

The

Noah's Ark

# Noyan Tapan

#4 (996)

5  
February  
2014



Weekly Newspaper

HIGHLIGHTS

Published Since 1993

Price: 1000 dr.

## President Serzh Sargsyan in Prague, Czech Republic



**Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan with Czech President Milos Zeman in Prague, Czech Republic. Jan. 30, 2014.**

### In This Issue

**CSTO Secretary General to visit Armenia** p.3

**Öcalan's letter addressed to Turkish authorities rather than the Armenian nation** p.4

**Afghanistan after America: Ripples in Russia and the Caucasus** p.10

**Why is Turkish Armenian writer Sevan Nisanyan in jail?** p.11

**Syrian Christian leaders call on U.S. to end support for anti-Assad rebels** p.14

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## Armenian, Czech Presidents attend business forum in Prague



President Serzh Sargsyan and President of the Czech Republic Miloš Zeman attended Armenian-Czech business forum held in the Ministry of Industry and Trade, President's Press Office reported.

The Presidents greeted business forum of such format and the documents signed in the framework of it.

In particular, President Miloš Zeman stressed the importance of the agreements signed between Armenia and Czech separate regions which create good basis for developing decentralized cooperation. Presidents Serzh Sargsyan and Miloš Zeman agreed that Armenian-Czech economic relations have great potentiality and a great role is preserved for businessmen for complete use of it, they expressed confi-

dence that the parties will officially encourage the ties expansion and cooperation development between businessmen.

In his address, President Serzh Sargsyan presented economic opportunities of Armenia, continuous improvement works on business and investment areas, organized large-scale economic improvements the results of which are mentioned in international high ranking reports. According to them, in particular, the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation's "Doing Business" 2014 annual report, Armenia takes the 37th place among 185 countries. Speaking about the RA economic opportunities, the President of Armenia said, "I think that the events which took place in last few months create more favorable conditions for business. First, on September 3, 2013 it was our decision to join the Customs Union, in other words, it was our decision to join the market with a population of 200 million. Second, in December, it was the preferential trade regime re-establishment by the European Parliament with the Republic of Armenia among 9 countries. In other words, we can be a connecting bridge having free movement of product, workforce, finance with the Customs Union, and on the other hand, having preferential trade conditions with member countries of the European Union. I think it is an extremely

important factor that both me and Mr. Zeman are deeply interested in having rapid growth of trade relations between our two countries."

During business forum, Presidents of Armenia and Czech Republic spoke in detail about the areas of cooperation which have a perspective of development among them noting energy, information technologies area, food industry, jewelry making, etc.

President Miloš Zeman noted that he accepted President Serzh Sargsyan invitation to visit Armenia with gratitude and expressed confidence that during the visit a signified delegation of Czech businessmen will accompany him and the next meeting of the two countries' businessmen will take place in Yerevan.

Today, President Serzh Sargsyan visited one of the most ancient abbeys in the capital of the Czech Republic, Strahov Monastery. The President was introduced with the founding history of the complex, The Philosophical Hall located in the territory of the monastery, Strahov picture gallery and the vast library which exists over 800 years where more than 2,500 manuscripts and 130,000 books are stored.

The President of Armenia also visited the Virgin Mary Ascension Cathedral founded in 1140-1143.

## Artur Bagdasaryan: Armenia cannot expect from the OSCE Minsk Group direct criticizing of the force actions by Azerbaijan



*Secretary of Armenia's National Security Council, Artur Bagdasaryan*

Armenia cannot expect from the OSCE Minsk Group direct criticizing of the force actions by Azerbaijan, Secretary of Armenia's National Security Council, Artur

Bagdasaryan, said at today's press-conference.

"We have again become witnesses of the situation how the Azerbaijani party creating tension at the line of contact next day comes forward with an official statement that Armenian sabotage groups tried to interfere the territory of Azerbaijan", - he said and added that the OSCE MG always says about inadmissibility of forceful settlement of the Karabakh conflict and calls to remove snipers from the line of contact.

"If we did not give an adequate response, there would be more incidents at the border. However, we should continue the talks in peaceful settlement of the conflict so that to find the key for its resolving", - Bagdasaryan said.

He said that the CSTO did not react at tension at the line of contact. Anyway, CSTO Secretary General Nikolay Bordyuzha is arriving in Yerevan soon, and may possibly make a relevant statement on the incident, Bagdasaryan said.

*Arminfo*





## Czech President Recognizes Genocide



PRAGUE-In a meeting with Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan, reported on January 31 by Asbarez, Czech Republic President Milos Zeman referred to the events of 1915 as genocide, acknowledging the upcoming centennial in 2015.

"Next year marks the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. In 1915 1.5 mil-

lion Armenians were killed," said Zeman.

### *Czech Senator to introduce Genocide bill*

Czech Senator Jaromír Štětina welcomed the recent statement by the President of the Czech Republic about the Armenian Genocide, reported Armenpress. The Senator has regularly been in favor of the recognition of the Armenian Genocide in the course of his career.

In a conversation with Armenpress, Jaromír Štětina said that he intends to introduce a declaration on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide to the foreign relations and defense committees of the Czech Parliament in the lead up to the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

"The declaration will be introduced in 2015 ahead of the 100th anniversary of the

Armenian Genocide. I would like the Czech Senate to join the civilized parliaments which have recognized the Armenian Genocide. Preparatory work towards the declaration will be launched in late 2014," the Czech Senator stated.

Jaromír Štětina strongly hopes that the planned official visit by the President of the Czech Republic to Armenia at the invitation of the Armenian President will greatly contribute to the adoption of a Genocide recognition bill.

Senator Štětina also praised the meeting of the Armenian President with the spiritual leader of the Czech Republic, Cardinal Archbishop of Prague Dominik Duka, who supports the recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

## CSTO Secretary General to visit Armenia



Secretary General of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) Nikolay Bordyuzha will visit Armenia February 4-5 at the invitation of the Secretary of the National Security Council of Armenia, Arthur Baghdasaryan.

Nikolay Bordyuzha will be accompanied by Alexander Studenikin, Chief of the CSTO United Staff.

The CSTO Secretary General will meet with Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan, Secretary of the National Security Council Arthur Baghdasaryan and Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan.

## U.S. Co-chair of OSCE Minsk Group: "All parties deserve a voice at the table"

The voice of the Nagorno-Karabakh people deserves to be heard, James Warlick, the U.S. Co-chair of the OSCE Minsk Group, says in his interview with the Voice of America.

"I do believe that all the parties are committed to finding a peaceful negotiated settlement. And that should be encouraging. The problem right now on the ground is that actions do not match words", he says.

"Following the meeting of the Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan in Vienna November 19, we saw the level of violence along the line of contact decrease. In fact, the number of incidents decreased significantly and for some time and that was an encouraging step", he says. He adds that this provided an atmosphere for making progress on negotiations. "But in the recent days, over the past week or so, we have seen a renewed escalation along the line of contact between Azerbaijan and Armenia, along the border. And that is of great concern to us. It's that kind of violence that can undermine our efforts at finding a negotiated peace", he says. "What we want is to create an atmosphere where the parties are prepared to move forward on finding a durable a lasting settlement", he says.

"All parties deserve a voice at the table. I have traveled several times to meet with individuals. In Nagorno-Karabakh I have heard their views. I want to continue to return there, but their voice



deserves to be heard and ultimately, of course, it will be up to the parties to decide among themselves how that voice will be heard", says Warlick .

He also says that he will be joining the co-chairs very soon and they hope to continue a dialogue with the Presidents that can lead to a summit.

When speaking of the militaristic rhetoric of Azeri President Ilham Aliyev, he says, "People need to refrain from a language that needs to greater escalation". As regards the launch of the Stepanakert Airport, Ambassador Warlick says, "This should be an issue of discussion and a part of our negotiations. No side should take unilateral actions that could lead to increased tensions". "We need to have a dialogue so that we can move forward to come to a common ground and the airport should be a part of that dialogue and I can assure you that as we do talk to the foreign ministers and presidents, we do include the airport among the issues".

*Arminfo*

## Sargis Hatzpanyan: Öcalan's letter addressed to Turkish authorities rather than the Armenian nation

On January 30 the jailed leader of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) penned a letter to the Istanbul-based Turkish-Armenian weekly Agos. Speaking to reporters on January 31, publicist, analyst and expert of Turkish studies Sargis Hatzpanyan said "it was addressed to the Turkish authorities rather than the Armenian nation."

According to Hatzpanyan, Abdullah Öcalan does not want to spoil the relations with the special services of Turkey. "He does not want to startle Erdogan's government by raising sharp pro-Armenian questions. In this way he sends a message to Turkish authorities, reminding that 2015 is coming close."

Assessing Öcalan's letter, Hatzpanyan said only one sentence of it is a novelty. "For the first time, the PKK leader labeled the events of 1915 as genocide."

The publicist blurs the situation, making no reference to the Kurdish role in the Armenian Genocide, the exile of



Armenians and the occupation of Western Armenia, he said.

Hatzpanyan said the Kurdistan Workers' Party has been recently speaking in favor of reconciliation with the Turkish authorities and has mostly adhered to an anti-Armenian position.

"Öcalan considers the fight of Kurds is the fight of other indigenous peoples. However, the movement he heads has never spoken about the condition of any of those peoples. Therefore, his words remain hanging in the air," Sargis Hatzpanyan concluded.

## Andrzej Kasprzyk: Every casualty is a tragedy that can be avoided

"The casualties and ceasefire violations on the line of contact and the border cause concern, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Andrzej Kasprzyk said in an interview with Trend Agency

Every casualty is a tragedy that can be avoided if the ceasefire is respected fully, according to Kasprzyk.

"Unfortunately, the reports indicate that during the recent weeks the situation has grown more tense and the risk of an escalation should not be underestimated," Kasprzyk said.

