

## Electricity Tariff Rise was political decision, say non-ruling parties

Representatives of four non-ruling parliamentary factions - Armenian Revolutionary Federation, Heritage Party, Armenian National Congress, and Prosperous Armenia Party - at a press conference on July 2 all agreed that the recent rise in the electricity tariff was as a result of a political decision.

Representatives of the four parties participated in yesterday's Public Services Regulatory Commission (PSRC) meeting and, according to Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP) MP Mikyael Melkumyan, presented reasonable arguments against the electricity price rise.

Melkumyan said that the Commission members and company heads made no counte arguments and voted unanimously in favor of the price increase. According to the MP, if things continue this way, the price of electricity will increase year after year. "The state might take these steps to mitigate [the problem], which is not in the professional, but in the political arena, and we witnessed this — the decision is only in the political arena," he said.

Head of the Heritage Party faction, Ruben Hakobyan, agreed, saying that yesterday's decision was political. According to him, the PSRC has succumbed to political decisions carried out by the ruling authorities. Hakobyan said their group of four non-ruling parties never opted for categorical rejection but took an alternative path, proposing solutions, and in this case too it will take similar action because it sees the existence of shady deals.

"You'll see, that which is being done — I'm refer-



ring to electricity becoming more expensive — doesn't have to be done, if only we are able to ensure transparency in how the system works. Yes, it's a closed space, there is no transparent gaze, for us to supervise what's happening here. This is against the law, and the quartet [the four non-ruling parties] is attentive in this matter," he said.

As a result of the electricity price rise, life will increase by about 10%, Hakobyan added. "No one denies this, and tomorrow we are going to witness this. Those 3, 4 months that we were thinking to give to the authorities, the authorities understood completely differently and, taking advantage of this *continued on page 5*

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## President Serzh Sargsyan marks his jubilee



On the occasion of his birth 60th anniversary (30 June), President Serzh Sargsyan is receiving congratulations and

best wishes from heads of states, international organizations, representatives of the state and public sectors, and individuals.

The President of the Russian Federation **Vladimir Putin**, the President of the People's Republic of China **Xi Jinping**, the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan **Nursultan Nazarbayev**, the President of the Republic of Belarus **Alexander Lukashenko**, the President of the Republic of India **Pranab Mukherjee**, the President of the Republic of Tajikistan **Emomali Rahmon**, the President of Turkmenistan **Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov**, the Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation **Dmitry Medvedev** sent congratulatory messages to the RA

President on the occasion of his 60th anniversary.

The Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians His Holiness **Karekin II** and the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus' **Kirill I** also sent congratulatory messages to President Serzh Sargsyan.

The President of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic **Bako Sahakyan** also sent a congratulatory message to President Serzh Sargsyan.

*The Noyan Tapan Media Holding Staff joins congratulations and wishes Mr President good health, family happiness and fruitful work for the safety and prosperity of our Motherland Armenia.*

## US Independence Day celebrated in Armenia



On July 2, the U.S. Embassy celebrated the 238th anniversary of the independence of the United States at the U.S. Embassy in Yerevan. Ambassador John Heffern and Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan praised the close U.S.-Armenian partnership.

In his remarks, Ambassador Heffern noted that this year "A strong Armenia is in the interest of the United States. Our deepening economic and cultural ties are the result of the many partnerships we have in this country. I hope all of us will pledge tonight to continue to work together to deepen the ties between the United States of America and the

Republic of Armenia." He welcomed the many groups, organization and individuals who are working with the U.S. Embassy, and encouraged them to work with each other as well.

Yerevan's Imagine Band played a selection of American country songs throughout the evening and the Nane dance studio performed country line dancing. Gagik Ginosyan and his group Karin performed traditional Armenian folk songs.

Independence Day honors the birthday of the United States of America and the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

## No need to apply to CSTO over situation at Azeri border: Armenian DM

The Armenian army is capable of solving the issue of tension at the border, and there is no need to apply to the CSTO, Armenian Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan told reporters on the sidelines of the international strategy policy forum on "The integration of national and regional peacekeeping capacities into the global system of peace operations based on the principles and standards of the UN."

He added, however, that the CSTO could react to the situation with a statement specifying who violates the ceasefire.

Speaking about the situation at the Armenian-Azerbaijani border and the line of contact with Nagorno Karabakh, the Defense Minister said: "The situation at the border and the line of contact is always tense: it's the number of shots increasing or decreasing. The number of shots and ceasefire violations has increased in the recent period. I think this is connected with political or other issues. Azerbaijan was recently celebrating its Army Day."

According to Seyran Ohanyan, there have been no subversive acts, just sniper shooting, and our border guards have given an adequate response.

## Putin ratifies cooperation agreements with Armenia



Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed laws on the ratification of two cooperation agreements with Armenia and a treaty on good-neighborly and allied relations with Kazakhstan. The documents ratified

earlier by Russia's lower and upper houses were posted on the official web portal for legal information on June 30, the Voice of Russia reports.

They include an agreement between Russia and Armenia on military and

technical cooperation, signed in Armenia's capital, Yerevan, in June last year and regulating mutual military supplies for the two countries' armed forces, law enforcement agencies and security services. Under the accord, Russia and Armenia will maintain military deliveries under contracts made by the two sides' designated institutions without the need for import/export licenses.

The president also signed a law on ratification of an intergovernmental agreement with Armenia on cooperation in commodity supplies to the South Caucasus Republic. The document signed during Putin's visit to Yerevan in December last year, stipulates Russia's duty-free supplies of petroleum products, natural gas and natural uncut diamonds to Armenia before the later joins the Eurasian integration space based on the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

## Armenian FM meets Spanish Senator Aiertza Azurtza



On June 30 Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian received Urko Aiertza Azurtza, member of the Senate of Spain with the Head of "European friends of Armenia" organization Eduardo Lorenzo Ochoa.

Welcoming the guests, Minister Nalbandian attached significance to the input made through parliamentary diplomacy in the development of bilateral relations.

Edward Nalbandian commended the Spanish Senator's visit to Artsakh, mentioning that such visits create an opportu-

nity to learn first-hand about the Nagorno-Karabakh issue and the current situation there.

Expressing gratitude for the reception, Senator Aiertza stressed, that it was of paramount importance to him to visit both Armenia and Artsakh, and assured that he would continue his activities towards further strengthening and deepening of the Armenian-Spanish interaction.

Minister Nalbandian presented the efforts exerted by Armenia and the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair States towards the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

During the meeting views were exchanged over Armenia-European Union cooperation.

### Noyan Tapan Press-Center

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## "Armenian-Iranian Friendship" NGO is Established in Armenia

On June 27 at Noyan Tapan information press hall the first meeting of the working group of the "Armenian-Iranian Friendship" NGO was held. The goal of the NGO is to strengthen the Armenian-Iranian relations, focusing on the cultural, scientific and economic ties.

The "Armenian-Iranian Friendship" NGO was created by a number of members of the initiative group, including the Chairman of "Anitour" historical-cultural tourist agency Volodia Arushanyan, the Chairman of the Noyan Tapan Information-Analytical Center and Pan-Armenian Media Association" Tigran Harutyunyan, the Head of Moscow Division of the Eurasian Inter-Regional Foundation "Dialogue of Civilizations and Cultures," Professor of Management, Economics and Innovations Artashes Mikayelyan and others.

About 40 members of the cultural, scientific and business sphere took part in the first meeting.

During the meeting the members of the NGO presented the problems existing in the sphere of culture, economy, as well as tourism, which impede the development of the Armenian-Iranian development.

The Minister Counsellor of the Embassy of Iran to Armenia Jafar Zamani also attended the meeting. In the latter's opinion, the level of the Armenian-Iranian relations does not satisfy both the Iranians' and Armenians' expectations.

The Minister Counsellor listened to all the opinions and noted they were interested in the cultural sphere, and in case of its development both the economy and politics will develop. Jafar Zamani emphasized the cooperation in the spheres of energy and agriculture, where Iran had good progress.



## Electricity tariff rise was political decision...

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break, are forcing such decisions on the people. If the authorities are using this political break to force these decisions on people, then we will give an adequate response to the authorities in the fall," he said.

Secretary of the Armenian National Congress (ANC) faction, Aram Manukyan, said the authorities were confident that the Commission would vote in favor of increasing the electricity tariff. "They knew 100% that [PSRC Chair] Robert Nazaryan's Commission will vote quietly, and all voted facing downward. It's a fact that the decision was political. This time our arguments were both political and financial," he said, adding that the PSRC is meekly carrying out the authorities' orders and is not an independent body.

Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF-D) MP Armen Rustamyan, in turn, said that the ruling authorities identify any situation that evoke issues that have social or political resonance with bankruptcy. He said that we are witness to a collapsing economy, adding that the authorities have a need for financial resources, for which there are two sources: "The first source is to extort from the people, which is possible, what remains; the other is acquiring debts from abroad. We don't need brains to understand this...We have an energy system that should've become the driving force behind the economy, but this system is losing its power. We've been an energy

exporter, but this too is under attack because it turns out that we get energy

"Similar promises were made after the price of [natural] gas increased, but they



from Georgia. So there's a need to save the economy. Also, the body regulating public services is not carrying out its role, not taking its steps, [fulfilling its] functions, and so there are grounds to appeal to the Constitutional Court, in terms of revealing shortcomings in the law. What would've been better is if the vote was postponed, but there was an order from above," he said.

As for Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan's statement made on July 2 that the assistance should be provided to socially vulnerable families to ease the burden of the electricity price rise, Manukyan said it's an empty promise.

didn't carry them out. This is [...] an empty promise and won't be implemented, and even if it is, it won't solve anything because it can't stop inflation; it can't effect the drop in [consumer] purchasing power," he said.

Hakobyan said he has the impression from Sargsyan's statement that the latter found out about the electricity price increase only the day before. According to him, the state assistance to poor families is simply a tactical move — it won't solve the problem.

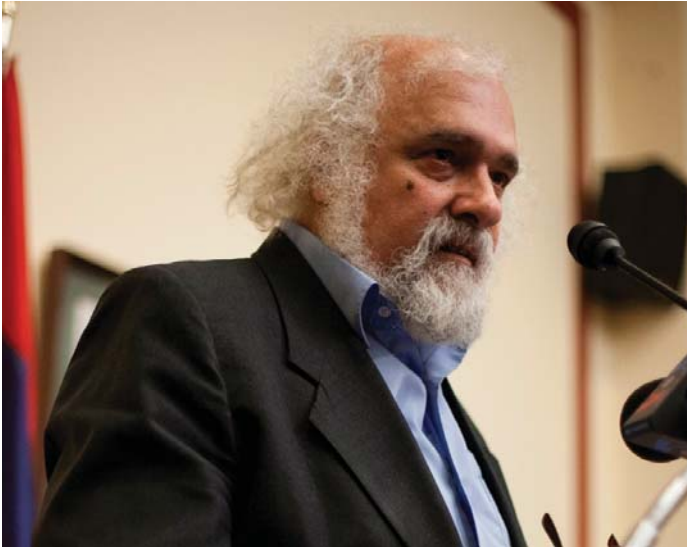
Rustamyan added that by saying "below poverty line" they understand different things. "When we say below the poverty line, we imagine that to be those who have an income less than the minimum budget. But for them [the authorities], it's something completely different. For us, 70% of the public is below the poverty line because it doesn't make the minimum income," he said.

The four non-ruling parties, Manukyan said, haven't come to a decision on the electricity price rise, but they're convinced that the electricity tariff doesn't have to be raised. "We want to convince the authorities not to increase the rate because it will lead to emigration, to inflation. Perhaps, it's hopeless optimism, let's convince them to step back from this issue, but we don't plan to lash out at them."

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## Davutoglu's scales are wrong, Turkish publisher says in Yerevan



“Genocide means not only the extermination of the nation, but also its generations, culture, traditions, cities and villages, and this is what happened in Turkey,” famous Turkish intellectual, publisher Ragip Zarakolu told reporters in Yerevan today. He has arrived in Armenia to participate in the presentation of the Turkish edition of the “Armenian Genocide in Ottoman Turkey: Testimonies of the Survivors.”

In 2012 Van publishing house issued the three-volume work titled “Armenian Genocide in Ottoman Turkey: Testimonies of the Survivors,” which presents eyewitness accounts of the Genocide, valuable archive documents, maps and photos. In 2013 the book was published in English, and now it's available in Turkish, as well.

“I was greatly excited by the content of this book, because it includes interviews made in 1916, i.e. immediately after the Genocide. This is a very valuable document against Turkish denialism,” Zarakolu said.

“This is denialism: once you lie, you have to do that constantly. This is Turkey's policy, which I have long been fighting against,” he said.

Zarakolu and his wife have been persecuted in Turkey because of their activity. He has published a number of books on the Armenian Genocide, and this one will come to enrich the list of banned literature in Turkey. “Thanks God there is Internet, and the book will reach the reader,” the publisher said.

Zarakolu said much has changed in Turkey over the past years. “People are tired of lies, they want the truth,” he said.

Ragip Zarakolu referred to Turkish Prime Minister Regep Tayyip Erdogan's address to the Armenian people on the eve of April 24 and Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan's invitation to the Turkish leader to visit Yerevan on the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. He also spoke about the recent article by Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, in which the latter notes that ‘unjust memory has been created around the events of 1915.’

“Davutoglu's scales are wrong,” the publisher said. “If we look at the period from 1915 to nowadays, we'll see that two million Armenians living in Western Armenia do not live there any more. Had there been no genocide, there would be 8-10 million Armenians living there.”

“Genocide means not only the annihilation of the nation, but also its generations, culture, traditions, cities and villages, and this is what happened in Turkey,” famous Turkish intellectual, publisher Ragip Zarakolu said.

## Ruben Safrastyan: Instability in the Middle East fraught with unpredictable consequences



30-40 Armenian families fled to Armenia after the events in Kessab; most of them have now returned to Syria, member of the Public Council, Director of the Armenian Philharmonic Gagik Manasyan told reporters today.

According to him, other Syrian Armenians also intend to return to Syria after the domestic political situation in the country stabilizes.

“Although the Turkish-Syrian border is fully controlled by the Syrian troops and the security is ensured, the threat is still there,” Director of the Oriental Studies Institute of the National Academy of Sciences Ruben Safrastyan said, in turn.

“Incumbent President Bashar Al-Assad's victory in the presidential elections and the success of the Syrian Army on the battlefield contribute to the normalization of the situation in the country,” Safrastyan said. He added, however, that two other state formations are being shaped. The Islamic State or Caliphate was recently proclaimed on some areas of Syria and Iraq, while Kurds in the north of Iraq intend to create the Kurdish State.

According to Safrastyan, in reality the caliphate is a terrorist state, which functions under the flag of Islam and unites Sunni Muslims. If the political scientist is concerned about the caliphate, he's more optimistic about the perspectives of establishment of Kurdistan. He said it's an expected and an inevitable development.

“The West has to reconsider its attitude towards the Middle East, otherwise the instability is fraught with unpredictable consequences,” Safrastyan said.

## World Bank further strengthens power supply reliability in Armenia

The World Bank Board of Executive Directors today approved a US\$40 million loan for the Additional Financing of the Electricity Supply Reliability Project for Armenia. This additional financing would scale up activities to enhance the impact of the ongoing project and cover the cost of rehabilitation of three substations essential for Armenia's power transmission network - the Haghtanak, Charentsavan-3, and Vanadzor-1 substations.

The average age of Armenia's power transmission assets is around 45 years and most of them have not undergone any major rehabilitation or upgrade over the past decades. The ongoing Electricity Supply Reliability Project has been designed to enhance the reliability of the power supply in the country by improving the capacity of the power transmission network back-bone infrastructure. Around 230 km of outdated transmission lines from the Hrazdan Thermal Power Plant to the Shinuhayr substation is under replacement. The investments will increase the capacity and reliability of the targeted section of the transmission network by

lowering frequency of line failures and related power supply outages.

"The rehabilitation of the targeted substations will improve power system efficiency and reliability, and bring direct benefits to all power consumers in Armenia," said Jean-Michel Happi, World Bank Country Manager for Armenia. "This would allow avoiding increased incidence of power supply outages, as well as associated significant social and economic costs."

The new financing is targeting the assets that have a high priority in the list of investment needs. The Haghtanak substation requires rehabilitation and extension and is critical for ensuring reliable power supply to distribution substations and consumers in the western parts of Yerevan. Charentsavan-3 and Vanadzor-1 serve residential and large industrial consumers in the north-eastern and northern Armenia. Charentsavan-3 also functions as switching stations linking to other six substations.

Rehabilitation and extension of the three substations need to start as soon as possible. Several key sections of plant and equipment

are well beyond their economic life and their increased incidence of failure could have significant negative implications. In particular, some of the substations have equipment that was commissioned back in 1930s and have never undergone any rehabilitation since then.

"The capacity of the High Voltage Electric Networks (HVEN), which remains the implementing agency for this operation, has been strengthened under the ongoing project," said Arthur Kochnakyan, World Bank Task Team Leader of the Project. "This is essential to ensure the efficient implementation and sustainability of the new investments."

The project builds on the World Bank experience and draws extensively upon the lessons of previous engagement in the power sector of Armenia, as well as on transmission projects implemented in other countries.

