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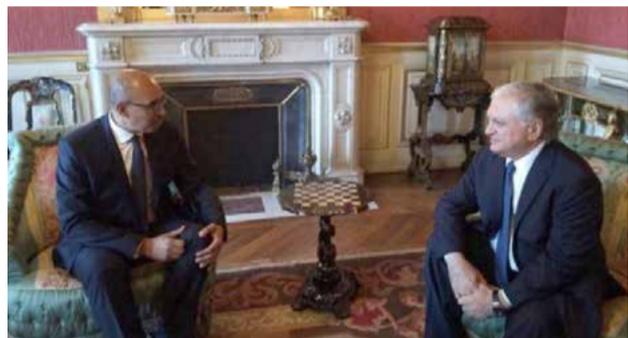
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News from Armenia

Armenia FM and France State Minister Confer On Karabakh Conflict



Foreign Minister of Armenia Edward Nalbandian, when in Paris met with Harlem Désir, the French Minister of State for European Affairs. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia informed that they reflected on the measures aimed at stabilizing the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone and restoring the peace process. In this regard, the sides emphasized that the main objective of the meeting of the Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan proposed by the three Co-Chairs is to strengthen 1994 ceasefire agreement, to establish trust mechanisms for creating favorable conditions for the resumption of negotiations.

Minister Nalbandian and French Secretary of State discussed Armenia-EU relations, as well as the ongoing negotiation process between Armenia and EU to form a new legal framework.

Armenian Minister emphasized the launch of the dialogue over the visa liberalization based on the existing achievements and the participation of Armenia in different EU programs.

In addition, the interlocutors exchanged views on several urgent matters that are on the regional and international agenda.

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Armenian Armed Forces Down UAV in Vayots Tsor, Armenia



Spokesman of the Defense Ministry of Armenia Artsrun Hovhannisian informs via Facebook on Friday 13, May 2016 the Armenian Armed Forces have downed a reconnaissance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in the territory of the Yelpin community of Vayots Dzor Province, Armenia.

"Today at 14:00 the Air Defense units of the Armed Forces of Armenia have downed a reconnaissance UAV in the territory of Yelpin community of Vayots Dzor Province, Armenia. Further information on the origin and production of the UAV will be reported soon," Hovhannisian informed.

News from the World

OSCE Minsk Group announces a meeting between Armenian, Azerbaijani Presidents



The Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group, Ambassadors Igor Popov of the Russian Federation, James Warlick

of the United States of America, and Pierre Andrieu of France, remain fully committed to mediating a lasting settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, reads the statement released on behalf of the Minsk Group Co-Chairs on May 12.

"In light of the recent violence and the urgency of reducing tensions along the Line of Contact, we believe the time has come for the Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan to meet," says the statement, which is posted on the OSCE website.

"In light of the recent violence and the urgency of reducing tensions along the Line of Contact, we believe the time has come for the Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan to meet.

Our Foreign Ministers are prepared to facilitate this meeting next week in Vienna. Their main objectives will be to reinforce the ceasefire regime, and to seek agreement on confidence-building measures that would create favorable conditions for resuming negotiations on a comprehensive settlement on the basis of elements and principles under discussion.

There can be no success in negotiations if violence continues, and there can be no peace without a negotiation process. We reiterate that there is no military solution to the conflict," concludes the statement.

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News from Armenia

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Defense Ministry Spokesman Responds to Azerbaijani Allegations of White Phosphorus Usage: Azerbaijan is in an Ill-Mannered Delusion

Spokesman of the Defense Ministry of Armenia Artsrun Hovhannisian says the Azerbaijani allegations of white phosphorus usage by Armenian Forces are "ill-mannered delusions".

"A few words regarding the white phosphorus: Azerbaijan is in an ill-mannered delusion. But we understand this type of behavior. The saying is correct: "Fear has big eyes. They see even what's not present" (У страха глаза велики: чего нет, и то видят),"Hovhannisian wrote via Facebook. Earlier the Azerbaijani side made false allegations that the Armenian side used white phosphorus munitions (banned) in the direction of Terter.



Armenian Ambassador Disappointed Over EBU Statement



Armenian Ambassador to Sweden Artak Apitonyan gave interview to Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet, reflecting on the Eurovision 2016 Armenian representative Iveta Mukuchyan's demonstration of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic flag in the live transmission of the first semi-final as well as the following statement by the organizers of the song contest.

The paper writes that the demonstration of the flag resulted in a political controversy, while the Armenian Ambassador slamming the decision by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), producer of the Eurovision Song Contest.

To remind, on May 11, the EBU issued a statement, condemning Iveta Mukuchyan's actions and announcing sanctions handed down to AMPTV to be decided at the next meeting of the Eurovision Reference Group in June. EBU also warned that Armenia could be disqualified for a further breach of the rule this year.

"I am quite disappointed over the decision. The

incident was inappropriately exaggerated. Getting back to Iveta's press conference, it turns out that the singer waved the flag out of merely humanitarian considerations," Apitonyan told as quoted by the Swedish paper.

The Ambassador further argued that the incident was indeed politicized after the speech by Deputy Director of the Azerbaijani TV Company, who was the one who delivered an imbalanced and excited political speech."

Asked whether the April escalation around the Nagorno Karabakh was a factor which added sensitivity to the fact of waving the flag, Apitonyan noted: "Quite the opposite, the escalation of the conflict makes it urgent to raise humanitarian issues. We should consider that as well."

To Apitonyan, the European Broadcasting Union succumbed to the pressure by the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry, while EBU event manager Sieste Bakker dismissed the claim, suggesting the EBU decision was in line with democratic principals.

"With all due respect to the Ambassador, I do not share his views and hope he will consider our divergences," Mrs. Bakker told, recalling the EBU statement calling the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh as tense and therefore the appearance of the flag viewed as a serious breach of Rule 1.2.2h of the 2016 Eurovision Song Contest. The relative rule states, "no messages promoting any organization, institution, political cause or other, company, brand, products or services shall be allowed in the Shows".

Armenian Prime Minister: Armenia will Recognize NKR Independence when Time Comes



Prime Minister of Armenia Hovik Aprahamian participated in the presentation of Millennium Development Goals progress report. During the briefing he said Armenia will recognize the independence of Nagorno Karabakh, when the time comes.

Referring to the situation in Karabakh, the Prime Minister said it is stable.

Hovik Aprahamian visited Nagorno Karabakh on May 8-9 and participated in the Victory Day events.

It is Time For International Recognition of Nagorno-Karabakh: Garen Mirzoyan

Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh can cope with all the difficulties by combined effort, Foreign Minister of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic (NKR) Garen Mirzoyan told Tert.am.

