

Kerry meets Armenian, Azeri Presidents



Poland - U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry meets with Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan in Warsaw, 8Jul2016.

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President Sargsyan meets EU Special Representative

Armenia and the European Union hope to negotiate within the next few months a comprehensive agreement to deepen their political and economic relations, President Serzh Sargsyan's office said on July 6.

Serzh Sargsyan discussed the matter with Herbert Salber, the EU's special envoy to the South Caucasus, at a meeting in Yerevan.

According to the presidential press service, Sargsyan and Salber agreed that Armenia's relations with the 28-nation bloc are "dynamically developing."

"The interlocutors expressed hope that negotiations on the new EU-Armenia framework agreement will be successfully concluded in the coming months," the presidential press service said in a statement.

The new accord will serve as an alternative to an Association Agreement negotiated by Yerevan and Brussels in the summer of 2013. Serzh Sargsyan precluded the signing of that far-reaching agreement with his unexpected decision in September 2013 to seek Armenia's accession a Russian-led alliance of ex-Soviet states.

The alternative deal is expected to contain many political and even economic provisions of the cancelled Association Agreement. But it will have no free trade-related component due to Armenia's membership in the Eurasian Economic Union.

Negotiations on the deal officially began in Brussels last December.

Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan and several other senior Armenian government officials discussed progress in those talks



at a meeting in Yerevan held late last week. A government statement said Abrahamian instructed them to ensure "the effective conduct of the negotiation process." The planned accord, he said, "will lay the firm groundwork" for Armenia's closer ties with the EU.

Statements by official Armenian sources suggested that Salber's meetings with Sargsyan and Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian focused on international efforts to end the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

The Armenian president was reported to brief the EU envoy on further steps in the peace process planned by Armenia and the U.S., Russian and French mediators. He also praised the EU for trying to create a "favorable atmosphere" for a Karabakh settlement.

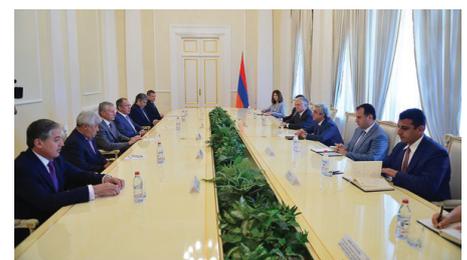
The Armenian-Azerbaijani dispute also topped the agenda of Salber's previous trip to Yerevan that took place two months ago.

President Sargsyan meets CSTO chief, members of Foreign Ministers' Council

President Serzh Sargsyan received on July 4 the Secretary General of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) Nikolay Bordyuzha and members of the CSTO Council of Foreign Ministers, who have arrived in Armenia for the sitting of the Council.

President Sargsyan attached importance to the activities of the Council targeted at raising the effectiveness of cooperation between foreign policies of the CSTO member states.

The President voiced hope that the sitting would be held in a constructive atmos-



phere and would result in the adoption of the CSTO collective security strategy by 2025.

The President attached importance to the consistent implementation of the principled agreements on consideration of each other's vital interests on the international arena.

The CSTO Secretary General reported on the issues on the agenda of the sitting of the Foreign Ministers' Council and the future plans and programs envisaged during the Armenian presidency.

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Obama, Putin Hold Phone Talks On Karabakh

Yerevan - (RFL/RE) U.S. President Barack Obama and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin agreed to step up joint efforts to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict when they spoke by phone late on July 6.

The two men reportedly discussed in detail the outcome of the most recent meeting of Armenia's and Azerbaijan's presidents that was hosted by Putin in Saint Petersburg on June 20.

"President Obama expressed his readiness to intensify efforts together with Russia and with France, as co-Chairs of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group, to achieve a comprehensive settlement to the conflict," the White House said in readout of the conversation.

A separate statement by the Kremlin said Putin, who initiated the talk, briefed Obama on the Saint Petersburg summit aimed at "stabilizing the situation in the conflict zone and creating conditions for advancing the peace process."

"They agreed to continue joint active work within the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group in this important direction," read the statement.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov also discussed the Karabakh negotiation process in a weekend phone call. Kerry

held separate phone talks with Presidents Serzh Sargsyan and Ilham Aliyev on Friday.

Sargsyan and Aliyev met in Saint Petersburg for a second time since the April 2-5 hostilities around Karabakh that marked the worst escalation of the conflict since 1994. In a joint statement with Putin, they again pledged to bolster the shaky ceasefire regime in the conflict zone.

The trilateral statement also said that the Armenian and Azerbaijani leaders reached an "understanding on a number of issues solutions to which would help to create conditions for progress in the Nagorno-Karabakh settlement." It did not elaborate.

A senior aide to Aliyev claimed afterwards that the two sides agreed "in principle" on a phased settlement involving significant Armenian territorial concessions to Azerbaijan. Both Armenia and Russia flatly denied the claim.

The denials did not stop speculation by Armenian media and observers critical of Sargsyan that Moscow is now pushing hard for a compromise peace deal in an effort to avert an all-out Armenian-Azerbaijani war for Karabakh. A Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman was at pains to insist on Monday Moscow is coordinating its peace efforts with the United States and France, the two other co-chairs of the Minsk Group.

Incidentally, French President Francois Hollande discussed the Karabakh dispute with Putin on June 30 after it emerged that Paris has offered to host the next Aliyev-Sargsyan meeting. No possible dates for the summit have been mentioned by the conflicting parties or the Minsk Group co-chairs yet.

Over the past decade the U.S., Russian and French have proposed peace plans envisaging restoration of Azerbaijani control over virtually all districts around Karabakh that were fully or partly occupied by Karabakh Armenian forces during the 1991-1994 war. A gradual Armenian withdrawal from those districts would be followed by an internationally recognized referendum in which Karabakh's predominantly Armenian population would be able to reaffirm the territory's secession from Azerbaijan.

It is not yet clear whether the mediators have made significant changes in these so-called Madrid Principles of a peaceful settlement after the April fighting in Karabakh.

Aliyev said on June 25 that Karabakh could only be granted the status of an autonomous Azerbaijani region as a result of the peace process. Yerevan denounced that statement, accusing Baku of misrepresenting "the essence of the negotiation process."

CSTO Foreign Ministers adopt statement on Nagorno Karabakh



The Foreign Ministers of the CSTO member states adopted a statement on Nagorno Karabakh conflict on July 4, expressing support for the agreements reached at the summits of Vienna and St. Petersburg held on May 16 and June 20 "targeted at the prevention of the unacceptable escalation in the conflict zone, stabilization of the situation and creation of

conditions for furthering the negotiation process."

The Foreign Ministers stressed the need to solve the Karabakh conflict in a peaceful way and expressed support for the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group towards settlement of the conflict on the basis of the norms of international law, the UN Charter

and provisions of the Helsinki Final Act - non-use of force and the threat of force, territorial integrity and the right of peoples to self-determination."

The statement was signed by the Foreign Ministers of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Russia and Tajikistan.

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Kerry meets Armenian, Azeri Presidents

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry held separate talks with the presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan in Warsaw on July 8 as part of intensifying international efforts to end the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Kerry already spoke with Presidents Serzh Sargsyan and Ilham Aliyev by phone on July 1. The U.S. State Department did not immediately release a statement on his follow-up meetings with the two leaders.

Aliyev's office gave no details of his meeting Kerry held on the sidelines of a NATO summit in the Polish capital. It said only that they "exchanged views on issues of mutual interest."

For its part, Sargsyan's press service said the Armenian president discussed with Kerry details of Wednesday's phone conversation between the U.S. and Russian presidents that focused on the Armenian-Azerbaijani dispute.

It said Serzh Sargsyan and Kerry also agreed on the need for an "unconditional implementation" of confidence-building agreements reached at the last two Armenian-Azerbaijani summits held

in Vienna and Saint Petersburg.

Kerry was present at the Vienna summit held on May 16 more than one month after heavy fighting between Armenian and Azerbaijani forces deployed around Karabakh. Russian President Vladimir Putin hosted the Saint Petersburg meeting of Aliyev and Sargsyan on June 20.

Putin briefed U.S. President Barack Obama on that encounter during their phone call. The two men reportedly agreed to step up joint efforts to prevent another escalation of the conflict and achieve its comprehensive resolution.

Serzh Sargsyan on July 8 again praised the U.S. peace efforts. He said Kerry deserves credit for his agreements reached with Aliyev not only in Vienna but also Saint Petersburg.

In a joint statement with Putin issued after the June 20 meeting, Aliyev and Sargsyan again pledged to bolster the shaky ceasefire regime in the conflict zone. They also said that they reached an "understanding" on unspecified issues hampering a Karabakh settlement.

