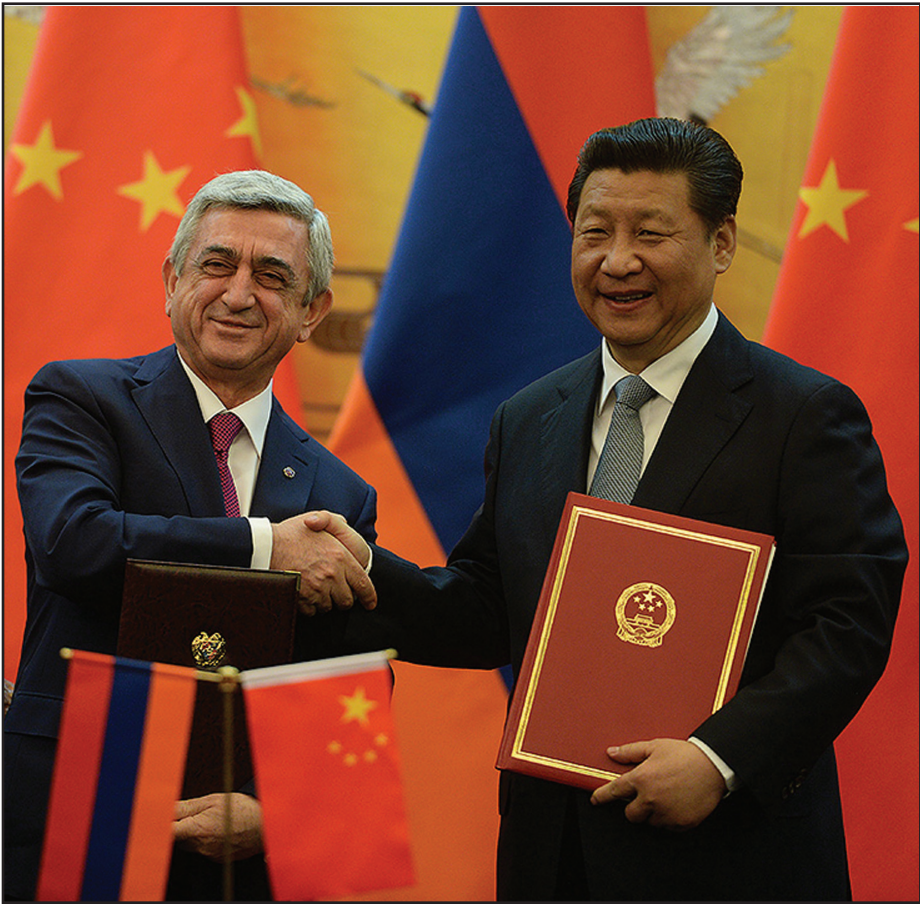


Armenian-Chinese high-level negotiations take place in Beijing



China's President Xi Jinping promised more economic and military assistance to Armenia on March 25 during talks with his visiting Armenian counterpart President Serzh Sargsyan which the two men said will give "new impetus" to growing ties between their nations.

Serzh Sargsyan, for his part, voiced support for Beijing's long-running efforts to regain control over Taiwan and spoke out against any foreign interference in China's internal affairs "under the guise of human rights protection."

In a 5-page joint declaration released after their talks in Beijing, Xi and Sargsyan noted "mutual understanding on issues relating to pivotal interests and concerns of the two countries." They also presided over the signing by senior Chinese and Armenian government officials of a dozen inter-governmental agreements to deepen bilateral cooperation in a wide range of areas, including law-enforcement, tourism, education and energy.

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President Sargsyan meets with Chairman of Standing Committee of National People's Congress Zhang Dejiang

As part of his state visit to the People's Republic of China, President Serzh Sargsyan on March 26 visited Tiananmen Square, laid a wreath and paid tribute to the Monument to the People's Heroes.

Later on, at the Great Hall of the People the RA President held a meeting with Zhang Dejiang, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

The Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress greeted the Armenian President and underscored that in the Republic of Armenia, China has a reliable and good partner with which the dynamically developing political dialogue is based on mutual respect and trust. He attached importance to President Serzh Sargsyan's state visit to China and the successful high-level negotiations with President Xi Jinping which, according to Zhang Dejiang, will give new impetus to bilateral relations, elevating them to a qualitatively new level.

The Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's

Congress laid special emphasis on inter-parliamentary cooperation in deepening of collaboration in numerous areas of mutual interest and in further intensification of Armenian-Chinese ties. According to him, the two countries' parliaments, legally reinforcing the agreements made between the Presidents, will greatly contribute to the development of political dialogue. Zhang Dejiang expressed satisfaction with the collaboration established with Armenia's National Assembly.

President Serzh Sargsyan expressed his thanks for the warm words and hospitality and noted that Armenia regards its relations with China as one of the most important foreign policy priorities and places great value on the deepening of friendly relations with China - a country representing one of the world's most ancient civilizations and an influential member of the international community.

The interlocutors agreed that since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, recent years' successful cooperation and mutual support within the framework of international organizations have promoted friend-



ship between Armenia and China and have built mutual trust. At the meeting, the parties also stressed the importance of inter-party cooperation which has been developing year after year.

Following the meeting with Zhang Dejiang, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, President Serzh Sargsyan was hosted at the Old Summer Palace which makes up part of UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage. This is the best place to get familiarized with Chinese rich and diverse culture.

Yerevan Expects Chinese Support For Iran-Armenia Rail Link

President Serzh Sargsyan on March 27 called for an "active" Chinese involvement in the realization of his government's ambitious plans to build a railway connecting Armenia with neighboring Iran.

Speaking on the third day of his state visit to Beijing, Sargsyan said the 470-kilometer railway could be part of a transnational "Silk Road economic zone" which China would like to set up along a vast geographic area.

"In this regard, Armenia expects an active participation of Chinese companies in the construction of the Armenia-Iran railway," he said in a speech at Peking University. "That will ensure the region's even development, which is fully in tune with China's 'peace for development' motto."

"At the same time, that would ensure China's strong presence in the South Caucasus region and give impetus to

bilateral China-Armenia relations," added Serzh Sargsyan.

A Chinese firm, China Communications Construction Company (CCCC), is already involved in the extremely ambitious project, having conducted a feasibility study and recommended a cost-effective route for the rail link. The study was commissioned in 2013 by Rasia FZE, a Dubai-based investment company. The latter had in turn received 30-year Armenian government concession to build and manage the 305-kilometer section of the railway that would pass through Armenia.

Earlier this year, Armenia's Deputy Transport Minister Artur Arakelyan said that Rasia has been holding "very active negotiations" with unnamed Chinese investors interested in financing work on the Armenian section, which would cost an estimated \$3 billion.

Visiting Yerevan in late January,

Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif spoke of further progress made towards the construction of the railway. "There have been very good trilateral discussions and good decisions and we hope that [the project] will quickly move forward," Zarif said without elaborating.

According to Sargsyan's press office, the railway project was on the agenda of the Armenian president's talks with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang held on Thursday. The office did not report any concrete agreements to that effect reached by the two men.

Addressing Peking University students and professors, Serzh Sargsyan touted Armenia's "dynamically developing friendly relations" with China that were underlined by his joint declaration with Chinese President Xi Jinping adopted on Wednesday. Closer ties with Beijing are "one of the priorities of Armenia's foreign policy," he said.

Armenia Recognizes Greek, Assyrian Genocides



Armenia formally recognized the First World War-era mass killings of Assyrians and Greeks in the Ottoman Empire as genocide with a resolution unanimously passed by its parliament on March 24.

"The National Assembly of Armenia declares that it condemns the genocide of Greeks and Assyrians perpetrated in the Ottoman Empire in 1915-1923," reads the resolution co-sponsored by the main parliamentary factions.

The document says that the widely documented massacres conformed to the definition of genocide set by a 1948 United Nations convention. It also cites "centuries-old friendly relations between the

Armenian, Greek and Assyrian peoples."

An estimated 300,000 Assyrian subjects of the Ottoman Empire were killed or starved to death during and in the aftermath of the First World War. An even larger number of Ottoman Greeks died at the time as part of the same genocidal government policy that also left some 1.5 million Armenians dead.

The International Association of Genocide Scholars concluded in 2007 that "the Ottoman campaign against Christian minorities of the Empire between 1914 and 1923 constituted a genocide against Armenians, Assyrians, and Pontic and Anatolian Greeks."

The Armenian parliament adopted the resolution one month before official commemorations in Yerevan of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

"This will be our contribution to the international fight against genocides," its ethnic Greek deputy speaker, Eduard Sharmazanov, said as he presented the text

to fellow lawmakers on Monday.

Leaders of Armenia's small Assyrian and Greek communities were invited to the parliament to witness its passage. They hailed the development.

"People in various countries with Assyrian communities have long wondered why this issue is not addressed in Armenia," said Arsen Mikhaylov, head of the Yerevan-based Assyrian association Atur.

Eduard Polatov, who leads the Patrada union of ethnic Greeks in Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, also called the official Armenian recognition overdue. Polatov said it will encourage more Greeks around the world to campaign for greater international recognition of the Armenian genocide.

Greece and Cyprus recognized the Armenian genocide in 1999 and 1975 respectively. Last year, Greece also enacted a law making it a crime to publicly deny this and other genocides.

Armenian-Chinese high-level negotiations...

