

Armenian Wrestling Champs Return Home with Gold

Armenia's national team of Greco-Roman wrestlers returned home on September 15 with two gold medals from the World Wrestling Championships held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

At Zvartnots Airport, the Armenian athletes were welcomed by a huge crowd of fans. Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs Gabriel Ghazaryan was also there to greet the champions.

Arsen Julfalakyan (75 kg) beat Croatia's Neven Jugai (4 - 0) to win a gold medal at the World Wrestling Championships.

Three-time European Champion Artur Aleksanyan (98 kg) brought Armenia another gold medal, beating Germany's Oliver Hassler in the final.

Aleksanyan received a hero's welcome upon arriving back in his native city of Gyumri on Monday.

First, hundreds of Gyumri residents welcomed him at Gyumri's Shirak International Airport and, subsequently, he took an honor tour of the city.

Accompanied by Gyumri Mayor Samvel Balasanyan, Aleksanyan also prayed at the Surb Astvatsatsin (St. Mary's) Church, and then



joined his fellow Gyumri residents at the city's central square, where they were celebrating his triumph.

This was 22-year-old three-time European champion Artur

Aleksanyan's first victory in the Wrestling World Championships. And during the post-gold-medal-match interview, Aleksanyan stated that, now, his dream is Olympic gold.

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Armenian Foreign Minister meets French lawmakers

On September 11 Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian received the delegation of the French Parliament headed by Alain Néri, Vice-President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and head of the French delegation to OSCE PA.

Minister Nalbandian hailed the input of French parliamentarians in the development of Armenian-French friendship and noted that active contacts in the parliamentary format greatly contribute to the further deepening of special Armenian-French relations.

The Armenian Foreign Minister welcomed the visit of French lawmakers to Armenia and Artsakh, emphasizing that such visit provide an opportunity to get first-hand information about regional processes.

Members of the French Senate and National Assembly said they were impressed by the visit to Artsakh, the meetings with the authorities and people. According to them, Artsakh Armenians



have reached success in state-building and development. They assured they will maintain efforts towards further deepening of the Armenian-French relations.

During the meeting reference was made to issues of cooperation between the Armenian and French delegations within the framework of international

organizations.

At the request of the guests, Minister Nalbandian presented the efforts of Armenia and the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs towards the settlement of the Karabakh issue. A number of regional and international issues were also discussed.

NKR Foreign Minister met with the Chairman of Basque Parliament

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Karen Mirzoyan visited the Basque Country Parliament, where he met with Parliament Speaker Bakartxo Tejeria Otermin, Information and Public Relations Department of NKR MFA informed.

During the meeting, Karen Mirzoyan briefed on the processes of state-building in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic and the international recognition of Artsakh, as well as referred to the current stage of the peaceful settlement of Nagorno Karabakh conflict. Views were exchanged on the possibilities and prospects for future cooperation between the legislative bodies of Artsakh and the Basque Country.

Karen Mirzoyan handed Bakartxo Tejeria Otermin the invitation of NKR National Assembly Chairman Ashot Ghulian to visit the Republic of Artsakh. Within the frames of his visit, Karen Mirzoyan also met with representatives of the political forces of the parliament. Touching upon the Motion about right to self-determination of Nagorno Karabakh adopted on the same day by the Basque Country Parliament, Karen Mirzoyan described it as a positive development and noted that it was yet another important manifestation of the international community's support for the continuous efforts of the NKR to develop freely and independently. He noted that the Motion will contribute to the developing and fostering relations between the two friendly nations.



The same day, Karen Mirzoyan visited the city of Gernika, where he was accepted by Mayor of the city Jose María Gorroño. Karen Mirzoyan noted at the meeting that he represented a country, where peaceful civilians also fell victims to a vigorous war and paid tribute to the memory of the innocent victims of Guernica.

The NKR Foreign Minister also visited the sanctuary of the Basque people Gernikako Arbola (tree of Gernika), where the oath ceremony of the Lehendakari-Presidents of the Basque Country takes place.

The Basque Country supports Nagorno Karabakh's self-determination

On September 12, the Basque Parliament adopted a Motion about the right to self-determination of Nagorno Karabakh. The Motion expresses the Basque Parliament's support to the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group and states that the implementation of all confidence building measures proposed by the OSCE Minsk group is a necessary condition for

the settlement of the conflict. The parliament also calls on sides to withdraw snipers and activate the mechanisms for investigating ceasefire violations.

The Motion also stresses that the people of Nagorno Karabakh have a right to self-determination, and the only basis to the settlement of the conflict is through exercising this democratic right.

The Basque Parliament praises the loyalty of the people of Nagorno Karabakh to democracy and notes that the Nagorno Karabakh authorities should be part of any forum crucial for the future of the country.

The Motion was supported by all major political forces represented in the parliament.

Date Set For Armenian Opposition Rally

Three leading Armenian parties critical of President Serzh Sargsyan on September 17 decided to hold a joint rally on October 10 which might mark the beginning of their campaign of anti-government street protests.

The Armenian Revolutionary Federation (Dashnaksutyun), another opposition party represented in parliament, announced, meanwhile, that it will not participate in the rally because it disagrees with the troika's unconditional rejection of sweeping constitutional amendments planned by Sargsyan.

The announcements came after a two-hour meeting of senior lawmakers from the four parties that have increasingly worked together in challenging the Armenian government over the past year. Their cooperation culminated in a list of 12 political and economic demands that were issued to the Sargsyan administration in June. The opposition quartet said at the time that it will rally supporters this fall to discuss the authorities' response to those demands. The date of that rally was not known until now.

"Our distinguished colleagues from Dashnaksutyun will not take part in the joint rally on the grounds that there are substantial differences on a very serious issue like the constitutional changes," said Naira Zohrabyan of the Prosperous Armenia Party (BHK).

"Let's be frank. It's hard to expect the rally not to discuss and take a position on a critical issue like the constitutional changes. That is why Dashnaksutyun will not join the rally of the three political forces to be held on October 10," Zohrabyan told reporters.

Armen Rustamyan, a Dashnaksutyun leader, reaffirmed his party's readiness to endorse Sargsyan's constitutional reform if the authorities accept its concrete proposals to be submitted after October 15. Dashnaksutyun will join the other parliamentary minority forces in campaigning against the reform if those proposals are turned down, he said.

According to Rustamyan, Dashnaksutyun therefore proposed that the opposition rally be postponed until after the authorities' response. "But they want to hold it as early as possible," he said of the trio.

It remains unclear what the BHK, the Armenian National Congress (HAK) and the Zharangutyun (Heritage) party will do after the rally. The HAK and Zharangutyun are pushing for a sustained campaign of street protests which they hope would force Sargsyan to step down or at least leave power after completing his final presidential term in 2018. The BHK, which controls the second largest faction in Armenia's parliament, has been more cautious so far.

Stepanakert and Donostia sign cooperation agreement



Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic Karen Mirzoyan met with Mayor of the city Donostia (San Sebastian) of the Basque Country Juan Carlos Izagirre Hortelano in the City Hall.

During the meeting the sides exchanged views on the prospects of establishment and development of friendly and mutually beneficial working relationship

between Stepanakert and Donostia.

As a result of the meeting, an Agreement on cooperation was signed between the cities of Stepanakert and Donostia.

The Agreement states that the sides will conduct exchanges and cooperation in various spheres on the basis of principles of equality and mutual benefit.

Under the Agreement regular contacts

will be maintained between the cities and their relevant structures to discuss cooperation issues as well other matters of mutual interest.

Donostia is the capital of Gipuzkoa province and one of the famous tourism centers of the country. The city is also famous for its film festivals. The European Union declared the city of Donostia the European Capital of Culture 2016.

