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OMB No. 1124-0002; Expires April 30, 2017

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Supplemental Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended

For Six Month Period Ending 05/31/2014
(Insert date)

I - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant (b) Registration No.

Office of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic in the U.S.A. 5342

(c) Business Address(es) of Registrant

1334 G Street, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20005

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following?

(a) If an individual:

(1) Residence address(es)	Yes ☐	No ☐
(2) Citizenship	Yes ☐	No ☐
(3) Occupation	Yes ☐	No ☐

(b) If an organization:

(1) Name	Yes ☐	No ☒
(2) Ownership or control	Yes ☐	No ☒
(3) Branch offices	Yes ☐	No ☒

(c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in Items (a) and (b) above.

IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4, AND 5(a).

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C[1], state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

1 The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

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4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position	Date Connection Ended

(b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed

5. (a) Has any person named in Item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, identify each such person and describe the service rendered.

N/A

(b) During this six month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity? Yes ☐ No ☒

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed

(c) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Date Terminated

(d) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their connection with any foreign principal during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Foreign Principal	Date Terminated

6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(b) of the supplemental statement?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

N/A

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II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒
If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date of Termination

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal(s)[2] during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒
If yes, furnish th following information:

Name and Address of Foreign Principal(s)	Date Acquired

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principal(s)[2] whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

Government of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic

10. (a) Have you filed exhibits for the newly acquired foreign principal(s), if any, listed in Item 8?

Exhibit A[3] Yes ☐ No ☐

Exhibit B[4] Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

(b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during this six month period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

2 The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a) (9)). A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 208.)

3 The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3, sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

4 The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4, sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

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III - ACTIVITIES

11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

Government of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic

please see attached

12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity[5] as defined below? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.

Government of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic

please see attached

13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits your foreign principal(s)? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe fully.

5 "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act, means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

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IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

14. (a) **RECEIPTS-MONIES**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, explain why.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies.[6]

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
	please see attached		
			$81 653
			Total

(b) **RECEIPTS - FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received, as part of a fundraising campaign[7], any money on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an Exhibit D[8] to your registration? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, indicate the date the Exhibit D was filed. Date _____

(c) **RECEIPTS-THINGS OF VALUE**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received any thing of value[9] other than money from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date Received	Thing of Value	Purpose

6, 7 A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, moneys, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fundraising campaign. (See Rule 201(e)).

8 An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fundraising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal.

9 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

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15. (a) **DISBURSEMENTS-MONIES**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you

(1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐

(2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
	please see attached		

$ 77 905
Total

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(b) **DISBURSEMENTS-THINGS OF VALUE**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value[10] other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Recipient	Foreign Principal	Thing of Value	Purpose

(c) **DISBURSEMENTS-POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value[11] in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Amount or Thing of Value	Political Organization or Candidate	Location of Event

10, 11 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

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V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. (a) During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials?[12]
Yes ☒ No ☐

If Yes, go to Item 17.

(b) If you answered No to Item 16(a), do you disseminate any material in connection with your registration?
Yes ☐ No ☐

If Yes, please forward the materials disseminated during the six month period to the Registration Unit for review.

17. Identify each such foreign principal.

Government of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

☐ Radio or TV broadcasts ☒ Magazine or newspaper ☐ Motion picture films ☒ Letters or telegrams
☒ Advertising campaigns ☒ Press releases ☒ Pamphlets or other publications ☒ Lectures or speeches
☐ Other *(specify)* _____

Electronic Communications

☒ Email
☒ Website URL(s): www.nkrusa.org
☒ Social media websites URL(s): www.facebook.com/NKRinUSA
☐ Other *(specify)* _____

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

☒ Public officials ☒ Newspapers ☐ Libraries
☒ Legislators ☒ Editors ☒ Educational institutions
☒ Government agencies ☒ Civic groups or associations ☒ Nationality groups
☒ Other *(specify)* Embassies, NGOs

21. What language was used in the informational materials:

☒ English ☒ Other *(specify)* Armenian

22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☒ No ☐

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act?
Yes ☒ No ☐

12 The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

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VI - EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)	(Print or type name under each signature or provide electronic signature[13])	
June 16, 2014	/s/ Robert Avetisyan	eSigned

13 This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

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Question 11:

During this 6-month period, have you engaged in any activity for or rendered any service to any foreign principal named in items 7, 8 and 9 of this statement? Yes

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

Activities on behalf of the Government of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic:

Contacts

Date:	12/03/13
Contact:	Office of Congressman Pallone
Purpose:	discussed issues on NK, meeting with Speaker of the NKR Parliament
Contact manner:	e-mail / phone;
Date:	12/18/13
Contact:	Member of the US Congress; California State Assemblymembers, Los Angeles City councilmembers;
Purpose:	forwarded New Year letters from NKR Parliament Speaker
Contact manner:	email / mail (list of recipients and sample letters provided in attachment #1)
Date:	01/29/14
Contact:	Los Angeles Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Purpose:	to forward NKR Parliament Speaker's letter; (copy provided in attachment #2)
Contact manner:	e-mail/ mail
Date:	02/26/14
Contact:	Offices of Members of the US Congress
Purpose:	Sent factsheet "Azerbaijan Continues to Manipulate with the Events in Khojaly"
Contact manner:	email / fax; (list of recipients and factsheet copy provided in attachment #3)
Date:	03/10/14
Contact:	Glendale Councilmembers Zareh Sinanyan, and Montebello Councilmember Jack Hadjinian
Purpose:	Discuss issues regarding the US-Armenian community ties with the NKR
Contact manner:	business lunch
Date:	03/12/14
Contact:	Members of the US Congress: Cardenas, Chu, Cicilline, Clark, Eshoo, Pallone, Peters, Royce, Sanchez, Schiff, Sherman;
Purpose:	Thank you letters for issuing commemoration with regards to the February 1988 events in Sumgayit; (sample letter provided in attachment #4)
Contact manner:	mail
Date:	03/07/14
Contact:	Fresno County Supervisor Andreas Borgeas;
Purpose:	discussed issues around NK,
Contact manner:	lunch meeting

