

## PACE co-rapporteurs to PM Pashinyan: Armenia is a shining star of democracy in the region



Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan received PACE Monitoring Committee co-rapporteurs on Armenia Kimmo Kiljunen and Borian Åberg.

Greeting the PACE co-rapporteurs, the Prime Minister said, “Dear Colleagues,

For 20 years we have always valued our membership to the the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and to the Council of Europe and viewed it as a key contribution to supporting democratic reform in our country. When we joined the Council of Europe, there were two main directions in our membership

documents that were important at that time: one was democracy and the other was peace.

I must state that we have tangible success in the field of democracy; we can finally state that our success in the field of democracy is so much that the international community also sees and records it. I am also glad that the Council of Europe sees and records this. I think that especially the recent events make obvious the irreversibility of democratic processes in the Republic of Armenia. We still have the issue of adjusting the speed, it is very important that we will

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Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan received the delegation led by US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Erika Olson.

The Prime Minister welcomed the US State Department's delegation, noting that the Armenian Government attaches great importance and highly appreciates the

## Armenian PM, US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State discuss humanitarian issues facing the region

friendly relations established between Armenia and the United States. According to Nikol Pashinyan, the Armenian-American strategic dialogue started in 2019, and is aimed at further development and promotion of the relations.

"I would like to emphasize the role of the US Government in promoting democratic reform in Armenia. Recently we registered a concrete result in this regard by establishing the Patrol Police," the PM said. Nikol Pashinyan also praised the role of the

United States in the return of 15 Armenian captives from Azerbaijan in June this year. The Prime Minister hailed the continued efforts of the United States in this direction.

During the meeting the interlocutors discussed a number of issues related to the processes taking place in the South Caucasus region, the settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-chairs, the return of Armenian captives, hostages and other detainees kept in Azerbaijan, and

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## Armenian PM, Georgian defense chief commend the dynamic development of bilateral relations

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan received Georgian Defense Minister Juansher Burchuladze.

Welcoming the guest, the Prime Minister hailed the dynamic development of relations between Armenia and Georgia. "I am glad that this dynamic is being further strengthened by the visit of the Minister of Defense. We are interested in deepening our cooperation with Georgia in all spheres, developing our fraternal relations. Of course, such visits, as well as personal contacts between members of the

government, are very important in this context," the Prime Minister said.

Nikol Pashinyan asked to convey warm greetings to his counterpart Irakli Garibashvili, emphasizing that the dialogue with the Prime Minister of Georgia and the government is based on full mutual trust, which is a good basis for the development of strategic cooperation.

In the context of development of bilateral ties and the realization of the existing poten-

tial, the Prime Minister of Armenia attached importance to the expanded partnership between the Defense Ministries of the two countries.

Juansher Burchuladze hailed the effective cooperation with the Armenian Ministry of Defense and the programs aimed at its expansion.

The interlocutors exchanged views on strengthening the partnership in the field of defense and referred to regional issues.

## Armenia, UK discuss perspectives of signing bilateral agreement to replace CEPA

Armenian Ambassador to the US Varuzhan Nersesyan met Wendy Morton, UK Minister for Europe and Americas.

During the meeting, the parties first referred to the ongoing 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, noting with satisfaction Armenia's involvement in the conference at the presidential level.

The Ambassador and the Minister stressed the need for a joint approach to the solution of this important issue, taking into account the fact that the issue of climate change knows no borders and applies to all countries without exception. In this context, the parties also discussed the

prospects of implementing joint programs in this area.

Varuzhan Nersesyan and Wendy Morton touched upon the possibility of the formal signing of the Armenia-UK bilateral agreement replacing the Armenia-EU Comprehensive Extended Partnership Agreement (CEPA), taking into account that the document is now in the finalizing stage.

At the request of the Minister, the Ambassador presented the regional developments, the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone, the ongoing aggressive actions of Azerbaijan against Armenia and the encroachment on the sov-



ereign territory of Armenia, the existence of POWs in Baku in violation of all humanitarian and moral norms. The need to resume the negotiation process within the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs was also touched upon.

The Ambassador and the Minister also discussed the steps to be taken to enrich the bilateral agenda in a number of spheres.

page 1 ➔ adopt the right speed in the context of these changes. One thing is clear: the fundamental problem that has existed in Armenia for many years has been solved just as fundamentally. I am talking about the reliability of the election results. In this regard, of course, we appreciate the contribution that the Council of Europe has made in supporting Armenia in the issue of democracy during the 20 years.

But we have problems in the other direction. Unfortunately, stability and peace in our region are greatly jeopardized, and the fact that we still have prisoners in Azerbaijan, in spite of the trilateral declaration of November 9, 2020, is the brightest expression of this. I highly appreciate that this issue was voiced and recorded in the PACE. That's really important. It is also important that the European Court of Human Rights expresses very firm position on a number of issues. This furthermore underscores the importance of our membership in the Council of Europe.

Nevertheless, despite all the challenges and difficulties, the Armenian Government has adopted a policy of opening an era of peaceful development for Armenia and the region. The bad news is that it does not depend only on us, or rather the bad news is that not everyone shares this agenda or, at least, the understanding of the parameters of peace are not the same. But we must continue to work consistently in that direc-

tion. Anyway, we also need the support of our international partners in this matter. I want to welcome you once again and I am happy for this opportunity to discuss the progress of our affairs."

PACE Monitoring Committee co-rapporteur on Armenia Boriána Åberg said, "Mr. Prime Minister, I would like to express my and my colleagues' gratitude for inviting us here. I would like to also congratulate you on your decision to hold early parliamentary elections in the summer of 2021 and on your convincing victory in those elections. It was a victory not only for you, but a victory for democracy in Armenia. As you have already mentioned, Armenia has made many achievements in the field of democracy. During the last 3 days we had the opportunity to meet many people, visit a number of institutions, such as the Anti-Corruption Commission and other bodies. And it is really gratifying to see that your country is a shining star of democracy in the region."