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Armenia, World Bank discuss implementation of joint programs

Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan received the delegation headed by Henry Kerali, World Bank Regional Director for the South Caucasus. The Prime Minister hailed the cooperation between the World Bank and Armenia and reminded that the parties are currently implementing 15 programs with a total volume of \$518

million.

"We want to raise our cooperation with the World Bank to a qualitatively new level and intensify the bilateral cooperation with a view of implementing new programs," Hovik Abrahamyan said.

Henry Kerali introduced the new head of the World Bank Yerevan Office Laura E. Bailey and voice confidence that she would further boost the cooperation with the Armenian government based on mutual trust. Henry Kerali underlined that the World Bank was interested in implementing new ambitious programs with the Republic of Armenia and informed about the forthcoming visit of the WB Vice-President to Yerevan.

The WB Director for the South



Caucasus attached importance to the Bank's support to the implementation of programs in the fields of tourism and agriculture, which have a great potential of development.

The interlocutors discussed the process of implementation of joint programs and other issues on the agenda.



USAID and UNICEF to support Government of Armenia to perform child care system



On September 12, 2014, USAID and UNICEF signed a cooperation agreement for a five-year program that will support the Government of Armenia's national child welfare reform to stop the flow of children into residential educational and care institutions as well as reintegrate de-institutionalized children into a family environment through developing alternative family-based care options and community-based services for children and their families. This program underscores USAID's commitment to assist the Government of Armenia in restructuring its child care system.

Due to the lack of alternative services, the existing child care system of Armenia encourages parents of disabled children and economically disadvantaged families to send their children to institutions for temporary or often permanent care. According to UNICEF research, nearly 4,500 children live in 42 state and non-state residential institutions across Armenia. Children reside in three main types of institutions - orphanages, night care institutions, and special educational facilities. Ninety-seven percent of children living in child care residential institutions are children from socially vulnerable families who have at least one parent alive.

The Government of Armenia recognizes the acute need for de-institutionalization and has made it a strategic priority since 2011. USAID, together with UNICEF, World Vision, Save the Children and Bridge of Hope, will support the Government of Armenia to

fulfill its commitment of establishing community and family based alternative services and inclusive schools that accommodate children with special needs.

Over the next five years, joint efforts will help ensure social inclusion and equal access to services and opportunities for children in target residential institutions. De-institutionalization will result in the progressive elimination of residential care and the establishment of tailored family- and community-based services available to citizens of Armenia.

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Unilateral concessions in return for uncertainty unacceptable to us: Armenian DM



"Mutual concessions are acceptable to us, but the unilateral concessions in return for uncertainty are not," Armenian Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan said at the meeting with the faculty and staff of the Armenian State University of Economics.

"By inciting border provocations Azerbaijan tried to influence the negotiation process on the settlement of the Karabakh conflict," the Defense Minister noted. "It was a test for our armed forces, which they successfully passed," he added.

Minister Ohanyan said "the Armenian side stands for the peaceful settlement of the conflict." "The people of Artsakh have realized their right to self-determination on their historic lands,

and there is no alternative to this," he stated.

Reminding that Armenia has once managed to protect its borders in an imposed war, the Minister added: "The rival is trying to exert pressure for a second time and grab concessions. Mutual agreements are acceptable to us, but the unilateral concessions in return for uncertainty are not."

"With belligerent rhetoric and ceasefire violations Azerbaijan is trying to demonstrate its power and thus affect the negotiation process. This was the purpose behind the escalation of tension in July-August of the current year," Minister Ohanyan said, adding that "the intension failed because of the bravery and devotion of the Armenian soldiers."

As for the possible support of the CSTO forces in case of necessity, the Minister first reminded that "Armenia is an active member of the CSTO. It has come forth with a number of initiatives, has actively participated in the development of peacekeeping and air-defense forces." He added that "according to the CSTO statute, in case the member states apply for assistance, the others have to provide it. This regulation is in force."

Speaking about Armenia's cooperation with NATO, Minister Ohanyan said "it helps raise the level of defense reforms." "Our cooperation develops in the field of education, military medicine, peacekeeping, humanitarian de-mining and a number of other directions," he said, adding that "both organizations show understanding towards us and our problems."

OSCE hopes for intensified negotiations on Nagorno-Karabakh conflict



OSCE hopes that the parties to the Armenian-Azerbaijani NK conflict will engage in the intensified process of negotiations, Andrzej Kasprzyk, the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office told Trend on Sept. 15.

Kasprzyk underscored that the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Didier Burkhalter urged the conflicting parties to be engaged in this process during his recent visit

to the region.

He said OSCE has presented its proposals to the conflicting parties and urged them to start intensified negotiations.

"Now the sides have to take the necessary steps to move the process forward," Kasprzyk said, adding that any initiatives and efforts of the parties to bring the process forward are positive.

He went on to add that OSCE, as well as Minsk Group co-chairs, are ready to assist the conflicting parties.

The personal representative also positively assessed the meetings of Azerbaijani and Armenian presidents in Sochi and Wales, and expressed hope that the presidents will use the opportunity to continue the dialogue upon the invitation of French president.

Armenian PM meets Baroness Caroline Cox

Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan received on September 17 member of the House of Lords of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Baroness Caroline Cox and members of the "Heart" charity organization.

The Prime Minister hailed Caroline Cox' pro-Armenian activity aimed at presenting the Artsakh issue to the world. "You have raised the Armenian issues and have presented the true history of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict from different podiums. I'm confident that your careful attitude towards the people of Artsakh will be remembered for ages," Hovik Abrahamyan said.

Baroness Cox stressed she's happy for the opportunity to know the heroic people of Artsakh, to be with them at difficult moments, and stressed that she's happy for today's achievements of Armenia and Artsakh. She expressed willingness to continue to support the Armenian people and contribute to the deepening of the Armenian-British ties.

The interlocutors discussed the programs the British "Heart" charity NGO intends to implement in Armenia, and referred to regional issues and challenges, the process of settlement of the Karabakh issue, the priorities of the Armenian government program

2014 Laureate of RA President's Award for Outstanding Contribution in Humanity through IT is Mario Mazzola, Chief Development Officer, Cisco Systems

News conference by Vigen Sargsyan, Hovik Musayelyan and Ralph Yirikian



By **Gourgen James Khazhakian**

Chief
Correspondent

On September 10 at the Office of the RA President a news conference dedicated to the President's Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Humanity through IT (Global IT (GIT) Award) and the 2014 Award Laureate was held.

The speakers were Chairman of the Award Committee, Chief of the RA President's Staff **Vigen Sargsyan**, Chairman of the Committee's Executive Board, Member of the Public Council under RA President **Dr Hovik Musayelyan** and General Manager of the Award General Sponsor VivaCell-MTS company **Ralph Yirikian**.

Opening the event, Mr Sargsyan briefly reminded the journalists the idea and the history of the GIT Award.

Presenting two other speakers, Vigen Sargsyan called Hovik Musayelyan "one of the Award idea initiator whohas been a GIT Award driving force since its establishment". As to Ralph Yirikian, Mr Sargsyan particularly thanked General Manager of VivaCell-MTS, permanent General Sponsor of the Award, for covering all the expenses related to travel, accomodation, other costs of the Award Laureates during their stay in Armenia as well as those of the precious metals/diamonds-decorated Award Medal and Trophy manufacturing.

In Vigen Sargsyan's opinion, the project is a success, as...

