them right in Armenia; this will give an additional opportunity of access to that chains to the companies taking part in the Expo.

"It is a unique chance for an investor to visit Armenia and get acquainted not only with products, but with factories as well, to purchase the closing companies and think about investments, if there is a will," mentioned Vruyr Penesyan.

The spheres of Food Industry, Mining, Agriculture, Energy, Gold and Diamond Crafting, High Technologies are involved in the Business Forum.

Vruyr Pensyan has stated that besides the main pavilions, a special pavilion for new business ideas, and a pavilion for dialogue are going to function within the Business Expo, where all comers will meet with successful and reputed businessmen and address their questions of concern.

It has been announced that all comers for the participation in the event may apply to BFA company, office in Marriott hotel at tel: /+37410/ 564176 or /+37499/ 580902.

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Work Experience: Minimum 5 Years. (Preferably in Diplomatic/International organizations)

Preference will be given to candidate(s) having adequate experience in handling computer repairing, web maintenance, commercial work etc.

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The person will be responsible for handling various administration, establishment, delivery of official documents, materials in various offices in Yerevan and other related jobs in the Embassy, protocol duties etc. The person will also be required to perform additional duties assigned to him/her from time to time.

Interested applicants may address their application/Curriculum Vitae to:

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### Embassy of India,

50/2, Dzorapi Street, Yerevan, Armenia

By E-mail their resume to the following emails

ambassador@embassyofindia.am,

hoc@embassyofindia.am.

hoc.yerevan@mea.gov.in, and

administration@embassyofindia.am

**Last date: 23 April, 2015.**

## World Bank approves US\$52 million loan to strengthen power supply reliability in Armenia

The World Bank Board of Executive Directors on March 30 approved a US\$52 million loan for the Electricity Transmission Network Improvement Project (ETNIP) for Armenia.

The new project will improve the reliability of the power transmission network and system management, and support the Government's efforts in ensuring adequate electricity supply across the country, according to the World Bank.

Armenia's National Energy Security Concept prioritizes rehabilitation of key power transmission network assets as a prerequisite for reliable power supply in the country. This project through its first component - strengthening of the power transmission network - targets two major facilities which have the highest rehabilitation priority.

Rehabilitation of the Ashnak substation through replacement of all key equipment will help reduce the number and duration of equipment failures caused by technical reasons, and, thus, improve the reliability of power supply for almost 120,000 electricity consumers. The Ashnak substation was commissioned in 1983 and has undergone no major rehabilitation since then. This substation is essential for ensuring reliable power supply to consumers in Eastern and North-Eastern parts of Armenia, including a large dairy products company, an asphalt plant, and a diamond polishing and jewelry production factory, which employ around 3,500 people.

Rehabilitation of the substation of the Yerevan Thermal Power Center (YTPC) which accounts for 20 percent of total annual electricity generation in Armenia will help reduce the incidence of equipment failures. The overall cost of meeting the electricity demand in the country will significantly increase if it is disconnected from the grid due to failure of its substation. The substation was commissioned in 1965, and has not been rehabilitated since then. Therefore, it is essential for ensuring adequate and low-cost electricity supply to all of the 1,040,000 electricity consumers in the country.

"Currently the power sector of Armenia faces a number of challenges, including supply adequacy and reliability. The project focused on rehabilitation of the selected substations will improve power system reliability, and bring direct benefits to all power consumers in Armenia," said Laura E. Bailey, World Bank Country Manager for Armenia. "This will allow avoiding



increased incidence of power supply outages, as well as associated significant social and economic costs."

Under the second component - improvement of the power system management - establishment of a back-up dispatch center is envisaged which will allow improving the management of the power system. Specifically, it is important for ensuring continuous management and control of the power system in case the primary dispatch center (located in down-town Yerevan) fails due to technical or other reasons. The back-up dispatch center will allow to immediately restore the control and management of the power system in case of such failure.

"Armenia's power system will need around 500 MW of new gas-fired generation capacity to preclude the emergence of a supply capacity gap by 2020," said Arthur Kochnakyan, World Bank Task Team Leader of the Project. "Preparation of a new electricity generation project is another critical activity that will be implemented within this project. The Government plans to construct a new combined cycle gas turbine, which will require a number of preparatory activities for which no financing is available."

Total financing of the project is US\$69.16 million, of which US\$17.16 million will be the Government's contribution. The World Bank will provide a US\$52 million IBRD loan of variable spread with a 14.5-year grace period and the total repayment term of 25 years. Since joining the World Bank in 1992 and IDA in 1993, the commitments to Armenia total approximately US\$2,118.730 million.

## NATO Rep. says impressed by participation of Armenian women in peace-building efforts



NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and

Security, Ambassador Mariet Shurman is visiting Armenia with an aim of getting notion about the involvement of women in peace and security-building. She said Armenia's experience of ensuring equality between men and women is impressing.

"When we speak about the prevention and settlement of conflicts, men and women should have equal participation here. It's impossible to build peace with-

out taking into consideration the opinion of the half of the society," she said.

As for negotiations on conflict settlement, Mariet Shurman said female mediators have often had serious achievements.

Within the framework of the visit the NATO Special Representative has had meetings at the Armenian Parliament, the Ministry of Defense and has talked to representatives of civil society.



## Armenia to benefit from secured transactions reform



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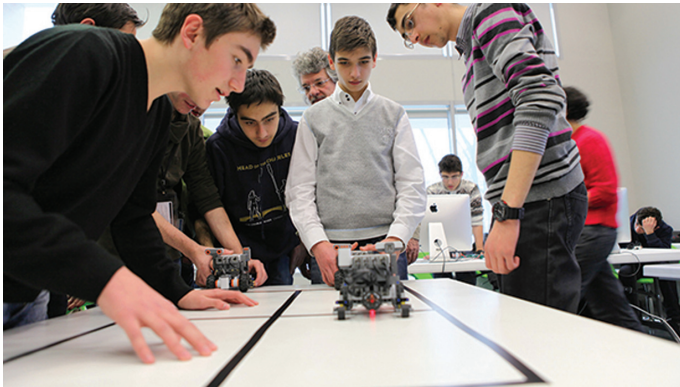
On April 03, the USAID Finance for Economic Development (FED) project in partnership with the Ministry of Justice of Armenia, the World Bank, the Central Bank of Armenia, and the Unions of Banks and Credit Organizations of Armenia, held a conference on secured transaction reform and on the implementation of a unified movable collateral electronic registry in Armenia. The main goal of the event was to increase public awareness of the reform and facilitate a dialogue between relevant stakeholders. Following the opening remarks, experts of the USAID FED program, the World Bank, the Ministry of Justice, and the Central Bank presented the concept of secured transactions and movable collateral registries, the international practice, the importance of this reform in Armenia, and related legislation.

Access to finance is a major impediment to the growth of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), especially in the

rural areas of Armenia. One of the main reasons is that there is a serious mismatch between the assets financial institutions accept as a collateral, and the assets owned by the enterprises. As a result, MSMEs that have no real property are often denied in credit or cannot afford to borrow due to the high cost of funds.