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Date:	05/02/14
Contact:	California's Pico Rivera City Councilmembers Tercero, Salcido, Archuleta, Armenta, Camacho
Purpose:	forwarded thank you letters from NKR's Shahumyan regional administration, and Mayor of Karvatjar in connection with establishment of friendship between Pico Rivera in California and City of Karvatjar, NKR.
Contact manner:	mail; (copies of letters and unofficial translation provided in attachment #5)

Date:	05/12/04
Contact:	Office of the OSCE American Co-Chair, Ambassador Warlick, US State Department;
Purpose:	meeting with Office Advisor Jeffrey Hulse to discuss US involvement in regional developments;
Contact manner:	meeting

Date:	05/14/2014
Contact:	Members of the California State Assembly
Purpose:	to forward thank you letters of NKR President – to Speaker Perez; and Parliament Speaker – to CA Assemblymembers Nazaryan, Brown, Gatto, Calderon, Perez, Achadjian;
Contact manner:	e-mail / mail; (copy of the President's letter and sample letters as sent from the NKR Parliament Speaker provided in attachment #6)

Date:	05/27/2014
Contact:	Offices of the US House Appropriations Committee members
Purpose:	to request a meeting for updating on US assistance to NKR,
Contact manner:	e-mail

Date:	05/30/2014
Contact:	Office of the US Congressman Charles Dent
Purpose:	met with Congressman's legislative assistant Christine Hernandez to update the US assistance to NKR,
Contact manner:	office meeting

Newsletters

(copies provided in attachment #7)

Date:	12/15/13, 01/15/14, 02/01/14, 02/15/14, 02/28/14, 03/15/14, 03/31/14, 04/15/14, 04/30/14, 05/15/14, 05/31/14
Subject:	Developments in NKR and related to NKR
Availability:	email

Press-releases, Interviews, Articles, Media Alerts

(copies provided in attachment #8)

Date:	02/06/14
Subject:	Interview to Canadian AESPUL edition, and Press Release on the interview
Availability:	available online at http://bit.ly/1q4kEeO

Date:	05/05/14

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Subject:	Press Release on Event re NK in the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Boston, USA
Availability:	www.nkrusa.org, electronic distribution
Date:	05/29/14
Subject:	Article in the Foreign Policy Journal "Twenty Years of Karabakh Armistice: No Peace, No Trust"; Media Alert on the Article
Availability:	www.nkrusa.org, email; article available online at http://bit.ly/1iBBpbS

Registrant's attendance at conferences and forums generally re Nagorno Karabakh and the region

Date:	12/03/13
Event:	Event on NKR Constitution Day
Location:	US Congress; Visitor's Center
Keynote Speaker:	NKR Parliament Speaker A.Ghulian
Date:	03/19/14
Event:	Event on "Non-Kinetic Warfare"
Location:	World Policy Institute, Washington, D.C.
Keynote Speaker:	Institute alumni Vigen Khlgatyan
Date:	04/09/14
Event:	Commemoration of the Anniversary of the 1915-1923 Armenian Genocide
Location:	US Congress; RHOB
Speakers:	members of the US Congress, Armenian-American community leaders, clergy, Armenian Ambassador to the US, NKR Representative
Date:	04/28/14
Event:	Event on NK Settlement Process
Location:	The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Boston, USA
Speakers:	School Faculty members, Professors, NKR Representative

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Question 12:

During this 6-month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity as defined below? Yes

Political activities on behalf of the Government of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic:

Contacts

Date:	12/03/13
Contact:	Office of Congressman Pallone
Purpose:	discussed issues on NK, meeting with Speaker of the NKR Parliament
Contact manner:	e-mail / phone;
Date:	12/18/13
Contact:	Member of the US Congress; California State Assemblymembers, Los Angeles City councilmembers;
Purpose:	forwarded New Year letters from NKR Parliament Speaker
Contact manner:	email / mail (list of recipients and sample letters provided in attachment #1)
Date:	01/29/14
Contact:	Los Angeles Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Purpose:	to forward NKR Parliament Speaker's letter; (copy provided in attachment #2)
Contact manner:	e-mail/ mail
Date:	02/26/14
Contact:	Offices of Members of the US Congress
Purpose:	Sent factsheet "Azerbaijan Continues to Manipulate with the Events in Khojaly"
Contact manner:	email / fax; (list of recipients and factsheet copy provided in attachment #3)
Date:	03/10/14
Contact:	Glendale Councilmembers Zareh Sinanyan, and Montebello Councilmember Jack Hadjinian
Purpose:	Discuss issues regarding the US-Armenian community ties with the NKR
Contact manner:	business lunch
Date:	03/12/14
Contact:	Members of the US Congress: Cardenas, Chu, Cicilline, Clark, Eshoo, Pallone, Peters, Royce, Sanchez, Schiff, Sherman;
Purpose:	Thank you letters for issuing commemoration with regards to the February 1988 events in Sumgayit; (sample letter provided in attachment #4)
Contact manner:	mail
Date:	03/07/14
Contact:	Fresno County Supervisor Andreas Borgeas;
Purpose:	discussed issues around NK,
Contact manner:	lunch meeting

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Date:	05/02/14
Contact:	California's Pico Rivera City Councilmembers Tercero, Salcido, Archuleta, Armenta, Camacho
Purpose:	forwarded thank you letters from NKR's Shahumyan regional administration, and Mayor of Karvatjar in connection with establishment of friendship between Pico Rivera in California and City of Karvatjar, NKR.
Contact manner:	mail; (copies of letters and unofficial translation provided in attachment #5)

Date:	05/12/04
Contact:	Office of the OSCE American Co-Chair, Ambassador Warlick, US State Department;
Purpose:	meeting with Office Advisor Jeffrey Hulse to discuss US involvement in regional developments;
Contact manner:	meeting

Date:	05/14/2014
Contact:	Members of the California State Assembly
Purpose:	to forward thank you letters of NKR President – to Speaker Perez; and Parliament Speaker – to CA Assemblymembers Nazaryan, Brown, Gatto, Calderon, Perez, Achadjian;
Contact manner:	e-mail / mail; (copy of the President's letter and sample letters as sent from the NKR Parliament Speaker provided in attachment #6)

Date:	05/27/2014
Contact:	Offices of the US House Appropriations Committee members
Purpose:	to request a meeting for updating on US assistance to NKR,
Contact manner:	e-mail

