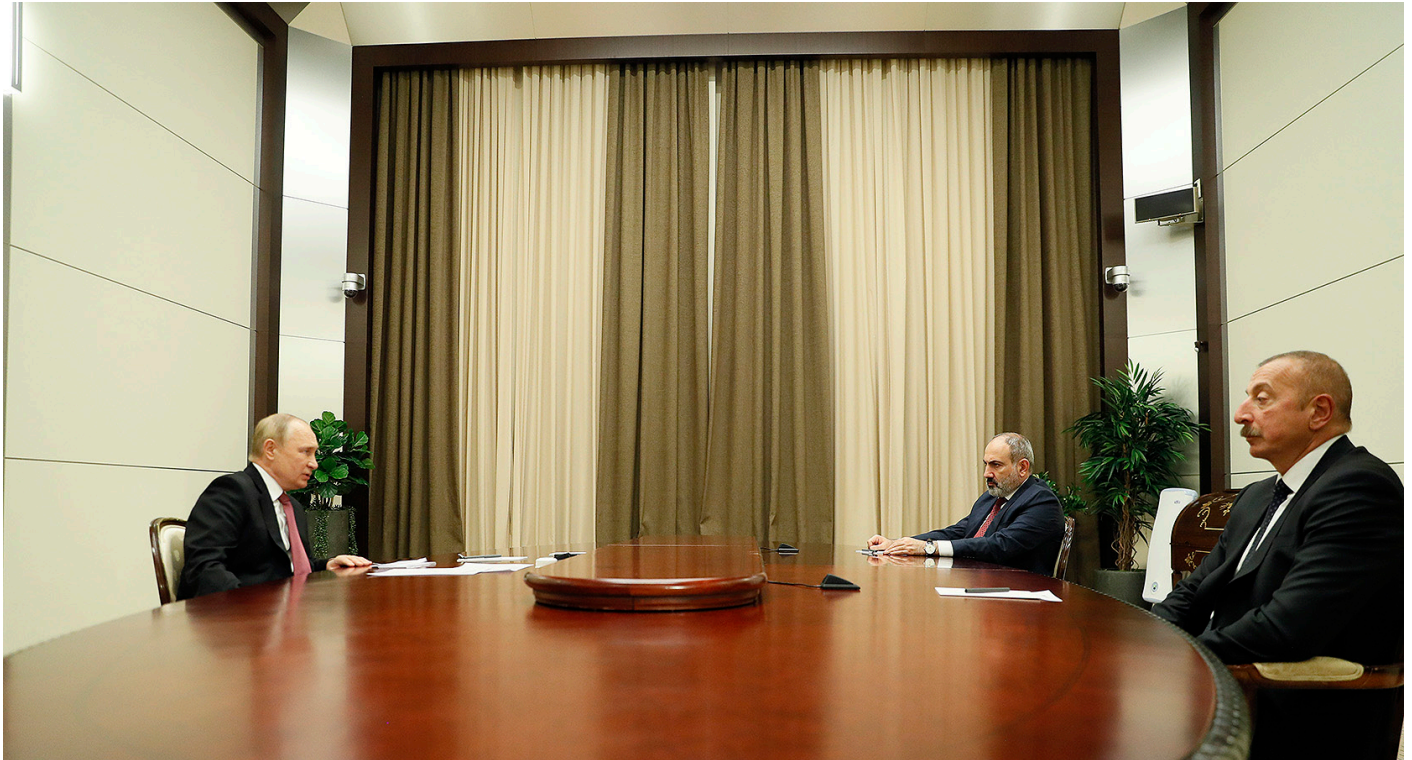


## Armenian PM reminds Azerbaijani President about PoWs in Baku



**Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinian, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev, and Russian President Vladimir Putin meet at the Kremlin on November 26.**

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has reminded Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev that dozens of Armenian prisoners of war are still being kept in Baku, more than one year after the end of hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh).

Pashinyan made the comments in response to remarks from Aliyev who claimed at a trilateral meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday, November 26 that the unblocking of transport communications remains the key problem to be addressed by the sides.

Aliyev also claimed that no significant incidents happen in the zone of responsibility of the Russian peacekeeping contingent, although within the past two months the Azerbaijani military has killed two civilians and injured three others.

Pashinyan disagreed with Aliyev who said that virtually all points of the trilateral statement on November 9, 2020, except for the one on unblocking communications, had already been fulfilled.

Addressing Putin, Pashinyan recalled that they had repeatedly discussed the problem of hostages, prisoners of war and other detainees. The Armenian PM described the matter as “a very important humanitarian issue”.

Pashinyan also maintained that they have gathered in Sochi not only to voice problems, but also to discuss ways to solve them.

The PM also reminded about the invasion of Azerbaijani troops into the sovereign territory of Armenia in Syunik and Gegharkunik provinces since mid-May.

He stressed that the situation in the region after the 44-day war is not as stable as the Armenian side would like it to be.

“After November 9 last year, several dozen people have been killed on both sides. Incidents happen in Karabakh as well. Since May 12, the situation on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border has been critical. Our assessment is that the Azerbaijani troops have invaded the sovereign territory of Armenia,” the PM said.

PM Pashinyan receives United Nations Under-Secretary-General Miguel Ángel Moratinos

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Armenian and Russian Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan and Sergey Lavrov discussed issues related to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict over the phone on No-

## Armenian, Russian FM's discuss implementation of trilateral agreements on Nagorno Karabakh

vember 24..

The parties attached importance to the lasting and comprehensive settlement of the conflict under the mandate of the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairmanship.

Ararat Mirzoyan presented the situation created after the recent aggression by the Azerbaijani Armed Forces against the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Armenia.

The Armenian Foreign Minister stressed the role of the Armenian-Russian allied relations in the context of the efforts aimed at establishing stability in the region.

Ararat Mirzoyan and Sergey Lavrov discussed the implementation of the trilateral statements of November 9, 2020 and January 11, 2021.

## PM Pashinyan receives United Nations Under-Secretary-General Miguel Ángel Moratinos

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan received United Nations Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Miguel Ángel Moratinos.

The PM noted that this is the first visit of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations to the Republic of Armenia at such a high level, and hoped that this visit will foster bilateral cooperation, as well as the dialogue between the peoples of our region.