As to a possibility of Armenia recognizing Nagorno-Karabakh's independence, he said: "I would not say Armenia could be the only state to recognize Artsakh [Nagorno-Karabakh]. It is now time for international recognition of Artsakh. Not only Armenia, but the international



News from the World

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EP Stops Work On Turkey Visa Waiver



MEPs have stopped work on plans to give Turks visa-free access to the EU's Schengen zone, putting a wider migrant deal in doubt.

Group leaders in the European Parliament's "conference of presidents" quietly suspended work on the file last Wednesday. Some of the lead MEPs on the dossier, the group coordinators in the civil liberties committee (LIBE), found out about the suspension on Monday (9 May).

"They [EP group leaders] decided to stop the whole thing," the German centre-left coordinator Birgit Sippel told this website on Tuesday.

Judith Sargentini, a Dutch Green MEP, said EU parliament chief Martin Schulz suspended it because Turkey had not yet met all EU visa-free criteria. "Schulz said we will only start processing the file when the 72 criteria have been met," she said.

An MEP who did not want to be quoted said he's also doing it to "make the parliament more important."

Another said the decision will force the EU commission to first deal with all the outstanding issues in the deal before sending it back to the Parliament. "The ball is back with the European commission," said the MEP, who also did not want to be identified.

The European Commission last week proposed to lift the visa requirement by the end of June. It published an assessment on Turkey's progress and said five out of 72 benchmarks still needed to be met.

Whatever the motives, that proposal is now sitting idly on Schulz's desk. If it is not rubber stamped by MEPs and by EU states by the end of next month, then Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan has promised to stop taking back migrants from Greece.

Sippel, for one, said the July deadline is unlikely to be met.

"I think no country, whether it's Turkey or Germany or whoever, could really fulfill all the requirements within that short time. It's not possible, especially if you would like to see something not only written down in paper but also decided in parliament and maybe also at least partly put into practice," she said.

Erdogan himself is not making matters easier.

The EU commission had said in its visa report that Turkey's law on terror allows for an "overly broad" application of the term. Journalists and academics have fallen under its scope.

"The Turkish authorities have not yet addressed these shortcomings," it noted in its report.

Cornelia Ernst, a German MEP from left-wing GUE-NGL group, said "most" members of LIBE think the law must be changed for the visa waiver to go ahead.

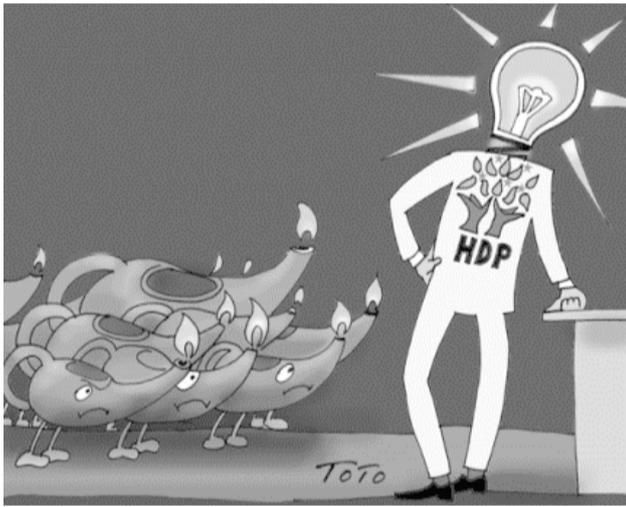
But Erdogan has said flat out that he will not do it. He has also forced out of office his EU-friendly PM, Ahmet Davutoglu.

Commission officials on Tuesday denied there would be a plan B, as reported in the German media, of turning Greek islands into large refugee camps in case the EU-Turkey deal falls through.

A Hero of Our Time

By Edmond Y. Azadian

The title of this column is borrowed from Russian writer Mikhail Lermontov's novel, which takes place in the Caucasus. However, the hero of our time, Garo Paylan, has nothing in common with Lermontov's protagonist, Pechorin, who is a self-doubting Byronic figure. Incidentally, many Russian writers have been fascinated by the Caucasus, if not necessarily by the people living there. In addition to Lermontov, Leo Tolstoy's novel, *Haji Murad*, is about Chechnya. But more notorious is Alexander Pushkin's characterization of the Armenians in his *Erzurum* memoirs, predating Admiral Mark Bristol, stationed in Istanbul as US High Commissioner, undoing in his reports what US Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau had been documenting about the Armenian Genocide. Now, out of the blue, an Armenian hero has emerged in Turkey, in many ways contradicting the typical Istanbul Armenian, who through brutal experience has learned to be extremely cautious and conservative in word and deed. For Istanbul Armenians, for example, traditional Armenian political parties are toxic entities and they refuse to go near them.



Following the experience of the Genocide, their characters have been shaped by Kemalist rule, during which history textbooks spewed venom against Armenians. That character has also survived the punitive Wealth Tax period, the September 6 pogroms and constant police surveillance. Therefore, to survive or to live more comfortably, they have to sidestep their ethnic identity.

Garo Paylan shatters that mold as journalist Hrant Dink did before him, at his own peril. Ever since entering the Turkish parliament as part of the HDP party, Paylan has waged an unrelenting battle for human rights and Armenian rights. To be fair, all three ethnic Armenian members of Parliament, in the ranks of different political parties, have been uncompromising on Armenian issues.

One of Paylan's battles was about the seizure of St. Giragos Armenian Church in the city of Sur, in Diyarbakir. He asked the prime minister the reason for the "immediate expropriation" of a total of "6,300 pieces of property." He also requested clarification as to "whether the decision to expropriate them affects the Armenian, Assyrian and Chaldean Churches." The reasons behind this inquiry were many. In a very short period, St. Giragos, after its renovation, had become an attractive and inspirational symbol for hidden Armenians in Turkey, who began to reclaim their roots. But in the broader picture, the government seems to entertain a secret plan of resettlement. As Diyarbakir has become a hotbed of Kurdish activism, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has launched a wholesale war of extermination and resettlement. Many Syrian refugees have been brought to the area.

Prominent Turkish historian Taner Akçam is quoted in the *New York Times* as stating, "Solving ethnic and religious strife through demographic engineering is a policy of the Turkish government that goes back well over a century. The latest developments in Sur need to be viewed through this framework."

Also, Erdogan seems to have learned Lenin's strategy in reverse; one step forward and two steps backwards. After returning some of the confiscated properties to the Armenian community to gain kudos from the European Union, suddenly the policy has been reversed to confiscate other properties.