Total financing of the project is US\$50 million, of which US\$10 million will be the Government's contribution. The World Bank will provide a US\$40 million IBRD loan of variable spread with a 10 year grace period and the total repayment term of 25 years.

Since joining the World Bank in 1992 and IDA in 1993, the commitments to Armenia total approximately US\$ 1,961.73 million.

## World Bank Supports Improvement of Armenia's Investment and Export Promotion Services

WASHINGTON, July 2, 2014 - The World Bank Board of Executive Directors today approved a US\$50 million loan for the Trade Promotion and Quality Infrastructure Project for Armenia. This project is designed to strengthen the government's capacity to promote exports, attract foreign and domestic investments, and enhance quality services to business expansion.

Armenia has a relatively low export base, dominated by a few products with low value added content, reflecting the declining sophistication of its export sectors. The country also needs to step-up private investments, notably foreign direct investment (FDI). Left unchanged, the current structure of export basket will do little to mitigate the country's vulnerability to global competition and will lead to a lower growth trajectory. In addition, Armenia's national quality infrastructure suffers from substantial weaknesses that hinder technology upgrading and undermine the competitiveness of its exports.

"Trade is a key driver of growth in the transition to high income. This project will support policies and programs aiming at upgrading Armenia's physical, human and institutional assets which are crucial to sustained export competitiveness," said Jean-

Michel Happi, World Bank Country Manager for Armenia. "Raising long-term economic growth requires that the government tackle binding structural constraints to investment and exports."

The project will specifically help: (i) improve the effectiveness of the trade promotion and quality system in Armenia; (ii) promote investment and exports by providing services to improve the capacity of local exporters to compete in foreign markets, facilitate cluster development, and attract efficiency seeking FDI; and (iii) modernize the national quality infrastructure by updating the metrological, accreditation and standards services to provide relevant quality management services to industry.

"To boost exports and FDI, Armenia needs a strong institutional framework," said Feyi Boroffice, World Bank Task Team Leader of the Project. "The project is designed to provide adequate incentives to enhance effectiveness of the government in delivering trade promotion and quality infrastructure services to firms."

The project will transform the investment, export promotion, and quality infrastructure agencies into modern service providers operating in accordance with international best practices. The proposed activities will sup-

port reforms to improve the relevant agencies and provide complementary investments for establishment of foreign representatives in key export and investment markets and the renovation of a metrology building and laboratories. As a result, it is expected to increase the capacity of firms to compete in export markets, facilitate public-private partnerships, and support the National Institute of Metrology and National Accreditation Board to obtain multilateral agreements with international bodies.

The project's direct beneficiaries include both existing and potential exporters, who will benefit from improved service delivery under a more efficient trade promotion and quality system. Foreign-owned firms that are going to invest in Armenia will also benefit, as well as local enterprises which will receive positive spillover effects from foreign direct investments. Furthermore, by promoting industry-academia collaboration, the proposed activities will largely assist universities, research institutions and enterprises.

Total financing of the project is US\$59.54 million, of which US\$9.54 million will be the Government's contribution. The World Bank will provide a US\$50 million IBRD loan of variable spread with a 10 year grace period and the total repayment term of 25 years.

Since joining the World Bank in 1992 and IDA in 1993, the commitments to Armenia total approximately US\$ 1,961.73 million.



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## 1 ROOM

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

## 2 ROOMS

- 1560. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 10/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.
- 2818. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, Ac, furnished. Price: 400.000 USD
- 1156. **Komitas Ave.**, Hambardzumyan str. 5/3, 110sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, kitchen is furnished. Price: 150.000 USD negotiable..
- 2949. **Aram str.**, Newly built, 1st floor, 143 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, zero state, Price: 2000 USD per sq.m.
- 2300. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.

## 3 ROOMS

- 2682. **Aram Str.**, Newly built, 13/6 187sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 open balconies, capitally repaired, heating system, 2AC, 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 550.000 USD negotiable.
- 2958. **Pushkin str.**, 5/2, 140 sq.m., stone building, 4 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: Negotiable.
- 2895. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, AC. Price: negotiable
- 2802. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 8/4, 166sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, security system. Price: 320.000 USD.
- 1104. **Komitas Ave.**, Aram Khachatryan str., 5/2, 125sq.m., stone bld, h-2.75m., 3 bedrooms, office, 2 bathrooms, old repair, gas, garage. Price: 130.000 USD
- 2950. **Aram str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 176 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, office, zero state, Price: 310.000 USD
- 2836. **Pushkin str.**, 4/4,5, 400sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 460.000 USD.
- 2990. **North Ave.**, Newly built, 11th floor, 295sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: Negotiable.

## PREMISES

- 1789. **Charents str.** Land-1270sq.m, 5 storied building, each floor-400sq.m., basement, capitally repaired, parkings. Price: 4.000.000 USD nego-

tiable

- 1598. **Komitas, Nairy Zaryan str.**, 1000 sq.m., working restaurant, 1st line, capitally repaired. Price: negotiable.
- 1603. **Northern Ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 160 sq.m., zero level, window glasses. Price: 2.600.000 USD.
- 2035. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capitally repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: Negotiable
- 2013. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 1.300.000\$ negotiable
- 2012. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1,2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitally repaired, AC. Price: 1.100.000\$ negotiable
- 2155. **Mashtots ave.**, 3storied building, 540sq.m., each floor-180sq.m, window glasses, parking. Price: 3.600.000 USD
- 2020. **Hr. Kochar str.**, Land-300sq.m, 1st line, 4storied building, 1080sq.m., each floor-270sq.m, h-3.6m, without divisions, parkings, 3 access. Price: 1.400.000 USD negotiable
- 1986. **Cascade**, Land 1000sq.m. 3storied building-1200sq.m., unfinished, parking. Price: 1.000.000 USD.
- 2167. **Sayat Nova str.**, newly built, 38sq. m, capitally repaired. Price: 200.000 USD
- 2175. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground and 1st floor of the building, 600sq.m, ground floor-300sq.m, 1st floor-220sq.m, basement-80sq.m., - 1st line, zero level, 2 entrances, facade-15m, 4 window glasses, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, Price: 3500 USD per sq.m,
- 2172. **Isahakyan str.**, 92sq.m, 1st line, 7 degrees above zero level, facade-9m, 2 window glasses, h-3.20m, 2 halls, cabinet, bathroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 450.000 USD

## LANDS

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

## PRIVATE HOUSES

- 3348. **Blur, Barbyus str.** Land - 800 sq.m, 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 1.2 million USD
- 3146. **Aygestan**, Land-500 sq.m., 5 storied bld-765 sq.m., each floor-180 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system, elevator. Price: 2.300.000 USD.
- 3583. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capitally

repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 1.350.000 USD.

- 3432. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m, 3 storied bld.- 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, boiler room garden, swimming pool, sauna, garage, security system. Price: 1.000.000 USD

- 3576. **Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capitally repaired, heating system, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 850.000 USD

- 3606. **Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur/near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-1.500.000 USD

- 3574. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 2.000.000 USD

- 3590. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450 sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 680.000 USD

- 3651. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 1.700.000 USD.

- 3401. **Antarayin str.**, Newly built, land-700sq.m, 3 storied bld-690sq.m, 5 bedrooms, capitally repaired. Price: 1.300.000 USD

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

- 130. **Antarayin str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable

- 131. **Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable





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

### 2 ROOMS

- ♦942. **Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- ♦1950. **Buzand/Mashtots area.** Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- ♦1681. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- ♦1535. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦2089. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 8/6, 120sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, furnished, equipped. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦1738. **Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1951. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦1406. **Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2187. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9/5, 120 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2.200 USD
- ♦2109. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- ♦2243. **Buzand str.**, Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD
- ♦2267. **North Avenue** Newly built, 7th floor, 170sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished equipped. Price: 2500 USD

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- ♦2257. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 17/16, 160 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2021. **Teryan Str.**, Newly built, 9/8, 9, 245 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.

- ♦2005. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.
- ♦1723. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4., 170 sq.m 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD.
- ♦1981. **Vardanants Str.**, Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, 3 open balconies, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.