High Representative Miguel Ángel Moratinos presented the main activity directions of the Alliance of Civilizations, highlighting Armenia's role and participation in the activities of the Alliance. He added that the Alliance is ready to contribute within its mandate to the promotion of tolerance in the region, the inter-religious



dialogue and preservation of religious sites.

PM Pashinyan highlighted the steps aimed at promoting dialogue and tolerance in the region, at the same time stressing the need for adequate response by the international community to Azerbaijan's aggressive actions.

The PM drew the attention of Mr. Moratinos to the facts of destruction and distortion of Armenian historical-cultural and religious heritage in the territories which

have passed under the Azerbaijani control as a result of the aggression against Artsakh, including the Azerbaijani actions against the St. Ghazanchetsots Church of Shushi and Dadivank monastery.

Pashinyan highlighted the access of the UNESCO fact-finding mission to Nagorno Karabakh and adjacent regions, stating that Azerbaijan demonstrates unconstructive behavior also on this matter. The Prime Minister attached importance to the entry of the UNESCO fact-finding group to Nagorno Karabakh and the surrounding regions, emphasizing the un-constructive behavior of Azerbaijan also in this issue.

Nikol Pashinyan specially emphasized the necessity for the operation of the humanitarian mission of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Artsakh.

## PM Pashinyan receives Deputy Prime Minister of Russia Alexei Overchuk

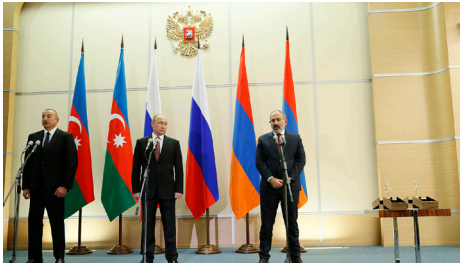
Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan received Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Alexei Overchuk and Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrey Rudenko. Deputy Prime Minister of Armenia Mher Grigoryan also attended the meeting.

Issues related to the agenda of bilateral cooperation between Armenia and Russia, as well as the activities of the trilateral working group of the Deputy Prime Min-



isters of Armenia, Russia and Azerbaijan were discussed.

The sides touched upon the prospects of restoration of transport communications in the South Caucasus region, the further course of the work carried out within the framework of the January 11 statement of the Prime Minister of Armenia, the President of Russia and the President of Azerbaijan.



Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan, President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin and President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev have adopted a joint statement upon the conclusion of trilateral talks in Sochi.

During a meeting in Sochi on November 26, 2021 the parties discussed the implementation of the November 9th statement on ceasefire and cessation of all hostilities in the zone of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, as well as the statement of January 11, 2021 on the unblocking of all economic and transport links in the region.

“We reaffirmed their commitment to further consistent implementation and unconditional observance of all the provisions of the statements of November 9,

## Leaders of Armenia, Russia, Azerbaijan adopt joint statement

2020 and January 11, 2021 in the interests of ensuring stability, security and economic development of the South Caucasus, and agreed to intensify joint efforts aimed at the earliest possible solution of the remaining issues arising from the statements of November 9, 2020 and January 11, 2021,” the statement reads.

The leaders noted the significant contribution of the Russian peacekeeping contingent to stabilizing the situation and ensuring security in the region.

“We agreed to take steps to increase the level of stability and security on the Azerbaijani-Armenian border and to work towards the creation of a bilateral Commission on the delimitation of the state border between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia with its subsequent demarcation with the consultative assistance of the Russian Federation at the request of the parties,” the leaders of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Russia stated.

“We highly appreciated the activities of the Trilateral Working Group, established in accordance with the Statement of January 11, 2021, under the joint chairmanship of the Deputy Prime Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Armenia and the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation to unblock all economic and transport links in the region. We emphasized the need to launch specific projects as soon as possible in order to unlock the economic potential of the region.,” they continued.

The Russian Federation will continue to provide all necessary assistance for the normalization of relations between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia, creating an atmosphere of trust between the Azerbaijani and Armenian peoples, as well as building good-neighboring relations in the region.

## Azerbaijan’s territorial claims on Armenia should be a subject of wider international discussion, PM Pashinyan says

Azerbaijan has adopted a policy of continuous aggression against Armenia and the issue should be in the focus of discussions of the international community, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said at an online press conference on November 23.

“In a post-war euphoria, Azerbaijan is actually trying to exercise the right of the “winner of the war,” something that does not exist in the modern world,” the Prime Minister said,

He added that Armenia, in turn, is trying to make every constructive effort to calm the situation in the region. The Prime Minister stressed that a member of the international community should have certain boundaries, and the international community should keep an eye on those boundaries, because otherwise, “we are witnessing a process of decay of international relations.”

“Azerbaijan is apparently laying territorial claims on Armenia. What does “Zangezur corridor “mean? What does “Eastern Zangezur” mean? Who has coined these terms and what does this mean? What does the “corridor logic” mean? We have declared

on many occasions and reiterate that we are not going to discuss any issue within that logic,” PM Pashinyan said.

He added, however, that this does not mean Armenia is refusing from the agenda of opening of regional communications.

“On the contrary, Armenia is perhaps more interested in the opening of regional communications. And in my opinion Azerbaijan is developing the “corridor logic” to abort the process,” the Prime Minister said, adding that the Armenian side will do its best not to allow it.

“This situation must go more international, because this is not an issue of Armenian-Azerbaijani relations only, this is an issue of international law and world order. The President of Azerbaijan says “we will stand wherever we want.” What does this mean? We need to understand whether there is a new world order where anyone can stand wherever they want. In other words, does this mean that a third country will stand wherever it wants in the territory of Azerbaijan, or does Azerbaijan indicate to all neighbors that it will stand wherever it wants? Does it mean



that a new page of international law opens? This should be the subject of serious international discussion. Is the involvement of mercenaries becoming a new right?” the Prime Minister stressed.

According to him, this is the reason why Armenia is taking the issue to several international platforms, including the International Court of Justice.

“We believe that Azerbaijan’s behavior should be discussed more and more widely, not only in the trilateral format, not only in the CSTO, not only in the UN, not only in The Hague, not only in the ECHR. I am going to take part in the Democracy Summit, which will take place online, and I am going to raise this issue there as well. What Baku is doing is an attack on Armenia’s sovereignty, statehood, independence and democracy by Azerbaijan and the countries that encourage it. We are going to pursue this issue on all possible international platforms. We will not limit ourselves,” Pashinyan concluded.

