

State budget of Armenia is Real Armenia, that is, Armenia that exists de jure and de facto at the same time: Prime Minister



Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan said the public administration’s objective must be to enable more and more people to have the chance of getting rich instead of simply getting by.

Speaking to lawmakers at a committee hearing on the 2025 budget draft, Pashinyan said the Armenian legislation was not originally developed on the basis of the real Armenia, hence the issues.

“Our problem is that the legislation of Armenia, including the tax and other legislations, were not initially developed on the basis of the real Armenia. And I am not sure that our laws, procedures, policies provide for the best opportunities to develop more. One of the key objectives of the government and parliament, national and local self-governing bodies, the laws and regulations, must be to create the opportunities for more and more citizens of Armenia to get rich through legal work or activities,” Pashinyan said.

The government bodies, since the day they were created, did not overlook this issue but actually never even thought about the need of this objective, Pashinyan said.

“We must solve the following task, to create the opportunity for more people working in Armenia to get rich instead of just getting by. Our objective must be to create the real opportunities for more and more people to get rich through legal, competitive work. We must bring our entire legislation, procedures, foreign and domestic policies in line with these needs, the needs of the real Armenia,” the Prime Minister said, referring to the concept of Real Armenia promoted by his administration.

Addressing the lawmakers Pashinyan said the budget was drafted based on a set of concepts, such as:

Armenia is my hearth, the people are my family

Get rich and enrich others

The future of Armenia depends on one person, and that is you

The homeland is the country, you love the homeland, strengthen the country.

Homeland is here, bread and life are here.

According to him, these concepts are not just the basis of the next year’s budget, but should be put in the basis of the budget planning as a whole.

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Armenia condemns actions against Iran – MFA

Armenia condemns activities aimed at undermining international security expressed also in the actions against the Islamic Republic of Iran last week, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

“We are deeply concerned about developments in the wider region. We hope that diplomacy will enable protection of international law and prevention of further undesirable developments,” the Ministry said.



Israel carried out what it described as “precise and targeted” airstrikes on Iran on Saturday, in retaliation for the barrage

of strikes launched by Tehran against Israel earlier this month.

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said it targeted military sites in several regions, with subsequent reports suggesting an Iranian missile production site had been hit. One civilian and four soldiers were killed in the attacks, the Iranian military said.

It marks the latest in a series of attacks between the two regional foes that for months have raised fears of an all-out war.

About 2,903,727.4 AMD will be allocated to the regional administrations for the implementation of subsidy programs

A regular Cabinet meeting took place on October 31, chaired by Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan.

The Government made a decision due to the need to ensure the effective implementation of programs aimed at the development of economic and social infrastructures of the communities of the Republic of Armenia. The decision proposes to allocate 2,903,727.4 thousand AMD from the budget of 2024 to the regional administrations of the Republic of Armenia to fulfill their financial obligations to the relevant construction organizations.

According to the government’s decision, amendments and additions will be made to the March 11, 2010 decision of the Republic of Armenia “On approving the standards for the creation of the lists of intangible cultural values of the Republic of Armenia and the list of intangible

cultural heritage values”. The purpose of the decision is to make additions to the existing list of intangible cultural values, which is necessary due to the provisions of the 2003 UNESCO Convention “On the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage” and the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On Intangible Cultural Heritage”, as well as for registering applications related to the values of the intangible cultural heritage of the Republic of Armenia in the list of intangible cultural heritage of UNESCO.

A number of changes were made in the list of 300 schools by a series of government decisions, in particular, the status of educational complex was established for some schools and vice versa, while the Urban Development Committee, which was the client for a number of schools, was replaced by the Armenian Territorial Development Fund.

The Government approved the list of products to be stamped within the framework of the pilot program of stamping in the Republic of Armenia. The purpose of the decision is to approve the pilot program for stamping a number of products (tea, coffee, medicines, dyes, perfume and a number of other products).

Another Government decision will regulate the actions related to solving housing security problems of families displaced from Nagorno Karabakh, in particular, single elderly people. The decision proposes to establish such a legal regulation that will enable partner financial organizations to lend loans to also single elderly people within the framework of the program, without taking into account the risk of their death and absence of an heir during the term of the loan.

President Khachaturyan meets senior delegation leaders at COP16

Within the framework of the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16) held in Cali, Colombia, Armenian President Vahagn Khachaturyan had meetings with the President of Ecuador Daniel Noboa, Suriname President Chan Santokhi, Bissau-Guinean President Umaro Sissoco Embalo, President of the Presidential Council of the Transition of Haiti Edgard Leblanc Fils, and senior leaders of the delegations.

According to the Presidential Office, discussions addressed the challenges and opportunities for tackling climate change and decline of biodiversity.

Leaders exchanged views on various global and regional issues, including security, climate realities, and the formation of common agendas to address shared challenges.

The senior delegation leaders emphasized the need for united global efforts to address environmental protection in

the context of modern changes, the rapid development of information technologies, climate and man-made disasters.



Armenian FM says ‘some positive atmosphere’ observed in talks on unblocking connections with Azerbaijan

Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan has said that there is “some positive atmosphere” in the issue of unblocking of transport and logistic infrastructures with Azerbaijan.

“Steps have been made also in the direction of unblocking of regional transportation infrastructures,” Mirzoyan said in parliament at a committee hearing on the 2025 state budget. “We’ve conveyed proposals to the Azerbaijani side which have been welcomed in a semi-official way. I am saying this to show that there is some positive atmosphere here. And we will continue with the Azerbaijani side the work also around reaching an agreement in the matter of unblocking,” Mirzoyan said.

He reiterated Armenia’s principles in the matter of unblocking.

“All infrastructures that shall be unblocked shall remain under the sovereignty, legislation and jurisdiction of the country through which they pass. And everything must be done on the basis of the principle of reciprocity and equality. You are also well aware that these principles are reflected in the Crossroads of Peace project presented by the Armenian government. I am happy to say that numerous countries have welcomed this project and are assuming that it can be part of wider logistical networks and new projects. Crossroads of Peace is the vision in which we see also the unblocking of the

Azerbaijan-Armenia transportation and logistical infrastructures,” Mirzoyan said.

The deployment of third forces along routes in context of the unblocking of regional connections is unacceptable, Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan has said.

“We consider the deployment of third forces along connection routes unacceptable,” “Regarding the involvement of international organizations, we must understand that there is a transportation company, a shipping company, a railway building company, a railway maintenance company and an operator. Meaning there are various layers pertaining to this issue,” Mirzoyan said.

