

## Anna Hakobyan voices on humanitarian situation in Nagorno-Karabakh during speech at Third Summit of First Ladies and Gentlemen in Kyiv



Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan's spouse Anna Hakobyan participated on September 6 in the Third Summit of First Ladies and Gentlemen in Kyiv at the invitation of Ukrainian First Lady Olena Zelenska.

This year's summit brought together first ladies and gentlemen from dozens of countries, renowned actors and journalists to address Mental Health: Resilience and Vulnerability of the Future.

Before the opening ceremony, the delegations visited an exhibition dedicated to the children who died in the war. In commemoration of the victims, Anna Hakobyan and her counterparts paid tribute by placing a symbolic stuffed toy at the commemoration site.

Anna Hakobyan delivered a speech at the summit, speaking about the tragedy of war and the ongoing blockade of Nagorno-Karabakh. She invited the attendees to the upcoming Women Political Leaders (WPL) Democracy, Peace and Security Summit in Yerevan in October.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken also delivered remarks.

First ladies and gentlemen of Lithuania, Serbia, Denmark, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Slovenia and Estonia were in attendance.

The Summit of First Ladies and Gentlemen was founded by Ukrainian First Lady Olena Zelenska and is held annually since 2021.

After the summit, Anna Hakobyan visited the Saint Sophia Cathedral of Kyiv, where Armenian inscriptions dating back to the 16th century are preserved.

The First Ladies and Gentlemen's Summit is an international platform that brings together the world's first ladies and gentlemen to promote dialogue and find effective solutions to global humanitarian challenges through soft power, partnerships, public diplomacy, exchange of experience and implementation of joint initiatives.

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## Armenian, German FMs discuss issues of regional security



The Armenian and German Foreign Ministers have discussed issues of stability and security in the region.

During a phone conversation Ararat Mirzoyan and Annalena Baerbock referred to the actions of the armed forces of Azerbaijan against the sovereign territory of

Armenia on September 1. Minister Mirzoyan emphasized that it was another manifestation of Azerbaijan's continuous aggressive behavior, adding that Azerbaijan is trying to destabilize the situation in the South Caucasus with its steps, which should be condemned by the international community.

The consequences of the deepening humanitarian crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh for the population of Nagorno-Karabakh, especially vulnerable groups, and the urgency of overcoming the crisis were emphasized on both sides. Minister Mirzoyan reaffirmed Armenia's position regarding the removal of the blockade of the Lachin

Corridor in accordance with the decisions of the International Court of Justice and emphasized the need for international actors, including the EU, to take clear steps in this direction.

Highly appreciating the addresses made by the partners so far, Minister Mirzoyan emphasized that, unfortunately, they are not enough to register a positive change on the ground, to lift the de facto blockade of Nagorno Karabakh and to return Azerbaijan to a constructive field.

Reference was also made to the possible steps to advance the bilateral cooperation agenda between Armenia and Germany.

## Armenian FM, US Assistant Secretary discuss situation in Nagorno Karabakh

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia Ararat Mirzoyan had a telephone conversation with Yuri Kim, the U.S. acting Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs.

Regional security issues, the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh were discussed.

Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan reiterated the need to lift the illegal blockade of the Lachin corridor by Azerbaijan in accordance with the Statement of November 9, 2020 and two Orders of the



International Court of Justice. The importance of ensuring unimpeded access and humanitarian activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross to Nagorno-Karabakh was emphasized.

Minister Mirzoyan touched upon the destructive behavior of Azerbaijan during this period, systemic policy of ethnic cleansing in Nagorno-Karabakh, the disrespect towards its own commitments and clear calls of the international community. The need to establish an effective international mechanism for discussing rights and security guarantees between Stepanakert and Baku was emphasized.

The agenda of bilateral cooperation was touched upon.

## Any peace agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan must protect the rights and security of the Nagorno-Karabakh residents – Blinken

The United States is deeply concerned about the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said in a statement.

"We note that humanitarian supplies are positioned near both the Lachin and Aghdam routes, and we repeat our call for the immediate and simultaneous opening of both corridors to allow passage of desperately needed humanitarian supplies to the men, women, and children in Nagorno-Karabakh. We also urge leaders against taking any actions that raise tensions or distract from this goal. The use of

force to resolve disputes is unacceptable," the Secretary said.

"In light of the recent increase in tensions in the South Caucasus, the United States will continue to strongly support efforts by Armenia and Azerbaijan to resolve outstanding issues through direct dialogue, with the aim of achieving a dignified and enduring peace. We reiterate that any peace agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan must protect the rights and security of the residents of Nagorno-Karabakh. We also encourage dialogue between Baku and residents of Nagorno-Karabakh," Blinken stated.

"The United States further reaffirms the only way forward is peace, dialogue, and the normalization of relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity," Secretary Blinken concluded.



## Pashinyan warns of Azerbaijan's intentions to commit new military provocations, calls on UNSC members to prevent outbreak

The international community, members of the UN Security Council should take most serious measures to prevent a new blast in the region, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said at the government sitting on September 7.

He noted that the military political situation in the region has considerably aggravated over the past weeks.

"The reason is that Azerbaijan is amassing troops along the line of contact with Nagorno Karabakh and along the Armenia-Azerbaijan border zone. The Armenophobic rhetoric has further strengthened in Azerbaijani media and propaganda platforms. The policy of encroachment on Armenian sovereign territories continues," PM Pashinyan said.

Three Armenian servicemen were killed in Azerbaijani provocation on

September 1. "The provocation was preceded and followed by dissemination of false information about ceasefire violations by the Armenian side," Pashinyan said.

He noted that Azerbaijan continues the illegal blockade of the Lachin corridor and the humanitarian crisis in Nagorno Karabakh has reached the peak.

"Obviously, with these actions Azerbaijan is demonstrating the intent to undertake new military provocation against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. To justify this provocation Baku is circulating fake theses. I think that in this situation the international community, members of the UN Security Council should take most serious measures to prevent a new blast in our region," Nikol Pashinyan stated.

At the same time, he reiterated

Armenia's commitment to the previous agreements reached in Brussels and Prague, as well as the trilateral statement on November 9, 2020.