"I and my team have experienced this recent growth in tensions first-hand during recent monitoring exercises, when shots were fired in spite of the fact that local commanders on both sides, using OSCE radio equipment, provided security guarantees to our teams with a clear undertaking that troops under their command would honor the ceasefire for the duration of the monitoring exercise," Kasprzyk said.

The responsibility to respect the ceasefire rests with the sides, according to the Personal Representative of the OSCE



Chairperson-in-Office.

"In Paris, the Co-chairs called on them to fully and unconditionally respect the terms of the ceasefire agreement, and stressed that the recent incidents undermine negotiations and diminish the prospects for peace. Representatives of Foreign Ministries of the three Co-chairing countries just recently issued statements calling for a strict observation of the ceasefire. Discussions about strengthening the ceasefire are continuing, and it will be a subject for talks during the trip of the Co-chairs to the region in the coming days," Kasprzyk said.

Kasprzyk stressed that the OSCE

Chairperson-in-Office, Swiss Foreign Minister Didier Burkhalter said that he was concerned by reports in recent days of deaths and injuries among Armenian and Azerbaijani military personnel and civilians as a result of shooting.

"Burkhalter strongly encouraged the sides to make full use of the valuable opportunity provided by visits by OSCE teams to the border and Line of Contact for direct communication with one another, with a view to reducing tensions," the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office said.

Touching upon the meeting of Azerbaijani and Armenian foreign ministers in French capital, Kasprzyk said that in Paris, the Ministers and the Co-Chairs discussed substantive issues to advance the peace process, building on the November 19 summit in Vienna, which was followed by the December 5 ministerial meeting in Kiev.

"The Ministers reiterated their willingness to continue working towards a peaceful, negotiated settlement. The Co-chairs will follow up on this during their upcoming trip to the region," Kasprzyk said.



## Member of Bundestag urges Erdogan to apologize for the Armenian Genocide



Erika Steinbach, a member of German Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democratic Union Party urges Turkey to apologize for the Armenian Genocide. The call came ahead of Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's visit to Germany, Bild reports.

"I urge Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan to stop denying the genocide of Armenians and Assyrians by the Young Turk government of the Ottoman Empire 99 years ago," Steinbach said. She added it's time to apologize to the descendants of the victims of the first genocide of the 20th century.

"It is Erdogan's duty to face the truth nearly 100 years after that terrible crime and ensure that the Turkish textbooks do not disturb this part of Turkish history," Erika Steinbach stated.

## Hayastan All-Armenian Fund provides ongoing support to Syrian-Armenians

The Hayastan All-Armenian Fund continues to assist the Syrian-Armenian community, with financial contributions made by various fund affiliates since the beginning of 2014 as well as proceeds from the fund's 2013 Telethon.

A total of 100,000 euros raised by the French affiliate will benefit various Syrian-Armenian-relief projects through the Catholicosate of the Great House of Cilicia. Contributions by the fund's German affiliate, totaling 35,000 euros, have already been transferred to the Syrian-Armenian Emergency and Rehabilitation Committee.

In addition, of the funds raised through the 2013 Telethon, 15 million Armenian drams will be allocated for continuing to address the social, health-

care, and education needs of Syrian-Armenian families currently residing in Armenia. The assistance will include the defrayal of student tuitions as well as the costs of surgeries and funerals. Program beneficiaries are selected by the Ministry of Diaspora.

The fund has used the contributions to implement a range of healthcare, educational, and social-assistance projects. As of June 2013, the fund has provided the following amounts in assistance to the Syrian-Armenian community:

One hundred thousand euros raised by the French affiliate, 12,000 euros from the German affiliate, and US 100,000 dollars from the Lebanese affiliate have been used essentially to pay the salaries of teachers at Aleppo's Armenian

schools.

Contributions from the Brazilian, Argentinean, and Swedish affiliates have been used to cover the tuitions of 110 Syrian-Armenian students attending various colleges and universities in Armenia; to pay for the heart surgeries of six Syrian-Armenian individuals; and to cover the cost of funerals for three others. The amount of 10,000 dollars raised by the US Western Region affiliate has been donated to Yerevan's Kilikian School, which has opened its doors to children from Syrian-Armenian refugee families.

As for contributions made by industrialists Hirair Hovnanian and Ara Abrahamyan, they have been used to pay for refugee flights between Aleppo and Yerevan.

## Orran Vanadzor will launch a soup kitchen program

On February 17, 2014, Orran Vanadzor will launch a soup kitchen program for 30 needy elderly of the city. The program is being financed by the generous donation of world renowned vocal artist Serj Tankian and his wife Ange. The elderly will come to Orran in late morning to receive a hot meal and to spend some time socializing with one another and with some of the children. The program is based on the Yerevan Orran program where since the year 2000 over 55 elderly have been benefiting

from Orran's daily meal program.

Currently 65 economically deprived children attend Orran Vanadzor and receive a hot meal, medical, social, psychological and tutorial services. The children also obtain vocational training and participate in a rich cultural program. Orran Vanadzor has been in existence since the year 2009. "Because of limited funds, we could not take in the elderly as we do in Yerevan Orran" explains Armine K. Hovannisian founder of Orran. "When Serj Tankian and his wife Ange

asked how they could help Orran Vanadzor, I gave them a few options. They instantly took an interest in the plight of the elderly and within days made a personal contribution to make sure that in this harsh winter the really needy elderly could at least have one hot meal a day and a warm place to feel cared for".

To obtain more information on the services provided by Orran or to apply as a beneficiary visit [www.orrn.am](http://www.orrn.am) or call 0322 45598.

## USAID launches two programs for rural economic development in Armenia



The USAID/Armenia joined the Small Medium Enterprise Development National center of Armenia (SME DNC), the Fuller Centre for Housing of Armenia and local partners to mark the official launch of the two rural development projects - the Partnerships for Rural Prosperity (PRP) and Advanced Rural Development Initiative (ARDI). US Ambassador to Armenia John Heffern, Deputy Minister of Agriculture

Robert Makaryan and Deputy Minister of Economy Karine Minasyan delivered opening remarks at the kick-off event. The heads of the two projects then presented their goals and objectives in promoting rural economic development in Armenia.

The PRP ARDI programs build upon current and previous initiatives of the government of Armenia, the US government and other organizations to foster the coun-

try's broader development beyond capital Yerevan and address the economic challenges in rural communities.

The two programs will complement their efforts and will target about 150 communities in all marzes of Armenia, except Yerevan. The five-year programs will increase rural employment by taking critical constraints to rural economic development, such as community competitiveness, sound economic governance, workforce development and small scale infrastructure upgrades. PRP and ARDI will seek to expand employment prospects for women, youth and vulnerable groups, build the capacity of local entrepreneurs and improve their access to finance.

The PRP program will be implemented by SMI DNC in collaboration with CARD, GCCI and EV-Consulting. ARDI will be implemented by the Fuller Center for Housing with Heifer International Armenia.

## Companies linked to Armenia's top tax collector are paying less in taxes

By Samvel Avagyan

There are several companies linked to Gagik Khachatryan, Head of Armenia's State Revenue Committee (SRC).

Their owners are either Khachatryan family members or close relatives.

Since the SRC has just published the list of the largest taxpayers in Armenia for 2013, let's see how much companies linked to the country's top tax collector are actually paying.

One of the larger taxpayers on the list is the telecommunications company Ucom. 41% is owned by Aram Khachatryan, nephew of Gagik Khachatryan. In 2013, Ucom paid 1.35 billion AMD in taxes and came in 89th on the list of largest taxpayers.

In 2012, Ucom paid much less in taxes – around 200 million AMD. While VAT taxes decreased, profit and income taxes rose.

Mega Food, a company importing chocolate and other foodstuffs, is the second largest company owned by Aram Khachatryan; in this case he owns 100%. The company was 138th on the list with a

payment of 864 million in taxes. This was an increase of 150 million over the previous year. Mega Food is one of those companies showing very little in profits. It only paid 30 million AMD in profit tax.

Another company importing foodstuffs linked to Gagik Khachatryan is Apeyro. This officially belongs to his sons Gourgen and Artyom. In 2013, the company paid 452 million AMD in taxes and ranks 247th on the list. In 2013, it showed a bit more profit than the previous year and wound up paying 55 million in profit and income tax as opposed to the 33 million it paid in 2012.

Mega Motors, a company that imports Mitsubishi vehicles to Armenia, is also owned by Artyom and Gourgen. In 2013 the company paid 180 million AMD in taxes, winding up 585th on the taxpayer list. This amount was a decrease of 25 million from the previous year.

Mega Sport, a company importing sports equipment, is registered in the name of Gagik Khachatryan's nephew Armen Nazaryan. It paid 153 million AMD in taxes for 2013, earning it the



665th spot on the list.

Another Khachatryan holding, Chronograph (a luxury watch store on Yerevan's Northern Boulevard) didn't make the top 1,000 taxpayer list. This operation belongs to Gagik Khachatryan's nephew Hayk Khachatryan.

In the end, companies linked to Gagik Khachatryan paid a total of 3 billion AMD in taxes in 2013, some 60 million less than 2012.

hetq.am



## Moscow disclosed who will resume war in Karabakh

By Haikazn Ghahriyan

The famous Russian political analyst Maxim Shevchenko, member of the Board for International Issues adjunct to the Russian president, commented on the probability of war in Karabakh in an interview with Vesti.Az.

“The CSTO’s mandate does not cover the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh. Possible military actions in the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh are not considered military actions in the territory of Armenia. Russia will not react to them in any way because

de jure NKR is not recognized. There is always probability of a new war in Karabakh. The situation relating to Karabakh is closely linked to the situation relating to Iran. If the situation relating to Karabakh improves, and Obama continues to seek agreement with Tehran, people interested in a new war in Karabakh will thwart the process. Karabakh is one of the points required to thwart the process of rapprochement of Washington and Iran,” he said.