Armenia able to fully implement border guard services for Armenian-Iranian and Armenian-Turkish borders in a phased manner - NSS Director

Armenia can fully carry out border guard services for the Armenian-Iranian and Armenian-Turkish borders in a phased manner, Director of the National Security Service (NSS) of Armenia Armen Abazyan has said.

“In a phased manner, yes, but currently there is no such decision,” Abazyan said

during a press briefing with journalists.

NSS Director reminded that there is a preliminary agreement for the border guard service at the Agarak border checkpoint to be entirely handled by the border guard troops of the Republic of Armenia starting January 1, 2025.

“Discussions are also taking place

regarding the common Armenian-Iranian border,” Abazyan added.

When asked whether Armenia is preparing to carry out the protection of the entire border with its own resources, Abazyan replied that no such decision has been made yet.

Armenian, Azerbaijani border commissions hold 10th meeting, Regulation on joint activity enters into force

On November 1, 2024, the 10th meeting of the Commission on Delimitation and Border Security of the State Border between the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan and the State Commission on the Delimitation of the State Border between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia was held on the border between the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan, under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia Mher Grigoryan and Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan Shahin Mustafayev.

During the meeting, in line with Article

7 of the above-mentioned Regulation on the Joint Activities of the Commissions, signed on August 30, 2024, the Parties exchanged notifications on completion by their states of the internal procedures necessary for its entry into force.

Considering that Article 7 of the Regulation stipulates its entry into force on the day of the receipt of the last written notification of completion of such procedures, the Parties confirmed that the mentioned Regulation enters into force on November 1, 2024.

The Parties exchanged views on the sequence of sections/segments of the borderline for further carrying out

delimitation works.

The Parties discussed the drafts of respective guidelines for the procedures on carrying out delimitation works.

The Parties agreed to set the date and location of the next meeting through working-level consultations.

Following the meeting of the Commissions, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia Mher Grigoryan and Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan Shahin Mustafayev had a separate discussion on issues of transport communications.

Armenian FM expresses optimism on progress in normalization with Turkey

A dynamic dialogue is under way between Armenia and Turkey, Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan has said.

Speaking during the budget discussions at the National Assembly, the Foreign Minister described the dialogue with Turkey as “dynamic” and “positive.”

He reminded that relevant authorities of the two countries have carried out work to assess the state of the infrastructure on the border. Works are under way to assess the state of the Kars-Gyumri railway.

“Our dialogue is first of all about the establishment of diplomatic relations,

opening of borders, transport and other communications and generally normalization of relations,” said Mirzoyan.

The Minister said “it’s no secret that to some extent Turkey links its relations with Armenia with the normalization of Armenia-Azerbaijan relations.”

“In our assessment, this is not a very constructive approach, and we have our dialogue with Turkey without preconditions, we have specific agreements to initially open the border for third-country citizens and diplomatic passport holders. There are smaller-scale joint projects, for



example, related to the cultural heritage of Ani. There is a dynamic dialogue here too. I want to express optimism again we will have progress in the near future,” Mirzoyan concluded.

Crossroads of Peace promotion campaign to feature Turkish media visit to Armenia

The Armenian Prime Minister’s Office plans to hold several events to promote the [Crossroads of Peace](#) project, Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister’s Office Arayik Harutyunyan has said.

Harutyunyan, speaking at a parliamentary committee hearing on the 2025 state budget, told Members of Parliament that such events were held in 2024 too.

“We plan to hold a meeting of representatives of research centers from



the whole region in Armenia in the end of this year or in the beginning of next year. Although the Crossroads of Peace project will not be the main topic, but it will be covered too. Soon we will also have a visit of our Iranian partners to Armenia, where the Crossroads of Peace project will be discussed too. We also plan a visit of a number of media representatives from Turkey to Armenia, where the Crossroads of Peace project will be presented,” Harutyunyan said.

Armenian government creates territorial defense forces to replace obsolete militia system

The Cabinet has approved a bill on creating territorial (local) defense forces to replace the militia system with the purpose of supporting the Armenian Armed Forces in the event of an attack.

The mission of the Territorial Defense Forces includes participation in guarding and defending the borders of Armenia, fulfilling individual combat objectives jointly with the Armenian Armed Forces units during repelling an attack against the country, participation in combating enemy sabotage, terrorist, reconnaissance or special forces actions, and supporting

the protection of special facilities and the population.

The territorial defense forces will be under the command of the given administrative district’s military formation.

The territorial defense forces will be formed on a voluntary basis. Members of the forces will be subject to military code of conduct and other responsibilities envisaged for all members of the armed forces.

The former militia system, which was supposed to be organized under local governments across the country, has been

deemed ineffective because instead of the defined system the militia units are actually being formed by military commissariats.

The new territorial defense forces will be coordinated by army corps and their formation will be carried out exclusively by the defense system.



Azerbaijan has occupied sovereign Armenian territory in Syunik, acknowledges French envoy



French Ambassador to Armenia Olivier Decottignies has recorded Azerbaijani occupation of sovereign Armenian territory in the Nerkin Hand section of Syunik Province.

Speaking to reporters in Goris, the

French Ambassador presented his impressions from his visit to Nerkin Hand.

He said that a part of Nerkin Hand is occupied by Azerbaijan. "This situation creates great difficulties for the residents. They have a sense of danger, and that danger is real, because the strikes could start again. There are problems regarding everyday life, people even have problems with water, there is human drama here, people are unable to visit the graves of their relatives," the ambassador said.

Asked whether he acknowledges that Azerbaijan invaded from all four sides in that area into the sovereign Armenian

territory, the ambassador said, "From three sides, because we went there from one side."

France supports the delimitation process between Armenia and Azerbaijan which should take place on the basis of the Almaty Declaration, French Ambassador to Armenia Olivier Decottignies has said.

"We support the delimitation process that has begun between the two countries, and it must take place on the basis of the Almaty Declaration, around which the parties have reached an agreement," the ambassador told reporters in Goris.

UK urges Armenia and Azerbaijan to maintain momentum in the peace process and finalize a lasting peace agreement

The UK urges Armenia and Azerbaijan to utilize upcoming multilateral meetings to maintain momentum on the peace process, and to finalize a lasting peace agreement, Stephen Doughty, Minister of State for Europe and North America, said in response to a question by Jessica Morden MP.

"Alongside our international partners, the UK stands ready to support them in doing so. The Foreign Secretary spoke with both Foreign Ministers on 18 July at the European Political Community

summit, where he made clear our support for both countries. I also spoke with Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan on 11 October and Azerbaijan Presidential Representative Elchin Amirbayov on 29 October to reiterate our support," Minister Doughty said.

On preservation of buildings of Armenian religious significance in the Nagorno-Karabakh region, the Minister said: "We are clear that the preservation of religious and cultural sites in the region is an important issue and is in the interests

of all peoples of the region and beyond."