OSCE PA calls for confidence building-measures in Karabakh conflict zone



The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly adopted the 2016 Tbilisi Declaration on July 5, addressing key issues in the fields of political affairs and security, economics, the environment, human rights, and humanitarian concerns.

In the declaration the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly "expresses concern over military escalation in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone and welcomes the active engagement of the OSCE Chairmanship in finding a political solution to protracted conflicts in the OSCE region within established negotiating formats and mechanisms."

OSCE PA calls upon parliamentarians to encourage political will from the sides in the region to engage in serious efforts to reach an agreement on confidence building-measures to reduce the risk for further hostilities along the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone and to negotiate a comprehensive settlement within the framework of the Minsk Group."

Time for 'quiet diplomacy' in Karabakh settlement process, Head of EU delegation to Armenia says

"The recent months have brought a new dynamics into the process of settlement of the conflict in and around Nagorno Karabakh," Head of the EU Delegation to Armenia, Ambassador Piotr Switalski told a press conference in Yerevan.

"The Vienna summit opened a new chapter in the efforts to find a fair and comprehensive solution to the problem. Quite recently we witnessed a new important summit in St. Petersburg and this process continues. The European Union fully supports the efforts undertaken within this framework. The leading role is played by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group, and the EU is fully behind these efforts.

Quite soon the EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus Herbert Salber will arrive in Yerevan on July 5, Ambassador Switalski said.

He will have meetings with the President and Foreign Minister of Armenia and other officials. His visit is another testimony that the European Union wants to be seen as a contributing factor, the European Union wants to be supportive of these peace efforts. They are now in a very delicate stage. It's not prudent to speak too much about these, because this period requires a lot of quiet diplomacy, requires very confidential approaches," he added.

"It's not time for strong public diplomacy. Nevertheless, as far as the European Union is concerned, we continue our support to the efforts aimed at bringing a solution to the process. I think that the agreements reached at the Vienna summit should be implemented, because now they constitute the way to bring a positive change into the conflict resolution dynamics," Ambassador Switalski said.

Sargsyan, Hollande meet in Warsaw, discuss Karabakh



President Serzh Sargsyan met with his French counterpart Francois Hollande on the sidelines of the NATO summit in Warsaw on July 9.

President Sargsyan thanked Hollande for his consistent support on issues of vital importance to Armenia and stressed that

Armenia is proud of its privileged relations with France.

Serzh Sargsyan underlined the considerable expansion of economic cooperation between Armenia and France and noted that France remains a leading country in the EU in terms of investments in Armenia.

President Sargsyan expressed gratitude for the adoption of a bill criminalizing the denial of the Armenian Genocide.

During the meeting reference was made to the Karabakh issue. Serzh Sargsyan attached importance to the active role of France, in its capacity of Minsk Group co-chairing country, in the procreations.ss of peaceful settlement of the issue through negotiations and thanked Francois Hollande for his personal efforts and consistent contribution.

The Presidents attached importance to the unconditional implementation of the provisions incorporated in the statements adopted at meetings in Vienna and St. Petersburg. They exchanges views on the perspectives of furthering the negotiation process.

Merkel, Erdogan try to mend ties after Armenian Genocide vote

Reuters - The leaders of Germany and Turkey sought on July 9 to clear the air in their first private talks since the German parliament infuriated Ankara by branding the 1915 massacre of Armenians by Ottoman forces a genocide, but they did not overcome their differences.

Chancellor Angela Merkel met Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan on the sidelines of a NATO summit in Warsaw to discuss the tensions in their often prickly but strategically important relationship.

Ties between Turkey and Germany - vital partners in efforts to curb mass migration to Europe - have been strained since the Bundestag passed the Armenian resolution on June 2. Ankara recalled its ambassador and threatened unspecified retaliation.

Turkey has since denied German parliamentarians access to the Incirlik airbase where 250 German soldiers are taking part in NATO operations against Islamic State militants in Iraq, causing anger in Berlin.

"We discussed all outstanding issues," Merkel told reporters at a brief news conference. "The atmosphere was constructive ... and very businesslike in an effort to solve the existing conflicts."

Asked whether the issues had been resolved, she said: "The differences don't

just disappear through such a discussion. But I believe it was important that we talked them through."

A source close to the Turkish presidency said Erdogan had expressed his disappointment over the Bundestag resolution to Merkel, who said she would do her utmost to ensure this event would not harm German-Turkish relations.

The source said Merkel also expressed satisfaction with the way Turkey was keeping its word in preventing refugees and migrants crossing the Aegean Sea to Greece after more than one million flooded into Europe last year, most ending up in Germany.

The Turkish source said Merkel had raised the issue of the Incirlik airbase and had asked Erdogan to restore access for lawmakers, who approve all military spending and investment in infrastructure at the base.

Erdogan replied that the airbase was not a place for "public shows and marketing" but Turkey would consider the request in the light of German statements on relations, the source said.

The two leaders also discussed intelligence cooperation in the fight against foreign fighters recruited by Islamic State in Syria, some of whom have returned to carry out attacks in Europe.



Georgia, Armenia discuss transport cooperation

Georgia and Armenia are jointly looking at ways to better harmonise the international transit corridor through Georgia - the E60 Highway - to ensure swift, efficient transporting of goods via European standard roads, Agenda.ge reports.

Today Georgia's Prime Minister Giorgi Kvirikashvili met Armenia's Minister of Transport and Communication Gagik Beglaryan in Georgia's capital Tbilisi.

The two officials spoke about moving cargo through Georgia as a transit corridor and along its main highway. While transit traffic currently used this route, both officials agreed more could be done to improve the local infrastructure and develop the country's transit potential.

Kvirikashvili and Beglaryan noted the importance of the E60 Highway, which spans the width of the country, from east and west. The road connects Black Sea coastal Batumi and Poti to Tbilisi in the east, and continues on to the Tsiteli Khidi (Red Bridge) border checkpoint between Georgia and Azerbaijan.

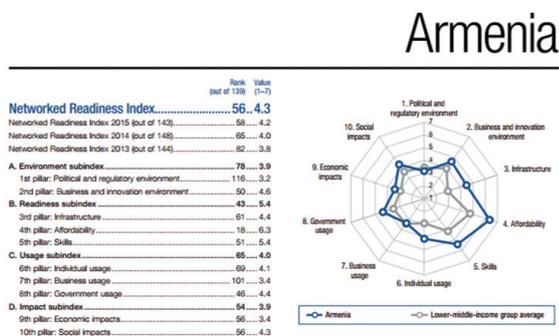
The highway is regarded as part of a corridor that connects Europe in the West and Asia in the East via a network of international standard roads.



The two officials also spoke about several other main roads in Georgia that connect the country with neighbouring nations, such as the Mtskheta-Stepantsminda-Larsi road that heads up from Tbilisi towards Russia and the Tbilisi-Bakurtsikhe-Lagodekhi road that goes east.

Kvirikashvili and Beglaryan agreed that the most efficient way to transit cargoes from Armenia through Georgia is via Rustavi and on to Sadakhlo, and from Tbilisi to Geguti.

Armenia placed 56th in Global Information Technology Report 2016



Armenia is ranked 56th among 39 countries in the Global Information Technology Report 2016 published by the World Economic Forum today. According to the report, Finland, Switzerland, Sweden, Israel, Singapore, the Netherlands and the United States are leading the world when it comes to generating economic impact from investments in information and communications technologies (ICT).

The Global Information Technology Report 2016 features the latest iteration of the

Networked Readiness Index, which assesses the factors, policies and institutions that enable a country to fully leverage information and communication technologies (ICTs) for increased competitiveness and well-being.

Armenia's neighbors in the region are placed as follows: Georgia 58th, Turkey - 48th, Azerbaijan 53rd, Iran - 92nd. Armenia's partners in the Eurasian Economic Union Russia and Kazakhstan are placed 41th and 39th respectively, Kyrgyzstan is 95th.

Armenian Minister claims "Illegal" Russian actions

Russian customs and security officials frequently collect illegal payments from Armenian businesses exporting goods to Russia, Armenian Economy Minister Artsvik Minasyan claimed on July 8.

Minasyan said that the Russian and Armenian governments should jointly address "illegal actions that are often taken against Armenian carriers and citizens" at Russian border checkpoints. "As regards such practices or manifestations at some Russian sections, I believe that there has to be a systemic solution", Minasyan told reporters. "We need to create a system of joint work with Russian authorities." The minister did not elaborate on the alleged violations of a free trade regime between the two countries, which was further simplified after Armenia joined the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) 18 months ago.