- ♦1793. **Teryan str.**, Newly built, 8th floor, 260 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, climat control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), Price: 3500 USD.
- ♦1720. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 16/10, 179 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating, AC, cellar- 25sq.m, with or without furniture, parking, Price 3000 USD negotiable
- ♦2195. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- ♦2261. **Hin Yerevantsi**, /North Avenue/, Newly built, 10/3, 124sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 1700 USD
- ♦2084. **Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- ♦2252. **Northern ave**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

### PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m ,3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, central heating, AC, sauna, boiler room garden, swimming pool, garage, alarming system, security system. Price: 8000 USD.
- ♦999. **Aygedzor**, Land -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors- 310 sqm, capially repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, newly furnished, equipped, sauna, swimming-pool. Starting Price: 5000 USD.
- ♦1094. **Noy block**, Land-450sqm, 2 storied building - 220sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden. Price: 2000USD.
- ♦1195. **Nork, Armenakyan str.**, Land - 2000 sq.m, 4 storied bld.-520 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished, swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦1142. **Djrevej**, Bagrevand community. Land-1000 sq.m., 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capially repaired, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary /garage for 2 cars. Price: 4 000 USD.

- ♦1293. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520 sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 7.000 USD
- ♦327. **Nork-Marash**, Land-500sq.m., 4 storied building-600 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-4000 USD
- ♦1306. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking, with or without furniture. Price: 6000-8000 USD negotiable
- ♦1288. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 5000 USD
- ♦1197. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 8000 USD
- ♦1312. **Blur, Barbysus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1317. **Blur, Barbysus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦1323. **Monument, Babayan str**, Land - 400 sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, each floor-100sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable

### PREMISES

- ♦1693. **Malatia-Sebastia** 4 storied building, 1200sq.m, each floor-300sq.m, 2 separate entrances, climate control, 2 elevators, basement, parking. Price: 15USD per sq.m.
- ♦1526. **Buzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦1408. **Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghramyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor-hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capially repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capially repaired, AC, parking, Price: 10.000 USD.
- ♦1945. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capially repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- ♦1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capially repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- ♦1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capially repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.
- ♦2087. **Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m., 1st line, zero level, capially repaired, window glasses. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦2033. **Abovyan str**, 388sq.m, Ground floor of the building, 3 degrees above zero level, window glasses, h-3m., basement-235sq.m, capially repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 15.000 USD
- ♦2031. **Vardanants str**, 500sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, facade-20m, window glasses, without divisions, ,basement-250sq.m, Price: 8000 USD
- ♦2027. **Sayat Nova str**, 95sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, 7 degrees above zero level, 4 window glasses, capially repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

## Jordan could be the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant's next target

### Summary

The Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, buoyed by its recent successes in Iraq, wants to expand its regional reach. Reports that Iraq has withdrawn forces from western towns close to its 180-kilometer (110-mile) border with Jordan have left Amman feeling vulnerable, and the Hashemite kingdom, certainly a target of interest for the jihadist movement, has deployed additional security personnel along the border.

However, taking on Jordan would be tough for the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant. The group has the ability to stage terrorist attacks in the country, but significant constraints will prevent it from operating on the levels seen in Iraq and Syria.

### Analysis

The June 15 edition of the Jordan Times reported that Amman had beefed up security along its border with Iraq amid fears that the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant is inching toward the kingdom. Quoting unnamed Islamist sources, the report added that the jihadist group had established a branch within the kingdom as part of its plans to create a regional emirate.

The militant group's intent to expand into Jordan follows the region's geopolitical logic. After its push into Iraq, and already controlling significant swathes of Syrian territory, the jihadist group can try to push into the Hashemite kingdom from two directions. Jordan is the only opening available to Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant -- the group cannot move north into Turkey, nor could it move southwest into Lebanon. Even in Jordan, though, the group faces considerable challenges.

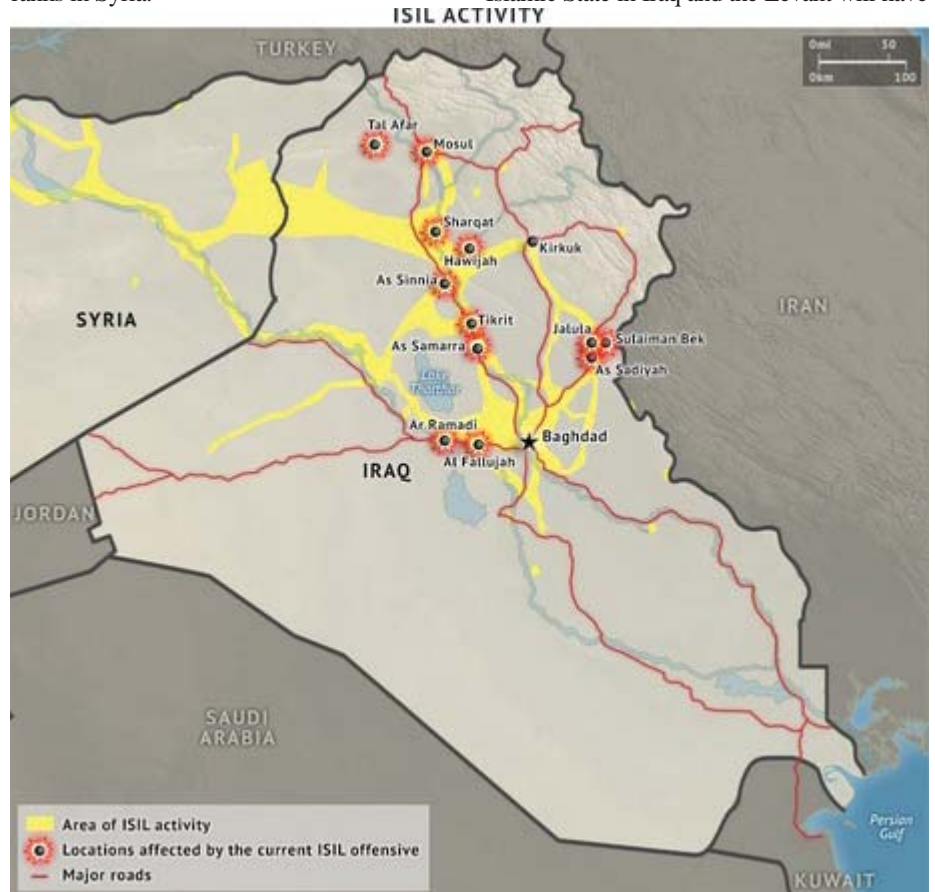
For starters, the Jordanian regime is far more stable than Syria or Iraq, and its security forces have proved to be quite effective. Furthermore, Jordan has strong backing from the United States and Saudi Arabia, especially since the kingdom became a critical staging ground for support to Syrian rebels. Washington and Riyadh can extend financial, intelligence and military assistance to Amman. But Jordan is also a key sanctuary for rebels, and this aids the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant's cause.

Jordan has long had a substantial Salafist and jihadist presence. Since the start of the civil war in Syria, jihadists have moved frequently across the Jordan-Syria border. Amman has tried to crack down on this cross-border traffic, but it has not brought it to a stop.

Jordan is the native country of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the slain founder of the organization that later became the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant. However, the kingdom's

jihadist landscape is currently dominated by forces that oppose the group and are aligned with al Qaeda and its Syrian ally, Jabhat al-Nusra. Though the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant has its own supporters in Jordan, the best-known jihadist ideologues in the country -- people such as Abu Muhammad al-Maqqdisi and Abu Qatada -- have criticized the group, especially its revolt against al Qaeda prime, creating dissension within jihadist ranks in Syria.

openly rejected this call. The group's predecessor, al Qaeda in Iraq, despite frictions with Jordan-based jihadists, was able to stage attacks in the country, including suicide bombings in 2005 that targeted three Western hotels in Amman, and the 2002 assassination of U.S. diplomat Lawrence Foley. Now that the group's capabilities have dramatically expanded, it can certainly carry out attacks in the kingdom if it chooses to do so. The Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant will have



The Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant's jihadist opponents are dismayed by what they see as the group's high-risk maneuvers, such as its mass killings of Shia and its insistence on imposing austere Islamist laws in the areas it controls, actions that risk alienating locals in a given country. In September, al Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri issued guidance specifically addressing the issue, calling on jihadist fighters to refrain from fighting sects, such as Shia, Ismailis, Qadianis and Sufis, unless elements from those sects begin the fight. He similarly called for noninterference with Christian, Sikh and Hindu communities living in Muslim lands. He also ordered jihadists not to target noncombatant women and children or fellow Muslims via explosions, killings, kidnappings or destruction of property.

The Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant

to assess its current position, especially in light of its push into Iraq, and decide whether it is in its interest to quickly begin operations in Jordan, or whether it should wait until it has consolidated itself in Iraq and weathered the counteroffensive from Shia and Kurds there.

The Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant certainly will not want to alienate many of its Iraqi Sunni partners who have sanctuary in Jordan. Sunni tribal forces in Iraq would prefer that the group focus on that country and desist from any action in Jordan that could trigger a strong reaction from Amman. It is unclear how the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant will proceed. The key thing to bear in mind is that while it can carry out terrorist attacks in Jordan, there are too many constraints for the group to act in Jordan as it has in Syria and Iraq

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# Turkey's Declining Support in Congress After Blunders at Home and Abroad



By Harut Sassounian

Publisher, The California Courier

Due to Prime Minister Erdogan's widespread human rights abuses of his own citizens and foreign policy blunders vis-a-vis Armenia, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Iran, Iraq, Israel, and Syria, Turkey has lost much of the support it once enjoyed in the United States, and indeed, around the world.

The most recent evidence of this downturn is the adoption of House Resolution 4347 (Turkey Christian Churches Accountability Act) on June 26 by the Foreign Affairs Committee. Because of souring relations between Ankara and Washington, the U.S. Government refrained from spending its political capital on the Hill to prevent the bill's passage.

In addition, inter-Turkish feuds such as the one between Erdogan and Fethullah Gulen, a Turkish cleric with extensive influence in Turkey and abroad, have deprived Ankara of important grassroots support in the United States. Gulen-affiliated groups did not lift a finger to bail out Erdogan's government from a humiliating defeat in the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Due to another internal political dispute, the Turkish Coalition of America refused to sign the joint letter sent by three other Turkish-American groups to House Committee members opposing the Churches bill. In a desperate search for supporters, the Turkish groups recruited to their lobbying efforts the Azerbaijan American Council, which has no business sticking its nose in a matter involving the status of Christian churches in Turkey. By signing such a hostile joint letter, the Azeri group further antagonized Armenians worldwide, making it more difficult to reach a fair settlement in the Karabagh (Artsakh) conflict.

Finally, the Turkish government's clash with Israel after the Mavi Marmara attack and Turkey's new Ambassador Serdar Kilic's recent angry letter to the American Jewish Committee for recognizing the Armenian Genocide deprived Ankara of any lobbying support it used to receive in Congress from the Israeli government and some Jewish-American organizations.

In the absence of all support from its traditional allies, the Turkish government could only rely on its hired guns -- highly-paid US lobbying firms -- implement the standard Turkish tactics used in opposing any initiative that Ankara deems to be against its interests:

- 1) Object firmly to any anti-Turkish initiative to prevent its consideration;
- 2) If step 1 does not work, propose amendments to dilute the initiative;
- 3) Even after diluting the initiative, pressure the committee members to vote against it.

In the case of the churches bill, the Turkish government failed to block its consideration by the House Foreign Affairs Committee and was unable to collect enough votes to defeat the measure. The only thing left for Ankara to do was having some members of the Congressional Turkish Caucus to propose amendments to dilute the bill. This tactic had a modest success because Cong. Ed Royce (Rep.-CA), Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, tried to reach a consensus on the bill and went out of his way to accommodate the handful of dissenting members of Congress. After all, who in their right mind would oppose a bill that called for the return of religious properties to their proper owners which happen to be the Christian churches!

This is the second major defeat that Turkey suffered in Congress in the last three months. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee had adopted an Armenian

Genocide resolution with a vote of 12-5 on April 10 -- a further indication of the declining Turkish political clout in Washington. One simply needs to read two recent articles in the New York Times ("After Opening Way to Rebels, Turkey is Paying Heavy Price") and the Wall Street Journal ("An Unhelpful Ally") to see the degree of damage Erdogan has caused to his country's reputation.

In addition to the loss of clout, the Turkish government is wasting the millions of dollars it pays each year to high-powered, but apparently useless American lobbying firms that make big promises, pocket large amounts of money, and deliver practically nothing. When will the people of Turkey demand an account from their corrupt and irresponsible leaders who are throwing away Turkish citizens' hard earned tax dollars in a vain attempt to whitewash their genocidal history?

Pundits are predicting that despite Prime Minister Erdogan's dismal record both at home and abroad, he is expected to be elected president next August. Armenians, Greeks, Kurds and other oppressed ethnic and religious minorities are only too happy to see Turkey ruled by an incompetent leader who will bring the country to its knees!



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## The Armenian identity in France in the grip of memorialization



**Bt Tigran Yeghavian**  
Journalist

A year now from celebrating the centenary of the 1915 Genocide, the large Armenian Diaspora of France has made a priority of the “memorial duty” and the fight against revisionism at the expense of reflecting on their very future and lasting presence.

Four generations have succeeded the first wave of refugee survivors of the Genocide who ended up settling along the Paris-Lyon-Marseille axis in the 1920s. Formerly at the forefront of political activism in the Diaspora, the Armenian structures of France are now plagued by a general sclerosis, whose effects became apparent in the mid-1990s.

### Continuous assimilation

Published in 1986, Pastor René Léonian’s study *Are the Armenians of France Assimilated?* indirectly questioned how lasting an identity could be when challenged by the integrating framework of the French Republic. Two years later, the outbreak of the Karabakh conflict and Armenia’s independence briefly altered a set identity pattern by causing a momentary resurgence of the dramatic sequence of armed struggle of the late 1970s. But although the word Armenian has eventually entered the French national story – notably through Missak Manouchian’s accomplishments<sup>1</sup> or the work of singer Charles Aznavour – the naturally-assimilating French society has logically produced mostly “Frenchmen of Armenian stock” as opposed to the tiny defiant group defin-

ing themselves as “Armenians of France.”

### Armenians: how many subdivisions?

Whether you claim to be part of a 350,000 or 500,000 member strong community, figures are unverifiable because of a widely-disseminated population. Like other communities of the Western Diaspora, the immutable commemorative gatherings of April 24th which are held in towns with clusters of Armenian population offer a much too limited view of its demographic dynamism. Another illusion is that there is any sense of cohesion between the various segments of the community. In reality, it is very divided, due to the social and cultural splintering of a heterogeneous population. Since the 1920s, several strata of immigration have aggregated: the generation of survivors of the 1915 Genocide followed, at the end of the 1960s, by Armenians from the Middle East (Iran, Syria, Lebanon, Turkey). The latter, who carried a strong Armenian cultural baggage, engaged in the various community organizations, particularly at an educational level, bringing a new dynamics to the waning practice of the Armenian language, weakened by its loss of speakers. The last wave, from the former Soviet Republic of Armenia, is still on-going. It started in the mid-1990s, the outcome of economic emigration, and is characterized by little involvement in community life and by inspiring distrust or even scorn in most fellowmen from Armenian-Ottoman origins.

### Political crisis

A year now from centenary commemorations of the Genocide, which have been entrusted to the staff of the Coordination Council of the Armenian organizations of France (CCAF), the crisis is obvious. Founded in 2001, that representative body bringing together the whole rainbow of Armenian associations still finds it hard to unite around a common project reaching beyond the sole memorial function. A telling failure was the floundering of the French-Armenian Council, an ambitious project relying on the legitimacy of universal suffrage which, for the first time, made future

leaders of the community accountable to their constituents and their results judged by the ballot box. Although the idea had garnered support from most of the community leaders, it quickly fizzled out in the midst of general indifference – as if the elusive “Armenian constituency” could only express their interest in a common cause on very rare occasions – such as, at best, to shout their indignation in the face of genocide denial.

Another aspect of political deficiency is a form of mimesis. French-Armenians have always felt a complex mix of admiration and envy regarding the cultural, economic, intellectual and political dynamism of the Jewish community of France. Very few public figures of Armenian descent reach such clout and visibility in the French media. This is why the CCAF leaders decided to mimic their counterpart, the Conseil Représentatif des Juifs de France (CRIF), going as far as to copy their famous annual high-profile Paris dinner. Although the “solidarity between survivors,” as goes the famous phrase coined by controversial philosopher Bernard-Henri Lévy, appealed to Armenians, the Judeo-Armenian convergence has hardly gone beyond a purely emotional level.

The perverse effects of the “duty to remember:” the 2015 syndrome

Impatiently awaited by some, feared by others, the centenary commemorations of the Genocide as seen from France remarkably illustrate the prominent place taken by the *devoir de mémoire* (duty to remember) compared with other features of Armenian-ness, making the Genocide the most powerful *de facto* identity marker. For many French people of Armenian descent, this centenary will be a last send-off, the Armenian identity being often perceived as an inherited psychological burden. It will also be an opportunity for flights of imagination. It was thus suggested to have all the bells of the churches of France ring together on April 24th 2015 at 7.15pm. In the same spirit, an organization called “Courir pour la mémoire – stop au négationnisme” (Run for Memory – Stop Revisionism) intends to climb the

Everest “to deliver a message of peace and remembrance”... Could too much remembering kill the memory? Many French towns counting a few Armenian residents have installed their own khachkar (funeral headstone with the Armenian cross) dedicated to the memory of the victims of an unspeakable crime. Memorial centres were inaugurated in Valence, Décines, and one will soon open in Paris. And the former prestigious Mekhitarist lyceum in Sèvres, outside Paris, now only the shadow of its former self, intends to open its own Genocide museum.