"We are aware of allegations from both Armenia and Azerbaijan that cultural and religious sites have been deliberately damaged over the course of the conflict between the states, and in Nagorno-Karabakh. Officials at British Embassy Baku have raised the topic of religious and cultural heritage and the need to protect sites of Armenian religious significance with the Azerbaijani government at the most senior levels," he added.

Armenia's surveillance bill threatens rights – Human Rights Watch

The Armenian government's bill for the mandatory installation of video surveillance systems with 24-hour police access throughout the capital, Yerevan, is unjustified and interferes with privacy and other rights, Human Rights Watch said today.

The bill, which passed its first parliamentary review in June 2024, requires private entities in Yerevan to install the cameras and provide police with live feed and access to recordings on demand. Officials have also indicated they intend to use artificial intelligence (AI) video analytics

to monitor the recordings.

"Widespread, indiscriminate video



surveillance would inevitably lead to unjustified intrusions on privacy and cannot

be defended as a measure necessary to improve public security in a democracy," said Giorgi Gogia, associate Europe and Central Asia director at Human Rights Watch. "Mass surveillance in public spaces would have a chilling effect on fundamental civil and political rights."

Armenian authorities posted the bill on the government's website in December 2022, but the government only greenlighted it in April 2024. Parliament is expected to vote on the bill before the end of the year.

Armenian government to increase financial support for national minorities

The Armenian government will increase by 25% the amount of money envisaged for national minorities.

Arayik Harutyunyan, the Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister's Office, told lawmakers at a committee hearing on the 2025 state budget that the sum will comprise 25 million drams next year.

Harutyunyan has been appointed as the Head of the Council on National Minorities. "The government is paying greater

attention in this direction too. And this is reflected in the budget. 20 million drams was envisaged this year within the framework of this initiative, but we increased it to 25 million, a nearly 25% increase," Harutyunyan said, adding that the increase will be continuous depending on the outlined programs.

15 NGOs of 11 national minorities will receive support based on their requests for program funding submitted to the

council, as well as the relevant decree.

The increase is associated with organizing Sunday schools, summer camps, monthly magazine publishing, launching websites, as well as student visits to historical-cultural sites.

Harutyunyan said that the Council on National Minorities has great importance in identifying and resolving the possible issues of national minorities.

Visa procedure changes for Egyptian, Iraqi and Indian nationals aimed at effective management of migration flows

The Armenian government made the decision to change the visa procedures for citizens of India, Egypt and Iraq after studying the migration processes, Director of the Migration and Citizenship Service Armen Ghazaryan told Armenpress.

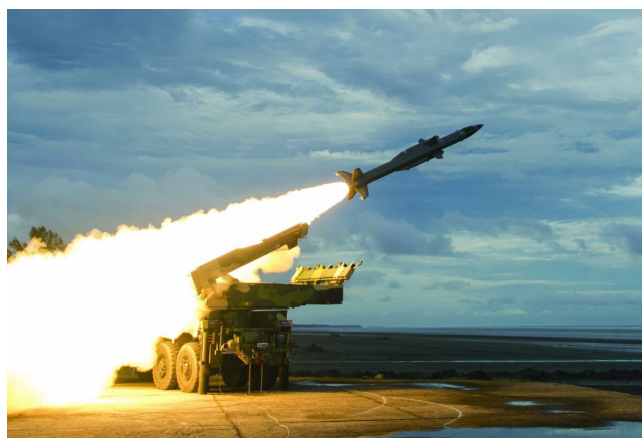
Ghazaryan was asked to explain why the government decided to introduce stricter visa procedures for the citizens

of India, Egypt and Iraq. "The word strict sounds a bit harsh, because we've simply introduced one small regulation on the way the citizens of these countries can obtain visa," Ghazaryan said. "It's not like there was a visa waiver before or the visa costs have increased, the only change is the methods of obtaining visa for the citizens of these countries. We came to

that decision by studying the migration processes, and the substantiation of the government decision mentions them in detail. The current migration flows have brought us to the conclusion that this small regulation will have significant importance in improving the management of migration flows."

US, France, Armenia emerge as India's top three defense export customers – Times of India

Armenia has emerged as its biggest client of 'finished' weapon systems like Akash air defense missile systems, Pinaka multi-launch rocket systems and 155mm artillery guns, among others, [Times of India](#) reports. The US, France and Armenia ranked as the top three destinations for defense exports by India, which chalked up military sales worth Rs 21,083 crore (\$2.6 billion) to other countries in 2023-24, official sources said on Sunday. Indian public and private sector



companies are now exporting a wide range of arms, ammunition and fuses to around 100 countries, which also include some

complete weapon systems and platforms like BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles, Dornier-228 aircraft, artillery guns, radars, Akash missiles, Pinaka rockets, and armored vehicles, the sources added. The exports to the US, however, mainly consist of sub-systems and components, which include global defense majors like Boeing and Lockheed Martin sourcing fuselage, wings, and other parts of aircraft and helicopters from India as part of their global supply chain networks as well as offset commitments.

Yeremyan FARM FEST 2024: Establishing a New Regional Benchmark for Agricultural Excellence



Summary of one year of achievements at the largest state-of-the-art complex in Tashir and the launch of a leading regional platform in agriculture. Yeremyan FARM FEST was held for the third time.

The event took place on 28 October at the Tashir livestock complex, owned by the Yeremyan Group of Companies, on the first anniversary of the farm. The occasion was attended by representatives of the Armenian Government, Eurasian Development Bank, World Bank, UN Food Program, Embassies, and public and international partner organizations of the farm.

Established under an agreement between the Armenian Government, the Eurasian Development Bank, and the Yeremyan Group of Companies, the Tashir livestock complex is a pioneering facility—unique not only in Armenia but across the region, playing a vital role in advancing Armenia's agricultural sector. The project aims to introduce a modern approach to animal husbandry, dairy production, milk consumption in Armenia, change the perceptions of high-quality milk, enhancing food security and fostering sustainable economic growth in the country's agro-industry sector.

Aram Ghazaryan, the Governor of Lori Province, delivered the opening remarks, extending congratulations to the Yeremyan Group of Companies. "It's especially encouraging to see programs like

this realized through strong partnership between the Armenian Government and the private sector. I'm confident that this farm, equipped with advanced technology, will set a great example for both large and small farms in the Lori region. This project will not only boost local agriculture but also promote economic growth and improve infrastructure. I would also like to highlight the new jobs created, with that number continuing to grow."