It is known that the process of rapprochement of Washington and Tehran, their possible political and economic cooperation is not in line with Russia’s interests. In fact, if the West and Iran agree on energy issues, Russia may lose its only argument for its stay in world politics – oil and gas. And it will hit not only the aggravating social and economic situation but also the political system.

Azerbaijan and Turkey are also doing everything to the U.S.- Iran rapprochement. This process will place Turkey in greater political and economic isolation, Turkey will lose its influence in the region. And in the case of Azerbaijan, the situation threatens not only energy projects but also the existence of the state altogether.

Israel supports all these three states with lobby and in other ways.

Not only the Armenian and international press but also the political and journalistic circles of Russia are speaking about it. It is noticed in the process of thwarting the West-Iran rapprochement that Moscow,



Baku and Ankara have common interests. One of these attempts could be the second war in Karabakh, as Shevchenko states rightly, though without specifying the list of “interested persons”. Moscow, as Shevchenko put it, will not intervene in Karabakh but will do everything to deploy its troops in Karabakh, namely the border with Iran. Russia is therefore arming Azerbaijan and training military specialists. Turkey is doing the same thing.

An attempt will be made to do the dirty job through Azerbaijan. Afterwards, the “Russian liberators” will be deployed.

One of the main purposes for inserting Armenia in the Customs Union is to isolate Iran, blocking its possible ways. Therefore, it is necessary to keep tension around Karabakh to make sure that the long area along the border with Iran passes from Armenian to Russian control. Russia needs Azerbaijan to “legitimize” deployment of its own troops on that border.

Perhaps, this explains Azerbaijan’s recent aggressive behavior on the line of contact. Azerbaijan resumed the war a long time ago through the method of creeping commandos but something keeps it from a large-scale war. It may be the West or the threat of isolation, or maybe even the prospect of defeat.

The Armenians will win that war. Because the victory of Armenians in that war is going to be the victory of the contemporary world, it will be in line with the logic of developments of the new world.

## Tried by War: The Armenian and Karabakh Armed Forces

Armenia started creating its army during the last years of existence of the USSR. Volunteer groups started to be formed against the background of escalation of the Karabakh conflict. They were armed with weapons they managed to get from militarized organizations, the military training classrooms and other institutions, Lenta.ru writes in an article.

In 1991 defense committees were created in Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh (mostly populated by Armenians). Later Armenia established the Ministry of Defense and started creating official armed forces (similar processes were underway in Nagorno Karabakh, which had declared independence from Azerbaijan).

The war in Nagorno Karabakh in the first half of 1990s became a serious test for the Armenian and Karabakh soldiers. They managed to overcome the resistance of the Azerbaijani troops, and the Nagorno Karabakh Republic de facto maintained its independence.

The article recalls that Armenia celebrated Army Day on January 28 and quotes NKR President Bako Sahakyan as saying in his congratulatory address to President Serzh Sargsyan of Armenia: “It is an undeniable fact that today the Armenian army is the most efficient and organized army in the region, which is among the greatest achievements of our nation.”





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## FOR SALE

## 1 ROOMS

- ♦683. **Argishti str., Glendel Hills**, 14/10, 35.4 sq.m., newly built, euro repaired, gas in the building, permanent water, beautiful view of ravine. Price: 45.000 USD.
- ♦667. **Nalbandyan str., 7/5**, 48 sq.m., 1 room changed into two, excellent state, euro repaired, AC, lift. Price: 86.000 USD.
- ♦684. **Mashtoc ave.** 5/4, 37.4 sq.m., 1 room, stone building, a need to repair, old tiles, no water and gas, balcony looks at the avenue. Price: 70.000 USD.

## 2 ROOMS

- ♦1560. **Northern Ave.**, 10/3 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, climate control, parking, windows looking to the Northern Avenue, exploitation rent 28.000, AMD. Price: 400.000 USD.
- ♦1467. **Mashtoc av.**, 8/5 81 sq.m., made 3, stone, special project, old but repaired, always running hot and cold water, looking at the Sun. Price: 125.000 USD.
- ♦1440. **North Ave.**, 3rd floor, 110 sq.m., 1 bedroom, newly built, euro repaired, furniture, parking, h-3m, spanish tiles, permanent hot and cold water, heating system. Price: 350.000 USD.
- ♦1459. **Baghramyan Ave.**, 5/3, 55 sq.m., 2 rooms, capially repaired, h-3.8 m, balcony, iron door, permanent hot and cold water, telephone, furniture and techniques. Price: 49000000 AMD.

## 3 ROOMS

- ♦2682. **Aram Str.**, 13/6 187sq.m., newly built, 4 rooms, 3 bedrooms, drywall, buckle, 2 open balconies, beautiful view, 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 1sq.m 574 000 AMD.
- ♦2747. **Northern Ave.**, 9/8, 150 sq.m., 3 rooms, 2 bedrooms, living-room, open balcony, 2 bathrooms, one with a jacuzzi, furnished, parking. Preliminary Price: 520000 USD.
- ♦2395. **North Ave.**, 130 sq.m., newly built, h-3 m, a view to Abovyan street. Price: 1 sq.m.-1600 USD.

## PREMISES

- ♦1710. **Sayat-Nova str.**, 1st floor, 420 sq.m., 2 rooms, 2 lavatories, entrance from street. Price: 1.000.000 USD.
- ♦1727. **Baghramyan str.**, 2 storied, 230 sq.m., capially repaired, entrance from street, garage. Price: 350.000 USD.
- ♦1725. **Hanrapetutyán str.**, 1storied, 171sq.m., 2 entrances, capially repaired, per-

manent hot and cold water. Price: 500.000 USD.

- ♦1703. **Northern Ave.**, 9/7, 66sqm, capially repaired, heating, lavatory, 30000 AMD service rent, view to Teryan street. Price: 220000 USD.
- ♦1553. **Kasyan str.** 170 sq.m., working fashion saloon, large windows, facade -15m, 1room+foyye, h=2.80 m, cellar 30 sq.m. Price: 500 000 USD preliminary.
- ♦1598. **Nairy Zaryan str.**, 180 sq.m., 1st floor, a working restaurant, hall-100 sq.m. 1st line, repaired, tonir. Price: negotiable.
- ♦1383. **Nalbandian str.**, cellar + 1 story, 30 sq. m. cellar, 90 sq. m. story, Euro repair, hall, kitchen, lavatory, 24-hour hot and cols water, gas supply, suitable for a bar or restaurant. Price: 512.000 USD.
- ♦1603. **Northern Ave.**, 159 sq.m., 1st floor. Entrance on ground floor also, construction is in process, suitable for a shop. Price: 1 sq.m. 10 000 USD.
- ♦1588. **Tigran Mec str.**, 256 sq.m., 5/1.2 , trade area, stone building, euro repair, 1st floor trade area - 210 sq.m., 2nd floor 46 sq.m. residential Area. Price: 600 000 USD.

## LANDS

- ♦2122. **Davitashen**, 1800 sq.m., water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600 sq.m., 1200 sq.m. Price: 150 USD per sq.m.
- ♦1869. **Cascade**. 720 sq.m., 1st line, permission for construction, suitable for a new building or a business. Price: negotiable.
- ♦2121. **Centre**, land-1338 sq.m., 1100 sq.m. has permission for building. Price: 2million USD.
- ♦2107. **Monument**, 2400 sq.m., permission for building, 2 projects to build 3 storied building, possibility of water, gas, electricity, beautiful view of city and Ararat. Price: 500 USD per sq.m.
- ♦2011. **Proshyan street**. Land 400 sq.m. for building a house, privatized, 2nd line/ near the garden/. Price: 1 sq.m. beginning from 700 USD.
- ♦2013. **Cascade**. Land 1000 sq.m. For public construction needs, First line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price for 1 sq.m. 580 USD.
- ♦1402. **Hr. Kochar Str.**, 1100 sq. m., personal plot, front -25 m, privatized, empty, possibility for building communications. Price negotiable.
- ♦1351. **Monument**, 2000 sq. m., privatized, front - 17 m, APZ permission, for social purposes: suitable for a restaurant, hotel. Price negotiable.

## PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦2725. **Nork-Marash**, building - 733.25sqm, land-620sqm, semi-basement +2floors, euro repaired, semi-basement is sport room, sauna, summer room, pool, fireplace, 1st floor- sitting room, 1 bedroom, cabinet, kitchen, lavatory,

2nd floor - 4 bedrooms, permanent hot and cold water, gas, Spanish tiles, 2 AC. Price - 500.000 USD



- ♦3348. **Blur, Barbyusi**. 3 floors, land - 800 sq.m, building-700 sq.m, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 1.5 million USD
- ♦3059. **Vahagni community**, total-1500 sq.m., building-280 sq.m., 2.5 storied, newly built, not lived in, 1st floor-living room - 44 sq.m., kitchen, family room-24sqm, 2nd floor-3bedrooms, 3 lavatories, garage for 2 cars, cellar, security system, possible to sell with furniture. Price: 490.000 USD.
- ♦3210. **Aygestan community**. 2 stories, land: 480 sq.m., building: 310 sq.m., 1st floor is not repaired, garage, 2nd floor: repaired, kitchen, lavatory-tiled, permanent hot and cold water, Baxi system, a place for barbeque, garden, trees Price: 270.000 USD.
- ♦3313. **Blur, H. Emin**, 3 floors, land - 550 sq.m, building - 450 sq.m., capially repaired, furnished, 6 bedrooms. Price: 1 600 000 USD.