"All the four previous Laureates are really highly authoritative persons in the global IT world...The prerequisite, the Award basic idea was that the holder should arrive in Armenia personally, by all the means, to make Armenia more recognizable in the world. During the visit, Laureate shares his experience, inspires our young people, holds master classes, meets with IT community representatives. Importantly, after visiting Armenia, the

Award recipients maintain contacts with Armenia. For instance, 2012 Laureate Dr Federico Faggin called "Father of micro-processors", expressed desire to arrive in Armenia this year and attend the awarding ceremony as well to hold master classes here. And we've got an interesting info - the last year's winner, former Hitachi CEO Dr Tsugio Makimoto of Japan told us he would be happy to visit Armenia again but he could not due to his being very busy - among his other responsibilities Makimoto-san mentioned the fact he's started writing a book about Armenia and

GKh.). All this is important also from the point of view of raising interest to Armenia, including increasing tourists number to our country", Mr Sargsyan said.

To continue the theme of attracting more foreigners to Armenia, Vigen Sargsyan stressed that the Open Sky policy is registering notable results. Thanks to the policy worked out and implemented on the assignment of the President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan, in August 2014 the number of the tourists has grown in 35% as compared to the same period of the previous year.



"That policy will be consistently implemented and all the airline companies having a goal to hold flights to Armenia will get full support from our country's leadership, so in case of any problem we would ask the companies let us know immediately", said Vigen Sargsyan confirming once again that there is a great intention to fully implement the Open Sky policy launched by the end of 2013.

This policy is aimed at promoting the GDP growth, creating new jobs and reducing the air transportation prices. As a result, by now the market of air carries of Armenia has been replenished with new air carriers.

After that Vigen Sargsyan gave the floor to Hovik Musayelyan, "to told the most interesting part" - i.e. reveal the name of the GIT Award Laureate 2014.

As Dr Musayelyan said, all previous years Laureates, the real luminaries, have been bringing to Armenia their experience, new business culture, technologies, meeting with our society, students and bringing us even closer to the global technological processes.

In his words, not so many people were optimistic with the Award idea some five years ago, but the time has told we succeeded as these people, in spite of being very busy, kindly agreed to come to Armenia, with their spouses; moreover, two of them decided to stay here for an extra time, at their own, to get know Armenia and its people better. "As Mr Sargsyan has informed you already, Dr Tsugio Makimoto, the fourth GIT Award Laureate,

IT sector prospects and the industry role in Armenia. So it comes to prove once more that the Award serves its basic goal", Mr Sargsyan said.

Chief of the President's Staff emphasized that GIT Award is a part of broader program supported by the RA President **Serzh Sargsyan**; he spoke on the another Presidential awarding in IT - to the Best Student, Best Bachelor, Best Master, Best Postgraduate etc. that have also been initiated by Hovik Musayelyan, among others.

Another evidence of Armenia's leadership's and its society's desire and efforts to make the Armenian State more visible as it befits our country at the intl arena is Viktor Hambartsumyan International Prize for Outstanding Contribution in Astronomy/Astrophysics and Related Sciences establishment that is being awarded every second year and includes \$500,000 handing to its Laureate.

"All this is important to make Armenia more recognizable, more attractive especially for the young scientists, and we'll continue our efforts. I'm confident that we'll see new initiatives (in these terms -

has started to write a book on their impressions from Armenia; he told us openly that they fell in love with Armenia".

When establishing the Award, we were realizing all the importance of that fact who will be the very first nominee as we desired to have the high benchmark set, Mr Musayelyan said.

So they talked to Bill Gates, but the latter, thanking in a polite way for such an honor with a special letter, told he could not visit Armenia due to his being very busy for coming one or two years.

And **Dr Craig Barrett**, another IT legend (of Silicon Valley), retired Intel Chief, agreed to become the first Laureate of the Global IT Award of the Armenian President.

According to Hovik Musayelyan, they have had a strong desire to see as a GIT Award Laureate **Steve Jobs**, but, sadly, Mr Jobs passed away. So then it was decided to invite "another Steve" - **Steve Wozniak**, co-founder of Apple Computers, Inc. Dr Musayelyan noted that "Mr Woz" was surprised when his fans from Armenia were greeting him at the airport with half-eaten apples (logo of the company), and another group of his fans came to Armenia from a neighboring country specifically to meet their icon. And the third and the fourth Laureates have become the Honorary President of Synaptics, President of Federico and Elvia Faggin Foundation Dr Federico Faggin and the Chairman of Semiconductor Industry Association, former Hitachi Chief Dr Tsugio Makimoto.

"These prominent people are paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to deliver a lecture in any other country. However, with their visiting Armenia and being granted the Award here, we have the opportunity to meet them without spending large amounts. Owing to these people, Armenia becomes more recognizable on the map of global IT field", said Hovik Musayelyan.

According to him, each Laureate of the Award is somehow linked to Armenia, becoming our country's "Ambassador".

And then the time for the "main intrigue" has come: Dr Musayelyan read a Presidential Decree according to which the Global IT Award Laureate for 2014 has become Mr **Mario Mazzola**, Chief Development Officer at Cisco Systems. "First of all, Mr Mazzola asked for the list of previous Laureates, and after that agreed at once to come to Armenia saying that it's the great honor to him to receive the Award from the hands of the Armenian President", said Hovik Musayelyan and added: "Cisco is one of the world famous companies, brands in the IT and telecommunication sectors. It's one of the leaders of next generation data centers and engi-



Mario Mazzola

neering solutions, and it is important for this year's awarding that Mario Mazzola is not a retired Chief, but the one in the office. And the fact that the Company's Chief Development Officer Mario Mazzola agreed to arrive in Armenia for whole four days, despite his tough schedule, is very important for us", he said.

Mario Mazzola will arrive in Armenia on November 9. The official awarding ceremony will be held in the Armenian Presidential residence on November 11.

On behalf of the Award Committee Executive Board Hovik Musayelyan specially thanked Staff of the RA President and the Award General Sponsor VivaCell-MTS headed by Ralph Yirikian for invaluable support within all these years.

Member of the Executive Board of the Award Committee, General Manager of VivaCell-MTS, the General Sponsor of the Award, Ralph Yirikian said that VivaCell-MTS encourages all the initiatives which help make Armenia's image more complete and comprehensible.

In his words, "Since the very beginning of our company we have been thinking how we could help in the best possible way to strengthening of our Hayreniq and making it more recognizable in the world. And this program is a very special one as it serves the mentioned goal best. So we are ready to continue our support to this as well as other projects that are able to make our Homeland, my Homeland more prosperous and known at the international arena.

It's already the fifth year that our company has been sponsoring the Award for Global Contribution in the IT Area, a program, which strengthens Armenia's positive image as a major competitor in the global IT sector", said Ralph Yirikian.

Your correspondent who has been covering the Award since its very establishment asked a question each of three speakers.

The first one asked Dr Musayelyan was

the following: "Why the Award does not contain a money prize alike Viktor Hambartsumyan Prize in Astrophysics?"

The answer was the following: "Some five-six years ago when I shared the Award idea with President Serzh Sargsyan, Mr President touched upon financial issue saying that probably some half-million USD prize needed...But I told our country's leader that we had no goal to attract world IT luminaries to Armenia by means of money as such an amount would not be of the great importance for potential laureates some of them owing airplanes. Besides, if one day our neighboring country (Azerbaijan) would decide to establish a similar award, with money prize, let's say, 5 million USD, then some people in the world could say: "See, they in Azerbaijan evaluates IT luminaries ten times more...", and then the situation would be very unfavorable for us...Instead this we've succeeded to create a quite interesting image environment, we presented the Laureates our country with its national competitive advantages and turned them in the "Ambassadors" of Armenia".

A question asked Ralph Yirikian: "Are you satisfied with this project as its No.1 investor?"

Mr Yirikian said in particular: "We in VivaCell-MTS have two main directions of support programs: first, the internal one aimed at providing social and economic development inside the country, and the second, the external one, aimed at our country branding in the world. And from this point of view the GIT Award quite succeeded, and we have a very good example for similar programs to be supported by VivaCell-MTS".