In his turn, Kimmo Kiljunen said, "Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister. First of all, as the Vice-President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, on behalf of the PACE, I would like to congratulate you on the proper organization of the elections. We were observers and we recorded that the elections met international standards and commitments. I personally want to congratulate you on your victory in the elections. These elections

were much more important for you and your party than the elections following the Velvet Revolution, because now the situation is more consolidated and you can implement your program. Your Government's Action Plan has received a strong mandate from the people, and its credibility is guaranteed by the election results."

The PACE Monitoring Committee co-rapporteurs on Armenia highlighted the efforts of all participating countries for peace and stability in the region, noting that they will continue to voice the need for the immediate release of Armenian prisoners of war and other detainees kept in Azerbaijan.

The parties exchanged views on issues referring to the post-war situation, the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, the accomplishment of democratic institutions in our country, the protection of human rights, and a number of sectoral reforms.

The Prime Minister referred to judicial, anti-corruption, constitutional, institutional, electoral reforms, and stressed the progress in the field of freedom of speech, noting that freedom of press and speech in Armenia has never been at such a high level as after 2018 and now. Nikol Pashinyan stressed that Armenia is committed to the agenda of strengthening democracy and will continue to move forward in that path.

Issues related to the efficiency of the parliamentary system of governance were also raised.

## No talks with Turkey at the moment, Armenian FM says

There are currently no negotiations between Armenia and Turkey, Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan said in an interview with *Nouvelles d'Armenie*.

He noted that the government's program stipulates that Armenia is ready to normalize relations with Turkey without preconditions.

"The lack of diplomatic relations between Armenia and Turkey, the closed borders, as well as Turkey's open involvement in the 44-day war, the recent statements



from Turkey about the so-called "Zange-

zur Corridor" have a negative impact on stability in the region," the Foreign Minister stated.

Nevertheless, he said, "Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan in his public speeches has voiced the view of the Armenian side that in case of Turkey's readiness to normalize relations and appropriate actions, Armenia is ready to discuss the possibilities of building bilateral relations."

At the same time, he stressed that that no negotiations with Turkey are underway at the moment.



*Armenia - Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk at a meeting with Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, Yerevan, November 5, 2021.*

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan received Deputy Prime Minister of Russia Alexei Overchuk.

The Prime Minister welcomed Mr. Overchuk's visit to Armenia, noting that it is a good opportunity to discuss the current agenda. "I would like to note that I highly appreciate the works of the trilateral working commission chaired by the Deputy Prime Ministers of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan. I hope that we will finally be able to reach concrete solutions.

I would like to say the following in this regard. Armenia is committed to the statements of November 9 and January 11, which refer to the unblocking of all transport and economic ties in the region. But I would like to emphasize that the statements made by Azerbaijan regarding the corridors have a negative impact on the efficiency of our work and atmosphere, especially considering that in our trilateral statements there are no remarks about corridors.

My impression is that Azerbaijan is trying to impose its perceptions on the commission, which, of course, is unacceptable

## Russian official reports progress towards Armenian-Azeri transport links

for us. I would like to reaffirm that Armenia is interested in opening and unblocking regional transport and economic infrastructure. I have repeatedly stated publicly that we are ready to go to concrete solutions, the essence of which should be the following. Armenia should get road and railway communication routes through Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan should receive railway and road communication routes through Armenia, including one connecting Azerbaijan to the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic.

Our documents are about the unblocking of economic and transport infrastructures, our position is the following. What do we offer? The railways that existed during the Soviet era must be restored; the highways that existed during the Soviet era, including those connecting the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic with Azerbaijan, must also be restored.

We are ready for such solutions. We have concrete proposals, it should be emphasized that according to the January 11 statement, about which we have talked many times, we should also negotiate on customs control, phytosanitary control, border control and other possible types of control. This is what is stated in our statements of November 9, 2020 and January 11, 2021. I want to confirm once again that Armenia is interested, ready, and we hope that in the near future we will be able to reach concrete solutions to these issues. We are constructive," Prime Minister Pashinyan said.

Alexei Overchuk thanked the Prime Minister for the meeting and for highly

appreciating the activities of the working group comprised of the Deputy Prime Ministers of Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation.

"We are really working within the mandate that you, together with the leaders of the other countries, granted us in the framework of the statements of November 9-10, 2020 and January 11, 2021. I would like to note that we are in constant touch with our partners and deputy prime ministers. We have held 8 meetings, 4 of which were in-person, the other four were held remotely.

At the same time, we talk on the phone almost every day, discussing various options to find more optimal, more acceptable solutions for all parties. You know that road construction experts also worked, who examined the roads. Today we have a very good understanding of what those roads really look like. Based on these data, after the 8th session of the joint working group held on October 22, it seems to us that we will reach concrete solutions. They are based primarily on that the roads remain under the jurisdiction of the countries through which they pass.

You also mentioned and it is enshrined in the statements that all kinds of controls should be carried out. We agreed that such control should be exercised based on the parity principle, and we also discussed it, including how and from where to start unblocking automotive infrastructure. We want to discuss it with you today and think about how to move forward," Alexei Overchuk said.

## Armenian Ambassador briefs US lawmakers on challenges following 44-day war

Lilit Makunts, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the United States, held a discussion-meeting with more than a dozen members of the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues, in the Capitol Hill.

Ambassador Makunts expressed her gratitude to the Members of Congress for their constant support to Armenia, the issues of concern to Armenian people, and for the adoption of pro-Armenian resolutions in Congress, in particular, the adoption of resolutions on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide and condemnation

of the aggression unleashed by Azerbaijan against the people of Artsakh.

Ambassador Makunts briefed Members of Congress on the democratic reform program implemented by the Armenian Government, agenda of the Armenian-American relations and current regional security issues. In that context, she emphasized the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict under the auspices of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairmanship.

Ambassador Makunts presented the challenges followed by the 44-day war and



the humanitarian crisis, emphasizing the need for the unconditional repatriation of Armenian prisoners of war and captured civilians held in Azerbaijan.

During the meeting Ambassador Makunts answered the questions raised by the Members of Congress.



Ambassadors Tracy, Degnan, and Litzenberger, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Olson, Senior Advisor for Caucasus Negotiations Andrew Schofer, and USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator Alexander

## U.S. Embassy in Armenia hosts meeting of regional Chiefs of Mission

Sokolowski participated in a regional Chiefs of Mission meeting hosted by U.S. Embassy Yerevan.

