

Armenia, Azerbaijan agree to form bilateral commission on delimitation by the end of April



Belgium - European Council President Charles Michel, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev begin a trilateral meeting in Brussels, April 6, 2022.

The leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan have agreed to start drafting a bilateral “peace treaty” and set up a joint commission on demarcating the Armenian-Azerbaijani border during fresh talks in Brussels hosted by European Council President Charles Michel.

“We have decided all together to launch a concrete process, to prepare a possible peace treaty and to address all necessary elements for such a treaty,” Michel told reporters on April 6 after his trilateral meeting with Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev that lasted for more than four hours.

“I am confident that tonight we took an important step in the right direction,” he said. “It doesn’t mean everything is solved. But it means that we made progress.”

In a written statement issued shortly afterwards, Michel said Aliyev and Pashinyan pledged to “move rapidly” towards the comprehensive treaty meant to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. They will instruct their foreign ministers to “work on

the preparation” of such a deal, added the head of the European Union’s main decision-making body.

The Armenian government’s press office confirmed these instructions in a statement on the late-night talks.

Baku wants the peace deal to be based on five elements, including a mutual recognition of each other’s territorial integrity. Pashinyan has publicly stated that they are acceptable to Yerevan in principle, fuelling Armenian opposition claims that he is ready to recognize Azerbaijani sovereignty over Karabakh.

Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan said last week that Yerevan will also raise the issue of Karabakh’s status with the Azerbaijani side. The Armenian government statement on the Brussels talks made no mention of the issue.

Michel said after the talks that the two sides now have a better understanding of possible parameters of the deal. But he did not elaborate.

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Armenia reaffirms its commitment to ensure the right of the people of Artsakh to a free, secure, dignified life in their homeland

The Republic of Armenia reaffirms its commitment to ensure the right of the people of Artsakh to a free, secure, dignified life in their homeland, and emphasizes the urgency of the international community's efforts to prevent threats to existential security of the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh, the Armenian Foreign Ministry said in a statement on the 30th anniversary of the Maragha massacre.

The statement reads:

30 years ago, on April 10, 1992, the Azerbaijani armed forces carried out an unprecedented massacre of peaceful population in the village of Maragha in the Martakert region of Artsakh, which resulted in complete annihilation of the Armenian settlement with a population of about 5,000.

The war crimes in Maragha are documented in the reports of international human rights organizations, including

Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, which state that the atrocities committed against Armenians resulted in the brutal murder of at least 50 people, and 30 women, 29 women and 9 children were taken hostage, the fate of 19 of whom is still unknown.

The massacre in Maragha, which was the continuation of the pogroms of Armenians in Sumgait, Kirovabad and Baku, was another manifestation of the policy of ethnic cleansing and hatred against Armenians by the Azerbaijani authorities.

The impunity of the masterminders and perpetrators of the massacres of Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh and in the Armenian-populated cities of Azerbaijan, their glorification, and the anti-Armenian policy pursued for years laid the foundation for committing new massacres.

Currently, the consistent targeting of

the Armenian peaceful population in Nagorno-Karabakh and creation of humanitarian crisis by the Azerbaijani armed forces, as well as the incursion into the area of responsibility of the Russian peacekeeping forces since March 24, 2022, resulting in forcible displacement of more than 400 people, demonstrate the real objective of the official Baku – the complete ethnic cleansing of Artsakh.

Today we pay tribute to the memory of the victims of the Maragha massacre. The Republic of Armenia reaffirms its commitment to ensure the right of the people of Artsakh to a free, secure, dignified life in their homeland, and emphasizes the urgency of the international community's efforts to prevent threats to existential security of the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Pashinyan, Blinken Discuss Armenian-Azeri Summit

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan spoke with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken by phone on April 5 before flying to Brussels for potentially crucial talks with Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev.

An Armenian government statement on the phone call said they discussed, among other things, "processes taking place in the South Caucasus" and "increased tensions over Nagorno-Karabakh."

"The parties stressed the importance of ensuring stability and peace in the region, emphasizing the importance of the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs' format," the statement said, adding that they also touched upon the Armenian-Azerbaijani summit that will be hosted on Wednesday by

Charles Michel, the top European Union official.

Aliyev and Pashinyan decided last week to meet in Brussels as Azerbaijan pressed Armenia to accept its proposals on a "peace treaty" between the two nations. They scheduled the trilateral meeting with Michel a week after Azerbaijani troops seized a village in eastern Karabakh and tried to push deeper into the territory, sparking deadly fighting with Karabakh Armenian forces.

Russia called for an immediate Azerbaijani withdrawal from the "zone of responsibility" of 2,000 Russian peacekeepers stationed in Karabakh.

The U.S. State Department likewise de-



plored the Azerbaijani troop movements, calling them "irresponsible and unnecessarily provocative." Baku rejected the criticism.

Pashinyan was reported to brief Blinken on "the situation in Karabakh caused by the actions of Azerbaijani army units."

The two men also discussed U.S.-Armenian relations and the conflict in Ukraine, according to the official Armenian readout of their phone call.

Pashinyan briefs Putin on results of Brussels meeting



Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has briefed Russian President Vladimir Putin on the results of the Brussels

meeting with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and President of the European Council Charles Michel.

During a phone conversation the interlocutors attached importance to the agreements on signing a peace agreement with Azerbaijan and launching delimitation works. The President of the Russian Federation expressed readiness to fully support these processes.

Reference was made to the intrusion of Azerbaijani units into the area of responsi-

bility of the Russian peacekeeping contingent in Nagorno Karabakh. Prime Minister Pashinyan said the Armenian side expects the Russian peacekeepers to take concrete measures to ensure the withdrawal of the Azerbaijani units.

Nikol Pashinyan and Vladimir Putin touched upon the issues of economic cooperation between the two countries and agreed that those will be discussed in detail during Nikol Pashinyan's official visit to Russia on April 19.

Security guarantees and status of Artsakh should be a subject of negotiations – Armenian PM



Guarantees of the security of the people of Artsakh, protection of their rights and freedoms, as well as the clarification of the final status of Nagorno Karabakh are included in Armenia's answers to Azerbaijan's proposals and should be the subject of negotiations, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said at the government sitting on April 6.