USAID through its Finance for Economic Development project has played a key role in developing legislation for a comprehensive secured transactions platform. Prior to this policy reform, the predominant forms of collateral in Armenia had been land and buildings. As a result of these legislative changes MSMEs and individuals will be able to pledge vehicles, inventory, crops, equipment, and other forms of moveable collateral to secure loans. This legislation package was adopted by the Armenian Parliament in December 2014 and signed by the President of Armenia on December 30, 2014. It provides the legal framework for a movable collateral registry, expands the definition of movable collateral and secured transactions, and establishes a more efficient enforcement process in case of default. It also gives financial institutions the confidence that they can acquire the asset in case of default. This legislation will come into force on October 1, 2015 and is anticipated to expand the number of MSMEs eligible and actually receiving loans.

## Russian IT Leaders Foresee Growth in Armenia



Armenia's presidential chief of staff Vigen Sargsyan met with representatives of Russia's top information technology firms on Thursday in Yerevan. Speaking to an audience of Russian and Armenian tech leaders, Sargsyan said that the Armenian government is continuing to facilitate doing business in IT in Armenia.

"We attach special significance to the IT sector and we are proud of the fact that the industry has dramatically grown over the last years, that many young people are in demand here and that many universities have strong curricula," Sargsyan said. "We keep studying ways for creating a favorable environment for doing IT business and we see connections between business and educational establishments."

Sargsyan said Armenia is closely cooperating with Russian companies and that many companies are experiencing success in Armenia.

Aram Pakhchanyan, principal of AYB High School, where the meeting was convened, told Arka News Agency that the key aim

of the meeting was to demonstrate Armenia's experience in IT and to highlight the best example of establishing a modern school in conformity with international standards.

"In this context they are interested in being here, and their visit is important to the school, since Russian companies are well known in the IT industry and they have achieved great success," he said.

Pakhchanyan said Armenian and Russian companies will try to establish cooperation and expressed hope that AYB High School students will work in these organizations.

IBM Russia's Andrey Filatov, who was in attendance at the forum, told Arka that the potential for success in IT is high in Armenia.

"The general educational level is high in Armenia, and IT is a promising sector, if the required support is provided by the government," Filatov said.

Presenting new technologies in the Armenian market and developing business there is a priority for IBM, Filatov said.

The head of corporate sales at Samsung Russia, Sergey Kirichenko, told Arka in an interview that Armenia's membership in the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) will enhance relations with Russia in the IT sector.

Kirichenko pointed to what he called a strong math tradition in Armenia as a determinant of the high numbers of gifted programmers in Armenia.

The vice-president and general director of Fujitsu of Russia, Vitaly Fridlyand, echoed similar opinions. Fridlyand praised the Armenian education system, the country's IT specialists, and what he called a culture that contributes to the high degree of growth in IT.



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- **1440.Northern Ave.,** Newly built, 3rd floor, 110 sq.m., 1 bedroom, h-3m,euro repaired, heating system, furnished,parking. Price: 350.000 USD.
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- **1680- Mashtots Ave.,** 5/4, 68sq.m, 1 bedroom, ald repair, possibility of gas. Price: 86.000 USD.
- **1674. Abovyan str.,** 2nd floor,70sq.m., 1 bedroom, capitialy repaired, heating system. Price: 135.000 USD
- **1698-Aram str.,** Newly built, 14/5, 62sq.m, 1 bedroom, capitialy repaired, AC, security system, parking. Price: 120.000 USD.

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- 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, f u r n i s h e d . 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., without divisions. Price:Negotiable.
- **3012.Aram str**, Newly built, /7th floor, 136sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking, facing to bulvar, Price:300.000 USD negotiable.
- **2998.North Ave.**, Newly built, 9/6, 181sq.m, 3bedrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking, Price: 700.000 USD
- **2682.Aram Str.**, Newly built,13/6 187sq.m., 3 bedrooms,2 bathrooms, 2 open balconies, capitally repaired,heating system, 2AC, 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 550.000 USD negotiable.
- **2958.Pushkin str.**, 5/2, 140 sq.m., stone building,4 bedrooms,capitally repaired,heating system. Price: Negotiable.
- **2895.Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m,3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,capitally 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
- **2950.Aram str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 176 sq.m,

- 3 bedrooms, office, zero state. Price: 310.000 USD  
 ♦2836.**Pushkin str.**, 4/4,5, 400sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3  
 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC.  
 Price: 460.000 USD.  
 ♦2990.**North Ave.**, Newly built, 11th floor, 295sq.m,  
 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate  
 control, parking. Price: Negotiable.

## PREMISES

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

- 1000sq.m. 3storied building 1200sq.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 floor 300sq.m, 1st floor- 220sq.m, basement-80sq.m, - 1st line, zero level, 2 entrances, facade-15m, 4 window glasses, capitally required, 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.**Davidashen**, 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

- 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.**Antarayin str**, Newly built, land-700sq.m, 3 storied bld-690sq.m, 5 bedrooms, capitally repaired. Price: 1.300.000 USD
- 3712 Cascade Newly built, land-450sq.m, 4 storied bld-600sq.m, zero state. Price: 550.000 USD

## NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

- **74. Cascade**, Verin Antarayin. 136-315 sq.m., walls plastered, electricity, water, gas, euro windows, no exploitation fees. Price: 1200 USD per sq.m, parking - 15.000 USD.
- **107. Monument**, Verin Antarayin. inhabited, 8 floors, gas, windows, street view -1000 USD per sq.m., city looking -1500 USD per sq.m., parking - 4 million USD preliminary.
- **87. Sayat-Nova str.**, 21 floors, 3 bedrooms -188 sq.m., 199 sq.m., Price 1900 USD per sq.m., 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight - 117 sq.m., 120 sq.m., 124 sq.m., Price: 1700 USD per sq.m., climate control, gas.
- **93. Kievyan str.**, Given to the operation in October 2011, 16 floors, walls plastered, windows, exterior doors -3, 15 m, gas, parking. Price: 1500-1600 USD per sq.m, parking-12 000 USD. Possible with mortgage, for 13 years term.
- **94. Masiv**. 3floors, 8 flats, each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.
- **130. Antarayin str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable
- **131. Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available services-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
- 2187. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9/5, 120 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2.200 USD
- 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, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD

## 3 ROOMS AND MORE

- 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 **Hanrapetutyan 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. **Djrvaj**, 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

## PREMISES

- 2049. **Teryan str**, ground floor+basemnet, 1st line, 200sq.m, repaired. Price: 6.000 USD
- 1693. **Malatia-Sebastia** 4 storied building, 1200sq.m, each floor-300sq.m, 2 separate entrances, climate control, 2 elevators, basement, parking. Price: 15USD per sq.m.
- 1526. **Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.
- 1408. **Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghramyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, 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

# A Breakthrough in Armenia's Education: MoU between the State, VivaCell-MTS, Synopsys Armenia and Unicom on Propelling ICT Education



**By Gourgen James Khazhakian**  
**Chief Correspondent**  
**Journalist Emeritus**  
**of Armenia**

On 30 March a four-partite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia, VivaCell-MTS, Synopsys Armenia and Unicom. The MoU signing was followed by a news conference with speakers RA Minister of Education and Science Armen Ashotyan, VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager Ralph Yirikian, Founding Director of Unicom CJSC Armen Baldryan and Director of Synopsys Armenia Hovik Musayelyan.