We couldn't hold the event last year because of COVID-19, but we were excited to resume this long-standing tradition and gather with our colleagues from the region and from Washington, DC, to exchange ideas and information. Before COVID-19 interrupted this annual meeting, U.S. Embassy Baku and U.S.

Embassy Tbilisi hosted the regional Chief of Mission meetings in 2019 and 2018, respectively.

As we approach the 30-year anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations with Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan, we underscore our commitment to strengthening our partnerships and promoting a more secure, stable, and prosperous future for the people of the region.

## Russia does not claim monopoly in communication with Armenia, Azerbaijan – Foreign Ministry

Russia does not seek an exclusive right to communicate with Armenia and Azerbaijan, the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement marking the anniversary of the trilateral statement signed by the leaders of Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan on November 9, 2020, TASS reports.

"Russia is not claiming a monopoly in communication with Armenia and Azerbaijan although we have bonds of longstanding and close friendship and a large-scale partnership on all azimuths with those countries and peoples," the statement says. "We stand for effective use of the international community's current potential with

adequate account of the changed regional realities."

The Foreign Ministry pointed out that a year after the trilateral statement the information on social networks and online resources claiming that "Russia's peacekeeping efforts were allegedly aimed at 'breaking Nagorno-Karabakh away,' 'handing it over' to Azerbaijan, and turning Armenia into a 'protectorate' can be safely refuted."

"These statements are populist, are obviously ordered from the outside and have nothing to do with reality," the Foreign Ministry noted.

The ministry emphasized that the Moscow-initiated trilateral agreements and mechanisms "were not imposed on the sides, but were based on a verified balance of interests and included a very respectful attitude to the sovereignty and interests of Baku and Yerevan."

"Some of our initiatives could not be agreed upon, and that is normal. On the other hand, the agreement that has already been confirmed is, as they say, hard-won and effectively implemented in practice," the Foreign Ministry stressed.



## France appoints new Co-Chair to the OSCE Minsk Group

Brice Roquefueil will replace Stéphane Visconti as Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group.

A relevant decree has been signed by French President Emmanuel Macron.

Brice Roquefueil previously served as head of diplomatic mission of France in Uzbekistan, Ambassador to Panama and Consul General of France in Rio de Janeiro.

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Prime Minister Pashinyan highlighted the activities of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs, the recent organization of a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan in New York, and the forthcoming visit of the Co-chairs to the region. Nikol Pashinyan stressed the need to return the captives held in Azerbaijan, noting that Azerbaijan continues to violate the relevant point of the November 9, 2020 declaration.

The Prime Minister also referred to the perspectives of opening regional communications and carrying out the demarcation and delimitation of borders between Armenia and Azerbaijan, presenting the clear positions of the Armenian side. Nikol Pashinyan also spoke about the Government's future programs and steps aimed at the development of democratic institutions, emphasizing that our country will continue to move consistently and resolutely towards the development and strengthening of de-

mocracy.

US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Erika Olson reiterated the US readiness to contribute to the resolution of humanitarian issues in the region, as well as to the comprehensive settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict within the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairmanship. At the same time, she stressed the interest of the US in continuing to support the Armenian Government in its democratic reforms.

## EBRD forecast 5.0 economic growth in Armenia in 2021

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has raised its forecast for the 37 countries in its region for 2021 to 5.5 per cent in its latest Regional Economic Prospects report, published on November 4.

EBRD forecasts 5.0 percent economic growth in Armenia in 2021 and expects the growth to raise to 5.3 percent in 2022.

In 2022, as economies recover, growth is expected to moderate to 3.8

per cent in the EBRD regions. This is 0.1 percentage point lower than expected in June 2021. However, forecasts are subject to high uncertainty, reflecting risks associated with the future path of Covid-19, possible worsening of external conditions and weaker growth in trading partners.

More widespread inflationary concerns may bring forward policy tightening in advanced economies, making debt burdens more expensive to service, the report warns. Travel restrictions and

lingering fears of contagion continue to weigh on the outlook for the tourism sector. While bankruptcies have so far remained contained, further vulnerabilities may surface once policy support is reduced.

In eastern Europe and the Caucasus output is expected to grow by 3.6 per cent in 2021 and 2.9 per cent in 2022, reflecting strong results in the first half of the year, although there are signs of momentum slowing in the third quarter.



3 main factors affect the level of current inflation in Armenia: the first one is the increase of prices in the world market, the second one is the obstruction of cargo transportation, logistic chains and the third one is the higher demand for production supply in Armenia, President of the Central Bank Martin Galstyan said on November 2.

Asked to what extent the exchange rate affects the level of inflation, prices now,

## Central Bank chief mentions three main factors affecting current inflation in Armenia

the CBA chief said: “We have a freely floating exchange rate. At this moment the exchange rate is around 480 drams. It has some affect on prices”.

However, according to the CBA observations, the exchange rate has no major effect on most product groups.

The CBA President proposed to look at the inflation gap to see the reasons for inflationary developments. “We will see three main factors affecting the current level of inflation. The first one is the price increase conditioned by supply factors. There is an increase in prices of food and

other types of food in the global market. The second one is a result of obstruction of cargo transportation and logistic chains. And the third factor is a somewhat more advanced increase in the demand for the production supply as a result of which we have the level of inflation which we have today – 8.9%”, he said.

Commenting on the price of sugar, he said at this moment the sugar prices are higher by nearly 50% in the global market compared to December 2019. “This is a more serious factor, than the exchange rate”, he noted.

## Funding for ministry of labor and social affairs to increase over 15% in 2022

The budget of the Armenian ministry of labor and social affairs will increase by more than 15% in 2022, comprising 580 billion drams, Minister of Finance Tigran Khachatryan said at the joint session of the parliamentary standing committees dedicated to the debate of the 2022 state budget draft.

“According to the state budget draft, the total funding for the ministry of labor and social affairs, according to the structures responsible for our budget, is the direction involving the largest funding vol-



ume”, the minister said.

He considered this normal, as he stated

that all issues of social significance which are being solved by this ministry are among the most important ones both in their scale and significance.

The ministry is going to implement 16 projects which involve 93 measures.

