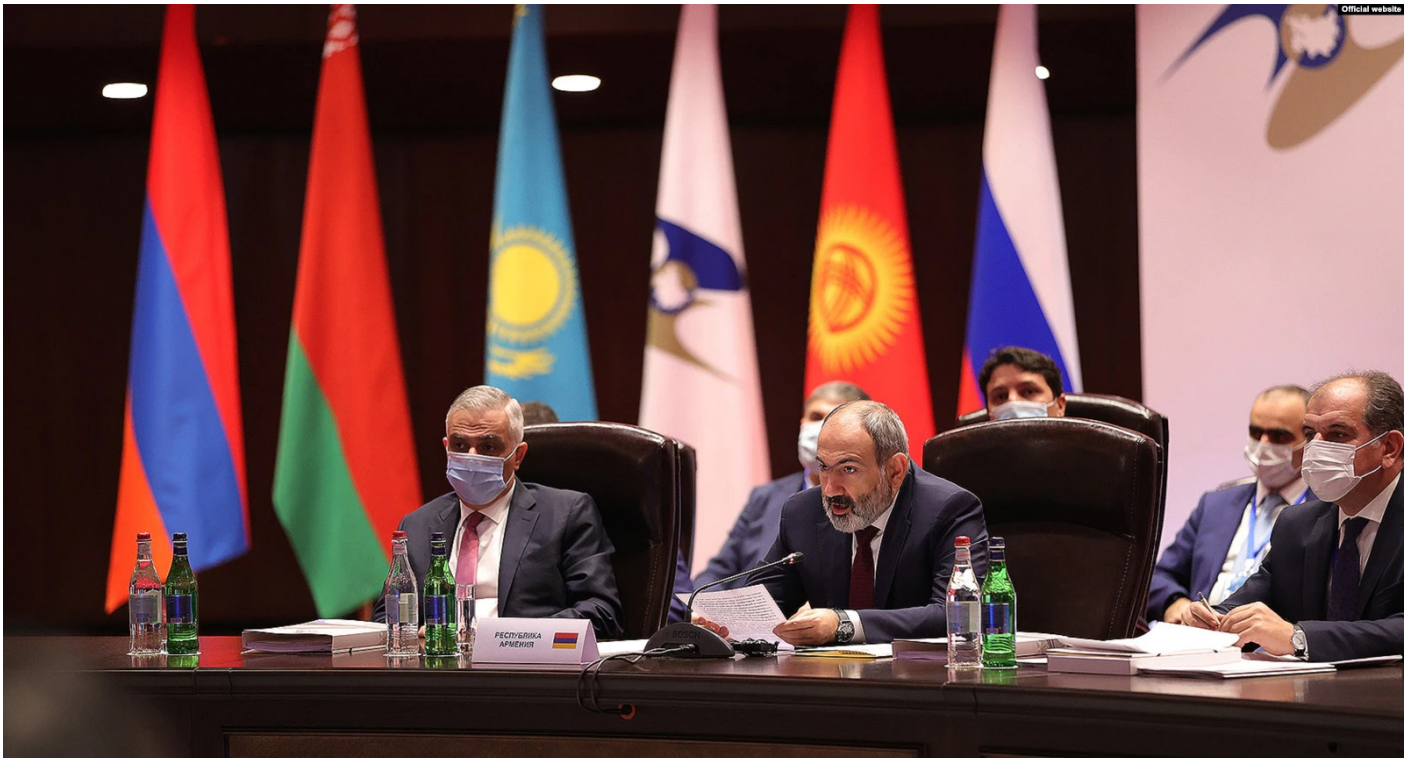


## Azerbaijan’s provocations aimed at aborting trilateral agreements – Armenian PM



Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan (C) addressing a session of the Eurasian Intergovernmental Council in Yerevan, November 19, 2021

Armenia is facing serious security challenges, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said at the extended meeting of the Eurasian Intergovernmental Council.

“Our region was dragged into a new phase of tension, which, unfortunately, led to new human losses,” PM Pashinyan said.

“The responsibility lays with Azerbaijan, whose military provocations are aimed at violating the territorial integrity of our country, aborting the agreements reached by the trilateral statements of November 9, 2020, and January 11, 2021,” the Prime Minister noted.

Attending the sitting are Chairman of the Eurasian Economic Commission Board Mikhail Myasnikovich, and the Heads of Government of the EAEU member states – Russia’s Prime

Minister Mikhail Mishustin, Belarus Prime Minister Roman Golochenko, Kazakhstan’s Prime Minister Askar Mamin, Kyrgyzstan’s Prime Minister Alikbek Zhaparov.

The participants referred to a number of issues on common agenda. In particular, reference was made to mutual trade in 2020, development of the agro-industrial complex, the program of measures for the supply of raw materials to metallurgical enterprises of the EEEU countries in 2021-2024, the approximation of the positions of the Union states on the climate agenda.

The agreement on the use of navigation seals to track shipments in the EAEU, the draft EAEU Biosafety Strategy, and other issues on the e-commerce development agenda were discussed. Documents were signed as a result of the sitting.

Armenian FM talks to international partners, presents situation after Azerbaijani aggression

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## Armenian FM talks to international partners, presents situation after Azerbaijani aggression

November 17.

Foreign Minister of Armenia Ararat Mirzoyan has presented the situation resulting from the military operations unleashed by the Azerbaijani armed forces against the sovereign territory of Armenia to international partners.

On November 16, Minister Mirzoyan held phone conversations with Foreign Minister of Russia Sergey Lavrov, On November 17 he talked to the Foreign Minister of Sweden, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Ann Linde, as well as US Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs- Karen Donfried on

The Foreign Minister noted that these actions were preceded by aggressive rhetoric and threats of use of force against the territorial integrity of Armenia by the high leadership of Azerbaijan, as well as by the infiltration of the Azerbaijani armed forces into the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia since May 12, 2021, in the direction of Syunik and Gegharkunik regions.

Minister Mirzoyan emphasized that in response to Armenia's efforts to de-escalate the situation and establish stability in the region, the Azerbaijani authorities launched another aggression against the sovereign territory of Armenia.

He stressed the need for targeted response and consistent steps by inter-

national partners to restrain the blatant encroachments and provocative actions of Azerbaijan on the sovereign territories of the Republic of Armenia.

The interlocutors also touched upon the process of peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict under the mandate of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairmanship. In this context, the forthcoming visit of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs to the region was emphasized.

The interlocutors exchanged views on humanitarian issues that need to be urgently addressed. In this regard, Ararat Mirzoyan stressed the need for unconditional repatriation of Armenian prisoners of war, hostages and others detained.

## Under UN Charter, Armenia has the right to repel attack on its territorial integrity and sovereignty by all means – MFA

According to the UN Charter, the Republic of Armenia has the right to repel the use of force against its territorial integrity and sovereignty by all means, the Armenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

“Today, on November 16, the Armed Forces of Azerbaijan attacked in the eastern direction of the border of the Republic of Armenia and infiltrated into the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia. The offensive military operations of the Azerbaijani side resulted in human losses,” the Ministry said.

“This latest attack is a continuation of

Azerbaijan's consistent policy of occupying the territories of the Republic of Armenia, which began on May 12 this year with the infiltration of the Azerbaijani armed forces into the Syunik and Gegharkunik regions.

It emphasized that with these actions, Azerbaijan violates the trilateral statement of November 9, as the Azerbaijani side launches attacks against the Republic of Armenia from the territories that passed to the Azerbaijani side as a result of the implementation of that statement.