For lack of a coherent vision of the future of Armenian identity in France, the leaders of the main French-Armenian organizations are staking everything on the strong media coverage of the 40-year struggle for recognition of the Genocide. Although some breakthroughs were achieved in the academic world and the media, one cannot ignore the current stalemate and perverse effects due to the mostly defensive posture of activists faced with mounting attacks from Turkish-Azeri nationalist organizations operating in France. Besides, it is to be feared that too much focusing on the memorial effort will exacerbate dissenting voices of people who think that the Armenian cause also means to invest more energy in the development and security of Armenia and Karabakh, in fighting the oligarchic excesses of the Erevan government, as well as in educating new elites of the Diaspora.

#### **Spiritual crisis**

Another symptom of the current cultural dereliction is the lack of investment in grey matter. The conditions that led to the closure of the illustrious daily newspaper *Harach2*, in 2009, have been experienced as a third-class burial of a whole school of thought born of the Diaspora and which bloomed into great names of the Armenian literature of exile such as Shahan Shahnour, Nigoghos Sarafian, Zare Vorpuni or Vasgen Shushanian. A great witness of that golden age of Armenian literature in France, the Paris-based Diaspora writer Krikor Beledian, is now read more in Armenia than in his own adopted country.

True, the Armenian press in France has always been remarkably lively and never stopped making its voice heard by

matching its standards to those of the rich media landscape of France. However, none of today’s press media seems to be able to face up to the challenge that an intellectual such as Shavarsh Missakian so brilliantly met in his days – to look everywhere for material that can benefit his people. Whether they are activist publications or critical Armenophile reviews, all of them validate the thesis of an intellectual weakness/ as well as of serious deficiencies in the workings of identity transmission. This does not mean to say that Armenians of France have become stupid in their 90 years of existence, but that the lack of transmission and under-investment in educational structures have generated a lasting fracture between two spaces: on the one hand a psychological ghetto where speaking Armenian is flaunted as some sort of eternal relic, or even fetish, and on the other, sharp minds cut off from the essential legacy of their elders, incapable of putting their mark on any tradition other than French-centred.

We are thus brought back to the central issue of the essential identity factor: language. But which language are we talking about? About a Westernized, standardized Armenian expurgated from the flavours of human experience, or an outgoing new language unafraid of testifying to the vibrant cultural wealth of a millennia-old nation in uprooted circumstances? One thing is sure: this troubled relation to the fundamentals of Armenian thought, which can never be reduced to one traumatic memory of the Genocide, keeps perpetuating frozen-in-time folklore, stereotypes and icons (cooking, traditional dances, Ararat and Aznavour), while some reinvigorating works of our literary heritage (Oshagan, Indra...) are collecting dust on the bookshelves of Armenian cultural centres for want of translators and readers.

#### **For a re-examination of transmission mechanisms**

This bitter state of things is compounded by the startling indifference of the 18 to 25-year-old age group to the very complete curriculum offered by the Department of Armenian studies at the prestigious Oriental languages school INALCO – the sole university in Europe and maybe in the entire Diaspora to offer such a range of courses towards professional specialization. And what to say of the feeble response to the innovative proj-

ect of educational modules “Digital Armenian Campus” of the Sources d’Arménie association? For their part, a few book publishers (such as Parenthèse, Sigest, Éditions Thadée, le Cercle des écrits caucasiens), who provide commendable non-profit support to Armenian literature, are a comforting antithesis to the grotesque TOROS Prize set up in Marseille to honour “star writers” in a bling and glitzy ceremony.

Clearly, the true stake of developing Armenian identity lies in part on teaching a new elite who can simultaneously address the Armenian and French audiences, a perfectly bilingual elite who is integrated in both cultural spheres so as to decipher the complexity of our reality and make stimulating sense of our diasporic experience. Besides, a policy of aid to literary and cinematographic creative works could give birth to a new movement within the Diaspora dealing with essential themes (sexuality, intercommunity mixing, figuration of Turks yesterday and today, identity fragmentation, etc.) These new vistas would enable us to widen the borders of an Armenian mindscape traditionally confined within local limits with a poor representation of contemporary Armenia – a little known country and source of many frustrations even though Yerevan is only a 4-hour flight away from Europe. Without a grasp on his past or present history, the Armenian of France lives in a permanent scene of shambles. Both a blessing and a burden, it is a curious, specific paradox. Suffering from a lack of vision and collective project creating perspectives, he is not aware of the perverse and stifling effects of the “all-commemorative” excess. Therefore, his rebirth can only happen by way of creativity and a complete reclaiming of his legacy through the mechanisms of transmission and communication – the first step towards building a viable alternative to both assimilation and communalism.

*1 Armenian Partisan in the French Resistance executed by the Nazis on 21 February 1944.*

*2 First Armenian-language daily newspaper in Europe, founded in Paris in 1925.*

<http://repairfuture.net/>

## Etihad Airways opened direct flight from Abu Dhabi to Yerevan

Etihad Airways opened a direct flight from Abu Dhabi to Yerevan. The company will establish a foothold in Armenia with four flights a week, James Mueller, Etihad Airways' Senior Vice President, Global Sales, told the media in Yerevan on Thursday.

"Armenia is a new market for us and we are delighted to be here. Both Yerevan and Abu Dhabi have been key transport destinations for thousands of years, and we want to support the growth of trade and tourism between Armenia and the UAE," he added.

The new Abu Dhabi - Yerevan route is operated by a two-class Airbus A320 aircraft, configured to carry 136 passengers, with 16 seats in Business Class and 120 seats in Economy Class, offering a total of 1,088 seats per week.

Marcelo Wende, Chief Executive Officer, Zvartnots International Airport, hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the arrival of the first flight, and disembarking guests were presented with a special commemorative certificate and welcomed with traditional Armenian "Gata" sweet pastries.



James Mueller said the new flights catered for the significant and growing demand for travel between the UAE and Armenia, as well as cities with large Armenian populations around the world, particularly in the US - home to over 1.5 million people from the Armenian diaspora.

"Yerevan is a welcome addition to Etihad Airways' growing network of destinations and reinforces our firm commitment to emerging markets.

"But more importantly, Etihad Airways' new flights also provide business and leisure travellers better access to and from Armenia, and convenient connections beyond our Abu Dhabi hub to the Gulf region and to key destinations in North America and across our global network."

Etihad Airways currently flies daily to Los Angeles, Chicago, and Washington, DC, and twice daily to New York. Direct flights from Abu Dhabi to Dallas Fort Worth will start from 3 December.

Sergey Avetisyan, Deputy Minister of Economy for the Republic of Armenia, said: "In the framework of the Open Skies policy adopted by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, we welcome Etihad Airways to Armenia and are confident its



new service to Yerevan will contribute to inbound tourism and stimulate economic and commercial ties between the UAE and Armenia."

Trade between the UAE and Armenia has grown significantly over recent years, making the UAE one of Armenia's main trading partners, and its largest in the Gulf region.

"The new service builds on the existing flights between Armenia and the UAE, by providing access to the airline's hub in Abu Dhabi, and the opportunity of developing greater commercial links and trade between Armenia and key business partners around the world," he added.

Situated along the Hrazdan River, Yerevan is the cultural, economic and political heart of the country, with a population of more than a million. It's also the largest city of Armenia and one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities - known as the

"City of the Sun and Light" and famous for its vibrant nightlife, buzzing arts scene, cafe culture and Mediterranean mind-set.

Etihad Airways is the flag carrier airline of the United Arab Emirates, active since November 2003 and based in Abu Dhabi. The company operates a fleet of 1,001 aircraft and serves 102 routes to 60 countries. The company carried 11.5 million passengers in 2013, 12 percent more than in 2012.



## Armen Baldryan : "It is Inspiring that the New Government Wants to Continue to Support and will Contribute to the Development of the ICT Sector"



By **Gourgen James Khazhakian**  
Chief Correspondent

As we've already informed The Highlights readers, on June 20-21 in Yerevan 7th DigiTec Business Forum under slogan "Smart Solutions for Smart Business" was held. (See The Highlights previous issue). As we've announced, below you might find interview with **Armen S. Baldryan**, long time member of the IT Development Support Council under the PM of Armenia (ITDSC), "Unicomp" CJSC Founding CEO on this important event as well as on the ICT sector in general.

- Mr Baldryan, please a couple words

the Law will be adopted and its enforcement will become a good boost for our industry development.

And, under such conditions, we the private sector, in turn, will unite our efforts with great enthusiasm with the State in the name of development Armenia's ICT, and, consequently, our Country's development and prosperity.