From page 1

One of those documents is a "framework agreement" on the disbursement of a Chinese "concessional loan" to the Armenian government. Official Armenian sources said nothing about the purpose, amount and terms of the loan. Nor did they give details of another deal whereby the state-owned Export and Import Bank of China will finance the purchase of Chinese-made equipment for the Armenian customs service with a separate low-interest credit.

The joint declaration signaled the Chinese government's intention to continue providing annual economic aid to Yerevan, which has totaled over \$40 million since 2012. It also call for joint efforts to spur bilateral trade, which surged by almost 30 percent to \$590 million last year, making China Armenia's second largest trading partner.

"The Chinese side encourages and assists its enterprises in investing in the Republic of Armenia and setting up enterprises there," reads declaration. The Armenian government, for its part, will create "favorable conditions" for Chinese investors, it says.

Xi and Sargsyan also touched upon

another major sphere of Chinese-Armenian ties: military cooperation. "The parties are prepared to continue their practical partnership in areas such as mutual visits by military delegations, training of military personnel and provision of military aid and so on," they said in their joint statement.

China has trained Armenian army officers and supplied multiple-launch rocket systems to Yerevan since the late 1990s. In 2011, the Armenian military reportedly purchased sophisticated Chinese rockets with a firing range of up to 130 kilometers.

Armenia has reciprocated the Chinese support with unequivocal endorsements of Chinese sovereignty over Taiwan. The joint declaration makes clear that Yerevan will continue to oppose Taiwan's independence, avoid any "official contact" with the island and back "all Chinese government efforts to unite the

country." "Taiwan is an integral part of the People's Republic of China and the Taiwan issue an internal Chinese affair," it says.

In a clear reference to Western criticisms of the Communist leadership in Beijing, the declaration also deplores "the use of double standards in human rights issues and their politicization" around the world. "The Parties are against interference in other countries' internal affairs under the guise of human rights protection," it says.

The Armenian and Chinese leaders further agreed that each side would outlaw on its territory organizations that could pose a threat to the other's "sovereignty, security and territorial integrity." They concluded that the agreements reached during Sargsyan's trip "will give new impetus to the further development and deepening of Chinese-Armenian friendly cooperation."

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Radical Opposition Group Schedules Nonstop Protests

A radical Armenian opposition group said on March 26 that it will launch on April 24 a campaign of nonstop street protests in Yerevan aimed at forcing President Serzh Sargsyan to step down.

The start of the campaign planned by the Founding Parliament movement is timed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide in Ottoman Turkey, which will be marked by high-profile official ceremonies. Scores of foreign dignitaries, including the presidents of France and Russia, are expected to arrive in Armenia on the occasion.

Zhirayr Sefilian, the Founding Parliament leader, said he and his political associates will rally supporters immediately after visiting the genocide memorial in Yerevan. "We are talking about around-the-clock rallies," he told reporters. "We will tell the people to return home after we manage to get rid of this regime."

"I think that in a matter of days we will force this regime to stop clinging to power at any cost," claimed the Lebanese-born oppositionist. He said his group counts on the backing of not only ordinary Armenians but also elements in the government and the security appar-

tus unhappy with the Sargsyan administration.

Sefilian added that the Founding Parliament will clarify "in a few days" the venue of its planned rallies. He stressed that the protests will be peaceful and will not interfere with the commemorations of the genocide centennial.

The Founding Parliament, which holds no seats in parliament and is critical of the mainstream Armenian opposition, has been preparing for the campaign with nationwide gatherings held for the past several months. It has so far failed to attract large crowds.

In late January, the group attempted to take its campaign to Nagorno-Karabakh but met with a violent response from local security forces. It cancelled a similar protest planned in Armenia's second largest city of Gyumri earlier this month, citing the need to avoid violent clashes with local government loyalists plotting a "provocation."

Sefilian's movement began facing what it considers a government crackdown in November. One of its members was beaten up in Yerevan in broad daylight following a series of arson attacks on cars belonging to six other Founding Parliament activists. Nobody has been



prosecuted in connection with those incidents.

A prominent veteran of the Nagorno-Karabakh war, Sefilian has campaigned for regime change in Armenia and against any territorial concessions to Azerbaijan for almost a decade. He was arrested in 2006 after setting up a union of fellow war veterans opposed to then President Robert Kocharyan. Armenia's National Security Service (NSS) claimed that they planned to mount an armed uprising against the Kocharyan government. Sefilian denied the charges as politically motivated.

Sefilian was cleared of the coup charge during his subsequent trial. Still, he was sentenced to 18 months in prison for illegal arms possession.

Another Armenian Party Opposes Constitutional Reform



Opposition leader Raffi Hovannisian said on March 25 at Press Center of Noyan Tapan News Agency, that his Zharangutyun (Heritage) party will avoid any further dialogue with President Serzh Sargsyan on his controversial plans to make sweeping changes in Armenia's constitution.

Hovannisian said that although Zharangutyun stands for the parliamentary system of governance it believes that Serzh Sargsyan "lacks the legitimacy" to expedite such a transition as part of the planned constitutional reform. He also

argued that the Armenian authorities will not accept a number of specific conditions set by the opposition party.

Those include the conduct of snap parliamentary elections immediately after a referendum on the constitutional amendments. Zharangutyun wants those elections to be held only on a party-list basis, something which Armenian opposition forces say would reduce the likelihood of vote rigging. It is also demanding other anti-fraud safeguards that were rejected by the Sargsyan administration until now.

"Judging from [statements by] the constitutional reform commission and Serzh Sargsyan, it is already evident that this will not happen," Hovannisian told reporters. "Therefore, I declare that from now on we will not take part in these meaningless games."

Zharangutyun strongly opposed the reform when it was part of an anti-government alliance formed with two other opposition parties, Prosperous Armenia (BHK)

and the Armenian National Congress (HAK). It appeared to have softened this stance following last month's collapse of that alliance resulting from a government crackdown on the BHK.

Two senior Zharangutyun figures, Armen Martirosyan and Ruben Hakobyan, were among opposition politicians who held separate meetings with Sargsyan earlier this month to discuss the constitutional changes. The decision was strongly condemned by another member of the party's governing board, Zaruhi Postanjyan.

Hovannisian, who was not in Armenia when the talks with Sargsyan took place, sought to downplay the row. While admitting that he did not authorize the talks, he said that Martirosyan was allowed to make such a decision in his capacity as Zharangutyun's deputy chairman.

"I personally would not have gone to that meeting. But I was aware of the possibility of such a meeting," added Hovannisian.

Armenia's Sargsyan slams Erdogan's absence at Genocide centennial



In an interview with FRANCE 24, Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan said Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's decision to change this year's Gallipoli commemoration to coincide with Armenia's marking of the 100th anniversary of the genocide was a "cynical act".

On April 24, Armenia is set to commemorate the centennial of the Armenian genocide, which saw the deportation and deaths of up to 1.5 million Armenians during World War I.

"Our intention was to commemorate the centennial together with the Turkish people," explained Sargsyan, noting that it was

the reason his government invited the Turkish leader to attend the commemorations.

Instead, Erdogan chose the same day to invite his Armenian counterpart to the centennial of the Gallipoli campaign, which marked a major World War I victory for the Ottoman forces against Allied troops, mostly from Australian and New Zealand. The date of their landing - known as "Anzac Day" - is marked on April 25 every year.

Turkey has long denied the mass deportation and killings of Armenian subjects of the Ottoman empire constituted genocide, claiming instead that they were the consequences of inter-ethnic violence inflamed during wartime.

Erdogan's decision to change the date of the Gallipoli ceremonies to coincide with the Armenian centennial commemoration has drawn a sharp rebuke from Sargsyan.

"Unfortunately, once again we find ourselves facing a negationist approach and I'm sorry to use this expression, but it is a particularly cynical act. The Battle of Gallipoli did not start of April 24 [1915], nor did it end on April 24, it's self-evident. This is a way of injuring, of wounding the Armenian people and at the same time, it is intended to set obstacles on the path to centennial commemorations [of the Armenian genocide]," said Sargsyan.

The April 24 ceremonies will be attended by a number of world leaders, including French President François Hollande and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

France upbeat on new EU-Armenia deal



The French ambassador in Yerevan, Jean-François Charpentier, on March 23 spoke of "quite positive" atmosphere in ongoing consultations on a new agreement to deepen Armenia's relations with the European Union.

"We are working with our Armenian friends to further elaborate the text of the new EU-Armenia agreement," he told a news conference. "In the run-up to the [EU's] Riga summit, the

technical part of that work will near completion."

Charpentier said the French government hopes to have a "clear idea on the scope of the EU's cooperation with Armenia" in time for the summit due in May.

Visiting Yerevan last week, the EU's European Neighborhood Policy Commissioner Johannes Hahn said Armenian and EU officials have already identified "the areas and the depth of cooperation" to be regulated by the new accord. Hahn expressed hope that the Riga summit will give the executive European Commission a formal mandate to start official negotiations on it with the Armenian government.

The deal will serve as a substitute for an Association Agreement which Yerevan and Brussels were close to concluding in 2013. The Armenian side scuttled that agreement with a last-minute decision to seek membership in the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU). It has since been seeking to cut a less ambitious deal with the EU that would not contradict its EEU membership commitments.

Visiting Yerevan, in May 2014, French President François Hollande called for a "special model" of political association between the EU and Armenia.

Hollande will again travel to the Armenian capital next month to take part in official commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide in Ottoman Turkey. According to Charpentier, Armenia-EU ties will be on the agenda of his talks with President Serzh Sargsyan.