“The Republic of Armenia, according to the UN Charter, has the right to repel the

use of force against its territorial integrity and sovereignty by all means,” the Foreign Ministry stated.

It called on the international community, on international partners – Russia, the CSTO, the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs and the Co-Chairing countries to express a clear and targeted response to these actions of the Azerbaijani, which undermine the regional peace and security, and undertake effective steps aimed at its prevention, as well as unconditional and complete withdrawal of the Azerbaijani armed forces from the territory of the Republic of Armenia.

## Armenia, Singapore keen to develop bilateral cooperation

President Armen Sarkissian met with the President of the Republic of Singapore Halimah Yacob.

During the meeting, which lasted more than an hour, the Presidents of Armenia and Singapore exchanged views on the current agenda of Armenian-Singaporean relations. President Sarkissian also provided information on the history of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, the situation after the 44-day war unleashed by Azerbaijan, humanitarian issues, Azerbaijan's ongoing aggressive actions, including the recent incursion into Armenia's sovereign territory.

The potential and opportunities for the development of Armenian-Singaporean co-



operation in various spheres were touched upon during the meeting. President Sarkissian said that Singapore is a good example for a fast-growing successful country for many countries, including Armenia.

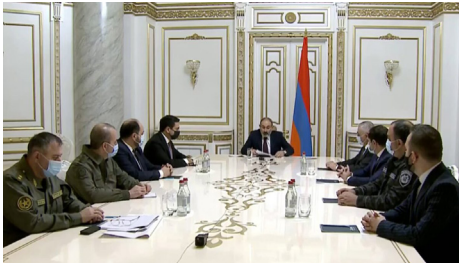
President Yacob noted that they are

ready to help Armenia with their experience and advice in a number of spheres.

The two Presidents praised the Armenian community of Singapore, emphasizing the significant role of the Armenian community in the history of Singapore, its investment in trade, economy, culture and a number of other areas.

It was mentioned that the names of many Armenians are forever intertwined in the history of the people of Singapore. The oldest hotel in the country was founded by an Armenian family, the national flower of Singapore – the Singapore orchid is named after the Armenian florist Agnes Joakim (Hovakimyan).





## Azerbaijan's actions a direct aggression against Armenia's sovereign territory: PM Pashinyan chairs meeting of Security Council

Prime Minister added.

"Today we had a difficult day, and we are living difficult days. But today we also showed that we are here, we exist, we are a state, we are a nation and the language of compulsion is inadmissible for us. We can negotiate, we can seek and find mutually acceptable solutions, we act as a responsible member of the international community. But we will not allow to speak with us in the language of arrogance," he stated.

PM Pashinyan called on the international community to make targeted statements condemning Azerbaijani aggression.

"Talks about border disputes are absurd and senseless. There is no border dispute, there is aggression against the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia. The borders between Armenia and Azerbaijan have been clear since the period of the Soviet Union, by the legally binding agreements. And if the problem was the border dispute, Azerbaijan should have accepted our proposal of withdrawing forces simultaneously from the borderline between Soviet Armenia and Azerbaijan, deploying

international observers along the borderline and launching the process of demarcation and delimitation of borders long ago. Azerbaijan, that does not accept this proposal, is an aggressor state and must unequivocally withdraw its forces from the sovereign territory of Armenia. Its hopes to impose its will on Armenia are futile," Nikol Pashinyan said.

He stressed that the Government and the people of the Republic of Armenia are determined, "and we will defend our sovereignty, territorial integrity, statehood and independence by all possible means."

"At the same time, we continue to emphasize the need for a peaceful resolution of the situation, all our previous proposals are valid. We are committed to the provisions of the November 9 and January 11 trilateral statements," the Prime Minister said.

Returning to the border situation, he said that at the moment the situation on the border is relatively calm, but remains extremely tense in general.

Azerbaijan's aggression can only be described as a direct threat to Armenia's sovereign territory, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said at the special sitting of the Security Council.

At about 1 pm today units of the Azerbaijani armed forces attacked the eastern border zone of Armenia. The Armenian Armed Forces undertook countermeasures, the Prime Minister said.

"Considerable damage has been inflicted on the rival's manpower, at least six units of armored vehicles have been destroyed. There are victims on our side, and verified information will be provided later," PM Pashinyan noted.

"In the silence of our partners in the international community, Azerbaijan continues its aggressive actions. My assessment is unequivocal. Azerbaijan, the forces encouraging it, are targeting our sovereignty, our statehood, our independence," the

## While Armenia is talking about peace, Azerbaijan is multiplying xenophobic statements – FM

Armenia makes every effort to establish lasting peace in the region. However, for this process to be effective, the efforts must be bilateral, Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan said in an interview with Le Figaro.

"The rhetoric of the two sides is very different. Armenia speaks of opening all channels of communication, while Azerbaijan insists on the so-called "corridor" (with Nakhichevan). Armenia, as a manifestation of goodwill, is ready to hand over all the maps of mines located in the region at its disposal, but Azerbaijan, despite its

obligation, does not release the Armenian prisoners of war," the Foreign Minister said.

"While we are talking about peace, Azerbaijan is multiplying xenophobic statements. Testament to that are the speeches of the President of Azerbaijan, the so-called "Military trophy park" that opened in Baku this spring," the Foreign Minister noted.

Asked how far this hate speech can go, the Foreign Minister said. "The answer to this difficult question is in Baku. Hatred can lead to annihilation or genocide. The



Armenian people know that."

"Lasting peace is important, but it is difficult to imagine the presence of the Armenian population in the territories controlled by Azerbaijan. As a result of the war, no Armenians live in the territories under the control of Azerbaijan, which is a factual proof of ethnic cleansing," Ararat Mirzoyan stated.

## France concerned by situation on Armenian-Azerbaijani line of contact, calls for rapid de-escalation

France expresses deep concern at the deterioration of the security situation in "several segments of the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan and the alleged use of heavy weapons", which have claimed lives, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

It calls on the parties to respect the

ceasefire to which they committed under the trilateral statement of November 9, 2020.

"France, as co-chair of the Minsk Group, recalls the statement by the co-chairs of 15 November calling for a rapid de-escalation of tensions and underlines the need to continue the dialogue between Armenia and Azerbaijan on all unresolved

issues related to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict," the Ministry said.

France stresses that the delimitation and demarcation of the border must be carried out through negotiations. It reiterated full commitment to contribute to this process.



At the initiative of the Member of the European Parliament (MEP) Loucas Fourlas, 33 MEPs addressed a letter to the EU High Representative Josep Borrell, concerning the attack of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces on the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia on November 16, the European Armenian Federation for Justice and Democracy (EAFJD) reports.

The MEPs condemn Azerbaijan's aggression. They demand, that the Azerbaijani armed forces immediately and completely withdraw from the territory of the Republic of Armenia and are urge the EU External Action Service to put pressure

## 33 MEPs call on EU to urge Azerbaijan to withdraw forces from Armenia

on Azerbaijan to stop and prevent the violation of the territorial integrity of Armenia.

The President of the EAFJD Kaspar Karampetian welcomes the letter by the MEP's. He states: "Unlike the EEAS's declaration, the letter of the MEP's clearly calls the aggressor by its name. The EU needs to put pressure on Azerbaijan with concrete measures, in order to ensure the immediate and complete removal of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces from the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia."