The next episode in Paylan's crusade took place in the Turkish Parliament on April 21, where he waved pictures of 15 Armenian members of the Ottoman Parliament who were murdered in 1915. And then, he asked the government to retrieve their remains and give them proper burials, befitting their status.

While this act of defiance was taking place in full view of the cameras, the vicar of the Armenian Patriarchate, Bishop Aram Atesian, was peevishly reading Erdogan's duplicitous statement at the church about "our common pain," reaffirming the official policy of the government that if Armenians were killed during World War I, Turkey also suffered, therefore we are quits, as if Armenians were responsible for the casualties of war. The last spectacle took place on May 2, in the Parliament again, when Paylan was attacked by AKP party members. The scene was awful. Erdogan's partisans, dressed in suits and ties, emerged out of their chairs like wild animals to attack Paylan, while another member of the pro-Kurdish HDP Party, to which Paylan belongs, shouted, "You don't belong in these lands. You have usurped and destroyed the civilizations of the Greeks, Armenians and Assyrians. You may kill me but I have to tell the truth."

What they could not do on April 24, they did on May 2, with gusto. The scene had to be captioned: "Turkish democracy in action."

The fight broke out in a parliamentary committee approving a draft legislation to lift the immunity of the HDP parliamentarians. In addition to the caption under the brawl in the parliament, it is worth adding the State Department comment to highlight the absurdity and irony of US policy. According to the US State Department spokesman John Kirby: "well, again, as a parliamentary democracy, Turkey has well established democratic procedures in place that will determine who has immunity and what circumstances that can be lifted and how it is going to be — how it's going to be lifted."

After German Chancellor Angela Merkel kowtowed to Erdogan, bribing him with six billion euros to take back Syrian refugees and resume accession negotiations with the European Union, it seems it is now Foggy Bottom's turn to bow before the Turkish tyrants.

The attack on Paylan was a burst of ethnic hatred.

"It is crystal clear that they were targeting me," said Paylan after the brawl. "Many MPs attacked me in a planned manner. I was targeted and got kicked and punched around 100 times in 20- 30 seconds. Afterwards, they spoke racist words and hate speech against me. At this point, we can talk about the fact that I am Armenian, because the speeches are hate speeches directly related to my Armenian identity. What they can't digest is this: A person of Armenian identity reveals their lies and stands upright. They want to see Armenians obeying them. I, as an Armenian, putting up a fight for rights, have been targeted and subjected to a lynching attempt."

Garo Paylan, Selahattin Demirtas and the entire HDP Parliamentary faction symbolize the hurdle to Erdogan's brutal march towards absolute power. Therefore, he has been engaged in a two-pronged battle; the first one is a campaign of atrocious

proportions against the Kurdish population, through mass murder and mass resettlement. The other dimension of his policy is legislative action to deny parliamentary immunity for any legislator who is deemed to have defied his authority. On May 9, Amberin Zaman, a respected journalist in the West, wrote, "In recent months, Washington has been bending over backwards to accommodate Turkey. ... Washington has said little if anything about the gross human rights violations opposition lawmakers insist were committed by Turkish security forces as they flush out PKK militants embedded in neighborhoods in the mainly Kurdish towns and cities in southeast Turkey."

This carnage repeats the scenario of Rwanda where genocide was being perpetrated and President Clinton looked the other way, only to apologize to the victims' families in Kigali after he was out of office. It looks like Mr. Obama will be on the same trail of political expediency.

On his way to absolute power, Mr. Erdogan ousted even his staunchest ally, Prime Minister Ahmed Davutoglu. Referring to that political maneuver, Metin Guncan writes: "There was also the resignation of Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, who Mustafa Akyol describes as ending up being a 'slight nuisance' for Erdogan's bid for absolute power." Akyol writes, "The only way Davutoglu 'betrayed' Erdogan was that he tried to be relatively moderate and less authoritarian." Incidentally, Davutoglu was the architect of Ankara's Syria policy, which has become an absolute debacle. Now that the next prime minister designate has become Erdogan's son-in-law, Berat Albayrak, the stage is set for a dynastic sultanate.

The next stage of Erdogan's march to power is the reshaping of the parliament, which will lift the immunity of the opposition members to put them in jails and take over the vacated seats by his own party members. Eyyup Doru, the HDP representative in Europe, warned that this move could lead to a civil war. The move will deny the representation of Kurds, Armenians, Assyrians, Yazidis, Alevites and other Christians in the parliament — a representation which was hailed in the EU as Turkey's "democratic progress."

"The plenary session will handle the issue on the 16th of June. If passed, 46 (out of 59) HDP deputies will lose their immunity and will be imprisoned. If this happens, the already intense conflict in the Kurdish region of Turkey will further escalate into a civil war that will cause the displacement of millions," Doru warned.

Erdogan has extended the concept of terrorism to include academics, journalists, independent statesmen, in short, whoever opposes his ascendance to the throne of the sultan.

In an obvious violation of its own values, the US Administration is buying Erdogan's version of "terrorists" and depending on "Turkey's own democratic procedures" to see the purges carried out in Ankara.

The West created a monster and now is forced to play by its brutal rules.

Paylan, Demirtas and their colleagues are ready to face punitive measures. That is the price they are willing to pay for their beliefs. It may sound ironic that after being openly attacked in the parliament, jail could be a safer place for Paylan. Had Hrant Dink been jailed, perhaps he would be alive today.

Garo will stand tall in prison and out of prison like Nelson Mandela did. He will stand tall for the 15 Armenian parliamentarians in the Ottoman era. He will stand tall for all the dead and the living because he truly is the hero of our time.

Turkey's Warning Against Armenian Genocide Bill is Unacceptable, German Legislator Says



Twice-postponed Armenian Genocide draft measure will be brought to Bundestag's agenda on June 2, said Green Party member and Vice President of the Bundestag, Claudia Roth. Remembering that Ambassador of Turkey to Germany, Huseyin Avni Karslioglu, warned Bundestag about the draft, Roth said, "We don't accept it. I hope the groups in parliament won't obey Turkey once again and the draft will be accepted as planned."

