

## Sargsyan, Hollande attend Armenian-French Business Forum in Yerevan

The European Union should upgrade its relationship with Armenia to political "association" despite Yerevan's plans to join the Russian-led Customs Union, French President Francois Hollande said at the start of an official visit to the country on May 12.

Hollande arrived in the Armenian capital on the second leg of his tour of the three South Caucasus states which he began in Baku on Sunday. He and his Armenian counterpart, Serzh Sargsyan, opened a French-Armenian business forum immediately after a welcoming ceremony held at the Zvartnots international airport.

"We are not forcing Armenia to make a choice that runs counter to Armenia's interests. I spoke with Serzh Sargsyan about that during his visit to France [last autumn,]" Hollande told the forum attended by several dozen French businesspeople.

"We need to devise a Europe-Armenia association that would not constrain you with regard to the Customs Union plans that you have with Russia," he said. The EU and Armenia can work out a model for such association, he added.

Armenia was on track to sign a far-reaching Association Agreement with the EU until Sargsyan unexpectedly decided last August, under apparent Russian pressure, to join the Russian-dominated trade bloc. The EU abandoned the planned agreement in response, saying that its dominant component -- the creation of a Deep and Comprehensive Freed Trade Area (DCFTA) -- is "not compatible" with membership in the Customs Union.



Yerevan has since been seeking to sign a watered-down version of the Association Agreement that would exclude the DCFTA-related provisions. The EU's executive body, the European Commission, and key member states have rejected such a compromise arrangement until now.

Hollande's remarks suggest that the Armenian government might now count on French support for the idea. Serzh Sargsyan insisted on it in a speech at an EU summit in Dublin held late last month. He said his country must not be made to "pay a price" for moving even closer to Russia.

France has traditionally been a key EU backer of Armenia, owing, in large measure, to the existence of a large and influential French-Armenian community. Hollande underscored the community's clout later on Monday

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## Serzh Sargsyan: Crisis in Ukraine should be solved exceptionally through peaceful means

Armenia has clearly declared treats the conduct of the referendum in Crimea as yet another example of the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan said at the non-official meeting with the Presidents of Russia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in Moscow.

"Nevertheless, we are deeply concerned by the growth of violence in Ukraine, including the events in Odessa, Slavyansk, Kramatorsk and other regions. We cannot but worry about the current situation also because there are more than half a million Armenians living in Ukraine," the President said.

"I note with deep sorrow that the events claimed human lives," President Sargsyan said, adding that the crisis



should be solved exceptionally through peaceful means on the basis of the UN

Charter, international law and the agreements reached in Geneva on April 17.

## Armenian President observes training exercise of the Russian armed forces

Russia's strategic missile forces test launched an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) during a training exercise on May 8 under the leadership of President Vladimir Putin, RIA Novosti reports.

The RS-12M Topol ICBM was launched from the country's northern Plesetsk space center.

Prelaunch operations and the launch and flight of the missile followed a strictly planned procedure. The Russian Ministry of Defense said the missile struck the practice target at the Kura ballistic range in the country's Far East within the prescribed accuracy.

On Thursday, President Putin as Russia's commander-in-chief held a planned training exercise of the armed forces. The presidents of Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) member countries - Belarus, Armenia, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan - observed the training process at the national defense control center.

The practice event included maneuvers of individual formations and units of the missile troops, artillery, aircraft and air defense systems to destroy ground

forces and counter massive missile and air strikes of a hypothetical opponent.

Another part of training focused on nuclear deterrence and countering the opponent's ballistic attack using the missile defense system of the city of Moscow.

The training involved strategic bombers, ballistic submarines, strategic purpose mobile missile systems and other aerospace defense equipment. In addition, the training included the artillery and rocket forces of the Southern and Central Military Districts.



## California State Assembly recognizes Artsakh independence

The California State Assembly, on Thursday, May 8th, 2014, passed Assembly Joint Resolution 32, with a landslide victory of 70 ayes and only 1 no vote, introduced by Assembly member Mike Gatto (D-Los Angeles), making California the most populous governmental entity to recognize Nagorno-Karabakh and calls for the United States to recognize the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic as a sovereign state, invoking strong language from the United States' own history regarding the rights of the people to "self-determination and democratic independence."

"It has been my privilege to work with the leaders of the local Armenian American community and their outstanding representatives on this Resolution and I am proud to announce that it has passed



on the Assembly Floor," said Assembly member Gatto.

"As Californians, we have always been proud of our State's record reinforcing the principles of democracy and the right to self-determination. Yet, until today, California was lagging behind other States who have passed similar Resolutions to AJR 32," stated Sevak

Khatchadorian, Chair of the Armenian Council of America. "With the passage of AJR 32, California stands by the people of Artsakh, who advocate democracy based on and ideals of freedom and the pursuit of happiness."

Along with the primary author, Assembly member Gatto, AJR 32 was co-authored by Assembly members; Katcho Achadjian (R-San Luis Obispo), Raul Bocanegra (D-Pacoima), Cheryl R. Brown (D-San Bernardino), Ian Calderon (D-Whittier), Matt Dababneh (D-Encino), Brian Nestande (R-Palm Desert), Kristin Olsen (R-Modesto), and Jim Patterson (R-Fresno).

California has become the fifth U.S. state - after Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine and Louisiana - to recognize the independence of Nagorno-Karabakh.

## International community should recognize independence of Nagorno Karabakh: MEPs



The most important issue is the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict through the realization of the right to self-determination, Member of the European Parliament Inaki Razabalbeitia Fernandez declared in Yerevan on May 5. Representative of the Basque Country in the north of Spain visited Nagorno Karabakh a few days ago.

Sharing his impressions from the visit, the MEP said his party (the Group of Greens) has long been fighting for the independence of the Basque Country and will do the same for Nagorno Karabakh, as "self-determination is the most impor-

tant democratic right."

"I think that raising the issue of recognition of Nagorno Karabakh's independence in the European Parliament could be the first step. Initiatives should come from all parties, including the OSCE Minsk Group," he said.

As for the perspective of being black-listed by Azerbaijan for visiting Nagorno Karabakh, Parliament Inaki Razabalbeitia Fernandez said his party has a very clear stance on all issues related to self-determination and they are not afraid of being included in Azerbaijan's "black list."

Member of the Spanish Parliament Iñárritu Garcia said, in turn, that they consider the people's right to self-determination as the utmost democratic right. Speaking of the visit to Nagorno Karabakh, he said: "We saw a country committed to European values, which is aspiring for new values, and is doing better than some Council of Europe member states."

The European lawmakers stressed that the Nagorno Karabakh Republic should be recognized by the international community like it was the case with Kosovo.

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## New Government program to be realistic: PM



The newly formed government held the first Cabinet meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan, government's press office reported.

Opening the meeting, the Prime Minister addressed the audience, "The government is fully formed, for which I congratulate all of us. We are working on the new government program, which is to be submitted to the National Assembly within twenty days. The program must be as realistic as much as possible, and the proposed changes should not be an end in itself. I am aware of the outcome of the ongoing discussions, which are regularly reported back by Mr. Gevorgyan. I believe that the new program will be truly realistic and each government member shall be responsible for its implementation. Our ways will be separated with any such member of government who may fail to fulfill the program, no matter how long we have worked together."

Then the Cabinet proceeded to the agenda. Based on Article 70 of the Constitution of the Republic of Armenia, the Government proposed to the National Assembly to hold an extraordinary session this May 12 at 12:00 pm in order to discuss some three dozen issues. Under the first agenda item, the meeting will continue to discuss the bill on amendments to the funded pension law.

The Government approved the 2014 estimate for extra-budgetary spending under the financial support program developed in accordance with the sub-contracts signed between Armenia's State Migration Service and the Armenia Office of UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Over 41 million drams will be transferred to that account to cover remuneration costs, reconstruction of buildings and premises, professional services, etc. The legal act is expected to improve the welfare status of asylum seekers and refugees in our country. The meeting approved the proposal to sign a cooperation agreement in the field of navigation and geo-location of CIS-member States' armed forces. The Government-approved five bills were harmonized with the relevant legislation of the Customs Union.

