

# Armenia protects, provides representation for minorities, while Azerbaijan persecutes – PM slams monoethnic narrative



Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan reacted on March 23 to the fake narrative generated by Azerbaijan claiming that there are no minorities in Armenia and that Armenia is a monoethnic country.

“First of all, such wordings are a gross interference into Armenia’s domestic affairs, moreover, national minorities not only do exist in Armenia, but they are also represented, they have mandates in the Parliament of Armenia, and this is guaranteed under the Constitution.

At this moment there are four Members of Parliament representing the national minorities. And if such narratives don’t constitute interference into a country’s domestic affairs, then let’s say for the record that the persecutions against not only the press, the opposition, but also the national minorities are of systematic nature in Azerbaijan. The international press is full of articles about the murders and imprisonments of the

leading activists protecting the interests of national minorities in Azerbaijan. Furthermore, many of these cases are revealed by eyewitnesses, the activists who survived torture and persecutions, or the families of the killed activists.

Perhaps Azerbaijan ought to display goodwill and define seat quotas in its parliament for national minorities and guarantee it under its constitution. Perhaps this would be the first step in correcting the situation,” PM Pashinyan said at the Cabinet meeting.

In conclusion, Pashinyan added that a peace treaty will be achieved on the basis of the written documents that have been reached on the highest levels so far.

He said that Armenia will not deviate even for a moment from the path of developing Armenia and strengthening its democracy.

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## Mirzoyan and Bagheri refer to the latest security developments. Armenia-Iran hold political consultations

On March 22, regular political consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and the Islamic Republic of Iran were held in Yerevan headed by Deputy Foreign Minister of the Republic of Armenia Vahan Kostanyan and Deputy Foreign Minister of the Republic of Iran Ali Bagheri Kani. Noyan Tapan was informed from MFA Armenia.

The interlocutors discussed a wide range of issues of the Armenian-Iranian bilateral political agenda, commended the high level of political dialogue, touched upon the Armenia-Iran cooperation in political, trade-economic and regional security spheres, as well as on multilateral platforms. Views were exchanged on a

number of issues of regional and international agenda of mutual interest.

Vahan Kostanyan briefed upon the situation unfolded in the region as a result of Azerbaijan's aggression against Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, as well as the details of the humanitarian crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh resulting from the blockade of the Lachin corridor since December, 2022. The Deputy Minister also emphasized that the illegal actions, war-mongering rhetoric and maximalist stance of the Azerbaijani leadership are seriously undermining the efforts towards achieving peace and stability in the South Caucasus.

Both sides highlighted the importance of deepening and strengthening

spiritual-cultural ties between the two countries. In this regard, the Deputy Minister briefed his Iranian counterpart on Azerbaijan's groundless attempts to artificially manipulate the religious factor on various platforms.

Following the consultations, Ali Bagheri Kani was received by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia Ararat Mirzoyan. Both sides commended the high level of political dialogue between Armenia and Iran, highlighting the importance of regular political consultations in this context. A number of issues of bilateral agenda and the latest developments of the security situation in the region were discussed.

## The Prime Minister receives the delegation of Germany-South Caucasus Friendship Group

On March 21, Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan received the members of the Germany-South Caucasus Friendship Group of the German Bundestag, led by the vice-president of the group Tabea Rößner. Noyan Tapan was informed from the Office of the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister noted that Armenia attaches importance to the partnership with Germany, and the visit of the Bundestag delegation to Armenia shortly after his visit to Germany on March 2-3 proves that the relations between the two countries are developing dynamically. Referring to his visit to Germany, Nikol Pashinyan assessed it as effective and noted that he returned from Berlin with warm impressions.

According to Tabea Rößner, the visit of the parliamentarians of the Bundestag to Armenia is a manifestation of the

continuation of the effective dialogue, within the framework of which they have already had meetings with their parliamentary partners and representatives of the government.

The interlocutors emphasized the role of inter-parliamentary ties in the development of Armenia-Germany cooperation and discussed issues on bilateral agenda.

The Prime Minister referred to the reforms implemented in our country, the recorded high economic indicators and highlighted the importance of the support of the European Union and Germany to the democratic agenda of Armenia. Nikol Pashinyan emphasized that the protection of human rights, the establishment of an independent judicial system, the fight against corruption, and ensuring transparency are priorities for the Government, and our country is moving forward on the

way to set a high bar. Tabea Rößner noted that Germany will accompany Armenia on that path. Issues related to the promotion of women's involvement, cooperation in the fields of renewable energy and the environment were also discussed.

The parties exchanged ideas on the regional situation, security challenges, peace agenda. In this context, the Prime Minister highlighted the role of the long-term observation mission of the EU.

The crisis created in Nagorno-Karabakh as a result of Azerbaijan's illegal blockade of the Lachin Corridor was addressed. In terms of settlement of the problem, the consistent and addressed response of the international community, the implementation of the decision of the International Court of Justice published on February 22 of this year by Azerbaijan were emphasized.

## Azerbaijani military opens fire at farmers in Nagorno Karabakh

The Azerbaijani Armed Forces opened gunfire at farmers in Nagorno Karabakh on March 22.

The Nagorno Karabakh Ministry of Internal Affairs said in a statement that H. Hartyunyan, A. Ghahramanyan, M. Jivanyan, G. Ghukasyan, K. Davtyan, A. Adamyan and D. Davtyan, all farmers from the town of Tchartar, were carrying out agricultural work in the vineyards in

Tchartar when they came under Azeri fire. The shooting happened around 09:30.

The farmers are unharmed.

The agricultural works were suspended due to the gunfire from various kinds of weapons by Azerbaijani military forces from an outpost adjacent to the vineyards.

The Nagorno Karabakh authorities said they notified the Russian peacekeepers on the Azerbaijani gunfire targeting civilians.