Date:	05/30/2014
Contact:	Office of the US Congressman Charles Dent
Purpose:	met with Congressman's legislative assistant Christine Hernandez to update the US assistance to NKR,
Contact manner:	office meeting

Newsletters

(copies provided in attachment #7)

Date:	12/15/13, 01/15/14, 02/01/14, 02/15/14, 02/28/14, 03/15/14, 03/31/14, 04/15/14, 04/30/14, 05/15/14, 05/31/14
Subject:	Developments in NKR and related to NKR
Availability:	email

Press-releases, Interviews, Articles, Media Alerts

(copies provided in attachment #8)

Date:	02/06/14
Subject:	Interview to Canadian AESPUL edition, and Press Release on the interview
Availability:	available online at http://bit.ly/1q4kEeO

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Date:	05/05/14
Subject:	Press Release on Event re NK in the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Boston, USA
Availability:	www.nkrusa.org, electronic distribution

Date:	05/29/14
Subject:	Article in the Foreign Policy Journal "Twenty Years of Karabakh Armistice: No Peace, No Trust"; Media Alert on the Article
Availability:	www.nkrusa.org, email; article available online at http://bit.ly/1iBBpbS

Registrant's attendance at conferences and forums generally re Nagorno Karabakh and the region

Date:	12/03/13
Event:	Event on NKR Constitution Day
Location:	US Congress; Visitor's Center
Keynote Speaker:	NKR Parliament Speaker A.Ghulian

Date:	03/19/14
Event:	Event on "Non-Kinetic Warfare"
Location:	World Policy Institute, Washington, D.C.
Keynote Speaker:	Institute alumni Vigen Khlgatyan

Date:	04/09/14
Event:	Commemoration of the Anniversary of the 1915-1923 Armenian Genocide
Location:	US Congress; RHOB
Speakers:	members of the US Congress, Armenian-American community leaders, clergy, Armenian Ambassador to the US, NKR Representative

Date:	04/28/14
Event:	Event on NK Settlement Process
Location:	The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Boston, USA
Speakers:	School Faculty members, Professors, NKR Representative

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Question 14 (a):

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in items 7, 8 and 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interest of any such principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes

If yes, set forth in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies.

The amount listed below is the total of such financial support and contributions to the NKR Office from all sources for the reporting period (12/01/2013 - 05/31/2014).

Name	Address line 1	Address line 2	Amount
NKR Government	28 Azatamartikneri St.	Stepanakert, NKR, Armenia	$81,153.00
Sb. Khach Armenian Church	4906 Flint Drive	Bethesda, MD 20816, USA	$500.00
Total			$81,653.00

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Question 15 (a):
During this 6 month reporting period, have you
(1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement? Yes

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal of *such monies, including transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.*

Foreign Principal: The Government of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic
The following is a breakdown of those expenses incurred by the NKR Office in the USA during the reporting period (12/01/2013 - 05/31/2014).

NN	Purpose	Amount
1	Entertainment/meals: No U.S. officials or media representatives were guests	$3,625
3	Health Insurance	$4,917
4	Living expenses	$35,098
6	Car rent/related expenses	$4,141
7	Office Supplies	$1,838
8	Parking	$740
9	Postage/Courier	$153
10	Rent Housing Expats	$16,545
11	Telephone / Internet	$3,016
12	Travel within US & International: No U.S. officials or media were guests	$7,713
13	Website/Email	$119
	Total operating expenses and other disbursements:	**$77,905**

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List of the US Congressmen, California Assemblymembers and Los Angeles City Cuncilmembers who received New year letters from the NKR Parliament Speaker

The Honorable Mitch McConnell	United States Senate
The Honorable Harry Reid	United States Senate
The Honorable Jack Reed	United States Senate
The Honorable Barbara Boxer	United States Senate
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein	United States Senate
The Honorable Richard J Durbin	United States Senate
The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy	United States Senate
The Honorable Carl Levin	United States Senate
The Honorable Robert Menendez	United States Senate
The Honorable Charles E. Schumer	United States Senate
The Honorable Roy Blunt	United States Senate
The Honorable Mark Kirk	United States Senate
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Steny Hoyer	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Frank Pallone	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Lloyd Doggett	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Devin Nunes	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Adam Schiff	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable John Boehner	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable James Clyburn	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Joseph Crowley	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Brad Sherman	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Ed Royce	US House Committee on Foreign Affairs
The Honorable Eric Cantor	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Anna Eshoo	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Jackie Speier	United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Michael Grimm	United States House of Representatives
Assemblymember Cheryl R. Brown	California State Assembly
Assemblymember Scott Wilk	California State Assembly
Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian	California State Assembly
Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian	California State Assembly
Councilmember Bob Blumenfield	Los Angeles City Council
Councilmember Paul Krekorian	Los Angeles City Council

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CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAGORNO - KARABAKH

2, February 20 st., Stepanakert, NKR Tel./ Fax: (+374) 943221

United States Senate, Minority Leader
The Honorable Mitch McConnell

Dear Mr. McConnell,

Please accept warmest wishes from Nagorno Karabakh to you and your family for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

In Artsakh we hope that the New 2014 will bring further success, peace and prosperity to our nations.

Sincerely,

A. Ghulyan

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CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAGORNO - KARABAKH

2. February 20 st., Stepanakert, NKR Tel. / Fax: (+374) 943221 E-mail: parliament@ktsurf.net

28 հունվարի, 2014 թ.