The letter of the MEPs reads as follows: "On November 16, the Armed Forces of Azerbaijan launched an attack in along the eastern border of the Republic of Armenia. As Members of the European Parliament, we condemn the Azerbaijani attack and infiltration into the sovereign

territory of the Republic of Armenia which violates the ceasefire statement of the 9. November 2020 and seriously jeopardizes the fragile peace in the region. The Azerbaijani armed forces must immediately and completely withdraw from the territory of the Republic of Armenia.

We deeply regret the reported human losses as a result of the attack. Any action or rhetoric aimed at undermining the security, the peaceful, normal life and the human rights of the population in the eastern and southern regions of the Republic of Armenia must immediately stop.

We call on the EU External Action Service to use all of its leverage to stop and prevent the violation of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Armenia as well as belligerent rhetoric."

## EU's Charles Michel to host Armenian and Azerbaijani leaders for a meeting in Brussels

President Charles Michel of the European Council held phone calls on 19 November with President Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan and Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan of Armenia, in follow up to discussions earlier this week on the situation in the region and in the context of preparations of the Eastern Partnership Summit, to be held in Brussels on 15 December.

President Charles Michel proposed

to host President Ilham Aliyev and Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan for a meeting in Brussels in the margins of the EaP Summit.

Leaders have agreed to meet in Brussels to discuss the regional situation and ways of overcoming tensions for a prosperous and stable South Caucasus, which the EU supports.

During the phone calls, the Armenian and Azerbaijani leaders have also agreed to



establish a direct communication line, at the level of respective Ministers of Defense, to serve as an incident prevention mechanism.

## Council of Europe Secretary General calls on Armenia and Azerbaijan to immediately calm tensions

The Secretary General of the 47-nation Council of Europe, Marija Pejčinović Burić, has made the following statement concerning relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan:

"I am deeply concerned about reports of on-going incidents between Armenia and Azerbaijan that have already cost human lives.

"On behalf of the Council of Europe, I call on both sides to immediately stop the renewed escalation of hostilities.



"When joining our organization more twenty years ago, both Armenia and Azerbaijan committed themselves to solving conflict by peaceful means. This com-

mitment remains unchanged and must be strictly respected.

"The Council of Europe reiterates its full support to the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group in their continuing efforts to help Armenia and Azerbaijan find a peaceful solution to their differences.

"We stand ready to facilitate dialogue between these two member states, with a view to building confidence and promoting reconciliation."





Azerbaijan should investigate all possible abuses to Armenian prisoners of war and hold those responsible to account, says Giorgi Gogia, Associate director for Europe and Central Asia Division, Human Rights Watch.

“Following Nov 16 fighting, worst since the end of 2nd Karabakh war last

## Abusing POWs is a war crime: HRW urges Azerbaijan to investigate all cases

year, Azerbaijan captured at least 13 Armenian soldiers. Scores of videos on social media show Azerbaijani forces subjecting POWs to cruel & degrading treatment in custody. Abusing POWs is a war crime,” Mr. Gogia said in a Twitter post.

“Particularly, as some of the soldiers perpetrate the abuse with pride and don’t even hide their faces. Azerbaijan is also bound by absolute prohibition on torture & other degrading treatment,” he added.

“Abhorrent videos, which the HRW hasn’t independently verified yet, show

beating & kicking & stomping of Armenia POWs, as well as insults against their dignity. Geneva conventions protect POWs “particularly against acts of violence or intimidation & against insult & public curiosity,” Giorgi Gogia said.

He reminded that under III Geneva Convention, captured combatants should be afforded POW status and returned after hostilities end.

The Human Rights Watch documented a pattern of abuse of Armenian POWs in Azerbaijan custody last year.

## At Bloomberg New Economy Forum, President Sarkissian raises the issue of Azerbaijani aggression against Armenia

Within the framework of the prestigious international conference Bloomberg New Economy Forum in Singapore, President Armen Sarkissian met with a number of participating state and public figures, as well as the heads of influential media outlets.

During the meetings, President Sarkissian presented the situation on borders as a result of the Azerbaijani military aggression against Armenia, spoke about Azerbai-

jan’s invasion of Armenia, encroachments on the country’s territorial integrity, as well as the return of Armenian prisoners of war illegally held in Azerbaijan.

During the meetings with the heads of international corporations and companies participating in the conference (including Paypal, McKinsey & Company, Bharti Enterprises, Mastercard, Temasek, Tata Group, etc.), President Sarkissian also touched upon Armenia’s development



prospects and the country’s future plans.

The conference brought together world leaders, heads of international organizations, and world leaders to discuss the effects of the epidemic on the global economy, climate, and healthcare, new challenges, steps to overcome, and new economic opportunities.

## Azerbaijan keeps 41 sq. km of Armenian sovereign territory under occupation – MP



Azerbaijan continues the policy of provocative and aggressive actions on Armenia’s border, Chairman of the National Assembly’s Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs Eduard Aghajanyan said at the Parliament on November 16.

“As the Security Council of Armenia has announced, on November 14 in one of the sections of the eastern border between Armenia and Azerbaijan, the Azerbaijani forces, supported by armored vehicles, intruded into the territory of the Republic

of Armenia. Most troops and armored vehicles retreated as a result of negotiations, but the Armenian side had loss in positions,” the MP said.

He added that as a result of the incident the Azerbaijani side reinforced the presence established after the intrusion of May 12, 2021.

“Since May 12, the Azerbaijani forces have been keeping about 41 square kilometers of Armenian sovereign territory under occupation,” Aghajanyan stated.

“The Azerbaijani authorities continue to make aggressive statements about Armenia, actually creating new territorial and security threats to the Republic of Armenia. The ceasefire violations on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border take place

on daily basis, and this situation poses a direct threat to Armenia – a member of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO),” he added.

Eduard Aghajanyan noted that after the intrusion of May 12 Armenia had appealed to the CSTO to send a mission to monitor the situation on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border. Unfortunately, he said, the mission is yet to be carried out.

“Taking into account that Armenia is a CSTO member country, I call on the Armenian government to come up with the initiative of deploying CSTO monitoring mission to the Armenian-Azerbaijani border in accordance with the procedure of CSTO in response to crisis situations,” the MP said.

## Cabinet approves 2021-2026 draft action plan

The Armenian government on November 18 approved the 2021-2026 draft action plan.

Introducing the details of the plan at the Cabinet meeting today, Deputy Prime Minister Mher Grigoryan said that the package covers the strategic goals, the actions for achieving those goals, the expected results, timeframes and financial sources.

A total of 439 goals have been set, the action plan consists of 1276 measures.

“I would like to note that this action plan also reflects the implementation process of Armenia’s commitments assumed by the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement with the EU, as well

as the actions to be taken within the 2.6 billion Euro aid package to be provided to Armenia under the EU economic and investment plan. This document is in accordance with both the main provisions of the EAEU strategic programs and also the strategic partnership frameworks approved by the international organizations and donors for Armenia, in particular in terms of political targets and goals”, deputy PM Grigoryan said.

He emphasized that this document must become the government’s main working plan.

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan in his



turn noted that everything connected with this action plan has been discussed publicly.

“The action plan includes all those measures which we have announced publicly, such as investments in education, science, infrastructure development, social assistance and other areas”, the PM said.



President Armen Sarkissian visited the National University of Singapore (NUS). He was hosted at the prestigious medical school of the university (NUS Medicine).

President Sarkissian got acquainted with the work carried out in the laboratories of NUS Medicine, the world leader in medicine, at the Center for Quantum Technologies, as well as new developments using new technologies, nanotechnologies and artificial intelligence.