China, Armenia in First Currency Swap

The central banks of China and Armenia have exchanged \$160 million worth of each other's national currency in an effort to boost to growing bilateral economic relations.

The governor of the People's Bank of China, Zhou Xiaochuan, and his Armenian opposite number, Artur Javadyan, signed a corresponding agreement in Beijing on Wednesday in the presence of the two countries' presidents, Xi Jinping and Serzh Sargsyan.

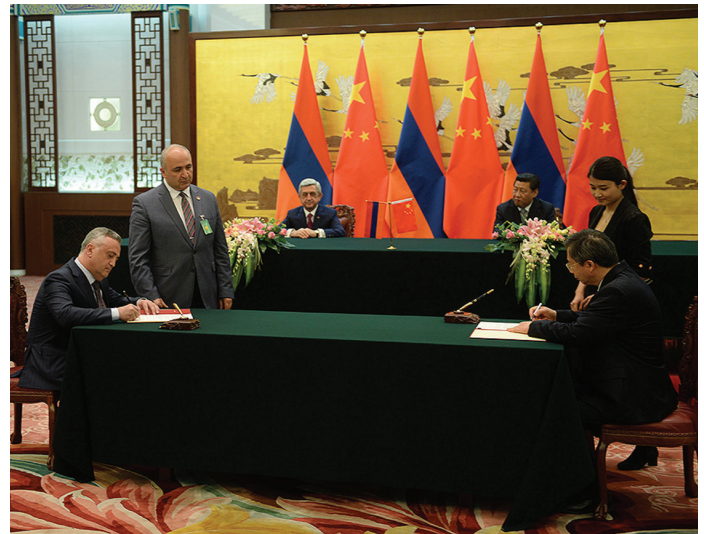
The Central Bank of Armenia (CBA) said it swapped 77 billion drams (\$160 million) for 1 billion yuan. "The swap agreement is aimed at increasing trade turnover and direct investments between the two countries," the CBA said in a statement. It did not go into details.

Xi and Sargsyan mentioned such financial arrangements in an extensive joint declaration issued after their talks. The declaration says that their governments will find "flexible and numerous methods of financing" Chinese-Armenian investment projects and other commercial deals.

Under another agreement signed during the Chinese-Armenian summit, Armenia will purchase Chinese-made x-ray scanning equipment for its customs service with a 155.5 million-yuan (\$25 million) loan to be provided by the state-run Export-Import Bank of China. The government said last week that it will repay the 20-year loan with the Chinese currency.

Xi and Sargsyan also presided over the signing of a "framework agreement" on another low-interest Chinese loan to Yerevan. The amount and key terms of the credit are not yet known.

Economic issues were reportedly the main focus of



Sargsyan's talks with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang held on Thursday. A statement by Sargsyan's press office said the two men praised rapid growth in Armenia's trade with China, which reached nearly \$600 million last year. They also agreed that the two governments "should not content themselves with the existing achievements" and will strive for more bilateral commerce and "Chinese investments in the Armenian economy."

The statement spoke of "great potential" for closer Chinese-Armenian economic cooperation in a number of areas, including energy and transport. It said a Chinese-Armenian intergovernmental commission will discuss the matter in greater detail when it meets in Yerevan this summer.

PM briefed on food, drug safety expertise lab activities

Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan visited Tonus-Les Company's food and drug safety expert lab in Nor-Gyukh village community of Kotayk Marz. The Prime Minister toured the lab getting acquainted with the works and activities and achievements, the Government's Press Office reports.

The laboratory enables quality and bioequivalence, as well as biological and microbiological examinations of imported medicines and food, promoting thereby the necessary quality standards.

Introducing achievements, company executives said that the lab has recently been granted the international ISO 9001-2008 accreditation, which is the first in the region.

It was noted that the international accreditation will enable local producers to get expert opinion and product quality certification in Armenia that will substantially reduce costs and time. Appropriate steps have been taken to provide training to qualified personnel and enhance international cooperation.

Prioritizing and welcoming the international accreditation of the lab, Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan said that it will stimulate the production of high quality local products, get reliable data on production, increase export volumes and strengthen the protection of consumer rights.



The Premier stressed the need for the lab to keep on developing in order to provide high-quality expertise, as well as to build on the confidence with business circles.

The lab executives assured that owing to its international accreditation, the laboratory's findings will be acknowledged in all countries of the world. The laboratory has modern equipment of German, Swiss, Japanese and Israeli manufacture.

IFC and Armenia partner to boost investment, develop private sector



IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, Armenia's Ministry of Economy, and the Armenia Development Foundation agreed on March 25 to work together to improve the country's investment policy and inspections system in order to generate investment and cut business costs, spurring private sector growth and job creation.

The IFC Armenia Investment Climate Reform Project will provide advice to the ministry and the Armenia Development Foundation, enhancing the country's business environment and making business inspections more predictable and efficient.

"Armenia has achieved notable results in recent years in terms of implementing reforms to improve the investment climate," said Karen Chshmarityan, the Minister of Economy of Armenia. "However, there is more to be done and we appreciate IFC's support in sharing advice and practices that have helped many countries simplify business regulations and cre-

ate policies conducive to investment."

The joint effort aims to develop a reform action plan that will attract and retain investment in Armenia, promote exports in the agriculture sector, ensure certainty to foreign investors, and ease procedures for taxpaying for agribusinesses. A reformed inspections system will mean reduced inspections for less riskier businesses, saving them time and resources.

"Our cooperation in this project aims to create more transparent and business-friendly regulations while ensuring public interests are protected," said Jan van Bilsen, IFC's newly appointed Regional Manager for the South Caucasus. "The work is part of the World Bank Group's broader effort to help Armenia create a more competitive investment climate, spurring economic and social development."

The IFC Armenia Investment Climate Reform Project is implemented by the World Bank Group Trade and Competitiveness Global Practice, in partnership with Austria's Federal Ministry of Finance and Hungarian Partnership Funding/Hungary EXIM Bank. The project is built on IFC's previous Investment Climate Reform Project (2011 to 2014), which helped the government of Armenia design and adopt reforms in taxes, trade logistics, inspections, and food safety.

Armenia became an IFC member in 1995. IFC has since invested more than \$320 million in 52 projects across a range of sectors, including financial markets, manufacturing, and mining, and mobilized nearly \$23 million from other lenders. IFC Advisory Services provides advice through projects focusing on the financial sector, sustainable energy, regulatory simplification, and food safety.

Government details use of Eurobond proceeds



The Armenian government on March 26 officially confirmed the sale of its second Eurobond and said it will finance its budget deficit and other spending programs and repay some of its external debt with \$487 million raised from foreign investors.

The government issued the 10-year dollar bonds at a record-high yield of 7.5 percent on March 19. The expensive borrowing operation was carried out through leading Western investment banks: Deutsche Bank, HSBC and JP Morgan.

Deputy Finance Minister Pavel Safaryan said the government

has already spent part of the proceeds on buying back \$205 million of its previous dollar bond issue carried out in September 2013. The authorities in Yerevan raised \$700 million at a yield of 6.25 percent at the time.

"The rest of the sum, which will be transferred to the Armenian treasury account tomorrow, needs to be injected into our budgetary system," Safaryan told a weekly cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamian.

The official specified that \$83 million will be used for covering the 2015 budget deficit projected at an equivalent of roughly \$250 million. The remaining \$200 million or so will be channeled into the government "stabilization fund" for special budgetary expenditures, he said without elaborating.

Safaryan would not say whether the government could use the Eurobond proceeds for shoring up the national currency, the dram, or offsetting a possible shortfall in tax revenue resulting from slowing economic growth in Armenia.

In its 2015 budget bill, the government forecast a growth rate of just over 4 percent. The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank consider this projection overly optimistic given Armenia's economic dependence on recession-hit Russia.



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1 ROOM

- 1696.**Tumanyan str.**, 5/4, stone bld, 1 bedroom, h-3m, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 160.000 USD.
- 1726.**Khorenatsi str.**, 4/4, 35sq.m., 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 55.000 USD.
- 1440.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 110 sq.m., 1 bedroom, h-3m, euro repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 350.000 USD.
- 1715-**Sayat Nova Ave.**, 5/4, 70sq.m, stone bld, h-4m, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 110.000 USD
- 1680-**Mashtots Ave.**, 5/4, 68sq.m, 1 bedroom, old repair, possibility of gas. Price: 86.000 USD.
- 1674-**Abovyan str.**, 2nd floor, 70sq.m., 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 135.000 USD
- 1698-**Aram str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 62sq.m, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, AC, security system, parking. Price: 120.000 USD.