Chief of Staff of the RA President Vigen Sargsyan was asked the following question: "It's well known that you are one of the most busy people in the country. So, if not a big secret: how would you find a time to work as the GIT Award Committee Chairman?"

And Mr Sargsyan's answer was a very clear one: "As to my time, I must say that my working hours aimed at assisting implementation of the RA President's functions, and so as this Award is awarded by the President of the Republic, it is my job's important part; besides, as Mr Musayelyan and all those who is in charge for the awarding have been working very hard, I, as the Committee's Chairman, is not forced to spend very much time for it. However, I'm spending that time with pleasure as I realize the Award is a very important thing for our country and it gives its excellent results".

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PREMISES

- ♦1789. **Charents str.** Land-1270sq.m, 5 storied building, each floor-400sq.m., basement, capitally

repaired, parkings. Price: 4.000.000 USD negotiable

- ♦1598. **Komitas, 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. **Antarayan str.**, Newly built, land-700sq.m, 3 storied bld-690sq.m, 5 bedrooms, capitally repaired. Price: 1.300.000 USD

NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

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



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1 ROOM

- ♦2037. **Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, gas, heating system, AC, modern furnished, equipped. Price: negotiable
- ♦2189. **Vardanants str.**, Newly built, 24/12, 90 sqm, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- ♦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

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- ♦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

- ♦1323. **Monument, Babayan str**, Land-400sq.m, 3storied bld-300sqm, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired. Price: Negotiable
- ♦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. **Djrvej**, 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 neces-

- sary /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, Barbyus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1317. **Blur, Barbyus 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. **Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦1408. **Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghramyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, 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

Armenian Police Practice Crowd Dispersal

The chief of the Armenian police warned opposition groups against destabilizing the political situation in the country with "unlawful" actions as his forces trained to use force against anti-government protesters over the weekend.

Hundreds of interior troops and other police personnel simulated a "special operation to prevent and disrupt mass disturbances" at the end of six-day training exercises in crowd control held at an airfield 15 kilometers north of Yerevan. They wore riot gear and used water cannons and tear gas.

A police statement said the exercises took place under a scenario whereby a rally sanctioned by authorities "turns into mass disturbances at the urging of a group of active participants."

Armenia's four main opposition parties plan to hold an unprecedented joint demonstration early next month to discuss the government's response to a list of political and socioeconomic demands issued by them in June. Virtually none of those demands has been made so far, leading some opposition parties, notably the Armenian National Congress (HAK), to threaten a sustained campaign of anti-government street protests. Some opposition figures have spoken of a "heated political autumn" awaiting Armenia.

"I can reply with humor that there are cold showers for heated autumns. And when a shower doesn't help we can organize a much more heated autumn," Vladimir Gasparyan, the chief of the national police service, told reporters after watching the drills together with other police generals.

"Any violation and especially assault on policemen would be strictly punished," he warned.

Gasparyan implied that anti-government unrest is all the more dangerous as it would encourage Azerbaijan to launch armed attacks along its border with Armenia and around Nagorno-Karabakh. "If heated autumns happen with violations of law I, as police chief, will not tolerate that because I know what unrest, wars, and wartime losses mean," he said. "I know for sure that a



violation of internal stability is directly connected with [the situation on] our border."

"While serving my people with humility, I will not tolerate a situation where people kill and smash each other and the enemy takes advantage of that. God forbid anyone play with the country's fate for the sake of their vanity, wealth, revanchism or I don't know what," added Gasparyan.

By "revanchism" the police chief may have meant attempts by President Serzh Sargsyan's predecessors, Levon Ter-Petrosian and Robert Kocharyan, to prevent him from holding on to power for many more years. Ter-Petrosian is the top leader of the opposition HAK, while Kocharyan is widely seen as the political patron of Gagik Tsarukyan, the leader of the Prosperous Armenia Party (BHK), the second largest parliamentary force.

The HAK, the BHK as well as the opposition Zharangutyun and Armenian Revolutionary Federation (Dashnaksutyun) parties have increasingly worked together in challenging the government over the past year. Their upcoming joint rally will mark another milestone in that cooperation.

Hayrapetyan's Lawyers to Appeal Custody Extension

Levon Hayrapetyan's lawyers will appeal against the decision of a Moscow court to extend his detention until December 15, 2014, Hayrapetyan's lawyer Igor Komarov said.

The lawyers will ask the court to replace the businessman's imprisonment with house arrest. "Hayrapetyan's health may considerably deteriorate if he is held in custody," Komarov explained.

RIA Novosti reported on September 12 that the Moscow court extended Levon Hayrapetyan's arrest. The court made such a decision despite his lawyers' statement that Hayrapetyan suffers from several serious diseases and may not survive in prison conditions. A bail of 30 million rubles and guarantees of authoritative persons were



offered.

It also became known at the court sitting last week that a second criminal case was opened against Levon Hayrapetyan.

Hayrapetyan, 65, was arrested by Russian Federal Security Service officials on July 15. A Moscow court allowed the businessman's two-month imprisonment

while investigators conduct a probe into his alleged criminal connections and involvement in some illegal financial dealings. He was officially charged on July 24 with money laundering and embezzlement and his shares in the Russian oil company Bashneft, said to be worth \$8.5 million were frozen.

Hayrapetyan is considered to be one of the wealthiest Armenians in the world. He is known to have invested millions of dollars into developing Nagorno-Karabakh's infrastructure and renovating the area's historical-cultural monuments. His charity included a mass wedding for hundreds of Karabakh couples in 2008 and sponsorship of the construction of a military college in Martakert.

Greece: Third country to criminalize denial of the Armenian Genocide



By Harut
Sassounian

Publisher, The
California Courier

While Turkey was pressuring the French President not to support a bill criminalizing denial of the Armenian Genocide, it had to cope with Greece, yet another country that just adopted a law making it illegal to deny genocides, including the Armenian Genocide. Greece is the third European country, after Slovakia and Switzerland, to pass such a law. The Swiss law, however, is under review by the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) for violating a Turkish defendant's freedom of speech.

The French Parliament (2011) and Senate (2012) adopted a similar law to punish genocide denial which was overturned by the French Constitutional Council. To replace the failed law, French Deputy Valerie Boyer submitted a new bill to the Parliament last week. President Francois Hollande has also pledged to back the criminalization of Armenian Genocide denial.

Despite legal uncertainties regarding such laws in Europe, the Greek Parliament adopted by a vote of 54 to 42, on Sept. 9, an anti-hate crime law - Combating Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Racism - making it illegal to deny the Jewish Holocaust, and genocides recognized by international courts or by the Greek Parliament, i.e., the genocide of Pontus Greeks, the genocide of Asia Minor Greeks, and the Armenian Genocide. Those violating this new law would be fined up to 30,000 euros, and imprisoned for up to three years.

The Greek law stems from the European Union's 2008 "Framework Decision against Racism and Xenophobia," which urged all EU states to adopt laws that punish racism, xenophobia, denial of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.

Caught by surprise, Turkish officials and Azerbaijani propagandists made confusing statements about the Greek law. Initially, the Turkish Foreign Ministry condemned the Greek law,

claiming that "it contradicts democratic principles and freedom of speech." Soon however, the Foreign Ministry reversed itself and expressed the hope that the new Greek law would help protect the rights of Turks living in Greece! It should be noted that Greece adopted this law, despite Pres. Erdogan's warning at the NATO Summit in Wales on Sept. 5 to Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras who flatly told the Turkish President that the Greek law would not violate international law. A similar warning was issued by Erdogan to the French President that adopting any new laws on the Armenian Genocide could complicate the relationship between their countries.