## Armenia and Singapore have huge untapped potential of cooperation in healthcare and tech – President

The President of the National University of Singapore, Professor Tan Eng Chye, the Dean of NUS Medicine, Professor Chong Yap-Seng and Chairman of the International Council of NUS Medicine, Professor Kishore Mahbubani, President Sarkissian said he was impressed by the work carried out in laboratories and modern solutions. The President stressed that there is a great potential for cooperation with Armenia in the fields of healthcare and technology.

During the meeting, the sides discussed opportunities for cooperation with scientific-

educational and research institutions of Armenia, exchange of experience, implementation of exchange programs for young specialists and scientists, cooperation within the ATOM Presidential Initiative for Science and Technology Development.

The International Council of NUS Medicine is an exceptional network of international leaders, scientists and experts, whose goal is to find solutions to healthcare, public health, various diseases, in particular, cancer and diabetes through the discovery of opportunities in information technology, engineering and other fields.

## San Francisco Bay Area Artsakh Task Force raises \$100,000

*Asbarez* – The San Francisco Bay Area Artsakh Task Force Humanitarian Aid Committee donated \$100,000 to the Insurance Foundation for Servicemen in Armenia on November 12 at KZV Armenian School in San Francisco.

Earlier this year, SFBAATF- HAC hosted a virtual fundraising event which raised \$100,000 for wounded Artsakh soldiers and families of fallen soldiers.

The first-ever “For Our Soldiers” virtual gala and auction attracted over a few hundred attendees. Participants enjoyed touching musical performances, listened to

encouraging messages from Bishops Hovnan Derderian and Torkom Donoyan and watched moving personal messages from Artsakh soldiers.

The donations went through the non-profit foundation, Friends of the Armenian Soldier and Family (FASF), and then sent to the Insurance Foundation for Servicemen in Armenia (IFS). IFS is a non-governmental organization that provides monetary compensation to the families of deceased and wounded soldiers in Armenia and Artsakh.

The San Francisco Bay Area Artsakh

Task Force (SFBAATF) was established in



October 2020 in response to the 2020 war in Artsakh with a specific focus on providing assistance to Artsakh by coordinating regional efforts. More information can be found [online](#).





On November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 a Special Cover dedicated to the State Award of the Republic of Armenia for Global Contribution in IT sphere has been cancelled as well as a postcard with 1 stamp dedicated to the theme “State Award of the Republic of Armenia for Global Contribution in IT sphere” has been put into circulation.

The cover signing and postcard cancellation ceremony has been attended by the Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister of the

## HayPost issues postcard dedicated to “State Award of the Republic of Armenia for Global Contribution in IT sphere”

Republic of Armenia Arayik Harutyunyan, the Minister of High-Technological Industry of the Republic of Armenia Vahagn Khachatryan, the Chief Executive Officer of “HayPost” CJSC Hayk Karapetyan, the 11<sup>th</sup> Laureate of the State Award Dr. Chi-Foon Chan, the President of the Philatelists’ Armenian Association Hovik Musayelyan.

The Special Cover depicts Dr. Chi-Foon Chan, the 11<sup>th</sup> Laureate of the State Award of the Republic of Armenia for Global Contribution in IT sphere, the President and Chief Executive Officer of Synopsys, Inc. The Special Cover was de-

signed with a print run of 500 pcs.

The postage stamp of the postcard depicts the commemorative gold medal given to the laureate and the postcard depicts the laureate of the State Award of the Republic of Armenia for Global Contribution in IT sphere of 2021, an American scientist, engineer and mathematician William Daniel Hillis, the Laureate of 2020 Dr. Chi-Foon Chan, the President and co-Chief Executive Officer of “Synopsis” company, and the Laureate of 2019 Takeo Kanade, a Japanese scientist, a Professor at Carnegie Mellon University and the author of “Origami World” theory.



Once again Armenia was the center of attention for hundreds of visitors during the 2021 “Philoxenia” International Tourism Exhibition held in Thessaloniki from November 12 to 14, the Hellenic Armenian Chamber of Commerce and Industry informs.

Visitors received information about the country, hotel accommodations, religious sights of interest, cuisine, as well as Armenian wines, spirits and beverages. A wide range of travel agents and tour operators from several countries including Greece, Switzerland, India, Brazil, Portugal, Italy, Ukraine, Latvia, Russia, Lebanon, Bul-

garia, Romania, Albania and even Turkey had already prearranged dozens of meetings with the Chamber’s executives in the framework of the event.

A number of local officials, local officials, including General and Honorary Consuls of different countries, members of Parliament, local governors and mayors paid a visit to the biggest stand that Armenia ever had at any fair held in Greece.

The country’s exhibition booth was replenished with flags, videos showing the country’s tourist highlights and products such as ArArAt brandy, the world famous ZULAL, ARMENIA WINE, KARAS, ARAME, ZORAH wines, the multi-award winning KILIKIA beer, JER-

## Armenia participates in “Philoxenia” International Tourism Exhibition in Thessaloniki



MUK and BJNI mineral waters as well as the NOYAN Premium juice

Armenia’s participation was organized by the Hellenic-Armenian Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Greece, which consistently contributes to the promotion of all touristic destinations in Armenia. The event was held under the auspices of the Embassy of Armenia to the Hellenic Republic.

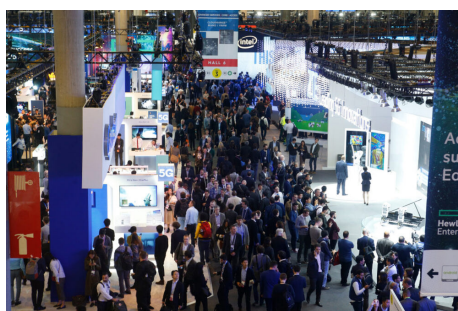
## Armenia to participate in MWC Barcelona 2022 Expo

Armenia will participate in MWC Barcelona 2022 Exhibition with a joint pavilion, the Ministry of High-Tech Industry informs.

Companies willing to participate in the event will have an opportunity to showcase their product at

December 3 is the deadline for application.

MWC Barcelona is the world’s most influential event for the connectivity industry. It’s where world-leading companies



and trailblazers share the latest thought leadership about the progression and future

of connectivity. And it’s the best place for networking opportunities with mobile and tech industry influencers.

MWC Barcelona is attended by global mobile operators, device manufacturers, technology providers, vendors, and content owners. MWC Barcelona is the place to be seen, exhibit ground-breaking products and technologies, and make remarkable connections with senior decision-makers, creators, and innovators in the industry.

## Armenian FM briefs foreign diplomats on Azerbaijani aggression



Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan received the heads of diplomatic missions accredited in Armenia.

The Foreign Minister briefed the diplomats on the provocative-aggressive actions of Azerbaijan on the Armenian border.

“You are aware that the Azerbaijani Armed Forces infiltrated the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia yesterday. It was preceded two days ago, on November 14, by another infiltration attempt. In the afternoon, more precisely, on November 14, at 13:00, the Azerbaijani armed forces invaded the territory of the Republic of Armenia, which saw four Armenian bases besieged. As a result of the negotiations, the Azerbaijani military equipment was withdrawn from the territory of the Republic of Armenia. But the tension did not ease with that, and yesterday at the same time, at about the same time, another new incursion took place, which was accompanied by the use of armored vehicles, artillery, weapons of different calibers, in fact, I can say the Azerbaijani side used everything except air force,” the Foreign Minister said.

He noted that it can be described only

as aggression against the Republic of Armenia.