The MoU highlights the strategic collaboration between the state and key players in the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) sector in pushing the ICT education in the country to qualitatively higher level. The goals and actions set by the MoU reflect shared commitment of the Ministry from one side, and ICT leaders VivaCell-MTS, Synopsys Armenia and Unicom, from the other side, to support jointly the further development of the ICT sector as one of the most important components and top priority directions for Armenia's economic, scientific and technical progress. The MoU defines the objectives of the long-term strategic roadmap of activities to be implemented through the joint coordinated efforts of the Ministry and the mentioned ICT companies.

The Memorandum is aimed at raising the quality of specialty education in the sphere of ICT, through continuous improvement of the quality of education in the sphere, through providing technical means, development of educational platforms and introduction of methodologies based on modern theoretical and practical innovative knowledge owned by the companies. The joint project is focused on creating better opportunities for the young in Armenia in choosing future professions in the fields of information technologies, telecommunication and microelectronics.

As stipulated by the MoU, the RA Ministry of Education and Science will ensure the implementation of the above-mentioned subjects as well as the elabora-

tion and approval of criteria and materials for teaching "Microelectronics", "Information Technologies" and "Basics of Telecommunication". The new educational pilot program will be introduced in the 2015-2016 school year.

Armenia's leading telecommunications operator VivaCell-MTS will participate in the process of elaborating the criteria and the teaching materials for the subject of "Basics of Telecommunication" and the vocational training and professional re-training of the instructors of the subject.

In addition, the Company has undertaken financing the establishment of labs for

teaching materials for the subject of "Information Technologies" and will organize training of teachers of the subject of "Information Technologies". Also, the Company will ensure the provision of the "Microelectronics" "Information Technologies" and "Basics of Telecommunication" labs and respective computer network.

The MoU envisions implementing the educational project this year in five educational institutions throughout the country such as "Photon" College in Gyumri, "Quantum" College, Vanadzor School specialized in math/natural sciences, Yerevan High School of the Armenian State Engineering University, and the School after Artashes Shahinyan with specialized in physics/math, with the establishment of laboratories for the three above mentioned subjects. Selection of the educational institutions was done together with the Ministry.

*"We already have a number of success stories of cooperation between the state and the private sector in the sphere of education. This four-partite memorandum, too, has the potential to join the list of successful projects which should serve as a model for economically successful organizations to partake in educational activities and make long-term investments in the sphere,"* said RA Minister of Education and Science **Armen Ashotyan**.

*"The mission of the project is two-fold. On the one hand, the high schools are given an opportunity to provide high-quality education programs in microelectronics, IT or telecommunications, with support of the practicing specialists who have relevant educational and professional background. On the other hand, the Project will have a*

*solid social impact as it will help meet the needs of the job market and help the Armenian youth stay and work in our Motherland Armenia. This project is a long-term investment in Armenia's younger generation with an aim to prepare them as a potential workforce for present and future ICT companies,"* VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian** told.

In turn, Unicom Founding Director **Armen Baldryan** said the following: *"It's a quite long time already we've been talking on our national potential and necessity of a knowledge-based economy creation, and if*



the "Microelectronics", "Information Technologies" and "Basics of Telecommunication".

Overall, VivaCell-MTS allocates AMD 70 million for implementation of the Project.

Synopsys Armenia is to take part in the process of elaborating the criteria and the teaching materials for the subject of "Microelectronics" and will provide training of teachers for the "Microelectronics" subject.

In turn, Unicom will participate in the process of elaborating the criteria and the



you want to realize your potential, you should start, first of all, from your education system. Evidently, combination of education and ICT components holds an immense strategic importance for Armenia. And that was an important thing the Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia supported this Program; and as my colleagues have already mentioned, this is a quite ambitious program which will be expanded in terms of its geography as well as term – as we've seen how enthusiastic are both teachers and children to start it ASAP”.

Asked by a reporter how realistic is the Program launch date, i.e. September 2015, Mr Yirikian said that in fact they've started it yet by the end of 2014, and now they present it as everything has been tested and prepared in the best way for students. “I must stress that, as you see, not only Yerevan schools have been included in the Program, but also those in Gyumri, Vanadzor, and, step by step, we'll increase number of such schools in the Country's Marzes; I even appealed to Mr Minister (Ashotyan) with question whether we could turn this Program to a Pan-Armenian one, you know...”, VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager Ralph Yirikian added.

Minister Ashotyan, in his response to a question from “Armenia TV” young lady journalist said that equipping with computers/other technical means maximal number of schools in Armenia “is not self-purpose” as school students and their teachers should be well-prepared for the Program implementation both in terms of their knowledge and desire. In his words, when choosing the very first five schools, they tried to do their best to encompass variety – there are both state and private schools, those in Yerevan and Marzes, etc. Ashotyan added that this national program being tailored by the national experts for the natl, Armenian schools could be exported abroad, why not.

Asked by The Highlights correspondent if the course on the network security to be taught the Program participants at Unicom will not be a bit complicated for school children as, in our understanding, this issue (being a vitally important one for today's Armenia in terms of non-stop provocations from the neighboring Azerbaijan) is a serious one, Armen Baldryan, Head of Unicom that in fact became the very first organization implementing “Cisco Networking Academy” course in Armenia yet years ago, noted that having enough materials on this issue, they've tailored all of them best for schools.

“That is not a big secret that the age of those who is engaged in the ICT sector is getting younger and younger, so school-children today are able even to make “inventions” in this field, really...I believe

that if today cyber-security which is a very important subject is being taught in high school, tomorrow, most probably, it will be learned in lower classes – the 6th, the 5th, etc”, Mr Baldryan said.

Next question (which had no direct connection with a news conference main theme but seemed us a very topical one ) from your author was asked Minister Ashotyan: “Mr Minister, all programs such this one are making us happy, really; Armenian wonder-kids have been winning permanently at the prestigious intl Olympiads and contests, but, however, don't you think that the Ministry you've been leading has a lot to do in terms of elevating not only educational level of today's youngsters of Armenia, but also that in terms of general culture, everyday behavior, - to make some (if not the most) of them more polite and...civilized?”



Mr Minister replied by the following: “Thank you for your question which is a quite difficult one...I think shaping of our youth is responsibility not only of school, but of our society in general...I think for a bulk of our society this is a way to escape their own responsibility - by throwing stones (?? – edit.) to the school...In contrast to the so-called Soviet years, today the school could not be, let me say in this way, an oasis of decent behavior...Indeed, the school should pioneer shaping of the young, but, again, the entire society is responsible for this very important issue...”

And the last, but not the least: then the time to ask a question the Host, i.e. Mr Yirikian has come...

(...Sometimes it seems to yours truly that if a neighbor kid is begging a bicycle from his Daddy, the latter will advise his son to appeal Mr Ralph Yirikian...)

So the question was: “For several times you've mentioned that you will feel satisfaction if others - both business entities and individuals follow VivaCell-MTS in terms what Armenians' vocabulary borrowed from you, i.e. corporate responsibility, so what the time told in this sense?”