## United States “very much appreciates” Armenian Prime Minister’s message on establishing peace

The United States said on March 24 that it “very much appreciates” Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan’s message on the progress toward peace in South Caucasus.

“Secretary Blinken is very engaged in facilitating peace discussions between Armenia and Azerbaijan, and we are encouraged by the progress made toward lasting and sustainable peace in the South Caucasus. We very much appreciate Nikol Pashinyan’s message on that progress,” US State Department Principal Deputy Spokesperson Vedant Patel tweeted, sharing the Armenian Prime Minister’s March 23 tweet.



*Pashinyan tweeted on March 23: “There will be a peace treaty between Armenia and Azerbaijan, and it will be based on the joint official statements adopted at the highest level. There won’t be a new escalation! The*

*international community must strongly support this narrative.”*

*Speaking at the government sitting on March 23, the Prime Minister said “there will be a peace treaty and that will be based on written documents obtained at the highest levels to date.”*

*“As for what we have to do, the Armenian government and the public should engage in daily creative work, building, reforming, creating good, strengthening the security system. And we must not for a minute deviate from the path of development, strengthening of Armenia and strengthening of our democracy,” he said.*

## No negotiations on Azerbaijani checkpoints in Lachin corridor, Armenian FM says



There are no negotiations on installing an Azerbaijani checkpoint in the Lachin

corridor, Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan said during a Q&A session at the National Assembly.

“Armenia considers that the negotiations on Lachin corridor and its regime have long been completed, and the regulations have been enshrined in the trilateral statement on November 9, 2020,” he said.

The Foreign Minister reminded that under the statement, the Lachin corridor remains under the control of the Russian

peacekeeping troops and Azerbaijan guarantees safe movement of citizens, vehicles and cargo in both directions along the corridor.

According to the Foreign Minister, it is a recorded agreement, and Armenia should already have doubts about the expediency of further negotiations.

“What’s the sense of reaching agreements, if they are going to be breached at some point?” Ararat Mirzoyan said.

## Armenian FM does not rule out trilateral meeting with Russian and Azerbaijani counterparts

Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan does not rule out a new tripartite meeting with his Russian and Azerbaijani counterparts Sergey Lavrov and Jeyhun Bayramov.

“The topic was discussed with Minister Lavrov. Such a meeting was supposed to take place in Moscow on December 22 of last year, but we postponed it because the Lachin Corridor was illegally blocked by Azerbaijan,” FM Mirzoyan said during a Q&A session at the National Assembly.

“Currently, the negotiations are

taking place remotely as we are exchanging proposals on the draft peace treaty. But I believe that face-to-face meetings and



discussions should begin at some stage. The topic as discussed in Moscow, and there is an opportunity for such a meeting in the future,” he noted.

The Armenian Foreign Minister also called the meeting with Lavrov on March 20 in Moscow “sincere and constructive.”

“My assessment of the visit is unequivocal. A quite sincere and constructive meeting was held between me and Minister Lavrov. We discussed both our bilateral agenda and, of course, regional issues,” he noted.

## Blinken says there's 'moment of opportunity' for peace deal between Armenia and Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan and Armenia may soon reach a peace agreement, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said, while testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, trend reports.

"I do not want to exaggerate it, but I think there is an opportunity to actually bring a peace agreement to fruition. I have had Prime Minister Pashinyan and President Aliyev for a meeting in Munich. I had the Foreign Ministers here Washington, and I expect them to come back. We



worked on a text to see if we can help them reach an agreement. And it's not something that we are imposing on Armenia

or answering a strong desire expressed by Armenia," Secretary Blinken said.

Commenting on the blockade of the Lachin corridor, the Secretary said "I'm pressings Azerbaijan, including as recently as this week, to reopen that road." "

"But I do think that there is a moment of opportunity that would profoundly be in the interests of the people of Armenia, as well as Azerbaijan," he said, commenting on Washington's efforts to normalize relations between Baku and Yerevan.

## Iran vows to use entire potential to resolve regional issues peacefully

The development of relations with neighbors is among Iran's foreign policy priorities and Armenia is of great importance in this policy, Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Ali Bagheri Kani said at a press briefing in Yerevan.

"I am visiting Armenia at the invitation of my colleague as part of consultations, and yesterday and today we had productive discussions with my Armenian colleague, as well the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia. Iran's stable position in the issue of establishing sustainable peace in the region was underscored during these discussions. And during

our meetings we underscored that Iran is always a reliable partner in establishing peace and security," Ali Bagheri Kani said.

The Iranian Deputy FM said that the regional countries themselves are the guarantors of peace and stability, and that the presence of foreign forces can't ensure the stability and peace because these forces pursue other goals.

When asked about the ongoing Azerbaijani blockade of Lachin Corridor and occupation of sovereign territories of Armenia, as well as the fake narratives on "Western Azerbaijan" and "Southern Azerbaijan", the Iranian Deputy FM said:



"God has created diplomats in order to achieve the establishment of stability through peaceful dialogue. I assume that the leaders of the regional countries are wise enough to choose dialogue for resolving issues. And Iran will use its entire capacity and potential to give a solution to the issues through peaceful dialogue."

## French Foreign Minister to visit Yerevan and Baku in late April



French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna will visit Yerevan and Baku in

late April.

"France has been denounced the blocking of the Lachin corridor by Azerbaijan since day one. This blockage is fueling tensions. I plan to travel to Baku and Yerevan at the end of April to bring this message. France is taking action," Minister Colonna said at the Senate on March 22.

She was responding to a question by Senator Philippe Pemezec.

"The land of Armenia is burning and we are looking elsewhere. Since the invasion of the territory of Artsakh by Azerbaijan, supported by Turkey, Armenia lives in a state of siege," the Senator said.

"Is France ready to mobilize for Armenia the same diplomatic, even military means that it mobilized for Ukraine, to defend a friendly people who are dying?" he asked Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna.