The following draft laws were next approved at the meeting: "On Phytosanitary," "On Veterinary Medicine," "On Food Safety," "Animal Food," and "On State Food Safety Control." The draft laws will be submitted to the National Assembly in the manner established by law.

The cabinet passed a decision on funding the preparation and implementation costs of June 8, 2014 local elections for 56 community heads and aldermen council members. The meeting decided to grant a deferment on mandatory military service until the 2015 summer draft to laureate of international competitions, cellist Narek Hakhnazaryan.

Kovalenko Shahgaldyan was relieved of the office of Kotayk Marz Governor in accordance with his resignation request. With the next decisions passed at the meeting, the Executive appointed Aram Haroutunyan to be Kotayk Marz Governor and Rubik Abrahamyan to serve as Ararat Marz Governor.

Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan congratulated the newly appointed governors and wished them fruitful work.

## Armenia expected to join the Eurasian Economic Union on June 1st

The Eurasian Economic Union will be officially established on May 29. Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan will sign the corresponding treaty on that day. Armenia is expected to join the newly-formed union on June 1st, Head of the Eurasian Economic Commission's (EEC) Development and Integration Department Anton Azarov said today.

According to Artak Zakaryan, Head of the National Assembly's Standing Committee on Foreign Relations, our country's membership in the union is conditioned by economic considerations and the long-term peace in the region.

"Today Armenia is of great interest in integration processes because of its geopolitical importance," the MP said. He added that Armenia's expectations are mostly connected with economic interests, which is more than important under the conditions of blockade.

"Director of the "Integration and Development" NGO Aram Safaryan said, in turn, that a number of public opinion polls show most of Armenians are traditionally pro-Russian.

President of the Union of Manufacturers and Businessmen (Employers) of Armenia Arsen Ghazaryan noted that 35% of Armenian exports go to Russia, and all prerequisites exist for increasing the volume in the future. He does not rule out the perspective of expansion of the Eurasian Economic Union in the future



## Armenain Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian has commented on the address of American Co-Chairman of the OSCE Minsk Group James Warlick at the Carnegie Endowment in Washington D.C.:

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In the speech of the American Co-Chairman of the OSCE Minsk Group at the Carnegie Endowment in Washington D.C. it is underlined, that, "together with France, the United States and Russia share a common commitment to peace and security in Nagorno-Karabakh" and they would continue working through the Minsk Group for peacefully resolving this conflict.

Unlike Azerbaijan, Armenia on numerous occasions has commended and stressed the importance of the consistent efforts of the heads of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries - USA, Russia and France, in supporting the sides to the conflict to reach exclusively peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh issue.

The American diplomat is correct, that the parties have almost reached agreements on a number of occasions, and brings 2011 Kazan Summit as the latest example.

It is well-known that because of Baku's backtracking, its attempts to snatch one-sided advantages made it impossible to achieve progress in Kazan in June 2011, at the summits in Sochi in March 2011, in Astrakhan in October 2010, in Saint-Petersburg in June 2010, even though the sides were close to reaching agreements. I would like to recall that Baku backtracked several times in the past as well, for instance - 10 years before Kazan, in 2001.

The American Ambassador rightly finds sniper shootings along the Line of Contact, the human losses as unacceptable, highlighting that the OSCE monitors were not able to have neither the mandate nor the resources to identify those responsible, to reduce the reported thousands of ceasefire violations every year.

As the Co-Chair states, we have many times urged to respect ceasefire agreement reached in May 1994. Unlike Armenia, Azerbaijan has rejected and continues rejecting numerous proposals made by Co-Chair countries to consolidate ceasefire, withdraw snipers from the Line of Contact, and create a mechanism of investigation of incidents and ceasefire violations.

Azerbaijan not only rejects those proposals, it continuously commits gross violations of ceasefire, masterminds provocations, does



not respect even its own commitments on maintaining and strengthening the ceasefire - not only according to the provisions of the cease-fire agreement, reached between Azerbaijan, Karabakh and Armenia on May 12, 1994, but also the ceasefire consolidation agreement, reached in the same three-party format on February 4, 1995, according to which Azerbaijan was obliged to refrain from statements that could escalate the situation and to immediately notify to the Armenian sides and Co-Chairs about violations, instead of increasing anti-Armenian propaganda by false accusations. For decades Baku has been violating those commitments.

In two days the 20th anniversary of the establishment of cease-fire is marked, and I hope that the Co-Chairs would use this important occasion to deliver a special statement containing a strong message. It is vital to exclude the use of force, thereby creating utmost favorable conditions for the success of the negotiation process. We resolutely agree that peoples should be prepared for peace, not war.

Unfortunately until now the Azerbaijani leadership has been doing just the reverse. In spite of the several appeals of the international community to refrain from provocative rhetoric and actions, Azerbaijan continues its belligerent statements, the glorification of murderers and persecution of peace advocates, the propaganda of xenophobia, intolerance and hatred, which leads to raising tension and escalation of the situation in the region.

The elements of the conflict settlement presented by James Warlick in general reflect the proposals of Co-Chair states.

As the Co-Chairs, we continue to believe that the elements outlined in the statements of the heads of the Co-Chair countries in L'Aquila, Muskoka, Deauville, Los Cabos and Enniskillen over the last years can be the foundation of reaching a lasting peaceful settlement of the conflict.

The American diplomat stresses that any enduring peace must reflect the views of all affected parties if it is to succeed. We have several times emphasized that without the full fledged involvement of Nagorno-Karabakh in the negotiation process, it will be impossible to achieve the resolution of the conflict.

The OSCE Minsk Group American Co-Chairman justly observed that any attempt to select some elements over others will make it impossible to achieve a balanced solution.

We share the Co-Chairs' opinion, expressed many times, that those elements must be seen as an integrated whole and the attempts to give priority to some elements will make it impossible to reach the settlement.

Unlike Azerbaijan, which on the occasion and without makes references to only one principle of international law, in response to the appeals by the heads of Co-chair countries, Armenia has on several occasions reiterated and once again re-affirms its commitment to the principles of international law, particularly the non-use of force or the threat of force, equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and territorial integrity.

Together with the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs Armenia will consistently continue to exert joint efforts towards exclusively peaceful settlement of the conflict between Azerbaijan and Karabakh.

## Warlick presents US position on Karabakh conflict

**In a speech delivered at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace on March 7 morning, US Co-Chairman of the OSCE Minsk Group James Warlick outlined the United States' position on the Nagorno-Karabakh issue. Below is the text of Warlick's statement:**



"Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Thank you for joining me this morning. I recognize a number of you who have served as counsel or sounding-board for me over the past eight months and I want to extend a special thanks to you.

Let me start by saying that I do not want to revisit the history of the conflict. Our goal should be to find a pragmatic way forward to bring about a lasting settlement.

Although I speak to you today as the U.S. co-chairman of the OSCE Minsk Group, I do not speak for the co-chairs. My message to you is a statement of official U.S. government policy that guides our engagement as we help the parties find peace.

And peace is within reach. The sides have come to a point where their positions on the way forward are not that far apart. They have almost reached agreement on several occasions - most recently in 2011. And when they inevitably returned to the negotiating table after each failed round, the building blocks of the next "big idea" were similar to the last time.

There is a body of principles, under-

standings, and documents already on the table that lay out a deal, and no one has suggested we abandon them. The challenge is to find a way to help the sides take that last, bold step forward to bridge their remaining differences and deliver the peace and stability that their populations deserve.

For two decades, however, peace has been elusive. All parties distrust each other and a generation of young people has grown up in Armenia and Azerbaijan with no first-hand experience of each other. As many have noted, older generations remember a time when Armenians and Azerbaijanis lived side-by-side and differences did not need to be resolved through the barrel of a gun.

As Churchill once reminded us, "you negotiate peace with your enemies, not with your friends." The key to any successful negotiation is for all parties to conclude that they have won something, and in the case of the Armenians and Azerbaijanis there is no question that a deal will unlock a new era of prosperity across the region. The benefits of peace far outweigh the costs of continued stalemate, and avoid the

catastrophic consequences of renewed hostilities.