Despite Minasyan's criticism, the authorities in Yerevan insist that Armenia's membership in the EEU is already bear-

ing fruit. According to Armenian government data, Armenian exports to Russia -- most of them alcoholic beverages and agricultural products -- doubled in the first five months of this year.

The Russian Ministry of Transport said on Friday that Russia's imports of Armenian products have actually more than tripled since the beginning of this year. It was not clear whether the ministry referred to the physical volume of commercial cargo shipments from Armenia or their monetary value. The ministry reported the sharp rise in a statement on a session of a Russian-Armenian commission economic cooperation held in Saint Petersburg earlier in the day. The intergovernmental body is co-headed by Armenian Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan and Russian Transport Minister Maxim Sokolov.

Sokolov praised the increased Russian-Armenian trade when he addressed the press after the meeting. "Russia has been and remains Armenia's main trading partner," he said.

Armenian agricultural exports soar



Exports of Armenian fresh fruits and vegetables mainly going to Russia nearly doubled in the first five months of this year, according to Armenia's National Statistical Service (NSS).

The government agency also reported this week significant double-digit rises in export revenue from alcoholic beverages and prepared foodstuffs. Russia is the main export market for those products as well.

NSS data put the combined market value of Armenian fruit and vegetable exports in January-May 2016 at about \$30 million, up from \$16.8 million in the same period in 2015.

Armenia's overall farming output rose by only 8 percent year on year, suggesting that its proportion sold abroad -- and Russia in the first instance -- is growing far more rapidly. Government officials in Yerevan will attribute this trend to Armenia's membership in the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), effective from January 2015.

Armenian exports to Russia plummeted by nearly 27 percent in 2015 primarily because of a sharp depreciation of the Russian

ruble. With oil prices beginning to rally in January, the Russian currency has strengthened by nearly 20 percent against the U.S. dollar since the start of this year, translating into more revenue for Armenian exporters.

According to the NSS, total Armenian exports to Russia doubled year on year to \$132.4 million in January-May 2016.

Citing figures released by the EEU's executive body in Moscow, the Yerevan newspaper "168 Zham" reported last week that Armenian brandy, popular in Russia, accounted for the biggest share of this gain.

Official Armenian statistics show that brandy production in the country soared by more than half in physical terms in the five-month period. The Armenian brandy and wine industry traditionally oriented towards the Russian market was hit hard by the weakened ruble last year.

"168 Zham" also revealed a more than tenfold surge in exports of Armenian tomatoes to Russia and other EEU member states. A Russian government ban on agricultural imports from Turkey imposed late last year clearly contributed to this unprecedented increase.

Agriculture Minister Sergo Karapetyan told reporters on June 22 that Armenia has exported 63,700 metric tons of fruits and vegetables so far this year, compared with 76,700 tons exported in the entire year 2015. In his words, apricots accounted for nearly 10 percent of the total volume and their exports more than doubled in physical terms in January-May.

Russia's President Vladimir Putin hailed the increased food and liquor imports from Armenia when he met with his Armenian counterpart Serzh Sargsyan in Saint Petersburg on June 20. Putin attributed that to "integration processes" between the two countries, clearly alluding to Armenia's controversial accession to the EEU.

European Business Perspectives: Obstacles and opportunities in Armenia



Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan attended on July 7 the conference on "European Business Perspectives, obstacles and opportunities in Armenia" organized by the European Business Association.

Addressing the conference, the Prime Minister said "the government implements a continuous policy of making Armenia a more attractive country in terms of business environment. We have announced and are consistently implementing an "open

doors" policy, applying almost no restriction on investment opportunities." He said the steps toward improvement of the business climate have been highly assessed by renowned international organizations. "We're implementing a policy targeted at ensuring equal conditions for all. Foreign companies should feel comfortable and safe in Armenia," the Prime Minister said.

According to him, Armenia can serve a bridge between the Eurasian Economic Union and the EU member states. "Another opportunity is the Framework Agreement on Trade and Investment signed between the Republic of Armenia and the United States, which creates favorable conditions for investments and promotion of commodity turnover between the two countries," the PM added.

"We attach great importance to investment programs with a view of creating new jobs and attracting new investments by offering a broad framework of privileges to entrepreneurs," Hovik Abrahamyan stated.

Head of the EU Delegation to Armenia, Ambassador Piotr Switalski said "EU wants to work more closely with businesses and propose concrete steps to improve the business and investment climate.



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1 ROOM

- 1696.**Tumanyan str.**, 5/4, stone bld, 1 bedroom, h-3m, capially repaired, heating system. Price: 160.000 USD.
- 1440.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 110 sq.m., 1 bedroom, h-3m, euro repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 350.000 USD.
- 1715-**Sayat Nova Ave.**, 5/4, 70sq.m, stone bld, h-4m, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, heating system. Price: 110.000 USD
- 1680-**Mashtots Ave.**, 5/4, 68sq.m, 1 bedroom, old repair, possibility of gas. Price: 86.000 USD.
- 1674-**Abovyan str.**, 2nd floor, 70sq.m., 1 bedroom, capially repaired, heating system. Price: 135.000 USD
- 1698-**Aram str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 62sq.m, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, AC, security system, parking. Price: 120.000 USD.

2 ROOMS

- 3003.**Sayat-Nova str.**, 5/3, 105sq.m, 2bedrooms, stone building, capially repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1560.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 10/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.
- 2818.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished. Price: 400.000USD
- 1156.**Komitas Ave.**, Hambardzumyan str. 5/3, 110sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, kitchen is furnished. Price: 150.000 USD negotiable.
- 2949.**Aram str.**, Newly built, 1st floor, 143 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, zero state, Price: 2000 USD per sq.m.
- 2300.**Northern ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.



3 ROOMS

- 3090 **Dzorap Newly built**, 190sq.m, 2 bedrooms, study, 2 bathrooms, capially renovated, parking. Price: 460.000 USD
- 3090. **Busand str./Near Republic Square/**, Newly built, /6th floor, 116sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms one in master bedroom, capially renovated, open balcony. Price: 350.000 USD negotiable
- 3046.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 9/9, 81sq.m., without divisions. Price: Negotiable.
- 3012.**Aram str.**, Newly built, /7th floor, 136sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking, facing to bulvar. Price: 300.000 USD negotiable.
- 2998.**North Ave.**, Newly built, 9/6, 181sq.m, 3bedrooms, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 700.000 USD
- 2682.**Aram Str.**, Newly built, 13/6 187sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 open balconies, capially repaired, heating system, 2AC, 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 550.000 USD negotiable.
- 2958.**Pushkin str.**, 5/2, 140 sq.m., stone building, 4 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system. Price: Negotiable.
- 2895.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, AC. Price: negotiable
- 2802.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 8/4, 166sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating, AC, security system. Price: 320.000 USD.
- 1104.**Komitas Ave.**, **Aram Khachatryan str.**, 5/2, 125sq.m., stone bld, h-2.75m., 3 bedrooms, office, 2 bathrooms, old repair, gas, garage. Price:

130.000 USD

- 2836.**Pushkin str.**, 4/4,5, 400sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 460.000 USD.
- 2990.**North Ave.**, Newly built, 11th floor, 295sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price: Negotiable.

PREMISES

- 1789.**Charents str.** Land-1270sq.m, 5 storied building, each floor-400sq.m., basement, capially repaired, parkings. Price: 4.000.000 USD negotiable
- 1598.**Komitas, Nairy Zaryan str.**, 1000 sq.m., working restaurant, 1st line, capially repaired. Price: negotiable.
- 1603.**Northern Ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 160 sq.m., zero level, window glasses. Price: 2.600.000 USD.

•2035.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capially repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: Negotiable

•2013.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capially repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 1.300.000\$ negotiable

•2012.**Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1,2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capially repaired, AC. Price: 1.100.000\$ negotiable

•2155.**Mashtots ave.**, 3storied building, 540sq.m., each floor-180sq.m, window glasses, parking. Price: 3.600.000 USD

•2020.**Hr. Kochar str.**, Land-300sq.m, 1st line, 4storied building, 1080sq.m., each floor-270sq.m, h-3.6m., without divisions, parkings, 3 access. Price: 1.400.000 USD negotiable

•1986.**Cascade**, Land 1000sq.m. 3storied building 1200sq.m., unfinished, parking. Price: 1.000.000 USD.