## Australian Parliament to debate recognition of Armenian Genocide



On Monday 29th November 2021, the Federal Parliament's House of Representatives will debate a Motion calling on the Australian Government to recognize the Armenian, Assyrian, and Greek Genocides, reports the Armenian National Committee of Australia (ANC-AU).

The Motion, which is being moved by Trent Zimmerman (MP for North Sydney) proposes that the Australian government uphold its commitment to the 1948 Con-

vention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide by recognizing "the genocide committed by the Ottoman Empire between 1915 and 1923 of Armenians, Assyrians, Greeks and other Christian minorities..."

"It matters because obviously genocides and genocidal intent continues into today," ANC-AU Executive Director Haig Kayserian said.

This motion comes 22 months following the launch of the Joint Justice Initiative which featured the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by the Armenian National Committee of Australia (ANC-AU), Assyrian National Council – Australia (ANC) and Australian Hellenic

Council (AHC), which declares Australia's recognition of the Armenian, Assyrian and Greek Genocides as a priority on behalf of their communities.

Since then, over 40 Federal parliamentarians have joined the Joint Justice Initiative pledging to support calls for national recognition of the Armenian, Assyrian and Greek Genocides. "We have long known that the Australian people stand for recognition and justice for the Armenian, Assyrian and Greek Genocides, and it is our expectation that their elected officials in Canberra will use this motion to collectively call on the Federal government to stand on the right of history," said Haig Kayserian.

## The agenda should not duplicate that of other platforms: Armenian PM on proposed 3+3 format

The agenda of the possible 3+3 format of regional cooperation should not duplicate that of other formats, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said at an online press conference on November 23.

There is an important nuance for us here, the Prime Minister said.

"It is important for us that the questions for which there are other formats, are not addressed within the 3+3 format," Pashinyan said.

For example, he noted, there is the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairmanship for the discussion of the Nagorno-Karabakh

conflict settlement, therefore, the question should not be considered within the 3+3 format.

"We have a trilateral working group to discuss the unblocking of regional infrastructures, and the issue must not be addressed within the framework of the 3+3 format," he added.

The Prime Minister said that the issues should not duplicate the agenda of other existing formats.

"Is it possible to formulate such issues? We'll see," he noted.

The Prime Minister stressed that the

government program reserves an important role to regional policy.

"We have said that the relations with the Russian Federation, the CSTO, the Eurasian Economic Union, the European Union, the United States are importance to us, but we want to carry out a more active regional policy," PM Pashinyan said.

"Our relations with Georgia are also very important. If we see that there is an opportunity to intensify our relations and form a positive agenda, we can discuss that opportunity," he added.

## Putin briefs EU's Michel on implementation of trilateral statements on Karabakh – Kremlin

Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed the Karabakh issue with the President of the European Council Charles Michel during a phone conversation on November 24

"At the request of Mr Michel, Vladimir Putin informed him about the steps taken to implement the provisions of the trilateral statements on Nagorno-Karabakh of November 9, 2020, and January 11, 202," the



Kremlin said in a press release following the conversation.

"These agreements will make it pos-

sible to restore peaceful life and rebuild economic and transport ties in the South Caucasus. The presidents of Russia and Azerbaijan and the prime minister of Armenia will review these matters at their meeting in Sochi on November 26," the Kremlin said.

Charles Michel will hold another meeting of the leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan on December 15.



Artsakh Human Rights Ombudsman's staff has published a Report on Malicious Prosecution by Azerbaijan of Captured Armenian Servicemen and Civilians.

The report provides information on fabricated and illegal prosecutions against the Armenian POWs and civilian captives

## 40 Armenian POWs and civilian captives convicted on baseless charges in Azerbaijan – Artsakh Ombudsman

which is a gross violation of the Geneva Conventions Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War.

As a result of the 45 illegal, groundless and falsified trials, 3 persons (one of them civilian) were sentenced to 20-year, 2 persons (civilian) to 15-year, 23 persons to 6-year, 2 persons to 4-year, 13 persons to 6-year imprisonment. Materials of fake

criminal cases of two Armenian prisoners of war are in the Ganja court of grave crimes

Five of the Armenian POWs subjected to illegal trials were repatriated on October 19, 2021. However, at the moment, 40 Armenian POWs and civilian captives are convicted on baseless charges in Azerbaijan.

## Dutch Parliament adopts motions on Azerbaijani provocations, Armenian POWs

The Dutch Parliament has adopted two motions on Azerbaijan's provocations against Armenia and the lack of democracy in the country, the Armenian Embassy in the Netherlands informs.

In one of the motions, the parliament calls on the government to work with the EU to conduct an independent investigation into the facts of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict and to report the results to the parliament as soon as possible.

The second resolution mentions the serious problems of human rights, free speech and freedom of the press in Azerbaijan, which are deepening. The resolution also addresses the issue of Armenian prisoners of war held in Azerbaijan.

Taking into account the participation of



Azerbaijan, a country far from European values, in the Eastern Partnership summit to be held on December 15, 2021, the Dutch parliament calls on the government

to draw conclusions from the above-mentioned situations during the EU-Azerbaijan negotiations within the EaP Summit.

## Russia ready to contribute to Armenian-Turkish normalization – Zakharova



Russia is ready to contribute to the normalization of Armenian-Turkish relations,

Spokesperson for the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Maria Zakharova said at a briefing with reporters on November 25..

She said Armenia has applied to Russia for mediation in process.

Russia is interested in this normalization and has even made efforts in that direction in the past Zakharova said, reiterating the willingness to continue the efforts.

“The start of the process would undoubtedly contribute to the improvement of the general situation in the region and formation of an atmosphere of good-neighboring relations, which is urgent today,” the Spokesperson said.

She said that if practical steps are taken, they will provide an update “if it does not harm the negotiation process given its sensitivity.”

## Armenian, Iranian FMs discuss creation of Persian Gulf-Black Sea corridor

The Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Iran Ararat Mirzoyan and Hossein Amir Abdollahian discussed issues of regional security over phone.