Armenia would immediately benefit from open borders, greater security, and new opportunities to trade, travel, and engage with all its neighbors.

Azerbaijan would eliminate a key impediment to its growth as a player on the world stage, regional trade hub, and strong security partner, while giving hundreds of thousands of refugees and internally displaced persons a prospect for reconciliation and return.

The thousands of people living in Nagorno-Karabakh would be freed from the prison of isolation and dependence.

A peace agreement, properly designed and implemented, would also eliminate the tragic, steady stream of casualties - both military and civilian - along the border and the Line of Contact. Numbers are hard to pin down, but there have already been at least a dozen killed and even more injured on the front lines this year so far. This is unacceptable.

No less significant is the huge financial burden that military readiness and a growing arms race imposes on national budgets - a peace dividend that, used more productively, could itself be a game changer for both Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Next week will mark 20 years since a ceasefire agreement was signed. While we can take some pride in having avoided a return to outright war, we must also agree that the current state of affairs is unacceptable, and unsustainable.

Perpetual negotiations, periodic outbreaks of violence, the isolation of Armenia and the people living in Nagorno-Karabakh, frustration in Azerbaijan and anger among its populations of IDPs - this is not a recipe for peace or stability and it is certainly not the path to prosperity.

The people of the region deserve better.

I began this job last September with a trip to the region, with visits to Baku and Yerevan to meet the two presidents and their foreign ministers. I also made a side trip to Nagorno-Karabakh to join Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk's team for an OSCE monitoring mission along the Line of Contact on the road between Agdam and Gindarkh.

I joined the team on the west side of the Line of Contact, and got my first glimpse of the front lines. I saw the bleak reality faced by young soldiers on both sides of this Line, who live and work behind trenches and berms, with nothing but barbed wire and land mines keeping them apart.

The sides live under threat from sniper fire and landmines. They are concerned for the lives of their civilian populations and their access to farmland, cemeteries, and buildings that happen to fall "too close" to the Line of Contact or the international border between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

OSCE monitors have been working for two decades to keep an eye on this fragile peace, but have neither the mandate nor the resources to put a stop to the frequent casualties, or even to identify responsibility.

The sides themselves report thousands of ceasefire violations every year, but have been unable to reach agreement on any means of reducing that tally.

I have also traveled throughout Nagorno-Karabakh itself, where I have met with the de facto authorities to hear their views. I plan to do so again next week with the other co-chairs. There is no question that any enduring peace agreement must reflect the views of all affected parties if it is to succeed.

In the capitals, I have heard a more reassuring message. Both presidents want to make progress. Both agree that the series of documents negotiated over the past several years contains the outlines of a deal.

The co-chairs hosted the presidents in Vienna last November. This was their first meeting since January 2012 - and the first time since 2009 for them to meet one-on-one. We were encouraged by their conversation, and by their stated commitment to find a way forward. Since that time, we have met on ten separate occasions with one or both foreign ministers to keep the discussion alive.

It is clear, however, that only the presidents have the ability to conclude a deal with such transformative consequences for their countries. It is the presidents who must take the bold steps needed to make peace. The United States has pressed both leaders to meet again soon and take advantage of this window of opportunity when peace is possible.

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When I made that first trip to Baku and Yerevan last fall, I carried with me President Obama's endorsement and reaffirmation of the U.S. commitment to working for peace as a Minsk Group co-chair and a close partner with both countries. The outlines of a compromise were already well established by that point, and my message was that the time had come for a renewed effort to bring peace to the region.

Let me walk you through the key elements of that "well-established" compromise, all of which have been in the public domain since appearing in joint statements

by Presidents Obama, Medvedev, and Sarkozy in L'Aquila in 2009 and Muskoka in 2010. These principles and elements form the basis of U.S. policy toward the Minsk Group and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

At the heart of a deal are the UN Charter and relevant documents and the core principles of the Helsinki Final Act. In particular, we focus on those principles and commitments that pertain to the non-use or threat of force, territorial integrity, and equal rights and self-determination of peoples.

Building on that foundation, there are six elements that will have to be part of any peace agreement if it is to endure. While the sequencing and details of these elements remains the subject of negotiations, they must be seen as an integrated whole. Any attempt to select some elements over others will make it impossible to achieve a balanced solution.

In no particular order, these elements are:

First, in light of Nagorno-Karabakh's complex history, the sides should commit to determining its final legal status through a mutually agreed and legally binding expression of will in the future. This is not optional. Interim status will be temporary.

Second, the area within the boundaries of the former Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region that is not controlled by Baku should be granted an interim status that, at a minimum, provides guarantees for security and self-governance.

Third, the occupied territories surrounding Nagorno-Karabakh should be returned to Azerbaijani control. There can be no settlement without respect for Azerbaijan's sovereignty, and the recognition that its sovereignty over these territories must be restored.

Fourth, there should be a corridor linking Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh. It must be wide enough to provide secure passage, but it cannot encompass the whole of Lachin district.

Fifth, an enduring settlement will have to recognize the right of all IDPs and refugees to return to their former places of residence.

Sixth and finally, a settlement must include international security guarantees that would include a peacekeeping operation. There is no scenario in which peace can be assured without a well-designed peacekeeping operation that enjoys the confidence of all sides.

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The time has come for the sides to commit themselves to peace negotiations, building on the foundation of work done so far. It is not realistic to conclude that occa-

sional meetings are sufficient by themselves to bring about a lasting peace.

When such negotiations commence, the parties should not only reconfirm their commitment to the ceasefire but also undertake much-needed and long-sought security confidence-building measures.

Once we get into such peace negotiations, there is a much broader range of practical issues that we can put on the table to benefit all sides. There are economic and commercial incentives to develop; energy, transportation, and communications links to rebuild; and travel and people-to-people programs that can begin to counter the dangerously one-sided narratives that currently prevail.

The co-chairs of the Minsk Group share a common interest in helping the sides reach a peaceful resolution. We intend to continue working through the Minsk Group as the primary channel for resolving this conflict. Together with France, the United States and Russia share a common commitment to peace and security in Nagorno-Karabakh. The United States stands ready to help in any way we can. I would also call on the diaspora communities in the United States and around the world to speak out for peace and to help bring an end to this conflict.

Of course, it is up to the governments of Armenia and Azerbaijan to take the first step. They should consider measures, even unilateral ones, that will demonstrate their stated commitment to making progress, reducing tensions, and improving the atmosphere for negotiations. They should reduce the hostile rhetoric, and prepare their populations for peace, not war.

Track II efforts to build people-to-people contacts between Azerbaijanis and Armenians are no less integral to a lasting settlement. Programs of this kind can help citizens of both countries prepare for peace and find reconciliation with the pain of the past. We expect the sides to support organizations and individuals which are committed to Track II and people-to-people programs.

I hope that you will work with us to make the case for a lasting peace. The co-chairs have the mandate to facilitate negotiations, but we should all be supporting engaged citizens, secular and religious leaders, NGOs, media outlets, and others working toward these goals. A lasting peace must be built not on a piece of paper, but on the trust, confidence, and participation of the people of both countries.

Let's work together to build the demand for peace. Let's demand the benefits that a peaceful settlement will bring to people across the region.

Thank you".



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- 2012.**Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1,2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capially 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, capially repaired. Price: 200.000 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 460.000 USD
- 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: 100.000 USD.
- 2406.**Avan**, Mher Mkrtchyan block, 1000 sq.m., electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price: 30 USD 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, capially 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, capially repaired, heating system, elevator. Price: 2.300.000 USD.
- 3583.**Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capially 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, capially 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, capially 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, capially 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, capially 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, capially 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, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 1.700.000 USD.

### NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

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





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### 1 ROOM

- ♦2037. **Baghranyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, gas, heating system, AC, modern furnished, equipped. Price: negotiable
- ♦2189. **Vardanants str.**, Newly built, 24/12, 90 sqm, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- ♦2099. **Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, gas, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 600 USD.
- ♦1972. **Northern ave.**, 8/4, 80sq.m., 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 1200 USD
- ♦2171. **Tumanyan str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 94 sq.m., 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, capitally repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD
- ♦2367. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9th floor, 98 sq.m., capitally repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

### 2 ROOMS

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

### 3 ROOMS AND MORE

- ♦2257. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 17/16, 160 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2253. **Abovyan str.**, Newly built, 11th floor, 260sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 3500 USD
- ♦2021. **Teryan Str.**, Newly built, 9/8, 9, 245 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.
- ♦2005. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.
- ♦1723. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4., 170

sq.m 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitally repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD.

- ♦1981. **Vardanants Str.**, Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- ♦2261. **Hin Yerevantsi, /North Avenue/,** Newly built, 10/3, 124sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 1700 USD
- ♦2084. **Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- ♦2252. **Northern ave**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

### PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦1191. **Aygestan**, Land-400 sqm, 2 storied bld.- 270 sqm, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathroom, study, capitally repaired, partly furnished, garden, swimming pool, garage. Starting Price: 3500 USD.
- ♦1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m, 3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 8000 USD
- ♦1312. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally 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, capitally 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. **Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦1408. **Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghranyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capitally repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capitally repaired, AC, parking, Price: 10.000 USD.
- ♦1945. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitally repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- ♦1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- ♦1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capitally repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.
- ♦2087. **Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m, 1st line, zero level, capitally repaired, window glasses. Price: Negotiable.

## Obama Listens to Repeated References To Armenian Genocide at Shoah Gala



By Harut  
Sassounian

Publisher, The  
California Courier

On May 7, I attended a very impressive benefit gala at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza hotel in Los Angeles, celebrating the 20th anniversary of the USC Shoah Foundation which archives the testimonies of survivors and witnesses of the Jewish Holocaust, the Armenian, Cambodian and Rwandan genocides, and the 1937 Nanjing Massacre.

Internationally acclaimed Oscar-winning director Steven Spielberg, after filming Schindler's List, established the Shoah Foundation to collect and preserve the personal accounts of survivors and other witnesses of the Holocaust. In 2006, the Shoah Foundation became part of the University of Southern California and currently holds 52,000 video testimonies in 34 languages, representing 58 countries. It is the largest archive of its kind in the world.

The gala was attended by Pres. Obama who received the "Ambassador for Humanity" award. Also in attendance were Samuel Jackson, Octavia Spencer, Barbra Streisand, Liam Neeson, and Bruce Springsteen who performed two of his poignant songs, "Promised Land," and "Dancing in the Dark."

In 2010, the Armenian Film Foundation and J. Michael Hagopian signed a historic agreement with the Shoah Foundation to digitize, preserve, and disseminate filmed interviews with survivors and witnesses of the Armenian Genocide. Last month, 400 digitized copies of the Armenian testimonies were delivered to USC Shoah Foundation's Institute for Visual History and Education. By the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide on April 24, 2015, the Armenian testimonies, after they are translated, subtitled, and indexed, will be made available along with eyewitness accounts of the Holocaust and other genocides to

50 institutions (including the US Holocaust Museum) in 30 countries.

Nearly 100 Armenian-Americans attended the May 7 gala, raising over \$100,000 for the Armenian collection at Shoah. During the evening's program, several speakers made references to the Armenian Genocide. Spielberg was the first to announce that the Armenian Genocide testimonies were to be included in the Shoah archives. A video shown to the attendees featured several photographs of J. Michael Hagopian, genocide survivor Paul Andonian, and Armenian deportees on a death march. Shoah Foundation Executive Director Stephen Smith also spoke about the Armenian Genocide, acknowledging the presence of Yevnige Salibian, a 104-year-old genocide survivor from Aintab. Banquet host comedian Conan O'Brien, after acknowledging Mrs. Salibian's presence from the podium, walked over to her table when the gala ended and had a picture taken with her.

As an honored guest, Salibian was seated next to TV celebrity Kim Kardashian. The following day, Kardashian posted on social media her photograph with Salibian, adding the following message: "Honored to be at the USC Shoah Foundation event to support Armenian Genocide testimonies. I'm sitting next to the most inspiring 100-year-old Armenian Genocide survivor." Within few days, her posting received close to 400,000 'likes' and almost 5,000 comments on Instagram, and 110,000 'likes' on her facebook page.

Despite repeated references to the Armenian Genocide from the podium,

Pres. Obama did not make any direct references to Armenians or the Armenian Genocide in his 18-minute speech -- nor was he expected to do so! However, the President made indirect references to genocides other than the Holocaust, without specifying them:

-- "I want to say a special word to the survivors who are with us this evening, not just of the Holocaust, but as Steven [Spielberg] noted, survivors of other unimaginable crimes."

-- "If the memories of the Shoah survivors teach us anything, it is that silence is evil's greatest co-conspirator. And it's up to us -- each of us, every one of us -- to forcefully condemn any denial of the Holocaust."

-- "You [Spielberg] ...documented the experience not only of the Holocaust, but of atrocities before and since.... To you and everybody at the Shoah Foundation, and for all that you've done, for setting a light, an eternal flame of testimony, that can't be extinguished and cannot be denied, we express our deepest gratitude."

Armenians do not need to press Pres. Obama to explicitly refer to the Armenian Genocide. Another US President, Ronald Reagan, has already acknowledged it in his Presidential Proclamation of April 22, 1981. It is unnecessary to insist that every US President make the same acknowledgment year after year. Pres. Obama may consider using the term Armenian Genocide not for the sake of Armenians, but to uphold his own integrity by keeping the solemn pledge he made as a presidential candidate. Only then could he fully qualify as an "Ambassador for Humanity."



## Turkey must recognize the Armenian Genocide, French President says in Yerevan

"Turkey must recognize the Armenian Genocide," French President Françoise Hollande said at a joint press conference with Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan in Yerevan.

The French President reconfirmed he will visit Armenia on the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

"This is a call to the world to prevent recurrence of such tragedies in the future," he said.

"With this visit France will once again reiterate its position that all genocides should be condemned," Hollande said.

Speaking about the Karabakh issue, President Hollande said: "As a Minsk Group co-chairing country, France is ready to do its best to find a solution to the issue. Although there is a ceasefire agreement, it's not enough. A thorough solution is needed," he said.

François Hollande added that France is ready to host a meeting of the Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan to help find confidence-building measures.

There have been fears in the recent period that the confrontation between the East and the West could negatively affect the cooperation between the Minsk Group Co-Chairs and their shared stance on the issue, which would, in turn, result in the reconsideration and change of their positions.

Commenting on this, Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan said: "The Co-Chairs have said on many occasions that they have a united stance, which implies that the status of Nagorno Karabakh conflict should be determined through a legally binding free expression of will of the people. There is no alternative to the realization of the principle of self determination," President Sargsyan said.

He added that the approach was recently reiterated by US Co-Chair James Warlick. "He didn't say anything new. He reconfirmed what his President had said on many occasions. The same approach was reflected in the statement of the Co-Chairs on the 20th anniversary of the ceasefire agreement," he said, adding that "Azerbaijan's attempts to interpret the approaches in a different way are doomed to fail."



## Missak Manouchian Park opens in Yerevan

The Presidents of Armenia and France participated on May 13 in the solemn opening ceremony of the park named after Missak Manouchian.

The Presidents thanked the organizers and the residents of Yerevan for participating in the event and honoring the memory of Missak Manouchian.

Missak Manouchian, a National Hero of France, is an Armenian poet, who participated in the Resistance Movement in France.

Speaking at the event, French President François Hollande said: "Genocide survivor Missak Manouchian arrived in France, escaping bloody massacre. In a few years, when France faced violence, he took weapons to fight for the sake of freedom of the nation that had given him refuge, without forgetting his Motherland for a single moment."

Mr. Hollande stressed in his speech that they never forget all that the Armenian Hero did for France.