•2167.**Sayat Nova str.**, newly built, 38sq. m, capially repaired. Price: 200.000 USD

•2175.**Tumanyan str.** Ground and 1st floor of the building, 600sq.m, ground floor 300sq.m, 1st floor-220sq.m, basement-80sq.m, - 1st line, zero level, 2 entrances, facade-15m, 4 window glasses, capially repaired, heating system, AC, Price: 3500 USD per sq.m,

•2172.**Isahakyan str.**, 92sq.m, 1st line, 7 degrees above zero level, facade-9m, 2 window glasses, h-3.20m, 2 halls, cabinet, bathroom, capially repaired, heating system. Price: 450.000 USD

LANDS

•2122.**Davitashen**, 1800 sq.m., water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600 sq.m., and 1200 sq.m. Price: 150 USD per sq.m.

•2121.**Demirchyan str.**, 1338 sq.m., building permits. Price: 2million USD.

•2013.**Cascade**. 1000 sq.m. building permits, first line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price 460.000USD

•1402.**Hr. Kochar Str.**, 1100 sq. m. facade -25 m. Price negotiable.

•2090.**Lori region**, close to Stepanavan, Gyargyar village, 6 hectares, forest 2 hectare has building permits, 3 water source, electricity. Price: 100.000USD.

•2406.**Avan**, Mher Mkrtyan block, 1000 sq.m.,

electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price: 30USD per sq.m

•2107.**Monument**, 2400sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: 400 USD per sq.m.

•2413.**Ashtarak roadway**, 1000sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: Negotiable

•2414.**Demirchyan str.** land-750sq.m., building permits. Price: 750.000 USD.

PRIVATE HOUSES

•3739.**Nork Marash** Land- 2000sq.m, two separate houses, total bld-600sq.m, capially repaired, swimming pool, sauna, guard house. 2 car parking, garden. Price: 950.000 USD

•3348.**Blur, Barbyus str.** Land - 800 sq.m, 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 1.2 million USD

•3146.**Aygestan**, Land-500 sq.m., 5 storied bld-765 sq.m., each floor-180 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, heating system, elevator. Price: 2.300.000 USD.

•3583.**Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 1.350.000 USD.

•3432.**Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m , 3 storied bld.-501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, central heating, AC, boiler room garden, swimming pool, sauna, garage, security system. Price: 1.000.000 USD

•3606.**Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur/near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-1.500.000 USD

•3574.**Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 2.000.000 USD

•3590 **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450 sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 680.000 USD

•3651.**Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 1.700.000 USD.

•3401.**Antarayan str**, Newly built, land-700sq.m, 3 storied bld-690sq.m, 5 bedrooms, capially repaired. Price: 1.300.000 USD

•3712 **Cascade** Newly built, land-450sq.m, 4 storied bld-600sq.m, zero state. Price: 550.000 USD

NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

•142. **Verin Antarayan str.**, 14 floors, 65-133sq.m, capially renovated, parking. Price: 900-1300 USD

•74.**Cascade**, Verin Antarayin. 136-315 sq m., walls plastered, electricity, water, gas, euro windows, no exploitation fees. Price: 1200 USD per sq.m, parking -15.000 USD.

•107.**Monument**, Verin Antarayin. inhabited, 8 floors, gas, windows, street view -1000 USD per sq.m., city looking -1500 USD per sq.m., parking -4 million USD preliminary.

•87.**Sayat-Nova str.**, 21 floors, 3 bedrooms -188 sq.m., 199 sq.m., Price 1900 USD per sq.m., 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight - 117 sq.m., 120 sq.m., 124 sq.m., Price: 1700 USD per sq.m., climate control, gas.

•93.**Kievyan str.** Given to the operation in October 2011, 16 floors, walls plastered, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas, parking. Price: 1500-1600USD per sq.m, parking-12 000 USD. Possible with mortgage, for 13 years term.

•94.**Masiv**. 3floors, 8 flats, each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.

•130.**Antarayan str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m, available sevice-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable

•131.**Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available sevice-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable



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1 ROOM

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

2 ROOMS

- 2302 **North Ave**, Newly built, 11/4, 137sq.m, 2bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 1780. **Amiryan str**, Newly built, /13th floor, 82 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD negotiable.
- 942. **Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnisred, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- 1950. **Buzand/Mashtots area**. Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- 1681. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1535. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m, 2bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- 1738. **Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 1951. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- 1406. **Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- 2109. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 2243. **Buzand str**, Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- **Amiryan str**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD



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

PRIVATE HOUSES

- 1335 **Baghranyan str.**, Land-200sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 3000 USD
- 1336 **Aygedzor**, Land-1000sq.m, 2 storied bld-240sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- 1337 **Davtashen** Land-406sq.m, 3 storied bld-306sq.m, 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 3900 USD
- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str**, Land-400sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m ,3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, central heating, AC, sauna, boiler room garden, swimming pool, garage, alarming system, security system. Price: 8000 USD.
- 999. **Aygedzor**, Land -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors- 310 sqm, capially repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, newly furnished, equipped, sauna, swimming-pool. Starting Price: 5000 USD.
- 1094. **Noy block**, Land-450sqm, 2 storied building - 220sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden. Price: 2000USD.

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- 2358 **V. Sargsyan str**, Newly Built, 7/4, 145sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, one guest toilet, capially renovated, furnished, underground parking. Price: 3000 USD negotiable
- 2353 **V. Sargsyan str. 8/5**, Newly built, 98sq.m, 2bedrooms, capially renovated, furnished, Price 1500 USD
- 2347 **Teryan str.** Newly built, 10/8, 320sq.m, 3bedrooms, office, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished. Price: Negotiable
- 2277. **Kievyan str.** duplex, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, with or without furniture. Price: Negotiable.
- 2310 **Busand str.**, Newly built, 190sq.m, 3bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD
- 2316 **Northern Ave**, Newly built, 6th floor,

- 1195. **Nork, Armenakyan str.**, Land - 2000 sq.m, 4 storied bld.-520 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished, swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.
- 1142. **Djrvej**, Bagrevand community. Land-1000 sq.m., 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capially repaired, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary /garage for 2 cars. Price: 4 000 USD.
- 1293. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520 sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 7.000 USD
- 327. **Nork-Marash**, Land-500sq.m., 4 storied building-600 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-4000 USD
- 1306. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking, with or without furniture. Price: 6000-8000 USD negotiable
- 1288. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 1197. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 8000 USD
- 1312. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- 1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable.
- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str**, Land - 400 sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, each floor-100sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable

PREMISES

- 2049. **Teryan str**, ground floor+basemnet, 1st line, 200sq.m, repaired. Price: 6.000 USD
- 1693. **Malatia-Sebastia** 4 storied building, 1200sq.m, each floor-300sq.m, 2 separate entrances, climate control, 2 elevators, basement, parking. Price: 15USD per sq.m.
- 1526. **Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.
- 1408. **Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghranyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capially repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.
- 1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capially repaired, AC, parking. Price: 10.000 USD.
- 1945. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capially repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- 1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capially repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- 1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capially repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.
- 2087. **Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m, 1st line, zero level, capially repaired, window glasses. Price: Negotiable.
- 2033. **Abovyan str**, 388sq.m, Ground floor of the building, 3 degrees above zero level, window glasses, h-3m., basement-235sq.m, capially repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 15.000 USD
- 2031. **Vardanants str**, 500sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, facade-20m, window glasses, without divisions, ,basement-250sq.m, Price: 8000 USD
- 2027. **Sayat Nova str**, 95sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, 7 degrees above zero level, 4 window glasses, capially repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

Support growing in Knesset for recognition of Armenian Genocide

On July 5 the Israeli Knesset held an hour long debate on the Armenian genocide, but did not vote on a motion presented by Meretz party chairwoman Zehava Gal-On, sending it to the Education Committee.

Head of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation Bureau's Hay Dat and Political Affairs Office Giro Manoyan says it was done to avoid further aggravation of relations with Turkey, which have been normalized with great difficulty.

He says, however, that the bill is an additional lever in the hands of Israel to show Ankara its place.

MP Tevan Poghosyan does not see grounds for recognition of the Armenian Genocide by Israel. He's confident, however, that the number of supporters of recognition will gradually increase, which will finally lead to the acknowledgement of the fact.

The discussion at the Knesset was accompanied by rallies in front of the parliament building. Speakers at the rally included Israeli historian Yair Auran, Members of Knesset.

"Israel remains an unjust country," Head of the Armenian National Committee



of Jerusalem Hagop Seven said, commenting on the decision of the Knesset.

During Tuesday's special plenary debate Knesset Speaker Yuli-Yoel Edelstein said, "It is no secret that [in Israel] as well this event has been controversial, at least with regards to the publicity it should be given. I am reiterating this year as well, and from this podium: We must not ignore, diminish or deny this terrible genocide. We must differentiate between our current interests and the difficult past, which this dark chapter is a part of."