Minister Mirzoyan briefed his Iranian counterpart on the situation after the recent aggression by the Azerbaijani armed forces against Armenia's sovereignty and territorial integrity. He noted that Azerbaijan's recurrent aggression against Armenia is a serious threat to the efforts to establish security and stability in the region.

Ararat Mirzoyan praised Iran's position

on Armenia's territorial integrity and inviolability of borders.

The Foreign Ministers of the two countries also touched upon a number of issues of multifaceted cooperation between Armenia and Iran, expressing readiness to make efforts to further deepen the relations. The parties attached importance to high-level reciprocal visits.

The interlocutors exchanged views on expanding ties in the fields of trade, infrastructure and energy.



The interlocutors attached importance to the work towards creation of the Persian Gulf -Black Sea international transport corridor.

## Transportation in the South Caucasus will be carried out on the basis of international agreements, national legislations – Zakharova



Russia sees good perspectives for unblocking of regional transport communications in the South Caucasus, Spokesperson for the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Maria Zakharova told a briefing with jour-

nalists on November 25.

She noted that Moscow stands for consistent implementation of the agreements reached under the trilateral statements adopted on the highest level on November 9, 2020 and January 11, 2021, which relate, in part, to the unblocking of regional communications.

“The issue is addressed within the framework of the trilateral working group co-chaired by the Deputy Prime Ministers of Armenia, Russia and Azerbaijan. The whole set of issues was discuss during

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk's visits to Yerevan and Baku. We see good perspectives for the unblocking of transport communications, with the balance of interests of all parties taken into account,” the Spokesperson said.

“We also proceed from the assumption that international transportation on unblocked routes will be carried out on the basis of international agreements and national legislation of each of the parties,” Zakharova stressed.

## Sketches of future Ajapnyak Station of Yerevan Metro presented

Valery Abramson, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Metrogiprotrans company, has presented the sketches of the to-be-built Ajapnyak Station of Yerevan Metro to Mayor Hayk Marutyan.

The Russian company has won the tender to develop the design of the new station.

During a meeting in Yerevan Mayor Hayk Marutyuan and Valery Abramson discussed issues of design work and perspective development of the metro, which plays an important role in urban transport reforms.

Metrogiprotrans has proposed a \$ 500 million metro development project to the Armenian government. The Russian Export Credit Insurance Agency is ready to support the program on favorable terms.

“With these funds, we will be able to upgrade the infrastructure of the old metro, and plan the areas of the city where the stations can be expanded,” said Valerie Abramson.

According to the initial version of the project, it is planned to build a bridge over Hrazdan River for the metro. Metrogiprotrans also offers to build a second floor for



cars or pedestrians.

The parties noted, however, that building an underground station is more preferable, as underground stations are much more convenient for people using the subway and allow the development of various infrastructures.

## EU, WHO donate X-ray equipment to Surb Grigor Lusavorich Medical Center in Yerevan



On November 25, the European Union

and WHO donated X-ray equipment to the 'Surb Grigor Lusavorich' Medical Center for use in their radiology room.

The donation is part of a larger assistance package provided by the EU to help boost COVID-19 response in the country.

Precise and fast diagnostics is one of the keys to overcoming COVID-19 and other diseases. "We hope that the new equipment will help Armenia boost the

response to the pandemic by facilitating the monitoring of patients' progress and improving clinical decision-making. The European Union stands by Armenia and its people to fight against COVID together. I am happy that we visit the Medical Center today on the Fourth Anniversary of CEPA Agreement," said the Ambassador of the European Union to Armenia, Andrea Wiktorin.

## Lyon, Tel Aviv, Istanbul: FlyOne Armenia announces flights to seven destinations

FlyOne Armenia airline is announcing the sale of affordable air tickets to seven destinations.

The first flight of the company will be operated on December 15 to Moscow, Vnukovo International Airport. Ticket prices will start from 39 euros, and will

cost 34 euros for FlyOne Club members. All flights will be operated from Zvartnots international airport.

The airline will offer flights to Moscow, Tbilisi, Lyon, Tel Aviv, Krasnodar, Tehran, Kutaisi and Istanbul.

The airline offers three packages –

Standard, Loyal and Advantage. The tickets can be purchased on FlyOne's official website, through the mobile apps available in Google App and App Store or from all partner agencies.

## EU-Armenia SME Fund commissions a 4 MW solar power plant in Aragatsotn region

EU-Armenia SME Fund, a private equity fund managed by Amber Capital and sponsored by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the European Union (EU), has commissioned a 4 MW photovoltaic (PV) solar power plant in Partisak community of Aragatsotn region, Armenia.

The power plant is owned by Solis LLC, which was acquired by the Fund at the end of 2020 as a company holding a license and land plot to construct and operate a solar power station. The construction works were carried out by Ecoville and project financing was provided by Ameriabank.

The total expected annual generation of the power plant is c. 7.8 GWh, which is equivalent to the annual consumption of c. 2,000 Armenian households. As a result

of the power plant's operations, savings on CO2 emissions is c. 3,200 tons per annum – equivalent to planting approximately c. 120,000 trees or taking c. 1000 cars off the roads. During the construction process, approximately 100 jobs were created for the local community, aiding development in rural areas.

In addition to promoting the green agenda of Armenia, the PV plant helps to re-balance the energy matrix of the country, reducing reliance on imported energy sources and positioning the country for an environmental-friendly and sustainable future.

Anushavan Simonyan, CEO of Amber Capital Armenia, said: "Commissioning of our first solar project is an important milestone for the Fund's investment strategy to create a market-leading renewables portfo-



lio in Armenia with the highest ESG standards. Despite challenging circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the project was completed in less than seven months, with strict adherence to environmental, health, and safety standards. We are very pleased with the results and would like to thank our partners at Ecoville and Ameriabank for a successful collaboration. Renewable energy remains a top priority for Amber Capital, and we will continue investing in this space, helping Armenia to transition toward a low-carbon, vibrant economy."

## EBRD and multi-donor E5P fund to finance “green” buses for Yerevan



The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development is extending a €20 million sovereign loan to Armenia for the benefit of the Yerevan Bus Company to acquire approximately new compressed natural gas buses. The vehicles will improve the service for the city’s 1 million inhabitants by increasing the reliability, safety and efficiency of public transport while benefiting the environment by reducing emissions.