2 ROOMS

- 3003.**Sayat-Nova str.**, 5/3, 105sq.m, 2 bedrooms, stone building, capitally repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1560.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 10/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.
- 2818.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, furnished. Price: 400.000 USD
- 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

- 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, 3 bedrooms, 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, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, AC. Price: negotiable
- 2802.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 8/4, 166sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 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, Nairi 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 repaired, heating system, AC, Price: 3500 USD per sq.m.
- 2172-**Isahakyan str.**, 92sq.m, 1st line, 7 degrees above zero level, facade-9m, 2 window glasses, h-3.20m, 2 halls, cabinet, bathroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 450.000 USD

LANDS

- 2122.**Davitashen**, 1800 sq.m., water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600 sq.m., and 1200 sq.m. Price: 150 USD per sq.m.
- 2121.**Demirchyan str.**, 1338 sq.m., building permits. Price: 2million USD.
- 2013.**Cascade**. 1000 sq.m. building permits, first line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price 460.000USD
- 1402.**Hr. Kochar Str.**, 1100 sq. m., facade -25 m. Price negotiable.
- 2090.**Lori region**, close to Stepanavan, Gyargyar village, 6 hectares, forest 2 hectare has building permits, 3 water source, electricity. Price: 100.000USD.
- 2406.**Avan**, Mher Mkrtchyan block, 1000 sq.m., electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price: 30USD per sq.m
- 2310.**Monument, Babayan str.**, 1000 sq. m, facade-25m, privatized, Price: 350 USD negotiable
- 2107.**Monument**, 2400sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: 400 USD per sq.m.
- 2413.**Ashtarak roadway**, 1000sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: Negotiable
- 2414.**Demirchyan str.** land-750sq.m., building permits. Price: 750.000 USD.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- 3348.**Blur, Barbys str.** Land - 800 sq.m, 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 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, heating 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., 3bed-

- rooms, 3 bath-

- rooms, capitally

- repaired, heating

- system, AC, garden.

- Price:

- 680.000 USD

- 3651 **Blur**,

- Barbyus str.**,

- Land-900sq.m., 5

- storied building-

- 800sq.m., 4 bed-

- rooms, 3 bath-

- rooms, capitally

- repaired, heating

- system, AC, garden.

- Price: 1.700.000 USD.

- 3401.**Antarinyin str.**, Newly built, land-

- 700sq.m, 3 storied bld-690sq.m, 5 bedrooms,

- capitally repaired. Price: 1.300.000 USD

- 3712 **Cascade** Newly built, land-450sq.m, 4 storied bld-600sq.m, zero state. Price: 550.000 USD

NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

- 74.**Cascade**, Verin Antarayin. 136-315 sq m., walls plastered, electricity, water, gas, euro windows, no exploitation fees. Price: 1200 USD per sq.m, parking -15.000 USD.

- 107.**Monument**, Verin Antarayin. inhabited, 8 floors, gas, windows, street view -1000 USD per sq.m., city looking -1500 USD per sq.m., parking - 4 million USD preliminary.

- 87.**Sayat-Nova str.**, 21 floors, 3 bedrooms - 188 sq.m., 199 sq.m., Price 1900 USD per sq.m., 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight - 117 sq.m., 120 sq.m., 124 sq.m., Price: 1700 USD per sq.m., climate control, gas.

- 93.**Kievyan str.**, Given to the operation in October 2011, 16 floors, walls plastered, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas, parking. Price: 1500-1600USD per sq.m, parking-12 000 USD. Possible with mortgage, for 13 years term.

- 94.**Masiv**. 3floors, 8 flats, each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.

- 130 **Antarayin str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m, available 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, capably repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- 2099.**Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 1 bedroom, capably repaired, gas, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 600 USD.
- 1972.**Northern ave.**, 8/4, 80sqm, 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capably repaired, climate control. Price: 1200 USD
- 2171.**Tumanyan str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 94 sqm, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, capably repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD
- 2367.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9th floor, 98 sqm, capably repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

2 ROOMS

- 2302 **North Ave.**, Newly built, 11/4, 137sq.m, 2bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 2295 **North Ave.**, Newly built, 16/15, 173sq.m, 2bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished. Price: 5000 USD
- 2290 **Bayron str.**, Newly built, /5th floor, 220sq.m, 2bedrooms, study, open kitchen, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, climate control, furnished, parking. Price: 4000 USD
- 1780.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, /13th floor, 82 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD negotiable.
- 942.**Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capably repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- 1950.**Buzand/Mashtots area.** Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- 1681.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1535.**Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m, 2bedrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- 2089.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 8/6, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, climate control, furnished, equipped. Price: 2500 USD
- 1738.**Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 1951.**Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- 1406.**Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- 2187.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9/5, 120 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2.200 USD
- 2109.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 2243.**Buzand str.**, Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- 2310 **Busand str.**, Newly built, 190sq.m, 3bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD
- 2316 **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6th floor, 227sq.m, 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, guest toilet, capably repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD

- 2303 **Hanrapetutyan str** Newly built, 9/5, 165sq.m, 3bedrooms, 1bathroom, 1 guest toilet. capably repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 2286.**Sose str.**, Newly built, 12/2, 154sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD
- 2257.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 17/16, 160 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 2021.**Teryan Str.**, Newly built, 9/8, 9, 245 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, furnished. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.
- 2005.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.



- 1723.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4, 170 sq.m 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capably repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1981.**Vardanants Str.**, Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably 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, capably repaired, climate control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), Price: 3500 USD.
- 1720.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 16/10, 179 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably 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, capably repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2261.**Hin Yerevantsi**, /North Avenue/, Newly built, 10/3, 124sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 1700 USD
- 2084.**Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2252.**Northern ave.**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capably repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- 1335 **Baghramyan str.**, Land-200sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished. Price: 3000 USD
- 1336 **Aygedzor**, Land-1000sq.m, 2 storied bld-240sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- 1337 **Davtashen** Land-406sq.m, 3 storied bld-306sq.m, 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capably repaired, furnished. Price: 3900 USD
- 1323.**Monument, Babayan str.**, Land-400sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capably repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1248.**Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m , 3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capably 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, capably repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, newly furnished, equipped, sauna, swimming-pool. Starting Price: 5000 USD.
- 1094.**Noy black**, Land-450sqm, 2 storied building - 220sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capably 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, capably repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished,

- swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.
- 1142.**Djirvej**, Bagrevand community. Land-1000 sq.m., 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capably 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, capably 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, capably 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, capably 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, capably 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, capably 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, capably repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- 1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capably 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, capably 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, capably repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.
- 1462.**Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capably repaired, AC, parking. Price: 10.000 USD.
- 1945.**Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capably repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- 1943.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capably repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- 1868.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m, capably repaired, h-5m, cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.
- 2087.**Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m, 1st line, zero level, capably 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, capably 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, capably repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

Next Armenia-Lithuania Business Forum: Getting Closer Armenia could be a good ground to get in regional markets



By Gourgen James Khazhakian
Chief Correspondent
Journalist Emeritus of Armenia

After business forum held in Vilnius in November 2014, Armenian and Lithuanian manufacturers and businessmen met again, this time in Yerevan.

Within 23-25 March heads of 21 largest Lithuanian companies were introduced to the investment climate in Armenia, business opportunities, other.

According to President of the Development Foundation of Armenia **A. Khachatryan**, *"Armenia is currently ensuring an attractive environment for investments for businessmen guaranteed by the law. Besides, the economic sectors that are important for exports are in special focus of the RA Government. Armenia's accession to the Eurasian Economic Union allows Armenia to establish relations with EEU member states without any customs obstacles and serve as a link between the EEU and other countries..."*

Head of the Lithuanian delegation to Armenia, President of the Confederation of Industrialists of Lithuania (LPK) **Robertas Dargis** said that the words "business" and "businessman" were strange to Lithuanians when Lithuania had just declared its independence 25 years ago. *"Today, we realize that the economy and the advancement of the state depend on the efforts of businessmen. Armenia is a new market for Lithuania, but our countries have great potential to develop economic relations,"* Mr Dargis stressed.

President of the Union of Manufacturers and Businessmen of Armenia (UMBA) **Arsen Ghazaryan** underscored the fact that though both countries have external obstacles, it should be a driving

force for the establishment of new economic relations and cooperation. *"Under such conditions we should find new markets, investors, by this neutralizing some negative economic signals...Armenia and Lithuania have similarities and can become good partners. We, together, should try to find how to overcome those obstacles and to meet challenges existing today..."*, Mr Ghazaryan said. According to experts, areas of potential cooperation



between Lithuanian and Armenian businessmen are ranging from food processing to construction/development, from energetics to optics, from garment production to winemaking. High-tech/IT is of special interest by both countries' companies, and it was not mere a coincidence that one of the Forum participants was a leading way Armenian IT manager, Founding CEO of the "Unicom" CJSC **Armen Baldryan** (see pic on p.11, second row, far right).

Memoranda between the UMBA and

the Confederation of Industrialists of Lithuania (LPK, see upper pic, with A.Ghazaryan on the left, R.Dargis on the right, Ambassador Petrikas in the center), the Development Foundation of Armenia and the LPK as well as the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Yerevan and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Vilnius were signed in the frames of the Forum on 23 March.

Armenia can ensure the entrance of many countries into the Iranian market – that was a main message of the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Armenia to Lithuania **Armen Ayvazyan** in a speech delivered at the Forum.

"The world faces new challenges that pose a threat to small countries. The history of Armenia and Lithuania shows that the countries are resistant and can make the right strategic decisions, but they need to cooperate in order to resist the current challenges. Armenia joined the Eurasian Economic Union this year, but the country still actively cooperates within the framework of the Eastern Partnership. Armenia also has free trade relations with Georgia and has great potential for economic cooperation with Iran. I'm certain that Armenia can ensure the entrance of many countries into the Iranian market in the future," Ambassador Ayvazyan said.

According to "Armenpress" News Agency, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Lithuania to Armenia **Erikas Petrikas** emphasized that he had great expectations from the cooperation between the two countries and sees good potential. *"Evidence of that is the growth of trade turnover. I believe this will be a new start. We're sad to see that there are no Lithuanian products in stores in Armenia, but this motivates us to strengthen bonds,"* Ambassador Petrikas mentioned.