## Dutch foreign ministry summons Azeri ambassador to communicate need to fully implement ICJ ruling on Lachin Corridor

The Azerbaijani Ambassador was invited to the Dutch foreign ministry to communicate the need to fully implement the ICJ decision and unblock the Lachin Corridor, the Federation of Armenian Organizations in the Netherlands (FAON) reported.

The Federation of Armenian Organizations in the Netherlands (FAON) said it has taken note of the answers by Dutch Foreign Minister Wobke Hoekstra to the written questions of 13 parliamentary factions about the ICJ ruling of 22 February 2022 on blockade of Lachin Corridor (Armenia v. Azerbaijan). Minister Hoekstra agrees with the MP's, that there is non-compliance by Azerbaijan with the Judgment of the ICJ on the blockade of the Lachin Corridor. According to the Court ruling, Azerbaijan must take all measures at its disposal to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions, which it keeps blockaded for more than 100 days.

In his letter to the Parliament, the Minister underlines that the International Court rulings are legally binding. Therefore, the Netherlands publicly called on the Azerbaijani authorities to comply with the ruling.

According to the Minister, the Netherlands has repeatedly raised its concerns about the humanitarian situation in Nagorno Karabakh resulting from the blockade of the Lachin Corridor, at several occasions including in bilateral talks with the Azerbaijani authorities, as in the recent meeting between the Dutch Prime Minister Rutte and Azerbaijani President Aliyev. The Minister Hoekstra has conveyed these concerns in several conversations with the Azerbaijani Foreign Minister. The Netherlands has also expressed these concerns in various multilateral forums, such as the EU Foreign Affairs Council and the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The Netherlands, together with the other EU member states, has also conveyed this

position by means of EU statements to, for example, the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Stability in Europe (OSCE).

The Minister also states that the restrictive interpretation of the Court ruling by Azerbaijan is not shared by the Dutch Government. The Minister Hoekstra underlined that the Court ruling must be complied with in their entirety, which means that Azerbaijan must ensure the free movement of people, vehicles and cargo through the Lachin Corridor in both directions.

*The United Nations' highest court – the International Court of Justice (ICJ) - ordered Azerbaijan on February 22 to "take all steps at its disposal" to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions. The Lachin Corridor has been blocked by Azerbaijan since 12 December 2022.*

## PACE co-rapporteurs call on Baku to authorize sending a fact-finding team to Artsakh

In a declassified information note, the co-rapporteurs for the monitoring of Armenia, Kimmo Kiljunen (Finland, SOC) and Boriana Åberg (Sweden, EPP/CD), on March 22 shared their findings with the PACE Monitoring Committee following their visit to Armenia on 17-19 February, PACE website informs.

The purpose of their visit was to assess the situation on the border with Azerbaijan and at the entrance of the Lachin Corridor. During their stay, they visited the cities of Jermuk, Goris, and Vardenis, their surroundings, and met



with local officials and Nagorno-Karabakh residents, blocked in Goris due to the ongoing obstruction of the Lachin Corridor.

Based on their observations,

movement along the corridor is "severely obstructed", making the transport of some essential supplies impossible. This situation could soon result in a humanitarian crisis.

Referring to the Trilateral Statement signed in November 2020, the rapporteurs called on Azerbaijan to allow an independent assessment of the situation.

"We urge the Azerbaijani authorities to authorize an independent fact-finding visit and to allow independent journalists to operate freely in the whole area,"

## The International Finance Corporation is impressed by the economic indicators of Armenia last year

On March 20, Finance Minister of Armenia Vahe Hovhannisyan received Rana Karadsheh, Regional Director for Europe of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) of the World Bank Group, and Sebastian Molineus, Regional Director of the WB South Caucasus. Ivana Duarte, regional director of the IFC South Caucasus, and Carolin Geginat, Country Manager of the World Bank (WB) for Armenia, were also present at the meeting.

As the Ministry of Finance of Armenia informs, at the beginning of the meeting, Minister Hovhannisyan, welcoming the guests, highly appreciated the presence



of the International Finance Corporation in Armenia, particularly highlighting the expansion of the latter's investments in Armenia. The Minister emphasized the need to diversify the areas of cooperation with the IFC, as well as efforts to expand

cooperation in possible new areas.

IFC representatives, congratulating Vahe Hovhannisyan on his appointment as Minister of Finance of Armenia, referred to the high economic growth recorded in Armenia in 2022 and noted that they consider the previous year's economic indicators to be impressive. The Minister presented details about the previous year's and the current economic situation.

During the meeting, the sides emphasized the implementation of reforms aimed at expanding private investments in Armenia, as well as ensuring the continuity of experience exchange in this context.

## Deputy PM Khachatryan receives the Ambassador of Poland and representatives of the Warsaw Stock Exchange



Deputy Prime Minister Tigran Khachatryan had a working meeting with the delegation led by Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Poland to Armenia Pawel Cieplak. Hayk Yeganyan, CEO of the Armenian Stock Exchange, Zdzisław

Sokal, member of the management board of the Polish Investment and Trade Agency, Michael Völter, founder of the "Voelter" financial consulting company, as well as representatives of the Warsaw Stock Exchange were also present at the meeting. Noyan Tapan was informed from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

Deputy Prime Minister Khachatryan welcomed the guests and emphasized that the Armenian Government highly values the bilateral effective cooperation and long-term partnership between Armenia and Poland, and is committed to strengthening and deepening further relations

through mutually beneficial and constructive interaction.

The Polish partners, in turn, expressed their willingness to support the Republic of Armenia and improve the quality of the already established dialogue, creating preconditions for long-term effective cooperation.

During the meeting, the parties discussed a number of issues of mutual interest, in particular, the development of the capital market in Armenia, the servicing of the state debt, the issuance of government and treasury bonds, etc..

## Government plans longer lifespan for Armenian Nuclear Power Plant's reactor

The Armenian government approved on March 23 a 10-year extension of the Armenian Nuclear Power Plant's reactor.