The EBRD loan is supported by a capital grant of €5 million provided by the Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership (E5P), a multi-donor fund managed by the EBRD. The European Union is the largest contributor to the E5P fund while Sweden is the largest bilateral donor and initiator of the fund. Other donors to the E5P fund in Armenia include the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Slovak Republic and the EBRD Taiwan Business TC Fund.

The project aims to enhance public

transport mobility in Yerevan and is part of the EBRD’s Green Cities Framework, which is a programme that supports municipal “green” investment, available across all of the economies where the EBRD invests. The new low-floor buses will accommodate passengers with limited movement, including the elderly and disabled.

The Yerevan Bus Company will also benefit from EBRD’s technical cooperation support for corporate development, support to the introduction of new ticketing system, stakeholder engagement taking the different needs and abilities of the passengers into account, as well as advisory to enhance gender equality and inclusion through promoting safety for all, women in particular.

Dimitri Gvindadze, EBRD Head of Yerevan office said: “This is yet another step to strengthen our engagement with the city of Yerevan. We are confident that the new buses will be well received by the public and will improve environmental and safety standards. This will boost demand for pub-

lic transport and facilitate its expansion. Our priority is to improve lives for the citizens of Armenia and make the environment more ‘green’.”

“The EU is happy to invest in smart mobility and sustainable urban transport through the new “green” buses initiative for Yerevan, to help to improve and modernise bus operations in the capital. This flagship initiative gives a clear pathway for the green investments that will be provided in order to reach our common climate targets. It will not only help to shape transport transformation and to care more about the environment, but also will provide safe, reliable and affordable transportation to passengers with limited movement,” mentioned the EU Ambassador to Armenia Andrea Wiktorin.

The European Green Deal and Team Europe initiative make it clear that environmental and climate challenges require urgent action by the EU, MSs and the partner countries. The EU and Armenia already have a significant track record in financially supporting and leveraging investments in connectivity and green transformation of economy. The E5P multi-donor fund has been fostering such investments in Armenia. Today’s signing event in relation to the EBRD-E5P Yerevan CNG Bus project has shown action at EU, national and local level.

The EBRD is a leading institutional investor in Armenia. Since the start of its operations in the country, the Bank has invested over €1.67 billion in 195 projects in the financial, corporate, infrastructure and energy sectors, with 91 per cent of these investments in the private sector.





## Involvement of mercenaries in the war against Artsakh being examined by European Court, lawyer says

One of the arguments of the complaint submitted by the Armenian side to the European Court of Human Rights against Turkey and Azerbaijan refers to the involvement of mercenary terrorists in the 2020 aggression against Artsakh, lawyer Artak Zeynalyan says.

“A general complaint has been submitted against Turkey and Azerbaijan on the ground of violation of the rights of citizens of the Republic of Armenia. One of the arguments relates to the recruitment and enslavement of Syrian mercenaries. Taking advantage of the fact that they are unable to make their living, they have been dragged into war. This is one of the arguments,” Zeynalyan said in an interview with Public Radio of Armenia.

According to him, the process is time consuming and it could take years for the Court to make a decision in the case.

“The proceedings will end with a judge-

ment of the European Court. It will take years, the complaint will be sent to the respondent, then it will be sent to the plaintiff, then the plaintiff will present its observations. Azerbaijan, in turn, will each time ask for an extension of the deadline to respond,” Zeynalyan said.

What will the decision of the European High Court give us? And what if Turkey and Azerbaijan refuse to comply with the judgement?

“The ECtHR judgment recognizes the fact of violation of the right and provides just compensation, according to which the respondent state must pay the established amount to the victim of the violation within three months,” Artak Zeynalyan told Public Radio’s Maria Papyan.

However, he added, the true value of the judgement is that it says “the situation that existed before the violation of the right must be restored.”

“If the right to life or the rights to protection from torture and ill-treatment have been

violated, the respondent state must conduct a thorough investigation to ensure that the balance is restored. The state should identify the culprits and hold them accountable. They should serve their sentence in full, and violation of any detail in this period leads to a repeated violation of the same violated right,” the lawyer said.

Zeynalyan noted that should Turkey and Azerbaijan refuse to comply with the judgement, “there are tools the Armenian side will use to restore the violated rights.”

While Azerbaijan and Turkey keep denying the fact of involvement of Syrian mercenaries in the war, there is plenty of evidence proving the opposite. Intelligence data and videos come to reinforce the facts.

On Sunday Journalist Lindsey Snell shared footage showing mercenaries recruited to fight against Artsakh complaining of Turkish-backed Suleiman Shah commander Abu Amsha, who, they say, stole their salaries.

## Jewish-Australian politician calls on Israel and Australia to recognize Armenian Genocide

Member of the New South Wales Legislative Council, Walt Secord rose in state parliament to call on the Australian Federal government and Israeli Parliament to recognize the Armenian Genocide, reported the Armenian National Committee of Australia (ANC-AU).

Secord, who is the current Shadow Minister for Police, Shadow Minister for Counter-Terrorism, Shadow Minister for Arts and Heritage, and Shadow Minister for the North Coast, is a long-standing advocate for the recognition of the Armenian, Assyrian and Greek Genocides by the Federal Government.

In his parliamentary address last week,

the Jewish-Australian who also co-convenes the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Armenia and the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Israel stated: “My history of studying and commemorating genocide events in Australia and internationally is a matter of record. I believe it is only by acknowledging history truthfully that we can help prevent acts of genocide from happening again.”

In his statement, Secord alluded to a move on 9th November by six Israeli parliamentarians, including former Speaker Yuli Edelstein, to officially recognize the Armenian Genocide and to establish an annual memorial day on 24th April each year.

“I bring this matter to the attention of the House as I am aware that it is of great interest to the Armenian and Jewish communities in New South Wales, which enjoy strong links and have worked in partnership on anti-racism issues through the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies and the Armenian National Committee of Australia,” added Secord.

Secord concluded his statement by reiterating his support for formal recognition of the 1915 Genocides by both Australia and Israel, particularly in light of last year’s recognition by the U.S. President and Congress.



Joe Biden has invited Armenia to a virtual summit on democracy alongside more than 100 countries. Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has already confirmed his participation in the event.