Լոս Անջելեսի քաղաքային խորհրդի անդամ

պրն Փ. ՔՐԵՔՈՐՅԱՆԻՆ

Հարգարժան Փոլ Քրեքորյան,

Լեռնային Ղարաբաղի Հանրապետության՝ Արցախի ժողովրդի և իշխանությունների անունից թույլ տվեք անկեղծ երախտագիտություն հայտնել Ձեր նախաձեռնությամբ Լոս Անջելեսի Քաղաքային խորհրդի կողմից Արցախի Հանրապետության անկախությունն ու ինքնիշխանությունը ճանաչող բանաձևի ընդունման համար:

Այս պատվաբեր քայլը, որը վկայում է ժողովրդավարական գաղափարներին, ազատություններին և մարդկային արժանապատվությանը Ձեր հաստատուն հանձնառության մասին, անգնահատելի աջակցություն է Արցախի Հանրապետության միջազգային ճանաչմանն ուղղված շարունակական ջանքերին՝ զարգանալու որպես ազատ և անկախ պետություն:

Համոզված եմ, որ Արցախի Հանրապետության և Լոս Անջելեսի միջև համագործակցության մեծ հեռանկարներ կան՝ ինչի մասին են վկայում 2012 թ. ապրիլի 24-ին Արցախի Հանրապետության Շուշի քաղաքի հետ բարեկամական հարաբերությունների հաստատումը և 2013 թ. սեպտեմբերի 24-26 կայացած Լոս Անջելեսի քաղաքային խորհրդի և Կալիֆորնիայի նահանգային խորհրդարանի անդամների պատվիրակության այցն Արցախ, որի ընթացքում Շուշիում բացվեց Լոս Անջելես և Շուշի քաղաքների բարեկամությունը խորհրդանշող պուրակը:

Հուսով եմ կրկին տեսնել Ձեզ և Ձեր գործընկերներին Արցախում ու առիթ ունենալ անձամբ հայտնել մեր երախտագիտությունը:

Հարգանքով՝

Աշոտ ՂՈՒԼՅԱՆ

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List Of Members of the U.S. Congress who Received the fact sheet:

Azerbaijan Continues to Manipulate with the Events in Khojalu

Firstname	lastname	affiliation
Robert	Aderholt	U.S. Representative
Todd	Akin	U.S. Representative
Rodney	Alexander	U.S. Representative
Gresham	Barrett	U.S. Representative
Roscoe	Bartlett	U.S. Representative
Joe	Barton	U.S. Representative
Howard	Berman	U.S. Representative
John	Boozman	U.S. Representative
Charles	Boustany	U.S. Representative
Corrine	Brown	U.S. Representative
Henry	Brown	U.S. Representative
Dan	Burton	U.S. Representative
G.K.	Butterfield	U.S. Representative
Shelley	Capito	U.S. Representative
Steve	Chabot	U.S. Representative
Ben	Chandler	U.S. Representative
Howard	Coble	U.S. Representative
Steve	Cohen	U.S. Representative
Tom	Cole	U.S. Representative
Mike	Conaway	U.S. Representative
Robert	Cramer	U.S. Representative
Henry	Cuellar	U.S. Representative
Geoff	Davis	U.S. Representative
Lincoln	Davis	U.S. Representative
Norman	Dicks	U.S. Representative
Lloyd	Doggett	U.S. Representative
Phil	English	U.S. Representative
Eni	Faleomavaega	U.S. Representative
Virginia	Foxx	U.S. Representative
Kay	Granger	U.S. Representative
Alcee	Hastings	U.S. Representative
Jeb	Hensarling	U.S. Representative
Rush	Holt	U.S. Representative
Darrell	Issa	U.S. Representative
Jesse	Jackson	U.S. Representative
William	Jefferson	U.S. Representative
Eddie	Johnson	U.S. Representative
Timothy	Johnson	U.S. Representative
Carolyn	Kilpatrick	U.S. Representative
Peter	King	U.S. Representative
John	Kuhl	U.S. Representative
Rick	Larsen	U.S. Representative
John	Lewis	U.S. Representative
Frank	LoBiondo	U.S. Representative
Betty	McCollum	U.S. Representative
Mike	McIntyre	U.S. Representative
Gregory	Meeks	U.S. Representative
Brad	Miller	U.S. Representative
Dennis	Moore	U.S. Representative

Firtsname	lastname	affiliation
James	Moran	U.S. Representative
John	Murtha	U.S. Representative
Solomon	Ortiz	U.S. Representative
Bill	Pascrell	U.S. Representative
Mike	Pence	U.S. Representative
Joseph	Pitts	U.S. Representative
Todd	Platts	U.S. Representative
Earl	Pomeroy	U.S. Representative
David	Price	U.S. Representative
Adam	Putnam	U.S. Representative
Nick	Rahall	U.S. Representative
Jim	Ramstad	U.S. Representative
Silvestre	Reyes	U.S. Representative
Ciro	Rodriguez	U.S. Representative
Ileana	Ros-Lehtinen	U.S. Representative
Dutch	Ruppersberger	U.S. Representative
Tim	Ryan	U.S. Representative
David	Scott	U.S. Representative
Pete	Sessions	U.S. Representative
Christopher	Shays	U.S. Representative
Bill	Shuster	U.S. Representative
Michael	Simpson	U.S. Representative
Ike	Skelton	U.S. Representative
Adam	Smith	U.S. Representative
Cliff	Stearns	U.S. Representative
Thomas	Tancredo	U.S. Representative
John	Tanner	U.S. Representative
Gene	Taylor	U.S. Representative
Bennie	Thompson	U.S. Representative
Nydia	Velázquez	U.S. Representative
Diane	Watson	U.S. Representative
Henry	Waxman	U.S. Representative
Robert	Wexler	U.S. Representative
Ed	Whitfield	U.S. Representative
Heather	Wilson	U.S. Representative
Joe	Wilson	U.S. Representative

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OFFICE OF THE NAGORNO KARABAKH REPUBLIC

Do Not Trust Dictator Aliev's Regime
Do Not Support Xenophobia
Read The Truth About Khojaly

February 2014

AZERBAIJAN CONTINUES TO MANIPULATE WITH THE EVENTS OF KHOJALY

The material contains reference to Azeri sources

Decades after the events near Aghdam (known as Khojaly events) in February 1992, official Baku has been obstinately fanning anti-Armenian hysteria with the aim of falsifying the events and discrediting the Armenian people in the eyes of the international community.

The events in Khojaly during 1991-1994 Azerbaijan's aggression against Nagorno Karabakh, which led to the death of civilians, were the results of political intrigues and a struggle for power in the oil-rich country.

The reasons for the tragedy are most convincingly reflected in the records of Azerbaijanis, both participants and eyewitnesses of what had happened, as well as of those who recall the whole inside story of the situation in Baku those days.

According to Azerbaijani journalist M. Safarogly, "Khojaly occupied an important strategic position. The loss of Khojaly was a political fiasco for Mutalibov". [1] Khojaly was one of the main strongholds of the Azeri army from which Stepanakert, the capital and the largest town of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, was shelled continuously and mercilessly for months. Suppressing firing positions in Khojaly and unblocking the only airport became a must for preventing a complete physical extermination of Stepanakert's population.