With the "Erdowie, Erdowo, Erdogan" video clip and Erdogan's lawsuit against comedian Bohmermann, freedom of expression and oppression on press in Turkey came to the fore in German public agenda. Though EU countries, especially Chancellor Merkel, seemingly evaded the responsibility by signing the Readmission Agreement with Turkey, the German public opinion is divided over this issue. While the ruling coalition and the right-wing support the agreement, liberals and the left-wing criticize it because it is done at the cost of the lives of refugees, while the EU connives at human rights violations in Turkey. In the midst of these discussions, Berlin-based national newspaper Die Tageszeitung issued a special supplement focusing on freedom of press in Turkey on World Press Freedom Day on May 3. The issue included articles from Turkish journalists published in Turkish-German for the first time in German press history. This 16-paged supplement was published with the title "Uncensored" and on the day it was published, a panel discussion on freedom of press was held in Turkey. Two editors from Turkey, including me [Gozde Kazaz], were invited. Die Welt Turkey representative Deniz Yucel and the Vice President of the Bundestag Claudia Roth gave speeches at the session.

It is no coincidence that Claudia Roth attended this session. Working for Turkey's EU membership since 1989, Roth was one of the Bundestag members who brought the grave human rights violations in Turkey during the '90s to the parliamentary agenda. In 2013, during Gezi Park protests, she was subjected to police brutality. During the recent years, she became the leading critics of Turkey's governmental policies.

We spoke to Claudia Roth about the Armenian Genocide draft, Germany's responsibility in the genocide and the meaning of the Readmission Agreement in terms of German-Turkish relations.

It is announced that the draft concerning the Armenian Genocide will be brought to the parliamentary agenda on June 2. Do you think that it will be accepted this time?

It's about time. The draft hasn't been brought to the agenda sooner because of Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) and Christian Democratic Union of Germany (CDU); it is not our fault. We wanted it to be accepted last year, on the centennial of the genocide. On the anniversary of the genocide, President Joachim Gauck and the President of Bundestag Norbert Lammert used the word "genocide." We said that we will prepare a draft that all parliamentary groups would accept. However, the other groups didn't do this, they tried to postpone it. And now, CDU leader promised that a common draft will be brought to the agenda on June 2. On the other hand, we saw on the newspapers that Turkey's Ambassador to Germany warned our parliament about this draft. He said, "Calling it genocide is not under the authority of a foreign parliament." I hope the groups in the parliament won't obey Turkey once again and the draft will be accepted as planned.

What do you think about this warning?

This attitude is incomprehensible for me. An ambassador warned Bundestag openly and we don't accept it. No embassy and no government can threaten us. What we discuss or how we resolve an issue is at our disposal. I hope CDU and SPD will keep their

OBITUARY

Haig Naccashian (1926-2016)

By Hagop Vartivarian

The diaspora, including Lebanon, is not our "final station," and however difficult and distant it appears, that dream as a pan-Armenian goal must be found on our national-political itinerary like an alluring lighthouse lighting our path. – Haig Naccashian

Haig Naccashian, teacher, writer and businessman, was born in Beirut on June 30, 1926. After receiving his primary education in his birthplace, he went to the Armenian General Benevolent Union's Melkonian Educational Institute in Nicosia, Cyprus in 1937 for his secondary education. However, in 1944, he returned to Beirut as a result of World War II.

He worked in the Armenian national school of Amman, Jordan, from 1946 to 1948, and at the same time became one of the founders of the Amman Armenian Athletic Union (AMM). The influential and large Naccashian family was well known in Palestine and Jordan for its substantial educational, political party, literary and cultural work. Even after the occupation of Palestine and then Jerusalem, the imprint of the Naccashians remained in these two communities. Haig, surrounded by his political party friends and relatives, worked to bring youth into the ranks of the Armenian Democratic Liberal Party (ADL) by means of the athletic union. This later became a blessing for the Amman Armenian community.

When he returned to Beirut, he took the position of secretary in the first Educational Committee of the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU) from 1948 to 1951, and at the same time worked at the daily newspaper Zartonk as an assistant editor to Kersam Aharonian, and in Vahe Vahian's monthly periodical Ani as an administrator.

He worked in the Armenian school of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 1951 to 1958. Then he became the representative of the German pharmaceutical and chemical company Bayer for the region. In this capacity, he traveled throughout Ethiopia and Eastern Africa. During this period he also worked as a visiting teacher, and became one of the leaders of the Ethiopian-Armenian community. He became chairman of the Ararad Union there, and secretary of the Educational Council. Together with several literary collaborators he founded and edited the monthly colotype newspaper Piunig [Phoenix], which was published for approximately three years. He worked closely with Haigashen Ouzounian, who was a dominant figure in the community.

In 1964, Naccashian returned to Beirut and became a commercial agent, while also dedicating himself to literary, social and political

promise, vote for the draft and define what happened in 1915. And this definition can be nothing but genocide. We are already late; we should have accepted it last year. However, SPD thought that it might constitute an obstacle to the Readmission Agreement. It is impossible to postpone it further.

What will Bundestag's recognition of the genocide mean?

Recognition will pave the way for discussing our responsibility, because Germany is also responsible for what happened. The German Monarchy was an ally of Turkey and they didn't do anything to prevent the genocide, though they knew everything about it. We have to confront our past.

Germany's role in the genocide has come to be discussed more and more both in Turkey and Germany. Is this also a topic of public discussions?

Especially on the centennial, this issue was intensely discussed. However, it started long before the centennial. I remember that Hrant Dink came to Germany and attended some panel discussions about 10 years ago. I personally discussed this issue with him. We were talking about whether it is necessary to insist on defining the events as genocide. He said that opening the issue up for discussion is more important. However, 10 years passed and Hrant Dink was murdered. Today, I think that calling it genocide is also our responsibility to Hrant Dink. So, we will discuss this issue and say that what happened is genocide. And there is another reason that makes it so important: the Armenian Genocide is accepted as the first genocide in 20th century, but Germany is responsible for another genocide, which was committed 11 years before the Armenian Genocide. The country that is known as Namibia today was a colony called German South-West Africa. And in 1904-1907, Germany committed genocide against the indigenous Herero

party activities and holding responsible positions pertaining to these realms. He contributed to the ADL organs Zartonk, Arev, Baikar, and Nor Or, and the Tekeyan Cultural Association's monthly Shirag. He became a member of the editorial staff of the latter and at the same time for a period managed its administration. After serving as secretary of the ADL Regional Committee of Lebanon for a long time, he became its chairman from 1984 to 1989, and simultaneously directed the Armenian Cause Committee.