On the next day Armenian, Lithuanian and Iranian businessmen held a saturated and active discussion how they could realize trilateral cooperation.

For instance, **Vidmantas Janulevicius**, Chairman of GLOBAL BOD GROUP that produces facilities in three areas – solar cells and modules, progressive lenses for eyeglasses and optical discs production mentioned that, taking into account some climate/geographical features of Iran, he was interested in production of solar sells there.

According to Trade/commercial attache of the Embassy of Iran in Armenia **Hmayak Avetisyan**, today, under the light of Iran-West negotiations, many foreign businessmen rush to their country “for not missing the chance”.

After this trilateral meeting your author asked key organizers of the Forum to comment on its outcome.

Robertas Dargis:

-Traditionally Lithuanians were exporting their products, especially food, to Russia, Belarus, Ukraine etc., i.e. from Soviet Union countries, and after 2000 European Union has become a new market for us. At present its share of the Lithuanian export is about 60%, while the from USSR states buy 30%. But everything changes in the world, especially under conditions of the current situation in Europe, and our companies are looking for new ever markets. And this visit of Lithuanian businessmen to Armenia should be considered in these terms; now we look for markets which, probably, could be not so much “comfortable” due to various reasons –

being far, others, but are interesting in terms of their development in near future... Looking thru the list of manufacturers included in the delegation - their number and variety of sectors, you could judge about our interest to Armenia.

I believe the synergy of the cooperation of Lithuanian and Armenian businesses not only with each other, but in terms of the region at large could be quite fruitful.

After two days of active joint work within this Forum we came to conclusion that opportunities for doing all this really exist, and I see two main directions of our further work: first, we should consider all these opportunities in more detailed way; second, in Lithuania, we should present all this to our businessmen and manufacturers, - our Confederation accounts 3,000 members - in a more clear and concrete manner, so, let me speak in this way, we should open a window to Armenia... Again, I believe we have good chance together with our Armenian colleagues to outreach regional markets, for instance, the Iranian one, others.

Arsen Ghazaryan:

-The main outcome of the Forum is that the the base for fruitful Armenian-Lithuanian business cooperation already exists.

As to mediatory role of Armenia to get other regional markets such as the Iranian is one of the opportunities, and how successful it could be, depends, first of all, from Armenia, its communications, legislation etc. We the Armenians must convince Lithuanians-Iranians, Russians-Iranians, Estonians-Iranians etc. that

Armenia is a good site for transformation of ideas, technologies, goods.

...Well, but let me ask you as a Chief of “Apaven”, a leading regional freight forward services company: what about Lithuania’s being a quite far from Armenia?

-I do not think that it could be a serious obstacle, it just should be well-organized.

Ara Aivazyan:

-I see that due to two business forums – the first one held in Nov. 2014 in Vilnius and the current one, Armenia is positioned at the Lithuanian business map as a quite good venue; an evidence of this could be the list of Lithuanian delegation – reps of 21 biggest companies are in Armenia by the moment. So this as well as active coverage of the topic by both Armenian and Lithuanian mass media resulted in establishing Armenia-Lithuania economic cooperation intergovernmental commission, first meeting of which we expect to held by the end of this year.

As to possible problems such as not a small distance between two countries or, let’s say, political orientation/membership in different Alliances, I don’t think they are more or less serious obstacles as, traditionally, business has always been going before politics between nations.

Photos by “Armenpress” and courtesy the Embassy of Lithuania

*Acknowledgement:
Mrs Syuzanna Mkrtchian*



President Erdogan's trademark paranoia

Two large Turkish dailies, 'Hurriyet' and 'Today's Zaman', on March 19, 2015 reported unprecedented attacks on the Armenian diaspora by the Turkish President Rəcəp Tayyip Erdoğan.

According to 'Today's Zaman', the Turkish President stated: "Oh Armenian diaspora, Oh Armenian administration, ...Bring your documents, and we will task the historians, our historians, political scientists, even archeologists and lawyers [with studying them]... let's seek the truth here."

It looks like Mr. Erdoğan is suffering from amnesia or has disoriented from reality or doesn't know what has transpired in the last 100 years vis-à-vis his society, academia, and the international community regarding the Armenian Genocide.

It seems everyone other than Mr. Erdoğan knows the truth. Over 400 historians, Holocaust scholars, and genocide experts have given the authoritative answer to this issue and concluded that what happened to the Armenians was genocide.

The International Association of Genocide Scholars, the leading group tasked with researching and studying genocides, in a June 12, 2006 letter to Mr. Erdoğan, then the Prime Minister of Turkey, stated: "Scholars who advise your government and who are affiliated in other ways with your state-controlled institutions are not impartial. Such so-called 'scholars' work to serve the agenda of historical and moral obfuscation when they advise you and the Turkish Parliament on how to deny the Armenian Genocide."

Mr. Erdoğan's suggestion to create "historians commission" to study the Armenian Genocide is redundant. It's akin to Holocaust deniers' demand to create "historians commission" to prove whether the Holocaust took place.

The Turkish President stated: "The truth should be sought in the archives." Many witnesses during the Istanbul Military Tribunal (1919 - 1921) of the perpetrators of the Armenian Genocide, testified that the documents of CUP, the government in power at the time, had been removed and Interior Ministry archives had been burned by Talaat Pasha, Minister of Interior, prior to fleeing the country.

continued on page 15

EU-Armenia relations saw progress on several agreements in 2014

EU-Armenia relations saw progress on several agreements in 2014, while Armenia continued its democratic transition, though some issues of human rights and rule of law remain to be dealt with, according to the 2014 ENP Country Progress Report released on March 25.

The report on Armenia underlines key main developments and reform efforts in 2014 and makes recommendations for the year to come. The EU and Armenia have reconfirmed their commitment to further develop and strengthen their cooperation in areas of mutual interest within the Eastern Partnership framework. The EU and Armenia have recently successfully completed their joint scoping exercise for a future legal agreement compatible with Armenia's new international obligations after the country became a member of the Eurasian Economic Union. This will enable both sides to launch soon negotiations on a new EU-Armenia overarching agreement once the respective negotiating mandates have been approved.

In 2014 Armenia advanced on several bilateral agreements: The EU-Armenia Visa-Facilitation and Readmission Agreements entered into force in January 2014 and since March 2014, Armenia can participate in EU programs and agencies.

Armenia continued its democratic transition process, in particular with regard to constitutional reform. Certain human rights issues, fundamental freedoms and rule of law issues remained to be dealt with. Armenia developed legislation in several areas that is in line with EU rules and standards or international requirements. Such legislation often remained to be adopted and implemented. Related reforms were developed but not put in practice. The lack of trust in the judicial system persisted. The fight against corruption remained a key issue. Progress was noted with regard to the right of free legal aid. Armenia continued to implement sound macroeconomic policies, such as with regard to poverty reduction and social cohesion. Economic activity continued to decelerate in 2014. Reforms in the tax administration continued. More efforts to diversify the economy are commendable. The European Commission received Armenia's stress test on the Medzamor nuclear power plant. The test will be reviewed in 2015. This procedure is



in line with EU nuclear safety requirements.

2014 marked the 20th anniversary of the 1994 ceasefire agreement in relation to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict against the background of a continued stalemate. The security situation on the ground remained a matter of serious concern amid unprecedented incidents and casualties since 1994, as well as rise in confrontational rhetoric and a continued arms race.

On the basis of the Country Progress Report, several actions are recommended to Armenia for the year to come, amongst others:

- initiating the amendment of the electoral legislation in accordance with OSCE/ODIHR recommendations in due time before the parliamentary elections in 2017;
- adopting and implementing comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation;
- investigating the cases of attacks and intimidation of human rights defenders and ensuring effective law enforcement, including in cases relating to the deaths that occurred during the clashes of March 2008 and the allegations of ill-treatment in police custody and violation of due process;
- Intensifying the reform of the judiciary and law enforcement and implementing the related reform agenda; continuing public administration reform, intensifying the prevention of and the fight against corruption;
- stepping up efforts towards a comprehensive peace settlement in accordance with the commitments undertaken within the Minsk Group; refraining from actions and statements that could heighten tension and undermine the peace process;
- progressing in regulatory approximation with international trade-related laws and standards in order to achieve the objective of diversifying Armenian exports with commodities of higher value added.

Ten reasons why Pres. Obama should travel to Armenia on April 24



*By Harut
Sassounian*

*Publisher, The
California Courier*

Armenia's President Serzh Sargsyan has invited several world leaders to Yerevan on April 24 to commemorate the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide.

The Presidents of France, Russia, Poland and Belarus have already accepted Pres. Sargsyan's invitation. The White House has yet to make a public statement on whether Pres. Obama plans to travel to Armenia on this most solemn occasion.

A Century ago, Henry Morgenthau, US Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, described the systematic annihilation of 1.5 million Armenians as "The Murder of a Nation." Raphael Lemkin, a Polish-Jewish lawyer, told CBS that he coined the term genocide based on the mass crimes committed against Armenians during WWI and Jews during WWII.

Here are 10 reasons why Air Force One should make an auspicious landing in Yerevan's Zvartnots International Airport on April 24.