The meeting was long advertised, but the guest list was published Tuesday on the State Department's website.

Turkey, a NATO ally of the United States whose President Recep Tayyip Er-

## Official: Turkey and Azerbaijan not invited to Biden's Democracy Summit, Armenia to participate

dogan was dubbed an "autocrat" by US President Joe Biden, did not make the list. Azerbaijan, Russia and China are not on the list, either.

In the Middle East, only Israel and Iraq were invited. The traditional Arab allies of the US — Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — are all absent.

Biden also invited Brazil, which is led by controversial far-right President Jair Bolsonaro.

In Europe, Poland is represented, de-

spite recurring tensions with Brussels over respect for the rule of law, but Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban is not.

On December 9-10, 2021, President Biden will host a virtual summit for leaders from government, civil society, and the private sector. The summit will focus on challenges and opportunities facing democracies and will provide a platform for leaders to announce both individual and collective commitments, reforms, and initiatives to defend democracy and human rights at home and abroad.

## Armenian Parliament Speaker briefs French Senate President on post-war developments

On a working visit to Paris, the delegation headed by Speaker of the Armenian National Assembly Alen Simonyan was hosted by the President of the French Senate

November 23 the delegation led by the RA NA Speaker Alen Simonyan, who is in Paris on a working visit, was hosted by the President of the Senate of the French Republic Gérard Larcher.

Alen Simonyan thanked Mr. Larcher for the invitation to participate in the conference entitled "Armenia after a year." The President of the French Senate, in turn, thanked for accepting the invitation, noting that they closely follow the situation in Armenia and are well aware of the post-war developments.

The conference comes exactly a year after the French Senate adopted a resolution on the need to recognize the Nagorno Karabakh Republic and 20 years after the adoption of the law on recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

Alen Simonyan noted that the two historic events are exceptional manifestations of solidarity with Armenia and the Armenian people, and unique examples of unanimity in the domestic political life of France. In this context, the Armenian side praised the adoption of resolutions by both

houses of the French parliament condemning the Azerbaijani-Turkish aggression against Artsakh and the need to recognize the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, as well as humanitarian assistance provided by the French government and various organizations.

The parties referred to the provocative and aggressive actions of Azerbaijan on the border with Armenia, noting that Azerbaijan violates the trilateral statement of November 9, 2020.

Presenting details on the post-war situation, Alen Simonyan stressed Armenia's call for a clear and targeted response by international partners to these actions of the Azerbaijani side, which seriously endanger regional peace and security. The parties stressed the importance of the process of peaceful settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict under the auspices and mandate of the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairmanship. During the conversation, attention was drawn to the need for urgent settlement of post-war humanitarian issues, including the repatriation of all prisoners of war and civilian hostages.

The parties referred to the shooting in the direction of the Armenian positions lo-



cated near Norabak village of Gegharkunik region from the Armenian-Azerbaijani border hours before the meeting, which saw Armenian soldier Suren Safaryan killed, noting that Azerbaijan's aggressive actions are also an encroachment on democracy.

The interlocutors spoke about the significant role of inter-parliamentary cooperation in the development of interstate relations, as well as the dynamics of the Armenian-French high-level political dialogue.

The meeting concluded with the signing of a cooperation agreement between the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia and the Senate of the Republic of Armenia, which envisages multipolar cooperation between the legislatures in favor of the existing friendship and solidarity between the two countries.

## Armenian Armath Engineering Laboratories expand to Dhaka, Bangladesh

From October 29 to November 4 the joint delegation of the Bangladeshi partners of the Union of Advanced Technology Enterprises (UATE) visited Armenia to discuss the opening of an Armath Engineering Laboratory in the capital Dhaka. The opening of the laboratory is planned to take place in the spring of 2022 at the Dhaka Air Force School in cooperation with the DIP (Development Innovation Platform) Foundation.

The Bangladeshi delegation consisted of 7 representatives of the Bangladeshi High Tech Park Authority (Ministry of Information Technology and Communication) and 3 representatives of the DIP (Development Innovation Platform) Foundation.

The UATE partners visited an Armath Lab in Yerevan and in the regions, as well as an Armath Airborne UAV lab in Dilijan, where they had an opportunity to meet the students of the Monte Melkonian Lyceum. The guests expressed confidence that the opening of an Armath Lab in Dhaka will greatly contribute to the professional orientation of the youth.



“The purpose of the visit of the representatives of the state and public sphere of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh was to transfer the positive experience and the applicable result of the educational project created in Armenia and to reveal the features of implementation. The visits to schools and laboratories helped the decision-makers to get a general idea about the purpose and the implementation of the Armath project. The representatives of the Bangladeshi delegation pointed out that they will present Armath to their High Tech Park Authority, and will pursue the issue of implementing Armath in the Republic of Bangladesh,” said Shamam Gevorgyan, director of UATE educational programs.

It was decided that the two Bangladeshi

teachers would visit Armenia before the opening of the lab in Dhaka to undergo relevant training on the Armath methodology and gain working knowledge. The prospect of opening Armath Labs in other parts of Bangladesh will be considered in the near future.

The UATE started the process of exporting the Armenian educational model years ago, registering practical success, opening Armath Engineering Laboratories first in India and now in Bangladesh. The latter’s delegation visited Armenia in 2019, during the days of the annual DigiTec Expo, when they and their counterparts from Ethiopia, Afghanistan and Morocco were hosted at the Armath Lab in Agarak. There they got acquainted with the peculiarities of the program, the successes registered and the projects of the students of the lab.

It’s noteworthy that at the moment around 600 Armath Engineering Laboratories operate on the territory of Armenia (including Artsakh), Georgia and India, where around 15000 students get free engineering education.

## Angela Merkel visits TUMO Berlin

On November 22, German Chancellor Angela Merkel visited the TUMO Berlin center.

Merkel had virtually toured the center as part of an online dialogue with TUMO CEO Marie Lou Papazian earlier in the year.

During the visit, the Chancellor not only observed how TUMO’s program was implemented

at the educational facility in Germany, but also discussed plans to extend it to other parts of the country.

Chancellor Merkel emphasized that



TUMO offers the opportunity for children and young people to meet and learn together. She said there is a “great variety of topics and great individuality” where

everyone can determine their learning pace.