Mr Yirikian said in particular: “Well, I can say that by now we see a number of such companies, in particular, our colleagues in telecom following our example, though not in VivaCell-MTS scale and the range of projects, but, nevertheless, in this sense progress is obvious, and I believe that progress will increase...So we the VivaCell-MTS are happy for this”.

Among those who attended the event were reps of Armenia's ICT community.

One of them, Director of Viasphere Technopark **Varoujan Masarajian** called this project “a real breakthrough” in terms of not only ICT/education, but also of “future of Armenia”, in general.

## Article of Fr. Mesrop Aramian, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Ayb Educational Foundation

*Normally, we The Highlights are not so much eager to reprint stories published in the local press, but we believe the article authored by Father Mesrop Aramian, a prominent Armenian clergyman, theologian, scholar, writer, film producer, social entrepreneur and educator our readers could find below is just that (rare) case.*

### A Mission that Unites Us All

Man is a learning being. This is the existential image of man according to the ancient Greek philosophy. A man is a man as long as he is learning, and he stops being a man when his vital powers of learning are extinguished. In manifesting the mystery of man's creation in God's image, Christian theology affirms that man continues to think and learn in the life eternal. Human life in essence is an unending journey of learning. Generalizing these spiritual-philosophical perceptions of human nature we may assert that education is the basis and qualitative indicator of national and societal life. Indeed the nations establish themselves and develop through education and education is the only true way of manifesting one's identity and realizing national potential. It secures the transmission of reason and values between generations and provides an opportunity for a gainful and meaningful life uniting people with a vision of a common future.

Learning is our common concern. All of us are called to live meaningful lives and to shape the new generation. In this respect education is the principal mission of society and as such is sacred and holy. The vitality and development of each nation is directly dependent on the understanding of that mission and its ability to marshal its best resource to serve this sacred cause. And sacredness is not only in the high esteem with which it is valued, but also in its great power and inspiration for bringing people together.

Sacred things are not passive factors nor are they dead values. They demand moral determination and reverent attitude. Consciousness and consequently education are a path to self-purification. Christ teaches thus: “And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

*continued on page 12*

## A Mission that Unites Us All

### Article of Fr. Mesrop Aramian, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Ayb Educational Foundation

From page 11

This means that we need not only to liberate ourselves from certain stereotypes and self-deception, but we must also have the courage to clean this sacred sphere. Not all the nations are able to provide effective education. For example, one fallacy is believing that because our ancestors were wise we have historic insurance against foolishness, mediocrity and regression. Or, when we think that ours is superior and without compare, but do not take the bigger picture into account or even bother to consider how we fit into the bigger picture. Or, when we have a sense of entitlement (say, with respect to the state) and we have no obligations with respect to education.

Learning is a virtue. The society should learn from its past and should have the honesty and vision to value it and reevaluate it as well. An appreciation of the past facilitates the possibility of reading the future, ensuring the transmission of values and the maintenance of a national consensus. However, learning presupposes also being open to other cultures and adopt the best practices of mankind. We have hallowed the art of translation, naming our greatest cultural figures Holy Translators and made the Feast of the Holy Translators a celebration of our national identity. We have accepted that translation is an art of interpretation of heavenly truths and a wisdom of expressing the heavenly in earthly form. The translator is an ambassador-interpreter of God in the human reality. However, translation as a cultural phenomenon is the ability of creatively adopting the universal, of seeing yourself in the big picture and making your own heritage. This is the way of love, openness and cooperation, which is a unique feature of our national identity.

There have always been talkers and doers, and the talkers are more numerous while the doers are few, and those who master both talking and doing are rare. Each society must gather those rare and precious people, since they are the resource that shapes the future. Those who engage in education first and foremost must have educational attainments, high achievements and an exemplary life path. Second, they should have a track record of creating quality and the ability of rallying people around education. Third, they should be able to implement pan-national projects and to ensure the highest international standards.

In circumstances dominated by reproduction of stereotypes and educational inertia it is very difficult to stop and consider fundamental questions. But it is necessary to do so. For example, what are we teaching our children? To what extent does it reflect our national culture? To what extent

does it ensure the global competitiveness of future generations? The answers to these questions presuppose that our primary task is to assure that our educational programs are true to our heritage, while equivalent in qualitative criteria to the most progressive and modern programs in the world. Of course there is the easier way: to simply take what is ready made and tested and implement it. However, experience has shown that copying is not the best route, because education is a sphere fraught with values and cultural differences. The founders of our national education system did not do this many centuries ago and we should not do this now. Instead, we should create our own, setting aside for a moment the consumer mentality, to be original and creative. However difficult this may be, this is how it needs to be done to be effective.

Research on educational achievement worldwide points to one, time-tested truth: The better the teachers, the better the education system. Those nations which have managed to create a community of top



**Fr. Mesrop Aramian**

*Fr. Mesrop Aramian (born on June 20, 1966) is a priest of the Armenian Apostolic Church, theologian, scholar, writer, film producer, social entrepreneur and educator. Fr. Mesrop is the adviser to the president of Armenia on education. He is the director of the National Program for Educational Excellence. Fr. Mesrop is the Learning Architect of Ayb School, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Ayb Educational Foundation ([www.ayb.am](http://www.ayb.am), [www.foundation.ayb.am](http://www.foundation.ayb.am)) and Ayb School ([www.ayb-school.am](http://www.ayb-school.am)). He is the founder and director of Gandzasar Theological Center, Vem Radio ([www.vem.am](http://www.vem.am)), Vem Media Arts ([www.vem.am/en/documentaries](http://www.vem.am/en/documentaries)). Fr. Mesrop is the writer and producer of the internationally award-winning documentary "From Ararat to Zion" ([www.fromararattozion.com](http://www.fromararattozion.com)). He has authored numerous publications, articles, research works, radio and TV shows, educational projects and programs.*

*Fr. Mesrop is a graduate of the Physics-Mathematics Special School in Yerevan. While still at school, he was a regular winner of national and international contests and Olympiads in mathematics and physics. Fr. Mesrop has graduated from Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology (MIPT) with a Master of Science degree in Engineering and Theoretical Physics. He was ordained a priest of the Armenian Apostolic Church on May 28, 1991.*

teachers and the consistent replication of high quality come out ahead. Educational excellence requires a national consensus. This kind of perfectionism is justified in all respects. Inefficiency, lukewarm attitude and indifference are incompatible with education. Education constantly renews the highest national aspirations. Teachers are standard-bearers of this great mission. Therefore we are speaking not about a mere profession and job, but about a mission, whose objective is to light the torch of learning in the hearts of the people. We have to set high standards, not standards that we can immediately achieve, but goals that will make us better as we strive for them.

For centuries with inner wisdom and with courage, in order to build the future,



## Armenian Vendors Sue Americana for Violating Their Civil Rights



*By Harut  
Sassounian*

*Publisher, The  
California Courier*

I reported last month that the Americana shopping center in Glendale had banned three Armenian vendors from selling genocide-related T-shirts from their rented carts.