## NEWLY BUILT

- ♦74. **Cascade, Verin Antarayin**. electricity, water, gas, euro window, drywall, no exploitation fees, parking - 15.000 USD. 136-315 sq m., 1 sq.m. - 1200 USD.
- ♦107. **Monument, Verin Antarayin**. inhabited, 8th floor cockloft, gas, window, street view -1 sq.m. -1000 USD, city looking - 1 sq.m. - 1500 USD, parking - 4 million preliminary, price: started from 40 sq.m.
- ♦100. **Leo str.** half basement parking, 1st floor - shops, 2nd floor - office spaces, elevator, equipped kitchen, central heating, water, height - 2.80 m, beautiful view, will be ready to for use at the end of 2013. 60-300 sq.m., 16 floors.



- ♦87. **Sayat-Nova str.**, newly built building Given to the operation in December 2012. Climate control, gas, the fasad sector has 3 bedrooms -188 sq.m., 199 sq.m., 1 sq.m. - 1900 USD, 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight- 117 sq.m., 120 sq.m., 124 sq.m., 1 sq.m.-1700 USD Price: 1 sq.m- 1900-1700 USD.
- ♦93. **Kievyan str.**, newly built building Given to the operation in October 2011, gajats, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas supply, the second floor has a parking lot, parking is possible for sale. Price: 12 000 USD. Possible with mortgage, for 13 years term.
- ♦94. **Masiv.** Newly built, , coupling, 8 flats, in each cottage 4 flats, total-2000 sq.m, each flat has 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking: 80 sq.m. Price: 160 000 USD.

**FOR RENT**

**1 ROOMS**

- ♦1005. **Lalayanc str.**, 11/5, 1room changed into 2, euro repaired, furniture, permanent hot and cold water, gas, AC, spanish tiles, technique. Price 600USD per month, 40USD per day.
- ♦853. **Amiryan str.**, 10/7. 1 turned into 2, 50 sq.m., euro repair, Italian furniture, bed, utensil, techniques, permanent water, gas, antenna, Baxy system. Price 700 USD, 50 USD per day.

**2 ROOMS**

- ♦2037. **Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, modern furniture, spanish tiles, permanent hot and cold water, gas, baxi, AC, technique. Price 100USD per day.
- ♦2189. **Vardanants str.**, 24/12, 1 bedroom, newly built, 90 sqm, repaired, furnished, with elevator. Price: 450 000 AMD.
- ♦1961. **Tumanian str.**, 4/2, 86sq.m., 1 bedroom, Euro repair, Euro windows, Furnished, permanent hot and cold water. Price: 1200 USD, 1day: 70USD.
- ♦2186. **Buzand str.**, 7th floor, 2 rooms, newly built, euro repaired, furnished, equipped, internet, security system, permanent hot and cold water, gas, heating system, underground parking, beautiful view. Price: 900 USD, 20 000 AMD per day.
- ♦2099. **Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 2 rooms, all the conveniences, repaired, furnished, water, gas, Baxi heating system, AC, washing machine. Price: 220.000 AMD, per day - 50 USD.

**3 ROOMS AND MORE**

- ♦2021. **Teryan Str.**, building 8, 9/8,9 4 bedrooms, newly built, 245 sq.m., capitally repaired, euro doors and windows, not inhabited, 3 bathrooms, 2 halls, heating system. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.
- ♦2005. **Northern Ave.**, 8/8, 3 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.
- ♦1998. **Buzand Str.**, 9/6 3 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, repaired, furnished, equipped, AC, water, gas, heating, view to Republic Square, parking, no service fee. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦2008. **Komitas, Vagharshyan Str.**, 7/3, 3

bedrooms, newly built, capitally repaired, furnished, heating, 2 bathrooms. Price: 2000 USD

- ♦1723. **Northern Ave.**, 8/4. 3 bedrooms, 170 sq.m., 3 bedrooms,3 bathrooms, newly built, repaired, furnished , open kitchen, Falkon system. Price: 2000 USD.
- ♦942. **Teryan str.** 4/3. 2 bedrooms, 130 sq.m., concrete, Hgt. 3.50, loggia-2, tile/ital., renovation. Price: 1500 USD.
- ♦1950. **Buzand/Mashtots crossroad.** /8, 2 bedrooms, newly built, 163 sq.m., capitally repaired, 2 bathrooms, furnished, heating system, climate control, open balcony, view to the garden, usage fee included. Price: 2500 USD.
- ♦1981. **Vardanants Str.**, 14/14, 3 bedrooms, newly built, 140 sq m, recently capitally repaired, furnished, equipped, AC, 2 bathrooms, 3 open balconies, heating system, beautiful view, parking. Price: 1700 USD.
- ♦1681. **Northern Ave.**, 6/2 2 bedrooms, 130 sq.m., repaired, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, euro windows, AC, permanent hot and cold water, gas, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- ♦1793. **Teryan street.** 260 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 lavatories, capital repair, climat control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), newly built Price: 3500 USD.
- ♦1720. **Amirian Street.**, 18/10, 2 bedrooms, 190 sq/m, newly built, euro windows, permanent hot and cold water, gas, central heating, 2 open balcony, nice view to the city, possible with or without furniture, parking for 3 cars. Price 3000 USD per month negotiable, for long term - 6 months and more.

**PRIVATE HOUSES**

- ♦1191. **Aygestan**, 2 floors, land 350-400 sqm, building - 270 sqm, 1sr floor - living-room, kitchen, study. 2-nd floor - 4 bedrooms, bathroom, storage room, partly furnished, summer garden, garage, swimming- pool. Starting Price: 3500 USD.
- ♦1248. **Aygedzor**, 3 floors, land - 1021 sq m , building - 501 sq.m., built in 2008. 1st floor - garage, bathroom, boiler room, 2nd floor - living-room, kitchen, bathroom, 1 bedroom with a bathroom, big hall, balcony, 3rd floor - 4 bedrooms one of which is with a bathroom, balcony. Garden - summer kitchen, swimming pool - half-repaired, entrance from 2 sides, alarming system, security system, gas, central heating, AC, garden house. Price: 8000 USD.
- ♦1218. **Cascade**, freeway. 3700 sq m, 3 floors brick building - 1490 sq m, capitally repaired, walls - otto chento, 5 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, heating, gas, Price: 12.00 USD.
- ♦999. **Aygedzor 1st lane**, Land -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors` 310 sqm, capitally repaired, 4 bedrooms, living room, hall, 4 bathrooms, new furniture, equipped, 3 AC, Baxi, sauna, swimming-pool, house garden, barbeque equipment. Starting Price: 5000 USD.
- ♦1094. **Noy block**, 2 storied building - 400sqm, garden, permanent hot and cold water, furniture, technique, 1 lavatory, gas. Price 2000USD.
- ♦721. **Blur Qery street**, land 150 sq.m., 2 stories+a cellar, 200 sq.m., newly built, telephone, refrigerator, washing machine, 3 bedrooms, garage, 2 lavatories, a pool, camin, permanent hot and cold water, a cellar is used as a sport hall. Price : 3000 USD.



- ♦1195. **Nork, Armenakyan str.**, 4 floors, land - 2000 sqm, building-520 sq.m., capitally repaired, furnished, basement, 1st floor-1 living room, study, kitchen, bathroom, living room, swimming-pool, sauna, 2nd floor - 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3rd floor - open balcony, 1 bedroom, bathroom, gym, garden. Price: negotiable.
- ♦1142. **Djrevej, Bagrevand community.** 3 storied, land-1000 sq.m., building-700 sq.m., 1st floor-cellar, pantry, playing room, kitchen, lavatory, 2nd floor- a big hall, kitchen, dining room, 4 bedrooms, 3rd floor- resting room, 1 bedroom repaired, each bedroom has its lavatory, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary/garage for 2 cars, parquet, Spanish tiles. Price: 4 000 USD.

**PREMISES**

- ♦1693. **Malatia-Sebastia**, 4rh floor., repaired, stone building, 2 entries, no artificial walls separating the territory, climate control, 2 elevators, storage space at the ground floor, parking, two-sided parking in the street. 1200 sq.m. Price: 10.000 USD
- ♦1525. **Hanrapetutyan str.**, 1st floor, 3steps up, h-3.20m, repaired, 1 large hall+3 rooms, 2 entrances, kithen, lavatory. Price 1400 USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦1526. **Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 step down. cellar - 50 sq.m., has 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories, 6 windows from street side. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦1482. **North Avenue**, 210 sq.m., 1st floor, with 2 floors, h=8m. Price 10.000 USD
- ♦1408. **Zarobyan street**, parallel to Baghramyan, 2 storied, 300 sq.m. construction, 600 sqm. land, in a first floor hall and kitchen, in a second floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capital euro repair, gas, baxi system, permanent hot and cold water, telephone, garage, fruit garden. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦1438. **Komitas str.**, 6 floors, cellar, mansard. Each floor is 120 sq.m., hasa need for cosmetic repair, walls are plastered, floor is leveled, hanging ceilings, permanent hot and cold water, gas, parking for 15 cars. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 stored, capital repaired, AC, capital repaired, parking, 800 sq.m. Price: 10.000 USD.

# Afghanistan after America: Ripples in Russia and the Caucasus

By *Vahan Dilanyan, Armen Sahakyan*

As the final pullout of US forces from Afghanistan approaches, uncertainties and security risks will shape the future of the country and its neighborhood. Leaving behind a small contingent of American and coalition troops for training and other non-combat missions, the Euro-Atlantic community challenges the stability of the country that will rest entirely on the Afghan National Security Forces' shoulders. Given the geostrategic position of Afghanistan, there will certainly be a ripple effect on the broader region in post-2014 period. The immediate neighbors, such as Iran and Pakistan, will be affected the most, but to a lesser degree, third-tier countries such as ones in the South Caucasus will also feel the consequences.