A number of parks, streets and schools in Paris, Marseille and other cities of France have been named after Missak Manouchian. Every year on February 26 France pays tribute to his memory. There are streets and schools in Yerevan and Gyumri named after Missak Manouchian.

## Sargsyan, Hollande attend Armenian-French Business Forum in Yerevan

*From page 10*

when he attended with Sargsyan a concert of French-Armenian singer Charles Aznavour. The two presidents have inaugurated on Tuesday a small park in Yerevan renamed after Missak Manouchian, a prominent member of the French Resistance movement executed by the Nazis in 1944.

Speaking at the business forum, Hollande urged more French firms to set up shop in the South Caucasus country. But he said they need a friendly business environment for doing that.

In his speech at the gathering, Sargsyan argued that several major

French companies such as the mobile phone operator Orange, the Credit Agricole bank and the liquor giant Pernod Ricard already have subsidiaries in Armenia. He also said that French investments in the Armenian economy have risen dramatically, totaling over \$1 billion in the last six years. France is now Armenia's number one EU investor, he stressed.

The volume of trade between the countries remains very modest, however. Both presidents said they will strive to boost it.

A French businessman participating in the forum asked Sargsyan to comment

on investment-related implications of Armenia's upcoming entry into the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. "I think that possible membership in the Customs Union is making Armenia more attracting to investors," replied the Armenian leader.

Serzh Sargsyan said foreign investors not only will have easy access the big Russian market but could also capitalize on the EU's preferential trade regime for Armenia that exempts most goods from EU import duties. "That means we enable companies operating in Armenia to cash in on 700-million-strong markets," he added.

## ANCA Executive Director comments on Ambassador Warlick's statement on Nagorno Karabakh

Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA) Executive Director Aram Hamparian issued the following comment in response to U.S. Ambassador James Warlick's U.S. policy statement titled, "Nagorno-Karabakh: The Keys to a Settlement".

Hamparian States:

"The Warlick plan proposed today offers little new.

The framework it presents is neither morally acceptable nor practically sustainable.

While we do welcome the renewed focus on the centrality of status, at a fundamental level, this plan falls far short of our American ideal of democratic self-determination, the enduring principle upon which our nation was founded and through which more than one hundred new countries have emerged over the past half century.

Using the profoundly incendiary and patently inaccurate language of "occupation," this proposed framework again effectively calls upon Nagorno Karabakh and Armenia - the victims of Baku's war of aggression - to make up-front, strategic security concessions in return for entirely undefined and easily reversible promises by an increasingly beligerent Azerbaijani government.

We remain hopeful in the overall prospects for an OSCE-

brokered peace, are disappointed by the status and security



asymmetry in this particular proposal, and look forward to engaging, as meaningful stakeholders, in a more balanced, inclusive and democratic framework for the future of the independent Republic of Nagorno Karabakh. Over-riding Baku's veto on Nagorno Karabakh's full and direct participation in all peace talks should, of course, be the first item on the OSCE's agenda."

## MEPs issue statement on the 20th anniversary of the ceasefire agreement

Members of the European Parliament Eleni Theoharous, Frank Engel, Tatjana Zdanoka, Ewald Stadler, Inaki Irazabalbeitia, Michele Rivasi, as well as Deputy of the Spanish Parliament Jon Inarritu issued statement on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the ceasefire agreement.

The MPs, in particular, noted, that the fragile peace established by the agreement not only allowed avoiding escalation of the conflict and further human losses but created possibility for the search of ways of peaceful settlement of the conflict.

"Unfortunately, despite all the efforts the 20 years of cease-fire have not turned into a lasting and stable peace. Still, from time to time, we get the alarming news on recurrent incidents on the line of contact that cause new losses among young soldiers on both sides and may lead to renewed hostilities", - the statement tells.

The MPs reminded, that recognizing the strategic importance of the region of South Caucasus for the EU and the need

to transform the South Caucasus into a region of sustainable peace, stability and prosperity, the EU in its resolutions has called on the relevant authorities to refrain from use of force as well as to avoid provocative policies and rhetoric, inflammatory statements and manipulation of history.

The MPs highly appreciated the fact that both Nagorno Karabakh and Armenia have on numerous occasions approved their commitment to resolve the conflict by exclusively peaceful means through ongoing OSCE negotiation efforts. They have repeatedly voiced their readiness to withdraw snipers from the line of contact as a confidence and security building measure.

"We would like to use this anniversary to call on Azerbaijani authorities to withdraw snipers from the line of contact and Armenian-Azerbaijani border to avoid any further escalation of conflict. It is also crucial, that Azerbaijan's leadership commit itself to exclusively peaceful resolution of the conflict", - the statement



tells.

The MPs called the EU to engage in contributing to the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs lead process of fostering peace and understanding among the parties to the conflict to make possible the peaceful resolution of the conflict so that human rights and freedoms enjoyed in Europe are within a reach of its neighborhood too.

# OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs issue statement on the 20th anniversary of the ceasefire agreement

"On the twentieth anniversary of the 1994 ceasefire agreement, the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs invite the people of the region to reflect upon the legacy of the past two decades," the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs said in a statement on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the ceasefire agreement. The statement reads:

"On the twentieth anniversary of the 1994 ceasefire agreement, the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs invite the people of the region to reflect upon the legacy of the past two decades.

That agreement brought an end to outright war, halted the tragic violence of previous years, and laid the groundwork for negotiations that offered the sides a path to peace. Thanks to the resulting truce a new generation of Armenians and Azerbaijanis grew up without experiencing the horrors of war. The sides should do everything possible to protect future generations from such experience.

The ceasefire agreement did not, however, resolve the underlying conflict. It left the territories surrounding Nagorno-Karabakh occupied and failed to provide a path forward on status for Nagorno-Karabakh. The absence of a final settlement has resulted in the ongoing displacement of hundreds of thousands of people, the perpetual threat of escalating violence along the international border and the Line of Contact, and a misconception in some quarters that the status quo can be sustained indefinitely.

The sides have shown little willingness to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the co-chairs countries or make the political decisions necessary for progress in this peace process.

We share a common position on this conflict, and remain firmly committed to helping the sides reach a peaceful settlement as soon as possible based on the core principles of the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act, particularly those pertaining to the non-use of force, territorial integrity, and equal rights and self-determination of peoples. A settlement will have to include the elements outlined by the Presidents




of the co-chair countries in statements from 2009 to 2013, which include the return of the territories surrounding Nagorno-Karabakh, interim status for Nagorno-Karabakh guaranteeing security and self-governance, a corridor linking Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh, final status of Nagorno-Karabakh to be determined in the future by a legally-binding expression of will, the right of all internally-displaced persons and

refugees to return, and international security guarantees, including a peace-keeping operation. In November we saw a promising renewal of dialogue at the highest levels. We call on the sides to enter into constructive, good-faith negotiations resulting in a peace agreement based on these elements in order to bring about a lasting settlement to the conflict.

Such a settlement will not be possible without a basis of trust and understanding between the Armenian and Azerbaijani people. We call on the sides to commit to active people to people programs and security confidence building measures to reinforce the peace process.


Armenians and Azerbaijanis deserve to live in peace and security, and we stand ready to help. The sides must take the necessary steps towards peace. When they do, it will be with the full support of the OSCE and the international community."




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## Pope Francis to Armenian Catholicos: Blood of martyrs is seed of unity

Pope Francis received the Patriarch of the Armenian Apostolic Church, Catholicos Karekin II, on May 8 at the Vatican. The Catholicos is in Rome on a three-day visit that concludes on May 9. In remarks prepared for the occasion, Pope Francis recalled Pope St. John Paul II's 2001 visit to Armenia, and the many other visits the Catholicos has made to Rome and to the Popes in the Vatican, especially his 2008 visit to Pope Benedict XVI and his participation in the inauguration of Pope Francis' own pontificate.

The Holy Father went on to recall Catholicos Karekin's participation in the Jubilee year commemoration of the Witnesses to the Faith of the 20th century.