The decision was made at the Cabinet meeting.

The lifespan of the nuclear power plant's N2 reactor has already been extended until 2026 and underwent major

modernization and re-equipment works.

According to the Armenian government, additional investments and works will enable to extend the lifespan of the reactor until 2036 "taking into account the completed modernization works, as well as opinions from specialized organizations and the international experience

in extending the operational timeframes of similar power units."





## Ameriabank honored as the Best Investment Bank in Armenia for 2023 by Global Finance

YEREVAN, MARCH 21, ARMENPRESS. Ameriabank has been named the Best Investment Bank in Armenia by Global Finance, a leading international financial publication. The award recognizes Ameriabank excellence in investment banking and its ability to provide tailored investment banking and advisory solutions designed to meet the clients' diverse financial needs.

To score and select winners, Global Finance editors, with input from industry experts, used a series of criteria—including entries from banks, market share, number and size of deals, service and advice, structuring capabilities, distribution network, efforts to address market conditions, innovation, pricing, after-market performance of underwritings and market reputation.

"Companies rely on the advice, consultation and guidance of investment bankers whenever a major initiative is in play. Perhaps their expertise is of utmost importance during tumultuous times," said Joseph D. Giarraputo, publisher and editorial director of Global Finance. "In a year shrouded by record inflation and economic uncertainty, Global Finance is proud to recognize the accomplishments of the leading institutions in this sector with our World's Best Investment Bank Awards for 2023."

Artak Hanesyan, Chairman of the Management Board, CEO at Ameriabank,



commented: "We are incredibly proud to be recognized as the Best Investment Bank in Armenia from Global Finance for the eighth year in a row. Despite our more diversified universal banking model of the recent years, we have been the leading corporate and investment bank in Armenia for more than a decade, serving the largest corporate clients and financing the largest strategic projects in the country. We are deeply grateful to Global Finance for this recognition and our investment banking team, whose expertise and dedication continue to position Ameriabank as a leader in the Armenian market. As we look to the future, we remain committed to financing sectors and projects that are most promising in terms of sustainability and long-term development."

This latest award of Ameriabank comes at a time of active campaign underway on the occasion of having been named the Best Bank in Armenia by the leading international magazines in 2022 - Global

Finance, Euromoney and The Banker. The "Triple Best" Campaign runs under the slogan "The Best Opportunity Is Created by People" is dedicated to all people who have stood behind the Bank's achievements during the recent years, from clients and partners to employees of the bank.

### Ameriabank CJSC

Ameriabank is a leading financial and technology company in Armenia, a major contributor to the Armenian economy, with assets exceeding AMD 1 trillion. In the course of digital transformation, it has launched a number of innovative solutions and platforms going beyond banking-only needs of its diverse customer base, thus creating a dynamically evolving financial technology space.

Ameria was the first in Armenia to create ecosystems for both businesses and individuals, which give one-window access to a range of banking and non-banking services, among them - Estate.ameriabank.am, Automarket.ameriabank.am, Business.ameriabank.am.

As a truly customer-centric company, Ameria aims to be a trusted and secure financial technology space with seamless solutions to improve the quality of life.

The Bank is supervised by the Central Bank of Armenia.

## Armenia, Turkey agree to open the border for citizens of third countries before the start of the 2023 tourist season. FM



Armenia and Turkey have agreed to open the border for citizens of third countries and persons with diplomatic passports until the beginning of the 2023

tourist season, Foreign Minister of Armenia Ararat Mirzoyan said at the session of the Foreign Relations Committee of the National Assembly, adding that Yerevan is actively working in this direction.

Presenting the report on the progress and results of the implementation of the Government's Action Plan, the Minister said that the process of normalization of relations between Armenia and Turkey continued in 2022.

Mirzoyan reminded that on February 15 he was in Turkey to offer his condolences on the occasion of the many victims of the earthquake.

"We reaffirmed with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey the readiness to open the Armenian-Turkish border for citizens of third countries and persons with diplomatic passports before the start of this year's tourist season," said Mirzoyan.

## Armenia's Constitutional Court greenlights ratification of Rome Statute

Armenia's Constitutional Court on March 24 greenlights the ratification of the Rome Statute by the Parliament.

The High Court ruled today that the Statute corresponds to the Constitution of the Republic of Armenia.

The decision paves the way for Armenia to join the International Criminal Court.

Although Armenia signed the Rome Statute in 1999, in 2004, the Armenian



Constitutional Court ruled that the Statute was partially incompatible with the

Armenian constitution and could not be ratified.

The ICC is the world's first permanent international court to prosecute war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide. Central to the Court's mandate is the principle of complementarity, which holds that the Court will only intervene if national legal systems are unwilling or unable to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

## Senior Armenian official rebukes Lavrov's apparent proposal of Donbas Minsk agreement, Kosovo Serbian models for NK



A senior Armenian government official has rebuked Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's apparent proposals of Donbas and Kosovo models as a solution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict.

Amabssador-at-Large Edmon Marukyan said that Nagorno Karabakh, with its entire legal and political history, is incomparable with Donetsk, Lugansk or the Kosovo Serbian model.

"With its entire legal & political history

Nagorno Karabagh is incomparable with the Donetsk, Lugansk or Serbs of Kosovo, because it's always been autonomy and a self-proclaimed state in the last 30 years. Moreover, NK conflict predates the collapse of USSR, unlike those listed" Marukyan tweeted. "Hence, while looking for a solution to the NK problem, the International Community should take into account the entire historical legal-political background; otherwise any solution built upon irrelevant examples will lead to the deepening of the problem and its non-resolution."

During a joint press conference with Armenian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan on March 20, Lavrov expressed support for Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan's position on the need for a dialogue between Nagorno-Karabakh

and Azerbaijan for a peaceful settlement of the conflict. Lavrov cited the example of the Minsk agreements in Ukraine, under which the Russian-speaking residents of the eastern part of Ukraine were to have the right to their native language, to educate their children in their native language, to live and work in their native language environment, to preserve their culture, their religion, and other relations with their compatriots.