The Prime Minister noted that the Baku-Stepanakert dialogue within the framework of an international mechanism and unblocking of the Lachin corridor in line with the ICJ Orders of February 22 and July 6, 2023 are essential for addressing the rights and security of the people of Nagorno Karabakh.

"On the basis of all this, the Republic of Armenia is ready and willing to sign an agreement on establishment of peace and normalization of relations with Azerbaijan. We reiterate our commitment to the peace agenda," PM Pashinyan stated.



On September 7, at around 17:45, the Azerbaijani side returned the three students abducted from from the illegal checkpoint in Lachin corridor on August 28, Artsakh's Human Rights Defender Gegham Stepanyan informs.

The transfer of Alen Sargsyan, Vahe Hovsepian and Levon Grigoryan to the Armenian side took place near the Hakari bridge with the participation

## Three students abducted from illegal checkpoint in Lachin corridor returned to Armenian side

of Russian peacekeepers. They were transported to the Republic of Armenia.

The Human Rights Defender's Office of Artsakh will study the details of the abduction of the three men, their treatment and health conditions during arbitrary and illegal imprisonment by Azerbaijan.

"The abduction and arbitrary imprisonment of civilians, particularly Vagif Khachatryan, Rashid Beglaryan, Alen Sargsyan, Vahe Hovsepian and Levon Grigoryan, and the initiation of false and fabricated criminal cases by Azerbaijan

unequivocally prove that the illegal Azerbaijani checkpoint located near the Hakari bridge is a direct and undeniable threat to Artsakh civil society. for the protection of the physical existence and fundamental rights of the population," Stepanyan says.

According to him, the so-called checkpoint has turned into a tool to serve Azerbaijani criminal arbitrariness, by which Azerbaijanis arbitrarily abduct civilians and deprive them of their freedom, keeping 120,000 people under siege, deprived of humanitarian access and the opportunity to protect basic human rights.

## Surveillance footage shows Azerbaijan amassing heavy military equipment in Nagorno- Karabakh line of contact

The Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh) authorities on September 5 released a video showing the Azerbaijani military moving heavy equipment, including artillery systems, to the line of contact.

In a statement, the Nagorno-Karabakh Ministry of Defense said the Azeri forces are amassing large numbers of military hardware.

It warned that Azerbaijan is preparing

its next provocation, given also the ongoing disinformation campaign generated by the Azerbaijani defense ministry.

## Russia asks Armenia to explain Rome Statute move

Russia has asked Armenia to explain its intention to ratify the Rome Statute after the government sent the treaty that established the International Criminal Court (ICC) to parliament for ratification.

“We’ve already asked explanations from the Armenian side over this issue, and we will decide our next steps based on the content of Yerevan’s response,” Russian foreign ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova said at a press briefing on September 5.

The Armenian government on September 1 sent the Rome Statute to parliament for ratification.



In 2022, the Pashinyan Administration explained that it seeks to join the Rome Statute because it would allow to hold the government of Azerbaijan to account for its aggressions against Armenia.

On 17 March 2023, the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued an arrest warrant for Vladimir Putin, the President of Russia, after an investigation of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide in Ukraine.

The ICC arrest warrant for Putin accuses the Russian leader of unlawfully deporting thousands of Ukrainian children, a war crime. This has been denied by the Russian government.

Countries that are signatories to the Rome Statute would have to enforce the arrest warrant once Putin travels into their territory.

## Russia Steps up Criticism of U.S.-Armenian Drills

(RFE/RL) - Russia continued to criticize Armenia’s decision to host a joint U.S.-Armenian military exercise later this month.

The Eagle Partner 2023 exercise, scheduled for September 11-20, will reportedly involve 85 U.S. and 175 Armenian soldiers. According to the Armenian Defense Ministry, they will simulate a joint peacekeeping operation in an imaginary conflict zone.

“Holding such exercises in the current situation does not contribute to the strengthening of stability and the atmosphere of trust in the region,” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

The planned drills were also criticized by three Russian deputy foreign ministers. One of them, Mikhail Galuzin, claimed that the drills are part of NATO’s efforts to lure Russia’s ex-Soviet neighbors into its “vicious zone of influence.”

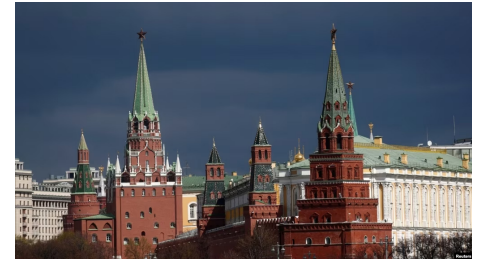
“It is natural that we draw the attention of our partners to the fact that rapprochement with NATO would hardly have any positive results in terms of ensuring their own security”, Galuzin told the

official TASS news agency. “I am sure that the Armenian people, the Armenian public understand everything very well and will draw the right conclusions corresponding to Armenia’s long-term security.”

Another vice-minister, Sergei Ryabkov, said Armenia should instead participate in joint exercises with Russia and other allies making up the Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO).

Early this year, Yerevan cancelled a CSTO exercise which it was due to host this fall, underscoring its unhappiness with what Armenian leaders see as a lack of Russian and CSTO support for Armenia in the conflict with Azerbaijan.

The discontent is the main reason for growing tensions between Moscow and Yerevan. Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan stoked them last week when he declared that his government is trying to “diversify our security policy” because Armenia’s reliance on Russia for defense and security has proved a “strategic mistake.” Pashinyan also suggested that Russia will eventually “leave” Armenia and the South Caucasus in general. Moscow denounced



his statements.

Armenian Deputy Foreign Minister Paruyr Hovannisyan downplayed the deepening rift between the two allied countries.

“We always have differences with all partners,” Hovannisyan told journalists. “This doesn’t mean that they can be construed as tensions.”

For his part, Sargis Khandanyan, the pro-government chairman of the Armenian parliament committee on foreign relations, defended Yerevan’s “sovereign decision to host the joint drills with U.S. troops. “I think this [Russian criticism] is also a reaction to and a result of the deepening U.S.-Armenian relations,” he said.