A glance at a map reveals that energy and security are among the main factors that have brought about essential attention to Afghanistan. It is a "barrel" of energy resources in the sense that it is surrounded by energy-rich countries. Although the country has no hydrocarbon wealth of its own, its location in the energy rich region is vital both for affecting energy projects' security and also, as a landlocked country linking Europe to Asia, potentially serving as a transfer hub for resources flowing through the region. The New Silk Road project advocated by the United States, the Istanbul Process endorsed by the "Heart of Asia" group and other similar projects all aim to capitalize on the trade potential of Afghanistan in connecting the European and Asian markets. The consensual understanding is that there cannot be a stable Afghanistan without a stable and prosperous region. Much still remains to be accomplished (especially in developing infrastructure) before any tangible results can be achieved. Should these projects succeed though, they could not only be economically beneficial for the parties involved, but also bring greater political stability to Afghanistan and the region overall. The country today still serves as a node of threat distribution in the world, including terrorism, drugs, and trafficking. The 2014 pullout will increase the risk of those challenges and bring about greater instability to Eurasia,



what Richard Weitz of the Hudson Institute called a "Post-2014 Afghan Storm".

Due to its strategic significance, Afghanistan has served as a platform for a greater U.S. presence in the region to not only eradicate the extremist elements that are a threat to the US national security, but also to integrate Afghanistan and other regional states in the US-driven agenda. This on its part was an attempt in trying to limit China and Russia's roles in the Middle East.

In retrospect, activities in the past decade have not fully achieved the results that the US was hoping for. Regardless of how many soldiers remain after the 2014 pullout (if at all) and what the essence of the support mission will be, the US reputation as an active global actor will decrease throughout the world, exerting political pressures on Western-oriented movements.

This is a logical continuation of Obama's policy in the Eurasian territory, which started with the end of the Bush plan for establishment of a radar system in the Czech Republic and a missile defense complex in Poland-tools for enveloping the European nations in a protective "raincoat". Prior to the ratification of the new START Treaty, Obama decreased deployed strategic warheads by cutting off the number of interceptors in Alaska and California, serving as the main defense of the United States from long-range ballistic missiles.

Additionally, with the impending withdrawal of US forces from

Afghanistan, US foreign policy is becoming more Asia-Pacific oriented and given the fact of that EU could not become a key player in the region because of the ongoing fiscal and other crises, Russia will have a bigger influence in this region in the post-2014 era. Propelled by developments with the Customs Union, Eurasian Economic Union, and CSTO (unified air defense system), Russia will try to increase its influence by economic, military and other means.

However, Russia worries about the US pullout, since the instability in Afghanistan will affect its own southern borders. Despite the historical distrust towards the United States, Russia saw the US presence in Afghanistan as a multidimensional political interest, i.e. Russia was able to keep the terrorist threats away from Central Asia and its borders.

The withdrawal will bring about an active, asymmetric and scattered terrorist threat. Historical experience suggests that armed conflicts could break out in a struggle for power in Kabul, mainly by Taliban fighters, which will lead to another civil war in Afghanistan. The aging leadership in Central Asia has no modern mechanisms of preventing and managing the potential chaos, and there still is not a clear understanding as to how Russia will handle the situation.

The CSTO's replacement of the NATO's position is questionable. The CSTO would be unable to provide troops at levels anywhere near the coalition's. Additionally, the CSTO lacks coherence and capacity to deal with such a huge issue. Its role could be one of support and/or limited combat, similar to what Armenian soldiers are currently doing. Armenia is the only CSTO member state that provides troops for the ISAF, so there is little institutional memory within the CSTO to take over the role of the NATO in Afghanistan. Stemming from the basis of Armenian experience, Major General Hayk Kotanjian of Armenia has suggested building an effective ground for launching the NATO-CSTO cooperation mechanisms focused on dispelling uncertainties associated with the upcoming pullout from Afghanistan, but this issue is still to be clarified in the future.

There may be indirect effects on the



CSTO-NATO relationship, too. The NATO influence in the area has increased since it entered Afghanistan. Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Kazakhstan all have approved Individual Partnership Action Plans with the NATO. The three South Caucasus republics also provide varying number of troops for the ISAF, and Azerbaijan and Georgia are part of the Northern Distribution Network (NDN), which allows for the transportation of over 40 percent of the essential goods to the military on the ground. Most of these countries have cooperation with NATO mainly through the prism of Afghanistan operation, so the pullout will effectively limit the NATO presence in these countries. Additionally, by providing troops for the NATO operation, these countries were trying to balance their relationships with Russia (CSTO) and China (SCO). The pullout will take away a source of that balance, leaving most of them more dependent on Russia and/or China, and providing a window for Russia's Eurasian integration efforts.

Although the 2014 pullout from Afghanistan will not completely disengage the US and the West from the region, there will be a noticeable cutback of activities; the US will likely aim to redefine its influence in the region, shifting toward soft power. This may include support of domestic political developments beneficial for the US, like the color revolutions.

But the political-military vacuum will have to be filled with the regional players. The CSTO will have a limited role (if any) in Afghanistan. The success of the New Silk Road and similar U.S.-backed economic projects will be in question. Russia and other regional players will have to mitigate the risks of the probable power-struggle in Afghanistan. With a prognosis of the intensification of violence in Afghanistan in the post-withdrawal period, the new players may carry out their geopolitical ambitions more liberally than in the past decade.

Dr. Vahan Dilanyan serves as the Chairman of the Political Developments Research Center (PDR), a think-tank based in Yerevan. Armen Sahakyan is the Executive Director of the Eurasian Research and Analysis (ERA) Institute Washington, D.C. branch as well as an Analyst of Eurasian Affairs at PDR.

January 31, 2014,  
*The National Interest*

## Al-Monitor: Why is Turkish Armenian writer Sevan Nisanyan in jail?

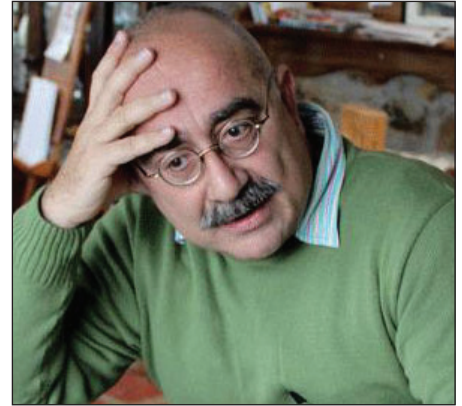
Sevan Nisanyan, a Turkish citizen of Armenian origin born in 1956, is without doubt one of the most colorful personalities in Turkish intellectual life. In the book *Wrong Republic*, he wrote about questioning the “Ataturk taboo” in Turkey, arousing the anger of secular-nationalist Turks. He outraged religious circles with his criticism of Muslim beliefs, has infuriated feminists and leftists and never hesitates to speak bluntly about the Armenian Genocide, *Al-Monitor* writes.

Nisanyan thinks the real targets of his prison sentence are his identity and opinions. He was bitter and angry before he went to prison. He expressed his sentiments to Turkish journalist Hasan Cemal: “All my life — with my books, with my work in the village — I tried to do something good for the people. What did I get in return? From the state, I always got suspicion, enmity and despotism. I always had to deal with ethnic and political prejudices, with disrespect and contempt. Five governments, eight sub-governors — [I] don't know how many ministers and governors changed. Every once in a while, we get a couple of decent people and high hopes. But in the end, nothing changes.”

Nisanyan was more blunt in an earlier interview with *Agos*, expressing his views about the true motivation behind his prison sentence: “It is obvious that the fact that I am Armenian plays a role in this process. In Turkey, anyone who goes out of the box is punished, even if your last name is [that of a] ‘true Turk.’ If you do something out of the box, you get punished. On top of that, if you are Armenian, your punishment is magnified.”

There are many who think that Nisanyan was sentenced to prison not because of construction infractions, but because of his views that defy a number of taboos in Turkey. A local and international petition campaign for his release states the following:

Sevan Nisanyan is being punished for doing illegal construction on his own land in Turkey, which is a haven for illegal construction, and is now incarcerated at Izmir-Torbali prison, since Jan. 2. Moreover, instead of being awarded a Nobel Prize for architecture for what he created in Sirince, he faces about 50 years of prison terms for



17 cases brought against him. In fact, everybody knows that the case against Sevan Nisanyan has nothing to do with construction infractions. He is being punished for his history and literary work challenging the official ideology.

Another petition campaign asserts that the real reason for Nisanyan's prison term are his views on Islam:

We denounce the injustice of ... years of prison terms slapped on Sevan Nisanyan for a village tenement he built on his own land. The sentence given to Sevan Nisanyan, who turned Sirince into a paradise of culture and tourism in our country, which is a nirvana for illegal construction and crooked urbanization, is unjust and disgraceful. We don't believe that the heavy and unjust imprisonment of Nisan Sevanyan is because of construction regulations, when another trial has been going on for 13 and a half months' imprisonment for saying that satirical and denigrating expressions about Islam in a country with a Muslim majority can't be a hate crime. The sentence handed to Nisanyan is a disgrace that should rattle our conscience and cast shadows on hopes for freedom of thought.

In short, there is a sizeable group in Turkey that thinks Nisanyan's going to prison has nothing to do with infractions of construction regulations.

The corruption investigations launched against the government (that are not going anywhere because of heavy pressure) have revealed illegally issued construction permits amounting to millions of dollars in Istanbul, making it a tragicomedy that an Armenian who built a small shed on his own land ends up in prison. It is a reality that one must think hard about to understand Turkey.

## Russian National Settlement Depository and Central Depository of Armenia Sign CSD Foreign Nominee Account Agreement

National Settlement Depository (NSD), Russia's central securities depository, and Central Depository of Armenia (CDA), have concluded the Central Securities Depository (CSD) foreign nominee account agreement.