"Approximately, the same rights were provided in the agreement signed between Belgrade and Pristina 10 years ago, in the agreement on the establishment of the Serbian community of Kosovo, language, local self-government, education, culture, religion, special economic ties with Serbia. I think that the people of Karabakh need such a set of rights," Lavrov added.

## Nagorno Karabakh says direct talks with Azerbaijan possible only in international format with guarantees

Nagorno Karabakh announced Thursday that a direct negotiations process with Azerbaijan would be possible only in an international format and in conditions of guarantees for implementation of obligations.

Nagorno Karabakh Foreign Minister Sergey Ghazaryan said at a press conference that Russia-mediated meetings have taken place between Nagorno Karabakh and Azerbaijan pertaining to various humanitarian and technical issues. Ghazaryan underscored that Azerbaijan attempted to distort the agenda of the latest meeting.

The goal of that meeting was to discuss issues relating to the disruptions of the electricity and gas supplies, he said. "The attempts by Azerbaijan to distort the agenda of the meeting are unacceptable. But at the same time, we stand ready to have meetings in the same format, with the mediation of Russian peacekeepers, for the solution of the abovementioned issues," Ghazaryan said when asked in which case the meetings could become negotiations.

Speaking about a full negotiations process, the FM said: "We've numerously said

that such meetings can only take place in an international format. The substantiations are rather clear."

Ghazaryan noted that if Azerbaijan even violated the agreements reached in the OSCE Minsk Group talks, then it would definitely violate bilateral agreements as well.

"Only under an international format, and guarantees of implementation of obligations must be the most important component of such a process," Ghazaryan added.



## Former NATO chief warns of imminent threat of ethnic cleansing in Nagorno Karabakh



Former NATO secretary-general (2009-14) and former prime minister of Denmark Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the founder of Rasmussen Global international political consultancy firm, has warned that in clear violation of the 2020 trilateral statement, Azerbaijan is fueling a humanitarian crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh and once again threatening neighboring Armenia with military aggression.

In an article for Project Syndicate, Rasmussen warned that a new Azerbaijani offensive against Armenia in the coming months cannot be ruled out.

Below is the full article published by Project Syndicate.

“All eyes are rightly fixated on Russia’s war in Ukraine. But that is no excuse for ignoring another crisis that is brewing on Europe’s doorstep. Tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan are rising again, raising the prospect of another war.

Last week, I visited the Lachin corridor, the only road linking the ethnic Armenian population of Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia and the outside world. Since December, access to the corridor has been blocked by Azerbaijanis under the pretext of an environmental protest. This is clearly happening with the backing of the regime in Baku.

With the “protesters” blocking all civilian or commercial traffic into Nagorno-Karabakh, Amnesty International warns that some 120,000 ethnic Armenian residents are being deprived of essential goods and services, including life-saving medicines and health care.

Under the ceasefire agreement that ended the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh War between Azerbaijan and Armenia, Azerbaijan pledged to ensure free movement along the road in both directions. Recognizing that Azerbaijan is violating its commitment by refusing to lift the blockade,

the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an order on February 22 demanding that Azerbaijan take all steps necessary to do so. But a month has passed, and nothing has changed.

Although Russian peacekeeping forces stationed along the corridor are supposed to protect the route, they have failed to act. Unless Europe and the wider international community pressure Azerbaijan to lift the blockade, the current humanitarian crisis could become a humanitarian catastrophe.

Azerbaijan is using the blockade and other measures to strangle Nagorno-Karabakh. Residents are often prevented from returning to their homes, and gas and electricity are regularly cut off without warning or explanation. The intent, clearly, is to make life as difficult as possible for the Armenian population, and there is a serious risk of imminent ethnic cleansing. We must not divert our gaze from what is happening.

For its part, the Azerbaijani regime (and its online trolls) have continued to downplay the effects of the blockade – or even its existence. Yet they also refuse to grant international observers access to assess the situation. The first priority for the international community, then, is to send a fact-finding mission to the corridor under the auspices of the United Nations or the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. We must make clear that Azerbaijan’s president, Ilham Aliyev, will face consequences if he continues to flout the ICJ’s binding order.

The 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh War made clear that Azerbaijan has a significant military advantage over Armenia, owing to the weapons that it has bought from Russia, Turkey, and Israel. This fact was reiterated last September, when Azerbaijan took territory within Armenia itself – including strategic positions above the city of Jermuk – after just two days of renewed fighting.

Although Armenia is still a member of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the regional alliance linking Russia with five nearby former Soviet states, no support was forthcoming when it requested assistance following this attack on its sovereign territory. It was left vulnerable and alone.

Making matters worse, Azerbaijan has

kept its troops on Armenian territory and refused to return Armenian prisoners of war. With peace talks having stalled, there are clear warning signs that Azerbaijan believes it can achieve more through military means than through peaceful negotiations. A renewed offensive against Armenia in the coming months cannot be ruled out.

With Armenia’s traditional security provider, Russia, unable or unwilling to help, the European Union must play a greater role to preserve peace and stability in the region. Both European Council President Charles Michel and French President Emmanuel Macron have recognized this and devoted significant political capital to the issue. Following the renewed outbreak of hostilities in September, the EU dispatched a civilian mission to Armenia to monitor the border with Azerbaijan.

But much more still needs to be done. The EU mission, which is currently deployed only on Armenian territory, should be rapidly scaled up to monitor the full length of the Armenia-Azerbaijan border. European leaders need to press Aliyev’s government to allow EU personnel on to Azerbaijani territory. Of course, an unarmed EU mission would not be able to stop hostilities; but scaling up its presence would put further pressure on Azerbaijan to choose negotiation over military confrontation.