“580-billion-dram funding is envisaged by the 2022 budget draft. In 2021 this funding was 503 billion 670 million drams, the increase is 15.1%”, the minister added.



The Government of the Russian Federation has approved the signing of a 2022-

## Russian Government okays signing of 2022-2027 regional cooperation plan with Armenia

2027 program of interregional cooperation with the Government of Armenia, TASS reports.

According to the document, the Government accepts the recommendation of the Ministry of Economic Development agreed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other concerned federal executive bodies on signing a program of interregional

cooperation between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Armenia for 2022-2027.

The Ministry of Economic Development has been instructed to sign a cooperation program on behalf of the Russian government.

## Armenian Hexact company partners with SADA and Google Cloud to advance innovation

Hexact, a leader in change detection, web monitoring and work automation, has signed a 3 year Google Cloud commitment with SADA as the foundation of the company's growth and innovation. Hexact also joined the Google Cloud Build Program and Google Cloud Partner Program.

Hexact will continue to further develop its key products Hexomatic, Hexometer, Hexowatch using the Google Cloud platform and enable scale to prepare for expected customer demand to increase in Q4 2021. A Google Cloud premier partner, SADA will provide GCP expertise and customer support with SADA's expert engineering team. SADA's recent launch of SADA GDC (Global Delivery Center) in Armenia was a major decision-making factor for Hexact's commitment to Google Cloud.

SADA and Google Cloud experts will help empower the Hexact team with technical advisory services by closely aligning business objectives and strategic outcomes.

"We are excited to work with the Hexact team to lead their digital transformation with best practices, and help them scale



and to meet demands of their customers. Our goal is to enable Hexact to develop value-added features for their customers more quickly and more reliably with Google Cloud," stated Dana Berg, Chief Operating Officer, SADA.

"Our website monitoring and work automation platforms currently process 60M tasks a day, empowering over 27 thousand users worldwide. We look forward to supporting more businesses and growing our no-code work automation movement with the help of SADA and Google Cloud," said the Founding Director of Hexact, Stepan Aslanyan.

SADA is a leading global provider of business and technology services empowering people to transform their work,

their organizations and the world. SADA teams have helped enterprise clients in healthcare, media, entertainment, retail, manufacturing and the public sector achieve their boldest ambitions and solve their most complex problems. A Google Cloud Premier partner with multiple Specializations, SADA delivers continuous innovation, strong partnerships and service excellence. This has led to numerous accolades and awards, including the Google Cloud Reseller Partner of the Year for 2018, 2019 and 2020, the Inc. 5000 list of America's Fastest Growing Private Companies for 15 straight years, and the 2020 Inc. list of America's Top 50 Workplaces.

The Hexact ecosystem consists of three core platforms: Hexowatch is your AI sidekick to monitor any website for visual, content, source code, technology, availability or price changes. Hexometer provides proactive website monitoring. Hexomatic is a no-code, work automation platform that enables you to harness the internet as your own data source, leverage the most sophisticated AI services, and a crowdsourced team of human assistants to automate time-consuming tasks.

## President Sarkissian says Azerbaijan's use of Illegal arms caused 'environmental disaster'

In an address to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change in Glasgow, Scotland, President Armen Sarkissian warned that Azerbaijan's use of illegal weapons during its aggressive attack on Artsakh last year caused an environmental disaster.

"Exactly one year ago during its war against Nagorno-Karabakh Azerbaijan used internationally banned weapons to target not only civilians but also beautiful forests of the large area, causing massive forest fires and creating environmental disasters. We call on international community to step up its efforts



to prevent such irresponsible, inhumane behavior," said President Sarkissian.

"The environmental challenges do not recognize borders and conflict lines, and we should bring all states of the world into comprehensive cooperation," the president added.

He went on to say that Armenia is committed to becoming a "smart state" and is dedicated to fighting climate change and preserving the environment.

"If we change our mentality and form our ambition and strategy, then we can effectively use the finances and the wealth that the world has created during this



phenomenal development and use the technology to handle the problems that we are facing. But not only to resolve the problems but also to create the basis of de-



velopment to the brighter future years to come," advised President Sarkissian.

"Armenia is committed to becoming a really Smart State, devoted to our Nature, Planet and Humanity. And I'm optimistic that we can overcome these difficulties and build a brighter future for all of us," added Sarkissian.

According to the World Bank analysis, Armenia is the fourth most vulnerable country to climate change in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region. Armenia has registered a 1.3-degree Celsius increase in temperature, and a nine percent decrease in precipitation.

Sarkissian told the conference that Armenia's long-term objective is to achieve climate neutrality in the second half of this century. "Transition to climate neutrality is at the core of the country's energy independence, energy security and green growth policies," said Sarkissian, who highlighted the imperative for creative approaches to

tackling climate change.

He told the conference about Armenia's "Debt-for-Climate Swap" initiative, which he said "presents a new climate finance instrument. And it will help developing countries to adapt more efficiently to climate change finance, provides new economic opportunities."

On the margins of the conference, Sarkissian met with President Joseph Biden and other world leaders, among them President Emanuel Macron of France and German Chancellor Angela Merkel among others.

Sarkissian arrived in Glasgow on Monday and was welcomed by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

Other world leaders with whom President Sarkissian had discussions include: Prince Albert II of Monaco, Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, President of Egypt Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, Serbian President Aleksandar Vučić, Cyprus President Nicos Anastasiades, Argentine President Alberto Fernández, Montenegro President Milo Đukanović, President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Zhaparov, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Lebanon's Prime Minister Najib Mikati, Luxembourg's Prime Minister Xavier Bettel, Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven, Austrian Chancellor Alexander Schallenberg, President of the European Council Charles Michel, according to the president's press office.







## Proposed 3+3 format in no way related to conflict settlement, Artsakh's Foreign Minister says

The Republic of Artsakh will never be part of Azerbaijan, Artsakh's Foreign Minister David Babayan said in an interview with Public Radio of Armenia.

He said any such option is unacceptable for Artsakh and stressed that "it is the red line that will never be crossed."

"This is what Azerbaijan has always been speaking about, this is what Azerbaijani and Turkey put even a stronger emphasis on today. We, in turn, say the option is unacceptable to us," Babayan said.