Arman Khojoyan, the Deputy Minister of Economy of Armenia, emphasized that the program has achieved tangible progress in agricultural productivity, the adoption of innovative technologies, and the production of competitive and high-quality products which are the key elements of the Government's vision. "This is more than just the establishment of a farm or a reflection on its first year of operation. It has become a platform for knowledge development. I am pleased to see that this initiative has successfully attracted top international expertise and continues to share this knowledge with sector specialists and farms alike. Additionally, we are witnessing the importance of agricultural machinery within the production value chain being highlighted and demonstrated as part of another key Government program," added Arman Khojoyan.

"Today, we are equipped to maintain full control over our closed production chain, allowing us to deliver the highest quality dairy products and ensure the food safety entrusted to us," said Davit Yeremyan, Founding Director of the Yeremyan Group of Companies.

"In our agricultural initiatives, we have developed several key areas. Today, we can speak about breeding economies, implementing modern practices in production, integrating the latest technologies, and continually expanding our capabilities. Now, we are ready to share our expertise, our knowledge, and to dedicate our full potential to elevate agriculture and animal husbandry in Armenia to a new quality and standard. This FARM FEST stands out with its larger scale and more ambitious goals, setting it apart from previous years," mentioned Davit Yeremyan in his speech.

Armen Melkikyan, the Head of Representative Office of the Eurasian Development Bank (EDB) in Armenia, said: "Today, a year later, we can proudly say that we have achieved the goals we set out to reach. Milk production has increased by 8 to 10 times, hundreds of new jobs have been created, and we have established a new quality standard for other companies to strive toward. We are pleased to continue our partnership through this social project, as the Eurasian Development Bank, the UN World Food Program, and the Yeremyan Group of Companies will soon implement the 'Milk Schools' program for our children."

The mission and goals of the Yeremyan Group's agricultural projects align closely with the "The Strategy of the Main Directions Ensuring Economic Development in the Agricultural Sector of the Republic of Armenia for 2020-2030." Lusine Yeremyan, Deputy General Director of the Yeremyan Group of Companies, Management Board Member, and Director of Marketing and Communication, highlighted this in her speech.

"Increasing the competitiveness and efficiency of the agricultural sector, supporting food

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page 7 ➔ security, developing human and institutional capacities in milk production, encouraging the modernization and advancement of the sector through technological innovations, and ensuring sustainable development of rural areas—these objectives are outlined in the national strategy, and they directly stem from the agricultural goals of the Yeremyan Group. Our agricultural projects are built on three key pillars: innovation, quality, and people. These principles form the foundation of FARM FEST 2024 and serve as our guiding motto for the year,” noted Lusine Yeremyan.

She emphasized that the one-year results in pursuing these goals are both significant and impressive. In 2023-2024, the farm produced approximately 10 million liters of milk and delivered 20,000 tons of feed. Currently, the Tashir farm have 2,500 cattle, including 1,500 dairy cows, and 6,500 pigs, of which 600 are sows. The farm also has 850 hectares of cultivated land for fodder production, operates 25 units of agricultural machinery, and employs 150 staff members.

During the event a new project was announced: “Yeremyan Farm” will provide agricultural products and services for both new and established farmers. As a model of exemplary farming, the farm will now share its expertise and agricultural resources, including pedigree animals, professional consulting, agricultural equipment and machinery, feed additives,



and breeding material. Artsrun Khachatryan, Head of Agricultural Projects at the Yeremyan Group of Companies, provided a detailed overview of these directions.

Thanks to this project, new farmers will gain the skills needed to effectively enter the field of animal husbandry, while established farms will have the opportunity to address existing gaps and deficiencies related to economic conditions, animal behavior, feeding, and breeding. “Farmers will gradually be able to evaluate the efficiency of their farm management practices. This will lead to the development of the agricultural sector in Armenia and the

achievement of the goals discussed today,” said Artsrun Khachatryan.

At the end of the event the recognition ceremony was held rewarding the farm’s best employees for their contributions.

It is worth mentioning that thanks to the state-of-the-art farm and factory facilities of the Yeremyan Group, the company now produces and offers over 80 varieties of the highest quality natural dairy products to consumers.

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We must enhance our economy’s growth potential - Central Bank Governor

In response to the question about what would happen if, at some point, the indicators of gold re-export intermediary incomes in Armenia became zero, Central Bank President Martin Galstyan stated, “We will return to the rhythm of our normal life.”

At a press conference held on October 29, Galstyan emphasized that the economy of Armenia will eventually grow in accordance with its capabilities.

“Sooner or later, our exports will be what our exports are, and imports will



correspond to existing demand. Essentially, the extreme volatility we have observed over the past few years has significantly

flattened out.

Our economy has growth potential, and we must do everything possible to enhance this potential. In other words, our potential GDP will increase, and we will evolve into a country that produces more high-quality and unique products. The products and services we create will become more sophisticated, leading to higher profitability. As a country, we should focus on addressing these challenges,” he said

Deputy Foreign Minister delivers speech at UNESCO's "Global Media and Information Literacy Week" panel discussion



On October 30, in Amman, Armenian Deputy Foreign Minister Vahan Kostanyan participated in and delivered a speech

at the panel discussion of the high-level ministerial segment of the UNESCO Global Media and Information Literacy Week 2024 conference, organized by UNESCO and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Deputy Minister Kostanyan emphasized the importance of a universal approach, international cooperation, and the exchange of experience in the fight against disinformation, noting the necessity of addressing these issues within the context of the region.

The minister highlighted the Armenian government's initiatives aimed at implementing the 2024-2026 concept for combating disinformation. Kostanyan also stressed the need to integrate media literacy into the educational system and acknowledged the significant role of civil society in this endeavor.

Furthermore, Kostanyan noted that the spread of misinformation is often driven by information gaps, which should be addressed through transparent and democratic governance.

Christian Solidarity International (CSI) calls on Baku to release all Armenian hostages without delay

The Christian Solidarity International (CSI) calls for all Armenian hostages held in Baku to be released without delay.

"During its genocidal attacks on the Armenian Christians of Nagorno Karabakh (Artsakh) in 2020 and 2023, Azerbaijan abducted a number of Armenian soldiers, civilians, and political leaders. Azerbaijan is currently confirmed to be holding at least 23 Armenian hostages. The true figure may be as high as 100. CSI calls for all



Armenian hostages to be released without

delay," CSI said in a [statement](#).

Christian Solidarity International (CSI) is Christian human rights NGO that is "committed to defending religious liberty, helping victims of religious repression, victimized children, and victims of disaster." It is based in Switzerland, with affiliates in the United States, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, and South Korea.

Armenian Ambassador briefs Belgian Deputy PM on regional peace efforts

David Clarinval, Belgian Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Middle Class, Self-Employment, Small and Medium Enterprises, Agriculture, Institutional Reforms and Democratic Renewal, received Armenia's Ambassador to Belgium Tigran Balayan.