As of 18:30 last night, the hostilities were stopped by the mediation of the Russian side, but as a result of the penetration in that area, the presence of the Azerbaijani armed forces in Armenia continues, the Foreign Minister noted.

He informed that one Armenian serviceman has been confirmed dead, 12 have been captured, 24 are missing.

Search operations are underway with the participation of the Russian side.

“It is obvious that these actions were preceded for months by very clear anti-Armenian, xenophobic, aggressive statements by the Azerbaijani authorities, open threats of use of force, encroachments on the territory of Armenia, aspirations, as well as announcements in the so-called “corridor logic”, including direct threats of taking a corridor by force,” FM Mirzoyan said.

“We strongly believe that this behavior of Azerbaijan is a consequence of the fact that our international partners – the international community in general, did not respond appropriately – to the use of force by Azerbaijan during the aggression

against Nagorno Karabakh on September 27 last year and then in connection with the statements and behavior I have mentioned. We are convinced that the response of the international community to all the provocative, aggressive statements and actions I have mentioned has not been targeted,” he added.

Minister Mirzoyan stressed that the continuous statements putting an equality mark between the parties were directly perceived by Azerbaijan as an incentive to continue this behavior.

“We expect that our partner and friendly countries will respond immediately to these actions, will use their direct influence on the Republic of Azerbaijan to urge to stop provocative actions, aggressions against the Republic of Armenia,” he emphasized.

The Minister informed that under the UN Charter, all bilateral and multilateral agreements, the Republic of Armenia reserves the right to protect its territorial integrity and sovereignty. And from this moment on, the entire responsibility for the further escalation of the situation falls directly on the Republic of Azerbaijan.

“I also want to talk about another political nuance. We believe that Azerbaijan is trying to divert the attention of the international community from the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict by shifting the tension on the Armenia-Azerbaijan border. I would like to emphasize once again that the Republic of Armenia will defend both its territorial integrity and the right of the Armenians of Nagorno Karabakh to self-determination,” the Foreign Minister stated.

At the end of the meeting, Ararat Mirzoyan answered the questions of those present.





Silicon Mountains 2021 International Technological Summit on Digital Smart Economy opened at Matenadaran repository of ancient manuscripts on November 19.

The event is organized by the Union of Employers of Information and Communication Technology (UEICT). Held for the second time, the summit covers the prospects of application of smart solutions and digitization of economy.

The summit features a special guest – President and co-Chief Executive Officer of Synopsys, recipient of the 2020 Global IT Award of Armenia, Dr. Chi-Foon Chan.

“It will be very useful for Armenia to understand the changes in the technological world and identify possible advantages,” said Dr. Chan. “Armenia can be a major exporter of intellectual property and software – not just a provider of services, but a provider of key solutions. Through the years that I have worked with Armenian experts, I have noticed this: in the first 5 years, they practice their professional skills, in the next 5 years they do very complex projects, and the last 5-6 years they lead the most complex international programs. I hope that now they will go even further and set new directions in the market.”

“Technology affects all areas of life, and we should consider how we can use and develop the technologies of future to facilitate the advancement in Armenia. Corresponding education should begin from the school, and we have to encourage young people to pursue careers in science and IT – both locally and internationally,” stated Synopsys Armenia President Yervant Zorian.

“SILICON MOUNTAINS 2021 includes meetings of business leaders and an open discussion where the representatives of the tech sphere present their experience

## Silicon Mountains Summit on smart solutions unites Armenia’s tech community

and future plans. Today, there are areas that have little to do with modern technology and the companies do not have all the information needed for further development. It is necessary to provide this information as soon as possible so that businesses remain competitive in the international market.”

According to Eduard Musayelyan, Executive Director of UEICT, one of the most important challenges for Armenia is to actively use and export digital solutions.

“We can be competitive in the world only with the existence of qualified engineers. This summit is our adequate response to Silicon Valley, at this moment only in the form of a summit. It is a good way to state our plans on where Armenia intends to be on the global technological map as a country which is offering and exporting sophisticated engineering solutions”.

The general sponsor of the summit is UNICOMP. The event is supported by the Ministry of High-Tech Industry, Synopsys Armenia and ACBA-CREDIT AGRICOLE BANK.

In the framework of the summit, a two-sided postcard with one stamp dedicated to the theme *High Technologies. Silicon Mountains* was put into circulation. The postcard cancellation ceremony was attended by the Deputy Minister of High-Tech Industry of the Republic of Armenia Robert Khachatryan, the Head of the Philately Department of “HayPost” CJSC Shushan Aleksanayan, the President and co-Chief Executive Officer of “Synopsys” company Dr. Chi-Foon Chan, the Executive Director of the Union of Employers of Information and Communication Technologies Eduard Musayelyan, the President of the Philatelists’ Armenian Association Hovik Musayelyan.

The postage stamp of the postcard depicts the photo of “Silicon Mountains” Forum which was held in Armenia in 2019. The bottom left corner of the post-

card depicts the inscriptions “SILICON MOUNTAINS” in Armenian and English languages. The backside of the postcard depicts the logotype of “Silicon Mountains” Forum of 2021.

Four panel discussions have been held during the summit. The first one, **Engine of Digital Smart Economy (Microelectronics, Artificial Intelligence)** featured Synopsys Armenia President Yervant Zorian, President of the Union of Employers of ICT Armen Baldryan, Care Technologies CEO Arthur Ghulyan, and CEO of the Foundation for Armenian Science and Technology (FAST) Armen Orujyan.

The second panel discussion, titled **ICT Infrastructure as a Basis for Digital Economy (Telecommunication)**, has been attended by Viva-MTS General Manager Ralph Yirikian, Rostelecom General Director Hayk Faramazyan, Ucom General Director Ara Khachatryan, and Head of Communications Department at the Armenian Public Services Regulatory Commission (PSRC) Gevorg Gevorgyan.

The third panel discussion, which has featured Director of TUMO Center for Creative Technologies Marie-Lou Papazian, Enterprise Incubator Foundation Director Bagrat Yengibaryan, BANA Director Grigor Hovhannisyanyan, and Synopsys Armenia Director Hovik Musayelyan, has covered the topic of **Development of Ecosystem of Digital Smart Economy (Education, Regional Development, Smart City, Startups)**.

Finally, the fourth panel discussion has considered the **Challenges of Digital Economy (Cybersecurity in era of 4th Industrial Revolution and Fintech)**. The participants’ group has included Unicom’s Chief Officer of System Integration Department Khoren Mamikonyan, IT Director of the Central Bank of Armenia Komitas Stepanyan, ACBA Bank’s Deputy CEO on Platforms and Technologies Development Tigran Simonyan, and Head of Internal Control and Audit Department at Viva-MTS Kim Avanesyan.

## President Sarkissian says wants to make Armenia a science and technology hub

On November 19, President Armen Sarkissian visited the Center for Quantum Technologies of the National University of Singapore, toured the center, got acquainted with the activities and programs.