Over the last year, the EU has built increasingly close economic ties with Azerbaijan, owing to its rapid shift away from Russian gas and oil. But EU leaders need to be clear with Aliyev that he will not be allowed to act with impunity, and that Europe’s short-term commercial interests will not outweigh its values or its long-term interests in maintaining peace and stability in the South Caucasus. If Azerbaijan continues to flout its international commitments and legally binding court orders from the ICJ, it must face political and economic consequences.

Armenia is an emerging democracy in an immensely challenging neighborhood. With Russia’s influence waning, Europe must play a bigger role in the region. This is not a form of charity. Acting now to prevent another significant conflict – or even ethnic cleansing – in our backyard is in everyone’s interest.”

## Armenia's letter to UN Secretary General on Azerbaijan's policy of aggression published as UNSC and GA official document



Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations Mher Margaryan's letter to the Secretary General has been published as an official document of the UNSC and the General Assembly.

Below is the full letter as published by the UN.

"I am writing with regard to Azerbaijan's continued policy of aggression, incessant territorial claims and instigation of violence against Armenia and the Armenian people. One distinct example of Azerbaijan's aggressive ambitions can be found in the recent letter submitted by the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan (A/77/706-S/2023/43), which alludes to so-called "Western Azerbaijan", ostensibly implying the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia.

Azerbaijan's hostile conduct and expansionist rhetoric are yet another demonstration of the intent to continue on the path of aggression and to use territorial aspirations as a pretext for new hostilities. It is becoming increasingly obvious that, emboldened by the use of force

in the past, Azerbaijan seeks to normalize violence and ethnic hatred for territorial acquisition, in utter disregard of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

Evidently, the lack of accountability for the past crimes has created fertile ground for elevating the instigation of Armenophobia to the level of State policy in Azerbaijan. Over the years, the prominent historic, cultural and religious heritage of the Armenian communities in territories that came under the control of Azerbaijani authorities has been razed to the ground. Azerbaijan has virtually annihilated every trace of the civilizational presence of Armenians in all the territories currently under its control, in particular in Nakhichevan, as well as in the occupied parts of Nagorno-Karabakh and in other areas. The barbaric destruction of the Armenian churches and Old Jugha cemetery with over 5,000 khachkars (medieval Christian cross-stones), which was carried out in 1998-2005, is a stark indicator of the policy of cultural genocide by the country positioning itself as a "model of tolerance

and multiculturalism". Notably, Azerbaijan has rejected all requests for international fact-finding missions to research the extent to which the valuable remnants of medieval culture came under destruction in Nakhichevan.

The cultivation of racism and anti-Armenian hatred, along with the continued incitement of violence on ethnic and religious grounds, with a particular focus on young people and children, have come to be well documented in numerous reports of international organizations, including the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, revealing the systemic nature of racial profiling, hateful and incendiary rhetoric, the prevailing sense of impunity and the glorification of hate crime perpetrators in Azerbaijan. To this day, Azerbaijan has not undertaken any measures to bring those responsible for anti-Armenian hate crimes to justice and has, instead, adopted legislation prohibiting entry to the country of any person of Armenian origin, regardless of their citizenship, "because the authorities would be unable to provide them with security since they are ethnic Armenians".

Azerbaijan's promulgation of inflammatory rhetoric, expansionist threats and attempts to rewrite and weaponize history to justify criminal acts of aggression only serve to further destabilize the situation in the region and are detrimental to the creation of sustainable foundations for peace and security. I kindly ask that the present letter be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 30, 66, 67, 68 and 132, and of the Security Council."



## Legal Experts Ask International Court To Probe Turkey's Crimes Against Humanity

By Harut Sassounian

Several newspapers announced earlier this month that a major complaint has been submitted to the International Criminal Court (ICC) against Turkey. A group of European legal experts compiled a massive file which included "witness testimonies giving details of torture, state sponsored kidnapping, and wrongful imprisonment" by the Turkish government of its 200,000 opponents.

Both the European Court of Human Rights and U.N. Working Group on Arbitrary Detention had concluded that a large portion of the imprisonments and detentions by Turkey were a violation of the European Convention on Human Rights. They are considered crimes against humanity. The new complaint was delivered to the ICC prosecutor Karim Khan on February 9, but made public on March 1, 2023.

The 4,000-page dossier was prepared by the Belgian law firm Van Steenbrugge Advocaten, Belgium-based NGO Turkey Tribunal, and the European judges association.

"Turkish officials have committed crimes against humanity against hundreds of thousands of opponents of the Erdogan regime," the submission said. "These crimes amount to a 'widespread and systematic attack against a civilian population', meeting the threshold for the ICC to launch proceedings against high ranking officials of the Erdogan regime."

Even though Turkey is not a signatory to the Rome Statute that had established the ICC, the Court has jurisdiction to pursue these crimes since the Turkish government has committed some of the crimes on the territory of 45 ICC member states: Afghanistan, Albania, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali,

Mongolia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Peru, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Switzerland, Tajikistan, The Gambia, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, and Zambia.

The complaint states that there were 17 cases of enforced disappearance in which victims were abducted from Kenya, Cambodia, Gabon, Albania, Bulgaria, Moldova, Mongolia and Switzerland and taken back to Turkey. These abductees were accused of being followers of Fethullah Gulen, a US-based Muslim preacher. President Erdogan supported Gulen for many years until their relationship soured. Thousands of Gulen's followers, including 9,100 police officers, were subsequently fired from their jobs and arrested.

Osman Karaca was seized on October 14, 2019, in Cambodia where he was a school teacher. "After being held incommunicado for four days, Karaca was handed over to Turkish authorities who flew him back to Turkey on a small government jet. He was convicted of leading an armed terrorist group in the 2016 coup attempt, despite the fact he had left Turkey for Cambodia in 2002," The Guardian reported.