Shortly after my column was posted on the internet, generating a flood of complaints against the shopping center, Americana's management issued the following statement on its Facebook page: "We would like to apologize to our cart tenants Tina Chuldzhyan, Alex Kodagolian and Armin Hariri, for the regrettable misunderstanding regarding their cart's merchandise. The cart tenant is more than welcome to have its product in question displayed on the cart."

While Americana's apology was welcome, this hastily posted note misrepresented its wrongful action by calling it a 'misunderstanding.' Strangely, the shopping center did not bother to contact the tenants to inform them that the ban on sale of genocide-related clothing was lifted.

Rejecting this half-hearted apology, several hundred irate Armenians held a protest at Americana for its unacceptable behavior toward the three Armenian vendors. The Glendale News-Press covered the protest and the controversy in a series of three articles following my initial column on this subject.

It is shocking that a major corporation in Glendale would behave in such a callous manner against its large Armenian customer base - close to 50% of city's population - where two out of five City Council members including Mayor Zareh Sinanyan

happen to be Armenian. Moreover, the City had accorded Americana's owners generous financial subsidies to establish their business in Glendale.

Mayor Sinanyan had harsh words about Americana's arrogance. He told the News-Press that he was dismayed with the "knee-jerk reaction" of Americana's management and that the shopping center's relationship with the Armenian community had been "tarnished." The Mayor also expressed surprise that Americana could be "so insensitive" toward a large portion of their shoppers who are Armenians.

On March 13, the three vendors, Chuldzhyan, Hariri (rapper 'R-Mean') and Kodagolian, on behalf of their company, Pentagon Records, filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles Superior Court against Americana at Brand, Caruso Affiliated Holdings, and several other unnamed defendants, charging them with five different violations:

1) Constitutional and Civil Rights Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1983: violation of speech protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution;

2) Constitutional and Civil Rights Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1985(3): engaging in discriminatory conspiracy for the purpose of depriving plaintiffs of the equal protection of law;

3) Violation of Unruh Civil Rights Act - Civil Code Sections 51& 52: denying of plaintiffs' full and equal advantages, facilities, privileges, and services because of their Armenian ancestry; and defendants' discriminatory, arbitrary, and unreasonable conduct, without any legitimate business interest;

4) Violation of California Business and Professions Code Section 17200: defendants have unfairly discriminated against plaintiffs and engaged in unlawful business practice;

5) Breach of Contract: Americana breached the agreement by not allowing the three vendors to sell merchandise related to Shop1915.com, which includes merchandise related to the Armenian Genocide.

The Armenian vendors asked the court to impose compensatory, general, punitive, and treble damages on Americana. Richard Foster, the plaintiffs' attorney, stated that he had filed the lawsuit "due to the outrageous conduct of the defendants... [which] is distasteful and disrespectful not only to my clients, but also to the Armenian community at large, especially just weeks before the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide." Foster added that the "defendants are beneficiaries of considerable government subsidies and assistance, and, as such, must refrain from such discriminatory conduct."

Only after the Armenian tenants filed the lawsuit, Americana sent a letter informing them that they are now "permitted to display for sale, and to sell the products related to the Armenian Genocide."

The Armenian community and all Glendalians who care about protection of civil rights have to make it clear to Americana's owners that they do not tolerate such unlawful and discriminatory behavior from a corporation that is the beneficiary of public funds and relies on an Armenian clientele for large portions of its sales revenue.

If Americana refuses to take remedial measures and fails to reassure community leaders that such misconduct will not be repeated, Glendale residents must boycott the shopping center, continue their protests, and urge the City Council to take decisive action, including the repeal of previously granted financial subsidies.

## Los Angeles County commemorates Armenian Genocide Centennial with public art exhibit

Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich will commemorate the centennial of the Armenian Genocide by hosting a month-long interactive art installation on three levels at Grand Park beginning with an unveiling ceremony April 25th at 5:00 pm, Massis Post reports.

Titled "iWitness," the installation consists of an inter-connected network of towering asymmetrical photographic sculptures wrapped with massive portraits of eyewitness survivors of the Genocide. The sculptures have no right angles and their irregular angular shapes speak to an unbal-

anced world, continually at risk of war, ethnic cleansing and genocide. They range in height from eight to fifteen feet. (Visual attached.)

Conceived and constructed by artists Ara Oshagan and Levon Parian and architect Vahagn Thomasian, iWitness will be the first ever public art installation at Grand Park.

"This remarkable memorial honors the 1.5 million victims of the Armenian Genocide and tells the personal stories of survivors - first-hand eyewitnesses to one of the worst atrocities of the 20th century,"

said Mayor Antonovich.

"iWitness is a temporary monument to the men and women who rebuilt their disrupted lives and communities in the aftermath of genocide," said artist Ara Oshagan. "The proximity and clustering of the sculptures alludes to, and reflects, the new communities they created after being dispersed across the globe."

The installation offers a continually shifting perspective during the day, as shadows cast by sunlight create a dynamic interplay between the asymmetrical lines,

## Minister Nalbandian participates in CIS Foreign Ministers' meeting in Bishkek

On April 3, Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian participated in the session of Commonwealth of Independent States' Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in Bishkek.

Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Commonwealth of Independent States member-states discussed and agreed upon drafts of 14 documents on cooperation in different areas in the frameworks of the CIS.

Ministers agreed on Programme of consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in the framework of CIS in 2015.

Foreign Ministers of the CIS member-states agreed upon the General programme of events of cultural cooperation of the CIS member-states in 2016-2020, that counts to 120.

During the session documents on cooperation of CIS members in border security and emergency situations areas were agreed upon. A range of documents in culture were agreed upon.

Foreign Ministers discussed issues on the agenda of the CIS activities.

Armenia, Russia, Tajikistan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan adopted Statement on the 40th anniversary of the signing of Helsinki Final Act that restates the Concept of mutually beneficial cooperation in equal, inalienable and comprehensive security, without dividing lines and closed borders from Vancouver to Vladivostok, unacceptability of violation of Helsinki principles, selective approach towards implementation of those principles, imposition of unilateral sanctions, including blockade, strengthening of one's own security at the expense of other countries. The statement stresses the importance of exclusively peaceful settlement of the conflicts within agreed upon formats; underlines dialogue between different integration unions throughout the territory of the OSCE as an indispensable condition for guaranteeing regional integration and cooperation.

## Adam Schiff: Recognizing the Armenian Genocide one hundred years later

*Asbarez*

One hundred years ago, the Ottoman Empire in its dying throws undertook a systematic effort to exterminate the Armenian and Assyrian people. They did so through a campaign of mass killing and displacement which saw 1.5 million Armenians killed and millions more forced to flee from their ancestral homes.

At the time, there was no word to describe an effort to eliminate an entire people, though American officials in the region had no difficulty describing the horrors they witnessed. The American Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau reported that, "I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this. The great massacres and persecutions of the past seem almost insignificant when compared with the sufferings of the Armenian race in 1915."

It wasn't until 1943 when Raphael Lemkin coined the term "genocide" that we had a word to describe the magnitude of the crime committed against the Armenians. As Lemkin said at the time, he had in mind the experience of the Armenians under Ottoman rule when he invented the term, which, appallingly, was needed many times in the 20th Century to describe the Holocaust, the Cambodian Genocide, the Rwandan Genocide, and more.