## Armenia reassigns CSTO envoy as new ambassador to Netherlands and representative to OPCW

At the advice of Prime Minister Pashinyan, President Vahagn Khachaturyan has formalized the appointment of Viktor Biyagov as Armenia’s new Ambassador to the Netherlands, the presidency reported

on September 5.

Biyagov was relieved from his post as Armenia’s Permanent Representative to the CSTO.

He will also serve as Armenia’s Permanent Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

## United States again calls for reopening of Lachin Corridor

The United States State Department has reiterated its call to immediately reopen the Lachin Corridor amid “deteriorating humanitarian conditions” in Nagorno-Karabakh.

The Lachin Corridor has been blocked by Azerbaijan since late 2022. The blockade has led to severe shortages of essential products such as food and medications.

A U.S. State Department spokesperson on September 5 expressed “deep concern” over the “deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Nagorno-Karabakh resulting from the continued blockage of food, medicine, and other essential goods.”

“This is something that we are going to remain deeply engaged on....We are deeply concerned about the deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Nagorno-Karabakh resulting from the continued blockage of food, medicine, and other essential goods. The U.S. has worked continuously with

the sides over the past several weeks to allow humanitarian assistance to reach the population of Nagorno-Karabakh, and we reiterate our call to immediately reopen the Lachin corridor to humanitarian, commercial, and passenger traffic as well,” U.S. State Department Principal Deputy Spokesperson Vedant Patel said at a press briefing.

The U.S., among other countries, has numerously called for the reopening of the Lachin Corridor, but Azerbaijan hasn’t changed course and continues to keep the road under blockade.

Lachin Corridor is the only road connecting Nagorno-Karabakh, which is home to 120,000 Armenians, to Armenia and the rest of the world.

The Azerbaijani blockade constitutes a gross violation of the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh ceasefire agreement, which established that the 5km-wide Lachin Corridor

shall be under the control of Russian peacekeepers. Furthermore, on February 22, 2023 the United Nations’ highest court – the International Court of Justice (ICJ) - ordered Azerbaijan to “take all steps at its disposal” to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions. Azerbaijan has been ignoring the order ever since. The ICJ reaffirmed its order on 6 July 2023.

Azerbaijan then illegally installed a checkpoint on Lachin Corridor.

Armenia has accused Azerbaijan of using the blockade to commit ethnic cleansing and genocide in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Earlier in August, former International Criminal Court prosecutor, Luis Moreno Ocampo, issued a report warning that the blockade of Nagorno-Karabakh constitutes genocide.

## Russia has no plans to leave the South Caucasus region, Kremlin Spokesman says



Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov has said Russia has no plans to leave the South Caucasus region. The comment comes after Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said in an interview with Italian La Repubblica newspaper that Russia is

leaving the region “with steps it takes or fails to take.”

“We cannot agree with these theses of the Prime Minister of Armenia. Russia is an absolutely integral part of this region, so it cannot leave anywhere. Russia cannot leave Armenia,” the Kremlin Spokesman stressed, TASS reports.

The Kremlin representative assured that Russia will continue to play the role of a guarantor of security and stability in the South Caucasus region, in particular in Nagorno-Karabakh. “Russia continues to play a consistent, very important role in stabilizing the situation and deconflicting in this region. We will continue this role,”

Peskov said.

According to him, in this case, “it is very important that all relevant states of this region adhere to the trilateral agreements that were signed two years ago.” “Adherence to these agreements is the key to success,” Peskov stressed. The press secretary of the President of the Russian Federation recalled that “after that, new events took place that slightly changed the situation.” “But this does not mean that Russia is somehow going to curtail its activities. On the contrary, we believe that Russia continues to play the role of a security guarantor,” he assured.

## Armenia, Cyprus discuss defense cooperation

In a phone conversation on September 7, the Defense Ministers of Armenia and Cyprus Suren Papikyan and Michalis Giorgallas discussed the security situation around the two countries.

The Armenian Defense Minister briefed his counterpart on the current

situation on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border.

The course of bilateral cooperation in defense field was also discussed.

The ministers commended the current status of cooperation and emphasized their willingness to further expand it.



## Armenia's first indigenous satellite to be launched into orbit on SpaceX Falcon 9



The first Armenian indigenous CubeSat satellite will be sent into orbit in November.

The CubeSat, named Hayasat-1, is being developed by Bazoomq, a non-profit space research lab based in Yerevan, Armenia.

Bazoomq Space Research Lab's mission is to establish and continuously develop

capabilities and skills for cutting-edge space research, education and startups in and for Armenia.

Bazoomq Co-founder, board member & CTO Hayk Martirosyan told ARMENPRESS tech correspondent Karine Terteryan that Hayasat-1's testing will be completed in September and the satellite will be launched into space on board the Space X Falcon 9 in late November.

Hayasat-1 is being developed jointly with the CSIE - Center for Scientific Innovation and Education. The satellite has educational purposes. "After the launch we will gain huge knowledge, experience that we can use in the future in sending more sophisticated satellites into space,"

Martirosyan said.

Hayasat-1, weighing around a kilo, will orbit Earth every 90 minutes.

"Our objective is to pass through all the processes, the assembly, the testing, paperwork and cooperation with the agencies. In terms of application, the satellite won't give us much, it doesn't have optical or communication systems. We consider it to be an educational tool. In six months we'll be able to say that the device made in Armenia passed testing in space and meets international standards. Then we can make any change we like with the satellite, and upgrade it to solve many tasks," Martirosyan added.

## Armenia to host Eagle Partner 2023 joint military exercise with United States

Armenia will host the Eagle Partner 2023 joint Armenian-U.S. military exercise from September 11-20, the Ministry of Defense announced on September 6.

"In the framework of preparation for participation in international peacekeeping missions the Armenia-U.S. joint exercise "EAGLE PARTNER 2023" will be held from 11 to 20 September in Armenia, particularly in "Zar" Training Center of the Peacekeeping Brigade and the N Training Center of the Ministry of Defense," the Ministry of Defense said in a statement.

The exercise involves stabilization



tasks between conflicting parties during peacekeeping missions.