1. Pres. Obama would pay tribute to hundreds of thousands of compassionate American citizens for having raised over \$117 million - today's equivalent of over \$2 billion - to aid destitute Armenians in the aftermath of the Genocide. Initiated by Amb. Morgenthau and supported by Pres. Woodrow Wilson, Near East Relief helped rescue and care for 132,000 Armenian orphans. This massive charitable effort was the first international humanitarian outreach in U.S. history.

2. By visiting Armenia on this occasion, Pres. Obama would be reaffirming the longstanding US acknowledgment of the Armenian Genocide - a settled histori-

cal fact recognized as genocide by:

- The US Government in a document submitted to the World Court in 1951;
- The House of Representatives in 1975 and 1984;
- Pres. Ronald Reagan in a Presidential Proclamation issued on April 22, 1981;
- 43 out of 50 U.S. states;
- Two dozen countries, including France, Italy, Russia, Canada, Holland, Vatican, Switzerland, Sweden, Argentina, Lebanon, Greece, Cyprus, Poland, and Venezuela;
- Several international organizations, including the UN Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities; the European Parliament; and the International Association of Genocide Scholars.

3. The Centennial could well be Pres. Obama's last opportunity to regain the trust of the Armenian-American community by honoring his solemn pledge as Senator and Presidential candidate to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide.

4. Pres. Obama could lay the foundation for improved Armenian-Turkish relations based on truth and justice, in line with a pending resolution in the House of Representatives, and his previous April 24 statements, declaring that "a full, frank, and just acknowledgement of the facts is in all of our interests." Pres. Obama's visit would also encourage Turkish human rights activists to continue their arduous task of assisting the Government of Turkey to reckon with the darkest pages of its past.

5. The U.S. President could take advantage of this visit to urge Turkey to lift the blockade of Armenia, while taking a glimpse at the biblical Mount Ararat just across the closed border.

6. In response to mounting attacks by Azerbaijan on Nagorno-Karabakh

(Artsakh), Pres. Obama could stress Washington's strong support for a peaceful settlement of this thorny conflict.

7. Pres. Obama's visit would help balance Armenia's relations with the West, particularly after its membership in the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union, and in view of Putin's planned trip to Yerevan on April 24. Armenia has enjoyed close relations with Western Europe and the United States, and has participated in international peacekeeping forces in Afghanistan, Iraq, Kosovo and Lebanon. More recently, the appointment of former Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan as Ambassador to Washington, underscores the importance Yerevan attaches to its relations with the United States.

8. Since Pres. Obama, due to the Ukraine crisis, is not planning to travel to Moscow to take part in the World War II Victory Day celebrations on May 9, he would have the opportunity to meet with Pres. Putin in Yerevan, in a less conspicuous atmosphere.

9. Pres. Obama's visit to Armenia would be a significant gesture of goodwill toward the Armenian-American community. Last week, 16 major Armenian-American organizations sent a joint letter to the President urging him to participate in the Armenian Genocide Centennial events in Armenia.

10. Pres. Obama would be making a historic first US presidential trip to Armenia, preceded by several high-ranking American officials: Secretary of State James Baker III in 1992; Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld in 2001; and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2010 and 2012, when she laid a wreath at the Armenian Genocide Memorial in Yerevan, as all U.S. Ambassadors have done on every April 24, since the country's independence in 1991.

100 Years of Impunity: Amnesty International UK to hold panel discussion on Armenian Genocide

On April 22 the Amnesty International UK will hold a panel discussion titled "Who Remembers the Armenians? 100 Years of Impunity. The event in London will be chaired by Kate Allen, Director of Amnesty International UK. The speakers at the event will include Carla Garapedian, Armenian film Foundation and Project Leader, Armenian Genocides Testimonies Collection, and Dr James Smith CBE, CEO of the Aegis Trust and co-founder of the UK National Holocaust Centre.

It's estimated that between 1 and 1.5

million people died through the attempted extermination of Armenians from the Ottoman Empire in 1915. April 24 marks 100 years since the start of that awful period in Armenian history.

The 1.5 million victims of the Armenian Genocide will be remembered through an exclusive film screening. For the last three years, the Armenian Film Foundation has been working with Steven Spielberg's Shoah Foundation and has collected 400 testimonies of Armenian genocide survivors and eyewitnesses, filmed over the last four decades. This

rare collection includes Armenians, Greeks, Arabs, Assyrians and Yezidis. The Yezidis were eyewitnesses to the Armenian genocide - and now, sadly, are seeing history repeat itself.

After the screening, the panel will look at how impunity and failures to bring to justice the perpetrators of atrocities leads to future atrocities. The panel will focus on the Armenian genocide, and then look wider to subsequent crimes against humanity and genocides committed in the century since - right up to the emergence of ISIS in Syria and Iraq.

Democrat Youth Community of Europe adopts statement condemning the Armenian Genocide

The Democrat Youth Community of Europe (DEMYC) Executive Bureau has adopted an official statement condemning the Armenian Genocide. DEMYC Unites youth wings of political parties from about 50 countries. The statement reads:

- Having in mind Pan-Armenian Declaration on the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide;
- Reaffirming the principles on Human rights and standing on European value;
- Condemning the genocidal acts against the Armenian people, planned and continuously perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire and various regimes of Turkey in 1894-1923, dispossession of the homeland, the massacres and ethnic cleansing aimed at the extermination of the Armenian population, the destruction of the Armenian heritage, as well as the denial of the Genocide, all attempts to avoid responsibility, to consign to oblivion the committed crimes and their consequences or to justify them, as a continuation of this crime and encouragement to commit new genocides;

DEMYC (Democrat Youth Community of Europe) Board states the following:

- We condemn the genocidal acts against the Armenian people, planned and continuously perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire and various regimes of Turkey in 1894-1923, dispossession of the homeland, the massacres and ethnic cleansing aimed at the extermination of the Armenian population, the destruction of the Armenian heritage, as well as the denial of the Genocide;
- We commemorate one-and-a-half million innocent victims of the Armenian Genocide and bow in gratitude before those martyred and surviving heroes who struggled for their lives and human dignity. Moreover, we recognize, that the Genocide resulted in the death and dispossession not only of Armenian people but also extended to the Pontic Greeks and Assyrians peoples, and we commemorate them as well;
- We join and strongly support the commitment of Armenia and the Armenian people to continue the international struggle for the prevention of geno-



cides, the restoration of the rights of people subjected to genocide and the establishment of historical justice;

- We encourage Turkey to face history and finally recognize the ever-present reality of the Armenian Genocide and its attendant dispossession, including but not limited to ensuring a right of return of the Armenian people to, and a secure reconnection with, their national hearth?all flowing from the fundamental imperative of achieving Reconciliation through the Truth;

- We call upon the Government of Turkey to respect and realize fully the legal obligations which it has undertaken including those provisions which relate to the protection of cultural heritage and, in particular, to conduct in good faith an integrated inventory of Armenian and other cultural heritage destroyed or ruined during the past century.

Chicago artist marks Armenian Genocide with Guernica-size work

One hundred years after the mass killing of Armenians, a Chicago artist has created a monumental painting to honor the victims and celebrate a culture that nearly vanished, Reuters reports.

The 1915 massacre of Armenians by Ottoman troops left up to an estimated 1.5 million people dead and forced the exile of millions more, threatening a 3,000-year-old culture rich in architecture, literature, music and dance. It is widely seen as the 20th century's first genocide.

Seeking to promote awareness of the culture and the tragedy, Chicago-based artist Jackie Kazarian embarked on a painting of enormous scale, called Project 1915, to be displayed for the first time in Chicago's Mana Contemporary from April 17 to May 29.

Project 1915 is a semi-abstract landscape splashed with bold images and text from ancient Armenian maps and church architecture, united by a pattern of needle

lace by Kazarian's Armenian-born grandmother and with colors and symbols from illuminated manuscripts.

Kazarian, who has Armenian roots, drew on Pablo Picasso's epic painting Guernica, which depicts the horror of a northern Spanish village's bombing during Spain's civil war, for her painting.

It is the exact same size as Guernica at 11.5 feet by 26 feet.

"No one would have known what happened in Guernica if it wasn't for that painting," Kazarian said.

The nature and scale of the killings of Armenians by Ottoman forces during World War One remain highly contentious.

While a number of countries define the massacres as genocide and while Turkey accepts that many Armenians died in partisan fighting, the Turkish government denies that up to 1.5 million were killed and that this was an act of genocide.

Last year Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan made unprecedented condolences to the grandchildren of Armenians killed at the time, but the legacy remains an obstacle to reviving frozen relations between Turkey and neighboring Armenia, a small former Soviet territory.

In Kazarian's paintings, two open hands span the bottom corners, as if holding up the work and an entire culture. It is a gesture Kazarian said she remembers her grandmother often using.

"This is a very visceral, emotional project. But like any art that references a painful past, it is about remembering, healing and educating ourselves to make a better world," Kazarian said.

After its Chicago exhibition the non-profit painting will travel to universities and galleries across the United States and the world before it is donated to a cultural institution for a permanent home.

AGMI publishes memories of Ottoman Armenian sportsman Vahram Papazian

The Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute has published memories of Ottoman Armenian sportsman Vahram Papazian. The memoirs titled "Love, love, love" are a very unique source of the pre-genocide history of the Armenian life in the Ottoman Empire. It's also an absolute historical source of the history of sports and Olympic Games, World War I, Armenian Genocide, as well as the refugees and migration.