Karaca is one of many Turks abducted from overseas and charged for being a 'terrorist.' The legal claim filed against Turkey at the ICC contained statements on the torture of 800 abductees, describing "in detail how torture has been inflicted on a large and consistent scale."

"This should be investigated," said Johan Vande Lanotte, a former Belgian deputy prime minister and human rights law professor, who helped set up the Turkish Tribunal. He is leading the effort to persuade the ICC to open an investigation. "The universal basic principles of international law are being violated.... Important members of the (Turkish) government cannot deny they are responsible, because they proclaimed their responsibility proudly."

The Turkey Tribunal stated that it

documented "59 cases of extraterritorial and domestic Enforced Disappearance, relating to 109 persons. While the Turkish state has always denied involvement in domestic disappearances, authorities have consistently boasted about illegal abductions made overseas. Most recently, in July 2021, President Erdogan gave a press conference next to an image of a Turkish teacher proclaiming that he had been abducted from a foreign country. In an arrogant demonstration of impunity, the published image of the abducted person showed clear signs of torture, and he later underwent surgery to treat his broken arm."

The Turkey Tribunal added: "Concerning the Imprisonments in Violation of Fundamental Rules of International Law, official Turkish statistics show that investigations into alleged membership of a 'terrorist organization' were launched against 2,217,000 persons in the period 2015-2021; 560,000 persons were put on trial and 374,000 persons were convicted, 270,000 of whom were found to be members of a terrorist organization."

Furthermore, according to the Turkey Tribunal, "Official Turkish statistics show that 129,410 public servants have been dismissed and 19,962 teachers had their teaching licenses cancelled, since 2016. In total, 234,419 passports were withdrawn in relation to arbitrary investigations against the alleged members of the Gülen movement. Of these, 155,000 relate to persons against whom no judicial action was launched, such as, for instance, the spouses of the persons against whom an investigation or persecution was launched."

Former Belgian Deputy Prime Minister Vande Lanotte concluded: "We had the United Nations Working Group on Forced Disappearances look into this, the UN Human Rights Committee, the European Court of Human Rights, and even judges in Turkey itself, and nothing has been done, so this is the last possibility for justice."

## PACE Committee urges Azerbaijan to implement UN Court decision on Lachin corridor

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights on March 22 expressed great concern by the humanitarian crisis unfolding due to the ongoing obstruction of the Lachin Corridor.

### It adopted the following statement:

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliament Assembly of the Council of Europe is greatly concerned by the humanitarian crisis unfolding due to the ongoing obstruction of the Lachin Corridor. This corridor is the life-line between those living in Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia, and the Committee fully supports the public statement made by the Parliamentary Assembly co-rapporteurs for the monitoring of Armenia on 24 February 2023, calling for “immediate action” and “the immediate cessation of the unlawful and illegitimate obstruction of the Lachin corridor.”



The Committee also calls on the Azerbaijani authorities to implement without delay the measures addressed to it by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) of 22 February 2023 and of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) of 21 December 2022 whose decisions noted the obligation on Azerbaijan under the Trilateral Statement, signed on 9 November 2020, to “guarantee the security of persons, vehicles and cargo moving along the Lachin Corridor in both directions” (Article 6 of

the Trilateral Statement).<sup>1</sup>

The Committee furthermore refers to other international statements addressed to the authorities of Azerbaijan on the same issue, including:

The joint statement of the four co-rapporteurs of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe for the monitoring of Azerbaijan and Armenia of December

16, 2022, which states that “Freedom and security of movement of persons and goods must be urgently restored along the corridor. We call on all parties to the Trilateral Statement of 9-10 November 2020 to immediately take the necessary measures”, and

The European Parliament resolution of 19 January 2023 on the humanitarian consequences of the blockade in Nagorno-Karabakh.

## Netherlands continues “active measures” for opening Lachin Corridor – PM Rutte



The Netherlands continues to take active measures in the direction of opening the Lachin Corridor which has been blocked by Azerbaijan since December 2022, according to Prime Minister Mark Rutte.

PM Rutte made a few comments on the Lachin Corridor at the Dutch parliament when asked on the matter by

Stieneke van der Graaf, a member of the House of Representatives for the Christian Union (CU).

The Dutch Prime Minister said that Azerbaijan has a highly limited interpretation of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruling, while the Dutch government’s perception differs and the Azeri ambassador has been notified about it, the Federation of Armenian Organizations of the Netherlands (FAON) reported.

PM Rutte said that the Netherlands continues to take active measures bilaterally and in context of the EU for opening the Lachin Corridor as soon as possible.

Asked about the political repercussions

of the fact that Azerbaijan is importing gas from Russia to be able to supply gas to the EU under its energy deal, Rutte said that Azerbaijan’s supplies from Russia are “limited”, while the European Commission has already announced that it will discuss the matter with Baku.

The United Nations’ highest court – the International Court of Justice (ICJ) – ordered Azerbaijan on February 22 to “take all steps at its disposal” to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions. Azerbaijan has so far ignored the order.



## Meta's Oversight Board announces new case related to Armenian prisoners of war

Meta's Oversight Board announced a new case for consideration and is inviting people and organizations to submit public comments.

The Board prioritizes cases that have the potential to affect lots of users around the world, are of critical importance to public discourse, or raise important questions about Meta's policies.

### The case is related to Armenian prisoner of war video:

In October 2022, a Facebook user posted a video on a page which appears to be concerned with alleged war crimes committed by Azerbaijan during the recently reignited Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. In the caption, which is in English and Turkish, the user says that the video depicts Azerbaijani soldiers torturing Armenian prisoners of war. The video begins with a warning that it is only suitable for people over the age of 18. The warning has been added by the user who made the video, rather than Meta. The English text reads "Stop Azerbaijani terror. The world must stop the aggressors." The video shows people who appear to be Azerbaijani soldiers searching through rubble. The video has been edited so that their faces cannot be seen. They find people in the rubble who are described in the caption as Armenian soldiers. Some appear to be injured, others appear dead. They pull one soldier from the rubble, who cries out in pain. His face is visible and he appears injured. An unseen person, potentially the person filming, shouts in Russian at an apparently injured soldier sitting on the ground, telling him to stand up. He attempts to do so. The content has been viewed fewer than 100 times, has received fewer than 10 reactions, and has not been shared or reported by anyone.