"This is the correct and appropriate

thing to do, seeing as we are part of the family of nations and a nation whose values of morality and compassion towards every human being are paramount. Let us not remain indifferent, albeit a bit late, to the suffering the Armenians experienced," Edelstein said.

"We cannot remain apathetic, even if it's late, to the suffering the Armenians experienced. Recognizing the Armenian genocide is important to us as human beings who carry the moral responsibility and constantly hope to improve the world and society," Edelstein stated.

Armenia ranked 67th in 2016 Social Progress Index

The 2016 Social Progress Index ranks Armenia 67th among 133 countries in the world.

The Index is produced by the U.S.-based nonprofit Social Progress Imperative, and is based on the work of leading economists.

It measures how well countries perform delivering social goods to their people, including education, health and wellness, housing, opportunity, personal rights, personal safety and tolerance. It compiles its scores based on more than 50 indicators.

Finland tops the ranking followed by Canada and Denmark.

In the Basic Human Needs Dimension, Armenia performs best on Water and Sanitation and has most opportunity to improve on the Personal Safety component. In the Foundations of Wellbeing Dimension, Armenia scores highest on Access to Basic Knowledge but lags on the Health and Wellness component. In the Opportunity Dimension, Armenia is strongest on Personal Freedom and Choice and has the most room to improve on Personal Rights.

Armenia's neighbors in the region are placed as follows: Georgia 54th, Turkey - 58th, Azerbaijan 77th, Iran - 93rd.



Armenia's partners in the Eurasian Economic union Belarus and Russia are placed 66th and 75th respectively, Kazakhstan is 76th, Kyrgyzstan is 79th.

Early Warning Signs of Turkey's Troubles with Trump



By Harut Sassounian

Publisher, The California Courier

The Republican and Democratic Parties will be holding their conventions later this month to select Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton respectively as their presidential nominees.

For loyal party members, the choice is very clear: vote for your party's candidate. Yet, millions of other voters have a more difficult task in making up their minds. Unhappy with both major parties, some are contemplating to vote for an independent candidate, while others are considering to sit out the election altogether.

Armenian-American voters are also uncertain about their choice. In Mrs. Clinton's case, many are highly disappointed at her failure to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide when she was Secretary of State, calling it "a matter of historical debate," despite her multiple promises to recognize the Genocide as U.S. Senator and presidential candidate eight years ago.

Trump is also a puzzle for most Armenian-Americans. Those who are willing to ignore his controversial positions and base their vote purely on Armenian issues are not sure whether he is, in his own words, "friend or foe," since Trump, a businessman, does not have a public record on most political issues, including Armenian ones.

It would be ideal to have a face to face meeting with the Republican candidate to find out first hand where he stands on issues of interest to Armenians. However, in the absence of such an opportunity, voters have to rely on few brief remarks he recently made on Turkey.

Last December, Trump criticized Turkey's support for Islamist terrorists. He told Breitbart News Daily: "Turkey looks like they're on the side of ISIS, more or less based on the oil." He went on to say that he had a conflict of interest when talking about Turkey because of the Trump Towers in Istanbul. Although he does not own the building, he lends his name to the Turkish owners of the hotel and receives a lucrative branding fee. He has a similar arrangement with Trump International Hotel & Tower in Baku, Azerbaijan. Not to damage his business relationship, Trump quickly asserted in his interview: "I've gotten to know Turkey very well; they're amazing people, they're incredible people, they have a strong leader."



Despite Trump's kind words about Erdogan, the Turkish President attacked him two weeks ago, accusing him of being anti-Muslim and calling for the immediate removal of Trump's name from the Istanbul Tower! Erdogan told a large group of Turkish businessmen that Trump "has no tolerance for Muslims living in the United States; and on top of that, they used a brand in Istanbul with his name. The ones who put that brand on their building should immediately remove it." Erdogan also stated that he regretted attending the inauguration of

Trump Towers in 2012 when he was Prime Minister: "I also made a mistake and opened the [Trump Towers]." The Turkish owner of the hotel announced that he was evaluating his business ties with Trump.

Bulent Kural, manager of the Trump Shopping Mall in Istanbul, was also critical of Trump: "We regret and condemn Trump's discriminatory remarks. Such statements bear no value and are products of a mind that does not understand Islam, a peace religion. Our reaction has been directly expressed to the Trump family. We are reviewing the legal dimension of our relation with the Trump brand."

The Republican candidate made another unscripted comment about Turkey during a speech in Denver on July

1. As he was naming several countries that are militarily defended at U.S. expense, someone from the audience shouted, "Turkey!" Trump interrupted his remarks and asked that man if he was a "friend or foe." The Republican candidate then added: "And Turkey, by the way, should be fighting ISIS. I hope to see Turkey go out and fight ISIS, because ISIS has

in a certain sense taken very serious advantages of Turkey. And they could wipe ISIS out by themselves. I would love to see that."

It remains to be seen if President Erdogan would escalate his budding feud with Donald Trump by insisting on the removal of the latter's name from the Istanbul Towers. Not surprisingly, Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev has so far ignored Trump's negative comments on Islam, preferring to protect his own business interests in the Baku Trump Tower!

Armenia-based startup launches replica of Alexis Ohanian using artificial intelligence

PRNewswire - Thanks to his business acumen, poster boy looks, and relentless activism for freedom of the internet, Reddit's co-founder Alexis Ohanian has become one of the most high-profile residents of Brooklyn.

A startup based in Armenia and San Francisco named IAI Solutions has recently launched a working AI-based version of Alexis Ohanian named Avedis Ohanian.

IAI Solutions studied five years of Alexis Ohanian's cognitive processes to accurately reproduce his decision-making process and speech habits. Additionally they used 3-D printing to replicate the body of Alexis Ohanian, infusing it with their proprietary Artificial Intelligence engine.

The reason? Pure necessity.

"There's a lack of qualified IT profes-

sionals here in Armenia", said Dr. J.P. Hagopian, the CEO of IAI Solutions. "We need to hire people, but we simply can't find enough good candidates. At some point our HR manager said that we should clone one of the high-performing Silicon Valley guys. She was kidding, but the idea stuck."

When Dr. Hagopian decided to focus his team's efforts on developing an Artificial Intelligence program that could mirror Alexis Ohanian's cognitive processes, things got serious. Through a combination of algorithmic neuroscience, stand alone software and computer aided design, IAI-solutions will mass produce the future IT professionals of the world.

"Ohanian is very vocal about a number of issues", said Dr. Hagopian. "It made things easier for us: we were able to aggregate data from his time at Reddit,



his investments, his Ted Talks and social media profile to get a better idea of how he thinks, and how his ideas shape the way he acts."

Avedis 1.0 has been performing better than expected in early Turing tests. The team led by Dr. Hagopian is confident that future versions will have full cognitive abilities and natural language capabilities.

Armenian newcomers to benefit from Canadian Senate recommendation to waive loan programs

The Canadian Senate's Standing Committee on Human Rights on July 4th issued a preliminary report regarding its study of the integration of the Syrian refugees, as well as the challenges faced by various levels of government, private sponsors and by non-government organizations which provide assistance to the refugees, Levant Settlement Centre (LSC) informs.

The committee made six important recommendations to the Canadian Government. The most important is the elimination of the loan program for transportation, medical exams, and related expenses.

The committee will table its full report and recommendations in the fall.

The Levant Settlement Centre (LSC) has advocated the waiver of the loan program since last January. Aris Babikian, founder and chair of the centre, was interviewed on CBC-TV on Jan. 14 where he urged the government to waive the loan. On Feb. 8, during the meeting of the National Ethnic Press and Media Council of Canada, Babikian discussed the issue with the Hon. John McCallum, Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship. Later, the LSC worked with a group of



Syrian refugees to draft a petition to the minister asking him to "forgive the loan" so that the refugees "may start their new life in Canada with clean slate and without undue financial stress." Babikian also raised the issue during his June 2 testimony at the House of Commons Standing Committee on Immigration and Citizenship hearing.

The loan program is hampering refugees integration into the Canadian society. "Many refugee families are spending their days and nights agonizing over this issue instead of concentrating on improving their English language skills and finding a

job," the petition to the minister stated.

"We are grateful to the Senate Committee which made such a groundbreaking recommendation. We hope that the House of Commons Committee, which conducted similar study, will also make such a recommendation," Aris Babikian, founder and chair of the Levant Settlement Centre stated. "By waving the loan program the Canadian Government will bring to full circle its trend-setting and outstanding humanitarian and compassionate Syrian refugee's program and help ease their transition and settlement in their new home in Canada."