"To achieve this, we must raise the issue from different perspectives and on different domains – political, state-build-

ing, moral and political. The enemy aims at ensuring that we voluntarily agree to come under their jurisdiction," the Foreign Minister added.

"We will not allow this," Minister Babayan said, adding that it will either lead to new bloodshed and war or will see Artsakh cleansed of Armenians.

The Foreign Minister noted that the delimitation and demarcation are separate issues and can in no way question the statehood of Artsakh, its state-building process, identity, etc.

David Babayan said the 3+3 platform promoted by Turkey is in no way related to the conflict settlement process.

"Back in November 2020 we correctly predicted that there could be certain offers for new formats of cooperation involving the countries of the region. But this is in

no way related to the settlement of the conflict, it is related to the relations between those states, to geopolitics in the South Caucasus," the Foreign Minister said.

He did not rule out that some platforms could be created, but those will never be engaged in the settlement of the Artsakh-Azerbaijan conflict.

"The OSCE Minsk Group co-chairmanship is the only format engaged in the settlement of the conflict, not even the Minsk Group at large," David Babayan said.

He noted that after yesterday's shots in the direction of Karmir Shuka settlement the situation is calm. He is confident that Azerbaijan will never refuse from such provocations, but war is impossible while the Russian peacekeepers are present in the region.

## Armenian Ombudsman insists on demilitarized zone at the line of contact with Azerbaijani forces

Armenian Human Rights Defender Arman Tatoyan insists on the urgent need for establishment of demilitarized security zone in the areas of contact with the Azerbaijani forces.

"It is the fundamental guarantee of the rights of border residents of Armenia," the Ombudsman said at a press conference on November 3.

The Human Rights Defender's staff has documented the criminal acts of Azerbaijan in Armenia's border villages. The documents will be sent to relevant state bodies and international organizations.

"We have substantiated the need for a security zone and stressed that the Azer-

bajani troops, flags, equipment should be removed from the immediate vicinity of Armenian villages and the roads connecting the communities," Tatoyan told reporters.

He stressed that without this, normal life of people and their rights cannot be restored.

"The ad hoc report shows that their deployments are, without exception, unlawful," the Defender stressed.

He emphasized the need to analyze cadaster documents, issues of land ownership.

"In some cases, we see the Azerbai-



jani armed forces physically present on the lands belonging to people from the Soviet times. There is a clear international demand that the delimitation and demarcation of borders cannot be considered legitimate if human rights are not ensured, the rules of democracy have not been respected, normal life of the population is not guaranteed," Arman Tatoyan said.

## Armenian Genocide recognition bill to be debated in UK Parliament on November 9

The Armenian Genocide Recognition Bill will be debated in the UK Parliament, reports the Armenian National Committee of UK.

The first reading of the Armenian Genocide bill will take place in the House of Commons on November 9.

This Private Members Bill will be presented as a Ten-Minute Rule Motion by Conservative MP Tim Loughton.

If the bill passes this stage, the UK would be a step closer to formally recognizing the Armenian Genocide.



## European Court says Azerbaijan has violated Armenian captives' rights to life

In two judgments issued on November 4 the European Court of Human Rights has found that Azerbaijan has violated the rights of two Armenian citizens to life and has obliged the country to pay 40 thousand Euros in each case.

The case of *Petrosyan v. Azerbaijan* concerns the death of the applicant's son while in Azerbaijani captivity.

The applicant's son Karen Petrosyan, was born in 1981 and was living with the applicant and other members of the family in Chinari, close to the border to Azerbaijan. On 7 August 2014 he crossed the border into Azerbaijan and was captured by the Azerbaijani armed forces.

On the same day two video recordings of Mr Petrosyan were broadcast by Azerbaijani media. In the first one, he was seen being offered tea by a local resident of the village of Aghbulag and having a conversation with some of the other villagers. In the second recording, he was being interrogated, while standing on his knees with his hands cuffed and being restrained by soldiers. The interrogating army general accused him of being a soldier, having killed civilians, incited hatred and caused aggression. Being shown photographs of him in military uniform, allegedly found on his mobile phone together with phone numbers of his military commanders, he stated that he was a military serviceman.

On 8 August 2014 the Azerbaijani Ministry of Defense announced in a news report that Mr Petrosyan had died unexpectedly, according to preliminary information due to "acute cardio-pulmonary and myocardial failure."

Efforts were made by Armenia and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to have Mr Petrosyan's body returned. Representatives of the US State Department and the French Ministry for



Foreign Affairs expressed their concern about the failure to return the body and give information on the circumstances surrounding the death.

On 10 October 2014 Mr Petrosyan's body was repatriated in a severely decomposed state.

The Court found that the respondent Government have not convincingly accounted for the circumstances of the death of Karen Petrosyan. On the basis of the information available to it, it is not possible for the Court to establish exactly what happened to Karen Petrosyan while in detention. In the light of the injuries that were identified and the lack of plausible explanations as to how they had been inflicted on him, the Court finds however that it has been sufficiently proved that he was victim of severe physical violence prior to his death, to a degree that amounted to a violation of Article 3 of the Convention in respect of him. Article 3 of the Convention prohibits in absolute terms torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The Court also held that there has been a violation of Article 2 (right to life).

The case of *Khojuyan and Vardanyan v. Azerbaijan* concerns the captivity and treatment of the applicants' father in Azerbaijan.

On the morning of 28 January 2014, the applicants' father, Mr Mamikon Khojuyan, born in 1937 and a resident of the village of Verin Karmiraghbyur in the Tavush region of Armenia, close to the border to Azerbai-

jan, left his home. Later the same day, he appeared in a video online, surrounded by a group of people in civilian clothes and a person in Azerbaijani military uniform. On 30 January he was interviewed by Azerbaijani ANS TV. The Azerbaijani online news agency News.az reported the same day that Mr Khojuyan was in detention and that the Ministry of National Security had stated that he was a guide of an Armenian sabotage group and had held a gun when he was apprehended.

On 31 January Mr Khojuyan appeared in another Azerbaijani TV broadcast which was uploaded on Youtube. The Court has received the three videos and links to their appearance on Youtube from the applicants.<sup>5</sup> On 4 March 2014, through the mediation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Mr Khojuyan was handed over to the Armenian authorities.