"The purpose of the exercise is to increase the level of interoperability of the

unit participating in international peacekeeping missions within the framework of peacekeeping operations, to exchange best practices in control and tactical communication, as well as to increase the readiness of the Armenian unit for the planned NATO/PfP "Operational Capabilities Concept" evaluation. Within the framework of preparation for peacekeeping missions, units preparing for international peacekeeping operations frequently participate in similar joint exercises and trainings in partner countries," the Defense Ministry added.

## Armenia to move embassy in London to larger, 5-storey building in St James's Square

The Armenian government on September 7 approved the acquisition of a 5-storey building in London to relocate its embassy there.

Since 1992, the Armenian embassy in London has been located in a building provided by Armenian House (Hye Doon), where it occupies only two rooms, which "has constantly significantly limited the

working capacity of the embassy." Furthermore, the Armenian House has notified the embassy that it needs to vacate the building in 2024.

The new building, which is located at 31 A St James's Square, will provide "proper representation and increase of political ranking," according to the bill on buying the real estate.

The Armenian government will spend £17,4 million to buy the building.



## Dimension Investments acts as underwriter of “Fast Bank” CJSC’s AMD, USD nominal coupon bonds with 11.50% and 6.25% rates



On August 28, 2023, Dimension Investments began the placement of ‘Fast Bank’ CJSC’s AMD and USD nominal coupon bonds.

The total volume of the placement is AMD 4,000,000,000 and USD 2,000,000.

The annual coupon rate of the AMD and USD bonds is, respectively, 11.50% and 6.25% with 27 months of maturity period. Coupons will be paid on a quarterly basis.

“Dimension Investments has effective

experience in providing underwriting services and collaborating with Fast Bank. Our professional team is working hard to make the placement a success,” said Levon Movsisyan, CEO of “Dimension” CJSC.

“Fast Bank” CJSC’s bonds will be listed on the Bbond platform of the Armenia Securities Exchange, ensuring free circulation. The quotation of the bonds will be carried out by market maker.

To learn more about the program prospectus, you can visit the following link.

You can purchase the bonds from 30 branches of Fast Bank or through “Dimension” CJSC.

For more information about bonds and purchasing, please contact us at the following number: 010 54 56 70.

About “Fast Bank” CJSC

Fast Bank is a bank with the strategy of becoming a fully digital bank by creating and developing an online ecosystem, providing customers with an individual behavioral approach, and forming a new lifestyle on the digital platform.

About “Dimension” CJSC

Founded in 2018 and with capabilities spanning Investment Securities Services, Capital Markets Advisory, and Investment Management & Research, Dimension strives to put clients first by being their most reliable, insightful, and effective investment services partner in Armenia, while maintaining the firm’s high integrity. Dimension’s capabilities are fortified by its core values, highly engaged shareholders and global network.

## Belarus to deliver over 800 elevators to Armenia in 2023



Belarus will deliver more than 800 elevators to Armenia this year, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Belarus to the Republic of Armenia Aleksandr Konyuk told the Belarus 1 TV channel, BelTA informs.

Speaking about the export potential,

the diplomat noted that Armenia is interested in Belarus’ construction services. “We are ready to provide them, our developers are eager to work in the Armenian market. Belarusians have high-level competencies. The most important project that has already kicked off is cooperation

with Mogilevliftmash. This year we are set to supply more than 800 elevators to Armenia. This is in line with an official contract, we have won tenders and now we are already supplying these elevators in stages. Most elevators in Yerevan were made in Belarus, we have a very strong dealer there,” Aleksandr Konyuk said.

At first the parties discussed provision of maintenance services, but later a joint venture was set up in Yerevan to produce Belarusian elevators. According to the ambassador, Armenia’s demand for elevators is about 4,000. “Another branch will open in Vayots Dzor Province, not far from the town of Jermuk. We also plan to open an assembly production of the tractor plant. It is a very challenging task, but we are working on it,” he noted.

## Baku threatens to close down BBC Azerbaijan over Serj Tankian and Artak Beglaryan interview



Baku is threatening to close down BBC Azerbaijan if the BBC World fails to apologize for the interview with Serj Tankian and Artak Beglaryan.

On BBC World News, lead singer of the System Of A Down Serj Tankian and former Adviser to the State Minister of Artsakh Artak Beglaryan talked about the devastating Azerbaijani blockade of Artsakh, the need for the international

community to act by sanctioning Azerbaijan and help bring in UN peacekeepers to avoid another Armenian Genocide. Serj Tankian also spoke about the need for the UK government to pivot from complicity in Genocide to responsibility to avoid it.

The Press Council of Azerbaijan issued a statement after the interview, accusing the BBC of “propaganda.”

The Council said the approach of the BBC is “undesirable.” “Either this media organization must learn to respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of our country, offer apologies, and be capable of demonstrating its sincere intention through its practical actions, or its operations in Azerbaijan should be suspended,

and its accreditation revoked,” the statement reads.

“This is how dictatorships without free press work. Azerbaijan is threatening to close down BBC Azerbaijan if the BBC World doesn’t apologize for the interview that I did with Artak Beglaryan. They’re really angry that after paying them all that money for tourist ads about Azerbaijan that they would dare talk about their Genocidal campaign in Artsakh,” Serj Tankian commented.

“When Genocidal dictatorships are mad at something you’ve done, you know you’re doing the right thing,” he said.

## Austrian lawmakers call on Azerbaijan to open Lachin Corridor in line with ICJ order

Two lawmakers representing the major political parties of Austria, the Greens and the Social Democratic Party of Austria (SPÖ), which comprise the ruling coalition, have called on Azerbaijan to reopen the Lachin Corridor.

Austrian Member of Parliament Ewa Ernst-Dziedzic, The Greens’ spokesperson for foreign policy, has released a statement calling on the EU and the international community to ramp up pressure.

“The escalation in the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan continues constantly. We are receiving reports of an impending famine if the situation doesn’t urgently change. Nagorno-Karabakh has been cut off of supplies for months, with devastating consequences, such as malnutrition, miscarriages, absence of medication. Now there’s an urgent need to return to dialogue between the two parties to the conflict and find a solution to swiftly mitigate the disastrous humanitarian situation,” Ewa Ernst-Dziedzic said in a statement.