The Turkish effort to eliminate the Armenian people failed, as evidenced by the proud nation of Armenia and the millions of members of the Armenian diaspora in the United States and around the world. But there is hardly an Armenian household that does not carry the memory of family members who were lost in the carnage. Even today, there remain a handful of survivors who lived through the horrors of the Genocide as children to make a new life for themselves. Particularly while these survivors are still among us, I feel a deep obligation to fight against the denial of the Genocide which sadly remains the policy of the Turkish government.

The hundredth anniversary of the Genocide is also a time to recall one of the most generous outpourings of compassion and support in American history. Hearing of the scale of the humanitarian crisis, the

Near East Relief Foundation was formed to provide assistance and relief. From an initial goal of providing \$5 million, the Foundation would ultimately raise over \$100 million - or about \$1.7 billion in today's dollars. The Foundation's work saved the lives of millions of victims of the Genocide, including over 130,000 orphans. Nearly 1,000 Americans traveled overseas to build orphanages, vocational schools, and food distributions centers. The Foundation's success relied on the generosity of every day Americans who learned of the plight of the Armenian people and other genocide victims thousands of miles away and who were moved to contribute. The Near East Relief Foundation was a precursor to countless non-governmental humanitarian organizations, and its work continues to this day.

Last month, I joined with over 40 of my colleagues to introduce the Armenian Genocide Truth and Justice Resolution, a resolution recognizing the Genocide that took place from 1915 to 1923. The resolution also calls upon the President to work with the Turkish and Armenian governments to bring about reconciliation based upon the full acknowledgement of the historic fact of the Armenian Genocide. This resolution states in simple and plain language the historic facts of the Genocide and the degree to which Genocide denial on the part of the Turkish government continues to hamstring the chances for peace and stability in the region.

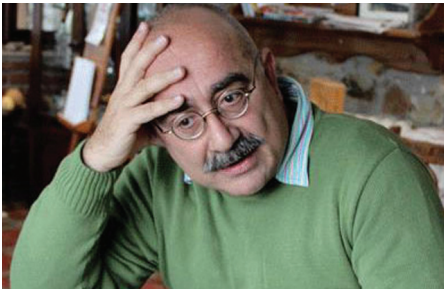
Sadly today, on the very same lands of Syria that were the killing fields for hundreds of thousands of Armenians, ISIL threatens to exterminate religious minorities, including Armenians. By recognizing the Genocide, the President and the Congress proclaim that our government will not forget those lost and we will not stand silent in the face of crimes against humanity.

Ellie Wiesel once wrote that denial of genocide is the last chapter of genocide. In this respect, the Armenian Genocide continues to traumatize its victims even 100 years later. America must play its part in helping to close this still open wound.

*Rep. Adam Schiff represents the 28th Congressional District of California, which is the largest Armenian-American constituency in the United States.*



## Constitutional Court rejects Nisanyan appeal: Next step is ECHR



**Agos - The appeal to the Constitutional Court regarding Sevan Nisanyan's cases for opposition to the Code of Protection of Cultural and Natural Properties for which he received long term prison sentences has been rejected. The next legal step is the ECHR**

In its verdict dated January 30, the Constitutional Court ruled that the appeal displayed a 'clear lack of basis' since no explicit arbitrariness had been detected in Ni?anyan's trial process. Nisanyan's lawyer Ergin Cinmen stated that with this ruling of the Constitutional Court they had exhausted domestic legal remedies, and that they would be applying to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) in the coming days.

The appeal filed on 23 September 2014 covered the sentences attributed to

Nisanyan in reference to Article 65 of the Law on "deliberately causing damage to immovable cultural assets under protection". The appeal was founded on the fact that the allegation had not been serviced to Ni?anyan and that therefore Nisanyan could not have known the specific criminal scope of his acts. The prior cancellation of the relevant law by the Constitutional Court had been presented as a further rationale.

In response to the appeal, in its verdict, the Constitutional Court justified the decision of the local court that ruled for the sentence and that of the Court of Cassation, which approved it, and accepted the view that Nisanyan was aware of the fact that the site where he committed the attributed crime was a Protected Area. The Constitutional Court also ruled that the Court of Cassation had approved a crime that had been committed before the Constitutional Court had annulled the relevant law. In the conclusion for the verdict, the Constitutional Court stated that there was no apparent mistake in valuation or explicit arbitrariness in the cases, clearly underlining that the Constitutional Court would not examine such cases, and that therefore the appeal was unacceptable because it displayed a 'clear lack of

basis'.

Nisanyan's lawyer Ergin Cinmen who filed the application to the Constitutional Court said the following regarding the verdict: "The Constitutional Court had previously ruled that the procedure related to crime Ni?anyan has been sentenced for was a violation of the Constitution. Thus the Court, at present, has confirmed Ni?anyan's confinement by attributing to him a crime that itself found to be in violation of the Constitution in its nature. Since with this ruling of the Constitutional Court we have exhausted domestic legal remedies, we will be applying to the European Court of Human Rights in the coming days. However, the procedure there progresses very slowly."

Nisanyan has been imprisoned since January 2014, and he also has a pending prison sentence of 14 years 2 months inflicted for opposition to the Construction Law and the Code of Protection of Cultural and Natural Properties which has not been approved by the Court of Cassation as of yet. Nisanyan is currently the only person in Turkey who is serving a prison sentence in a closed prison in relation to these specific crimes.

## Los Angeles County commemorates...

*From page 13*

shapes and forms of the sculptures. At night, a different atmosphere and environment is created as each sculpture in the network is illuminated from the inside.

To educate and promote discourse, audiences at witness walk amid these larger-than-life sculptures to reflect on its message and the Turkish government's continued denial of the Armenian Genocide.

Most of the men and women survivors portrayed are Southern California residents who immigrated here to reestablish their lives. They include:

- Emmy-nominated filmmaker Michael J. Hagopian of Thousand Oaks, who survived because his mother hid him in a mulberry bush.

- Hampartsoum Chitjian of Los Angeles, who was saved by a blind Kurdish man.

- Hayastan Terzian of Pasadena, whose

family was saved by the U.S. Consul Leslie Davis stationed near her hometown.

- Sam Kadorian of Van Nuys, who was left for dead under a pile of decomposing bodies and survived on his wits, courage and will to live.

With fiscal sponsorship of the project from the Lucie Foundation, the installation coincides with the Foundation's "Month of Photography in Los Angeles" (MOPLA) photo festival that is held every year in April.



## Arman Navasardyan: Iran won't change policy towards Armenia, if it becomes nuclear power

Being at the epicenter of hottest developments in the region is very important, but we must be cautious, Ambassador Arman Navasardyan told reporters on April 1, as he commented on the plans to open an Embassy of Armenia in Iraqi Kurdistan. He considers that Turkey will try to use the Armenian factor against the creation of Greater Kurdistan. Kurds, in turn, will use the same Armenian factor for realization of their programs.