"Of course, as before, we consider the involvement of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs essential in this process, and we must continue to work in that direction," the Prime Minister said, briefing the cabinet on the results of the Brussels meeting with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and President of the EU Council Charles Michel.

"Naturally, there was a discussion about the deterioration of the security environment in Nagorno Karabakh, particularly the events in Parukh, but those discussions did not lead to a joint assessment of the situation. I must also say that I did

not consider the further discussion of this particular topic appropriate in the Brussels platform, because it is about the intrusion of Azerbaijani units into the area of responsibility of the Russian peacekeeping mission in Nagorno Karabakh. Therefore, the issue should rather be discussed with the participation of the partners from the Russian Federation, and we are going to do that," PM Pashinyan said.

"We expect that the peacekeepers of the Russian Federation in Nagorno Karabakh will take measures to ensure the withdrawal of Azerbaijani units from their area of responsibility," he added.

Lavrov Claims U.S., France Have 'Abandoned' Russia as OSCE Minsk Group Chair

Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on April 8 claimed that France and the U.S. have refused to cooperate with Russia as a co-chair of the OSCE Minsk Group, adding that the West has prioritized its campaign against Russia over the settlement of the Karabakh conflict.

"I do not know what fate awaits this mediation group since our French and American colleagues—under the wave of Russophobia—have abandoned everything having to do with the Russian Federation. They also have canceled the Minsk Group chairmanship, announcing that they will not work with in that capacity," Lavrov announced during a joint press conference with his Armenian counterpart Ararat Mirzoyan, who is in Moscow on an official visit.

"That is their right," Lavrov added. "If they are ready to sacrifice the Karabakh issue, and generally their interests in the Caucasus, and they are willing, at any given moment, to [abandon] the interests of the Armenian side, that's their choice."

This serious claim, which has not been confirmed by either France or the United States, was downplayed by Mirzoyan, who insisted that the international community

continues to view the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs as the only viable entity that will bring a settlement to the Karabakh conflict.

Since the end of the 2020 War, the U.S., France and, to a certain extent, Russia have announced that the Karabakh conflict has not ended because a status for Karabakh has not been determined, all saying that the Minsk Group co-chairs must be negotiations to this end.

"The current geopolitical situation in the world has made the work of the OSCE Minsk Group, significantly complicated, but I am receiving signals from the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs and leaders of many other countries—and I want to confirm that although Azerbaijani partners say the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs have ceased to exist, that they have nothing else to do, because the conflict no longer exists, there is no region called Nagorno Karabakh—the international community continues to see the settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict within the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-chairs' format, which is very encouraging," Mirzoyan said.

Armenia's Foreign Minister discussed the recent incursion by Azerbaijani forces



into the villages of Artsakh's Askeran region, from where they have advanced to the strategic Karaglukh Heights. He also accused Azerbaijan of advancing a humanitarian crisis in Artsakh.

"In this regard, I once again highlighted the importance of the complete work of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairmanship," Mirzoyan told reporters at the press conference.

Mirzoyan and Lavrov also discussed their two countries' cooperation efforts in the fields of defense, that includes technical and political facets, as well as the overall situation in the South Caucasus.

The two top diplomats highly praised Russian-Armenian cooperation in the military sector and pledged to continue to advance those ties.

Armenian Opposition Rally Rejects ‘New Concessions’ to Azerbaijan

(RFE/RL) - Armenia’s two main opposition alliances rallied thousands of supporters in Yerevan on Tuesday to warn Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan against agreeing to restore Azerbaijan’s control over Nagorno-Karabakh.

Leaders of the Hayastan and Pativ Unem blocs said that Pashinyan is ready to make this and other concessions to Baku. They also accused him of jeopardizing Armenia’s territorial integrity with his conciliatory policy towards Azerbaijan.

“These authorities have no mandate to lead the country to new concessions with false promises of peace,” Hayastan’s Ishkhan Saghatelyan told the crowd that gathered in Yerevan’s Liberty Square.

Saghatelyan claimed that instead of strengthening national defense and security they are preparing the ground for “new concessions” by scaring Armenians with the prospect of another war with Azerbaijan.

“None of us present here wants war, but we can’t surrender to the butcher,” said Aram Vartevanyan, another senior Hayastan figure.



“We can’t lose again because we have nothing to lose anymore,” agreed Pativ Unem’s Hayk Mamijanyan.

A resolution presented by the two opposition groups to the demonstrators says that Armenia must remain a guarantor of Nagorno-Karabakh’s security and avoid signing a peace treaty with Azerbaijan that would undermine the Karabakh Armenians’ right to self-determination. It warns that failure to do this would spark a popular uprising.

“Any government that deviates from our vital demands will be sent to hell,” Saghatelyan declared before the protesters marched to a key street intersection in central Yerevan and blocked traffic through it

for an hour.

The opposition warnings came on the eve of Pashinyan’s talks with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev that will be hosted by European Council President Charles Michel in Brussels.

The talks are expected to focus on an Armenian-Azerbaijani “peace treaty.” Baku wants such a deal to be based on five elements, including a mutual recognition of each other’s territorial integrity. Pashinyan has publicly stated that they are acceptable to Yerevan in principle, fuelling opposition claims that he is ready to recognize Azerbaijani sovereignty over Karabakh.

Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan and other political allies of Pashinyan have said that Yerevan will also raise the issue of Karabakh’s status in upcoming negotiations with the Azerbaijani side.

Baku has ruled out any discussions on the status, with Aliyev repeatedly saying that the Azerbaijani victory in the 2020 war put an end to the Karabakh conflict.



High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission Josep Borrell has hailed the decision of Yerevan and Baku to “work towards a stable and secure South Caucasus.”

“Crucial efforts and progress made be-

“Crucial efforts and progress made between Armenia and Azerbaijan” – High Representative Josep Borrell

tween Armenia and Azerbaijan to work towards lasting peace and a stable and secure South Caucasus,” Borrell said in a Twitter post.

“In the current geopolitical context, it is more important than ever to find ways to engage and to diplomatically solve conflicts,” he added.