She added that the EU and the international community should increase



pressure and that Azerbaijan must open the Lachin Corridor in line with the ICJ ruling. “We can’t tolerate when the civil society becomes a toy for politics and starves because of political reasons. As long as this is the case, Azerbaijan should not be a trade partner for the EU,” she added.

“We can’t tolerate the explicit destruction of the Armenian population in Nagorno-Karabakh, and therefore we must use all levers to prevent it,” the Austrian lawmaker added.

“Despite the Russian aggression in Ukraine, the South Caucasus developments shouldn’t be ignored”, she said.

SPÖ’s spokesperson for foreign policy, MP Petra Bayr said in a statement that the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh is

disastrous and 120,000 people are cut off from the outside world by Azerbaijan. “There, near the gates of Europe, a crime against human rights is taking place,” Petra Bayr said.

Noting the ICJ ruling ordering Azerbaijan to open the Lachin Corridor, Petra Bayr said she expects that the EU will finally discuss the situation.

“The fact that responsible decision-makers in international organizations are silent is absolutely unforgivable. I expect Foreign Minister Schallenberg to address this crime in the EU and to bring it to the agenda as soon as possible. The National Council asked him to do so as early as last year.”

Bayr said she would send a parliamentary inquiry to Austrian FM Schallenberg asking him to present what measures the Austrian government has taken for opening humanitarian aid supplies through Lachin Corridor and what questions he’s raised during his meetings with his Azeri counterpart.



## EU strongly believes the Lachin corridor must be unblocked in line with past agreements and the ICJ Order

The European Union is following with great concern the continued restrictions on free movement along the Lachin corridor and the serious humanitarian and security consequences affecting the Karabakh Armenians, the EU Delegation to the Council of Europe said in a statement.

The EU noted that movement through the Lachin corridor has been impaired for almost 9 months, and, since 15 June, the corridor has been almost completely blocked, with the exception of sporadic medical evacuations. As a result, medical supplies and essential goods are in critically short supply or have already run out, with dire consequences for the local population.

The EU deplors that the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the region have been heavily hampered and calls for their full and swift resumption, including transport of humanitarian supplies.

The EU reiterates its call made by the HRVP on 26 July to ensure freedom and security of movement along the Lachin corridor in both directions and to guarantee that the crisis does not escalate further, in line with the Trilateral Statement of November 2020, the European Court of Human Rights interim measures of December 2022 and the ICJ order of February 2023.

The EU has taken note of the readiness voiced by the Azerbaijani authorities to supply goods via the city of Aghdam. The EU strongly believes the Lachin corridor must be unblocked, in line with past agreements and the ICJ Order.

The EU has been closely following the

growing tensions between Azerbaijan and Armenia along their international border over the past months, with shooting incidents reported almost on a daily basis. We call on all sides to avoid further incidents and recommit to dialogue.

In order to observe and report on the situation on the ground the EU Mission in Armenia (EUMA) is conducting patrols along the Armenian side of the international border between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The objective of the mission is to contribute to conflict resolution and to build trust and confidence between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

The EU reiterates its calls for restraint and dialogue among all parties involved. Continuous efforts are necessary to rebuild confidence between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in order to secure sustainable peace and stability in the region for the benefit of the local civilian population. Swift establishment of dialogue between Baku and representatives of Armenians living in the former Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast is crucial, in particular for solution of the humanitarian crisis in the area, but also concerning rights and security of Karabakh Armenians and other issues.

The EU also notes that the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe stands ready to engage with all the relevant interlocutors to assist in overcoming the existing humanitarian challenges.

The EU, and in particular the President of the European Council Charles Michel, has been heavily engaged to supporting the normalization process between

Armenia and Azerbaijan.

At the last trilateral meeting on 15 July 2023, hosted by President Michel with President Aliyev of Azerbaijan and Prime Minister Pashinyan of Armenia, the leaders of the two countries reiterated their strong commitment to the peace process. They notably reconfirmed their full respect for the other country's territorial integrity and sovereignty and their unequivocal commitment to the 1991 Almaty Declaration as a political framework for border delimitation. The ultimate delimitation of the border should be agreed through negotiations. Further substantial progress on delimitation is an important factor in reducing tensions, avoiding misunderstandings and incidents at the international border.

Violence, threats, harsh rhetoric and the spread of misinformation must cease in order to create an environment conducive to peace and normalization talks. The recommitment to dialogue in good faith remains as urgent as ever. This requires genuine commitment by all sides to work towards negotiated outcomes. Humanitarian issues must be resolved and concrete steps need to be taken urgently to rebuild trust.

The EU remains fully committed to facilitating dialogue between Armenia and Azerbaijan and to supporting efforts to strengthen peace and security in the South Caucasus, for the benefit of all people in the region. We should not lose the momentum built in recent months for settling the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan. It is important to continue the negotiations.

## Artsakh Parliament Speaker writes to foreign counterparts, raises awareness about Azerbaijan's genocidal policy

Davit Ishkhanyan, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Artsakh, has sent letters to the speakers of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Senate of the Republic of France, the US Congress, as well as the European Parliament. The letters have been forwarded to the embassies of those countries in Yerevan.

Presenting the rights of the people of Artsakh and the prevailing humanitarian

crisis and the blockade applied by Azerbaijan, the Speaker of the National Assembly has emphasized that the goal of Azerbaijan is to starve the Armenian people and continue the genocidal policy.

"For thousands of years, Artsakh has been a fortress of Armenian civilization and a center of early Christianity. The people of Artsakh have long fought for their freedom and self-determination against seemingly insurmountable forces, from the horror of the genocidal regime of the

Ottoman Empire to the oppression of the Soviet government. And today, despite the constant threat from the brutal regime of Azerbaijan, we have built a democratic society that many aspire to," the letter emphasizes.

Davit Ishkhanyan expects that the parliaments of these countries will exert pressure through political and diplomatic channels to neutralize the Azerbaijani threats and protect the fundamental and inalienable rights of people.

## Lemkin Institute's new report warns of genocide in Nagorno-Karabakh, alarming evidence Aliyev plans military assault

The Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention has published a new report on the risk of genocide by Azerbaijan in Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh).