On 5 March 2014 Azerbaijani TV relayed an official statement from Azerbaijani authorities that Mr Khojuyan had been injured while captured as an armed guide of an Armenian subversive group and had been taken to Baku where he had received medical treatment, including the removal of a bullet from his arm.

No criminal investigation was undertaken by the Azerbaijani authorities, either in relation to the events surrounding Mr Khojuyan's crossing of the border and his alleged subversive motives or with regard to his treatment in detention.

The Court declared by majority that the complaint under Article 2 (right to life), Article 3 (prohibition of torture) and Article 5 (right to liberty and security) admissible.

In both cases the Court Obligated Azerbaijan to pay 40,000 euros to the applicants.

## State Minister Artak Beglaryan addresses situation in Artsakh at forum hosted by Pan-Armenian Council of Western US

Artak Beglaryan, the State Minister of the Republic of Artsakh held a press conference followed by his keynote address at a public forum organized by the Pan-Armenian Council of Western United States, at the Armenian Society of Los Angeles (Iranahye) Center, located in Glendale, California.

At the press conference, Beglaryan fielded questions from members of the print and television media. He was joined during the conference and public forum by Mr. Davit Akopyan, Chief Advisor to Mr. Beglaryan. Zaven Khanjian, Executive Director and CEO of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), which had invited Beglaryan to the United States as the keynote speaker of its annual meeting and banquet, provided introductory remarks welcoming the State Minister, and explained his vital role during Artsakh's recent history, particularly during the 2020 war of aggression brought on by Azerbaijan, and its aftermath.

During the hour-long press conference, moderated by Garo Ghazarian, attorney and co-host of the "Frontlines-Artsakh" program, Minister Beglaryan addressed a broad range of inquiries ranging from the plight of Armenian refugees and prisoners of war to accountability for the funds



raised in the diaspora for humanitarian assistance to the Artsakh people. From 2018 to 2020, Beglaryan served as the Human Rights Ombudsman of Artsakh, before being appointed to his current post as State Minister of the Republic.

At the conclusion of his formal remarks, Mr. Beglaryan responded to approximately twenty questions from audience members, moderated by Garo Ghazarian. Minister Beglaryan lost his eyesight as a child in 1995, when a landmine he found in his family's yard exploded. His father had died in battle during the first Artsakh War of Liberation just two years earlier. He then lost his mother at the age of 16 and, it was then that Minister Beglaryan found his life's purpose and mission. Mr. Beglaryan had studied in Yerevan, at a school for the

visually impaired from 1995-2006. Coming home during summer breaks, he had attended the AMAA Camp in Stepanakert and credits his Christian education there as the bedrock of his commitment to public service.

He graduated from Yerevan State University in 2010, subsequently studied business management in Thessaloniki, Greece as part of a student exchange program, and took part in international programs and research fellowships in the Czech Republic and Switzerland. He holds a Master's Degree from the University College London in political science, security, and integration, and he has completed a public policy and administration program in the U.S., at Tufts University, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Lena Bozoyan, stated: "We are so grateful to our very distinguished guest, Minister Artak Beglaryan, who gave our community a frank and thorough analysis of the developments in Artsakh during the past year and his plans for Artsakh going forward. We look forward with great anticipation to continue our work and support of Minister Beglaryan and the Armenians of Artsakh." The event was followed by a reception.

## Advertisements celebrating Azerbaijani occupation of Artsakh removed from Sydney billboards

Billboard advertisements glorifying Azerbaijan's military aggression on the indigenous Armenians of Artsakh have been removed from prominent locations across Sydney in response to urgent representations made by the Armenian National Committee of Australia (ANC-AU).

oOH! Media removed the advertisements, which were masquerading as Azerbaijani tourism promotions urging Australians to travel to the Azerbaijani-occupied historical Armenian city of Shushi, from their billboards.

In the letter addressed to the company's Chief Executive Officer, ANC-AU Executive Director Haig Kayserian brought urgent and immediate attention to the fact their company assets were being used to celebrate and glorify the recent ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity committed by Azerbaijan's dictator, Ilham Aliyev.

Targeted at and designed to inflict psychological harm against the Armenian-Australian community, the digital

advertisements were part of an attempt to whitewash Azerbaijan's heinous war crimes during the 2020 Nagorno Karabakh war and ongoing acts of cultural genocide.

While the advertisements ostensibly urge the Australian public to explore the currently occupied, and ethnically cleansed city of Shushi (Susa as referred to in the advert), they contained the state-sanctioned purple bird symbol, which celebrates Azerbaijan's so-called "victory day" against the indigenous Armenians of the Republic of Artsakh.

The ANC-AU explained that such direct reference to the 2020 war was "an outright attempt to provoke the Armenian-Australian community, glorifying war in particular Azerbaijan's military aggression and ethnic cleansing which left thousands dead and many tens of thousands of refugees".

"We thank the dozens of deeply offended members of our community, who contacted the Armenian National Committee of Australia upon encountering the

confronting and perverted celebrations of the most deadly attacks against Armenians since the Armenian Genocide," said ANC-AU Executive Director Haig Kayserian.

"We immediately contacted the company who controls the billboards that this glorification of genocidal dictators was being advertised, and explained its true intent was not to promote tourism, rather to cause offence and trauma to our community."

"We also highlighted that promoting tourism to Azerbaijan is akin to promoting tourism to North Korea due to the similarity of the autocratic and oppressive nature of the two regimes."

Kayserian added: "On behalf of Armenian-Australians, we thank oOH! Media for being very receptive to our community's concerns and for their prompt removal of all representations of the offending advertisements as well as for forgoing profit in favor of human rights and dignity."



Lars Patrick Berg, Member of the European Parliament, paid a private visit to Armenia this week and as a member of the European Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, held meetings with Armenian parliamentarians, particularly with Vahe Hakobyan, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs of the National Assembly of Armenia, and Arman Yeghoyan, Chairman of the Standing Committee on European Integration, ARMENPRESS reports Lars

## Armenia is of great economic and geostrategic importance for EU countries – MEP

Patrick Berg told ARMENPRESS.