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Former **President of Azerbaijan, Ayaz Mutalibov, has emphasized that "... the assault on Khojaly was not a surprise attack"[2]. In his interview to "Nezavisimaya gazeta" newspaper, Mutalibov has confirmed that "a corridor was kept open by the Armenians for people to leave"[3]**. However, civilians who tried to escape were murdered by Azeri Popular Front's troops near Agdham, 7 miles away from Khojaly. This fact was later also confirmed by Mutalibov, who linked this crime with **attempts by the opposition to dethrone him from presidency**, which they eventually did. In his more recent interview with the "Novoye vremya" magazine, Mutalibov has confirmed his earlier statement: "The shooting of the Khojaly residents was obviously organized by someone to take control in Azerbaijan"[4].

Similar comments and views concerning the events in Khojaly are known to have been made by several other highly-placed Azerbaijani officials and journalists.

What resulted from the betrayal of the inhabitants of Khojaly by their own highly placed compatriots is well known. Azerbaijani propaganda has railed to the whole world about the "atrocities of the Armenians", supplying television stations with horrendous pictures of a field strewn with mutilated bodies. Khojaly is claimed to have been the "Armenians' revenge for Sumgait".

Tamerlan Karayev, former Chairman of Azerbaijan's Supreme Council, said: "The tragedy was committed by the (current) authorities of Azerbaijan"; specifically by "someone very high-ranking"[6].

The Czech journalist Jana Mazalova, who by an oversight of the Azerbaijanis was included in both of the groups of press representatives to be shown the "bodies mutilated by the Armenians", noted a substantial difference in the two cases. When she went to the scene immediately after the events, Mazalova did not see any traces of barbarous treatment of the bodies. Yet a couple of days later the journalists were shown disfigured bodies already "ready" for filming.

Questions that can shed light on this tragedy:

1. Who killed the peaceful inhabitants of Khojaly and maimed their bodies, if the events occurred near Agdam – on territory fully controlled by the Popular Front of Azerbaijan?

2. Why everyone in Azerbaijan, who tried to find truth about Khojaly was either murdered, or imprisoned?

The independent **Azerbaijani cameraman Chingiz Mustafayev**, who worked in Khojaly those days, began to ask too many questions around the official Azerbaijani version of the events. Mustafayev **was murdered** near Agdam under unknown circumstances soon after he openly declared through

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the "D-press" news-agency about his intention to investigate the degree of Azerbaijan's responsibility for the events in Khojaly.

In 2005, Azeri independent journalist Ejnulla Fatullayev has also carelessly stated in an interview to the "Monitor" Azeri agency that he had **"met with Khojaly inhabitants, who confirmed that Armenians were using loudspeakers to warn about the forthcoming operation, and offered to leave the settlement through a corridor along river"**. According to Fatullayev, without corridor, no one would have been survived. Several days after his interview, The Monitor's editor-in-chief Elmar Huseynov was murdered near his apartment, and Fatullayev was imprisoned and accused of treason and drug smuggling and spent four years in prison in a result of fabricated case.

The previous President of Azerbaijan, Heydar Aliyev, has recognized that Azerbaijan's "former leadership was also guilty" of the events in Khojaly. Already in April 1992, according to the agency "Bilik-Dunyasy", he **had commented as follows: "The bloodshed will be to our advantage. We should not interfere in the course of events"**.

"Megapolis-Express" newspaper wrote: **"It cannot be denied that if the Popular Front of Azerbaijan actually set far-reaching objectives, they have been achieved. Mutalibov has been compromised and overthrown, public opinion worldwide has been shaken, and the Azerbaijanis and their Turkish brethren have believed in the so-called "genocide of the Azerbaijani people in Khojaly"[7].**

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1. "Nezavisimaya gazeta" newspaper, February 1993
2. "Ogonek" magazine, Nos. 14-15, 1992
3. "Nezavisimaya gazeta" newspaper, 2 April 1992
4. "Novoye vremya" magazine, 6 March 2001
5. "Mukhalifat" newspaper, 28 April 1992
6. "Megapolis-Express", No. 17, 1992

Please, do not hesitate to contact the NKR Office for additional information

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OFFICE OF THE NAGORNO KARABAKH REPUBLIC IN THE USA

ԱՄՆ-ում ԼՂՀ մշտական ներկայացուցչություն

March 10, 2014

The Honorable Tony Cárdenas
United States House of Representatives
1508 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Cárdenas:

I am writing to express profound gratitude for your steadfast support to the freedom and security of the people of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh.

Your statement commemorating the victims of the 1988 pogroms in Azerbaijan's Sumgait has sent a clear signal to the organizers of those tragic events that responsibility for racism and genocidal actions has no time limit. We do hope that Azeri president and his regime will eventually realize that the U.S. Congress and American people will not tolerate another aggression against Artsakh, and that the time has come to stop xenophobia and move towards mutual trust and regional peace.

People and authorities of the NKR are grateful for your continued support of human rights and freedom. We remain committed to developing as open and democratic society, and to contribute to our shared vision of a stable and prosperous region.

Sincerely,

R. Avetisyan

Robert Avetisyan
Representative

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unofficial translation

2 May, 2014

The Honorable Bob J. Archuleta
City of Pico Rivera
6615 Passons Boulevard
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

Dear Councilmember Archuleta:

On behalf of the City of Karvachar and people of the Shahumyan region, we would like to welcome the adoption of the resolution that establishes friendship relations between our cities.

We are grateful for the decision of the Pico Riviera City Council. As another important manifestation of international community's support of NKR's continued efforts to develop free and sovereign country, it will contribute to the establishment and development of cultural, educational, and economic ties between our cities and our peoples.

Please accept our gratitude for your contribution in adoption of this historic decision. We wish you and your city every success, and would like to invite you to visit Karvachar, and to discuss practical steps and opportunities for cooperation between our cities.

Sincerely,

[signed]

Vitaliy Danelyan
Head of Shahumyan
Regional Administration

[signed]

Roland Aydinyan
Mayor of Karvachar

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ՇԱՀՈՒՄՅԱՆԻ ՇՐՋԱՆԻ
ՎԱՐՉԱԿԱԶՄ

ԼՂՀ, ք. Քարվաճառ, Ազատամարտիկների փ., շենք 41, Հեռ.՝ (097)387800, (097)387802, էլ. փոստ՝ shahumyan@gov.nkr.am

«02» 05 2014թ.