Meta's Coordinating Harm and Promoting Crime Community Standard prohibits

"content that reveals the identity or location of a prisoner of war in the context of an armed conflict," including by sharing imagery. According to the publicly available change log, which records changes Meta has made to its Community Standards, the company introduced this rule on 4 May 2022. Meta says that the content would ordinarily have been removed under that policy, as it shows the faces of the soldiers. However, it left the content on the platform under its newsworthiness allowance. Meta said "that the public interest in seeing the content outweighed the risk to the safety and dignity of the prisoners of war." Meta applied a warning screen to the content, marking it as "disturbing," under its Violent and Graphic Content Community Standard. The video was added to a Media Matching Service bank, which automatically identifies matching content and places a warning screen over it.

Meta referred the case to the Board, stating that it is difficult as it involves balancing the benefits of raising awareness of violence against prisoners of war against the potential harm caused by revealing their identity. Meta asked the Board to consider whether Meta's decision to allow the content represents an appropriate balancing of its values of "Safety," "Dignity," and "Voice," and whether it is consistent with international human rights principles.

The Board selected this case to explore Meta's policies and practices in moderating content that depicts prisoners of war. This case falls within the Board's "crisis and conflict situations" strategic priority.

The user was invited to explain the context of the content with the Board, after it selected the case. They did not reply by the given deadline.

The Board would appreciate public comments that address:



How social media platforms should moderate content depicting prisoners of war, including content that may originally have been created for the purpose of propaganda, which is now being shared with additional context to raise awareness of abuses.

The potential public interest value, and potential harms, of allowing content depicting prisoners of war on social media platforms.

How international humanitarian law (also known as the law of armed conflict) should inform Meta's human rights responsibilities when moderating content depicting prisoners of war.

How Meta could mitigate the risks of harm caused by either allowing or removing content depicting prisoners of war.

How Meta should approach preserving content depicting potential war crimes.

Insights into the socio-political context regarding the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, in particular regarding the treatment of prisoners of war.

In its decisions, the Board can issue policy recommendations to Meta. While recommendations are not binding, Meta must respond to them within 60 days. As such, the Board welcomes public comments proposing recommendations that are relevant to these cases. Public comments can be submitted [here](#).

Over the next few weeks, Board members will be deliberating this case. Once they have reached their final decision, we will post it on the Oversight Board [website](#).

## Armenia participates in International Agroindustrial Food Fair in Cuba



Under the auspices of the Armenian Ambassador to Cuba Anahit Harutyunyan and

the efforts of the trade representative's office, Armenia is participating for the first time in the International Agroindustrial Food Fair (FIAGROP) annual international agro-industrial exhibition-fair held in Havana from March 20 to 26.

Armenia showcases agricultural products, brandy and wines at the event.

FIAGROP 2023 is a space for the exchange between the participants through exhibi-

tions of products and services, workshops, conferences, product launches and business forums.

It allows participants to learn about sectoral policies, business and investment opportunities, as well as the scientific potential and international trends related to the field, which will constitute the basis for promoting commercial activities between the participating countries.

## Flyone Armenia adds Airbus A330 to its fleet to offer flights to new destinations

Flyone Armenia plans to add an Airbus A330 to its fleet as it's about to launch new flights.

Flyone Armenia Chairman of the Board Aram Ananyan told ARMENPRESS that they plan to launch flights to five new destinations.

The Airbus A330 has a longer range and can fly not only to Europe, Middle East, Russia, but also to China, Southeast Asia, India, and also conduct transcontinental flights across the ocean.

"It is a 252-seat plane, 222 seats are economy class while 30 are business class. Soon the aircraft will enter our fleet. We will soon acquire other planes of this class too, and they will change the quality of our services, raising it to a new level," Ananyan said.



The five new destinations offered by Flyone Armenia are Dusseldorf, Larnaca, Tehran, Samara and Novosibirsk, bringing the number of destinations to over 20.

During the summer season Flyone Armenia will offer a wide charter program. Ananyan reminded that Flyone Armenia flies to Egypt's Sharm el Sheikh and Hurghada, and Marsa Alam, Albania, Bulgaria and Greece will also be added. Pilots will

undergo the required trainings.

The Flyone Armenia executive said they select new destinations based on studies into the demand.

Ananyan said it is interesting that due to geopolitical changes Armenia has not only become a convenient country for point-to-point travel, but is also an interesting destination for transit travel, and Yerevan has all opportunities to become a transit hub.

"We'll have news in this regard as well. We focus on the Indian and Chinese markets. We are expanding our involvement in all directions – passenger transportation, cargo shipments, and tourist destination offers for the market," Ananyan said, adding that Flyone Armenia is the top aviation taxpayer among Armenian airlines.

## Armenian Duduk added to the permanent exposition of Geneva's Ethnography Museum

The Armenian Duduk, a musical instrument inscribed on the UNESCO intangible heritage list, will be included in the permanent exposition of the "Geneva Ethnography Museum (Musée d'ethnographie de Genève), the Armenian Embassy in Switzerland informs.

Ambassador Andranik Hovhannisyan handed over the Duduks during a solemn ceremony at the Museum.

He thanked the management of the

Museum and said in particular that "some see Duduk as a reflection of the Armenian soul, Duduk is not just another instrument, but the one that speaks to us, speaks in Armenian language."

A brief Duduk performance and an introduction on its history and Armenian musical traditions followed. Representatives of the Armenian community of Geneva participated in the event.





# ARMENIA

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## Armenian Identity Card

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Ensure the security

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

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