Pursuant to the agreement, NSD will maintain records for securities held by clients of the foreign nominees, maintain CSD foreign nominee accounts, conduct operations on such accounts and render other services related to the execution of rights for securities.

NSD has already opened an account with CDA. The bilateral link between two depositories will allow to perform cross-border operations in a more efficient manner.

Currently NSD has accounts opened with the CSDs/ICSDs in eight countries, including six bilateral links with Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., Clearstream Banking S.A., KACD (Republic of Kazakhstan), RCSD (Republic of Belarus), NDU (Ukraine), Central Depository of Armenia and two links opened by NSD with National Depository Centre (Azerbaijan) and CJSC Central Depository (Kyrgyzstan).

Besides nominee account with NSD, CDA also has accounts with KACD (Republic of Kazakhstan) and Clearstream Banking Luxembourg.

### About NSD

*National Settlement Depository (NSD) is the central securities depository of the Russian Federation, a part of the Moscow Exchange Group. NSD was founded on 27 June 1996.*

*NSD is Russia's national numbering agency and the substitute numbering agency for the CIS, authorized to assign the international ISIN and CFI codes. The international rating agency Thomas Murray has assigned NSD an AA- rating as a central securities depository. Total value of assets on deposit with NSD amounted to RUB21.8 trillion as of 31 December 2013.*

*The status of central securities depository was assigned to NSD by the Russian Federal Financial Markets Service's order #12-2761/PZ-I dated 6 November 2012.*

*NSD holds professional securities market participant license #177-12042-000100 for depository operations issued by the Central Bank of the Russian Federation on 19 February 2009, license #3294 for bank operations issued by the Central Bank of the Russian Federation on 26 July 2012 and license #077-00004-000010 for the clearing activities issued by the Central Bank of the Russian Federation on 20 December 2012*

### About CDA

*Central Depository of Armenia (CDA) is the only centralized registry keeper and custodian in Armenia, NASDAQ OMX Armenia subsidiary and part of NASDAQ OMX Group Inc. CDA is partner of Association of National Numbering Agencies and acts as national numbering agency in Armenia, assigning ISIN and CFI codes to Armenian securities. Starting from 2014 CDA maintains pension accounts and assets of Armenian mandatory pension system.*

*NASDAQ OMX (NASDAQ: NDAQ) is a leading provider of trading, exchange technology, information and public company services across six continents. Through its diverse portfolio of solutions, NASDAQ OMX enables customers to plan, optimize and execute their business vision with confidence, using proven technologies that provide transparency and insight for navigating today's global capital markets. As the creator of the world's first electronic stock market, its technology powers more than 80 marketplaces in 50 countries, and approximately 1 in 10 of the world's securities transactions. NASDAQ OMX is home to more than 3,300 listed companies with a market value of over \$7 trillion and more than 10,000 corporate clients.*

## Armenian Genocide Curriculum Bill clears second hurdle in Sacramento

Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian's Armenian Genocide education bill overcame yet another hurdle on Thursday at the State Capitol. One week earlier, the California State Assembly's Education Committee had passed AB 659 by a unanimous vote, at which time Assembly member Katcho Achadjian lent his support by joining Nazarian as a principal co-author of the measure, Asbarez reports.

"We are very grateful for the stewardship of Assembly members Nazarian and Achadjian" said ANCA-WR Legislative Affairs Director Haig Baghdassarian. "As a result of their leadership, more and more high school students may learn about the Armenian Genocide."

Once again, the bill advanced by a unanimous vote, 16-0, this time before the Assembly's Appropriations Committee, setting the stage for a vote by the entire body of the California State Assembly next week. If

AB 659 is adopted by both chambers of legislature and signed into law by the governor, it would promote the incorporation of oral testimony and teacher training, such that the Genocide may be more comprehensively taught in California's public schools.

"AB 659 is an important part of the equation, but it will require the combination of laws and activism by students and parents to achieve the objective of greater aware-

ness about the Armenian Genocide," stated Baghdassarian. Several years ago, the Genocide Education Project (GenEd), a non-profit organization based in San Francisco, developed model resources for high school teachers. "As a community, we must demand that our educators utilize these resources in order to ensure that future generations learn about the Armenian Genocide."

### Noyan Tapan Press-Center

**Noyan Tapan Press Center each week held many discussions, press conferences, round tables, teleconferences, seminars, which we broadcast live on the Internet. We invite you to take advantage of the Center, as well as to place your banner in our Press Room. Tel: 060 27 64 62**

**Address: Isahakyan 28, 3rd floor**



## International aspect of problem of Ukraine

By Igor Mouradian

The Ukrainian people demonstrated incredible resilience and courage, resisted pressure and provocations by Moscow-Donetsk political and criminal groups, which led to the internationalization of the Ukrainian problem as a key issue for Europe.

Despite the filthy Russian propaganda hosing the Ukrainian nation with slander and outright lies, accusing it of almost innate racism, the international community understands very well what is happening in Ukraine.

The methods and ideology of "orangism" have been rejected. The Ukrainian people have begun a lasting national liberation fight for independence against Russia's colonialist policy. All through this time of incredibly insulting rhetoric of the Russian commentators Dmitry Kiselev, Mikhail Leontief, Sergei Dorenko and others, in Ukraine there has been no single word of insult for the Russian people and Russia, there was no single protest against Russia. It is impossible not to ignore.

In fact, with such behavior "Maidan" urged the West to join the game and intervene. It should be noted that different centers of power in the West are playing their own games with different goals and objectives but all these games are aimed at putting strong pressure on Russia, neutralization of its pressure and intervention in Ukraine.

Vladimir Putin's visit to Brussels, despite sophisticated attempts by the Russian propaganda to hail it as a successful



one, was in reality disgrace for Russia and Putin. He was told everything that was expected and that was not expected. Putin was firmly mothballed in his stupidity and arrogance.

The Europeans allowed Moscow to get stuck in the swamp of their plans for Ukraine, to lay all the cards and to demonstrate their incapacity in a nation liberation struggle. Putin was forced to declare in an absurd way that if Ukraine signs an Association Agreement with the European Union, Russia will continue lending and gas supply at current prices.

Whether it will do or not do, we'll see, this was a defeatist proposal. This is how they annoy their country with what is called in the corridors of the Russian foreign agency as "rational ambitions". Or, actually, it is called differently - "Go Sergei Lavrov, bye-bye".

Germany has taken an "unexpected" though a quite expected position. Merkel said that Germany has no reason to go on supporting Russia and being the "advocate" of its stupidity. It has been stated convincingly in the European media that Russia has lost support in Europe, which certainly was also the result of Russia's policy on Ukraine.

However, the most original position was that of the United States. The Americans preferred to state that use of force in domestic affairs is unacceptable. But behind this is nothing but the traditionally obliging relations between the U.S. and Yanukovich. The British supported the Americans. But what are these agreements about? The fact is that Yanukovich will never join the pro-Russian political and economic institutional associations, primarily in the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Customs Union.

Russia understands this very well and therefore this evasive statement of the State Department was highly unpleasant and disturbing for Moscow. By the way, Yanukovich's obligations to Washington have been developed by Republicans and inherited by the current left liberal U.S. administration.

Now the main problem of the United States with regard to Ukraine is not Yanukovich whose days are numbered. Now it is necessary to bring to power in Kiev a civilized politician in a legitimate way to continue the policy of distancing from Russia, as well as keeping control over Crimea.

The U.S. could not conduct a policy on Ukraine which was possible because Yanukovich was not an adequate partner but only a "contractual partner". The new authorities in Ukraine could hope for a completely different relationship with the United States, the European Union and NATO. In fact, Russia has made every effort to dig everything under their own interests, which will mark the beginning of the Russian policy disaster in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Interestingly, among different centers of power, primarily in Europe, pretty serious controversies have occurred in regard to Ukraine. There is no doubt that Germany intends to initiate a new policy on Eastern Europe and Russia may stake all and negotiate with Germany. What will this policy lead to? Berlin is the last hope for Moscow but for the time being nothing comes up.

Kyiv, January 2014

*Iragir.am*



## Syrian Christian leaders call on U.S. to end support for anti-Assad rebels

By Elizabeth Dias

The stories told by five top Syrian Christian leaders about the horrors their churches are experiencing at the hands of Islamist extremists are biblical in their brutality.

Bishop Elias Toumeh, representative of the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, tells of the

toll goes far beyond just Christian communities in Syria—more than 130,000 people have been killed since the fighting began, and at least two million others have fled the country. But they are emerging as part of a concerted push by Syrian Christians to get the U.S. to stop its support for rebel groups fighting Syrian president Bashar al Assad. “The

chemical weapons, the religious leaders’ mission is a long shot. The bishops are asking the United States to exert pressure on countries like Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Turkey to stop supporting and sending terrorist fighters to Syria. “The real problem is that the strong military opposition on the ground is a foreign opposition,” Awad explains, arguing that US support of opposition groups means support for foreign terrorist fighters. “They are the ones killing and attacking churches and clergy and nuns and burning houses and eating human livers and hearts and cutting heads,” Awad says.

The Syrian Christian churches are not publicly calling for outright support of the Assad regime. Doing so would further endanger their followers and hurt the moral component of their case, given the regime’s alleged use of chemical weapons against civilians. Instead, they’re meeting privately with law makers, diplomats and think tanks. Sunday evening, they spoke with Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA) at St. John the Beloved Catholic church in nearby McLean. On Monday, they held court at the Heritage Foundation and Catholic University of America. On Tuesday, they met with Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Rep. Robert Aderholt (R-AL) and Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-TX), and then met with leaders of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom. Wednesday’s lineup included Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-SC), Sen. John McCain (R-AZ), Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), State Department officials including Lawrence Silverman, Near East Affairs deputy acting secretary, and Uzra Zeya, acting assistant secretary for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, and then a final stop at the U.S. Institute for Peace.