Based on the results of the meeting in Brussels mediated by EU Council President Charles Michel, an agreement was

reached to set up a bilateral commission on border delimitation between Armenia and Azerbaijan until the end of April envisaged in the agreement reached in Sochi on November 26, 2021, which will be authorized to deal with security and stability issues along the border.

The Prime Minister of Armenia and the President of Azerbaijan instructed the Foreign Ministers to start preparations for peace talks between the two countries.

Defense Minister receives Head of CoE Armenia Office

Minister of Defense of Armenia Suren Papikyan received on April 6 Martina Schmidt, Head of the Council of Europe’s Office in Yerevan, the ministry said in a news release.

“The process of the 2nd phase of the project “Human Rights and Women in the Armed Forces in Armenia” and its implementation were discussed during the meeting.

The Minister of Defense highly valued

the activities carried out so far within the Armenia-CoE partnership aimed at raising awareness in the armed forces, protecting human rights, including rights of female officers, strengthening the efficiency of legal processes on military cases, developing and ensuring the continuation of military education, the staff skills and capacities”, the ministry said in the press release, adding that Suren Papikyan at-

tached importance to the continuation of the aforementioned project and expressed the readiness of the Armenian side for the further development of cooperation.



Armenian death toll In Ukraine revealed

At least 23 ethnic Armenian citizens or residents of Ukraine have been killed since the start of the Russian invasion, according to leaders of the country's Armenian community.

Davit Mkrtchian, the deputy chairman of the Union of Armenians of Ukraine, said on April 6 that 18 of them were civilians while the five others served in the Ukrainian military.

"We pray that the real number [of Armenian deaths] is not higher," Mkrtchian told RFE/RL's Armenian Service. "Once in every two or three days we hear about people getting killed here and there."

Estimates of the number of ethnic Armenians who lived in Ukraine before the war vary from 100,000 to 400,000. Many of them are said to hold Armenian passports. The European Union has allowed them to enter Ukraine's EU neighbors without Schengen visas.

Like millions of Ukrainians, many local Armenians have fled the country since the start of the conflict on February 24. But even their approximate number remains unknown to both the community leaders and Armenia's government.

The Foreign Ministry in Yerevan said last month that it has not organized charter flights for such refugees because few of them are willing to relocate to Armenia.

Mkrtchian disputed that claim, saying that many Armenians expressed a desire to take refuge in Armenia at the start of the devastating war.

According to the Kyiv-based activist, a large number of Armenians remain trapped in Ukraine's eastern Donbas region, the epicenter of fierce fighting, and, in particular, the regional city of Mariupol besieged and partly occupied by Russian troops.

Karen Ghulian, an Armenian-born man, lived in Mariupol for over two de-



cedes. Ghulian said that he, his family and a group of other local Armenians risked their lives to flee the war-torn city late last week.

"I realized that if we don't get out, I could lose my family," he told RFE/RL's Armenian Service. "We got caught in crossfire."

Ghulian said he and his family members moved to a friend's apartment weeks ago after their house was destroyed by shelling.

"Conditions there were terrible," he said. "There was a lack of food, water, everything. There were no working shops. They all were empty, looted or bombed."



Chairman of the Armenian parliamentary standing committee on European integration affairs Arman Yeghoyan and chief of staff-secretary general at the Parliament Vahan Naribekyan discussed in Athens the current situation in and around Artsakh, as well as the instable geopolitical situation with the Chairman of the standing committee on national defense and foreign affairs

Greek MP condemns the fact that Armenian POWs are still held in Azerbaijan

of the Parliament of Greece Konstantinos Gkioulekas, the Armenian Parliament's press service said.

The Greek Member of Parliament attached importance to the issue of preserving cultural heritage, condemned the fact that Armenian prisoners of war are still held in Azerbaijan and in this context stressed the importance of an adequate response by the international community.

The sides touched upon the historic course of the Armenian-Greek warm relations and expressed confidence that the ties between the two brotherly peoples will further deepen. Mr. Gkioulekas congratulated

the Armenian delegation on the election of the President of Armenia, and conveyed the greetings of the Speaker of Parliament and the members of the committee led by him.

The sides also talked about the Armenian Diaspora, its role and potential.

Armenian Ambassador to Greece Tigran Mkrtchyan also attended the meeting and delivered remarks.

The visit is carried out with the joint efforts of the Armenian, Greek and Italian parliaments within the framework of the EU-funded Twinning project.

Armenia has new Ambassadors to Kazakhstan, Andorra, Ireland and Malta

President of Armenia Vahagn Khachaturyan signed decrees on appointing ambassadors to 4 countries, Noyan Tapan was informed from the website of the President of Armenia.

Armen Ghévondyan has been appointed Ambassador of Armenia to Kazakhstan (residence in Nur-Sultan). Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Armenia to the

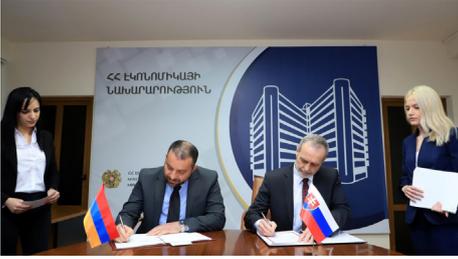
Kingdom of Spain Sos Avetisyan has also been appointed Ambassador of Armenia to Andorra (dual accreditation, residence in Madrid).

Ambassador of Armenia to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has been appointed Ambassador to Ireland (dual accreditation, residence in London). The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Armenia to Italy



Tsovinar Hambardzumyan has been appointed Ambassador to Malta (dual accreditation, residence in Rome).

Armenia, Slovakia sign Agreement on Economic Cooperation



An Agreement on Economic Cooperation between the Governments of the Republic of Armenia and the Slovak Republic was signed today by Armenian Minister of Economy Vahan Kerobyan and Ambassador of Slovakia to Armenia Miroslav

Hacek

The agreement envisages the development and diversification of mutually beneficial cooperation in all areas of mutual interest. It enables the development and deepening of long-term economic relations between the two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, in areas such as industry, tourism, energy, agriculture, small and medium-sized enterprises, transport and infrastructure, environmental protection, information and communication technology. etc.