In a statement, the Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention said it has released an emergency draft of the report due to the dire circumstances of the blockade and Azerbaijan's military buildup along the borders of Artsakh and Armenia.

"The Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention hopes that this report will contribute to global resolve to protect the lives and the identity of the Armenians of Artsakh, prevent a Second Armenian Genocide, pressure Azerbaijan to accept self-determination for the people of Artsakh, and initiate a long-overdue process of transformative justice in the region that allows Armenians and Azeris to voice their historical grievances and find common ground around accountability, peace-building, and human security. The Report uses the United Nations's Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes to outline and analyze (in detail) the risk factors and indicators for atrocity crimes, with a special focus on the crime of genocide. We have chosen to focus on the crime of genocide because the evidence in this report points to the existence of several serious red flags for genocide, typical genocidal patterns, and evidence of the special intent to commit that crime," an excerpt from the executive summary of the report reads.

The institute said that the evidence presented in the report suggests that the crime of genocide may already be taking place in the form of the blockade.

"In fact, the evidence presented here suggests that the crime of genocide may already be taking place in the form of the blockade, which is both "Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group" and "[d]eliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part" (paragraphs II.b. and II.c. of the 1948 Genocide Convention). Azerbaijan's crimes conform to Patterns 5 (Gross human rights violations + mass cultural destruction), 6 (Man-made famine/"Genocide by Attrition"), 7 (Environmental despoliation/"Ecocide" and land alienation), and 9 (Denial and/or

prevention of identity) of the Lemkin Institute's Ten Patterns of Genocide and seem to be headed towards patterns 1 (Gender-neutral mass murder characterized by gendered atrocity) and/or 2 (Mass murder of 'battle-aged men' + atrocities against women and children)."

"The deep imbrication of eliminationist anti-Armenian hate within the Aliyev regime and Azerbaijani institutions of government leads us to conclude that Azerbaijan is a genocidal state. This fact must be addressed before there can be any peace in the region," it added.

The Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention warned that "there is alarming evidence that President Aliyev may be planning a military assault on Artsakh in the very near future."

"A military assault on Artsakh could lead to the mass murder stage of genocide. It would almost assuredly result in the forced displacement of Armenians from Artsakh and the widespread commission of genocidal atrocities, reflecting those committed in the Second Nagorno-Karabakh War of 2020 and subsequent hostilities," it said.

The Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention recommends that members of the international community, including United Nations member states with influence over Azerbaijan, undertake the following actions to prevent the starvation and forced population displacement of Armenians in Artsakh as well as any possible future genocidal assaults on the Armenians of the Republic of Armenia:

Recognize publicly the threat of genocide against Armenians in the Republics of Artsakh and Armenia that is evidenced by Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev's statements as well as the actions of his regime.

Demand the immediate lifting of the blockade and the opening of the Lachin Corridor linking Artsakh both to Armenia and to the outside world, as stipulated in the Tripartite Ceasefire Statement of 9 November 2020 and ordered by the ICJ in February and July of 2023.

Organize an immediate humanitarian airlift to bring aid to the citizens of Artsakh while political deliberations continue.

Actively intervene to defend Artsakh

against an armed attack by Azerbaijan in order to prevent a full-scale massacre against Armenians and the many other international crimes usually committed by the Aliyev regime against Armenians.

Empower and fund an independent investigative team to conduct a thorough documentation of the current situation in Artsakh, including an investigation of the atrocities committed by Azerbaijani military personnel in the Second Nagorno-Karabakh War and afterwards.

Utilize all available diplomatic measures, including sanctions and the withdrawal of foreign aid, to challenge the impunity enjoyed by the Aliyev regime in Azerbaijan.

Pressure Azerbaijan to immediately cease its threats against the people of Artsakh and Armenia and institute a domestic National Mechanism to prevent the crime of genocide as a necessary condition for any foreign aid.

Encourage the reform of the Azerbaijani education and security sectors, which are deeply tainted by genocidal Armenophobia.

Support the Armenians of Artsakh with humanitarian and economic aid, particularly funding for destroyed infrastructure, institution-building and democracy-building projects, and increased security sector capacity.

Address the long-standing and underlying core issue of the right to self-determination of the people of Artsakh as a basic principle under international law and in the recognition that, as facts on the ground prove, Armenians are unable to live under the Azerbaijani authority and power.

Recognize the decades-long efforts of the Artsakh people to establish a State according to the international requirements for statehood, which has resulted in the building of a government based on the division of powers and democratic representation.

Lay the groundwork for an eventual restorative and transformative justice process in the region to address past and current grievances and clear the path for a long-lasting peace.

## Congressman Chris Smith warns of genocide against Armenians in Nagorno Karabakh



At an emergency congressional hearing chaired by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ) today, a leading international legal expert warned the United States is at risk of becoming complicit in an ongoing genocide in Nagorno-Karabakh, where 120,000 ethnic Armenians have been sealed off from food and medicine and are being starved to death by the government of Azerbaijan.

The grave warning from Luis Moreno Ocampo, the former Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), comes just weeks after he issued a dire report that the Azerbaijani blockade of the Lachin Corridor—the lone road from Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh—constitutes genocide under Article II (c) of the Genocide Convention.

“The Biden Administration must say immediately that this is genocide—and put a stop to it,” said Rep. Smith, Co-Chair of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, who noted that both the US State Department and USAID did not respond to his invitation to testify at the hearing. “Delay is denial.”

“This crime—it is the crime of genocide—was planned, tested, and imposed by the government of Azerbaijan, that is to say by President Ilham Aliyev, who rules Azerbaijan as a dictator,” said Smith, who met with Aliyev twice—in 2013 and again in 2014—to discuss his human rights abuses and later authored the Azerbaijan Democracy Act in 2015.

“The Biden Administration must wake up, recognize the absolutely grave responsibility it has here, and focus on finding and implementing a humane solution,” said Smith. “And this must mean that the blockade is lifted and the people continue to live in their ancient homeland—and not be subject to violence and threats. This situation is now a three-alarm fire.”