It’s been a difficult issue to gain traction on, if for no other reasons than that support for Christians and endangered minorities can appear as support for Assad and that an entire country is being destroyed by war, not just Christian communities. President Obama only briefly mentioned Syria in his State of the Union address on Tuesday. “In Syria, we’ll support the opposition that rejects the agenda of terrorist networks,” he said.



funeral he led ten days ago for the headless body of one of his parishioners in Marmarita. Rev. Adeeb Awad, vice moderator of the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon, explains how the rebels blew up his church and then pointed the finger at the regime. Bishop Armash Nalbandian, primate of the Armenian Church of Damascus, says he received word on Facebook from a fellow bishop in Aleppo that two congregants were traveling when opposition fighters stopped their bus, made them present their Armenian IDs, and then took them away. The fighters, Nalbandian recounts, returned to the fellow passengers a few hours later with a box, which they said were cakes. Inside were the two Armenian heads.

The bishops’ stories are difficult to independently verify, and the war’s death

US must change its politics and must choose the way of diplomacy and dialogue, not supporting rebels and calling them freedom fighters,” says Nalbandian.

The group is the first delegation of its kind to visit Washington since the crisis began three years ago, and its five members represent key different Christian communities in the country. Awad, Toumeh, and Nalbandian were joined by Rev. Riad Jarjour, Presbyterian pastor from Homs, and Bishop Dionysius Jean Kawak, Metropolitan of the Syrian Orthodox Church. The Westminster Institute and Barnabas Aid, two groups that focus on religious freedom and relief for threatened faith communities, sponsored their trip.

Given the United States’ increased support for non-terrorist rebel groups in the wake of the Assad regime’s use of



“American diplomacy, backed by the threat of force, is why Syria’s chemical weapons are being eliminated, and we will continue to work with the international community to usher in the future the Syrian people deserve—a future free of dictatorship, terror and fear.”

Traction in Congress has also been a challenge, but a handful of leaders are speaking out. The U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation in September, authored by Wolf and Eshoo, to create a special religious minorities envoy at the State Department who would work for policy options to protect faith communities, but the bill has yet to move forward in the Senate. “Meeting with the delegation of Syrian Christian church leaders this week provided a constructive opportunity to raise awareness and to discuss concrete steps that can be taken to help protect Christians and other religious minorities in Syria,” says Eshoo. “Christians in the U.S. should be informed by their leaders about the atrocities taking place in Syria. The history of violence against religious minorities must not be allowed to repeat itself.”

Wolf has championed the cause during his congressional tenure, but he is retiring at the end of this term. Newer leaders like Aderholt see it as a time to take a stand. “Most Americans do not realize that Christians across the Middle East are in grave danger and have often been forced to leave their home countries due to persecution and threats from radicalized Muslims,” he says. “If we want a true democracy to emerge from this region, Christians and other religious minority voices must share in the decision-making process, and certainly not be persecuted and fear for their lives due to extremist elements that are pouring in to Syria.”

The bishops’ stories are similar to other grim instances of violence against Christians during the war. Christian schools in Damascus were shelled in November. The next month, a dozen Greek Orthodox nuns were taken from Mar Takla Monastery in Maaloula. Rebel groups abducted two bishops near Aleppo last April. Jesuit priest Paolo Dall’Oglio, whom TIME wrote about in 2012 when he visited the United States on a similar lobbying trip, has been missing and feared dead since July.

*swampland.time.com*

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## ANCA Kicks off Telethon 2014

Armenian-American leaders from across America gathered in Southern California Friday to launch ANCA Telethon 2014 – a community-wide fundraising campaign to empower Armenian Americans, protect Armenia, and promote the Armenian Cause.

This grassroots campaign, featuring community events and broad-based social media, will lead up to the June 1st 6-hour nationwide broadcast, 6 p.m. to midnight EDT (3 p.m. to 9 p.m. PDT), in support of the ANCA Endowment Fund. The telethon will be available on a variety of broadcast, cable and digital channels and showcased online at [www.ancatelethon.org](http://www.ancatelethon.org).

ANCA Endowment President Ken Hachikian was joined by Telethon 2014 Chairman Steve Artinian, Eastern U.S. Board Member Joshua Tevekelian and ANCA Western Region Chairwoman Nora Hovsepian, Esq. in presenting the vision for ANCA Telethon 2014 at the kick-off reception, held at the Krikor and Mariam Karamanoukian Glendale Youth Center. Speakers discussed details about its broadcast reach and programming, and insights into innovative new ideas to engage an unprecedented level of community participation in this fundraising and community-building drive.

“With Ankara ramping up its denials during the approach to 2015 and Baku escalating its attacks on Artsakh and Armenia, it’s more vital than ever for

Armenian Americans to stand in solidarity with the people of our homeland. We are, as I’ve said before, the second army of the Armenian nation, and, in many ways, our homeland’s first line of defense against an antagonistic Turkey and an increasingly aggressive Azerbaijan,” said ANCA Endowment President Ken Hachikian.

Telethon 2014 chairman Steve Artinian addresses the gathering

“We’re encouraged by the energetic turnout for today’s ANCA Telethon 2014 launch by so many Armenians, from across our community – united in a common commitment to our homeland and heritage and devoted to the strengthening of the ANCA as the voice of our community and cause,” said Telethon Committee Chairman Steve Artinian. “In the coming days and weeks, we look forward to engaging activists and supporters throughout all fifty states as we expand the grassroots power of our community in the nation’s capital and in hometowns across our great country.”

The ANCA Endowment Fund supports a broad range of educational, youth, and civic programs that give voice to the views and values of the Armenian American community, strengthening our presence in the American civic arena, and empowering pro-Armenian stakeholders with the information and resources they need to take on the powerful forces aligned against the Armenian nation.



The first three ANCA Endowment Fund telethons, held in 2006, 2009 and 2012, raised over \$6.5 million for Armenian American educational, youth, and civic programs. Each program touched a common emotional chord, speaking directly to the devotion to the Armenian Cause that rests in the hearts of Armenians from across the U.S., regardless of organizational or political affiliations.

Countless organizations, volunteers, churches, community leaders, local ANCA's, performing artists, Members of Congress, and state legislators from across the nation participated in the telethons, contributing to their enormous success. Both telethons featured several documentaries that highlighted various ANCA programs and numerous results the ANCA Endowment has achieved over the years, largely through its volunteer and grassroots network.

## Apartment is for rent

A two room apartment is for rent on the M.Baghranyan Avenue. It is situated on the 2nd floor of a 4 storey stone residential building. During the whole period of staying you can use the furniture and technical equipment. It is being heated with central heating system. The kitchen is furnished with classic wooden and functional furniture. There is the Lovers' park one station down. A little far you can find a supermarket, underground station.

**093 626744**





## "Cyprus Troika's" Ashot Sukiasyan arrested in Tbilisi Airport

Ashot Sukiasyan, the businessman who went into hiding after Hetq broke the Cyprus offshore story, was arrested yesterday in Tbilisi, Georgia.

It appears that Sukiasyan was detained at Tbilisi Airport while going through Georgia passport control. He had just disembarked a flight from Turkey.

Hetq was informed of this latest development in the case by Armenian police officials, who said that Sukiasyan was tracked down and arrested through a joint operation of Armenian police,



the Interpol office in Armenia, and Georgia law enforcement.

Armenian police told Hetq that Sukiasyan's extradition to Armenia is being hashed out.

Armenian police issued a search warrant for Sukiasyan last June and charged him with large-scale embezzlement and money laundering.

While on the run, Sukiasyan claimed that it was he who added the names of Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan and Archbishop Navasard Kjoyan to a registry document of an off-shore company called Wlispera Holdings Limited.

## Sevan for sale: Environmentalist claims Government intends to privatize lake

By Marine Martirosyan

In a conversation this reporter had with Hakob Sanasaryan, who heads the Greens Union of Armenia, the environmental activist lambasted the Armenian government's policy regarding Lake Sevan and claimed that top officials wanted to privatize the "blue jewel" of Armenia.

"According to the information reaching me, Armenia's Deputy Prime Minister Armen Gevorgyan is involved in the scheme and a former official from the Ministry of Justice," Hakobyan stated, adding that he's certain that President Sargsyan and Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan have given the go-ahead.

"They want to divide it into 4-5 sections. The owners will have to monitor the river discharges into the lake and other water quality issues. According to the plan, the sections will have to be utilized collaboratively, but we know this will not happen. They will become the property of this or that person," Hakobyan argued, pointing out that the government in power today in Armenia is intent on selling off everything, even down to the last needle.

When I asked Hakobyan if he knew the names of the future owners of Sevan, the activist responded that he didn't.

"This isn't merely an issue about Sevan. Armenia, which emerged victorious in the Artsakh War, is methodically being destroyed from the inside. What sense is there in writing petitions to the president or the prosecutor general when



they view us as alien and ripe objects for plunder?", Hakobyan exclaimed.

The Greens Union head also didn't mince words regarding the lack of press coverage on the Lake Sevan issue.

"I simply denounce all those press outlets, whether Hetq or others, that know about the government's plans for Sevan but who knowingly refuse to write anything," said Hakobyan.

When I asked Hakobyan what steps need to be taken regarding Sevan, he answered that the lake's problem was intimately connected to other outstanding problems in Armenia.

"For fundamental solutions it's necessary to reject the presidential system and

restore the death penalty. The president and the party he controls have brought the country to death's door. And we all know that after dying nothing can be done, Hakobyan said.

He also called for the establishment of a 'national media outlet' that would only disseminate factual news and thus convince the people that their future was threatened.