For the first time in the Ottoman history two Armenian sportsmen Vahram Papazian and Mkrtich Mkrian represented the Ottoman Turkey in the fifth Olympic Games in Stockholm in 1912.

In the chapter "On the way to Stockholm" Papazian wrote: "In 1912, the International Olympic Games were to be held in Stockholm, and Turkey was invited to participate. However, the Turks had no athletes, while the Armenians did. So the Armenians decided to send their athletes to represent the huge Ottoman Empire and succeeded. Ottoman Turkey participated twice in a similar international competition as an empire thanks to two Armenian sportsmen, as you will see later on. The two Armenian athletes brought honor to their

country... ..When I arrived in Stockholm in the morning, I noticed that the streets and important buildings were adorned with flags of all the countries participating in the Olympic Games, but there was not a single Turkish flag among them. I was very concerned about this. After all, I was the official representative of the Ottoman Empire, and this slight against my country was an insult to me.

I took a car and went straight to the Turkish embassy to express my anger. With suitcases still in hand, I demanded immediate action. After introducing myself and receiving congratulations from the ambassador, I said: "Bey Effendi, Stockholm is depressing to me and I would like to return to my country with my suitcases on my arm. All of Stockholm is adorned with foreign flags, but not the Turkish flag, and this is an insult to me and my country. I will only stay here if measures are taken so the flag of my country flies among all the others.

The Turkish ambassador petrified for a moment. Like many others, he couldn't believe that an Armenian could have such a strong love and respect for their Turkish country. He probably did not realize the clear fact that the Armenians have always

loved their Turkish country, that it was the Turks who didn't love their loyal Armenian subjects, and have always been persecuting them on each occasion...

... And two hours later, the Turkish flag was flying on every corner, thanks to a young Armenian, who in a few years would be mourning millions of unburied corpses of Armenians, all of them having been massacred by the Turks."

As a survivor and an eyewitness of the Armenian Genocides, Papazian also gives us important information about the Armenian Genocide.

"One of the lies about the Armenian massacres is the statement that the Armenians were massacred because they helped Russians by spying for them. Even if this was true, what were the massacred honest, peaceful, and loyal Armenian population of Harput, children and grandparents, to blame for?

Vahram Papazian's memoirs, published for the first time in English, have been edited by Doctor of Sciences Mr. Hayk Demoyan, Director of the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute. The Armenian version of the book was published in Beirut in 1962.

President Erdogan's trademark paranoia

From page 12

Whatever is left of these archives are granted limited viewing to a small group of selected historians who a priori have demonstrated their support of Turkish government's genocide denialist narrative. So the Turkish archives openness argument is a clever way to mislead and to divert attention from the real issue, the crime of genocide.

How about third country archives such as that of Britain, France, the United States, Canada, Vatican, and even then-Turkish allies Germany and Austria, among others? How about the hundreds of photographs by war correspondents, massive eyewitness accounts and coverage by Western journalists, missionaries and NGOs?

'Hurriyet' reported that Mr. Erdogan said: "The greatest massacres targeting Muslims in the Balkans and in Caucasia happened in the same period. In Anatolia,...as many as Armenians were



harmed." For him to equate Armenian and Muslim losses is deceitful. The two losses are not interrelated. The Armenian losses were due to Ottoman government premeditated and centrally-planned race extermination. The Muslim losses were due to Turkey taking side in a global war. It is an Orwellian charade for Mr. Erdogan to compare the two losses.

Finally, the sultan of the new Ottomans stated: "The Armenian diaspora is trying to instill hatred against Turkey everywhere in the world through campaigns on genocide claims." It is not only the Armenians who are calling on the Turkish government to recognize the

Armenian Genocide. In addition to the international community, thousands of righteous Turks are calling on Mr. Erdogan and the Turkish government to end the 100-year-old callous policy of denial.

Mr. Vatche Demirdjian, the President of the Armenian Canadian Conservative Association (ACCA), commented on Mr. Erdogan's paranoid statements and conspiracy theories by stating: "Mr. Erdogan's comments are sign of desperation and bankrupt policy." He added: "Armenians hold no grudge against Turks. On the contrary, we acknowledge that many righteous Turks during the Genocide risked their lives to save their Armenians. We also value the 40,000 Turkish intellectuals, historians, journalists, and civil society members who have signed an online "I apologize" proclamation asking the Turkish government to atone for its predecessors' crimes against the Armenians and humanity."

World Well-known Pianist Evgeny Kissin in Yerevan

On April 2 within the framework of Yerevan Perspectives 16th International Music Festival at Al. Spendiaryan National Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet the world well-known pianist Evgeny Kissin will give a piano recital playing works by L. van Beethoven, F. Chopin, Al. Prokofiev and Liszt.



Below we present Evgeny Kissin's biography:

Evgeny Kissin was born in Moscow in 1971 to a Russian Jewish family.

At six years old, he entered a special school for gifted children, the Moscow Gnessin School of Music, where he was a student of Anna Pavlovna Kantor, who has remained his only teacher. At the age of ten, he made his concerto debut playing Mozart's Piano Concerto K. 466 and gave his first solo recital in Moscow one year later.

He came to international attention in March 1984 when, at the age of twelve, he performed Chopin's Piano Concertos 1 and 2 in the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory with the Moscow State Philharmonic under Dmitri Kitaenko (recorded live by Melodia).

In 1987 he made his West European debut at the Berlin Festival.

In 1988 he toured Europe with the Moscow Virtuosi and Vladimir Spivakov and also made his London debut with the London Symphony Orchestra under Valery Gergiev. In December of the same year he performed with Herbert von Karajan and the Berlin Philharmonic in a New Year's



concert which was broadcast internationally, recorded by Deutsche Grammophon.

In 1990 Kissin made his first appearance at the BBC Promenade Concerts in London and that same year made his North American debut, performing both Chopin piano concertos with the New York Philharmonic conducted by Zubin Mehta. The following week he opened Carnegie Hall's Centennial season with a spectacular debut recital, which was recorded live by BMG Classics. Musical awards and tributes from around the world have been showered upon Kissin.

In 1987 he received the Crystal Prize of the Osaka Symphony Hall for the best performance of the year 1986.

In 1991 he received the Musician of the Year Prize from the Chigiana Academy of Music in Siena, Italy. He was special guest at the 1992 Grammy Awards Ceremony and became Musical America's youngest Instrumentalist of the Year in 1995.

In 1997 he received the prestigious Triumph Award for his outstanding contribution to Russia's culture. He was the first pianist to be invited to give a recital at the BBC Proms (1997), and, in the 2000 season, was the first concerto soloist ever to be invited to play in the Proms opening concert.

In May 2001 Kissin was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Music

by the Manhattan School of Music.

In December 2003 in Moscow, he received the Shostakovich Award, one of Russia's highest musical honors.

In June 2005, he was awarded an Honorary Membership of the Royal Academy of Music in London.

He was recently awarded the 2005 Herbert von Karajan Music Prize. Mr. Kissin's recordings have also received numerous awards and accolades, having contributed significantly to the library of masterpieces recorded by the world's greatest performers. Past awards have included the Edison Klassiek in The Netherlands, Grammy awards, and the Diapason d'Or and the Grand Prix of La Nouvelle Academie du Disque in France.

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UNDER PATRONAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF ARMENIA SERZH SARGSYAN

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YEREVAN
PERSPECTIVES
16TH INTERNATIONAL
MUSIC
FESTIVAL

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR/COMPOSER STEPAN ROZHTOMAN

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NATIONAL ACADEMIC
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ՕՓ. 6 ԹԻՎ 1, 2, 3,
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Ֆ. ԼԻՍՏ ՐԱԿՈՎԻ - ՄԱՐՇ

PROGRAM

L.V. BEETHOVEN SONATA NO. 2
L.V. PROKOFIEV SONATA NO. 4
F. CHOPIN NOCTURNES
OP. 9 NO. 1, 2 & 3, OP. 40 NO. 1,
F. CHOPIN MAZURKAS
OP. 6 NO. 1, 2 & 3, OP. 7 NO. 2 & 3,
OP. 41 NO. 1
F. LISZT RAKOCZY - MARCH

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WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

Enjoy your leisure

16 March

19:00. Don Juans in Amrseille. Based on the play by the 20th century French playwright Marc Camoletti. Play | Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski

17 March

12:00. The Dog and the Cat. By Hovhannes Tumanyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Traviata. Opera in 4 acts. G.Verdi. Opera | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
19:00. Glamorous Chobans. Transparent comedy. Author: Armen Vardanyan. Director: Karo Balyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
20:00. Stop Band + Friends. Jam session!. Concert | Stop Club

18 March

19:00. Don Juans in Amrseille. Based on the play by the 20th century French playwright Marc Camoletti. Play | Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski
19:00. Eastern Dentist. Operette in 2 acts. Authors: Artemi Ayvazyan, Hakob. Paronyan. Stage Director: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. The Sick. Comedy. Author: Hermine Mons. Music Design: Tigran Atayan. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. From Here and There. Premiere. Sergey Danielyan's mono-play. Author and Staging Director: Sergey Danielyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
20:00. Sukhishvili. Georgian National Ballet. Dance | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
20:00. The Stop Band & Garo Daghdvirenian. Concert | Stop Club