The Joint Slovak-Armenian Commis-

sion for Economic Cooperation will be the instrument for fulfilling the content of the Agreement. Its establishment and start of activities is one of the closest tasks for both parties.

During the meeting that preceded the signing ceremony, Minister Kerobyan presented the priorities of the Armenian economy. The parties discussed the areas in which it is possible to develop effective bilateral cooperation. These include metallurgy, mechanical engineering, microelectronics, rubber production, jewelry, textile industry, pharmaceuticals.

Tech giant NVIDIA establishing research center in Armenia

NVIDIA, a world leader in visual computing technologies, is establishing a research center in Armenia, Deputy Speaker of the Armenian National Assembly Hakob Arshakyan informs.

In 2019, the Armenian delegation headed by Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan visited NVIDIA's headquarters in the heart of Silicon Valley. The company's founder and CEO Jensen Huang briefed the Armenian officials on the future of gaming, visual computing and AI.

"At that meeting we also discussed possible cooperation with NVIDIA. Today, I'm thrilled to announce that NVIDIA is coming to Armenia. One of the world's



leading tech giants with \$27 billion in revenue and more than 20,000 employees worldwide is opening the doors of their new office in Yerevan," Arshakyan said in a Facebook post.

Leading the site is Rev Lebare-dian, vice president of Omniverse and simulation technology, who's been with the company for two decades.

NVIDIA's invention of the GPU in 1999 sparked the growth of the PC gaming market and has redefined modern computer graphics, high performance computing and artificial intelligence.

The company's pioneering work in accelerated computing and AI is reshaping transportation, healthcare and manufacturing, and fueling the growth of many other industries. In Yerevan, the company is building a fully-fledged site for hundreds of engineers, researchers and more.

Armenia's food inflation remains in double digits

Food prices in Armenia rose by an average of 12.1 percent in the first quarter of this year despite the authorities' pledges to curb inflation.

Data released by the Armenian government's Statistical Committee shows that they were up by nearly 13 percent year on year in March, translating into an overall inflation rate of 7.4 percent.

Annual inflation reached 7.7 percent in December, well above a 4 percent target set by the government and the Central Bank of Armenia (CBA) for 2021. A sharp rise in food prices, which reflects a global trend,

was the key factor behind the increased cost of living in the country.

In an effort to curb rising inflation, the CBA has raised its benchmark interest rate for nine times since December 2020.

The bank most recently hiked the rate in mid-March, citing fallout from Western economic sanctions imposed on Russia over its invasion of Ukraine.

The government likewise predicted that the escalating conflict further push up the cost of food staples in Armenia. The South Caucasus country imports a large part of its wheat, cooking oil and other basic food-

stuffs from Russia.

Also contributing to higher-than-projected inflation are recent increases in the prices of electricity and natural gas approved by utility regulators.



International tender for Meghri Border Crossing Point modernization takes place

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) announced a tender for the construction of the Meghri Border Crossing Point through its electronic procurement system on December 23, 2021.

The bids were officially opened by the assessment commission after the deadline expired.

The commission, which includes representatives of the Armenian State Revenue Committee and other government bodies, will study the packages submitted by organizations, as well as their past records and bids.



The validity period of the bids is 120 days.

The Meghri Border Crossing Point modernization project is implemented

in accordance to a loan and grant agreement signed between Armenia and the EBRD. The project is worth approximately EUR 21,000,000 and the construction will last 30 months.

The modernization of the facility includes the construction of a two-storey administrative building (4000sq.m) with 1500sq.m. solar power station on the roof, a 40,000 sq.m. parking lot, 5 entry and exit lanes and modern X-ray machines.

The modernization will facilitate and accelerate services and contribute to the activation of the North-South Transport Corridor by boosting transit shipments.

Armenian-Kazakh trade in 2021 has increased by more than 30%. Ambassador of Kazakhstan



Despite the negative impact of external factors, the trade turnover between the countries of the Eurasian Economic Union is growing dynamically, ARMENPRESS reports Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan to Armenia Bolat Imanbayev said at a round table on “Opportunities for EEU Development: Prospects after the Declaration of an Economic War against Russia

by Collective West.”

According to the Ambassador of Kazakhstan, the mutually beneficial decisions are in line with the spirit of the EEU, which in the short period of its existence has shown a significant increase in mutual trade between the member states.

The Ambassador of the country, which chaired the EEU bodies last year, noted with satisfaction the dynamics of trade turnover growth in the union in 2021.

“Despite external factors and the quarantine restrictions, the volume of Kazakhstan’s trade with the EEU member states increased by 28% amounting to \$ 26.1 billion. At the same time, the Kazakhstan-Armenia bilateral trade turnover has increased by more than 30% in the mentioned period, “the Kazakh Ambassador said.

The Ambassadors of Kazakhstan and Russia emphasized the need for the EEU countries to overcome the new and difficult challenges through joint efforts.

Prior to Bolat Imanbayev’s speech, Russia’s Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Armenia Sergey Kopirkin said in his speech that Russia understands very well that the sanctions imposed on it will have a serious impact on its Eurasian allies, and the policy of isolating Russia will be carried out also against the other EEU member states. But Moscow expects that the common interests of Eurasian partners, their economic interdependence, will dictate the understanding that it is necessary to stand together and develop together.

Installation of new system in Ambulance CJSC will not leave citizens’ calls unanswered

A callback system is already operating in Armenia’s Ambulance Service, Director of the Ambulance CJSC Taguhi Stepanyan said in an interview to Armenpress.

She informed that thanks to this new system, all incoming calls to 1-03 will be registered and a callback will be provided.

“Today the number of calls has decreased considerably, there were many complaints that the ambulance did not answer the calls. This system has been introduced in order not to leave the calls unanswered”, she said, expressing confidence



that this new system will help to improve the operation of the ambulance.

Taguhi Stepanyan said the Ambulance Service handles an average of 650 calls a day. “If we compare with the period 1.5-2 months ago, when the number of calls was reaching 1000 in a day, we will see that they have declined”, she said, adding that nearly 300 calls relating to children are being registered per week.