During this period he was a member of the AGBU Regional Committee, and served as the secretary of the TCA Founders Body. In 1966 and 1982 he participated in the assembly of the Writers Union of Armenia. In 1989 he moved to Montreal, Canada, and from 1977 to 1991 served as secretary of the ADL Central Committee. In Beirut, Naccashian published in 1979 the first volume of a collection of hunting stories, Vorsorti ughinerov [Through the Hunter's Paths]. He published the novellas Margeritayi ariudznere [The Lions of Margarita] in 1981, Anavard badmutiun [Unfinished Story] in 1984, and Srpazan dzrin dag [Under the Sacred Tree] in 1985. His volume titled Aprigean andarnerun mech [In the African Forests] was published by Sovedagan Krogh in the series Spiurkahay kroghner [Diasporan Armenian Writers] in 1982. In 1986 his novella Tebi inknutiun [Toward Identity], which concerned Armenian national and social issues, was published in Beirut. Later, again in Beirut, his collection of stories called Khjanger [Mosaic] was published in 2009.

In 1980, he won the TCA Haigashen Ouzounian Literary Prize for his volume Vorsortneri ughinerov. His final book, Perkahavak [Harvest] was published in Armenia in 2001.

In 1979, he came to Boston for several months in order to work as the secretary of the TCA of the US and Canada's central office, but returned to Lebanon, and only in 1989 finally settled in Montreal. His frequent visits to Soviet Armenia allowed him to become familiar with the intellectuals there, who reciprocated by visiting the Naccashian home in Beirut. Until his vision failed, he continued to write articles on patriotic and political themes and reminiscences in the ADL and independent press.

He married Sosi Torosian, who was a teacher in the AGBU's Yervant Demirjian School in Beirut, and an industrious member of the ADL woman's club, as well as a leader of the AGBU Antilias chapter. The couple had two boys, Vahan and Shahe, as well as a daughter, Sevan, who continue in the patriot path of their parents. Haig Naccashian passed away in Montreal on May 3.

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and Nama people. We think that the recognition of the Armenian Genocide will enable the discussion of Herero genocide and Germany will also accept its responsibility for it too. As a result of our efforts, German Ministry of Foreign Affairs recognized the Herero Genocide. However, this is not enough, because nothing has been done for reconciliation yet.

Especially in the recent period, human rights violations in Turkey have begun to be discussed in Germany. On the other hand, there are criticisms against EU countries on the ground that they connive at what is happening in Turkey because of the refugee agreement.

As a politician, do you think that German Parliament should criticize itself?

Yes, self-criticism is necessary. When Erdoğan first came to power, the left-wing and liberals in Turkey were supporting him. There was a peace process and we thought that a new period was about to start in Turkey. However, on this point, the self-criticism should be about Turkey's EU membership process. We, as EU and Germany, haven't made enough effort for Turkey's full membership. Such effort would have led to democratic reforms. We didn't insist on this process and find the membership convincing and was a huge mistake regarding relations with Turkey. Offering "privileged partnership" instead of full membership doesn't mean anything. At the end of this process, Turkey became more alienated from the idea of EU membership. Preventing Turkey's full membership but signing an agreement with it for protecting the "Europe castle" is nothing but hypocrisy. What was our contribution to the escalation of autocracy in Turkey? Did we sell out the democrats, journalists and opponents in Turkey by signing this agreement? Did we sell out democracy? Did we connive at what happened? We should discuss these issues.

Armenian Genocide 100 + 1

German Intellectuals Urge Merkel to Recognize Armenian Genocide

German intellectuals, including director with Turkish origin Fatih Akin, published an open letter directed to the German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Bundestag where they urge Merkel to recognize the Armenian Genocide with the June 2 resolution, "Armenpress" reports, German "Die Zeit" periodical informs. As "Armenpress", in the letter German intellectuals urged "to show clear stance on June 2 and to call the crime against Armenian people with its name which is genocide". "Imagine, you live in Germany, where the Holocaust is denied: won't it be viewed as a continuation of a crime?", they write. "We urge You to stand for the fundamental European values and put clarity in Your words. The denial of the Armenian Genocide currently serves the basis for new violence. Armenians were called terrorists in 1915, their property was taken away, and now more than 5.000 Kurdish people were killed in Turkey in 2015 who were blamed to be terrorists. All this happened since Turkey regularly refuses to face its history, and



its past, as well as today's actions do not receive any response from the international community", German intellectuals said stating that Bundestag and its preceding structures kept silence on the Armenian Genocide for more than 100 years.

Professor In Turkish Studies: "Erdoğan's Turkey Cannot Become Member Of EU"



Erik-Jan Zürcher, a professor of Turkish studies, Leiden University of Netherlands, published an article about Turkey expressing his dissatisfaction over the country's regime. As "Armenpress" reports, in the article entitled "Enough is enough - the medal will be returned" he states he gives back the gold medal received from the former President Abdullah Gül over a decade ago. Professor says the reason he was deemed worthy of the medal was that in the preceding years he had actively tried to inform the Dutch politicians, and the public in general, about Turkey and to combat prejudices. The scientist says in the years 2002-2004 the attempts of Turkey to become a member of the European Union, which even then were forty years old, had picked up speed. He says his small contribution in those years was to argue that Turkey could indeed be a part of the EU. "These arguments are still valid today. What I got completely wrong was my expectation - and prediction - that the accession process would strengthen the democratic forces in Turkey. I ignored warnings from secularist Turkish friends that Erdoğan was only using the EU and the accession process to destroy his internal enemies and gradually to increase the role of Islam in society, seeing them as short-sighted fear mongering. I was wrong, however, and they were right", the professor writes. "Look where we are now after 14 years and more than ten election victories for Tayyip Erdoğan and his party: -Because he thought it would win him the election, Erdoğan consciously wrecked the peace process with Kurds and reignited the internal war against the PKK. - Because he

wanted new elections when those of June 2015 did not yield the result he looked for, he sabotaged the formation of a coalition government, which could have counteracted polarisation. - Academics who distanced themselves from the renewed war against the PKK and demanded a resumption of the peace process, are being persecuted and sometimes have been fired by their universities. - The media have been emasculated. - Social media are tightly controlled and often shut down. - Journalists and editors who report on secret arms deliveries of the Turkish secret service to Syrian Jihadists are convicted to five years in prison for divulging state secrets. - The constitutional court of the republic is threatened by the president, who openly states he does not respect it. - Thousands of Turkish citizens are being prosecuted for "defamation of the president." In the mean time the party uses its power monopoly to make Islamic norms and values ever more dominant in the public space - in most places finding a prayer room is now a lot easier than a seller of alcoholic beverages", the professor highlights. "All of this has convinced me that the Turkey of Tayyip Erdoğan cannot and should not become a member of the European Union - ever. A country where politics, the legal system, the media, universities and individuals (even if they live in Europe) have become playthings for a de-facto dictator and his clique of sycophants; where the fundamental freedoms and the rule of law have ceased to function, cannot be a European country. That is why the medal will now be carefully packed and sent back to the embassy. I have hesitated for a long time, not because I had illusions left about Erdoğan and his ilk, but because such a demonstrative act might damage others besides myself, notably the dozens of MA and Ph.D. students that I have supervised over the years, many of whom have returned to Turkey. My signature is on their diplomas. I feel I have no choice, however. I have to do this precisely because, as a professor of Turkish studies, I am seen as an authority on Turkey. I have to do it as a sign of protest against the dictatorial misrule of Erdoğan in Turkey but also in recognition of the fact that I was wrong twelve years ago: Turkey has not come closer to Europe. So far away that membership is no longer a realistic option. Our political leaders should say so loud and clear: enough is enough", the professor concluded.