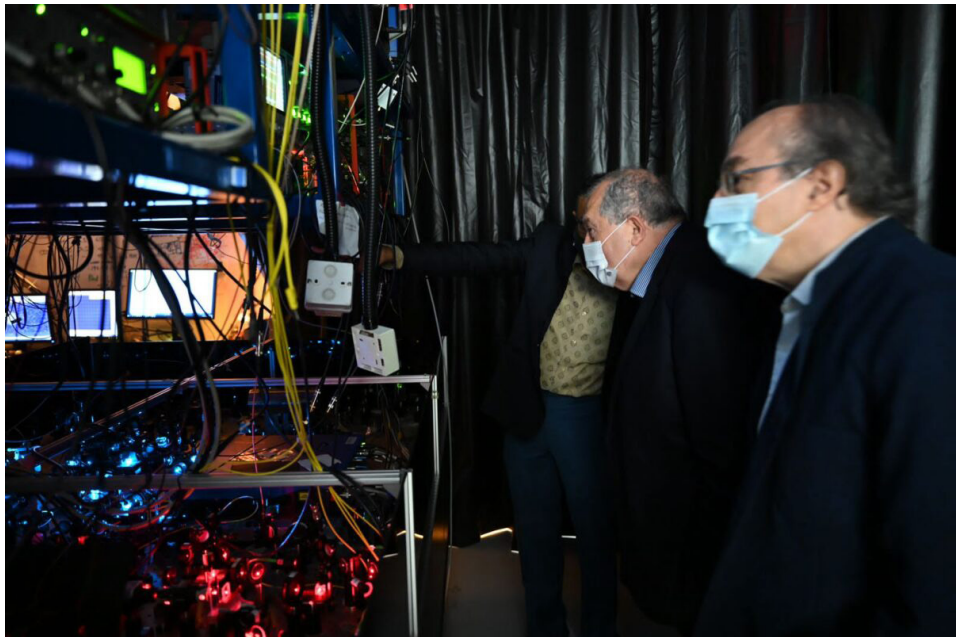
The Center was established in 2007 with the support of the National Research Foundation of Singapore and the Ministry of Education. As a leading research center, it brings together physicists, computer scientists and engineers to conduct basic research on quantum physics and to create equipment based on quantum phenomena. The world's leading specialists are invited here.

President Sarkissian met with Professor Chen Tsuhan, Vice President of the National University of Singapore, Professor José Ignacio Latorre, Head of the Center for Quantum Technologies, and Keok Tong Ling, Director of the Smart Nation and Digital Economy Department of the National Research Foundation (NRF).

They briefed President Sarkissian on the center's activities, and the research being carried out in various fields, including its application in medicine.

During the meeting, issues related to mutually beneficial cooperation were discussed, in particular reference was made to issues related to the exchange of experience, the implementation of exchange programs for young professionals and scientists.

President Sarkissian presented the ATOM (Advanced Tomorrow) Presidential Initiative for the Development of Science and Technology in Armenia, noting that as future-oriented program, it will focus on the scientific and technological develop-



ment of the country, in particular artificial intelligence and mathematical modeling. The President said that, taking into account that Singapore has a developed quantum ecosystem, they will be happy to have partners from Singapore as well. Representatives of Singaporean research centers said they are interested in cooperation and are ready to visit Armenia to study and discuss specific areas of joint work.

President Sarkissian also participated in the forum of the International Council of the National University of Singapore School of Medicine (NUS Medicine), where he spoke about the Armenian-Singaporean relations, the potential for cooperation in the fields of science, education, the role of education and technology in the future development of the states.

Touching upon the Armenian-Singaporean relations, the President of Armenia noted that Singapore is a special country for many Armenians, as the Armenians have had a significant presence here.

Speaking about the similarities between Armenia and Singapore, President Sarkissian particularly noted that both peoples value education and science.

“It is a good basis for developing cooperation in the fields of education and science. The basis of a competitive state is competitive education. We must do everything in our country to develop education and science and high technologies,” he said. “Armenia and Singapore can do a lot together. I want to make Armenia a hub of science and technology.”

The President of Armenia emphasized that Singapore is a good example for our country. “Not rich in natural resources, and being a small country, Singapore has human potential., power of idea, vision, strategy. These are the things that created Singapore,” said President Sarkissian. “I hope that the strength of this idea will make my country strong and prosperous. I will be able to say that we have repeated the example of Singapore.”





US aid to Azerbaijan helps enable heinous acts against ethnic Armenians, Chairman of the Senate foreign Relations Committee Bob Menendez says.

“Reports of Armenian casualties and Armenian soldiers taken as political prisoners by Azerbaijan are deeply concerning. Defense aid to helps enable these heinous acts against ethnic Armenians. It is time to pass my NDAA amendment cutting this aid,” the Senator said in a Twitter post.

On November 4 Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Robert Menendez (D-CA) introduced a powerful amendment that would end U.S. presidential waiver authority of Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act, an Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA) -backed measure that would effectively block U.S. military aid to Azerbaijan.

## US aid to Azerbaijan helps enable heinous acts against ethnic Armenians – Sen. Menendez

The amendment (#4177) is one of three amendments to the Senate version of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that deals with U.S. aid to Azerbaijan as well as Azerbaijani and Turkish war crimes committed against Artsakh and Armenia during the 2020 war. The amendment removes all references to presidential waiver authority of Section 907, a provision first put in place in 2001, and utilized by successive U.S. presidents – including President Biden, even in the wake of Azerbaijan’s 2020 brutal aggression against Artsakh in Armenia. Since 2016, the U.S. has provided over \$120 million in U.S. military assistance to Azerbaijan, in the face of objections by Members of Congress and the ANCA, which has long raised alarms about the Aliyev regime’s belligerence in the region.

Senator Menendez also offered a second amendment (#4150) to the NDAA which calls for a joint State Department and Defense Department report on Tur-

key’s use of U.S. technology in its Bayraktar drones, with a special focus on whether their sale to third countries, like Azerbaijan, violates U.S. export laws. The ANCA has identified a number of U.S. parts used in Bayraktar drones that targeted Artsakh and Armenian civilians during the 2020 Artsakh war. In addition to the ANCA, Amendment #4150 also has the support of a coalition of ethnic, civic, and faith-based groups including the Hellenic American Leadership Council, American Friends of Kurdistan, the Hindu American Foundation, and the Middle East Forum.

A third amendment (#4251) introduced by California Senator Alex Padilla (D) calls for a joint State Department and Defense Department report, in response to Azerbaijani war crimes during the 2020 Artsakh war, including the use of U.S. technology during the attacks; the use of white phosphorous, cluster bombs, and other prohibited munitions; and the hiring of foreign mercenaries.

## Armenia: A thread of memory – New documentary by Italian Rai 1 TV reflects on Artsakh War



Armenia: A thread of Memory – a new documentary by the Italian Rai 1 TV touches upon the 44-day Artsakh War, its causes and consequences, Turkey’s role in that war, the post-war realities in Armenia and Artsakh, and the border situation.

The documentary by famous journalist Stefania Battistini starts with footage from Yerablur military pantheon.

The film also talks about the Chris-

tian heritage of Armenia and the Republic of Artsakh. It is noted that as a bearer of ancient Christian civilization, Armenia is a natural bridge between the East and the West.

The author visits the Matenadaran repository of ancient manuscripts, the Armenian Genocide Memorial and the Museum-Institute, Armenian churches, the issues of preservation of the Armenian historical-cultural Christian heritage on the territories currently under the control of Azerbaijan is touched upon.

The film also features interviews with Armenian President Armen Sarkissian, His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patri-

arch and Catholicos of All Armenians and Human Rights Defender Arman Tatoyan. President Sarkissian speaks about the causes of the war unleashed by Azerbaijan against Artsakh, Turkey’s involvement, the post-war situation, humanitarian issues, and the Armenian prisoners of war still held in Azerbaijan.

The film emphasizes the importance of cooperation between Armenia and Italy, two friendly countries with ancient Christian values, and touches upon the current interstate relations, and the official state visits of the President of the Republic of Armenia Armen Sarkissian to Italy and his official visit to the Vatican in October.