The Director of the Ambulance CJSC said the calls are mainly related to cardiovascular and acute-respiratory diseases, but added that there are also calls connected with car crashes.

EU committed to deepening cooperation with Armenia and Azerbaijan, to work closely in overcoming tensions – Charles Michel



The President of the European Council, Charles Michel, hosted the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, Nikol Pashinyan, for a continuation of their discussions on the situation in the South Caucasus region and the development of EU relations with both countries.

President Michel reiterated the EU's commitment to deepen its cooperation with Armenia and Azerbaijan to work closely in overcoming tensions and promote a South Caucasus that is secure, stable, peaceful and prosperous for the benefit of all people living in the region.

The leaders took stock of developments since their last meeting in Brussels in December 2021 and their videoconference, together with President Macron, in February 2022. They reviewed progress on the implementation of undertaken commitments. They discussed the recent reported tensions and reiterated the necessity of adhering fully to the provisions of the 9/10 November 2020 trilateral statement. They welcomed the meeting of senior represen-

tatives from Armenia and Azerbaijan on 30 March 2022 under EU auspices in Brussels and agreed on the necessity to continue this engagement to ensure adequate follow-up to agreements reached at leaders' level.

President Michel emphasized the importance of humanitarian gestures by both sides to promote confidence and peaceful coexistence. He stressed the need for the full and speedy resolution of all outstanding humanitarian issues, including the release of remaining detainees and comprehensively addressing the issue of missing persons, and stated that the EU is ready to support this endeavor. The EU will likewise continue to support confidence building measures between Azerbaijan and Armenia as well as humanitarian de-mining efforts, including by continuing to provide expert advice and stepping up financial assistance, and assistance to conflict-affected populations, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

President Michel noted both President Aliyev's and Prime Minister Pashinyan's stated desire to move rapidly towards a

peace agreement between their countries. To this end, it was agreed to instruct Ministers of Foreign Affairs to work on the preparation of a future peace treaty, which would address all necessary issues.

The delimitation and demarcation of their bilateral border will be essential; to this end, in line with the Sochi Statement of 26 November 2021, it was also agreed to convene a Joint Border Commission by the end of April. The mandate of the Joint Border Commission will be to:

- delimit the bilateral border between Armenia and Azerbaijan, and
- ensure a stable security situation along, and in the vicinity of, the borderline.

President Michel also stressed that ensuring the appropriate distancing of forces is an essential element of incident prevention and tensions reduction. President Michel reaffirmed the EU's readiness to provide advice and support.

The leaders also discussed the restoration of communications/connectivity infrastructure between Armenia and Azerbaijan in particular and in the South Caucasus more broadly. President Michel welcomed the steps towards the restoration of railway lines, while encouraging Armenia and Azerbaijan to also find effective solutions for the restoration of road links. The EU is ready to support the development of connectivity links, including in line with its Economic and Investment Plan and by utilizing the proposed economic advisory forum to identify common projects.

The leaders agreed to follow-up on outcomes of their meeting and to stay engaged.

ArmHighTech 2022: Spotlight on homegrown dronemakers



YEREVAN, APRIL 8, ARMENPRESS. The 3rd ArmHighTech International Exhibition of Defense Technologies showcased a wide range of military and civilian-grade technologies, such as loitering munitions, drones and even technologies designed for assisting people with disabilities.

The spotlight, however, was mostly on dronemakers who offer relatively cheap and easily controlled UAVs.

The Armenian Davaro dronemaker showcased its UAVs with an endurance of 20 hours in-flight and 500-kilometer range, equipped with a 15kg warhead. Davaro also offers combat drones with up to 150-kilometer firing range. The company unveiled its new laser-guided reconnaissance and combat models.

“They are designed to strike enemy airfields, weapon depots, mostly stationary targets,” Davaro representative Armen Yenokyan said.

He added that they are now developing a control system that would include artificial intelligence in controlling the combat operations.

UAVLAB, another dronemaker known for its Bzez (Beetle) loitering munitions, launched the production of other combat UAVs and is perfecting the control system.

“We can control two drones from this machine. It is entirely made in Armenia,” UAVLAB representative Alexander Jaghinyan said.

Arshavir Stepanyan, the representative of ProMAQ, a company specializing in reconnaissance and combat drones, as well as unmanned cargo transport helicopters and radio-locating and communication systems, said that the cooperation with the government is dynamically growing especially since the 2020 war in Artsakh. “This is a sector developing every day, we are



having new ideas and goals every day, new projects that are being realized. The market is developing dynamically,” he said.



Other participants at the exhibition in-

cluded Aragats, a company manufacturing thermal vision scopes and surveillance systems since 1992. Levon Margaryan from Aragats said they are working with the military since day one. “We are showcasing some of our thermal vision scopes. Around 80% of the displayed items passed all government tests and are used by the military for many years,” he said.

The Scientific-Research Institute of Communication Means was showcasing its brand-new Nairi radio-locating station – a radar capable of being deployed and brought to operational mode within few minutes. The radar has a range of up to 4000 kilometers and detects medium and large flying vehicles.

Isatech Robotics presented two new models: a tracked, remotely controlled transport SUV designed for transporting cargo and medevac operations in hazardous terrains; and a remotely controlled combat machine. The latter is capable of substituting a soldier on the battlefield and is fully able to engage in combat. Isatech

Robotics also offers technologies for assisting war veterans who’ve sustained disabilities.

The first ever Armenian company specializing in building and producing innovative rehabilitation devices – QaylTech – was also presenting its products.

The Oqni company was also among participants. Oqni is an Armenian startup with an aim to create a full cycle of AI-driven prosthetics.

ArmHighTech 2022 was held March 31-April 2 in Yerevan.

By Karine Terteryan



Armenia and China are strategic partners. Ambassador



Armenia and China are strategic partners, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Armenia Fan Yong told Armenpress within the framework of the conference dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Armenian-Chinese diplomatic relations, assessing the general level of bilateral political relations and trade and economic cooperation 30 years after the establishment of interstate relations.