Ambassador Edson Monteiro: Relations between Brazil and Armenia are in Progress

His Excellency Confident the Armenian Athletes will Conquer Medals at the Olympic Games in Brazil

Recently Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brazil to Armenia H.E. Mr. **Edson Marinho Duarte Monteiro** gave a big conference to Armenian news media.

Below The Highlights readers might find its essential extracts.

Ambassador Edson Monteiro says Armenia and Brazil consistently develop their relations in various fields.

"Embassy of Brazil was opened in Armenia in 2007, and I think that it is not so big time. Brazil and Armenia do not have embassies in all countries. If these two states both have embassies in their countries, this means that they have good relations. The Armenian community in Brazil is one of the major reasons for strengthening the relations between the two states. According to our sources, 45.000 Armenians live in Brazil 25.000 of which live in São Paulo", said Ambassador Monteiro.

According to him, two states develop their cooperation at diverse levels. As an example, Ambassador mentioned the fact that Rio and Yerevan, as well as Gyumri and Osasco are sister cities. It means there is some cooperation also at the local level. Ambassador recalled that a government-level agreement was signed in 2002 that aimed at strengthening the cultural cooperation.

Ambassador says an agreement is expected to be signed based on which Portuguese will be taught in Armenia. He also stated that eight Armenian professors went to Brazil and gave lectures within the last two years.

Referring to the tourism issue, Mr Ambassador says there is no more a need for short-term visa. *"The residents of Armenia and Brazil say tourism packages are expensive. Yes, they are expensive. But I offered the Armenian tour agencies to put into circulation regional tour packages which will enable tourists from Brazil visit several countries including Armenia when visiting the region",* His Excellency added.

Ambassador of Brazil presented also the preparatory works for the Olympic Games to be held in Rio.

In particular, Ambassador Monteiro said: *"It's a big honor for Brazil to host the Olympic Games. We want to show and prove that Brazil is able to host such a great sport event. The first step of the Olympics is already made: the Olympic flame has reached Brasilia. Through the*



said.

Speaking on the participation of the Armenian sportsmen, Ambassador of Brazil said: *"I have already got acquainted with the venues where the Greco-Roman wrestling tournament of the Olympics is going to be held and I am confident that Armenian athletes will conquer gold medals at the Olympics."*

Thank you Ambassador Monteiro and let your words come true!

On June 14-16 Armenia's National Paralympic Committee held its "14th National Disabled Sports Festival", hosting about 120 disabled athletes from different regions of Armenia. The Festival program included swimming, wrestling, armwrestling, basketball, chess, tennis and showdown. Among them were the athletes who will participate in Summer Paralympic Games to be held September 7-15 in the city of Rio de Janeiro.

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brazil, H.E. Mr. Edson Marinho Duarte Monteiro had the pleasure to participate in the closing ceremony of the Festival and gave medals to weightlifter **Greta Vardanyan** and swimmer **Margarita Hovakimyan** who got the opportunity to participate in the upcoming Paralympic Games in Rio. Ambassador of Brazil considers that it is a great privilege for the



Armenian athletes to represent their country and their nation in such an important sports event. He highlighted the fact that in addition to being a sporting event, it aims to promote peace and friendship, as well as to bring together the representatives from countries all over the world. Ambassador greeted all the other athletes and expressed hope that one day they will also get the chance to travel and see the wonderful City of Rio.

Olympics we will show the world who we are".

He then spoke of the security: *"There will be 47,000 security professionals for the security of the Olympics, besides, almost 38,000 police officers will ensure the safety of participants".*

"39, 7 billion reals were spent on these Olympics that equal 12 billion USD. The 57 percent of this amount has been invested by private companies and 43 percent by the Government," Edson Montelro

Ralph Yirikian, VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager: "To Nourish the Generations Spiritually is a Well-chosen Strategy"

The 12th "National Gallery" International Music Festival Closing with a Gala Concert

The "National Gallery" International Music Festival is being held in the Fresco Hall of the National Gallery of Armenia since 2005 and included in the list of the State Assistance Programs of the RA Ministry of Culture starting 2008, is an awaited event for every art lover.

think beautifully and set noble goals. Can one express all human feelings - love, excitement, even anger - through music? The answer is yes. Just seven notes are enough to create a masterpiece. I believe that this year, too, the festival fulfilled its mission of celebrating the universal meaning of music," said VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**.

The General Partner of the Festival is

Opportunity to get a Blu Studio X Mini 4G (LTE) smartphone for AMD 1 by subscribing to "STARTPHONE" tariff plan for just AMD 3900 monthly fee, till August 31, 2016

VivaCell-MTS informs that that till August 31, 2016, one can subscribe to "STARTPHONE" tariff plan for just



Every concert organized from June 18 to July 7 in the frames of the Festival that was founded by the "Gallery of Arts" Foundation (President **Mariam Shahinyan**) with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia and in partnership with VivaCell-MTS, was a magnificent opportunity for connoisseurs of classical music to encounter with high art.

The closing concert program featured "Hover-Septet" band (Artistic Director and Conductor Honored Worker of Art **Sona Hovhannisyán**). The band was formed in 2011 from the soloists of the "Hover" State Chamber Choir. The repertoire of the band includes "Patarag" (the Armenian Holy Mass) for men's chorus by Komitas, secular choruses, and a number of folk songs. The repertoire also includes West-European classical and modern works. The closing concert program featured works by Komitas, Sayat-Nova, Arvo Pärt, Krzysztof Penderecki and Artur Avanesov.

"To nourish the generations spiritually is a well-chosen strategy. It shapes the inner world of the individual, makes one



VivaCell-MTS, the leading telecommunications operator in Armenia which has undertaken the mission of support since 2006. In the course of nine years, the company has allocated AMD 119.5 million for the organization of the annual festival.

* * *

And as we've touched upon VivaCell-MTS news, we believe the following info would be an interesting one....

AMD 3900 monthly fee, instead of the previous AMD 4500, and get a Blu Studio X Mini 4G (LTE) smartphone for AMD 1.

"STARTPHONE" tariff plan has had considerable contribution in the penetration of smartphones in the country. This is conditioned by the overall attractiveness of the offer which is a function of affordability of monthly amount, benefits of the tariff plan, quality of the device, and easiness of the service procedure. Not less important is that under the tariff plan, one can also acquire a 4G (LTE) phone of choice. We'll continue enlarging the range of devices offered under the tariff plan in order to satisfy the demand of the subscribers with different communication needs and price preferences", VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager **Ralph Yirikian** commented.

Within this tariff plan the subscriber also gets 2000 on-net minutes, 3000 MB of Internet and an opportunity to send unlimited* SMS to RA GSM networks every month.

*1000 SMS within VivaCell-MTS network

Yair Auron: Yet Again, Israel Denies the Armenian Genocide

*By Yair Auron
Haaretz*

On May 31, a few days before the lower house of the German Bundestag recognized the murder of the Armenian people - an act that reverberated worldwide - there was supposed to be a discussion of the subject in the Knesset. However, it was postponed under pressure from the Foreign Ministry (which is headed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu). The discussion is due to take place in the Knesset on Wednesday.

This is a discussion of great importance for the battle that has been waged for years for Israeli recognition of the Armenian genocide. In the past year I hoped that if not the Israeli government, at least the Knesset would finally recognize it. But apparently there is very little chance of that, in light of the rapprochement agreement signed with Turkey. After all, who would endanger the agreement because of a negligible thing like whether or not there was a genocide of another nation.

There's no chance that the Israeli government will recognize the Armenian genocide, but during the course of the year commemorating the 100th anniversary of the murder of the Armenian people, there was nevertheless a hope that perhaps the Knesset would do so. But apparently that hope

is also evaporating. President Reuven Rivlin has in the past expressed profound identification with the suffering of the Armenians. When he served as Knesset speaker he even said that Israel should recognize the Armenian genocide. It's a shame that he has refrained from repeating that since being elected president, saying only "I haven't changed my mind."

In a discussion in the Knesset Education Committee in July 2015, in which Edelstein participated, all the speakers from the coalition and the opposition supported recognition. Only a representative of the Foreign Ministry had reservations, claiming that the concept of "genocide" has become politicized, and therefore Israel should not use it. Imagine if any European government were to claim that the "Holocaust" is a political concept, and therefore their government should not use it.