The ongoing efforts aimed at ensuring the continuity of the steps designed to deepen bilateral cooperation were discussed. The perspectives of cooperation in trade, economic and other sectors



were also touched upon.

Ambassador Balayan commended Belgium's political support on bilateral and multilateral platforms, including at the level of the EU, and gave a detailed presentation on the large-scale reforms implemented by the Government of Armenia and the progress achieved.

At the request of Deputy Prime Minister Clarinval, presented in detail Armenia's efforts aimed at betterment of relations with its neighbors and within that context touched upon the ongoing talks over the peace agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

COP29 in Azerbaijan: An Attempt to Mask the Reality



By **Areg Petrosyan**, *International Relations Specialist*

Global warming, climate finance for developing economies, and efforts to transition away from fossil fuels have long been key aims of COP (Conference of the Parties). Baku will host the UN's COP29 climate conference next month, from November 11 to 22, at Baku Stadium. This case should be analyzed beyond the global trend of shifting to green energy policies and the fight against global warming. Azerbaijan has made consistent steps to appear as a strong advocate for green policy, but in reality, this is a carefully crafted strategy to camouflage various external and internal issues.

The Republic of Azerbaijan signed the UNFCCC in June 1992 and ratified it in January 1995, officially becoming a Party to the Convention in May 1995. The establishment of the State Commission on Climate Change in 1997, along with the development of the First National Communication, marked Azerbaijan's initial steps toward fulfilling its commitments to develop national inventories of greenhouse gas emissions, implement mitigation measures, and promote sustainable practices as outlined in Articles 4 and 12 of the Convention. Then Azerbaijan signed and ratified the Kyoto Protocol in 2000, the first addition to the UNFCCC, which entered into force in 2005, thereby further committing the country to international

greenhouse gas emission reduction efforts. Building on its commitment, Azerbaijan signed the Paris Agreement in 2016 and ratified it in 2017, aiming for a 35% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 levels in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). The 2023 update to the NDC acknowledges this target as increasingly ambitious due to the so-called "liberation" of about 20% of the country's territories, which has also imposed significant burdens on its strategic socio-economic development and diversification plans. Looking ahead, the Azeri government now aims for a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, reflecting its reassessment of policies in light of new socio-economic and geostrategic realities. The Paris Agreement requires countries, including Azerbaijan, to submit national reports on CO2 emissions in line with COP17's guidelines for biennial updates. However, Azerbaijan has not provided data on its greenhouse gas emissions since 2018. Despite international efforts for transparency and accountability, emphasized at conferences like COP26, Azerbaijan's failure to report raises concerns about its actual commitment to global climate goals and the effectiveness of its climate policies. On the other hand, the Asian Development Bank highlights that Azerbaijan remains a prime example of an oil-dependent state, with the oil and gas sector accounting for an average of 40% of GDP (Baku reports 37.9% for 2024) and 90% of total export earnings for the last decades. This reliance on fossil fuels underscores Baku's reluctance to pursue sustainable solutions.

Azerbaijan's current end-user prices for oil, gas, and electricity are one of the lowest in the region, which discourages consumer interest in switching to environmentally friendly fuels like electric, hybrid, hydrogen, compressed natural gas (CNG), or liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). Furthermore, the lack of research and development infrastructure and inadequate regulatory frameworks further inhibits the shift towards sustainable energy solutions.

Sources: [A. Jaros](#) & [autotravel.ru](#)

The low fuel prices, Azerbaijan's heavy dependence on fossil fuels, and its failure to fulfill international obligations necessitate a deeper examination of the true motives behind the country's decision to host COP29.

For decades, Azerbaijan has been boosting its military budget through the sale of oil and gas. Meanwhile, internal dissatisfaction grew among citizens due to ongoing human rights violations, high levels of corruption, and a low standard of living. In 2020, I. Aliyev, backed by Turkey and other affiliated states, took a gamble by launching a war against Karabakh, which ultimately led to the displacement of Armenians from their historical homeland in 2023. Notably, as often happens with victors caught in the euphoria of success, Azerbaijan began making a series of mistakes, including incursions that started in 2021 and continued in 2022 into the sovereign territory of Armenia.

Internal, geopolitical, and more recently, reputational issues have led Baku to seek new ways to address these problems. Following Armenia's gesture of goodwill in supporting Azerbaijan's candidacy, COP29 seemed like a good opportunity to tackle them. In response to this, Azerbaijan released 32 POWs. However, a number of Armenian POWs, including eight leaders of Artsakh, remain in custody in Baku, where reports indicate they are subjected to torture, according to Human Rights Watch. This violation of human rights is not an isolated case; Azerbaijan has a longstanding record of such abuses, documented over many years. While domestic issues - such as the suppression of civil liberties and growing protests prior to the war - were significant contributing factors, these internal crises were compounded by external misconducts, violations, and war crimes against Armenia. Unlike internal repression, these external actions could not be concealed from the international community. Internal, geopolitical, and reputational errors require further analysis, as they highlight Azerbaijan's strategic and diplomatic maneuvering emphasize the

➔ page 11

page 10 → significance of COP29 in this context.

The forceful displacement of Armenians from Nagorno-Karabakh has renewed focus on the South Caucasus by European and international actors. This was followed by a 2023 European Parliament resolution condemning Azerbaijan's military attack on Nagorno-Karabakh, labeling it a gross violation of international law and human rights. It demands an immediate end to violence, accountability for Azerbaijani officials, and calls for targeted sanctions. Additionally, The International Court of Justice in The Hague has issued provisional measures against Azerbaijan in 2023, mandating the protection of Armenian detainees from harm, the prevention of racial hatred and discrimination, and the safeguarding of Armenian cultural heritage from acts of vandalism and desecration. These measures have not been satisfied by Baku.

Sources: [Freedom House](#) & [Transparency International](#)

Transparency International and Freedom House assess Azerbaijan's political rights and civil liberties at a low score of 9 out of 100 for both 2022 and 2023. Freedom of the press has slightly declined, scoring 37 in 2023, while corruption perception remains stagnant at 23. Overall, from 2020 to 2023, political rights and civil liberties have shown minimal improvement, highlighting persistent challenges in governance and media freedom. In this context, COP29 presents a significant opportunity for Baku to find new solutions for diversifying its economy. Based on the report from Human Rights Watch, Azerbaijan has launched a vicious attack on government critics, independent groups, and media just weeks before hosting thousands of senior politicians, diplomats, environmental experts, and campaigners in November. This aims to project the country as democratic in an effort to raise its reputation and further dodge any consequences of its actions.