German MP Positive On Bundestag's Genocide Recognition Plan



A German lawmaker representing the Christian Democratic Union in Bundestag says he expects a positive decision by the country's chief lawmaking body on the recognition of the Armenian Genocide. Speaking at a meeting with students and professors of the Yerevan State University, Albert Weiler noted that the draft resolution acknowledging tragedy as a crime of genocide will be on the parliament's agenda on June 2. "Yes, the Genocide recognition resolution will be put to vote at the Bundestag's plenary session on June 2, and I believe we will secure a majority of votes to achieve its approval," he noted. Mr Weiler added that different political factions in the German Bundestag are now negotiating the measure. "The word 'genocide' will be enshrined in the resolution, which will address also the the German Empire's responsibility issue. Also, there is a separate clause calling for Germany's support to the normalization of ties between Armenia and Turkey," he said, when asked to comment on the Turkish ambassador's earlier call for avoiding the use of the word in the document. Asked whether the Turkish influence gives way to any pressure in Germany, Mr Weiler admitted that the country has already reacted to their efforts. "It is, notable, however, that both the coalition parties, i.e. - the Christian Democratic Union and the Christian Social Union, and the opposition Green Party, announced on their leaders' level that they will do that on April 2. So the resolution's adoption is important for me too," he added.

College of St. Elizabeth, US, Offers Free Program on Armenian Genocide



The College of Saint Elizabeth Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education offers a free program, "From the Armenian Genocide the Holocaust: Remembering for the Future" on May 10, "Armenpress" reports, Morris News Bee informs. Included in the program are two speakers and experts on the Armenian Genocide: Professor Michael Berenbaum from American Jewish University in Los Angeles and Professor Richard Hovannisian from University of California at Los Angeles. A screening of the award-winning film about the Armenian Genocide, "1915 - The Movie," and a question and answer period with the writer/director Garin Hovannisian will follow.

Diaspora News

Shushi Dance Ensemble's Performance In Glendale, California

By Kevork Keushkerian

It was an afternoon of sheer ecstasy when 49 dancers took to the stage for more than two hours on Sunday, April 10, 2016, at the John Wayne Performing Arts Center of Glendale High School. The Armenian folk dances were accompanied by vocal renditions by famous artists from Armenia, New York and Los Angeles. The theme was appropriately chosen to be "Remember 1915 and Rise!!!" on this 101st anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

The dance and song performance was organized by Tekeyan Cultural Association's Glendale-Pasadena Chapter and was held under the auspices of His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian, the Primate of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America.

This was the fifth stop of Shushi Dance Ensemble's triumphant tour last year, which included performances in Moscow,



Yerevan, Stepanakert and New York City. Shushi Dance Ensemble was founded in 1992, under the auspices of New York's St. Vartan Cathedral. In 1995, the ensemble adopted the name Shushi, on the occasion of the 3rd anniversary of the liberation of that ancient capital city in Artsakh.

Seta Paskalian-Kantardjian is the dynamic Artistic Director and Choreographer of Shushi Dance Ensemble. Under her visionary leadership, the group has flourished and grown to 110 dancers of all ages, who have sacrificed many precious hours daily, to bring this Dance Ensemble to its current professional level. Andranik Mouradian is the famed Musical Director of the group.

In 2010, Shushi Dance Ensemble made a historic trip across the Middle East, performing in Amman, Jordan, Beirut, Lebanon, and the Syrian cities of Damascus and Aleppo. The performance in Aleppo was especially significant as it took place with spectacular fireworks in the ancient citadel of the city for 4000 spectators. Just two years later in 2012, Shushi Dance Ensemble toured South America to perform to packed



audiences in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Montevideo, Uruguay.

The Glendale performance on April 10, 2016, aside from being a song and dance exhibition of the highest caliber, was a show of determination as vocalists like Artsakh born Andre, who had just come from Stepanakert a day before, and Armenia born Leyla Saribekyan, who had just come from Yerevan three days ago, both expressed their solidarity with the heroic fighters on the Artsakh border with Azerbaijan and called for unity on all fronts to defeat the enemy. This is a day of celebration, they added, to evoke the Armenian spirit to confront any obstacle in the path of victory.

Other vocalists participating in the performance were Hasmik Mekhanejian and Anahit Zakaryan from New York City, as well as Salbi Mailyan, Armen Hovhannisyian, and Ruben Telunts from Los Angeles. Especially impressive were the final two songs, Kilikia and Hayastan, with the participation of all the vocalist and Shushi dancers, which marked the highlight of the evening.

The famed, multi-talented composer Ara Gevorgyan, who had just come from Yerevan three days ago, was the Guest of Honor that afternoon. The singers and dancers mesmerized the 1300 spectators with their dazzling performances, which resulted in an extended standing ovation from the audience. The 34 dances and songs were augmented with a background video presentation of pictures, appropriately depicting the theme of the song or the dance in progress, so the members of the audience would relate to the story behind that specific item performed.

During the curtain call, Primate Archbishop Hovnan Derderian and the Guest of Honor Ara Gevorgyan were invited to the stage to express their thoughts. Archbishop Derderian called the evening performance a volcanic explosion of songs and dances, which made all of us proud of our rich cultural heritage. He called upon Seta Paskalian-Kantardjian, the Artistic Director and Choreographer, to continue her important

work of instilling the Armenian spirit in the minds and souls of the young generations of Armenians in this remote part of our Diaspora.



Composer Ara Gevorgyan, who had enrolled into the army reserve force to fight in Artsakh and was rejected, due to the vast number of volunteers, stressed the call for unity by his colleagues and expressed his pleasant surprise to see four of his nephews among the guest dancers of the evening. He was later presented with a plaque of appreciation from the Tekeyan Cultural Association's Glendale-Pasadena Chapter.

Seta Paskalian-Kantardjian was also presented with a certificate of commendation from Ara Najarian, the former Mayor and current Councilmember of the City of Glendale. It was in recognition of her passion and dedication in promoting the Armenian culture through talented performing arts.