19 March

18:00. Ak. Ak. Based on N. Gogol's "The Overcoat". Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Blaise.C.Magnier. Staging: Hrachya Gasparyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater
19:00. Il Trovatore. Opera in 3 acts. G. Verdi. Staging Director: Honoured Worker of Art, Norayr Sargsyan. Opera | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
19:00. Flowers of Evil. Mimodrama in 1 act. Director: Zhirayr Dadasyan. Play | Yerevan State Pantomime Theater
19:00. Mister Babik and Others. Comedy

in 2 acts. Author: Zhora Harutyunyan. Staging: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. Abanamat (Once We Lived in the Mountains). S. Dovlatov. Play | Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski
19:00. Royal Concert. Musical-amusing show. Author and director of the play - Ara Yernjakyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater

20 March

16:00. The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. Mark Twain. Stage Director: Hranush Chichakyan. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater
16:00. David of Sasun. Author: Hovh. Tumanyan. Staged by David Hakobyan. Play | State Musical Chamber Theater
19:00. The Sick. Comedy. Author: Hermine Mons. Music Design: Tigran Atayan. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Royal Concert. Musical-amusing show. Author and director of the play - Ara Yernjakyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
19:00. Twelfth Night. Comedy in 2 acts. Author: William Shakespeare. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. Woe from Wit. A. Griboyedov. Play | Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski
19:00. Jesus of Nazareth and His Second Disciple. Drama in 2 acts. P. Zeytuntsyan. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan
19:00. The Caucasian Chalk Circle. Play in 2 acts .Author: Bertolt Brecht. Translation, staging and design: Tigran Gasparyan. Play | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan
19:00. 44 degree. Author: Astghik Simonyan. Stage director: Zohrap Bek-Gasparyants. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater
19:00. Philharmonic Orchestra - 90. Program:.. Mozart: Symphony No. 39. Bruckner. Symphony No. 4. Concert | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian

21 March

12:00, 14:00, 16:00. Adventures of the Wolf and the Little Goats. Author: Petros Martirosyan. Staging: Tigran Zahalyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
12:30, 14:00, 15:30. The Tailless Fox. Hovhannes Tumanian. Stage Director: Lily Elbakyan. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater
14:00. Tom & Jerry. Premiere. Children's

Musical Fun Show. Staging: Artur Saribekyan. Play for kids | State Musical Chamber Theater

18:00. Du-Dum the Wise Man and the Ignorant. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Sale. Author: A. Galin. Staging: V. Stepanyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater
19:00. Twelfth Night or I am Dying of Love. Premiere . W. Shakespeare. Comedy without intermission. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan
19:00. Lorkiana - Carmen-Suite. Ballet | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
19:00. Amnesia. Drama. Staging: Gor Margaryan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
19:00. Rich Girl Can't Be Ugly. Comedy, 2 acts . Author: Alexander Ostrovski. Director: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan

15 March

12:00, 14:00, 16:00. The Tailless Fox. Author: Hovhannes Tumanyan. Staging: Ruben Marukhyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
12:00, 14:00. Lazy Huri. A. Aghasaryan. Play for kids | Hamazgayin State Theater
12:30, 14:00, 15:30. Little Red Riding Hood. Charles Perrault. Version and Staging: Armen Elbakyan. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater
14:00. Cinderella. Author: Charles Perrault. Staged by: A. Miridjanyan. Play for kids | State Musical Chamber Theater
16:00. Magic Ball. Author: Ara Yernjakyan. Director of the play: Lusine Yernjakyan. Play for kids | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
17:00. The New Adventures of The Three Piglets. Directed by Samson Stepanyan. Choreographer: Sevag Avakian. Musical | State Musical Chamber Theater
18:00. Golden Chicken. Author: Vladimir Orlov. Director/Producer: Karen Khachatryan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Jackpot. Premiere. Ray Cooney. Comedy in 1 act . Director: Samson Stepanyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater
19:00. Nazar, Nazar, Till the End. Staging director: Ara Yernjakyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
19:00. Romeo and Juliet. W. Shakespeare. Tragedy in 2 acts. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan
19:00. You Can't Get Rid Of Me. Comedy in 2 acts. Author: Gurgen Khanjyan. Staging: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan

Zodiac Weekly Forecast

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

This is an excellent time to pursue any activity that requires your mental concentration. The Rams are not always able to sit still enough to learn theoretical information, but right now there is a window open for it.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

You have favorable aspects in the areas of travel, the internet, legal interests, publishing and/or education. It is possible to go overboard on luxurious purchases. If money is an issue, leave the credit cards at home.

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--Jul y 21) :

The sun shines a spotlight on your accomplishments in the recent or long ago past. You tend to shrink back from the limelight, but others won't let you get away from that now. Smile and enjoy the pride you are due.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

People from your past may resurface this week. If not specific people, then the week's experiences are somehow familiar and reminiscent of the past. School is suggested here, so perhaps you are considering whether or not to attend a class reunion. Love life is stable.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

Your frame of mind is expansive and optimistic. You want to talk to everybody in sight, but particularly to those closest to you. Virgos with clientele will have a busy week with lots of appointments and people asking questions. You will make a friend of each of them.

Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22)

You have the opportunity during this period to expand your social territory. You may also be experiencing gifts and benefits offered to you from others. This generosity in turn, is absorbed into your psyche and you want to share with those in your life who have been important.

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

Aspects favor the repair of one or more relationships. Both you and the "other" are ready to speak honestly about your history and appreciate each other's point of view. Don't be serious all the time. Make some moments available for playtime too. Social life is enlivened.

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

Your optimistic and happy attitude causes others to join your bandwagon and support your projects. You can envision a grand result and are able to express it in a way that others can understand. The reward will be great enough that everyone will benefit.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

Romance and creativity are on your plate in a positive way. During this period you can readily make a necessary or decorative item out of anything around you. Relationships to lovers and also children are especially favored. Though you are not a gambler, you might try your hand at a lottery ticket or two.

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

A project begun in November is showing signs of growth and development at this time. Although it needs more work, at this point it shows signs of manifestation. You may be in the midst of persuading others to your point of view. Your mind is both steady and imaginative now.

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

Warning to those on diet and exercise programs: this week it is just too easy to break training. If you mean what you've promised to yourself, don't go anywhere in which you would be in harm's way. It is a time in which you feel more outgoing and extroverted. Social life is a pleasure.

ARMENIAN POETRY

Alicia Ghiragossian

GOD

...And God
entered my bedroom
without slippers
engraving the message
with divine footprints.

We became friends
at a glance.

God already knew my soul
and could recognize
the scars from hurricanes
on my back.
And He wished to make justice
in secret – for the moment –
entering quietly.
Without a whisper.

...God was barefoot.
...And I rearranged my bedroom.

...Prayers that remain unanswered
do hurt me.
How are Yours
my Lord?
To whom do You pray?

Now
I'm asking You to listen
God.
You
who are the beyond
of the most remote beyond....

You
who let us perceive
the atoms of Your light...
allow me this irreverence
this interview
with the appearance
of a monologue
with several voices
or a questionnaire
or a complaint
or a simple imploration
with refracted answers
which I dare to conceive
in my abysmal solitude.

You
who shape infinity
and schedule
our finite lives
help us detect
the origin of truth.
Invade our beings
with its essence
so we can reject
the ancestors of evil.

I will send my voice
to Your universe
and I will wait for the sign
of Your final answer.

Genealogy (Armenia): "Whoever had this idea - it's crazy!"



Genealogy will represent Armenia at Eurovision Song Contest this year. It's a "global" group of famous singers from five different continents who are all true to their Armenian roots.

"Whoever had this idea - it's crazy. This is a true idea that symbolizes unity, love, and peace", Vahe Tilbian tells us about the concept of Genealogy and their 2015 Eurovision Song Contest entry Face The Shadow.

The Eurovision Song Contest's official website had an interview with the six band members Essai Altounian, Tamar Kaprelian, Stephanie Topalian, Vahe Tilbian, Mary-Jean O'Doherty Vasmatzian, and Inga Arshakyan.

In the video, one will find out how a pepsi bottle literally started Tamar Kaprelian's career, and how the concept behind Genealogy corresponds with the official slogan of the 2015 Eurovision Song Contest, Building Bridges: they share the idea of coming together, of using music as a tool to bring people together.

For Stephanie Topalian, who grew up in the US and now lives in Japan, being part of Genealogy is a long awaited opportunity to get in touch with her roots: "I really wanted to come to the homeland. I'm so excited to finally be here, with music, with something I love."

Mary-Jean O'Doherty Vasmatzian adds: "To be part of this is a huge honor. I have never performed for so many people at once. That's really exciting to have that energy coming to you from the audience."

Genealogy, six artists from five different continents and Armenia, are building a bridge with time. The members are sharing the rich Armenian cultural heritage with the European audience - which makes the yard of Saint Gevorg Monastery of Mughni the perfect home of the unique photo shoot.

The photographer Ruben Martirosyan highlighted the Armenian background and origin of artists within the concept of the project with great excitement. Inspired by the song title Face The Shadow he could also originally capture each artist's character as a shadow.

The stylist of the photo shoot, Armen Galyan, has combined different shades of grey and black also not similar textiles, thus reaching a 3D-like effect with the monotonous colors. On the clothes he comments: "We combined Armenian and European fashion trends mixing the contemporary and the traditional. We have tried to create modern characters that are merged with Armenian roots at the same time. This topic is very popular now."

Pins with images of the artists' grandparents, patterns of Armenian architecture and Mughni Monastery symbolize Genealogy's name and the idea of Armenia's entry: specifications of ancient Armenian people and their origin.

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