According to Arman Navasardyan, we have to be cautious here, because if a Greater Kurdistan is created with a center in Diyarbakir, it will put an end to the territorial claims of Armenians. Speaking about

the developments around Iran's nuclear programs, the Ambassador analyzed the possible developments. "If Iran gets nuclear weapons, Saudi Arabia and Turkey will strive to reach the same. This will, in turn, destroy the whole "regime" of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons," he said. Arman Navasardyan says this will lead to serious consequences not only for the region, but also for the global geopolitical strategy and considers that the scenario is likely. "In case Iran refuses to produce nuclear weapons, the West will maintain the pressure on the country," he said.

At the same time, the Ambassador said the US is changing its policy towards Iran.

"The US seems to be searching for a new partner in the region, and is willing to replace Turkey with Iran."

The analyst said there are a number of deep processes under way in the region, the outcome of which is hard to predict. Arman Navasardyan does not share the opinion that Iran will change its policy towards Armenia, if it becomes a nuclear power. He believes this may even benefit Armenia.

The Ambassador said the recent Armenian-Chinese documents signed within the framework of President Serzh Sargsyan's visit were timely and promising, and can well change the economic and political situation in Armenia.

## More than 200 German actors will read Franz Werfel's "40 Days of Musa Dagh" in Nuremberg

More than 200 German actors will read Franz Werfel's "40 Days of Musa Dagh" at the Nuremberg State Theatre, German film director Christian Papke told reporters in Yerevan. "We have planned to organize a 40-hour ongoing reading of that novel by 200 actors. It is good that the world is awakening again," he said.

"Events commemorating the Armenian Genocide victims will be held across

Germany this year," the director said.

He added that a concert by a renowned Armenian opera singer will conclude the commemorations. The German director said he doesn't think that the society is now aware of the tragedy, adding that proper work needs to be done to fill that information gap. "An informed society and its position are the most important, because in democratic societies it is the public dictat-

ing its opinion to the political elite," Christian Papke said as he presented his country's position on the Armenian Genocide. Papke is the author of an Armenian Genocide film shot within the framework of the "Talking about Borders" project. The documentary "Armenia: Long Road of Shadows" will premiere in Germany on April 22, and will be screened in Austria on April 23.

## USC Shoah Foundation launches Armenian Genocide testimony clip series

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and the first integration of Armenian Genocide testimonies into the Visual History Archive, USC Shoah Foundation will release one clip from the Armenian Genocide collection on the Institute's website each day for the next 30 days.

The clips will showcase some of the more than 400 testimonies from the Armenian Genocide that will be integrated into the Institute's Visual History Archive, which contains 53,000 testimonies from survivors and witnesses of the Holocaust and other genocides. The Armenian testimonies were first delivered to the Institute in April 2014 to begin the integration and indexing process.

To help put the clips into perspective,

each one will be introduced by experts steeped in knowledge about the Armenian Genocide. The presenters will also recommend additional resources for those who would like to learn more.

The first five clips will be introduced by Professor Richard Hovannisian, one of the world's leading scholars on the Armenian Genocide. Hovannisian is professor emeritus of History at UCLA and an adjunct professor at USC.

The Armenian testimonies were filmed by J. Michael Hagopian and the Armenian Film Foundation between 1972 and 2004 when most of the survivors were in their 70s and 80s. Testimonies in the collection, the largest archive on film of Armenian Genocide interviews in the world, were recorded in

10 countries and 10 languages, including English, Armenian, Arabic, Kurdish and Turkish.

Hagopian was an Emmy-nominated filmmaker who made 70 educational documentaries - including 17 on Armenian culture and history, including an epic trilogy on the Armenian Genocide comprised of *Voices from the Lake*, *Germany and the Secret Genocide*, and *The River Ran Red*. He was a survivor of the genocide that killed an estimated 1.5 million people in Turkey from 1915-23. In 1979, he founded the Armenian Film Foundation, a Thousand Oaks, California-based nonprofit dedicated to documenting Armenian heritage. Hagopian died in December 2010 at age 97.



# "KAAR-MED"

## PRIVATE CLINIC CENTER FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

The Private Clinic "KAAR-MED" has been functioning on the market for medical services for more than 15 years. The Clinic is located in Warsaw (10 Bitwy Warszawskiej street) close to the centre of the city within easy reach of Dworzec Zachodni railway station and other city communications networks.

Our Patients can use a private parking located directly at the entrance to the Clinic with special places for ambulance and disabled people. Clinic is fully adapted and friendly for wheelchair users.

The Clinic specialisation is gynaecology and obstetrics including full pregnancy care, "one day surgery" and aesthetic medicine procedures as well as plastic and cosmetic gynaecology. "KAAR-MED" employs gynaecologists and physicians of all specialisations who have clinical experience gained in leading Warsaw hospitals.

We offer a wide range of laboratory, microbiological and genetic tests, diagnostic imaging techniques (USG) including prenatal tests such as pregnancy ultrasound, prenatal imaging findings, Harmony Prenatal Test, Doppler ultrasonography tests and many others.

The "KAAR-MED" Clinic is fully outfitted with the latest medical equipment used for diagnosis and treatment of the entire range of gynaecology and obstetrics diseases:

- Voluson ultrasound imaging system (pictures)
- Toshiba ultrasound imaging system
- Colposcope
- Cryosurgery machine
- Electrocoagulation apparatus
- ELLMAN Pelleve Unit (radio frequency surgery and wrinkle reduction system)
- Other equipment by "Aesculap" and "Stainless" companies

Our clinic fulfils all the official norms (stated by the Direction of the Health Minister of Poland of 02.02.2011) concerning professional, technical and sanitary conditions for health care organizations.

We are looking forward to see You in "KAAR-MED" Clinic and shall do out best to make You feel comfortable, safe and professionally treated here.

**10 Bitwy Warszawskiej,  
02-362 Warsaw, Poland**

### Information and registration:

**+48 22 823 04 52  
+48 22 201 90 95  
+ 48 50 910 74 05**



## WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

## Enjoy your leisure

## 7 April

**12:00.** Alice in Wonderland. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

**19:00.** Humour or Much Ado About Nothing. Premiere. Lala Mnatsakanyan's "Geniuses" present funny short stories based on H. Paronyan's work . Play | Yerevan State Institute of Theater and Cinema

**19:00.** C'est la vie. Comedy . Lead role: Narek Duryan. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

**19:00.** The Family of Orphans. Premiere. Gurgen Khanjyan. Lyrical Comedy in 2 acts. Play | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan

## 8 April

**19:00.** Ah, Women, Women. Robert Lamouret. Director: Vigen Stepanyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater

**20:00.** Free Couple. Cabaret theater. For adults. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

## 9 April

**19:00.** Sonnet N90. Authors and performers: Yuri Kostanyan and Narine Grigoryan. Play | Yerevan State Pantomime Theater

**19:00.** We Should Fight And Not Cry... Concert & presentation of Sahak Sahakian's book, "Armenian Liberation Movement in Songs" dedicated to the 100th anniversary of Armenian Genocide.. Concert | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan

## 10 April

**14:00.** The Little Prince. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan  
**18:00.** The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. Mark Twain. Stage Director: Hranush Chichakyan. 6+. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater  
**19:00.** Train Stories. Author: V.