N 1-4/66

Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքապետ
պրն Բ. ՏԵՐՍԵՐՈՅԻՆ

Հարգարժան պարոն Տերսերո,

Լեռնային Ղարաբաղի Հանրապետության (ԼՂՀ) Քարվաճառ քաղաքի և Շահումյանի շրջանի բնակչության անունից ողջունում ենք Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքային խորհուրդի կողմից միաձայն ընդունած բանաձևը՝ ԼՂՀ Քարվաճառ քաղաքը որպես բարեկամ քաղաք ճանաչելու մասին:

Մենք բարձր ենք գնահատում Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքային խորհրդի որոշումը, որը լինելով միջազգային հանրության աջակցության ևս մեկ կարևոր դրսևորում՝ ի սատարումն ԼՂՀ ազատ ու անկախ զարգանալու շարունակական ջանքերին, կնպաստի մեր երկու քաղաքների և ժողովուրդների միջև մշակութային, կրթական և տնտեսական կապերի հաստատմանն ու զարգացմանը:

Հղելով մեր լավագույն բարեմաղթանքները՝ շնորհակալություն ենք հայտնում այս պատմական որոշման ընդունման գործում Ձեր ունեցած ավանդի համար և հրավիրում Քարվաճառ՝ գործնական երկխոսություն ծավալելու մեր քաղաքների միջև համագործակցության հեռանկարների և հնարավորությունների շուրջ:

Հարգանքով՝

Վիտալի ԴԱՆԻԵԼՅԱՆ
Շահումյանի շրջանի
վարչակազմի ղեկավար

Ռոլանդ ԱՅԴԻՆՅԱՆ
Քարվաճառի քաղաքապետ

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ՇԱՀՈՒՄՅԱՆԻ ՇՐՋԱՆԻ
ՎԱՐՉԱԿԱԶՄ

ԼՂՀ, ք. Քարվաճառ, Ազատամարտիկների փ., շենք 41, Հեռ.՝ (097)387800, (097)387802; էլ. փոստ՝ shahumyan@gov.nkr.am

«12» 05 2014 թ.

N 1-4/67

Պիկո Ռիվերայի
քաղաքային խորհրդի անդամ
պրն Գ. ՍԱԼՍԻԴՈ

Հարգարժան պարոն Սալսիդո

Լեռնային Ղարաբաղի Հանրապետության (ԼՂՀ) Քարվաճառ քաղաքի և Շահումյանի շրջանի բնակչության անունից ողջունում ենք Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքային խորհուրդի կողմից միաձայն ընդունած բանաձևը՝ ԼՂՀ Քարվաճառ քաղաքը որպես բարեկամ քաղաք ճանաչելու մասին:

Մենք բարձր ենք գնահատում Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքային խորհրդի որոշումը, որը, լինելով միջազգային հանրության աջակցության ևս մեկ կարևոր դրսևորում՝ ի սատարումն ԼՂՀ ազատ ու անկախ զարգանալու շարունակական ջանքերին, կնպաստի մեր երկու քաղաքների և ժողովուրդների միջև մշակութային, կրթական և տնտեսական կապերի հաստատմանն ու զարգացմանը:

Հղելով մեր լավագույն բարեմաղթանքները՝ շնորհակալություն ենք հայտնում այս պատմական որոշման ընդունման գործում Ձեր ունեցած ավանդի համար և հրավիրում Քարվաճառ՝ գործնական երկխոսություն ծավալելու մեր քաղաքների միջև համագործակցության հեռանկարների և հնարավորությունների շուրջ:

Հարգանքով՝

Վիտալի ԴԱՆԻԵԼՅԱՆ
Շահումյանի շրջանի
վարչակազմի ղեկավար

Ռոլանդ ԱՅԴԻՆՅԱՆ
Քարվաճառի քաղաքապետ

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 06/16/2014 3:23:55 PM

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 06/16/2014 3:23:55 PM

ԼԵՌՆԱՅԻՆ ՂԱՐԱԲԱՂԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

ՇԱՀՈՒՄՅԱՆԻ ՇՐՋԱՆԻ
ՎԱՐՉԱԿԱԶՄ

ԼՂՀ, ք. Քարվաճառ, Ազատամարտիկների փ., շենք 41: Հեռ.՝ (097)387800, (097)387802; էլ. փոստ՝ shahumyan@gov.nkr.am

«02» 05 2014թ.

N1-4/68

Պիկո Ռիվերայի
քաղաքային խորհրդի անդամ
պրն Բ. ԱՐԿՈՒԼԵՏԱ

Հարգարժան պարոն Արկուլետա

Լեռնային Ղարաբաղի Հանրապետության (ԼՂՀ) Քարվաճառ քաղաքի և Շահումյանի շրջանի բնակչության անունից ողջունում ենք Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքային խորհուրդի կողմից միաձայն ընդունած բանաձևը՝ ԼՂՀ Քարվաճառ քաղաքը որպես բարեկամ քաղաք ճանաչելու մասին:

Մենք բարձր ենք գնահատում Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքային խորհրդի որոշումը, որը, լինելով միջազգային հանրության աջակցության ևս մեկ կարևոր դրսևորում՝ ի սատարումն ԼՂՀ ազատ ու անկախ զարգանալու շարունակական ջանքերին, կնպաստի մեր երկու քաղաքների և ժողովուրդների միջև մշակութային, կրթական և տնտեսական կապերի հաստատմանն ու զարգացմանը:

Հղելով մեր լավագույն բարեմաղթանքները՝ շնորհակալություն ենք հայտնում այս պատմական որոշման ընդունման գործում Ձեր ունեցած ավանդի համար և հրավիրում Քարվաճառ՝ գործնական երկխոսություն ծավալելու մեր քաղաքների միջև համագործակցության հեռանկարների և հնարավորությունների շուրջ:

Հարգանքով՝

Վիտալի ԴԱՆԻԵԼՅԱՆ
Շահումյանի շրջանի
վարչակազմի ղեկավար

Ռոլանդ ԱՅԴԻՆՅԱՆ
Քարվաճառի քաղաքապետ

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ԼԵՌՆԱՅԻՆ ՂԱՐԱԲԱՂԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

ՇԱՀՈՒՄՅԱՆԻ ՇՐՋԱՆԻ
ՎԱՐՉԱԿԱԶՄ

ԼՂՀ, ք. Քարվաճառ, Ազատամարտիկների փ., շենք 41; Հեռ.՝ (097)387800, (097)387802; էլ. փոստ՝ shahumyan@gov.nkr.am

«02» 05 2014 թ.