In addition to Ocampo’s compelling testimony, Smith’s hearing also included testimony from David Phillips, the Director of Columbia University’s Artsakh Atrocities Project and Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service.

“The language used by President

Aliyev and his officials leaves no question about their genocidal intent,” said Phillips, who provided extensive evidence as part of his testimony, including a list of perpetrators who are responsible for the atrocities in Nagorno-Karabakh.

“The international community failed to sanction individuals who committed crimes after the war in 2016 and 2020,” Phillips said. “Its failure sent a message to the Government of Azerbaijan that it can act with impunity and escape repercussions for its crimes against humanity, ethnic cleansing and acts of genocide.”

Smith, who chaired a hearing on the unfolding crisis two months ago in June, said “the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh is much more desperate now, and two-and-a-half more months of inaction raises the question whether there is, within our own government, any will to help. In August, when the Security Council met in special session to discuss the crisis, neither the US nor any other member took action to refer this matter to the International Criminal Court.”

“Meanwhile, the Azerbaijani government taunts the very people it is starving, as when President Aliyev said his blockade is necessary to deal with the smuggling of cigarettes and iPhones, and Azerbaijan’s ambassador to the UN held up photos of supposed Karabakh residents partying and enjoying the high life,” Smith added.

“Of course we know the Biden administration does not want this genocide to advance to a horrible consummation in the death of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh or to their ethnic cleansing, but that is exactly where events are headed,” said Smith.

“The US should openly inform the Azerbaijan government that without the immediate and unconditional removal of the Lachin Corridor blockade, the US would consider Azerbaijan to be committing genocide,” Ocampo said.

## COAF & GIZ host Arts, Crafts and Music Festival to promote tourism in Lori, Armenia



The Children of Armenia Fund (COAF) and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) announce the upcoming COAF Fest: Arts, Crafts, and Music, which will take place on September 16 at the COAF SMART Center in Debet village, Lori region. The festival will bring together Armenian musical talents, skilled craftsmen, and local producers from the Lori region, with the aim of fostering economic growth in the area and further enhancing its attractiveness as a premier tourism destination. The COAF Fest is an integral component of the larger “Lori, Your Next Destination” project, a collaborative endeavor between COAF and GIZ, supported by the EU4Business ITTD project.

COAF’s Managing Director, Liana Ghaltaghchyan, emphasizes, “Our partnership with GIZ under the ‘Lori, Your Next Destination’ initiative has been instrumental in promoting the untapped tourism potential of the Lori region, all while bolstering sustainable development. Beyond our commitment to providing non-formal education, our initiatives in Lori now encompass cultivating a thriving ecosystem

centered around the SMART Center. In this context, our festival presents an excellent opportunity to bring the entire community together at our SMART Campus, allowing them to enjoy a remarkable blend of arts, crafts, music, and the rich flavors of traditional Armenian cuisine.”

In addition to the festival, COAF will mark the grand opening of Concept by COAF on the same day—the largest social enterprise in Armenia. This establishment



features a boutique hotel, an expansive conference center, and a modern restaurant. Concept by COAF is set to become a coveted destination for leisure, professional gatherings, and formal occasions, contributing significantly to the continuous expansion of COAF’s educational and social initiatives. The inauguration of Concept by COAF commemorates COAF’s two-decade journey and heralds a new era of transformative change, underscored by the launch of four new SMART Centers across the regions of Syunik, Shirak, and Armavir, as well as the steady progress of programs in Artsakh.

COAF Fest will serve as a platform for

local businesses, enabling them to promote their products and expand their visibility. The festival will showcase more than 30 booths from various companies, offering a diverse array of products, including tea, agricultural goods, clothing and fabrics, skincare and cosmetics, handmade items, bags, and souvenirs. Furthermore, the festival will unveil Ardēan’s captivating art installations adorning the COAF SMART Campus in Lori. These 12 exquisite art pieces draw inspiration from the region’s ancient monasteries and cultural heritage. The festival will also feature live performances by renowned artists such as “Hayat Project,” “Lav Eli,” “Miqayel Voskanyan & Friends,” “Vahagn Hayrapetyan Quartet,” “Bambir,” and DJ Alen Hertz.

To encourage active participation in bringing about positive, lasting change, donation boxes featuring QR codes will be placed throughout the SMART Campus during the festival.

The “Lori, Your Next Destination” initiative, launched in 2021, has already achieved success through a series of impactful initiatives. These include the “STARMUS Day at SMART” Festival hosted in 2022, the development of an extensive network of hiking and biking trails, professional training programs aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of local tourism service providers, and the establishment of the Visitor Center, complete with a roadside café, designed to serve as a welcoming gateway for visitors to the region, promoting tourism.

## Armenian army medics train along U.S. troops during Saber Junction 2023 multinational exercise in Germany

The personnel of the mobile field hospital of the Armenian Armed Forces Military Medicine Department is taking part in the Saber Junction 2023 multinational exercise in Hohenfels, Germany, the Armenian Ministry of Defense spokesperson Aram Torosyan said in a statement on September 4.

The U.S. Army, along with NATO Allies

and partners, are conducting Saber Junction 23, Aug. 28 to Sept. 23, at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center near Hohenfels, Germany.

The Armenian military medics are conducting medevac trainings along with U.S. troops.

17 countries are taking part in the drills.



## AMD 3,500,572 to the “SOS Children’s Villages” Armenian Charity Foundation

Within the framework of “The Power of one dram” initiative, AMD 3,500,572 were donated to the “SOS-Children’s Villages” Armenian charity foundation in August. This means that during the month of August, 3,500,572 payments were made with the Idram&IDBank application, the IDBanking.am and Idram.am websites, and the terminals of the two companies.

Idram and IDBank also announced the name of the next month’s beneficiary. The entire amount of “one drams” accumulated during September will be directed to the “Hayq to the World” educational program, the purpose of which is to create an opportunity for the youth of Artsakh first to receive an appropriate education, and then, living in Artsakh, work in international organizations remotely.