The Ambassador highly appreciated the fact that two days ago, on April 6, when Yerevan and Beijing were marking the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Armenia and China, the President of the Republic of Armenia Vahagn Khachaturyan visited the new Chinese Embassy in Yerevan, participating in both the diplomatic anniversary and the opening ceremony of the new embassy building.

“We highly appreciate the step of the Armenian President. It shows the great

importance that the two sides give to the development of bilateral relations,” said Ambassador Fan Yong.

According to the diplomat, during the last 30 years the cooperation between the two countries has been progressing very steadily, which has been getting stronger lately.

“Great importance has been given to the development of peaceful relations between the two countries - diplomatic, political, economic - to all other components, so that they can be further strengthened and developed,” said the Ambassador.

The trade and economic relations between Armenia and China, as Ambassador Fan Yong had stated in his article published in “Armenpress”, have made significant progress in recent years. According to Chinese government statistics, trade turnover between Armenia and Armenia exceeded \$ 1 billion in 2020, growing by 34.8% , and in 2021 bilateral trade reached a new record high of \$ 1.4 billion.

Thus, Armenia has become China's

leading trading partner among the three republics of the South Caucasus.

In this context, Ambassador Fan Yong added that in recent years there has been an increase in Chinese investments in Armenia.

“As you can see, the buses, all those innovative equipment came from China. At the moment, Chinese factories are investing in Armenia's infrastructure, especially in the field of solar energy. Despite the coronavirus pandemic, even in this situation, bilateral trade in 2020 reached \$ 1 billion. According to the latest data, bilateral trade has increased by 30%, reaching \$ 1.4 billion in 2021. If you check the statistics of the Armenian side, it says that in 2021 the bilateral trade turnover amounted to 1.2 billion dollars, that is, the data of the two sides are very close to each other,” the Chinese Ambassador clarified.

Looking at the prospects for the next 30 years of Armenian-Chinese relations, Ambassador Fan Yong says that both countries are very calm and very confident about the future of Armenian-Chinese relations, as those relations have been built on a very solid foundation for the past 30 years.

“We have no doubt about that, because we have the strong will of both sides to develop our future well, we have the aspiration of our leaders for better development, we have peoples who are friends, we have no problem in politics, we do not have any problems or disagreements regarding the development of the economy. I want to say that our relations are mutually beneficial, we are useful to each other,” the Chinese Ambassador to Armenia told.

Armenia, Azerbaijan and Turkey: Caught Between Russia and the West

By *Harut Sassounian*

As the war in Ukraine is continuing to cause more devastation and the loss of human life, countries around the world, particularly Armenia, Azerbaijan and Turkey, had to make difficult choices in their policies, public statements and votes in international organizations. Despite concerns about Turkey's inconsistent positions, it is clear that neither Russia nor the West is willing to push Turkey to the opposing camp. Pres. Erdogan's senior advisor, Ibrahim Kalin, pompously told CNN that Western countries have urged Turkey to maintain its ties with Russia, which is highly unlikely. Erdogan was quoted as saying: "we can neither give up on Ukraine nor Russia." This is described as "strategic ambiguity."

Here is my analysis of the repercussions of this war on Armenia, Azerbaijan and Turkey. Will they be able to maintain their ambiguous positions or will they stumble and lose their delicate balance?

Let us start with the votes these three countries have cast regarding the conflict. The first vote took place on February 25 at the European Council where Armenia, Azerbaijan and Turkey are members. Out of the 47 members, only Russia and Armenia voted against the motion to suspend Russia's membership in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Committee of Ministers. Forty-two countries voted in favor. Azerbaijan did not vote. Turkey abstained.

The next vote came on February 28 in the UN Human Rights Council on whether to include the situation in Ukraine on the Council's agenda. Out of the 47 Council members, 29 voted in favor and 13 abstained (including Armenia). Russia was probably not pleased with Armenia's vote. On the other hand, the Charge d'Affaires of Ukraine in Armenia Denis Avtonomov expressed his government's satisfaction with Armenia's vote. More importantly, on March 4, the Human Rights Council voted to establish a commission to investigate Russia's violations in Ukraine. Thirty-two countries voted in favor and 13 abstained (including Armenia). Azerbaijan and Turkey are not members of the UN Council.

The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on March 2 calling on Russian forces to withdraw from Ukraine.

141 member states voted in favor and 35 abstained (including Armenia). Turkey voted in favor. Azerbaijan did not vote.

Going beyond votes, Armenia's Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has the difficult task of balancing his country's military, political and military alliance with Russia with trying to maintain positive relations with the West. Pashinyan made his first cautious remarks regarding the conflict on March 2: "We are deeply saddened by the unfolding events which are now clear that will have global repercussions. Our hope is that the scheduled Russian-Ukrainian talks will take place and become fruitful, and diplomacy will be able to silence the cannons."

Azerbaijan also has its foot in both camps. On February 26, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky tweeted twice praising Azerbaijan for supplying \$5 million of medicines and ordering Azeri gas stations in Ukraine to provide free fuel to emergency vehicles, just days after Azerbaijan and Russia had signed a treaty of alliance. However, Azerbaijan has not imposed sanctions on Russia, just like Turkey and Armenia. Since Ukraine had supported Azerbaijan politically and militarily prior to the 2020 Artsakh war and the fact that 2,000 Russian peacekeepers are providing security for Artsakh Armenians, the government of Artsakh announced its recognition of the "independence" of the Russian controlled regions of Donetsk and Lugansk in Ukraine.

Turkey is the only NATO member that has refused to impose sanctions on Russia and kept its airspace open to Russian planes, in order not to lose Russian investments, gas imports, and large income from tourists. Surprisingly, Erdogan approved on March 1 an investment promotion agreement with Belarus which is sanctioned by the West for joining Russia's invasion of Ukraine. On the other hand, Turkey blocked the passage of some Russian warships through Turkish straits to the Black Sea, as stipulated by the 1936 Montreux Convention. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken expressed his appreciation for the Turkish decision. Nevertheless, Turkey-U.S. relations remain frigid.