## “THE ARMENIAN TREASURES” IS BACK, THIS TIME - BJNI

By Gourgen James Khazhakian  
Chief Correspondent

Holder of the title *Honored Journalist of the Republic of Armenia*

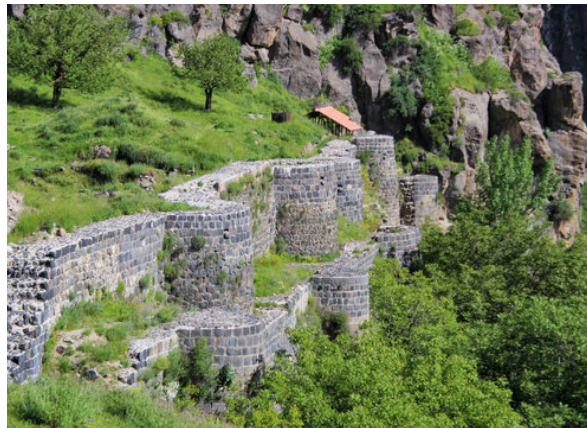
The Highlights dedicated readers definitely remember a heading entitled *The Armenian Treasures* telling about historical-cultural monuments of Armenia we were running in few years ago. After a break we announce about its restart, SO...

The Bjni archaeological site is located 13 km southwest of the Hrazdan City, center of the Kotayk Marz of the Republic of Armenia, on the promontaries near the homonymous village, on both banks of the Hrazdan River. On the eastern side of the village one of the prominent fortress-building structures, the Bjni Medieval Fortress is situated. It is registered as a separate unit /state index 6.19.1/ in the State List of Immovable Monuments of History and Culture of the Republic of Armenia that are not subject to alienation and are under aegis of the Service of Preservation of Historical-Cultural Museums and Historical Environment of the RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports (later on - RA MESCS).

Bjni Fortress is divided into two parts: the Great (Upper) Fortress / state index 6.19.1.1 / that includes the following monuments:

St. Cross Church /state index 6.19.1.1.1 / - IX-X centuries, Reservoir / state index 6.19.1.2 / - X c., Chamber / state index 6.19.1.1.3 / - X c. and the Lower Fortress / state index 6.19.1.2 / - X-XVI cc., with the secret passage /state index 6.19.2.1 / - X c., multilayer residential and industrial complexes of X-XV centuries as well as a monumental polished stone secular building, still partially excavated, of the X-XI centuries.

The area of the Bjni archaeological site is 17.5 hectares and the Fortress itself takes 7,06 hectares. The first archaeological excavations in Bjni were made in 1928. At that time,



or a year later, a fragment of the Ura-  
titan cuneiform inscription was found  
in Bjni. On the same promontory there  
is also a large Cyclopean fortress, in the  
area of which there are cultural traces  
dated back from the Early Bronze Age  
to the Antiquity, as the following ones:  
as a result of the excavations held in  
1977-1978, main walls of the basilica of  
the Holy Cross Church having the central  
dome and a cruciform planning (IX-X  
centuries), the reservoir, the secret passage,  
the two-hall vaulted palace building, with  
its refectory, details of the secular and  
worship buildings of the early medieval  
church, numerous small, yet unexcavated  
rooms, visible on the surface were opened.  
During excavations at the medieval castle  
area in 2002-2007 fragments of black lack-  
ered pottery typical for I c BC were found  
that let's to assume the area of the medi-  
eval fortress was inhabited at least in the  
Antic times. There is a prominent medieval  
castle-building example, the Bjni Fortress  
there. It is located on the right bank of the  
Hrazdan River, on the east side of the Bjni  
village. In 2007-2008 its fortifications, the  
foundations of the secular building and the  
adjacent structure, and of the churches, the  
reservoir and the beginning of the passage  
were restored.

### HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The first mention of Bjni was left by  
the fifth century historian *Ghazar Par-*  
*petsi*. It is assumed that Bjni's name is

a result of successive distortions  
of the name Burgana coming yet  
from the Kingdom of Van (versions  
suggested by Grigor Ghapantsyan  
and Hovhannes Gharaghyozyan).  
Since the 10th century, its history re-  
lates to the prominent *Pahlavouny*  
Ministers' House who rebuilt it and  
made it their See Castle. The Castle  
has been mentioned since the early  
Middle Ages. Pahlavouny Princes  
rebuilt the ancient fortress, turning it

to a powerful fortress that was one of the  
most important strongholds of the defense  
system in the north of *Ani*, the capital of  
*Bagratids'* Armenia. Notably, the 1066  
Catholicos elections were held in Bjni. In  
XI-XIV centuries Bjni becomes a bishopric  
settlement.

In the 15th century Bjni was domain of  
a prominent Armenian scientist and politi-  
cian *Grigoris Magistros*.

However, after the fall of the Bagratids'  
Kingdom (1045), Grigoris Magistros was  
forced to give Bjni and other domains to  
Byzantium in exchange of the estate he re-  
ceived in Mesopotamia.

In 1072 Bjni was captured by the Sel-  
juk Turks and handed over to the Shaddad  
Kurdish tribes. In the beginning of XIII  
c., Princes *Ivaneh* and *Zaqareh Zaqari-*  
*ans* liberated Bjni that became the See of  
Prince Ivaneh Zaqaryan. In 1387-1388 the  
village was subjected to the invasions of  
*Leng Temur*.

Alas !, it was destroyed in XIV-XVII  
cc.

In 1673 the French traveler *Chardin*  
stayed here. And in 1770 French traveler  
*Tournefort* also visited Bjni.

In the Middle Ages Bjni was one of the  
most important centers of the Armenian  
writing. Some Armenian manuscripts cop-  
ied in XII-XVII cc have been found there.

Thus, Bjni is one of those settlements  
of Eastern Armenia that represents a cul-  
ture that encompassing period from the  
earliest stages to the modern times and is  
almost uninterrupted.



## Samsung Innovation Campus to be launched in Armenia's Dilijan

UWC Dilijan, an international boarding school in Armenia, and Samsung Electronics, a world leading technological company, have signed an agreement to launch *Samsung Innovation Campus* in Dilijan, Armenia. The initiative is aimed at making a contribution to Armenia by enabling Armenian youth to develop their IT skills and learn the concepts related to Mobile Programming.



Technological advancements are key to economic development, which in its turn is empowered by talent. As a leader in technology, Samsung Electronics has the know-how and resources to support this forward-looking project via its corporate citizenship program, while UWC Dilijan, which is firmly integrated in local and regional communities, has the facilities, auxiliary structures and partner organizations to lead its implementation.

The goal of the *Samsung Innovation Campus* is to contribute to the development of Armenia by equipping young people, through education, with skills that will not only improve their digital literacy, learning abilities, creativity and imagination, but also enable conditions for their future interest in pursuing Mobile Programming and spreading innovative IT technology in the country.

The launch of the *Samsung Innovation Campus* is scheduled for January 2022. The initiative will focus on 14-16 year-old Armenian children. The program of activities, initially around the town of Dilijan and adjoining areas, will be a pilot with a potential to be scaled up. It is built around the delivery, over the next three years, of a combination of online sessions and in-person boot camps for 150 children over a period from January 2022 through the summer in year one and from October through the summer in the years after.

Due to the impact of UWC Dilijan, which was founded in 2014, Dilijan, a town of about 20,000 people, has seen transformational development and is becoming a model for regeneration and urbanization. The college represents a significant international presence in Armenia and in the region. With its world-class campus and an international community of

students and teachers, UWC Dilijan aspires to have global, regional and local impact.