“Under the blockade of Artsakh, the implementation of such programs is very important. We try not only to ensure the employment of children and teenagers through quality educational programs, but also to cut them off from reality and provide them with a perspective



of development. Today, it is possible to continue online education and youth empowerment, which we do thanks to supporting structures and organizations. From this point of view, we attach great importance to joining us in the “The Power of One Dram” initiative, because this way, our compatriots who use Idram also contribute to this important mission by simply making payments with Idram. Every payment made by you will add another dram to the continuous education and empowerment in Artsakh. We are extremely grateful to Idram and IDBank for giving importance to the “Hayq to the World” program,” says Marina Malkhasyan, head of the program.

According to Tatevik Vardevanyan, head of the Communications unit of

IDBank, joining the program is not accidental. “The new academic year has started and, unfortunately, our compatriots from Artsakh not only have a problem with food and daily bread, but also with education. On the International Day of Charity, we are happy to announce that “one drams” accumulated during September will be directed to the “Hayq to the World” educational program, which will open new horizons for the youth of Artsakh. “The power of one dram” initiative has already supported more than 25 foundations and programs, allocating more than AMD 138 million,” said Tatevik Vardevanyan.

You can become a goodwill ambassador too, by simply making all your payments through the Idram&IDBank application, IDBanking.am and Idram.am website, without spending a single dram.

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## Egypt’s Culture Minister invited to Women Political Leaders (WPL) Democracy, Peace and Security Summit in Yerevan

Armenia plans to organize Armenian Culture Days in Egypt in 2024, the Armenian Ambassador to Egypt Hrachya Poladyan told Egypt’s Minister of Culture Neveen Youssef Al-Kilany during a meeting on September 4.

During the meeting Poladyan conveyed to the Egyptian culture minister the invitation to attend the Women Political Leaders (WPL) Democracy, Peace and Security Summit in Yerevan in October 2023. Al-Kilany expressed interest to participate



in the event.

Poladyan and Al-Kilany praised the good traditions of cooperation in culture

between the two friendly countries and expressed readiness to make joint efforts to further develop partnership, the foreign ministry said in a readout. In this regard, Ambassador Poladyan attached importance to updating and amending the legal-contractual framework between the two countries. The Armenian Ambassador and the Egyptian culture minister attached importance to intensifying mutual visits of official delegations and cultural groups for further enhancing cooperation.

## Kim Kardashian, Eric Esrailian issue plea to President Biden to prevent another Armenian Genocide



Entrepreneur and activists Kim Kardashian and Dr. Eric Esrailian are sending a message to President Joe Biden in the hopes of preventing another Armenian Genocide.

“WE ARE ARMENIAN. We are the descendants of Armenian Genocide survivors, and we do not want to be talking about the recognition or commemoration of yet another genocide in the future,” they write in a piece published by the [Rolling Stone](#).

They remind that since December of last year, Azerbaijan has blockaded the only lifeline between the indigenous Christian Armenians of Artsakh (also known as Nagorno-Karabakh) and the

rest of the world, adding that the war in Ukraine has meant some countries have had to rely on Azerbaijan for oil – resulting in using “starvation as a weapon against the Armenian population in the region.”

“There is no more time for thoughts, prayers, or concern,” Kardashian and Esrailian emphasize.

They look back at the war after Azerbaijan’s attack on Armenians in 2020, a move they describe as baseless and unjustified, and say it has “never ended in the minds of Armenians around the world.”

“Despite a ceasefire agreement, the attacks on Armenian soldiers have been constant and without repercussions,” the essay continued.

They also point out that indications of a forthcoming genocide are present as human rights groups like the International Committee of the Red Cross have been blocked, along with “hateful rhetoric accompanying the blockade.”

Stating that “the collective silence or inaction” by people and government entities “has perpetuated the crisis,” the authors call on Biden, and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken “to take a stand immediately.” “They must pressure

Azerbaijan to open the corridor without preconditions,” they stress.

“We are just two people. We have been working behind the scenes to support our Armenian brothers and sisters, but this diplomatic approach has not yielded meaningful results,” write Kardashian and Esrailian, adding, “This crisis will clearly not be remedied by individuals, but we will continue to do what we can to use whatever influence we have.”

“The people in Artsakh want to live in peace. Now is the time for true leadership. We need for those who have a meaningful role in these affairs to immediately demand that the Lachin Corridor is opened to stop another genocide. We want to draw more attention to the crisis and appeal to those in our own government who truly care about humanity to intervene. The United States has the ability to mobilize a response. Leaders who are effective and help our people will be remembered for their heroism. Even if well-meaning, the ones who are inert and ineffective will be remembered for allowing a genocide to take place under their watch. The choice is theirs,” they conclude.

## Foreign Telegram channels generate fake news with false attribution to Armenian defense ministry

Several foreign Telegram channels are generating fake news and misattributing the disinformation to the Armenian Defense Ministry, authorities warned on September 9.

“A number of foreign Telegram channels having lots of subscribers and referring to the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Armenia, circulate disinformation and render it as a statement of the MoD of the Republic of Armenia,” the Armenian Ministry of Defense warned.

“The Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Armenia once again urges its media partners (including foreign ones) to monitor the official website of the MoD and the official pages of the department on social networks.”

Official pages of the Republic of Armenia Ministry of Defense on social networks are:

Facebook [ՀՀ պաշտպանության նախարարություն / MoD of the Republic of Armenia](#)

[ՀՀ ՊՆ մամուլի քարտուղար](#) Press Secretary of the RA Ministry of Defence Telegram - [https://t.me/mil\\_armenia](https://t.me/mil_armenia)

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/ArmeniaMODTeam>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/mil.am/>

YouTube - <https://youtube.com/@media5233>

Official website of the RA Ministry of Defence - [www.mil.am](http://www.mil.am)

## Armenian Prime Minister’s spouse donates over 1,200 gadgets to Ukrainian schoolchildren

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan’s wife Anna Hakobyan has donated more than 1,200 gadgets to Ukrainian schoolchildren, the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science and Armenian

children, the Armenian Embassy in Ukraine said in a statement.

The President of the Armenian Youth Union of Ukraine, Arman Hakobyan, was present at the meeting with the First Lady.

On behalf of the Armenian youth and the Union of Armenians of Ukraine, Arman Hakobyan expressed gratitude to the Spouse of the Armenian Prime Minister for her important visit to Ukraine.

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