Azerbaijan's poor track record on human rights, coupled with renewed

international condemnation of its internal and external violations, has long prompted the regime to employ various strategies to divert attention from these pressing issues.

Caviar Diplomacy is a primary method employed by Azerbaijan to obscure its human rights abuses and facilitate favorable coverage of events both in the country and in the so-called liberated areas. By leveraging influential politicians, researchers, and journalists, Azerbaijan shapes narratives that align with its interests. For example, the Swedish think tank ISDP, funded by multiple governments and linked to Azerbaijani narratives, transitioned from receiving funding from the European Azerbaijan Society to a construction company owned by the Aliyev family. Additionally, after the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh war, Azerbaijan increased the number of foreign journalists visiting, with about 780 media workers reported between 2021 and 2023. Members of the European Parliament have also participated in irregular, Azerbaijan-funded trips, leading to scandals and proposals aligned with Azerbaijani interests. Despite recent moves by PACE to reject Azerbaijan's credentials, the ongoing manipulation of narratives underscores a strategic effort to create a veneer of democracy, allowing the country to evade accountability for its actions.

As Azerbaijan gears up to host COP29, greenwashing emerges as a new tool, serving as a strategy to obscure its human rights abuses and authoritarian practices. The regime aims to project an image of environmental leadership by emphasizing its participation in global climate discussions, despite a longstanding neglect of genuine ecological concerns, driven by its reliance on oil and gas exports. By investing in improvements to Baku's infrastructure and public spaces, the government seeks to create an illusion of progress and modernity, hastily renovating roads and facades to present a polished image. This effort aims to distract international community from ongoing political repression, including the imprisonment of over 300 political prisoners, the suppression of free speech,

and the crackdown on dissenting voices.

In the context of geopolitical shifts in the South Caucasus, particularly following the outcomes of the Nagorno-Karabakh war in 2020 and the ongoing war in Ukraine, Azerbaijan is regarded by the EU as a key energy partner. As European nations seek to reduce their dependence on Russian gas and oil, Azerbaijan plans to increase its natural gas exports to the EU from 12 billion cubic meters to 20 billion cubic meters by 2027 under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Despite the international community's efforts to hold Azerbaijan accountable for its actions against its population and its military actions against Armenia, geopolitical interests prevail over concerns about human rights abuses and war crimes.

In conclusion, Azerbaijan's hosting of COP29 serves as a calculated effort by the Aliyev regime to obscure its ongoing human rights abuses and authoritarian practices under the guise of environmental leadership. While the government projects an image of progress and commitment to global climate initiatives, it simultaneously engages in a broader strategy of greenwashing, leveraging the international spotlight to divert attention from systemic repression and violations against its own citizens and war crimes against Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh people. Key factors such as Caviar Diplomacy, greenwashing, and geopolitical shifts in the region have enabled Azerbaijan to cultivate new energy relations with the EU, aiming to position itself as a crucial supplier for Europe. Ultimately, COP29 represents not just a platform for climate discussions but a facade that enables Azerbaijan to reinforce its grip on power while sidestepping scrutiny of its actions both internally and externally. This situation illustrates how geopolitical interests can overshadow pressing human rights concerns, allowing the regime to evade its aggressor nature against Armenia and falsely present COP29 as an initiative aligned with global green policy trends, thus attempting to elevate its geopolitical and international authority.

Cambridge interested in contributing to Armenian education reforms



Steve King, Head of Education Reform, Europe & Central Asia at Cambridge Partnership for Education has praised the Armenian government's reforms in education and expressed hope that Cambridge can also have its contribution in the process.

Cambridge Partnership for Education aims to improve education systems across the globe through partnerships with various governments

King spoke with Armenpress about the education trends in the world, Armenia's possible role in it, cooperation between the Armenian government and Cambridge University and other issues.

Mr. King, you are Head of Europe, Central Asia, Education Reform at the Cambridge Partnership for Education and this team is focused on designing, developing and implementing education transformation programs with governments worldwide. You have been working in Uzbekistan, Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Mongolia as well as in Georgia. Having such experience, what can you say about current educational trends in the world?

Thank you for that very good question. So, worldwide I see a lot of current movement and changes coming in education. Most of all through the ways in which we are now adapting the teaching and learning of many subjects towards how students can demonstrate their competence and how we can teach the skills that make us unique as humans. I also see that a lot of countries are looking to develop their early childhood education, their vocational education, their English language teaching, but also they are trying to make it so that their curriculum, their teaching, their learning materials and their examinations are all in alignment and cohesive with each other. That's really important and we see that a lot throughout the world.

So, how do you see the role of Armenia in it?

Well, in Armenia there are lots of great

things that have happened over the last 10 years or so. We have a really fantastic partnership with the Ayb Foundation. They have worked extremely well to create the Araratian Baccalaureate and I think there are some ways in which the work of the Ayb Foundation that has been done together with Cambridge can help to benefit the rest of the system. But I think Armenia has the same challenges everywhere. They are looking to develop an examination system that really measures the competence of students and that's one challenge that we particularly would like to address as well.

The Government of Republic of Armenia has been talking about reforms which are needed to develop the field of education. Are you familiar with those reforms and what would you advise the Government of Armenia in this regard?

Yes, I'm familiar with those reforms and I know that there is a really great strategy actually towards the year 2030. And I know that they are planning to have a lot of really good interventions and investment into things like teaching and they've done some excellent work in developing teacher standards and teacher competency frameworks. I know that they've been doing some really great work with development partners such as the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank on the national curriculum standards and it's really great. I just think that in the next few years we need to continue this work. Cambridge can and we will contribute to it if that's appropriate for Armenia. But I think, again, it's about making sure that the curriculum, the learning materials, the teachers and the examination system is all in alignment with each other. That would be the biggest piece of advice I have for Armenia.

Considering the fact that you have been working with the Governments of different countries in the educational area, are there any plans to be engaged in such cooperation with the Armenian educational sector in the near future?

Yes, I hope so. We have some exploratory and preliminary dialogue with the ministry here in Yerevan and we have developed or we're establishing a partnership with the Ayb Foundation and the Teach for Armenia organization. And I had a conversation with the British Council. So we have some early discussions about what we can do and we're going to be talking about assessment, about how we can potentially help to develop the skills of

Armenian publishing houses to create better textbooks. And we'll be talking about teacher training and also about developing curriculum as well.

How would you assess Armenia's educational system and country's potential in that field?

I think the country's potential is limitless. Any country has its people as its biggest resource. And from what I see of the Armenian people and the people that I know in Armenia is that they are smart, they work incredibly hard, they love their country and they want it to succeed. And if you've got that as your biggest resource and you work hard to develop that, you can't fail. And so I think the best and biggest resource Armenia has got is the people here. And they have an immense amount of talent and they are super smart and they work hard. That's a really, really good thing.