I must point out also that the event was featured importantly by presence, encompassing speeches of the U.S. Ambassador **John Heffern** and EU delegation Charge d'Affaires **Dirk Lorenz** as well as their permanent and active support to Armenia's ICT sector.

Speaking about problems in ICT sector, I'd like to point out the lack of highly-

ries which are ready to train specialists meeting the world standards will start to work from coming September.

- And what about products/services presented by Unicomp at DigiTec Business 2014?

- As the main goal of the event is to present the advantages of the use of ICT in business, we presented solutions for corporate clients such as those related to ICT infrastructure, data centers, cloud computing, others.

Solutions and programs presented by Unicomp jointly with Intel, Hewlett Packard and Microsoft attracted great interest of visitors of the Forum. (Notably, at the Unicomp pavilion your author met reps of the mentioned giants of the world



Prime Minister Hovik A. Abrahamyan at the Unicomp pavilion with Armen Baldryan...

on the DigiTec Business 2014...

- It is evident that the event is growing from year to year, it becomes more active in terms of interest on it, the themes are becoming more interesting and topical ones. It is important also that the culture of presentation of ICT solutions has been formed and developed as well as an innovative platform for dialogue and cooperation between government and business has been formed.

Of course, the fact that in this year's forum Premier **Hovik Abrahamyan** was accompanied by Minister of Economy **Karen Chshmarityan**, Minister of Communications and Transport **Gagik Beglaryan**, and the opening ceremony was attended by Minister of Diaspora Mrs **Hranush Hakobyan**, is an evidence of the fact that the Prime Minister and his government are willing, in the words of Mr Abrahamyan, "to support with practical steps ICT sector having big importance for the Country's economy."

Another evidence of such an attitude to our sector is a draft law worked out by the Government on applying special tax policy towards the ICT start-ups recently introduced to the National Assembly.

I would like to believe that, after all,



...and kids using Intel/Unicomp classmate PCs



Armen Baldryan and Arsen Ghazaryan: "DigiTec for Business"

scilled human resources; it needs an additional 2,000-3,000 professionals.

We repeatedly have been stressing that the university curricula should be tailored to meet the requirements of ICT industry in the best possible way, and we the private companies have been working to support the training of specialists. Thus, Unicomp established laboratories at the State Engineering University of Armenia (SEUA) that are specifically targeted at networking and network security. Our experts carried out a relevant training for the SEUA lecturers to teach to the University students. I hope the laborato-

IT industry - G.Kh.).

Great attention was paid to solutions for education, - notebooks and tablets, production of which to be started in Armenia soon.

- In your opinion, how to encourage world IT giants to invest in Armenia?

- It is necessary to apply the special policy towards them to be tailored and implemented in a clear, step-by-step way.

In this regard, I'm optimistic because the new ministers are very experienced people who are familiar with the industry and with the active support of the private sector it's possible to achieve success. Number One matter here is finding the right format.

For example, in Georgia, every year on the first day of September 47,000 first grade students in each school are presented with an Intel classmate PC assembled in Georgia, with the relevant educational content in Georgian.

Of course, this is a striking example of the fact that the ICT sector is changing every day, and every delay heightens competition in the global market, and any quick step could open up really incredible opportunities.

## The Talalyan Bros Festival Celebrates Jubilees of Composers Armen Smbatyan, Tigran Mansouryan and the Yerevan State Conservatory after Komitas



By **Gourgen James Khazhakian**  
Chief Correspondent

On June 25th at the Yerevan Komitas Chamber Music Hall 5th concert of the Geronty and Henrik Talalyans festival 2014 was dedicated to the 60th jubilee of **Armen Smbatyan**, 75th jubilee of **Tigran Mansouryan** and the 90th anniversary of the Yerevan State Conservatory after Komitas.

Naturally, the concert program consisted of works by the two composers.

In the first half the jam-packed audience enjoyed Smbatyan's "Variations for Piano", also Mansouryan's "Oror" ("Lullaby", dedicated to the memory of Russian Prince **Andrey Volkonsky**) performed by young, but already well-known pianist **Julietta Vardanyan** as well as "Ode to Lotus" by Mansouryan for alt played by **Yana Daryan**, also - Smbatyan's "Chakona and Fugue" for piano performed by **Julietta Vardanyan**, **Karen Shahgaldyan** (violin) and the Honored Artist of Armenia, Associate Professor of the Conservatory, the Festival Founder and Artistic Director **Aram Talalyan** (cello).

In the break of the concert your author asked composer **Daniel Erajisht** (Grigor Danielyan) about his impressions:

- The first word that I will say - it was interesting from the point of view of the composer's inner world, so what is going on in his soul... Armen Smbatyan's Trio's (Chakona and Fugue) first part seemed to me more tragic, i.e. revelations, while in the second part the motive was rising as a wave, and then again came back to a more tranquil, meditative process.

But, nevertheless, the inner struggle remains until the very end ...  
- ... *I am far from certain professional judgment which, today, unfortunately, is a common temptation, but I thought I heard "Kroonk"'s* (The Crane) melody ...

- Yes, you are right. "Kroonk" was there, and also a kind of a sigh - of our spirituals hymns, sharakans ...  
As for the Mansouryan's "Lullaby", it was very beautiful, light like air itself, and then it disappeared in the upper registers as a recollection...

- *Once again sorry for the comments, but Armen Smbatyan's "Variations..." reminded me Arno Babajanyan's handwriting ...*

- Of course, there was the same method, of **Arnold Schoenberg**, which so brilliantly, first among Armenian composers, apply great Arno, and, importantly, another Armenian composer, Armen Smbatyan continued and developed it ...

In Conservatory Professor, composer **Michael Kokjaev's** words, traditionally, we are admired by every new piece by outstanding Tigran Mansouryan, so there is no surprise here...

As for Smbatyan's works, Professor



Kokjaev said that, unfortunately, he was not previously familiar with the Trio, and it became a pleasant surprise for him. "A good "drive" was there, and it was a mature work", he said.

Kokjaev emphasized the fact that, being an Ambassador, public figure, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Conservatory, composer Armen Smbatyan surprisingly finds time to write music:

"Generally, it is an excellent musical family: patriarch of Armenian musical pedagogy **Tatyana B. Hayrapetyan**, her son **Armen Smbatyan**, and, finally, grandson **Sergey Smbatyan** who founded a Youth Orchestra (currently the State Youth Orchestra of Armenia, SYOA) when was 19 years old only, which - I'm saying this with all responsibility - works excellent ..."

In the second half of the concert the SYOA, this time conducted by **Aram Talalyan**, performed "Magaghat" (ancient

Armenian manuscript) symphony for strings by Smbatyan and Mansouryan's N 1 Fantasy for Piano and Strings.

Who would be asked to comment a work having name "Magaghat", if not, again, **Daniel Erajisht**, the Founder of "Sharakan" ensemble of Armenian medieval/spiritual music? He said:

"Not often the name of a work corresponds to the content, but this is exactly the case. The author used, in particular, in the arrangement, Armenian medieval tunes, I noticed combination of static and dynamic states, so it was a successful combination of past and present.

*Bas piccikato made me imagining a march through the Ages ..."*

In his brief interview with your author Maestro Tigran Mansouryan said: "... I'm really impressed very much indeed, I am very grateful to **Aram Talalyan**, soloists, the Youth Orchestra for this wonderful evening. Again, thanks a lot..."

Unfortunately, another "Hero of the Day", **Armen Smbatyan** was unable to attend the concert

because of being forced to urgently travel abroad, and his Congratulatory Letter that minutes before was given to a living legend Maestro Tigran Mansouryan, was handed over to the Ambassador **A. Smbatyan's** son, **Sergey Smbatyan**.

Photos by **Albina Malishenko**

### CONGRATULATIONS!

P.S. By the moment of printing the issue, The Highlights has got a news:

According to the decree of the President of the Republic of Armenia **Serzh Sargsyan**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Armenia, Honored Art Worker of Armenia Professor **Armen B. Smbatyan** was appointed Adviser of the President of the Republic of Armenia on the international cultural-humanitarian cooperation.

We congratulate wholeheartedly Mr Smbatyan on the occasion of this very responsible appointment and are confident that he will spare no effort in his important work!