At the conclusion of the discussion the Education Committee called on the Knesset to recognize the genocide and on the Education Ministry to teach about it, but nothing happened. The annual discussion to take place in the coming days is the moment of truth: The thawing of relations with Turkey and the weapons deals between the governments of Israel and Azerbaijan, worth billions of dollars - weapons designated for clashes with the Armenians - are not glad tidings for the chances of

recognition.

Even if people and institutions in Israel won't be happy to hear these words, they must be said: Israel denies the Armenian genocide. We are one of the only democratic countries in the world, if not the only one, to do so, and to support Turkey's stubborn policy of denial. The United States neither recognizes nor denies the genocide. When we deny the Armenian genocide, we are desecrating the memory of its victims. In my opinion, in so doing we are also desecrating the memory and the victims of the Holocaust.

Because of this last sentence, which I refused to omit, the administration of Yad Vashem rejected a scientific article that I was invited to write for the institution's newsletter, Teaching the Legacy. But I will continue to say and to write that sentence until the State of Israel, if only via the Knesset, recognizes the Armenian genocide.

Today it's already known and has been proven: When we deny a genocide that took place in the past, we are preparing the ground for a future genocide.

The discussion in the Knesset should arouse great interest in the world, and of course among the Armenians in Armenia and in the Diaspora, and hopefully here too. Those who are fighting for recognition are requesting "a vote now." Transferring the discussion to the committee was an important step for years, but it has become a cynical political means to conceal the truth. We continue to deny.

Israeli recognition (which is not anticipated, to my regret) would probably lead to recognition of the Armenian genocide by the entire world. If Israel recognizes it, U.S. President Barack Obama won't be able to continue to remain on the sidelines either. What is true of genocide is also true of the battle against its denial: Anyone who is not on the side of the victims is on the side of the deniers.

Prof. Auron is a genocide scholar who has been working for years for recognition by Israel and the world of the Armenian genocide.



Ethnic Armenian Tim Wilson elected to Australian Federal Parliament



The vast majority of the Armenian National Committee of Australia's (ANC Australia) endorsed candidates won their seats in the Federal Parliament in Saturday's Election, despite the fact that the overall result of the poll remains unclear.

Headlining the list of victors for Armenian-Australians is Tim Wilson (LIB), who won the seat of Goldstein in Victoria to ensure he becomes the second-ever Federal Parliamentarian of Armenian descent, after Joe Hockey (now retired from Federal politics).

The other Armenian-Australian contesting the poll was former ANC Australia National Board member, Hovig Melkonian (ALP), who unfortunately lost his seat of Casey, despite outstandingly clawing back the margin against his challenger, the incumbent Speaker of the House of Representatives, Tony Smith (LIB).

The most Armenian-populated seat in Australia, Bennelong in

NSW, was won for a third time by John Alexander (LIB), who is the incumbent Chair of the Armenia-Australia Parliamentary Friendship Group, and an outspoken advocate on Armenian Genocide recognition and the rights to self-determination for the Armenians of the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh.

The most Armenian-populated seat in Victoria, Bruce was won by Julian Hill (ALP), who has promised to advocate for Armenian-Australian issues of concern in the next Parliamentary term.

In the Senate, where results are also not yet clear, it seems likely that there will be stronger representation for the Nick Xenophon Team, whose leader Nick Xenophon is a strong advocate for Armenian Genocide recognition. The Greens will also likely end up with at least nine Senators and Rev. Fred Nile's Christian Democratic Party (CDP) is projected to win one seat. The Greens and the CDP are both on the record to ANC Australia as supporters of Armenian Genocide recognition.

Generally speaking, the Liberal/National Coalition (LIB) and the Australian Labor Party (ALP) are in a neck-and-neck race to try and gain a majority of seats in the House of Representatives. As absentee votes and postal votes are still being counted, either party needs to reach the number of 76 in order to officially be in government - either on their own accord, or via negotiations with the cross-benches.

The result should be clearer by the end of this week.

Prior to the election, the Armenian National Committee of Australia (ANC Australia) met with candidates in key seats for Armenian-Australians, and produced a report card reviewing the key candidates.

Golden Apricot International Film Festival kicks off in Yerevan

The apricot blessing ceremony took place at St. Zoravar church on the opening day. The honorary stars of cinematographer Albert Yavuryan, directors Edmond Keosayan and Dmitry Kesayants were unveiled at Charles Aznavour square among other prolific masters of the Armenian Cinema.

Welcoming speeches were offered by

Harutyun Khachatryan, Golden Apricot Yerevan International Film festival General Director, and Ralph Yirikian, General Director of VivaCell- MTS, General Sponsor of GAIFF for ten years.

During the opening ceremony it was announced that the European Film Academy is honoring Yerevan's Parajanov Museum by awarding it "Treasure of



European Film Culture."

Earlier the Academy had decided to establish a list of Treasures of European Film Culture, much like the UNESCO World Heritage list, summing up places of historical cinematic value that need to be maintained and preserved not just for now but for generations to come.

At the end of the ceremony the opening film by celebrated Armenian filmmaker Hamo Beknazaryan "Zareh" was screened.



Golden Apricot Film Festival presents partnership with foreign Embassies

Organizers of the 13th Golden Apricot Yerevan Film Festival on July 6 presented the cooperation with a number of Foreign Missions accredited to Armenia. The best French, Russian and British films will be screened within the framework of the festival.

Golden Apricot Film Festival in cooperation with British Council in Armenia will present a special film program, dedicated to the 400th anniversary of renowned British writer William Shakespeare's death. The best films, based on Shakespeare's works, will be screened in the frames of the program.

The "French New Cinema" program will be realized in cooperation with the Embassy of France in Armenia. It includes the best three films of French production. The program will open with *Two Remis, Two*, (2015) by Pierre Léon.

The "Danish New Cinema" program will be implemented in cooperation with the Danish Film Institute. The program will present the best Danish films of the last five years. The *Commune* (2015) by Thomas Winterberg will open the program.

The four best films by Basque directors will be presented in



a separate film program titled "Basque New Cinema." The film *Autumn without Berlin* (2015) by Lara Izagirre is to open the film program.

The Golden Apricot 13th International Film Festival will kick off on July 10 with the screening of Hamo Beknazaryan's *Zareh* and will run through July 17.

Official trailer for the film about 1988 devastating earthquake in Armenia released

The official trailer for "Earthquake" - a movie about the devastating 1988 earthquake in Armenia, which claimed several thousand lives, has been released.

Directed by Sarik Andreasyan, the movie was shot on the territory of an old Moscow factory, where the decorations of ruined Leninakan (now Gyumri) were con-

structed.

The crew first focused on the documentary materials, but things changed after the authors spent time talking to people affected by the tragedy. "Emotionally, this project is a very complex one," Production Designer David Dadunashvili said.

The director said in one of the inter-

views that the "Earthquake" is a film about people and about the uniting factor of the tragedy.

The movie will be released in Russia and Armenia at the end of 2016. Armenia will probably nominate it for the Oscar in the "Best Foreign Language Film" nomination.

Artsakh preparing to host 7th Pan-Armenian summer games



On 8 July Artsakh Republic President Bako Sahakyan received chairman of the Pan-Armenian Games' International

Committee Ishkhan Zakaryan, Armenian Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs Gabriel Ghazaryan and a group of officials

representing these two structures.

Issues related to the organization of the 7th Pan-Armenian summer games to be held in Artsakh in 2019 were discussed during the meeting.

President Sahakyan highlighted holding the Pan-Armenian games in Artsakh from the viewpoints of developing the sphere of sports and culture, as well as cementing the Armenia-Artsakh-Diaspora trinity underlining that everything possible would be done for organizing the games at the highest level.

National Assembly chairman Ashot Ghoulyan, prime-minister Arayik Haroutyun and other officials were present at the meeting.

Azerbaijani policy the main obstacle to Karabakh settlement, Armenian President tells NATO

President Serzh Sargsyan participated at the meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the NATO member and non-member states dedicated to the Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan which is held in framework of the NATO Summit. The President of Armenia made the following statement:

Distinguished President Duda,
Distinguished Secretary General,
Dear Colleagues,

We are all here united by the idea that it is necessary to provide the friendly people of Afghanistan with peace, security and stability.

Armenia, as an advocate for the cooperative security, is determined to make its modest contribution to the efforts in consolidation of international peace and security. In the course of the Peacekeeping Summit, which took place in New York in September 2015, Armenia undertook additional commitments to develop capa-

bilities such as Role II medical hospital and training of associated personnel, as well as training of a company of EOD/C-IED (Explosive Ordnance Disposal & Counter-Improvised Explosive Device). We have reiterated our engagement with up to 130 servicemen with the Resolute Support mission, and stand ready to continue with it also beyond the year 2016. In this context, I should like to underline the effective cooperation we have enjoyed with Germany, and that, in my view, is one of the best and most illustrious examples of a partnership between a NATO member State and Partner Nation.