*Samsung Innovation Campus* will be implemented with the support of UWC Dilijan's partner organizations – Dilijan Community Center (DCC), that would help with outreach to the local schools.

*"We plan to provide the education platform to help young people of Armenia to leverage their unique*

*technical talents and abilities in the IT field and train them in developing their own Mobile applications. We are proud to contribute to the spread of innovative IT technology education in Armenia and to train future high-level IT specialists in close cooperation with United World College Dilijan,"* said **Mr. DH Kim, President & CEO of Samsung Electronics CIS RHQ.**

*"Founded in 2014, UWC Dilijan is a young institution, but with its world-class campus and an international community of students and teachers, UWC Dilijan aspires to have global, regional and local impact. Our cooperation with Samsung opens a new page in our capacity to contribute to the development of digital skills of young people in Armenia, crucial for the modern economy. We are aware that we have a lot of work to do to deliver this initiative, but we are ready,"* said **Gabriel Ernesto Abad Fernández, Head of UWC Dilijan.**

## Armenia elected member of UNESCO Executive Board

Within the framework of the 41st session of the General Conference of UNESCO, Armenia was elected member of the organization's Executive Board, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs informs.

"For the first time since its accession to UNESCO in 1992, Armenia has been elected to UNESCO Executive Board for 2021-2025," the ministry said in a Twitter



post.

"Armenia received an impressive amount of 146 votes at UNESCO General Conference, which is a strong testimony of trust expressed by the international community to our candidacy," the Ministry said.

Armenia joined UNESCO on 9 June 1992.



Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan received the delegation led by Vice President of the Lithuanian Seimas Andrius Mazuronis.

As Noyan Tapan was informed from the Office of the Prime Minister, Nikol Pashinyan welcomed the visit of the parliamentary delegation of Lithuania to Armenia and noted with pleasure that the relations between the two countries have been dynamically developing in the recent period. In this regard, the Prime Minister highlighted the bilateral mutual visits, noting that Armenia is interested in devel-

## Flights between Yerevan and Vilnius to be launched- PM Pashinyan receives Vice President of Lithuanian Seimas

oping cooperation in political, economic, cultural and other spheres.

Nikol Pashinyan stressed particularly the need to strengthen trade and economic ties and take appropriate steps in that direction. The Prime Minister highlighted the organization of the upcoming flights between Yerevan and Vilnius, which will give a new impetus to the expansion of cooperation in the field of tourism.

In his turn, Andrius Mazuronis thanked for the warm reception, adding that Lithuania also attaches special importance to the development of multilateral relations with Armenia. The Vice President of the Lithuanian Seimas noted that he was impressed

with the democratic reforms being implemented in Armenia, and stressed that his country is ready to contribute to their effective implementation with its experience, including through programs envisaged by the European Union. In terms of strengthening bilateral cooperation, the latter also highlighted the continuous development of inter-parliamentary ties, noting that this visit will also best serve that purpose.

During the meeting, the sides touched upon the settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict within the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs, as well as the processes taking place in the South Caucasus region.

## Denis Djorkaeff appointed Armenia's Honorary Consul in Nantes, France

Denis Djorkaeff has been appointed Armenia's Honorary Consul in Nantes, France, the Armenian Embassy in France informs.

Armenia's Deputy Foreign Minister Paruyr Hovhannisyan handed the certificate on his appointment in Yerevan on No-

vember 19.

Through this appointment, the Armenian authorities wish to promote commercial, economic, cultural and scientific ties between the Republic of Armenia and the city of Nantes.

Denis Djorkaeff is an Adviser to the



President of the Football Federation of Armenia and Ambassador at FeedConstruct.

## Kremlin reacts to the map of "Turkic world" covering parts of Russian territory

Russian President's Spokesperson Dmitry Peskov has expressed regret that the map of the Turkic world, which the leader of the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) Devlet Bahçeli presented to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, has no red star indicating that its center is not in Turkey, but in Altai, Russia, *TASS* reports.

The Kremlin representative made the statement during the program "*Moscow. Kremlin. Putin*" on Russia-1 TV.

"Our Turkish partners foster the idea of Turkic unity, this is normal. The only thing I regret is that there is still no big red star in the center of the Turkic world on the map," Peskov said. The Kremlin spokesman stressed that this center "is not in

Turkey, it is on the territory of the Russian Federation, in Altai."

Peskov clarified that this is "the sacred place for any Turk, where they originated from." "I say this as a Türkologist," he stressed.

Earlier, the MHP's Twitter account posted a photo of Erdogan and Bahçeli holding a map of the so-called Turkic world, which covers a significant part of the Russian territory.

All painted areas are divided into three colors. Turkey, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are marked in red. Some countries of the Balkan Peninsula, part of Iran, southern regions of Russia, as well as most

of Siberia and western part of Mongolia are marked in orange.

Altai, Yakutia and Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region of China are marked in yellow. What these colors mean is not specified in the publication of the Turkish party.





# ARMENIA

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## Armenian Identity Card

The goal of the Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) non-profit organization is to unify Armenians worldwide in a common platform so that through contacts, queries and referenda they can express their views and positions regarding issues of general interest to Armenians around the world and issues of particular interest to Armenian communities in various countries.

Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) also makes it possible to establish business networks, the cardholder can participate in various charitable projects, and can obtain discounts from Armenian and non-Armenian businesses all over the world. Armenians should feel themselves to be full-fledged "citizens" of a reborn Armenia and the Armenian Identity Card is the «passport» for all Armenians.

The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID)

network is an effective environment where Armenians can implement various projects and pan-Armenian programs. At the heart of HyeID is the creation of an Armenian database which will become the reliable and objective basis to realize the potential of all Armenians around the world. Based on that database, it will be possible to implement various permanent and temporary initiatives through the Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) organization.

- The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) worldwide network enables cardholders to elect and get elected to the leadership of The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) network structures.

- The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) cardholders can benefit from the possibility of discounts intended for HyeID cardholders when shopping for products and services in various countries of the world.

- The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) cardholders can participate in queries and referenda initiated by the HyeID network and vote on issues of national interest to Armenians.

- Ensure the security and privacy of The Armenian Identification Card (HyeID) cardholders.

The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) cardholders who live in the Diaspora intend to utilize the possibilities made available through HyeID to form a Diaspora representative body — Diaspora Armenian Parliament — through democratic elections.

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The publisher: NT Holding LTD  
Լրատվական գործունեություն իրականացնող  
ՆՏ Հորինիգ ՍՊԸ

Ծավալը՝ 2.25 մամուլ, տպագրանակը՝ 1500  
Circulation: 1500 print copies and  
15600 copies by e-mail list in PDF format

Weekly Newspaper, Since May 4, 1993

President of the NT Media Holding:  
**TIGRAN HARUTYUNYAN**  
Editor-in-Chief of the Media Holding:  
**GAYANEH ARAKELYAN**  
Director of the weekly:  
**MARINA HARUTYUNYAN**  
Chief Correspondent: **GOURGEN KHAZHAKIAN**  
Computer Design: **Ashot Khalapyan**

Համարի թող. պատ.՝ Մ.Հարությունյան

ISSN 1829-0604

Գրանցման վկայականի համարը՝  
03ԱՑ98368, տրված՝ 11.01.2013թ.  
Registration certificate and the date:  
273.110.00512, 15.12.1995

E-mail: [contact@nt.am](mailto:contact@nt.am)  
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