Azeri commentators also made contradictory claims even though the Greek law has nothing to do with Azerbaijan. One Azeri writer alleged that the Greek law does not mention the Armenian Genocide and that the Greek Parliament has never recognized the Armenian Genocide. Of course, both of these claims are completely false. Clearly, this Azeri writer does not know that the Greek Parliament recognized the Armenian Genocide on April 25, 1996, and on July 10, 1996 Pres. Konstantinos Stefanopoulos signed a decree, declaring April 24 to be "the memorial day of the genocide of the Armenians by Turkey."

A second Azeri, V. Seyidov, not only acknowledged that the Greek law cov-

ers the Armenian Genocide, but went ahead and dared Greek police to arrest him after planning to state in Athens that "the Armenian Genocide is not a historical fact"! Assuming Mr. Seyidov would dare to carry out his bluff, it remains to be seen whether he will be thrown into a Greek jail or hailed as a 'hero' by denialists in Turkey and Azerbaijan, depending on ECHR's final ruling.

Armenia's Foreign Minister and Parliament praised Greece for adopting the law on criminalizing denial of the Armenian Genocide. However, it is high time that the Armenian Parliament officially recognize the Greek Genocide in Ottoman Turkey. Past efforts to do so have been quashed by the Armenian government for unknown and incomprehensible reasons!

On Sept. 22, Catholicos Aram I of the Great House of Cilicia is scheduled to meet with Greek Prime Minister Samaras in Athens, during which His Holiness is expected to express his gratitude to the Greek government for adopting the law against genocide denial.

On the eve of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide, it would be most salutary if ECHR would overturn its earlier ruling on the Swiss law and if France would adopt a new law criminalizing denial of the Armenian Genocide, paving the way for other European countries to follow suit.



How will the EU membership affect the IT sphere in Armenia?

Membership to Eurasian Economic Union may lead to both positive and negative results in our country, at least in the domain of Information Technologies (IT). Referring to this issue, the head of the Union of Information Technologies Enterprises Karen Vardanyan told the reporters, that the existing problem has not undergone a due investigation and analysis by appropriate political and economic structures.

Speaking about the IT section, I can say that a considerable part of the companies involved in this sphere are keen to Russian market, while the other part /mainly the programming enterprises/ cooperate with American and Western companions. In case of the latter, the future complications in work process are not excluded, Karen Vardanyan thinks.

"The perspectives cannot be evaluated appropriately, as there is a lack of information, moreover, currently there are no institutions involved in the mentioned issue," the Head of the Union mentioned. According to him, companies engaged in complex engineering solutions are mainly associated with Russia, but in separate cases they can both win and lose in equal proportions.



Actually, the development of IT sphere in our country is correlated with USA and European partnership. On the other hand, there is a shortage of staff both in the West and Russia.

Vardanyan believes that the Armenian quality product of the field will find a demand also in the Eurasian market; this is just a matter of time.

Yerevan hosts regional conference on international drug trafficking



Following the seizures of significant quantities of heroin at the Armenian-Iranian and Georgian-Azerbaijani borders earlier this year, the United States - in cooperation with Armenia and Georgia - has organized two regional conferences on drug trafficking.

The first conference is taking place in Yerevan on September 11-12 and the second in Tbilisi, on September 15-16. The purpose of these conferences is to support and enhance international efforts to combat international drug-trafficking organizations, by developing the capabilities of investigators, prosecutors, and judges to investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate cases involving these organizations.

The Armenia conference enjoyed high-level participation from within the

Armenian government, reflecting the seriousness with which Armenia approaches this issue. John Heffern, United States Ambassador to Armenia; Vigen A. Sargsyan, Chief of Staff of the President's Office; Davit Avetisyan, Chairman of the Criminal Chamber of the Cassation Court; and Aghvan Hovsepyan, chairman of the RA Investigative Committee, opened the conference. In addition, Mr. Hovsepyan delivered the conference's keynote address. Other high-level representatives attended from the Armenian judiciary, the General Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Justice, and the Investigative Committee.

In his opening remarks, Ambassador Heffern emphasized that these criminal

drug-trafficking organizations are an international problem, and require an international solution. The cross-border nature of these organizations makes necessary an enhanced level of international cooperation to successfully investigate and prosecute the criminals who exploit borders, prey upon citizens by addicting them to drugs, and then using those proceeds to fund other criminal activity.

There has been considerable progress in Armenia's justice system, but the US will continue the cooperation to achieve better results, Ambassador Heffern said.

The conference has been organized with the support of the U.S. Embassies in Yerevan and Tbilisi, the United States Department of Justice, and the United States European Command.



ANCA urges Senate scrutiny of US Ambassador to Azerbaijan nominee



U.S. relations with Armenia and Azerbaijan will be in the Congressional spotlight next week, as the Senate Foreign Relations Committee begins consideration of President Obama's nominees to these two Caucasus countries, reported the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA).

"The Senate confirmation process for U.S. Ambassador to Azerbaijan nominee Robert Cekuta represents an urgently needed opportunity for Congressional oversight of the U.S. relationship with an Azerbaijani government that is rapidly escalating toward war and increasingly cracking down on domestic dissent," said ANCA Executive Director Aram Hamparian.

"We look forward to close scrutiny of the Azerbaijan nomination and welcome the opportunity for Ambassador-designate Richard Mills to outline for the Committee his plans to help mark the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and, more broadly, to deepen and strengthen

in the U.S.-Armenia relationship."

The ANCA has circulated an Action Alert urging friends of Armenia across the U.S. to contact their Senators and urge close scrutiny of the U.S. Ambassador to Azerbaijan nominee.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee Confirmation hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 17th at 10:00am EST.

U.S. Ambassador to Azerbaijan nominee Robert F. Cekuta is the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State of the Energy Resources Bureau. Recent overseas assignments include Tokyo (2007 - 2009) and Berlin (2003 - 2007) where he led the US Government's engagement on the full range of economic issues with two of the world's top economies. Bob's work as Economic Minister Counselor in Germany included counter-terrorism and efforts to combat international criminal activities. He was also Senior Advisor for Food Security in the State Department's Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs and Senior Deputy Coordinating Director at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan for all development and economic affairs. Having been assigned overseas in Albania, Austria, Iraq, South Africa, and Yemen, Bob has also worked in the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (1999 - 2000). He has held positions in Washington at the State Department responsible for energy, trade, and economic development, including Director for Economic Policy Analysis and Public Diplomacy, Special Negotiator

for Biotechnology, and Director of the Iraq Economic Task Force.

U.S. Ambassador to Armenia nominee Richard M. Mills, Jr. most recently served as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon. Previously, Mr. Mills served as Deputy Chief of Mission and Charge d'Affaires, Embassy Valetta, Malta (2010-2012), Senior Democracy Advisor, Embassy Baghdad, Iraq (2009-2010), Political Officer, Embassy London, England (2006-2009), Economic Officer and Acting Economic Counselor, Embassy Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (2005-2006), Political Officer, Embassy Islamabad, Pakistan (2003-2004), Political Officer, U.S. Mission to the United Nations, New York (2001-2003), Economic/Commercial Officer, Embassy Dublin, Ireland (1999-2001), Line Director, Executive Secretariat, Office of the Secretary, Department of State (1996-1998), Legislative Affairs Officer, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State (1995-1996), Political Officer, Consulate Saint Petersburg, Russia (1993-1995), Desk Officer, Bureau of Soviet Union Affairs, Department of State, (1990-1992), and Consular Officer/Staff Aide, Embassy Paris, France (1988-1990). Prior to his Foreign Service career, Mr. Mills was an Associate Attorney at Duncan, Allen and Mitchell in Washington, D.C. (1985-1987) and an Associate Attorney at Wickwire, Gavin and Gibbs in Washington, D.C. (1984-1985).