After five of its dozen Turkish drones were shot down by Russia, Ukraine plans to purchase more drones from Turkey which have targeted Russian armed convoys. On the other hand, Turkey had pur-

chased Russian S-400 anti-aircraft missiles causing the United States to sanction fellow NATO member Turkey, blocking its acquisition of the American F-35 stealth bombers.

On March 1, The New York Times published an article by Carlotta Gall titled, "Ukraine Invasion Increases Friction Between Erdogan and Putin." She reported that hours before the start of the war, two Turkish planes landed in Ukraine to evacuate diplomatic staff and other Turkish citizens from Kiev. However, the planes and evacuees became stranded, resulting in Pres. Erdogan getting criticized at home for misreading the looming danger and not acting quicker. Erdogan had invited Presidents Putin and Zelensky to Turkey to mediate the conflict. Putin politely declined the invitation. Erdogan shut down several Western media outlets silencing their criticisms of Russia.

Despite Turkey's fence-sitting in the conflict, "three Turkish factories and four warehouses in Ukraine were destroyed By Russia during the war. These factories manufactured ammunition and small bombs," reported the London-based Arabic newspaper Rai Al-Youm. In addition, "a large factory that specialized in building the structures of Bayraktar drones was destroyed." Ukrainian factories supply engines and other critical parts for Turkish drones. The newspaper quoted an unnamed senior advisor to Erdogan stating that Turkish losses in Ukraine are in the hundreds of millions of dollars and could possibly reach billions of dollars.

Meanwhile, Erdogan's son-in-law, drone manufacturer Selcuk Bayraktar, tweeted: "I condemn in the strongest terms the unlawful invasion carried out by Russia in defiance of the sovereignty of an independent nation." He said he supported "Ukraine and Crimea, the homeland of our Turkish brothers resisting the occupation." In a second tweet, Bayraktar regretted the "destruction and suffering caused by war." Turkish citizens pointed out the hypocrisy of a "merchant of death" whose drones have caused so much destruction around the world. He obviously places his business interests ahead of human lives.

The Russia-Ukraine war has disrupted the norms of international order, forcing many countries, including Armenia, Azerbaijan and Turkey, to delicately balance their interests on both sides.

Corruption Prevention Commission plans to introduce anti-corruption educational programs in Armenia



Armenia highlights introducing anti-corruption programs, raising public awareness for preventing corruption, the chief specialist at the department of education, public awareness programs and monitoring in the Corruption Prevention Commission said in an interview to Armenpress.

Anahit Hovakimyan said the Commission plans to introduce anti-corruption education and subject programs with the study of the best international practice and via its localization in Armenia.

“Although there are anti-corruption-related courses, different informal programs in Armenia, but they are very few and do not always ensure the necessary effectiveness. The analysis of the current situation in Armenia shows that citizens very often are not aware of the anti-corruption reforms that have been carried out, and as a result they do not use them, which in its turn leads to the reduction in the efficiency of the steps taken so far”, she said.

Mrs Hovakimyan added that it is pro-

posed to take constant steps, carry out awareness raising campaigns for public servants and broad circles of the society, as well as organize special courses to form zero tolerance to corruption phenomenon and a will for jointly fighting corruption.

The function on conducting anti-corruption education belongs to the Corruption Prevention Commission. Hovakimyan said the Commission is currently studying the international experience of preparing and implementing formal and informal educational programs, the innovations used in them and their experience for making high-quality courses.

“We decided to analyze the successful examples at a global level. Of course, they should be localized and adapted to our national and cultural features, and then to organize courses in educational institutions. We are studying the experiences of all possible anti-corruption programs. Moreover, these experiences are from such countries as Austria, UK and the United States”, she said.

According to her, the anti-corruption education could serve as a mean for preventing corruption as the lack of public awareness in this field forces to pay attention on its necessity in Armenia.

“The implementation of educational programs will form a negative attitude towards corruption within the society, will contribute to citizens’ demonstrating right behavior, forming a demanding approach among citizens, as well as to the reduction of corruption cases in the long-run”, Anahit Hovakimyan said.

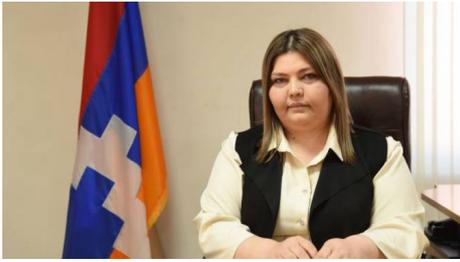
She said it is supposed that there will be classes in universities relating to anti-corruption content and strengthening of integrity. “Trainings will be organized for teachers”, she said.

As for the international cooperation in this direction, Hovakimyan highlighted the cooperation with the UN’s GRACE initiative (Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment). “It gives us an opportunity to exchange teaching materials on anti-corruption and strengthening integrity, to get acquainted with the UN experience in this field. We also have an invitation to participate in a summer school within the framework of the cooperation”, she said.

She also mentioned the cooperation and the signing of a memorandum of understanding with IACA, which will allow to organize trainings among public servants.

There are no concrete dates for the launch of educational programs, but the Commission hopes they will launch it soon.

Interview by Karine Terteryan



ARMENPRESS - 46,000 people were displaced in the 2020 war in Artsakh, and over 25,628 of them have returned. Housing and employment are the top issues for them and the Artsakh Ministry of Social Development and Migration is working to resolve the problems.

In an interview to ARMENPRESS, the Minister of Social Development and Migration of Artsakh Armine Petrosyan said that immediately after the war they began the implementation of a number of assistance programs to mitigate the social issues of the forcefully displaced citizens.

“Thanks to the programs implemented both with our own means as well as jointly with the Government of Armenia, we can say that right now we have succeeded in mitigating the social crisis and creating maximally favorable living conditions for our population. These were mostly short-term social support

Post-war social crisis alleviated, proper living conditions in place – Artsakh authorities

programs and currently we aim at replacing them with the kind of programs that would ensure employment opportunities,” Petrosyan said.

The Artsakh authorities are also working on the housing issues, as well the issue of giving a legal status to the internally displaced persons.