"In truth," said Pope Francis, "the number of disciples who shed their blood for Christ in the tragic events of the last century is certainly superior to that of the martyrs of the first centuries, and in this martyrology, the children of the Armenian nation have a place of honor." Pope Francis went on to say, "The mystery of the Cross, Holiness, so dear to the memory of your people, represented in the splendid stone crosses that adorn every corner of your land, has been lived by countless of your children as a direct participation in the chalice of the Passion." "Their testimony," he continued, "at once high and tragic, must not be forgotten."

Pope Francis went on to say that the suffering endured by Christians in recent decades has brought a unique and inestimable contribution also to the cause of Christian unity.

"As in the ancient Church, the blood of the martyrs became the seed of new Christians," said Pope Francis, "so in our day the blood of many Christians has become the seed of unity." The Pope continued, saying, "The ecumenism of suffering and the ecumenism of martyrdom, the ecumenism of blood is a powerful call to journey along the road of reconciliation among the Churches, with decision and with trusting abandonment to the action of the Spirit." Pope Francis said, "We feel the duty to go down this road of fraternity, also because of the debt of gratitude we owe to the suffering of our brothers, which has become salvific because it has been united to the passion of Christ."



Remarks of His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians On the Occasion of the Meeting with His Holiness Francis, Bishop of Rome and Pope of the Roman Catholic Church

Your Holiness and Beloved Brother in Christ,

We offer thanks to the Most High, that through His merciful will and Your Holiness' kind hospitality, we once again enjoy the opportunity to renew the divine love between our Churches and our brotherhood with an embrace of Christian love; and standing before the imperatives of the present time, to strengthen the collaboration between our Churches. Today, with a joyful heart, we greet you with the words of the Psalmist, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Psalm 132:1.

Our memories of your enthronement ceremonies remain fresh, where we were present together with the president of the Republic of Armenia and representatives of our Sister Churches, and experienced the opportunity to pray for longevity and a fruitful reign for Your Holiness. A prolific time has passed since that memorable day. We have followed with happiness the multifaceted activities of Your Holiness, who with divine vigor, as the brave chief shepherd and with diligent dedication, is realizing his mission and

increasing labors for the benefit of the vibrancy, welfare and reformation of the Catholic Church; and also contributes greatly to the reinforcement of the Christian faith and spiritual-moral values throughout the entire world, the defense of human rights, and the establishment of harmony and peace on earth. Your Holiness' special attention to the youth, and your care for the poor and those in trouble, have resounded greatly in the souls of men, and strengthens the love for you and toward Christ's Holy Church. Our Church too, ancient and established by the Holy Apostles, having shaken off the Soviet, God-denying years, and filled with new energy is accomplishing the God-commanded mission in Armenia - the biblical land of Ararat; and in Artsakh - the Republic of Nagorno Karabagh - that is struggling to secure recognition of its right to live free and independent; and in the life of our people dispersed throughout the various countries of the world. The Armenian Church places great importance and attention on working with the youth, to educate the young generation in spiritual and moral values, to supporting the poor, and to dealing with the contemporary challenges facing mankind, in accord with the holy inheritance of our fathers and the holy commandments of the Gospel.

It is with contentment we reflect that

as we triumph over the many challenges facing the Church, we have been able to record positive examples of cooperation with the Catholic Church. Indeed, the relationships between the Armenian and Catholic Churches have their historical roots. Our bilateral relations have been significantly effective during the reigns of Armenian Church pontiffs of luminous memory Gregory III Pahlavuni and St Nerses the Graceful, as well as the times of Popes Innocent II and Anastasius IV. And today as well, with thanks to God, relations are living an era of mutual development. Our relations are nourished by the reciprocal visits of the heads of our Churches, and on the diocesan and parochial levels, through inter-church activities and the realization of concurrent educational and charitable programs. Young Armenian clergy, who have continued their educations in Catholic institutions of higher learning, today are providing their selfless service to the Armenian Church. We place importance on the ongoing theological dialogue between the Ancient (Oriental) Orthodox Churches and the Catholic Church, whose goal is to elevate our commonalities and the reinforcement of our bilateral relationships.

Dear Brother in Christ, our meeting today is symbolic, since on May 8 and 9, many nations and states commemorate the victory over the worldwide evil of fascism. Humanity, which has experienced the destructions and violence of two world wars in the 20th century, is still unable to free itself from the horrors of wars, humanitarian and environmental disasters, and political and economic crises. Today in different corners of the world, conflicts have erupted, which bring sorrow and suffering to men, dispense ruin and loss, and increase need and poverty. In our daily prayers are the people in those countries who find themselves in conflict, and in particular, Ukraine, the Middle East and Syria, which is among the cradles of Christianity, and for centuries was a dwelling place of peaceful coexistence for Muslim and Christian peoples.

Recently added to the horrors occurring Syria was the destruction and removal of Armenians in the primarily Armenian-populated village of Kessab by militant extremists with the assistance of Turkey. We strongly condemn conflicts and terrorism that disrupt the peace of the world, and which are thoroughly against

the will of God, as the Apostle says, "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace." 1 Corinthians 4:33.

In Syria, in the deserts of Der Zor, rest thousands of Armenians who were victims of the 20th century's first crime against of humanity - the Armenian Genocide. Syria gave refuge to the sons and daughters of the Armenians who survived the terrors. The saying is true that those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it. Regrettably, by not condemning the Genocide of the Armenians at the time, the world bore witness to yet another crime that was implemented during the Second World War against the Jewish people. And still fresh in our memories are the genocides in Sudan and Darfur...

We are well aware that Your Holiness, during the years of your tenure in Argentina, and also now as the Pontiff of the Catholic Church, has presented your clear position on the Armenian Genocide. Next year, the Armenian people in Armenia and the Dispersion will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Genocide of the Armenians. Dear Brother in Christ, we invite Your Holiness to visit the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin in 2015. It will be spiritually consoling for our sons and daughters to stand in united prayer with Your Holiness' in the Mother Cathedral of the Descent of the Only Begotten, to offer supplications up to Almighty God for the innocent victims of the Genocide, for peace on earth and the wellbeing of mankind.

With feelings of boundless consolation, we also inform you that our Holy Church has commenced on the path of canonization of the martyrs of the Armenian Genocide, and by the merciful will of God, the process will be completed by 2015.

We pray to God, to grant long years of sun-filled reign to Your Holiness, for the vibrancy of the Catholic Church and the prosperity of your faithful flock. May the Lord keep His Holy Church strong with countless graces, keep the brotherhood between our Churches strong, and grant a cloudless and tranquil sky over the entire earth and the whole of mankind.

"Lead us, O Lord our God, and teach us to walk your path in righteousness; keep our life in peace, and our course according to Your will. Amen" Armenian Book of Hours (Breviary).

## Sociologist: 63 percent of men, 58 percent of women are married in Armenia



The most important social institution of our nation, family, is facing serious challenges, head of Sociometer Research Center, sociologist Aharon Adibekyan told reporters at Noyan Tapan.

"The number of divorces, lonely mothers and fatherless children has increased, which is a serious blow to family," the expert stressed.

According to sociological data for Armenia, of 1,250,000 women, half are married, while another half are divorced, widowed and those who never married. 750,000 women are married, 50,000 are divorced, 182,000 are widowed, while 320,000 women have never been married. 63 percent of men and 58 percent of women are married in Armenia.

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## Knesset discusses Armenian genocide; Speaker Edelstein: "We are not blaming any modern country"



The Knesset plenum held a special session on Tuesday to discuss the Armenian genocide, this following a motion to the agenda by MK Zahava Gal-On (Meretz) calling for the government to recognize the genocide, which is attributed to the Ottoman Turks, before its 100th anniversary next year.

During the session, Knesset Speaker Yuli-Yoel Edelstein mentioned that during his tenure as a minister he laid a wreath at the memorial dedicated to the victims of the genocide of 1915, which was built on the hill of Tsitsernakaberd in Yerevan, Armenia, and expressed his stance regarding "the need to remember the massacre of the Armenian people."