US Knew Turkey Aided al Qaeda but Did Nothing to Stop It

By Ara Khachatourian

When Armenian-Americans voiced their anger over Turkey's role in the incursion into Kessab last spring, US authorities merely expressed "concern" about the well-being of Armenians and Christian minorities. Despite the community's insistence that Turkey was directly involved in allowing the al Qaeda-affiliated Al Nusra rebels to freely enter Kessab, the US State Department was reticent in fingering its NATO ally.

Fast forward to today when the Obama Administration is leading a fragile coalition against the Islamic State for Iraq and Syria, an offshoot of Al Nusra known as ISIS, and Turkey is, once again, rejecting American access to its airspace in Incirlik and is refusing to join the coalition against the Islamic State.

On Friday, the London-based The Telegraph quoted former US Ambassador to Turkey Francis Riccardione as saying that Turkey has directly supported al Qaeda's Syrian wing in defiance of the US and has

worked with other hard-line al Qaeda affiliates, effectively opening its borders to Syria and allowing free access to those rebels.

Riccardione said that Turkey was attempting to make those hard-line factions more moderate. However, Al Nusra, the group credited for the invasion of Kessab, was the predecessor of ISIS as members of its core group splintered from Al Nusra to create the group that is now at the center of the US campaign.

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European Court demands explanation from Azerbaijan regarding Karen Petrosyan case

The European Court of Human Rights has asked Azerbaijan to give explanation of its "official position in connection with the repatriation of Karen Petrosyan's body," the Foundation Against the Violation of Law (FAVL) informs.

On September 10, a working group representing the family of Karen Petrosyan, an Armenian civilian killed under Azerbaijani custody, applied to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) requesting intervention under Rule 39 of the Court's General Rules. The appeal calls for Azerbaijan to immediately return the remains of Petrosyan to his family in a dignified state.

"International law requires that the remains be returned without any preconditions," said Larisa Alaverdyan, Executive Director of the Foundation Against the Violation of Law (FAVL) and one of the members of the working group. "This illegal delay serves to compound the already tremendous suffering felt by this innocent civilian's family."

"The request was lodged aiming at prevention of irreparable and continuous violation of the right to respect the family and private life of Petrosyan family members" as one of the members of the working group, advocate Vahe Grigoryan said.

The working group is composed of experts in the field of international human rights law who will represent the interests of the Petrosyan family, both in domestic proceedings in Armenia and in the ECHR. Human Rights lawyers Kristina Gevorkyan, Ara Ghazaryan and Vahe Grigoryan, together with human rights defenders Larisa Alaverdyan and Artak Zeynalyan, are representing the family before the ECHR.

In response to the request of the Petrosyan family's representatives, the ECHR communicated to the government of Azerbaijan on September 12, asking "to explain its official position in connection with the repatriation of Karen Petrosyan's body and to provide



information on the reasons for the delay in returning of the body to his relatives." The deadline for the information requested was indicated as September 26.

Petrosyan, who lived in a borderland village in northeastern Armenia, was taken captive on August 7 after mistakenly appearing in the territory of Azerbaijan. Shocking images of him being dragged by masked soldiers were distributed to the media by authorities in Azerbaijan, in which he was being brutally forced to beg pardon from the president of Azerbaijan. The next day, the Defense Ministry announced that he had "suddenly" died of "heart failure." The circumstances surrounding the death of Karen Petrosyan raise serious doubts as to the cause of the death announced by Azerbaijani authorities.

Despite calls from the United States, France, Russia, and the International Committee of the Red Cross, Azerbaijan has not repatriated the body of Petrosyan.

Poland Sees Closer EU-Armenia Ties

Armenia will be able to deepen its ties with the European Union even after its planned accession to a Russian-dominated alliance of former Soviet republics, a senior Polish official said during a visit to Yerevan on September 17.

"In any case we are quite sure that we -- Armenia and Europe -- will be closer next year," Poland's Deputy Foreign Minister Tomasz Orłowski told RFE/RL in an interview.

Orłowski said in that regard that Brussels and Yerevan will likely identify "common goals" at the next EU summit on the Eastern Partnership program that will take place in Latvia's capital Riga in 2015.

The program offers six ex-Soviet states, including Armenia, the prospect of much closer partnership with the EU, notably through wide-ranging "association agreements," conditional on economic and political reforms.

The Armenian government was on track to sign such an agreement with the EU until President Serzh Sargsyan's unexpected decision in August 2013 to make Armenia part of Russia's Customs Union with Belarus and Kazakhstan. The EU responded by abandoning the deal. Sargsyan's government has since been trying to sign a slimmed-down Association Agreement that would

not include free trade-related provisions contradicting membership in the Russian-led bloc. The EU's executive European Commission and most member states have been cool towards the idea so far.

Orłowski, whose country is a key backer of the Eastern Partnership, spoke of a "new agreement" which he said Yerevan is due to propose to the EU. But he did not specify whether it too will call for political association.

The high-ranking Polish diplomat met with Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian on Tuesday as part of regular consultations held by the Armenian and Polish foreign ministries. Nalbandian's press office said Armenia's ties with the EU within the Eastern Partnership framework were on the meeting's agenda. But it gave no details.

"I heard the confirmation of the same line: Armenia is still interested to find its own way for approaching Europe," Orłowski told RFE/RL.

He said that the EU, for its part, has decided to adopt a more differentiated approach to the Eastern Partnership countries. "Now, one year on, we have realized that we need to take into account the very specific situation of each country," he said.

Genocide Centennial Must Come with Political Demands, Says Ara Papyan

The 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide should be a unique opportunity for Armenians to voice their political demands, Director of the Modus Vivendi Center Ara Papyan told reporters on September 17.

He's worried, however, that the main objective of genocide recognition has been ignored. "This is the formation of our political agenda. No one is speaking today about steps targeted at restoring the territorial integrity of the Republic of Armenia, and I fear no one ever will," Papyan said.

According to him, the forthcoming 5th Armenia-Diaspora Forum is the setting where the issue should be raised. "It's high time for the Armenian President to declare about the recalling of the Armenian-Turkish protocols, as otherwise they work against us," he said.

Papyan says Armenia and the diaspora should declare that the Republic of Armenia is the successor of the First Republic of Armenia (which is a subject of international law), not Soviet Armenia.

"In this case the question will be about de-occupation of territories of the Republic of Armenia, be it by Turkey or Azerbaijan," he added.

Nagorno-Karabakh's recognition by non-subjects of international law marks only a moral victory for the country, according to Ara Papyan.

"We have only moral victories in such cases, but it adds nothing to Artsakh's security," he told Tert.am, commenting on the recently adopted resolutions.

It comes after Martin Garitano, the governor of the Basque Gipuzkoa province, said at a meeting with the

Nagorno-Karabakh foreign minister that they recognize Artsakh's right to self-determination.

Earlier, the California Senate adopted a resolution recognizing Artsakh's independence.

Papyan recommended considering two basic aspects in the process: the legal and the political. "When we approach the Nagorno-Karabakh recognition from the political viewpoint, there is naturally no recognition here. Under international law, recognition is possible if it has been declared by a subject which is already recognized, i.e. What we have today - the US State or a Spanish province - are not subjects of international law; hence they cannot recognize [a country]," he explained.

The analyst noted that a close look into

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US Knew Turkey Aided al Qaeda but Did Nothing to Stop It

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"We ultimately had no choice but to agree to disagree," Riccardione was quoted by The Telegraph about the US response to Turkey's fist-hand involvement with the group.

"The Turks frankly worked with groups for a period, including al Nusra, whom we finally designated as we're not willing to work with," Riccardione was quoted in The Telegraph.