We have also expressed our readiness to participate in the NATO Enduring Partnership mission, when it will replace the Resolute Support mission. With that objective in mind Armenia has already engaged with the planning process for the establishment of a civilian-led temporary presence.

Dear Colleagues,

Armenia is also an active advocate for peace and stability in our region, and it has always stood for the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh issue, which is the most vital issue we face. On May 16 in Vienna a meeting took place with the high representatives of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs, namely the U.S. Secretary of State, Russian Foreign Minister and French State Secretary for European Affairs, which resulted in their Joint Statement that reiterated that there could be no military solution to the conflict, and further underlined the importance of respecting the 1994 agreement on ceasefire and 1995 agreement on consolidation of the ceasefire regime, both of which were unconditional.

Meanwhile, the Statement also registered introduction of the OSCE investigative mechanism to record the violations of the ceasefire and expansion of the capabilities of the existing office of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office. These approaches were further consolidated in the statement adopted by the trilateral meeting held in Saint Petersburg with the participation of the Presidents of Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. As for the allegations voiced by the President of Azerbaijan, I don't believe it is appropriate to artificially turn this meeting and the NATO declarations into a platform for the discussions of the NK issue: there is a specialized structure for it. I see it as my duty to underscore that today the main obstacle on the road towards the settlement of the conflict is the policy conducted by the highest leadership of Azerbaijan and the lack of will to solve the problem peacefully. It was vividly demonstrated by the aggression unleashed by Azerbaijan against Nagorno Karabakh last April, which was a heavy blow to the efforts carried out by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group and aimed at the peaceful settlement of the issue. The status quo will change when the people of Nagorno Karabakh will receive the opportunity to exercise their right of self-determination.

Thank you.



Zodiac Weekly Forecast



Aries (March 20-April 19)

Clear the cobwebs from old, non-working solutions so that a fresh perspective can emerge. This is a time in which your partner is on your side and things are flowing well between you. It is a good period for coming to agreement on circumstances that have been issues in the past.



Taurus (April 20 -- May 20)

Your ruling planet, Venus, is super-busy this week and it has complex relationships to the other planets. Your primary relationship is coming out of a darker place and showing signs of improvement. This may be true of others as well. Underneath you have a restlessness that lends itself to boredom. It's OK to do something wild on occasion.



Gemini (May 20-June 20)

You are happy in your nest of home and family at this time. You could be making a purchase to improve the appearance and workability of your house and/or car. Think carefully about what is truly important to you now, at this time in your life. Don't allow old habits or rules from the past to make your decisions for you.



Cancer (June 21-July 21)

Aspects suggest that now is a good time to make a trip for a short vacation. A break from the routine of life and focusing on something different could make a good alternative. You are in a reasonably good place with yourself at this time. Your heart and mind are flowing together.



Leo (July 22-August 21)

You can see encouraging progress from your diet or exercise routine. This also applies to any mental health improvements you have recently begun. You may also have a fresh idea for improving your income. Give that some time and research what you will need before announcing your intentions.



Virgo (August 22-September 22)

This is a really busy week. Your mood is expansive and optimistic. It is one of those "good luck" times that occasionally happen, even to Virgo. You have a grasp of the big picture and could use this energy to promote your projects and gain support. If you have any oral or written projects on your list, this is the time to start.



Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22)

Both income and relationships are favored at this time. Details and paperwork are like ducks nipping at your heels. Do what you must, but don't cheat your relationships for those details. You are feeling restless and need to try something new. Commute by a different route or go somewhere you have never visited before.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

This is a good time to cautiously move forward. Let yourself slide into the flow of things. Be flexible and adaptable. Cooperate with the group, whether that be 2 or 200. This is a good time to study any material because your thoughts are flowing. Travel may be on your agenda.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 20)

You have the green light on the pursuit of your goals at last, but you are concerned about the cost of doing it. The money, time, and/or energy required may look ominous. Consider what you may negotiate now in order to reduce your concerns over risk. Take care that you don't promise way more than you can deliver.



Capricorn (December 21-January 19)

Your plans and ideas may be challenged by another at this time. If you have done the necessary groundwork, you will emerge the winner. Do your best to generate a win-win situation out of the duel, and avoid a frank battle of wills. You probably have the clout, but running over a competitor does not win much worth having.



Aquarius (January 20-February 17)

Backup your computer data. Aspects suggest you may have electrical problems this week. Maintenance expenses may surface. Paperwork is a challenge. You are forced to fix previous errors so you can bring the present files up to date. It's a hassle, but you will feel relieved when it is done.



Pisces (February 18-March 19)

If you are in a committed relationship, now is the time to discuss the harder subjects on the table. Your partner is listening and so are you. It may not be so easy in romance. Topics may surface but one of you dances around them. If you are involved in creative work, the media is wrestling with you. Stick with it. Maybe the media has the right idea.

Official: Manchester United sign Henrikh Mkhitaryan



Manchester United has announced that Henrikh Mkhitaryan has completed his transfer from Borussia Dortmund. Henrikh joins on a four-year contract with the option to extend for a further year.

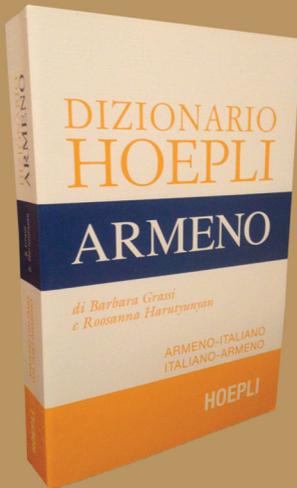
Mkhitaryan, 27, made 140 appearances and scored 41 goals for Borussia Dortmund after joining them in 2013. Last season he scored 23 goals and registered an impressive 32 assists across all competitions. Henrikh was voted Bundesliga Player of the Season for 2015/16 in a poll of his fellow professionals, and he was named in the Team of the Season following votes by the players' union in Germany, VDV.

The midfielder is Armenia's all-time top scorer, with 19 goals in 59 appearances since his international debut in January 2007. Henrikh captains his national team and has received the Armenian Footballer of the Year award on five occasions.

Henrikh Mkhitaryan said: "I am very proud to join Manchester United, this move is a dream come true for me. I am excited to play for a club with such an illustrious history and hope to be part of it for a long time. I thank the trust the club and Jose Mourinho have put in me. Finally, I believe playing for such a great club honours my father's memory, and the inspiration and drive he gave to me when I was young."

José Mourinho said: "Henrikh is a very talented footballer who has been in such prolific form for both his club and his country. He is a real team player with great skill, vision and also has a good eye for goal. I am delighted he has chosen to sign for United. I believe he will make an impact on the team very quickly as his style of play is suited to the Premier League. We are all looking forward to working with him."

New Armenian-Italian/Italian-Armenian dictionary released in Italy



A new Armenian-Italian, Italian-Armenian dictionary has been published in Italy. The authors of the dictionary, Rosanna Harutyunyan and Barbara Grassi, told Noyan Tapan that the official representative of the dictionary is the famous Italian HOEPLI Publishing House, which has been officially recognized by the Italian government. For the first time, HOEPLI Publishing House printed a dictionary for eastern Armenian, while already there was an Italian-western Armenian one.

This new dictionary contains 22,000 words with phonetic transcription and examples of simple sentences.

A lot of lemmas are divided in use areas including metaphorical meanings.

The dictionary includes also an Armenian grammar in Italian and an Italian grammar in Armenian plus a lot of repertoires

for geographical names, everyday use, proverbs and so on.

For purchase follow the link:

<http://www.hoepli.it/libro/dizionario-armeno/9788820367381.html>

The Noyan Tapan Noah's Ark
HIGHLIGHTS

The publisher: NT Holding LTD
Circulation: 1500 print copies and
15.600 copies by e-mail list in PDF format
Ծավալը՝ 2.25 մանուկ, տպաքանակը՝ 1500
Լրատվական գործունեություն իրականացնող՝
ԵՏ հոլդինգ ՍՊԸ
Գրանցման վկայականի համարը՝
03ԱՑ898368, տրված 11.01.2013 թ.

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Layout: **Diana Grigoryan**
Համարի թող. պատ.՝ Մ. Հարությունյան
Weekly Newspaper, Since May 4, 1993.
ISSN 1829-0604
Registration certificate and the date:
273.110.00512, 15.12.1995

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