The discussion at the Knesset "does not blame any modern country, rather it shows that we identify with the victims of the massacre and its terrible outcome," Edelstein said, adding "we are not placing blame; we are acting like Jews and being faithful to the truth and the suffering of another people. We cannot deny history and hold back human values out of diplomatic or political caution."

MK Gal-On told the plenary session, "Next year the world will mark 100 years since the massacre, and it is time that the government of Israel recognize the massacre of the Armenian people. This recognition is not an attempt to foil relations with Turkey, which are very important for the State of Israel."

"The government should not sacrifice the recognition in the name of temporary interests," the Meretz leader continued. "Every time there is a different diplomatic situation. When we refer to relations with Turkey, we don't recognize the genocide and then there is the Marmara (Turkish Gaza protest ship in 2010) and

we change our mind."

"Many of those who are sitting in the Knesset plenum are second-generation Holocaust survivors. As a nation that experienced the Holocaust, we cannot continue to ignore the Armenian genocide because of irrelevant considerations," she said.

MK Reuven Rivlin (Likud-Yisrael Beiteinu) said, "We the Jews were next in line after the Armenians (to be killed). Whoever thought of the Final Solution got the impression that, when the day comes, the world will be silent, as it was about the Armenians. It is hard for me to forgive other nations for ignoring our tragedy and we cannot ignore another nation's tragedy. That is our moral obligation as people and Jews."

Tourism Minister Uzi Landau (Likud-Yisrael Beiteinu) responded to the motion on behalf of Foreign Minister Avigdor Liberman, saying that "as Jews and Israelis, we have a special sensitivity and even a moral obligation to recognize human tragedies, including the Armenian genocide."

"It is a good thing that the Knesset marks these tragedies. The State of Israel never denied what happened," Landau said.

However, the tourism minister added, in recent years the topic became a political one between Turkey and Armenia and each side is trying to prove it is right.

"We hope these two countries will implement the agreement they signed several years ago and will continue to have an open, deep dialogue that will allow them to heal from the wounds that remained open for decades," the minister said.

## Shavarsh Kocharyan: It's Azerbaijan hindering progress in the Karabakh talks

"There is the Madrid document, which the parties have adopted as a basis for negotiations. This does not mean the parties have accepted all principles enlisted in it. Corresponding attitude from all parties is needed to achieve progress in the negotiations. In the given case it's Azerbaijan's position that hinders progress in the talks," Armenian Deputy Foreign Minister Shavarsh Kocharyan told reporters at the National Assembly, as he commented on the recent statement of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs.

Asked whether he's not concerned about some formulations in the statement namely, the Co-Chairs note that "the ceasefire agreement did not resolve the underlying conflict, left the territories surrounding Nagorno-Karabakh occupied and failed to provide a path forward on status for Nagorno-Karabakh." Commenting on this, Kocharyan said "these are the two issues on which there is obviously no agreement, and this is what the Co-Chairs point to."

Shavarsh Kocharyan added that Azerbaijan obviously wants to refuse from the Minsk Group format for the simple reason that this format is a "straightjacket." "It is not only professional, but is also well informed about the history of the conflict. Besides, the format includes three permanent members of the UN Security Council – Russia, France and the United States and all their statements are about one thing – peace," the Deputy Foreign Minister added.

"This format has two important missions – to help the parties reach an agreement based on mutual concessions and not to allow the shaky ceasefire that has been in place for 20 years now to be abandoned," he noted.

## Zodiac Weekly Forecast

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

Within relationships of intensity, there is often a strong sexual attraction, whether or not your personalities are compatible. If the sexual component is not recognized, it may be transmuted into a competition. Avoid commitment to any new relationship on your radar. You need to know more about the individual.

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

See the lead paragraph on the home page. The oppositions pertain to you at this time. You are being tested or you are judging in more than one situation. If you back out you have definitely lost. If you face the truth head on, you will grow in stature and maturity.

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

Mercury travels rapidly through your sign between May 7 and May 30. During this period there likely will be greater emphasis on communications, errands, and other short distance travels. Your mind will be quick and your attitude persuasive. You are loaded with ideas, so remember not to monopolize conversations.

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

You have a desire to reach outward to others. You want to share ideas and express yourself in a larger framework. It seems everyone is interested in what you think. Circumstances on the home front are favorable with one who shares intellectual interests. Activities involving legal interests, teaching or learning are positive.

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

This is a week of scrutiny. It is possible that you are being tested now. You will get what you deserve. If you have prepared well, you will win the prize or the honor. You may have begun a challenging project during the previous fall which is now ready for unveiling and evaluation.

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

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 on display or otherwise noticed during this period. The outlook is favorable.

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

You may be backpedaling your way out of one or more relationships right now. What you fear is being smothered or overwhelmed. Your ruling planet, Mars, is retrograde. Be aware that the war is really internal. Perhaps you let yourself become closer than you really wanted.

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

You may have an experience in which you feel a figurative sniper at your back. Defend yourself if you absolutely must, but life will be easier if you ignore it. Your sniper will not recognize it, even if you point it out and the confrontation may become embarrassing.

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

You have a desire to celebrate. The temptation to overspend is strong. Consider what would be fun and interesting that doesn't require a big expenditure. Activities concerning education, publishing, the law, and travel have positive aspects. You are talkative and in an inquisitive frame of mind.

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

During this period the fruits of your labors become apparent. People will be offering messages to you about your character and how you have progressed over the years. You may observe your relationship to your children at this point. That is one place you can clearly see outcomes.

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

Last fall you began a new project in relation to your work in the world. You knew it would take some time to develop, but you felt it was worth the effort. During this period you will have feedback from the world on the value of that idea. Don't listen to self-criticism, which is almost always unfair to you.

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

A misunderstanding could develop between you and a close friend or family member. The blame game is useless. Do your best to unwind the thread to the point that it began and start fresh. It is possible that you will have a minor case of laryngitis. Pipes, whether in your body or your house may need clearing.

## ARMENIAN POETRY

### DJIVAN

#### THE YOUTH AND THE STREAMLET.

DOWN from yon distant mountain  
The streamlet finds its way,  
And through the quiet village ,  
It flows in eddying play.

A dark youth left his doorway,  
And sought the water-side,  
And, laving there his hands and brow,  
“ O streamlet sweet! ” he cried,

“ Say, from what mountain com'st thou  
? ”

“From yonder mountain cold  
Where snow on snow lies sleeping,  
The new snow on the old.”

“ Unto what river, tell me,  
Fair streamlet, dost thou flow ? ”

“ I flow unto that river  
Where clustering violets grow.”

“ Sweet streamlet to what vineyard,  
Say, dost thou take thy way ? ”

“ The vineyard where the vine-dresser  
Is at his work to-day.”

“ What plant there wilt thou water ? ”

“ The plant upon whose roots  
The lambs feed, where the wind-flower  
blooms,  
And orchards bear sweet fruits.”

“What garden wilt thou visit,  
O water cool and fleet ? ”

“ The garden where the nightingale  
Sings tenderly and sweet.”

“ Into what fountain flow'st thou ? ”

“The fountain to whose brink  
Thy love comes down at morn and eve,  
And bends her face to drink.”

“ There shall I meet the maiden  
Who is to be thy bride,  
And kiss her chin, and with her love  
My soul be satisfied.”

**WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?****Enjoy your leisure****15 May**

19:00 Don Quijote. Ludwig Minkus. Ballet in 3 acts Alexander Spendiaryan State Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre  
 19:00 Dark SHOCKoltae H. Ghaplanyan Drama Theatre  
 19:30 Taxi Driver in Love. Comedy Author: Ray Cooney Translation and adaptation: Levon Mutafyan Staging: Suren Safaryan Costume Design: Hasmik Aghayan Cast: David Tadevosyan Rozi Avetisova Anna Harutyunyan Armen Margaryan Mary Grigoryan Sargis Hakobyan  
 21:00 Jazz Trio (Soloist Aghvan) Malkhas Jazz Club  
 21:00 Another Story Stop Music Club  
 21:30 Camaradas Band & Ani Lupe Mezzo Classic House Club

**16 May**

12:00 14:00 The Caucasian Chalk Circle. Author: Bertolt Brecht. Play in 2 acts G. Sundukian National Academic Theatre  
 19:00 Oliver Weder is Conducting The APO Featuring Ramon Jaffe, Cello (Germany) Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall Program: Vahce Sharafyan: Three movements from the ballet, "Another Moon" (first concert performance in Armenia) Kabalevsky: Cello Concerto No. 2 (Armenian Premiere) Schumann: Symphony No. 1 Soloist: Ramon Jaffe, cello (Germany) Conductor: Oliver Weder (Germany)  
 19:00 Suzanne, Suzette and Jacqueline + 3 men. Marc Camoletti. Comedy in 2 acts H. Ghaplanyan Drama Theatre  
 19:00 Flight Over The City. For adults. Author: Anush Aslibekyan H. Tumanyan State Puppet Theatre  
 19:00 Anush. Drama. Author: H. Tumanyan The State Musical Chamber Theatre  
 21:00 Katuner Band Stop Music Club  
 21:30 The GentleMan's Band Mezzo Classic House Club  
 19:00 The Caucasian Chalk Circle Author: Bertolt Brecht Play in 2 acts Translation, staging and design: Tigran Gasparyan National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan

**17 May**

Museum Night 2014 National Gallery of Armenia  
 12:00 14:00 Beauty and the Beast. French folk tale. Children's Musical Fun Show The State Musical Chamber Theatre  
 12:00 14:00 16:00 Little Red Riding Hood. Author: Charles Perrault. Play for kids H. Tumanyan State Puppet Theatre  
 12:30 14:00 15:30 Yerevan State Marionette Theatre  
 18:00 Golden Chicken. Author: Vladimir Orlov. Play for kids. Small Hall H. Tumanyan State Puppet Theatre  
 19:00 Goya. Drama in 2 acts. Author: Antonio Buero Vallejo G. Sundukian National Academic Theatre  
 19:00 Train Stories. William Saroyan Henrik Malyan Theatre  
 19:00 Romantic Comedy. B. Slide. Tragicomedy in 2 acts H. Ghaplanyan Drama Theatre  
 19:30 ArmComedy Live. Not for All. New Stand-Up Comedy Show Moscow House Film-Concert Hall  
 21:00 Group Fiesta (Soloist Sona) Malkhas Jazz Club  
 21:00 Reincarnation Band Stop Music Club  
 21:30 Hayway Band Mezzo Classic House Club

**18 May**

12:00 14:00 16:00 Cock-a-doodle-doo. Play for kids H. Tumanyan State Puppet Theatre  
 12:00 14:00 Tom & Jerry. Children's Musical Fun Show The State Musical Chamber Theatre  
 12:30 14:00 15:30 The Naked King. Play for kids. Musical Performance Yerevan State Marionette Theatre  
 18:00 Armenouhi Martirosyan's personal exhibition. Denial-O Dalan Art Gallery  
 18:00 Little Red Riding Hood. Author: Charles Perrault. Play for kids H. Tumanyan State Puppet Theatre  
 19:00 Irrevocable Future. Author: Khoren Aramuni. Sad Comedy in 2 acts G. Sundukian National Academic Theatre  
 19:00 The Last Clown. B. Slade. Comedy in 2 acts H. Ghaplanyan Drama Theatre  
 19:00 Under Ground. Pessimistic Comedy. Author: Ara Yernjakyan Yerevan State Chamber Theatre  
 19:30 ArmComedy Live. Not for All. New

Stand-Up Comedy Show Moscow House Film-Concert Hall  
 21:00 Vahagn Hayrapetyan Jazz Trio Malkhas Jazz Club  
 21:30 Karen Mamikonyan Band Mezzo Classic House Club

**19 May**

19:00 Requiem for the Living. Author: Levon Shant Henrik Malyan Theatre  
 21:00 Group Remenor and Forsh Malkhas Jazz Club  
 21:30 Nuance Ethno-Jazz Band Mezzo Classic House Club  
 19:00 Almost Band Participants: Ashugh Almost Sevak Amroyan Monica Nazaryan Eva Tashchyan Edgar Martirosyan Lusine Gasparyan Andranik Asilbekyan Arpine Movsisyan as well as: Susanna Kirakosyan, piano Armen Ayvazyan, kamancha Gevorg Karapetyan, duduk Vladimir Papikyan, dhol  
 Artistic director: composer and tar player, Artem Khachatur Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall

**20 May**

19:00 Traviata. G. Verdi. Opera in 4 acts Alexander Spendiaryan State Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre  
 21:00 Jazz quartet (Soloist Zara) Malkhas Jazz Club  
 21:30 FreeForm Jazz Band Mezzo Classic House Club

**21 May**

21:00 Crossroads Blues Band (Soloist Amiryan Misho) Malkhas Jazz Club  
 21:30 Allusion Band Mezzo Classic House Club

**22 May**

16:00 David of Sasun. Author: Hovh. Tumanyan The State Musical Chamber Theatre  
 19:00 Mrs. Ministress. Comedy in 2 acts H. Paronyan State Theatre of Musical Comedy  
 19:00 Private Danielyan. Sergey Danielyan's biographical mono-play Yerevan State Chamber Theatre  
 21:00 Jazz Trio (Soloist Aghvan) Malkhas Jazz Club  
 21:30 Camaradas Band & Ani Lupe Mezzo Classic House Club

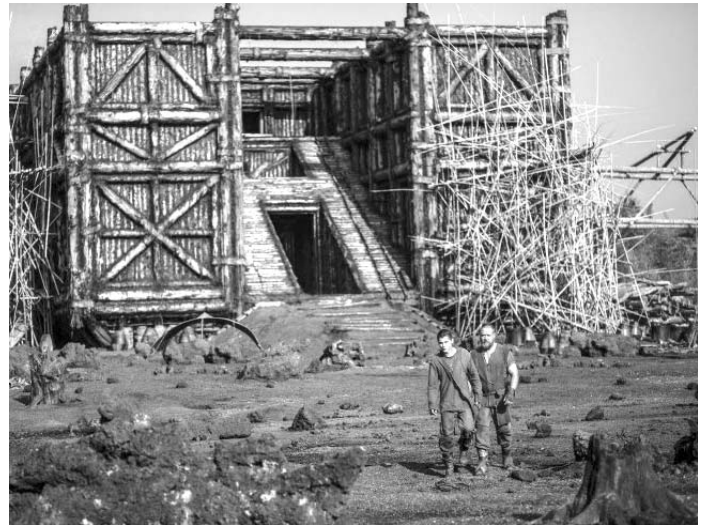
## Why Turkey wants Russell Crowe's ark

"A small town in southeastern Turkey, which claims to be the resting place of Noah's famous vessel, hopes a few timbers from the Hollywood blockbuster could draw tourists to the historically rich region," Thomas Seibert writes in an article published in The Daily Beast.

Authorities in Sirkak province say they want to bring the wooden structure representing the biblical ark in Russell Crowe's recent movie Noah to Turkey and install it on the slopes of the local Mount Cudi to attract tourists. According to Islamic tradition, Noah's ark came to rest on Mount Cudi, and not on Mount Ararat on today's border between Turkey and Armenia, about 160 miles to the north-east of Sirkak.

The plan raised hopes of lifting the region out of poverty, but suffered a potentially fatal setback this week as officials from Paramount, the maker of Noah, said the ark from the film had been taken apart after shooting was done. "I'm pretty sure it's been disassembled," said Ari Handel, who was a producer and co-writer of the movie.

Still, authorities in Sirkak said they were determined to go ahead with the project, even if it meant to import just a few wooden parts from the set. "We will do everything we can to make it happen despite this," Osman Gelis, the head of Sirkak's Chamber of Trade and Industry, told The Daily Beast. "Maybe



the government can do something."

Now Sirkak is hoping that Crowe's ark will generate some income for the province of around 85,000 people, which sits on Turkey's borders with Syria and Iraq. Locals believe that Noah was buried in the town of Cizre, which lies in the province. An image of the ark is the province's official symbol.

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