Essentially, the US's response seemed to have been to turn a blind eye to Turkey's collusion with terrorists, just as Turkey turned a blind eye to the al Qaeda rebels using its border as a transit route to Syria and the ensuing destruction and loss of life in places like Kessab and Aleppo.

While Riccardione's statements are not the "official" US response, because he left the government when his mission ended in June, his statements paint a clear enough picture to conclude that the US knew about Turkey's role in al Qaeda's attack in Kessab and chose to do nothing. In fact, it also went a step further to cover up any suggestion of Turkey's involvement and lied to its own constituents.

Riccardione's statements and Turkey's



rejection of US efforts to fight ISIS promoted the Wall Street Journal on Monday to say: "The unavoidable conclusion is that the U.S. needs to find a better regional ally to fight ISIS."

"The better bet is with the Kurds, who have the most on the line and are willing to provide the boots on the ground that others can't or won't," said the WSJ adding, "Incirlik has been a home for U.S. forces for nearly 60 years, but perhaps it's time to consider replacing it with a new U.S. air base in Kurdish territory in northern Iraq. America may no longer have friends in Ankara, but that doesn't mean we don't have options in the Middle East."

This is not a "we told you so," but rather

a glimpse into the duplicitous manner in which US foreign policy is being advanced under the Obama Administration in the name of justice and US interests. When ISIS splintered from Al Nusra last summer under the auspices of Turkey, the US did not act and perpetuated its long-standing policy of providing Turkey cover for its murderous policies.

Now that the US finds itself at the center of the crisis in the region and it feels compelled to mount an international campaign against ISIS, these semi-official statements open the door for major news outlets to express outrage and propose alternatives to Turkey, which is now being viewed as a destabilizing force in the region.

One would hope that this will truly become the wake-up call for the US to think long and hard and-in the name of justice and US interests-stop its unconditional support and patronage of Turkey, which probably viewed the US's non-response as *carte blanche* to, once again, wreak havoc in that region with impunity.

Meanwhile, the American public, including the Armenian community, must hold the administration accountable for its misleading policy and lies to its constituents.

Artsakh to Launch 'Eco-Villages'

Artsakh and Armenia are collaborating on a joint initiative to launch a network of "eco-villages" throughout Artsakh.

The project, entitled "Ekhokhndzoristan," will be implemented in the villages of Khndzoristan, Patara and Astghashen, according to Arsen Gasparyan, the president of the Association for Young Biologists.

At a news conference on September 15, the environmentalist described the initiative as an awareness-raising campaign aimed at involving community efforts in future joint activities. He said that it is also an attempt to develop eco- and agro-tourism, as well as organic agriculture and waste management technologies in Nagorno-Karabakh.

"The agricultural produce has to be without chemical poisons here, and we will try to ensure lighting through solar energy. We must make waste processing

possible right on the ground and try to boost the development of living standards in Artsakh to prevent people from leaving," he said, further stressing the importance of creating alternative sources of income.

Gasparyan said the projects are now almost ready, with only financial issues waiting to be resolved. "You know we cannot obtain money from other countries when we deal with Artsakh, but we will organize fund-raising," he promised.

Gasparyan said they need a total of \$80,000-\$100,000 to realize the project. "We are not going to build new constructions; we'll try to do everything based on what we have to make the model applicable also to villages. Over 20 NGOs from Armenia and Artsakh and 70 individuals have joined the project for now," the environmentalist noted.

Susanna Petrosyan, the president of Artsakh Development Center, said the



country's government is willing to assist in the initiative. "We met with the Nagorno-Karabakh prime minister. He hailed the project and said that they will offer the best possible assistance. We expect to launch the project starting from October, and the more volunteers and organizations they offer, the more they will be of help to us," she noted.

Armenia in global publicity drive: BBC



Where in the world is Armenia? It's a question that the country's President, Serzh Sargsyan, is hoping to get more people around the globe to answer correctly.

He wants to mobilize the 10 million Armenians living abroad for a global internet publicity campaign to boost tourism and influence foreign investors.

Referring to the "One Armenian, One Article" campaign, the BBC reminds that the idea is to get expatriates to write positive stories about the country.

President Sargsyan and others behind the publicity drive say their country needs a higher profile, because many people struggle to recall anything about

the nation.

"Enlisting people around the world who have Armenian roots to raise the country's profile could prove effective. Famous people with connections to Armenia include the singer Cher, tennis player Andre Agassi, billionaire investor Kirk Kerkorian and the late Steve Jobs of Apple," the BBC reminds.

"The Armenian Diaspora sees itself in many ways as the second army of the Republic of Armenia," says Aram Suren Hamparian, executive director of the Armenian National Committee of America, based in Washington DC.

"Armenians spread around the world and prospered wherever they went, and they haven't forgotten their roots and they try to stay connected - and that is part of the soft power of the Armenian nation."

In addition to boosting tourism, positive stories online could also catch the attention of possible foreign investors and to quote an old Armenian proverb: "Whatever the eye sees, the heart won't forget."

Genocide Centennial...

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the Basque parliament's resolution reveals that it only expresses support to the Nagorno-Karabakh people's right to self-determination.

"And because no state has yet recognized Nagorno-Karabakh's independence, it cannot be considered recognized. Recognition is within the competence of a federal authority," he said, considering the recent measures politically positive for Karabakh.

Asked if he thinks that those recognitions might entrap the Armenian Genocide recognition efforts, the expert replied, "Given that scores of US states have recognized it without a result, that's already something like a trap, because recognition is aimed at making them a subject of international law and committing themselves to its principles. And that means that a state's defense and its borders cannot be violated under the threat of force. Under the UN Charter, a country has a right to self-defense; hence, recognition is not an end in itself; it has a meaning in itself," he added.

On September 15 would have been Hrant Dink's 60th birthday



Hrant Dink, Chief Editor of the Agos monthly, the only Armenian-Turkish periodical published in Turkey, would have turned 60 on September 15.

In an interview with Tert.am, Chief Editor of Turkey's Marmara daily Rober Hattechian said that Hrant Dink was able to get the Armenian Cause on the Turkish agenda. By speaking of the Armenian Cause bravely on numerous occasions, he made Turkish intellectuals think of the Armenian Cause, whereas they had not had their own stance on the issue before.

"I think that was Hrant Dink's greatest service. And during that period he made both friends and enemies, who were concerned over his speeches. That was actually the cause of his tragic fate. Dink used to make quite interesting statements, and I can frankly say that I did not agree with all of his conceptions. But sometimes he would prepare such materials - no one else would ever think of - that I would have been happy to write further articles about that in my newspaper," Hattechian said.

Hattechian recalls Hrant Dink's statements that had the greatest impact on him.

"Once, he said: 'Yes, we have our eyes set on the Turkish land - not to capture it, but to lie under it.' That was a rather symbolic word, and I should say that our wish is not only to lie under, but also to live a happy life in this land. We want justice, but Dink's word had a different meaning, and it evoked wide response. And now many newspapers writing about him have to quote his words because they had a great impact on public opinion in Turkey."

As to whether any Turkish intellectuals are continuing Hrant Dink's cause, Hattechian said that some Armenian young people can continue Dink's cause in Turkey with zeal.

On the other hand, Tiran Loqmagozian, who once worked for Agos, told Tert.am that he does not see any person in Turkey who could be a second Hrant Dink.

"The problem is that many people are making use of Hrant's name, even people espousing fascist ideologies are making use of his thoughts. I am speaking of both Armenians and Turks. But I think they do not have even little in common with Hrant," he said.