“Of course, this is not my first visit to Armenia, I have already been to Armenia. This visit of mine is private, I would like to exchange views with our Armenian partners on both economic and trade issues as well as strategic issues. In particular, I am interested in Armenia-EU economic relations”, the MEP said.

According to Berg, economic issues were discussed during the meeting with Vahe Hakobyan, and during the meeting with Arman Yeghoyan, opinions were exchanged on Armenia-EU relations. The meetings with the Armenian parliamentarians took place on November 4.

In that context, the MEP referred to the 2017 agreement between Armenia and the

European Union, the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement, emphasizing that all parties in the European Parliament are interested in the implementation of this agreement, since Armenia, as a separate country and the region as a whole are important for the EU Member States not only in terms of economy but also geostrategy.

“Suffice it to say that Armenia has been a member of the Council of Europe since 2001, and that many events and programs have been implemented in Armenia over the past 20 years. Let's take the issue of the rule of law, judicial reforms, etc. And any other step in this direction that will deepen these developments should always be welcomed”, Lars Patrick Berg said.

## Turkey, Azerbaijan Shunned, Armenia Invited to Biden's Democracy Summit

President Joe Biden has not invited Turkey and Azerbaijan to his upcoming Summit for Democracy, but has included Armenia on its guest list, according to a document obtained by Politico.

In its reporting Politico said some countries, such as Turkey and Hungary, have not been invited surmising that a lack of an invitation was because their leaders have been undermining their democratic systems for years.

The Armenian National Committee of America called Biden's decision not to invite Turkey and Azerbaijan “a sharp but

unsurprising rebuke to Azerbaijan's petro-monarchy and Turkey's neo-Ottoman dictatorship.”

On December 9-10, 2021, Biden will host the first of two Summits for Democracy, which will bring together leaders from government, civil society, and the private sector to set forth an affirmative agenda for democratic renewal and to tackle the greatest threats faced by democracies today through collective action.

For the United States, the summit will offer an opportunity to listen, learn, and engage with a diverse range of actors



whose support and commitment is critical for global democratic renewal. It will also showcase one of democracy's unique strengths: the ability to acknowledge its weaknesses and imperfections and confront them openly and transparently, so that we may, as the United States Constitution puts it, “form a more perfect union.”

## Genocide Education Project to host inaugural fellowship program for U.S. teachers in Armenia



The Genocide Education Project will be hosting an inaugural Teacher Fellowship Program at the Armenian Genocide Museum and Institute in Armenia, from July 9 to 17, 2022, Asbarez reports.

The program will include intensive

training for 15 U.S. educators on teaching about human rights and genocide, with a comparative examination of examples of genocide across time, and a particular focus on the Armenian case. The fellows will also travel to historical and cultural sites related to the workshop themes. The intensive professional development workshops in Armenia will be led by GenEd's Education Director Sara Cohan at the AGMI's Armenian Genocide Museum and conference center.

Upon their return, the teacher-fellows will lead their own workshops for other

teachers in their regions, in collaboration with GenEd. Considering that each teacher reaches up to 100 new students each year, this program will result in an exponential increase in the number of students — up to 30,000 more students after the 2022 teacher fellowship program — learning about the Armenian Genocide and its continuing effects today.

Those interested in helping with this exciting new endeavor that the Genocide Education Project is undertaking, please consider donating to the project.

## Tufenkian Foundation renovates the home of martyred Artsakh vet



The family of Stepan Seyranyan, a 52-year-old volunteer who was killed during last year's war in Artsakh, was given the keys to its newly renovated and expanded home on Oct. 19.

"We had started construction on an addition to our home to meet the needs of our growing family. The [2020] war derailed our plans," explained Stepan Seyranyan's widow Marine Seyranyan. Marine shares the home with her three sons and daughter-in-law. "We are forever grateful to the Tufenkian Foundation for their help during this difficult time," Marine added.

The expansion of the Seyranyan home, which was financed and implemented by the Tufenkian Foundation, includes the addition of two new bedrooms, a kitchen, and a bathroom. All of the home's existing rooms were also renovated and the windows throughout the property were re-

placed.

In his remarks at the Oct. 19 reception marking the completion of construction, Tufenkian Foundation operations director Greg Bedian said that the Foundation was happy and proud to renovate the Seyranyan home and to hand over the keys to a family that had sacrificed so much for its nation.

"The Seyranyans and the people of Kherkhan are not alone. This gesture is our Foundation's way of honoring Stepan's service and his memory. I assure you that the Armenian people around the world stand with you and with the people of Artsakh during this time of rebuilding and rising from the ashes," Bedian said in his address to the family. Bedian also explained that the Foundation's renovation and reconstruction efforts were ongoing. Earlier in the day, Hayk Hayiryan, who was injured in last year's war and whose home was damaged by Azerbaijani fire, was given the keys to

his rebuilt and newly furnished home in the town of Martuni.

The Seyranyan family residence is the eighth of a total of 13 homes in the region that the Tufenkian Foundation is renovating following the 2020 war. The program focuses on the Herher cluster of villages (Herher, Tsovategh, and Kherkhan), the nearby village of Machkalashen, and the

town of Martuni.

Through the program, residences that have suffered major damage during the war, as well as the family homes of fallen and wounded soldiers, are being completely repaired and renovated.

Stepan and Marine Seyranyan's daughter



ter Ani, who has a family of her own and lives in the same village, said that the Seyranyan family is determined to carry on her father's legacy for years to come.

"We are proud of his sacrifice. Our father died fighting for peace and we know well that peace cannot be attained without real struggle," Ani explained. Stepan was martyred on Oct. 22, 2020, while defending Martuni's Jivani village. "Though this is a difficult time for us all, my brothers and my mother will now be able to comfortably live in our family home and we will continue to thrive on our ancestral land," Ani added.

## UK aims to seize £15 million from family of Azerbaijani politician – OCCRP

The United Kingdom's National Crime Agency (NCA) is looking to seize 15 million pounds (US\$20.5 million) in bank accounts that belong to the wife, son, and nephew of Javanshir Feyziyev, an influential Azerbaijani politician, the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Center (OCCRP) informs.