N1-4/69

Պիկո Ռիվերայի
քաղաքային խորհրդի անդամ
պրն Դ. ԱՐՄԵՆՏԱ

Հարգարժան պարոն Արմենտա

Լեռնային Ղարաբաղի Հանրապետության (ԼՂՀ) Քարվաճառ քաղաքի և Շահումյանի շրջանի բնակչության անունից ողջունում ենք Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքային խորհուրդի կողմից միաձայն ընդունած բանաձևը՝ ԼՂՀ Քարվաճառ քաղաքը որպես բարեկամ քաղաք ճանաչելու մասին:

Մենք բարձր ենք գնահատում Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքային խորհրդի որոշումը, որը, լինելով միջազգային հանրության աջակցության ևս մեկ կարևոր դրսևորում՝ ի սատարումն ԼՂՀ ազատ ու անկախ զարգանալու շարունակական ջանքերին, կնպաստի մեր երկու քաղաքների և ժողովուրդների միջև մշակութային, կրթական և տնտեսական կապերի հաստատմանն ու զարգացմանը:

Հղելով մեր լավագույն բարեմաղթանքները՝ շնորհակալություն ենք հայտնում այս պատմական որոշման ընդունման գործում Ձեր ունեցած ավանդի համար և հրավիրում Քարվաճառ՝ գործնական երկխոսություն ծավալելու մեր քաղաքների միջև համագործակցության հեռանկարների և հնարավորությունների շուրջ:

Հարգանքով՝

Վիտալի ԴԱՆԻԵԼՅԱՆ
Շահումյանի շրջանի
վարչակազմի ղեկավար

Ռոլանդ ԱՅԴԻՆՅԱՆ
Քարվաճառի քաղաքապետ

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ԼԵՌՆԱՅԻՆ ՂԱՐԱԲԱՂԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

ՇԱՀՈՒՄՅԱՆԻ ՇՐՋԱՆԻ
ՎԱՐՉԱԿԱԶՄ

ԼՂՀ, ք. Քարվաճառ, Ազատամարտիկների փ., շենք 41: Հեռ.՝ (097)387800, (097)387802: Էլ. փոստ՝ shahumyan@gov.nkr.am

«02» 05 2014թ.

N 1-4/170

Պիկո Ռիվերայի
քաղաքային խորհրդի անդամ
պրն Գ. ԿԱՄԱՉՈ

Հարգարժան պարոն Կամաչո

Լեռնային Ղարաբաղի Հանրապետության (ԼՂՀ) Քարվաճառ քաղաքի և Շահումյանի շրջանի բնակչության անունից ողջունում ենք Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքային խորհուրդի կողմից միաձայն ընդունած բանաձևը՝ ԼՂՀ Քարվաճառ քաղաքը որպես բարեկամ քաղաք ճանաչելու մասին:

Մենք բարձր ենք գնահատում Պիկո Ռիվերայի քաղաքային խորհրդի որոշումը, որը, լինելով միջազգային հանրության աջակցության ևս մեկ կարևոր դրսևորում՝ ի սատարումն ԼՂՀ ազատ ու անկախ զարգանալու շարունակական ջանքերին, կնպաստի մեր երկու քաղաքների և ժողովուրդների միջև մշակութային, կրթական և տնտեսական կապերի հաստատմանն ու զարգացմանը:

Հղելով մեր լավագույն բարեմաղթանքները՝ շնորհակալություն ենք հայտնում այս պատմական որոշման ընդունման գործում Ձեր ունեցած ավանդի համար և հրավիրում Քարվաճառ՝ գործնական երկխոսություն ծավալելու մեր քաղաքների միջև համագործակցության հեռանկարների և հնարավորությունների շուրջ:

Հարգանքով՝

Վիտալի ԴԱՆԻԵԼՅԱՆ
Շահումյանի շրջանի
վարչակազմի ղեկավար

Ռոլանդ ԱՅԴԻՆՅԱՆ
Քարվաճառի քաղաքապետ

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ԼԵՌՆԱՅԻՆ ՂԱՐԱԲԱՂԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՆԱԽԱԳԱՀ

14 Նոյեմբեր 2014 թ
№ Ն-0Գ/228

ք. Ստեփանակերտ

Կալիֆորնիա նահանգի
Օրենսդիր ժողովի անդամ
պրն Ջ. ՊԵՐԵՍԻՆ

Մեծարգո պարոն Պերես,

Լեռնային Ղարաբաղի Հանրապետության ժողովրդի անունից շնորհակալություն եմ հայտնում Կալիֆորնիա նահանգի օրենսդիր մարմնի կողմից AJR32 բանաձևի ընդունման գործում Ձեր ունեցած էական ավանդի համար:

Այս բանաձևը, որով հավանություն է տրվում ԼՂՀ շարունակական ջանքերին՝ զարգանալու որպես ազատ ու անկախ պետություն և կոչ է արվում ԱՄՆ Նախագահին ու Կոնգրեսին աջակցել Լեռնային Ղարաբաղի ինքնորոշման իրավունքին ու ժողովրդավարական անկախությանը, կարևոր ներդրում է ԼՂՀ միջազգային ճանաչման գործընթացում:

Ձեր պաշտոնավարման ավարտի կապակցությամբ կցանկանայի նաև շնորհակալություն հայտնել այն սկզբունքային դիրքորոշման համար, որ Դուք մշտապես ցուցաբերել եք ամերիկահայությանը հուզող հարցերի նկատմամբ, և մաղթել Ձեզ հաջողություն հետագա գործունեության մեջ:

Վերհիշելով 2013 թ. սեպտեմբերին Երևանում կայացած մեր հանդիպումը՝ հույս ունեմ, որ մեր համագործակցությունն ու բարեկամությունը կշարունակվեն:

Օգտվելով առիթից վերահաստատում եմ իմ հրավերն այցելել Արցախ՝ տեղում ծանոթանալու մեր երկրին և նրա ժողովրդին:

Հարգանքով՝

Բակո ՍԱՀԱԿՅԱՆ

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 06/16/2014 3:23:55 PM

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CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAGORNO - KARABAKH

2 February 20 st., Stepanakert, NKR Tel. / Fax: (+374) 943221

«14» May 2014

Mike Gatto, Assemblymember
California State Assembly

Dear Assemblymember Gatto,

On behalf of the people of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, the National Assembly and myself I am writing to express our sincere gratitude to you for sponsoring the resolution AJR 32 in the California State Assembly, which encourages legitimate freedom aspirations of the people of Nagorno Karabakh and calls on the US President and Congress to support the self-determination and democratic independence of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic.