Regarding Hrant Dink's impact on public opinion in Turkey, Loqmagozian said that he did not have any serious impact on Turkey's 70-million-strong population. However, he did have serious impact on certain circles, making them change their opinion on the Armenian Cause.

"He changed something with his death. That is, things progressed more rapidly. But if he lived on, he would have been able to get something changed for a longer period. I would like to note that Hrant Dink did not speak of Armenians' problems alone. As a humanist, he spoke of Turks' problems as well. By means of his newspaper he would defend the rights of the afflicted. He was a straightforward person. He did not think of what he was saying and where and thus made enemies in certain circles. On the other hand, he made many friends."

Loqmagozian noted that many other people spoke of the problems existing in Turkey as well. However, Hrant Dink was an Armenian, and his voice was better heard.

"No Armenian had been so outspoken since the Armenian Genocide. He thought that he could speak out because he was saying the truth. He thought Turkey was changing, but, unfortunately, we have seen nothing is changing. He was an Armenian and a citizen of Turkey and he wanted Turkey to become a democratic country, where both Turks and Armenians would live a good life. He was always focused on the Armenian Cause and used to speak of that."

One of Hrant Dink's most important thoughts was: "This is Genocide, even if, back in 1915, you had transported Armenians by gold airplanes. You cut the people from its roots.

Three scholars receive Viktor Ambartsumian International Prize 2014

The award ceremony of the Viktor Ambartsumian International Prize 2014 took place at the Armenian National Academy of Sciences on September 17. This year the award went to Felix Aharonian nominated by the National Academy of Lincei, Italy, Igor Karachentsev (Russia) and Brent Tully (USA). The Prize amounting to \$500 thousand was divided among the three laureates. Felix Aharonian received \$250 thousand; the others received \$125 thousand each. Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan handed the awards.

Viktor Ambartsumian International Prize was established by the President of Armenia in 2009 and at present it is one of the important awards in astronomy/astrophysics and related sciences. It is being awarded to outstanding scientists from any country and nationality having significant merit in science. The Prize totals \$500 thousand and is awarded once in two years.

Professor Felix Aharonian told reporters in Yerevan he'll allocate part of the sum to the science development fund of the Academy.

Professor Igor Karachentsev of the Special Astrophysical Observatory, Russia, said he started his scientific activity at Byurakan Observatory, and defended his PhD thesis under Viktor Ambartsumian's leadership. "It was a great experience," he said. The scholar recalled that Ambartsumian had made him and other Russian students to learn Armenian and even take an exam. He still remembers a few words today.

At the award ceremony in Yerevan President Serzh Sargsyan noted that any of the three scholars is in some way connected with Armenian astronomy.

"Felix Aharonian began his career in Armenia and had a number of meetings and discussions with Viktor Ambartsumian. Igor Karachentsev also started his scientific activity in Armenia and was Viktor Ambartsumian's student. Brent Tully is one of the rare American scholars, who visited our country in Soviet times. We hope that after receiving the awards, they will continue their scientific activity with greater vigor with a view of making the world a better place," President Sargsyan said.

The President said many ask him how little Armenia has managed to set such a large scientific prize. "Being a young state, Armenia has always attached great importance to the development of science even in hardest periods, and continues to have its unique place in the scientific world. With all this in mind, we understand that we still have a lot to do to ensure effective scientific work and worthy life in our country, to equip the scientific institutions with modern equipment and ensure inflow of young specialists.

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Zodiac Weekly Forecast

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

This is a powerful time to consider your spiritual purposes. It is all too easy for the maya, the things of the world, to overwhelm every waking minute, leaving no time for the higher goals. If you notice fatigue, disappointment, or depression at this time, stop. Be still and listen for the Voice deep within your soul. It is telling you what you need.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

You and a friend or a lover had an unpleasant encounter. Seek some space for a few days and come back when you have both had time to recover. Seek counsel from a trusted advisor and gain perspective. In a few days you will be better able to discuss things in a more understanding way.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

Concentrate carefully on any project requiring calculations and multiple plans. The probability of making an error or accessing inaccurate information is high. Communications may be confusing between you and a lover or an authority figure. If you have any sense at all that something is misunderstood, double check.

Cancer (June 21--July 21) :

Over the weekend you may be feeling mildly irritable or "out of sync" with your world. You need some time to be alone to process an experience in which you felt dismissed. After the weekend your spirit lifts and you will feel considerably better.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

You may feel trapped in a situation that demands your time and attention. If you do it, you'll be angry. If you don't do it, you'll feel guilty. Make an effort to find a win-win, though it could be hard. You do have some play aspects in your favor, so give your inner child a treat or two to reduce resentment.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

While shopping for practical needs, you may find what you want at a good price, well within reason. This item may prove to serve multiple purposes. Meanwhile you have an old issue, returning for review, which occurs within your

relationship to partner or close contacts. Make an effort to avoid old knee-jerk reactions.

Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22)

There is an old saying: "Don't believe everything you think." Take this one to heart this week. Your feelings and thoughts may be only projections of what you want to think or fear. You might identify a piece of information as a truth, when indeed, it is merely your opinion.

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

Sometimes we are pressed to see the flaws, even in those things and people we love the most. You are not at fault in this situation, though you may be looking for what you "could-a, would-a, or should-a" done. You did the best you could at the time.

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

It is possible you will be feeling angry and disappointed over a situation with a loved one. No matter how much you want someone to listen to you, sometimes they just have to do what they will. Mechanical objects are not cooperative right now. They may break down. There are better days to come.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

You have favorable aspects coming from the 9th house of legal, educational, publishing, philosophy, travel and the internet. Any steps you make now in these areas will be worthwhile and move you closer to your overall goals in life.

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

You may be feeling a conflict between following the practical "rules" versus taking a leap into the unknown outcome. This week it will work better for you if you stay within the accepted boundaries. Treading outside would be much more work than you imagine.

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

This is a week in which your physical cycle is "off". Don't press your body beyond what it wants to do, just because it could do the same thing last week. Pay special attention to your temporary boundaries right now and by next week things will return to your personal normal.

ARMENIAN POETRY

Daniel Varoujan (1884 -1915)

The Longing Letter

MY mother writes: "My son on pilgrimage,
How long beneath a strange moon will you
roam?"

How long a time must pass ere your poor
head

To my warm bosom I may press, at home?
"Oh, long enough upon strange stairs have
trod

Your feet, which in my palms I warmed one
day-

Your heart, in which my breasts were emp-
tied once,

Far from my empty heart has pined away!
"My arms are weary at the spinning wheel;
I weave my shroud, too, with my hair of
snow.

Ah, would mine eyes could see you once
again,

Then close forever, with my heart below!
"Always I sit in sadness at my door,
And tidings ask from every crane that flies.

That willow slip you planted long ago
Has grown till over me its shadow lies.
"I wait in vain for your return at eve.

All the brave fellows of the village pass,
The laborer goes by, the herdsman bold-
I with the moon am left alone, alas!

" My ruined house is left without a head.
Sometimes for death, and always for the
cheer

Of my own hearth I yearn. A tortoise I,
Whose entrails to its broken shell adhere!

"Oh, come, my son, your ancient home
restore!

They burst the door, they swept the larders
bare.

Now all the swallows of the spring come in
Through shattered windows, open to the air.

" Of all the goodly flocks of long ago
One brave ram only in our stable stands.

His mother once-remember, little son-
While yet a lamb, ate oats out of your hands.

"Rice, bran and clover fine I give him now,
To nourish his rich dmak,* of noble size;
I comb his soft wool with a wooden comb;
He is a dear and precious sacrifice.

"When you come back, his head with roses
wreathed,

He shall be sacrificed to feast you, sweet;
And in his blood, my well-beloved son,
I then will wash my pilgrim's weary feet."

Translated by
Alice Stone Blackwell

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