The agency believes the money had been laundered through a vast money transfer system uncovered in 2017 by OCCRP.

Neither Feyziyev nor the members of his family are being charged with any crime. But in a civil proceeding on Monday, a lawyer for the NCA presented a detailed analysis to bolster the agency's argument that the money had flowed through the Azerbaijani Laundromat.

The agency argued that the source of the funds "must have been unlawful" because they had been spirited out of Azerbaijan through several shell companies using fraudulent documents to disguise

their origins.

"Corruption, theft, fraud and money laundering are the likely explanation," the NCA argued.

According to OCCRP, Feyziyev is a member of parliament and is considered an associate of Azerbaijan's authoritarian president, Ilham Aliyev. He has been instrumental in the country's efforts to lobby the European Union.

Of the 15 million pounds, 7.86 million are held by Feyziyev's wife Parvana Feyziyeva and 6.4 million by his son Orkhan Javanshir. The two had invested a portion of this money into the United Kingdom's investment visa program to secure the ability to live in the country.

A smaller portion of the total, just over a million pounds, is held by Feyziyev's nephew Elman Javanshir.

But the case is centered around Feyziyev himself, the NCA said, "because the funds that are sought to be forfeited largely

came from bank accounts under his control."

In a statement sent to media outlets, a spokesperson for the Feyziyev family said that they "categorically refute the NCA's case," describing it as "fundamentally flawed." The agency has provided "no substantive evidence that the funds in question derive from any source that involved a criminal offence," the spokesperson said, adding that "the family have complete faith in the British justice system and look forward to the NCA's application being exposed as meritless."

In its case, the NCA makes multiple references to OCCRP's previous reporting about Feyziyev. The 2017 investigation reported that two companies that use the same name as a major Azerbaijani pharmaceutical company founded by Feyziyev had received \$138 million from the Azerbaijani Laundromat.

The story was the subject of a libel claim by Feyziyev, which was settled on agreed terms. Feyziyev categorically denies involvement in money laundering or any unlawful activity.

## US imposes new international travel vaccine rules



Beginning November 8, adult foreign nationals who fly to the United States, with limited exceptions, must provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, as well as a negative test taken in the past three

days, the US Embassy in Armenia informs.

It is still necessary to follow local health guidelines, such as wearing masks and washing hands.

“It is in the interests of the United States to move away from the country-by-country restrictions previously applied during the COVID-19 pandemic and to adopt an air travel policy that relies primarily on vaccination to advance the safe resumption of international air travel to the United States,” Biden’s proclamation says.

The White House confirmed that children under 18 are exempt from the new vaccine requirements as are people with some medical issues. Non-tourist travelers from nearly 50 countries with nationwide vaccination rates of less than 10% will also be eligible for exemption from the rules. Those receiving an exemption will generally need to be vaccinated within 60 days after arriving in the United States.

More information is available on travel.state.gov.

## Society for Armenian Studies and Artsakh State University sign agreement on cooperation

As part of its new policy to strengthen ties with academic institutions in Armenia and Artsakh, the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) signed an Agreement on Cooperation on October 25, 2021, with Artsakh State University (ArSU). The Agreement aims at cooperating on different academic projects that would be beneficial to both parties and to advance the field of Armenian Studies.

The scope of the cooperation includes, but is not limited to, exchange of mutual information on academic activities carried out by both parties; exchange and loans of books relevant to both parties; exchange of knowledge and expertise with respect to Armenian Studies; sharing of advice, educational consultation, and research Armenian Study; and cooperation through local and international conferences, symposia, and lectures to advance the field of Armenian Studies.

Commenting on the Agreement, SAS President Bedross Der Matossian said, “We are looking forward to cooperating with Artsakh State University (ArSU) on academic issues pertaining to Armenians



Studies in general and Artsakh history in particular. This cooperation will be mutually beneficial to all of us. SAS has members whose research deals with the political as well as cultural history of Artsakh. Through harnessing the existing potential of scholars from both institutions, the study of Artsakh’s history and cultural heritage will advance.”

Artsakh State University President Prof. Dr. Armen Sarkisyan commented saying: “I consider this Cooperation Agreement as an extremely important development for Artsakh State University. The role of the Society for Armenian Studies in developing Armenian Studies in the Diaspora has been crucial. The mission of the Society in strengthening the academic

ties between the Diaspora and the homeland is a noble one. We are looking forward to a fruitful cooperation.”

As part of this mutual cooperation, Prof. Dr. Armen Sarkisyan will deliver a talk via Zoom on Saturday, November 20, 2021, at 12:00pm ET (9:00am PT) titled “Artsakh State University: Past, Present, and Future.” The zoom registration link is: <https://bit.ly/2ZPSujH>.

Artsakh State University is the oldest and largest university in Artsakh. Over the course of its nearly fifty-year history, Artsakh State University has produced over 20,000 graduates in sixty fields of study. Currently, the university prepares specialists in thirty-one areas.

The SAS, founded in 1974, is the international professional association representing scholars and teachers in the field of Armenian Studies. The aim of the SAS is to promote the study of Armenian culture and society, including history, language, literature, and social, political, and economic questions.

# 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.

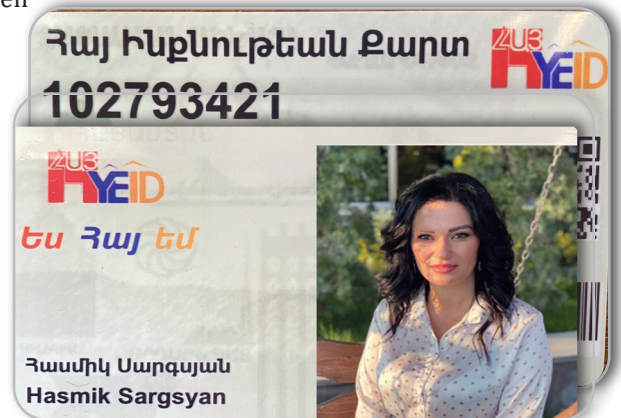
The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) cardholders who live in the Diaspora intend to utilize the possibilities made available through HyeID to form a Diaspora representative body — Diaspora Armenian Parliament — through democratic elections.

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