Saroyan. Staging: Narine Malyan.  
Play | H. Malyan Theater of Film  
Actors

**19:00.** Richard III. Premiere. Author: W. Shakespeare. Tragedy in 2 acts. Play | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan  
**19:00.** Poor Petros. Sos Sargsyan. Director: Sos Sargsyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater

## 11 April

**12:00, 14:00.** Larky Mooky. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

**12:30, 14:00, 15:30.** Wheel of Fortune. Based on Hovhannes Tumanian's tales

Staging: Armen Elbakyan. 4+. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater

**16:00, 18:00.** The Silly Man. Based on Hovhannes Tumanyan's tale. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

**19:00.** Blaise. C. Magnier. Staging: Hrachya Gasparyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater

**19:00.** The Family of Orphans. Premiere. Gurgen Khanjyan. Lyrical Comedy in 2 acts. Play | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan

## 12 April

**12:00.** Yeghegnuhi. Author: Ruben Marukhyan. Fairy-tale/Musical in 2

acts. Staging: Gohar Harutyunyan.  
Play | National Academic Theater  
after G. Sundukyan

**12:00, 14:00.** Three Piglets. Author:  
Ervand Manaryan.  
Director/Producer: Ruben Babayan.  
Play for kids | State Puppet Theater  
after H. Tumanyan

**12:30, 14:00 15:30.** Alice in Wonderland. Staging by Lily Elbakyan. 4+. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater

**14:00.** Snow White and 7 Dwarf.  
Play for kids | Hamazgayin State  
Theater

**14:00.** Cinderella. Author: Charles Perrault. Staged by: A. Miridjanyan. Play for kids | State Musical Chamber Theater

**16:00, 18:00.** Du-Dum the Wise  
Man and the Ignorant. Play for kids |  
State Puppet Theater after H.  
Tumanyan

**17:00.** The New Adventures of The Three Piglets. Directed by Samson Stepanyan. Choreographer: Sevag Avakian. Painter: Andre Asatryan. Musical | State Musical Chamber Theater

**19:00.** Christmas at the Cupiello's.  
E. de Filippo. Tragicomedy in 3 acts.  
Play | Hamazgavin State Theater

**19:00. A Streetcar Named Desire.**  
Author: Tennessee Williams. Drama,  
2 acts. Staging and musical compila-  
tion: Suren Shahverdyan. Play |  
National Academic Theater after G.  
Sundukyan





**Zodiac Weekly Forecast**

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

You are tagged to speak up for freedom, fair play, and justice, whether that is for a group or for yourself. Aries is one with courage and not likely to back down from a fight, especially if it is on behalf of friends and kindred spirits.

**Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):**

Mars, the warrior, enters your sign this week and will be traveling with you for seven weeks. It is time to set boundaries, but watch carefully what you say if you want to maintain relationships. Pay careful attention to signs of burnout, such as irritability, infection, and unusual fatigue. If these occur, assess how much you can and cannot do without reacting to the stress.

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

You may be in an excitable frame of mind this week. Sleep may be a challenge because your mental chatter just keeps churning. It is almost manic and hard to control. Exercise will be a source of grounding for all that highly wired energy. You will sleep better.

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

On the 4th there is a Full Moon eclipse. These happen about twice per year and they bring eye opening experiences. It is as though you can see in the dark, into people and circumstances that have not been altogether clear before this time.

**Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):**

You and Aries have similar horoscopes this week. You may be speaking out on the internet rather than in person. This is probably not a good week for travel, as powers greater than you may force a landing or detain your plane. Legal and/or educational interests encounter a setback.

**Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :**

Give attention to your dreams, fantasies, and/or visions this week. Your intuition is preparing you for a future event. Don't strain to find out what that is. Feel your way around it in your mind until the image or thought drops unbidden into your consciousness.

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

Necessary expenses (those not of the "fun" type) may develop this week. An eclipse occurs in your sign on the 4th. You will learn a lot about your relationship(s) to others. This is a time in which you can perceive truths about yourself and others that are normally closed to you.

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

Intensity in relationships is the theme of the week. If you are not conscious, you could be pulled into schemes of manipulation or compulsive behaviors. Existing relationships could re-experience the pain of old wounds. You have a choice of whether to work it through or act it out in the same way as the first time.

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

This is a particularly positive time for love and romance. One or more people of interest may cross your path. If you are already involved, then this is a wonderful time to plan for or take a trip together. Travel, legal and educational matters are also supported.

**Capricorn ( Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :**

Sudden events, related to body, family or property may blast a chuckhole in the road that you follow. Use your peripheral vision in more ways than just while driving. Prepare for a shock. It won't kill you, but may rattle your cage for a while until you are able to tend to it.

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

Your attitude is somber. This is a good time to work alone and concentrate on a calming project, rather than a challenging exploit. Pursue something educational and interesting. It may be that you are the object of advances or an attraction from someone that you prefer to avoid. Dealing with it serves as a good lesson in tact and diplomacy.

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

A favorable opportunity comes your way via your career or life direction. If your income is flexible, then this will be a good week. Information comes your way that might increase your income. Day to day life should be pleasant and generally positive.

**ARMENIAN POETRY**

**Alicia Ghiragossian**

**MYSTERIES  
OF EXISTENCE**

...And what is life  
if not an endless monologue  
walking toward death?

...And what is death  
if not and equally  
endless monologue  
imitating life?

...And the carousel  
of existence  
repeats its senseless  
rotation.

But is it truly senseless  
when two souls can share  
an unshareable loneliness?

\*\*\*\*

What is the mystery  
of eternity  
that it can be locked  
in a minute of waiting  
a second of absence  
a split second of need?  
How can time stretch  
endlessly  
when existence burns  
with nonexistence?  
How many eternities  
have I still to fold up  
and put aside  
until I see you?  
Where are you?

\*\*\*\*

Sometimes I am bothered  
by those words  
I do not pronounce  
because after a long wait  
they die  
and I remain full of dead words.

## Concerts in Graz, Austria, dedicated to the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide



On April 3, a concert dedicated to the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide by Grand Orchestra and Vocalforum Graz of Graz, under the baton of conductor Christian Muthspiel, was held in the Main hall of the Helmut List Halle, in the

frameworks of "Saghmos" annual festival in Austria. The concert was held in sponsorship of Graz City Council Department of Culture, Government of Land Steiermark, "Kleine Zeitung" and "Der Standard" newspapers, Austrian public radio and TV broadcasting and in cooper-

ation with the Embassy of Armenia in Austria.

Ambassador of Armenia to Austria Arman Kirakossian, politicians and public figures, journalists attended the concert.

Works by Komitas and Tigran Mansurian were performed, including Mansurian's Requiem, 2011.

On the previous day, April 2, Armenian folk music and sacred songs concert was held in the same Concert hall, during which works by Sayat-Nova, Komitas, Gusan Jivani and Dikran Tchouhadjian were performed.

The concerts were well received by the audience and were widely covered in the Austrian media. Pamphlets and brochure, published on the occasion of the festival, thoroughly cover the Armenian Genocide.

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