Following the performance, the dancers and the artists were invited for a cast party by the organizing committee, which took place at Tekeyan Cultural Association's Beshgeturian Center in Altadena. The sponsors of the event were also invited. Kevork Keushkerian introduced the members of the organizing committee, whose hard work and dedication was greatly appreciated.

After food was served, the dancing not only resumed but took to new heights by the guest dancers, as there were no restraints to impress the audience. It was both impromptu and informal, but excited everyone in attendance. Hats off to them and good luck for their future endeavors!!!

Elif Shafak For "The Guardian": It Is Difficult To Be Armenian In Turkey

Turkey is no longer simply politically polarized. It is now bitterly divided into two planets: those who support and will continue to support the president Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and those who are, for a variety of reasons, against him.

Erdoğan is the most divisive politician in Turkey's modern political history, Turkish famous writer Elif Shafak writes in an article published in the Guardian.

She says amid the political turmoil in Turkey this week, culminating in the prime minister's announcement that he'll stand down within days, it was Oscar Wilde who became the subject of a heated debate in the Turkish parliament. A member of the pro-Kurdish Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) said he wanted to quote a line from Wilde. A deputy from the ruling AKP party objected to the idea of citing someone who was neither Muslim nor Turkish. Yet another AKP member confused the Irish author with the Oscars. When they are not debating Wilde, MPs are busy exchanging blows. During a discussion to strip them of their immunity – a deliberate amendment that might lead to the trial and incarceration of Kurdish MPs – Garo Paylan, an Armenian deputy, was kicked,

punched and subjected to hate speech by several AKP members. Paylan said: "What they can't digest is this: a person of Armenian identity reveals their lies and stands upright."

"It is hard to be an Armenian in Turkey. Or a Kurd, or an Alevi, or gay, or a Jew, or a woman, or someone who just doesn't agree with what is happening in the country", Shafak writes. "Diversity has been stifled. Freedom of speech has been abandoned. An "ideology of sameness" dominates the land which is shaped by Turkish nationalism, Islamism and authoritarianism" she said. Referring to Davutoglu's resignation Shafak says Erdoğan wants to change Turkey into a presidential regime with a monopoly of power. She writes that opposition is fragmented, scattered, and demoralized in the country. Media is too heavily monitored. Turkey tops the countries demanding content removal from Twitter.

"Everything is shifting in Turkey – and very fast. We Turks live with a feeling of "what now?", knowing that every day something new happens. The central components of democracy – such as separation of powers, rule of law, freedom of speech – are all but broken" the writer says.



She identifies three major dangers: an absolutist monopoly of power; the total collapse of the Turkish-Kurdish peace process and the loss of secularism.

"In the past we had a solid tradition of black humor. Politics was always rough, but it was OK for the people to laugh at politicians. Not anymore. Recent research shows that only half of Turkey's people think it OK to criticize the government publicly. When Angela Merkel allows German comedians to be sued by Erdoğan, it is a clear message to Turkey's democrats: "You are all alone", Elif Shafak stated.

Diaspora News

Arev's Centennial Celebrated in Egypt

The concluding centennial ceremonies for the Armenian Democratic Liberal Party (ADL) newspaper Arev took place on April 27 in the Gogonian Complex in Heliopolis, a city founded by Nubar Pasha near Cairo. In addition to the newspaper's staff and correspondents, Bishop Ashot Mnatsakanyan, Primate of the Armenian Church in Egypt (and responsible also for Sudan, Ethiopia, and the Republic of South Africa), Armen Melkonian, ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, South Africa and Israel, ADL and Armenian General Benevolent Union leaders, and the editors of the Armenian newspapers Husaper and Jahagir were present. Annie Boghossian-Tashjian served as the master of ceremonies. The event began with the reading of an encyclical from Catholicos of All Armenians Karekin II and the greetings of Ambassador Melkonian. Congratulatory letters from the Minister of the Diaspora of the Republic of Armenia, the president of the Union of Journalists of Armenia, and former Arev editors Edmond Azadian and Avedis Yapudjian were read. Boghossian-Tashjian presented episodes from the rich history of the one-hundred-year-old newspaper, which began under the editorship of Vahan Tekeyan. Then the keynote speaker, Hagop Avedikian, spoke about the importance of Arev. Avedikian, editor of the Yerevan newspaper Azg, had been invited from Armenia specifically for this occasion. After his speech, he presented the Havadarim Masnakidutean [Faithful to the Profession] medal from the Union of Journalists of Armenia to Alis Depoyan, who for many years has worked for Arev. Depoyan's newly published anthology was celebrated by means of a kinetzon ceremony in which the book was anointed with wine.

Supporting Artsakh

Daily Work Done in France in Presenting True Picture of NKR Contact Line

Permanent representative of Nagorno Karabakh in France Hovhannes Gevorgian says everyday work is done in France in order to present the true picture about the Nagorno Karabakhi-Azerbaijani contact line. According to him, works are carried out in a number of directions: political arena and mass media.

"As you know, the France-Nagorno Karabakh friendship circle operates in France, and we have very strong ties with it. Everyday contact is maintained with both the circle and other French political figures. The second direction is mass media. Through the mass media, we deliver the true picture and real information about Nagorno Karabakh to the French society. Information is an important part of politics and diplomacy; therefore we carry out everyday work to deliver the truth to wide circles," he said.

He also noted that the Azerbaijani-Turkish lobby is very active in France, however France is among those countries, where the Embassies of both Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh are present, and a great number of French-Armenians. Therefore, with joint efforts they achieve results. "We focus on the real story of the conflict, on our positions of the settlement, which not always is known to the French political figures or the wide circle of the public. In detail, we present that the people of Nagorno Karabakh are being threatened by the leadership of Azerbaijan for 25 years, and generally, the hatred towards Armenians is being promoted and deepened in Azerbaijan. It is obvious that Nagorno Karabakh cannot return to its previous status," he added.

In addition to this, the local Armenian community is focusing on the Azerbaijani war crimes, the beheading of the Armenian soldier and targeting of civilians.

He said the French society must know about all the war crimes, atrocities, violation of international human rights of Azerbaijan.