As a way of ensuring more objective news coverage, Hakobyan also proposed that news outlets in Armenia should refuse funding from foreign sources and from domestic anti-nationalist oligarchs.

hetq.am

## Zodiac Weekly Forecast

**Aries (Mar. 20–Apr. 19) :**

A friend may suggest something novel to do in order to break an old rut. Or this friend might find one or more ways to assist you to do something that is out of the box. Your planetary ruler, Mars, is in the shadow of its upcoming retrograde. Don't push, or try to force anything, lest it cost you.

**Taurus (Apr. 20–May 19):**

Your ruling planet, Venus turns direct this week. She (you) narrowly escapes a manipulation by the Powers that Be. Perhaps that is a lover with a personal use for your energies. She will be in the after-shadow until the end of Feb., which means you are still moving forward in slow motion.

**Gemini (May 20 – June 20) :**

Your attention turns toward your life direction at this time. For many this is reflected by the career path. You may be researching needed information or talking with others about where you are headed. Your work is noticed or somehow on display with favorable results.

**Cancer (June 21–Jul y 21) :**

You are in a reasonably good place with yourself at this time. Your heart and mind are flowing together. You have no conflict between your feelings and your thoughts about those feelings. This is a time for reflection on important subjects. You can make good decisions now.

**Leo (July 22 –Aug. 21):**

Partnerships of any type are generally favored now, because you will be searching for the "fair" solution in any dilemma. It is a good time to seek consultation from professionals if you need it. You are realistic and flexible in your approach to almost everything. Focus is on your partner or on "others" in your life.

**Virgo (Aug 22–Sep. 22) :**

Your imagination could go overboard this week and you might be overly reactive to imagined slights. Double check on facts, data, and directions that come your way. Pay careful attention to communications and messages. You are prone to hear/read what you expect and that may not be what was intended.

**Libra (Sep. 23–Oct. 22)**

Activities involving your career and decisions about it may have become stagnant in the last two months. Somehow you instinctively have known that it was not a time to push the river. In the next few weeks new information will surface that make it more clear how you are to proceed.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23–Nov. 21) :**

Focus attention on the lead paragraph because Pluto is one of your ruling planets. Make certain you are not trying to manipulate others to your will at this time. Activities involving your children and/or other creative products of your being are favored. Love life flows smoothly.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 –Dec. 20):**

It appears to me that there is a struggle over finances or shared resources. This could include partner's resources, the IRS, and/or debts or services that are owed to you. You have the necessary evidence to support your position. But the "judge" may be ruthless.

**Capricorn ( Dec 21 – Jan 19) :**

You are prone to overreact to anyone or anything that is in your way. Make an effort to stop and really think about it before indicting anyone. Search for a compromising point of view that is strong enough to contain both you and your opponent's belief systems. Together you could create something much better than you can apart.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20–Feb. 17) :**

You are attending to responsibilities this week. It is a fairly serious time in which you feel somehow ethically or morally bound to follow through with commitments to the outside world. It is possible you are somehow teaching others what you have learned. If you have prepared you will definitely succeed.

**Pisces (Feb. 18–Mar. 19) :**

Events in your life may be moving along successfully. However, Mercury is on the verge of turning retrograde in your sign. Pay careful attention to what you say because you may be proved wrong. Don't make assumptions or big decisions now. Wait for the dust to settle.

## ARMENIAN POETRY

## SIAMANTO

(1878 – 1915)

## PRAYER

THE swans, in discouragement, have migrated  
from the poisonous lakes this evening,  
And sad sisters dream of brothers under the  
prison walls.

Battles have ended on the blossoming fields  
of lilies,

And fair women follow coffins from under-  
ground passages,

And sing, with heads bowed down towards  
the ground.

Oh, make haste! Our aching bodies are  
frozen in these pitiless glooms.

Make haste towards the chapel, where life  
will be more merciful,

The chapel of the graveyard where our  
brother sleeps!

An orphan swan is suffering within my soul,  
And there, over newly-buried bodies,

It rains blood—it pours from mine eyes.

A crowd of cripples pass along the paths of  
my heart,

And with them pass barefooted blind men,  
In the divine hope of meeting some one in  
prayer.

And the red dogs of the desert howled all  
one night,

After hopelessly moaning over the sands  
For some unknown, incomprehensible grief.

And the storm of my thoughts ceased with  
the rain;

The waves were cruelly imprisoned under  
the frozen waters;

The leaves of huge oaks, like wounded birds,  
Dropped with cries of anguish.

And the dark night was deserted, like the  
vast infinite;

And, with the lonely and bloody moon,

Like a myriad motionless marble statues,

All the dead bodies of our earth arose to  
pray for one another.



**WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?****Enjoy your leisure****The Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra is presenting a program for February 2014**

Dear Friends,

The Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra is happy to present a program for **February 2014** and share with you recent reflections from the month of January.

In fact there was only one concert in January, but this was a concert within the Days of Krzysztof Penderecki in Armenia of the Yerevan Perspectives International Music Festival held on January 16 featuring Maestro Penderecki himself conducting and two prominent soloists Agata Szymczewska, violin and Robert Kabara, viola. In the second half of the concert I had a privilege to conduct Symphony No.2. The genius composer, who ancestral parent, and namely his grandmother, was Armenian, was very much impressed with performance level of the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra and highly appreciated the new reading of his symphony.

The month of February is very much an Italian month for the APO. First on **February 11 and 13** the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra is performing a concert version of a brilliant "Tosca" by Giacomo Puccini featuring famous Armenian soloists, among them our Diva, Hasmik Papian and young talented tenor Hohvannes Ayvazyan.

On **February 19** the APO and me personally dedicate Verdi's Requiem in memoriam of a Greatest Conductor Claudio Abbado. From my youngest days I was very much impressed with his conducting and especially of this eternal requiem I was many times present at the rehearsals and received his valuable advice. The APO is committed wholeheartedly to pay tribute to a legendary Maestro for his immeasurable input to conducting art, for him being a great teacher and brightest personality of modern times.

The APO also mourns over the loss of Aram Gharabekian, a prominent conductor of the NCOA who considerably increased awareness on Armenian music in the world.

On **February 28**, a prominent German conductor Israel Yinon will conduct the APO to perform Tchaikovsky Symphony No.5 and there will be a World premiere of a Violin Concerto by Hans-Peter Dott, a contemporary German composer, the soloist will be a talented Armenian violinist Anush Nikoghosyan.

Thanks to the artistic interest and the consistent work of our media partners, among them: H1, Yerkir Media, AR TV, Shoghakat TV, Public Radio, Vem Radio, Radio Hay and to our all journalists our activities will remain reachable for a broader society in 2014. Our blog with all the articles about the APO is as usually connected to social networks and our listeners can share the opinion all over the world.

We all would like to thank the President of Armenia and his Spouse, VivaCell-MTS, Ministry of Culture of Armenia, UniBank, Armavir Vineyards with its Karas brand and all those who support our vision and believe in uplifting the youth of Armenia and make the pastime of all our citizens and guests more classical music oriented.

We also thank our many other partner organizations that are working on the ground and share our vision. These relationships are invaluable to our work as we learn from each other and discover new ways to improve access, build community, and truly diversify classical music in every sense of the word.

*Sincerely,  
Eduard Topchjan  
Artistic Director and Principal  
Conductor*

**5 February**

21:00 Crossroads Blues Band (Soloist Amiryan Misho) Malkhas Jazz Club

**6 February**

21:00 Jazz Trio (Soloist Aghvan) Malkhas Jazz Club

**7 February**

19:00 On the 44 degree. A. Simonyan (Based on T. Hayrapetyan story) Hamazgayin Theatre  
19:00 Musical Love Bridge. Art Team and Sharm Holding H. Paronyan State Theatre of Musical Comedy

**8 February**

19:00 On the 44 degree. A. Simonyan (Based on T. Hayrapetyan story) Hamazgayin Theatre  
19:00 Mama Mia. K. Ludwig. Comedy in 2 act H. Ghaplanyan Drama Theatre  
19:00 Cherchez la femme. By Aldo Nikolai H. Tumanyan State Puppet Theatre  
19:00 Musical Love Bridge. Art Team and Sharm Holding H. Paronyan State Theatre of Musical Comedy  
21:00 Group Fiesta (Soloist Sona) Malkhas Jazz Club Vahagn Hayrapetyan Jazz Trio Malkhas Jazz Club

**9 February**

19:00 Sale. Tragicomedy. Director: Vigen Stepanyan Hamazgayin Theatre  
19:00 Love Mess. H. Berger. Crazy hallucination, part 2 H. Ghaplanyan Drama Theatre  
19:00 Musical Love Bridge. Art Team and Sharm Holding H. Paronyan State Theatre of Musical Comedy  
21:00 Vahagn Hayrapetyan Jazz Trio Malkhas Jazz Club

**10 February**

21:00 Group Remino and Forsh Malkhas Jazz Club

**11 February**

21:00 Jazz quartet (Soloist Zara) Malkhas Jazz Club



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SITE WEB: WWW.CAFA.AM

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Weekly Newspaper  
Since May 4, 1993,  
Yerevan, Armenia

**President of the Media Holding:**  
*Tigran Harutyunyan*  
**Editor-in-Chief of the Media Holding:**  
*Gayaneh Arakelyan*  
**Director of the Weekly:**  
*Marina Harutyunyan*  
**Chief Correspondent:** *Gourgen Khazhakian*  
**Proofreader:** *Susanna Mkrtchian*

The publisher: NT Holding LTD,  
28 Isahakian Str., Yerevan, 0009, Republic of Armenia  
Registration certificate and the date:  
273.110.00512, 15.12.1995  
Circulation: 1500 print copies and  
15.600 copies by e-mail list in PDF format  
Tel.: (374 60) 27-64-62, Fax: (374 60) 27-64-61  
E-mail: [contact@nt.am](mailto:contact@nt.am)  
URL: [www.nt.am](http://www.nt.am)

ISSN 1829-0604