“We’ve developed new approaches for solving social issues aimed at creating jobs, developing SMEs and providing support to farmers. For this purpose, we’ve opened a foundation under the ministry, the function of which is to cooperate with philanthropists and investors to encourage the opening of SMEs in Artsakh and assist farmers,” she added.

In addition to the implemented various programs, the Artsakh authorities plan to substitute the assistance programs with development programs in 2022.

“We are planning to organize vocational training programs for displaced people and other social groups, provision of social assistance to unemployed

displaced people to start small entrepreneurs in villages, as well as the implementation of self-employment and employment through the donations from private philanthropists and charitable organizations within the framework of the ministry’s Social Development Programs Foundation,” the minister added.

The Artsakh authorities also launched a Social-Psychological Center which will research all social needs of citizens and act as a bridge between the society and the ministry. The first office of the center was opened in Martuni. Gradually it will expand to Stepanakert, Askeran and Martakert.

Minister of Social Development and Migration of Artsakh Armine Petrosyan said that 46,000 citizens were displaced in the war, and 25,628 of them have returned to Artsakh so far.

Asked what job opportunities exist for the displaced persons, Petrosyan said the available jobs are mostly in the private sector: construction and services.

Interview by Ani Danielyan

‘We support stable and lasting peace’ – Artsakh President

President of the Republic of Artsakh Arayik Harutyunyan chaired an extended-format session of the government on April 9, his Office said.

Firstly, the President presented the latest military-political developments of the Republic and then outlined the main actions to be taken in the public administration system in accordance with the logic of the current situation.

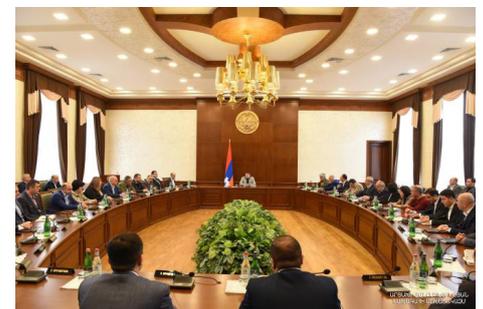
“We support stable and lasting peace, but we cannot bargain our people’s demand by refusing from the right to self-determination”, the President of Artsakh said, adding that given the new geopolitical realities, a number of changes will be made to the agenda of the government based on

necessity.

He said that discussions will soon start with political forces on forming a common political agenda which first of all will be based on the risks expected from the external security challenges facing Artsakh.

“The talk is not about forming a coalition government. But we all understand that we need a firm internal unity. Therefore, my call is to all members of the Cabinet, all circles of the public to stand by each other in order to successfully overcome the problems facing our state and people”, he said.

The President also said that the government is going through strict savings of financial resources, but added that this



doesn’t mean that the approved programs won’t be implemented.

During the meeting the President of Artsakh gave a number of instructions to the responsible officials over the issues discussed.



One of the world's largest stock exchanges, Nasdaq, has congratulated BAJ Accelerator and Orion Worldwide Innovations for attracting \$27 million in investments in 2021. As previously reported, the investments were made in Armenian startups operating in the fields of Security, SaaS, Robotics, FinTech, and AI. Orion is a New York-based company that opened an office in Armenia two years ago. Startups in the accelerator portfolio are on pace to attract another \$20 million in 2022.

The showcase congratulating both BAJ Accelerator and Orion Worldwide Innovations were published on the large Nasdaq screen in Times Square, New York (photo attached) with the following text: "NASDAQ congratulates BAJ Accelerator & Orion Worldwide Innovations for their program companies raising \$27M in 2021."

At Times Square, Nasdaq congratulates Orion supporting Armenian startups for raising \$27 million

"We are very honored to be recognized by Nasdaq. Armenian talent invent many innovative products, and we are glad that through Orion the successes of the Armenian startups are becoming more visible to the world. For the first time this upcoming summer, we will organize the "Orion Summit 2022," which will be an opportunity to highlight achievements together with rising unicorns that are part of our portfolio, and the Armenian startup ecosystem overall," said Diana Arzumanyan, CEO & Co-Founder of Orion Armenia.

About Orion

Orion Worldwide Innovations ("Orion"), is a startup growth and ecosystem acceleration hub and offers a full-service package to make companies investable and enter the US market, enhance their customer acquisition strategies, stay competi-

tive, and protect their innovation. Orion is a U.S.-based company that was formed in 2017, with offices in New York City, U.S., and Yerevan, Armenia. Orion partners with companies and investor networks worldwide.

About "BAJ Accelerator"

BAJ Accelerator is a growth stage accelerator and is for startups at the Seed to Series A+ levels. BAJ Accelerator is the first one in the world "accelerating the acceleration of technology" by offering high-touch relationships for funding and growth, business and legal, investment and academia. Topics span an impressive range including technology, legal, finance, sales, marketing, leadership, storytelling and exponential thinking. BAJ Accelerator brings fast-paced Firing Range drive with the unique vision of "Less Talk, More Deals" slogan.

Armenian Church celebrates Palm Sunday

One week before the Feast of the Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Armenian Church celebrates the Feast of Palm Sunday, celebrating the Triumphant Entry of Christ into Jerusalem.

Jesus comes into Jerusalem riding atop a donkey and the people gather to meet Him with reverence, thus fulfilling the words of the prophet from the Old Testament.

The Gospel of St. Matthew, in relating the story, refers to the prophecy, "All this was done, that it might be fulfilled, that which was spoken by the prophet, saying "Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you! He is humble and sitting on an ass, and a colt, the foal of an ass." (Mt 21:4-5).



On His arrival, a large crowd of people gathers to greet Him, and spread their cloaks on the road before Him, while others cut branches from palm trees and place them on the path. The crowd exclaims: "Hosanna! Blessed is the King of Israel that comes in the Name of the Lord" (Jn 12:13).

On Palm Sunday, churches are decorated with branches from willow trees and palm trees. Following a solemn morning service, the blessed branches are distributed to the faithful. This passage from the Gospels reminds each of us about the Coming of Christ, and teaches us to live in a manner that can make us worthy to stand before the Lord and exclaim: "Hosanna (Praise God)! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"



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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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