## “My Armenia” 2nd Pan-Armenian festival kicks off in Yerevan

In the company of Armenia’s First Lady Rita Sargsyan, National Assembly President Galust Sahakyan and Minister of Diaspora Hranush Hakobyan, Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan attended the opening of “My Armenia” 2nd Pan-Armenian festival at Al. Spendiaryan National Academic Opera and Ballet Theater.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Armenia and on his own behalf, the Prime Minister welcomed all festival participants: “It is my pleasure to see that as the forerunners of the Armenian culture, you have gathered in Armenia to add relish and warmth to this beautiful event. In the era of globalization, culture seems to be the best way for any nation to self-expression, strengthened ties of friendship and worldwide recognition. I am grateful to you that in spite of living abroad you have a great mission to perform by preserving our national identity through artistic means and enrich the cultural mosaic of your country of residence. This splendid hall has brought together art communities from Armenia, Artsakh and the Diaspora. This trinity is the key to success. It would have been impossible for our nation to defy the problems and challenges ahead without unity,” the head of government said.



Emphasizing that the festival is a vivid manifestation of our collective identity and national spirit, Hovik Abrahamyan urged the participants to continue with their noble effort aimed at promoting and disseminating the Armenian culture.

“On the eve of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, Armenians worldwide are endeavoring toward the restoration of historical justice. You can bring your own contribution to this process by upholding the dignity of the Armenian people and participating in all-national events, spreading our rich cultural traditions,” the Premier pointed out.

The Prime Minister thanked the organizers and participants for building on Armenia-Artsakh-Diaspora relationship, safeguarding and developing our nation’s cultural identity.

“My Armenia” Pan-Armenian festival aims to deepen cooperation between Armenia, Artsakh and the Diaspora, strengthen cultural ties between young Armenian artists, develop and disseminate modern Armenian art. The festival features performances by the Armenian dancers and singers, duduk players and journalists from different countries of the world.

## 17th Arpa International Film Festival to take place on November 14-16



Arpa Foundation for Film, Music and Art (AFFMA) announces the 17th anniversary of its signature event, the Arpa International Film Festival, which will be held on November 14 – 16, 2014, at the Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood, Asbarez reports.

Our annual international film festival will showcase feature films, documentaries, music videos, shorts, and anima-

tions on two screens at the historic Egyptian’s Lloyd Rigler Theatre and Steven Spielberg Theater.

You can find more information about the festival, including our mission & history, sponsors, program, press, and previous award recipients at Arpa’s brand new website, re-launched in time for the upcoming festival. You can also learn more about the team that puts the festival together; submit a film for this year’s festival; and stay updated through the news blog.

Previous festival award recipients include Academy Award nominees Atom Egoyan (*The Sweet Hereafter*) and Shoreh Aghdashloo (*House of Sand and*

*Fog*), award-winning producers Robert Papazian, Jim Hirsh, Arthur Sarkissian (*Rush Hour*), Hank Moonjean (*Dangerous Liaisons*), Dr. J. Michael Hagopian (Armin T. Wegner Award recipient), and Mardik Martin (*Raging Bull*) as well as Michael Pogosian (*If Only Everyone*), Frances Fisher (*Titanic*) and Mary Apick (*Beneath The Veil*), Dean Caine (*Superman*), and others.

Previous award presenters include David Alpay, Ken Davitian, Vivica A. Fox, Alanis Morissette, Tippi Hedren, Missi Pyle, Alison Janney, Arsine Khanjian, Marilu Henner, Tony Shaloub, Cheech Marin, Alfonso Herrera, Dean Cain, and Ann Magnuson and others.

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# WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

## Enjoy your leisure

**4 Jule**

19:00. Concert in Memory of Aram Gharabekyan. Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra. Artistic Director and Principal Conductor: Eduard Topchjan. Soloist: Nuneh Badalyan, soprano. Program: Liszt: Preludes R. Strauss: Four Last Songs Elgar: Enigma Variations. Conductor: Vardan Hakobyan. Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall.

**6 Jule**

19:00. National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia. Artistic Director and Principal Conductor: Vahan Mardirossian. Program: 1. Rossini: Concerto for bassoon and orchestra 2. Mozart: Concerto for oboe and orchestra 3. Hummel: Grand Concerto for bassoon and orchestra 4. Hayden: Concert Symphony for violin, cello, oboe, bassoon and orchestra Soloists: Astghik Vardanyan, violin Jordi

**9 Jule**

19:00. Gayane. A. Khachaturyan. Ballet in 3 acts. Musical Director and Principal Conductor: Honoured Artist of Armenia, Karen Durgaryan Chief Ballet Master: People's Artist of Armenia, Vilen Galstyan Staging: People's Artist of Armenia, Vilen Galstyan Painter: Honoured Painter of Armenia, Minas Avetisyan Costume designer: Rubina Hovhannisyan Conductor: Honoured Artist of Armenia, Karen Durgaryan. National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian  
 19:00. Coma Nostra. Author: Narek Duryan. Staging and music design by Narek Duryan  
 Producer: Kristine Hovhannisyan. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan  
 19:00. Dark SHOCKolate. Premiere. A play with an intermission to think over who is right: the man or the woman? Staging: Suren Shahverdyan Cast: Aramo Luiza Ghambaryan Emma Petrosyan. Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan



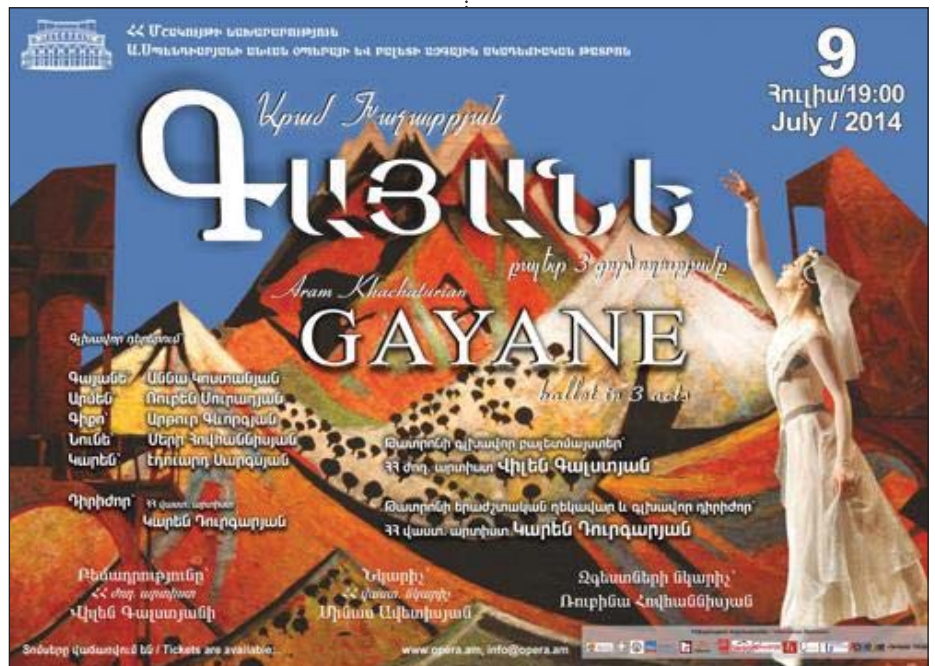
**10 Jule**

19:00. Emma Petrosyan. National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia Artistic Director and Principal Conductor: Vahan Mardirossian Special guest: composer, arranger Madat Avanesov. Chamber Music House after Komitas

**5 Jule**

12:00 14:00 The Booted Cat (Puss in Boots) H. Tumanyan State Puppet Theatre  
 12:30 14:00 15:30 The Adventures of Buratino. Alexei Tolstoy Yerevan State Marionette Theatre  
 14:00 Maugli. Children's Musical Fun Show The State Musical Chamber Theatre  
 19:00 Almast Choir. Concert dedicated to mothers Arno Babajanyan Concert Hall  
 19:00 Fish Without Water. Tragicomic fantasy without a break H. Ghaplanyan Drama Theatre  
 19:00 Illusions. Author: Viripaev H. Tumanyan State Puppet Theatre  
 19:00 Ophelia's Shadow Theater. Nostalgic picture story based on the same name fairy-tale by Michael Ende Small Theatre  
 21:00 Vahagn Hayrapetyan Jazz Trio Malkhas Jazz Club  
 19:00. Beef-Boui. Premiere. Daniel Charms. Director: Narine Grigoryan. Hamazgayin State Theater

Bertran, oboe /Spain/ Shmavon Grigoryan, bassoon Yuan Tienwei, bassoon Levon Arakelyan, cello. Chamber Music House after Komitas



# Apartment for rent



A comfortable apartment in the center of Yerevan. It is on the second floor of a house, with separate entrance from the street. The apartment has a dining room, two bedrooms, a kitchen, a bathroom and two balconies. It has a heating system, permanent cold and hot water, TV satellite, air conditioners and all other facilities. There is a nice view to Mount Ararat. The house has a nice garden and is close to Proshyan and Baghramyan streets. The price for long-time rent: \$1000 monthly, for short-time rent: \$ 50-70 daily.

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