The Armenian government has initiated the project of Academic city. Are you familiar with it, what is your opinion about such initiative?

Yes, I've heard some things about the Academic City. And I think if the Armenian government is planning to invest in education, investment in education always produces results. So if there is money and resources going into improving education in any way that is a much better use of resource than all sorts of other things that they could do. So I would need to learn more about it. But I think in general, this huge focus on education and creating a city dedicated to education is a really good sign that Armenia is thinking about its education system and where to invest on it. So I haven't heard so much, but yes, I'm familiar with this project.

Mr. King, is there anything that you would like to add?

Yes, I think, like I said, the Armenia as a country has got limitless potential. It's a small country, but as I said, with the resources you've got and the intellectual resources that you've got, and the work that's been done to build up things like the Araratian Baccalaureate at the Ayb Foundation over the last 10 years, there's all sorts of potential to leverage that work that investment that's already been made to the benefit of every child in Armenia. And I hope that Cambridge can make a contribution to that.

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Azerbaijani falsification concerning Amberd



As part of his policy regarding territorial claims on the Republic of Armenia, Ilham Aliyev instructed Azerbaijani scholars to study and present “Western Azerbaijan” to the world. He asserted that “Western Azerbaijan is a historical Azerbaijani region, and the names of cities and villages have Azerbaijani origins,” reads the article issued by the “Geghard” Scientific Analytical Foundation.

“Combining the useful with the pleasant,” Azerbaijani scholars have enthusiastically undertaken Aliyev’s directive and set about utilizing the allocated financial resources. In this process, justification, historical sources, and objectivity are of little importance.

The scheme works as follows: for the ‘research’, one needs to select any historical-cultural object located in the territory of the Republic of Armenia, label it as Caucasian Albanian or Turkic, claim that Armenians have appropriated it, and the article is ready, with the money appropriated as well.

One such example is an article about Amberd fortress (located in Aragatsotn region of Armenia) by Faik Ismayilov, an

employee of the A. Bakikhanov Institute of History and Ethnology of Azerbaijan’s National Academy of Sciences, which was published by Azerbaijan’s state news agency Azertag.

The article is built on false and illogical claims. It begins with an introduction describing how Turkic peoples once worshipped celestial deities and therefore built their camps in high places. And since Amberd is also built in a high place, it must therefore be an example of Caucasian Albanian architecture (contemporary Azerbaijani historiography attempts to merge Turkic and Albanian components into Azerbaijan’s past).”

As for the Vahramashen church built by Armenian noble Vahram Pahlavuni in the 11th century in the territory of Amberd, according to the Azerbaijani researcher, it resembles the Church of Gandzasar. Following Ismayilov’s logic, since the Armenian Gandzasar is also Caucasian Albanian and similar to Vahramashen church, the latter must also be Albanian. The presence of Armenian inscriptions on the church walls also has its ‘explanation’: ‘Armenians added these in the early 20th century with the purpose of appropriating the fortress,’ claims the Azerbaijani author.

And the third ‘argument’: the bathhouse built in the 11th century during the tenure of Pahlavunis is ‘one of the unique typical examples of bath architecture of Azerbaijan, a state created in the 20th century. In reality, Amberd fortress with its adjacent buildings is neither Azerbaijani,

nor Turkic (although it was under Seljuk rule for some time), nor Albanian.

It is not exactly known when Amberd was founded. Some scholars date it to the time of construction of Cyclopean fortresses, others to the Urartian and early medieval periods. Based on the excavations and historical-archeological studies Amberd dates back to the X-XIII centuries. According to historical sources, the construction of Amberd began in the VII century by the Kamsarakan princes. In the X century, it belonged to the Princes Kamsarakan and was one of the important military and defensive strongholds of the Bagratid Kingdom which was known as an inaccessible fortress due to its natural location and impregnability. It was responsible for one of the important roles in the defensive ring of the city of Ani.

Later Amberd passed to the Zakarids and then to the Vachutyants and became the administrative center of the princely house.

“Amberd Amrots” Historical and Cultural Reserve includes the following architectural structures: the citadel or the princely castle and the entrance to the castle, the walls of the castle, the gates of Arkashen and Amberdadzor, the Vahramashen Church (1026), the chapel, the oil mill, the drinking water network, and the cisterns, the bathhouse (X-XI cc.), the secret passages and other structures in the territory of the fortress,” reads the article.

Azerbaijani Parliament Speaker Accuses European Parliament of political pressure on Baku

The Speaker of the Parliament of Azerbaijan Sahiba Gafarova accused the European Parliament (EP) of trying to use the UN COP29 climate conference to be held in Baku on November 11-22, as a tool for political pressure on the country.

“Climate change is a global problem, the solution to which requires unity, but this issue is used to promote an agenda directed against Azerbaijan,” the speaker of the parliament said at a plenary session of the legislative body.



Gafarova also accused the European Parliament of having become “a tool in the hands of forces “leading a hostile and

slandorous campaign against Azerbaijan.”

“Azerbaijan is open to political dialogue and cooperation, but we resolutely reject unfounded accusations and demands, aggressive rhetoric,” she stressed.

The European Parliament voted 453 to 31 with 89 abstentions on Thursday to [adopt a Resolution](#) on the situation in Azerbaijan, violation of human rights and international law and relations with Armenia.

UNESCO concerned about reports of cultural heritage destruction in Nagorno-Karabakh

Nagorno-Karabakh has been under the focus of UNESCO for many years and the organization is concerned about the reports on alleged destruction of various types of cultural heritage there, Krista Pikkat, Director of the UNESCO Culture and Emergencies Entity and Secretary of the 1954 Hague Convention and its two protocols (1954 and 1999) has said.

Asked on the UNESCO position regarding the fact that Azerbaijan has been destroying the Armenian cultural heritage in Nagorno-Karabakh since it took control of the region in 2023, Pikkat told Armenpress, “The region of Nagorno-Karabakh has been at the center of UNESCO’s attention for many years already. We have received reports from all different concerned parties about the alleged destruction of different kinds and different cultural properties of different origin. So that’s why UNESCO has been monitoring the situation with concern.”

Pikkat said that during the previous conflict the UNESCO Director-General immediately wanted to dispatch a technical mission to the region to take stock of the situation and to understand the needs how UNESCO can help to preserve and protect the diverse heritage.

“The discussions on the dispatch of the



mission, the composition and also what will be the focus of the mission was laid at the highest level with the concerned parties. Now that the situation has changed, this mission can no longer be dispatched under the 1954 Hague Convention. We are discussing now with the Azerbaijani authorities also how we can support them,” Pikkat said.