Here, young people can learn how to use various digital technologies for free and in a state-of-the-art environment. The aim is to better prepare young people for their later job and career choices, which are becoming increasingly digital. The students determine

their focus and their learning pace and are also responsible for their own learning success.

## “Artsakh is in my Heart”: AMAA 102nd Annual Meeting in Fresno with the Guest of Honor Artsakh State Minister Artak Beglaryan

*“Everybody was delighted by Mr Beglaryan...”*

By **Gourgen James Khazhakian**,  
Honored Journalist of Armenia

Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) held its 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meetings on October 21-24 on the Campus of Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church in Fresno.

Below the reader will find its chronicle with some comments.

### The Official Meeting

As Armenian American author **Philip Tavlian** writes, “the missionary arm of the Armenian Evangelical



Church worldwide, the AMAA gathering, included AMAA members and delegates from the Armenian Evangelical Unions in North America, France, the Middle East, the Republic of Armenia and Eurasia as well as the Stephen Philibosian Foundation”. Members who could not attend in person were able to join virtually via Zoom.

During the meeting, AMAA Executive Director/CEO **Zaven Khanjian** presented his report covering the Association’s activities during the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year. Reports were also received from the AMAA Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs, as well as Representatives of the Armenian Evangelical Unions. The Arme-

nian Evangelical World Council and affiliated organizations presented their reports, shared their joys and concerns and praised God for another successful year despite restrictions due to the COVID pandemic.

During the Annual Meeting, its Guest of Honor Mr. **Artak Beglaryan**, State Minister of Republic of Artsakh, greeted the attendees and credited the AMAA for its values and spirit of service which he received at the same AMAA Summer Camps in Artsakh that he attended in his childhood. Mr.



Beglaryan was in California at the invitation of the AMAA, as guest of Honor and Keynote speaker at the Association’s Banquet on Saturday evening.

Reportedly, at the conclusion of the meeting, guests from all over the world toured “Armenian Fresno,” visiting the David of Sassoon monument by **Varaz Samuelian** (a close friend of the great **William Saroyan**), the **Lawrence Condrajian** Cone-designed Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church, the William Saroyan Residence, the Masis Ararat Cemetery, the **Soghomon Tehlirian** Monument and the Armenian Genocide Monument on the campus of California State University, Fresno.

The meeting was followed by the

102<sup>nd</sup> Banquet dedicated to the Artsakh Republic.

### The Banquet

Banquet Co-sponsors and Co-Chairs **John Abdulian**, M.D., and **LindaKay Bedrosian Abdulian** welcomed the attendees at the jam-packed hall. Mrs. Abdulian, President of National Raisin Company and AMAA Board Member, served as Master of Ceremonies and thanked AMAA President Nazareth Darakjian, M.D., and Executive Director Zaven Khanjian for their excellent leadership.

Tenor **Misak Israelyan**, a native of Vanadzor, performed the anthems of the United States of America and Republic of Armenia. Reverend **Gregory Vahack Haroutunian** offered the prayer of invocation.

According to Philip Tavlian, guests were shown a special video of the AMAA Bedrosian Camp in Shushi, Artsakh. The video recounted 17 years of AMAA camp ministry in Shushi, with more than 800 young people participating each summer. The video also saluted Carlotta Bedrosian, her late husband Ernest, Katherine and her late husband Krikor Bedrosian, Kenneth and Jane Bedrosian, and their extended family for faithful sponsorship of AMAA’s Bedrosian Camp in Sushi since 2003. However... the camp was tragically lost when the Azeri aggressors invaded the ancient Armenian city of Shushi in the 44-day war...

Nonetheless, Zaven Khanjian addressed the guests with the following: “*Bedrosian Camp is not a building, land, or soil—it is a spirit. We will build a camp in Shushi one more time!*” (which attracted a round of applause!!)

**Nazareth Darakjian** presented an oil painting of “Camp Bedrosian” to the **Bedrosian** Family and **Harout Necessian**, AMAA Armenia Representative, presented the family with al-

bums of photographs from the 25-year camping ministry.

Following this, Misak Israelyan performed for the guests the hymn, “How Great Thou Art,” in the English language and the “Artsakh anthems”, “Life and Battle” and “We Will Live,” in Armenian.

Reportedly, two high-ranking diplomats were at the banquet.

**Lilit Makunts**, the newly-appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the United States, highly appreciated the AMAA for its humanitarian aid, inspiring the Armenian people to hope for a better life and future, and for emphasizing the education of youth. In Mrs Makunts’ words, “After the 44-day Artsakh war, we have only one place to go-forward!”

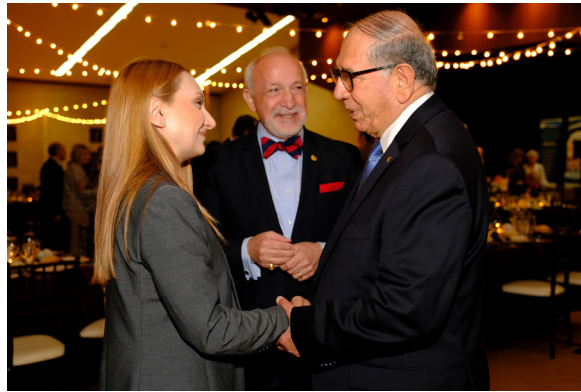
Ambassador **Armen Baibourtian**, Ph.D., Consul General of the Republic of Armenia in Los Angeles, expressed delight at being present at the Banquet and described Fresno as “the place where our Armenian roots are in the Western United States.” Ambassador Baibourtian was accompanied by **Berj Apkarian**, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Armenia in Fresno since 2014.

**Introduction of the Guest of Honor**



The Banquet Committee intro-

duced the keynote speaker with an AMAA video entitled, “A Success Story Against All Odds.” As it is well known, Artak Beglaryan, State Minister of the Artsakh Republic, lost his sight in a landmine incident in 1995. A onetime camper at the AMAA Camp in Stepanakert, Beglaryan went on to study at Yerevan State University, University College London, and the



Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts. He served as Human Rights Ombudsman of Artsakh for two years and was appointed State Minister on June 1, 2021.