ArmeniaFund Proclaims Joint Appeal With Armenian Orgs. of Western US



The Hayastan All-Armenian Fund proclaimed a joint appeal with all major Armenian organizations of the Western United States, to develop and strengthen Artsakh's statehood and, especially today, to further its security:

At this time of crisis, when the people of Artsakh are engaged in a life-and-death struggle to defend our homeland against the blatant aggression of the Azeri armed forces,

We, the Armenian churches, organizations, and unions of the Western United States declare that:

ACTING in the spirit of pan-Armenian unity;

ASSERTING that the security of Artsakh is of indisputable and absolute importance to every Armenian;

RECOGNIZING the crucial and ongoing role which the Armenia Fund (Hayastan All-Armenian Fund) has had

for the past quarter century in the development and strengthening of Artsakh's statehood, by uniting the largest structures of the Armenian diaspora around this vision,

We REAFFIRM our unanimous support of the Hayastan All-Armenian Fund's mission and goals,

AND APPEAL to all Armenian Americans to generously contribute to the Armenia Fund's HELP ARTSAKH! Telethon, which will be broadcast by all Armenian television channels in Los Angeles on Saturday, May 14, 2016. This special Telethon is dedicated to addressing the urgent humanitarian needs of war-torn Artsakh. Contributing to the security of the homeland is the duty of every Armenian.

May 9, 2016 Los Angeles, California

- Western Diocese of the Apostolic Church of North America, Burbank**
- Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America, La Crescenta**
- Armenian Evangelical Union of North America**
- Armenian Catholic Eparchy of U.S. and Canada**
- Social Democrat Hunchakian Party of the Western USA**
- Armenian Democratic Liberal (Ramgavar) Party, U.S. Western Region**
- Armenian Revolutionary Federation, Western U.S. Central Committee**
- A.G.B.U. Western District Committee**
- Armenian Relief Society of Western USA**
- Armenian Assembly of America, Southern California Regional Council**

Anti-Armenian Aggression

Information Security Expert: Azerbaijan Carries Out Strong Propaganda Against Armenians

Information Security Expert Samuel Martirosian says Azerbaijani authorities continue to block all possible information about their casualties.

"Azerbaijani authorities have a problem of keeping the sentiments of April events in a positive context within their public. We see that they block all the possible sources of information. For instance, they announce that the information on casualties is a secret. In fact, there is a ban on releasing such information. Moreover, they carry out a strong propaganda against Armenians as a nation trying to keep the aggressive tone," Samuel Martirosian said, reports Armenpress.am.

"Meydan TV" released information on the Azerbaijani casualties, however, Samuel Martirosian says these kind of talks and publications are viewed as a betrayal of the nation in Azerbaijan, and their people prefer not to write about it. As a result, the state only provides information about their casualties which is still within the field of 30. Referring to the existing developments related to May 9 in the information fields, Samuel Martirosian says in general we see inactivity. The main emphasis was based on the idea of restarting the military operations during holidays.



"There were talks within our public that Azerbaijan may restart the military operations on May 8-9. They have selected that idea as a target, and were constantly circulating that talks. It can be seen from the statement by Azerbaijani Defense Ministry that they want to do something so that Armenians will wait a war since expectation of death is cruel that death. This has been the main propaganda thesis in the last ten days, they work on it," Samuel Martirosian added.



Arts & Society



Armenia's Iveta Mukuchyan Takes 7th Spot at Eurovision 2016



Armenia's Iveta Mukuchyan performs the song 'LoveWave' during the Eurovision Song Contest final in Stockholm, Sweden, Saturday, May 14, 2016. (AP Photo/Martin Meissner)

Ukrainian singer Jamala won the 61st edition of the Eurovision Song Contest in Stockholm, Sweden on May 14. The contest will thus be held in Ukraine in 2017. The representative of Australia Dami Im took the second spot, while that of Russia Sergey Lazarev came in third. Armenia's delegate in Eurovision 2016, Iveta Mukuchyan took the 7th spot with her song "LoveWave."

"LoveWave" was written by Mukuchyan, Stephanie Crutchfield, Lilith Navasardyan and Levon Navasardyan. 26 countries participated in the final.

Serj Tankian Presents Song Devoted To Artsakh



Soloist of world famous "System of a Down" rock group, musician and composer Serj Tankian has presented a song devoted to Artsakh. "Armenpress" reports the singer wrote on his Facebook page, "A few days ago I was inspired to write a song for the people of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabagh). Thereafter the stars lined up quickly and we filmed a video and are having the video premiere on RollingStone.com. I'm very grateful for this. Special thanks to Rand Courtney for helping us put this together so quickly". Tankian posted the link to the song as well. "These people have lived on those lands for thousands of years. They have struggle but also great beauty written on their foreheads. The whimsical appropriation of land by an empire (Stalin) placed them under Azerbaijan. They have since gained their independence and have lived a prosperous existence for the last 20 or so years. I do not believe in wars and ultimately borders but I deeply believe in self-determination and life without oppression. Therefore it is time for the world to recognize them as the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh)", Tankian mentioned in Rollingstone.com.

Armenian Classical Music Concert in China

On May 13, an Armenian Classical Music concert was held in the Chinese city of Tianjin, as reported the Armenian community of China to Hayern Aysor. The concert featured performances of the works of Komitas, Spendiaryan, Khachaturian, Baghdasaryan, Babajanyan and Stepanyan. During the concert, director of the Secrets of Armenia Project and representative of the Executive Body of the Armenian Community Mikayel Hayrapetyan performed the works of notable 20th century composer Aro Stepanyan for the first time. The concert was organized by Mikayel Hayrapetyan's Secrets of Armenia Project and the Armenian Community of China. The Armenian Community of China is active. It is worth mentioning that the Armenians of China bring Armenians together, promote preservation of the Armenian identity in the Far East, allocate scholarships to Chinese students to study in Armenia and conduct studies on the history of the Armenian presence in China along with the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation. The activities of the Armenian Student Association of China, the Online Conference of Armenian Researchers and Students and other activities are also worth mentioning.



Concert Dedicated to Holocaust and Armenian Genocide to Take Place in Marseille, France



The concert entitled "You are my brother" will take place on May 23 in Marseille, France. It is dedicated to the memory of the Armenian Genocide and Holocaust victims. Famous singers and musicians will perform at the concert, which will take place in the SILO Theater. Back in October of 2015, a similar concert took place in Paris. The concert is organized by producer Jacques Kuzuyan, with the assistance of local Armenian and Jewish organizations. The Marseille City Hall also assisted the organizing process.

ZARTONK receives material from around the world and in many languages. Our Liberal principles advocate «Freedom of speech» as a mainstay of our beliefs; consequently the subjects and ideas presented will not necessarily reflect our point of view.

All published material is reviewed, however, we rely on the kind understanding of our audience when grammatical and spelling mistakes are missed. And in some rare cases, correction of submitted material is purposely not addressed, if it changes the implied context of the author.