Krista Pikkat added that taking into consideration that the Nagorno-Karabakh population fled to Armenia, UNESCO sent a mission to Armenia last year to offer support and help, and to make sure that the community’s needs are met in terms of education, as well as from the psychosocial perspective.

The mission also tried to understand how they can support the intangible cultural heritage. “We would like to propose to the Armenian authorities that we start

with what we call a community-based inventorying of this intangible cultural heritage, practices of these communities. It is very important for us to have the community discuss whichever practices and traditions and customs they need to preserve and be more aware of that, and if necessary, if there are traditions that are on the verge of disappearing, also to seek measures how to keep these traditions alive. So UNESCO is very much eager to work with these communities and authorities to provide any possible support we can in the framework of our normative instruments in the field of culture.

Asked whether she believes Azerbaijan could agree to a UNESCO monitoring group visit to inspect and protect the ancient Armenian cultural heritage in Nagorno-Karabakh, Pikkat repeated that the organization is in discussions with Baku.

“As I said we are in discussions with the Azerbaijani authorities. But I would also like to mention that the 1954 Hague Convention has an ad-hoc monitoring mechanism that was put in place, and that can be triggered by any member state. So, it is also the decision of the member states and the committee how UNESCO can engage and support the countries.”

75th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China celebrated at the National Library of Armenia

The ceremony dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China took place at the National Library of Armenia, beginning with the Armenian-Chinese friendship anthem (composed by Jenny Asatryan).

During the event, valuable items from the library’s Chinese collection, including digitized samples of ancient Chinese manuscripts housed in the Matenadaran (as copies), were presented.



of the National Library of Armenia, highlighted the rare samples in the Chinese collection, particularly a number of books translated from Chinese to Armenian and from Armenian to Chinese, including the Chinese translation of the epic “David of Sassoon.”

Chulyan also introduced the online collection of world literature, especially Chinese literature, available in the library. Among various other topics, she discussed the scope for

In her speech, Anna Chulyan, Director further cooperation.

World Council of Churches to hold prayer day for Armenia at St Pierre Cathedral, Geneva



The World Council of Churches (WCC) will organize a prayer day for Armenia in St Pierre Cathedral, Geneva on 10

November, the day before the opening of the COP29 climate talks in Azerbaijan.

“The World Council of Churches (WCC) is inviting all people of good will to join a prayer day for Armenia – for peace, for support for refugees, and the release of war hostages – on 10 November, the day before the opening of the COP29 climate talks in Azerbaijan,” WCC said in a statement.

“The military aggression against the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh/Artsakh

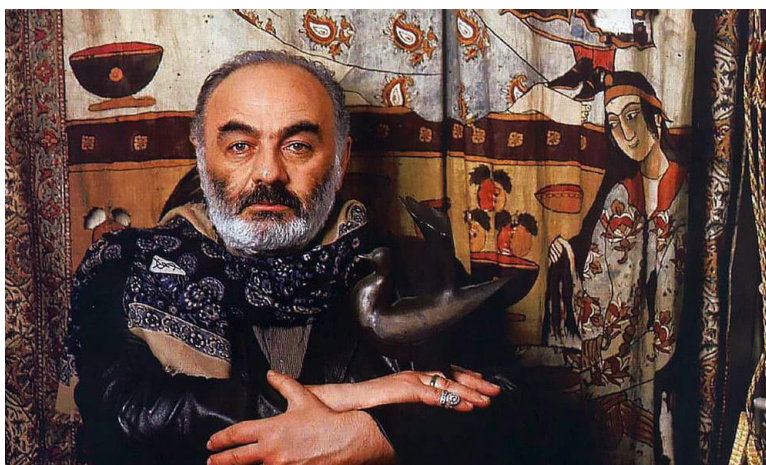
in September-October 2020, followed by the ten-month-long total blockade of the Lachin corridor and the forced displacement of around 120,000 Armenians from their ancestral lands in September 2023, remains a critical concern,” it added.

According to WCC, COP29 presents a unique opportunity to advocate for the unconditional release of the 23 Armenian hostages, as well as the Azerbaijani political prisoners and journalists detained in Azerbaijani jails.

Series of events in France to mark Sergei Parajanov’s 100th birth anniversary

The “Film Industry Development” organization, in cooperation with French producer Nare Tadevosyan, is implementing a project dedicated to the 100th anniversary of Sergey Parajanov’s birth in France. The project is supported by the Armenian Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports.

The Rebel, a film directed by Patrick Casals will be screened as part of the project.



Lectures on Parajanov’s works will

be offered by Nairi Galstyan. Exclusive

exhibitions of Sergey Parajanov’s works is also expected.

The event will kick off on October 30 in Alfortville and will then continue in Marseille, Lyon, Issy Les Moulineau and Paris.

The goal of the project is to present the genius of Parajanov to the French public, to pay tribute to the great artist, to appreciate the work of the legendary filmmaker and to raise public awareness by

spreading the art of Parajanov.

Lost Chopin waltz unearthed after almost 200 years

A new piece of music believed to be by the Polish composer Frederic Chopin has been discovered nearly 200 years after it was written, the [BBC](#) reports.

The unknown waltz was unearthed in the vault of the Morgan Library and Museum in New York.

The rare manuscript – dated between 1830 and 1835 – was discovered by curator Robinson McClellan while he was cataloguing new collections.

He then worked with a leading Chopin expert to authenticate the score.

It is not signed by Chopin, but the handwriting includes his distinctive bass

clef.

The waltz has minor errors in rhythm and notation but Mr McClellan said he is sure that Chopin is behind it.

“What we’re most certain about is it is written in the hand of Chopin, paper that he wrote on himself in his own hand,” he told BBC’s Newshour.

“What’s not entirely sure is that it’s music that he composed.

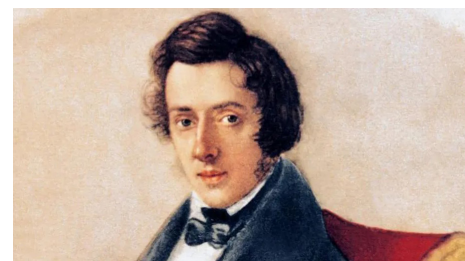
“I feel about 98% sure, and many people who have heard it already feel in their gut this sounds like Chopin.”

He continued: “There are atypical aspects of the music, the kind of stormy

opening is a little surprising but not entirely out of character.

“And then the melody really to me is where you feel that Chopin quality.”

Superstar pianist Lang Lang has [recorded the waltz](#) for the New York Times, which broke the story.



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