According to Phil Tavlian and **Louisa Janbazian**, widow of the late Reverend Movses Janbazian (who in fact founded AMAA Armenia presence in 1989), Beglaryan opened his remarks by saying, “It’s symbolic to

*be in Fresno because it is the symbol*

*of survival and revival after the Genocide of 1915. The example of Fresno will be highly encouraging to us.”* Beglaryan examined the future of Artsakh following the 44-day war and cited long-term and short-term challenges. The long-term challenges include: (1) security, (2) demography; (3) economic development; (4) government reforms; and (5) education. Beglaryan said the short-term challenges include: (1) housing; (2) social and labor productivity; (3) physical and psychological rehabilitation of the populace; (4) infrastructure; and (5) institutional capacity. To address these challenges, Minister Beglaryan called for self-analysis at all levels, unity, strategic thinking, patience, persistence, and an attitude of service. “*Jesus sacrificed His life to give us a chance; the Artsakh soldiers sacrificed their lives for the same goal. We should so live our lives that their lives were not given in vain,*” this truly heroic man concluded.

Zaven Khanjian presented Minister Beglaryan and his advisor, **David Hagopian**, with a variety of gifts, including a framed motto, written in English and braille “Perseverance—Never Give Up!” Khanjian thanked the Host and Banquet Committees and the Armenian Community of Fresno for their warm hospitality. He concluded with the words of Jesus of Nazareth: “*Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.*’ [Mark 16:15] *AMAA’s march goes on!*”

**Courtesy Visits**

As an executive at the AMAA told your author, before AMAA’s Annual meeting, on Wednesday, October 20, Artsakh State Minister and the guests paid visits to Archbishop **Hovnan Derderian**, Primate of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church of North America at St. Leon Armenian Cathedral in Burbank, CA and Bishop **Torkom Donoyan**, Prelate of the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church (Great House of Cilicia - edit.) in La Crescenta. The fol-

Following week, Mr. Khanjian accompanied Mr. Beglaryan to pay visits to the Consulate General of Armenia, St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Catholic Cathedral and the Headquarters of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America in Glendale, CA.

#### At the Consulate General of Armenia in Los Angeles

Below is a press release of the Consulate General of the Republic of Armenia in Los Angeles:

THE STATE MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARTSAKH HON. ARTAK BEGLARYAN VISITED THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF ARMENIA IN LOS ANGELES  
GLENDALE

On October 25, the Consul General of Armenia in Los Angeles Ambassador *Armen Baibourtian* met with the State Minister of the Republic of Artsakh Artak Beglaryan, his Senior Adviser David Hakopyan, and Archbishop *Pargév Martirosyan*. The meeting was also attended by the Executive Director/CEO of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) Zaven Khanjian, the AMAA representative in Armenia Harout Nercessian, the AMAA representative in Artsakh *Viktor Karapetyan*, and the President of the Armenian Evangelical Community of Syria and Secretary of the Armenian Evangelical World Council (AEWC) the Rev. Dr. *Haroutune Selimian*. The interlocutors discussed the consequences of the 44-day Artsakh war, the current situation in the Artsakh Republic, as well as issues related to providing humanitarian assistance to the war-torn people of Artsakh. The



agenda items also included discussion regarding the programs of the Government of Artsakh aimed at providing housing to the displaced persons as a direct result of the war. Ambassador Baibourtian stressed the need to increase the unified role of the Diaspora in support of programs aimed towards the economic and human development of Artsakh.

And another one...

RECEPTION IN HONOR OF STATE MINISTER OF ARTSAKH ARTAK BEGLARYAN WAS HELD AT THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF ARMENIA IN LOS ANGELES  
GLENDALE

On October 27, a reception was held at the Consulate General of Armenia in Los Angeles in honor of the State Minister of the Republic of Artsakh Artak Beglaryan. The reception was attended by leaders of ecclesiastical, political, cultural, business, and benevolent organizations of the Armenian community of California as well as community members. Elected U.S. officials also came to meet with the Artsakh State Minister. Among them were California State Senators *Anthony Portantino* and *María Elena Durazo*, California State Assembly members *Adrin Nazarian* and *Laura Friedman*, Los Angeles City Council member *Paul Krekorian*,

and representatives of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. The Consul General of Armenia in Los Angeles Ambassador Armen Baibourtian invited H.E. Archbishop Pargév Martirosyan for a prayer to begin the reception with an invocation and deliver remarks.

Welcoming the guests, Ambassador Baibourtian stressed the im-

portance of the visit of Artsakh State Minister Artak Beglaryan and noted that it was a good opportunity to get acquainted with the current situation in Artsakh, its future programs, and to outline the important role of the Armenian community of California in these programs. As at the Banquet, the State Minister presented to the Armenian-American community the five main pillars to build the future of Artsakh: stable security, improved demography, sustainable economic development, high-quality education, and effective governance. State Minister Beglaryan spoke about the plans in the framework of those five pillars and the role of the Armenian Diaspora in it.

Speeches were also delivered by the Executive Director/CEO of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) Zaven Khanjian, who was also the co-host of the reception, along with the Consul General. Further speeches were delivered by the Senior Advisor to the State Minister, *David Hakopyan* as well as elected state and local officials present at the event. They presented certificates of recognition to the State Minister of the Republic of Artsakh and assured their continued support and commitment to stand by the people of Artsakh”.

To be continued

# 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.

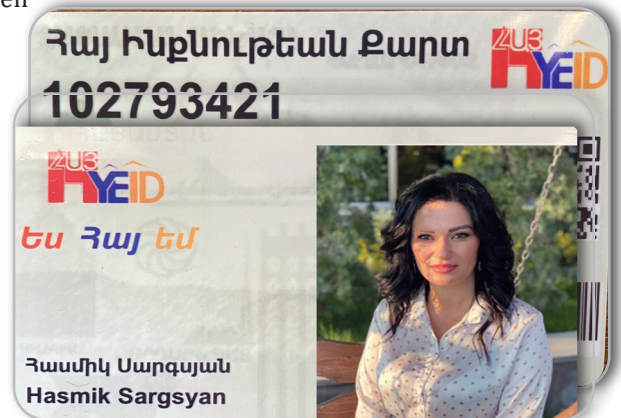
The Armenian Identity Card (HyeID) cardholders who live in the Diaspora intend to utilize the possibilities made available through HyeID to form a Diaspora representative body — Diaspora Armenian Parliament — through democratic elections.

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