This resolution, which, we believe, will open new possibilities for cooperation between our legislatures, represents a valuable contribution to the international support of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic's continuing efforts to develop as a free and independent nation.

We are confident that recognition of Artsakh's achievements and its involvement with the international community's efforts to reach a just and lasting solution to security issues in the region are crucial for establishing regional peace and stability based on universal values.

I would like to use this opportunity to thank you again for your efforts and invite you to visit our country.

Respectfully,

Ashot Ghulyan

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Question 16:

During this 6 month period, did you prepare, disseminate or Cause to be disseminated any informational material?

Answer: Yes. Below are the copies of the Newsletters distributed during the reporting period (12/01/2013 – 05/31/2014)

ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

December 1-15, 2013

Artsakh Newsletter summarizes key developments in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh and is prepared by the NKR Office in the United States.

POLITICS

In another violation of the cease-fire by Azerbaijan, Army private Hrant Poghosyan was killed on Armenia's northeastern border, despite country's pledge to respect OSCE Minsk Group's (MG) call to refrain from escalation. Armenian Defense Ministry issued a statement on the incident, pledging to retaliate. California Democratic Congressmen Adam Schiff and Brad Sherman issued statements calling for Azerbaijan be held to account for its actions.

Chairman of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA), other members of Congress and Armenian community joined in celebration of the anniversary of Artsakh's independence. The Congressional event, with NKR Parliament Chairman Ashot Ghulian as the keynote Speaker, marked the 22nd anniversary of the referendum for independence in Artsakh and the seventh anniversary of the adoption of NKR Constitution.

As part of his working trip to Washington, Speaker Ghulian visited with members of the U.S. Congress, State Department officials and Armenian-American organizations and leaders. The visit was concluded with a reception at the Armenian Embassy, featuring an awards ceremony for members of the community.

Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan met in Kiev, Ukraine. A joint statement by the OSCE MG and the two Foreign Ministers called the sides "to consider measures that would reduce tensions in the region".

SOCIETY & ECONOMY

On December 7, Artsakh officials and public visited the Stepanakert memorial complex in memory of the victims of 1988 earthquake in Armenia.

The Silicon Valley Community of California raised $80,000 for Artsakh resettlement programs.

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Renowned Spanish soprano Montserrat Caballé presented her new album "Armenia and Artsakh - An Isle of Christianity". NKR President Bako Sahakyan attended the presentation ceremony in Paris.

Writer's Digest Magazine recognized "Armenia and Karabakh: The Stone Garden Travel Guide" by Matthew Karanian as one of the Best Reference Guides of 2013. Karanian has presented the guide at several venues in U.S. and Canada.

HISTORICAL REFERENCE

On December 10, 1991 the national Referendum in Artsakh reflected an overwhelming popular endorsement of then newly-formed Nagorno Karabakh Republic.82% of the total number of Artsakh's registered voters participated in the vote with 99.98% voting for independence. And on December 10, 2006, the people of Artsakh reaffirmed their commitment to live in a free, independent and democratic state by adopting the republic's Constitution. President Bako Sahakyan addressed the nation to mark both occasions.

About the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh

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ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

December 15, 2013 - January 15, 2014

NKR Office wishes all readers a peaceful and happy New Year!

Artsakh Newsletter summarizes key developments in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh and is prepared by the NKR Office in the United States.

POLITICS

In his New Year's address, NKR President Bako Sahakyan urged unity and consolidation to accomplish the nation's overarching goals to make Artsakh stronger and improve people's lives. On New Year's eve, President Sahakyan visited with forward-deployed military units of the Nagorno Karabakh Defense Army to congratulate the servicemen.

Meanwhile, as in years past, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliev used his New Year's statement to threaten a new war against Armenia and Artsakh.

Ignoring calls from international mediators, Azerbaijan continues violating the cease-fire agreement. In the most recent incident, two 19 year-old soldiers of Artsakh Defense Army – Hovhannes Davtyan and Erik Karapetyan- were wounded.

The Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group traveled to Baku, Yerevan and Stepanakert to discuss the Karabakh peace process. In their statement, the mediators noted that "recent violence on the border undermines prospects for peace."They also encouraged the conflicting parties to "refrain from further actions that could increase tensions, and to work to maintain an atmosphere conducive to progress at the negotiating table."

During the meeting with the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group in Stepanakert, NKR President Bako Sahakyan stressed the importance of the restoration of full-fledged negotiation format with direct participation of Stepanakert as well as cessation of the Azerbaijan's destructive and aggressive policy.

Russian Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group Igor Popov stated that Nagorno Karabakh must be re-involved in the negotiation process in a certain stage since the process determines the future of the Artsakh people.

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While visiting Stepanakertt, the mediators also met with Artsakh civil society activists and NGO representatives.

Summarizing his ministry's work in 2013, Foreign Minister Karen Mirzoyan noted that its focus remained on the settlement of Karabakh conflict, NKR's international recognition, deepening cooperation with the Armenian Diaspora, as well as developing relations with other states. Watch the Artsakh TV report.

ECONOMY

Following a meeting with representatives of parliamentary factions of the NKR parliament, President Sahakyan signed the Law "On the 2014 State Budget of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic".

In 2013, Artsakh economy registered nine percent GDP growth, reported Prime Minister Ara Haroutyunyan during his briefing on the year's achievements and results. Later in his New Year message, the head of Artsakh government outlined the main priorities of the Artsakh government - improving living standards, strengthening social welfare and security. Focus areas for 2014 include pension and wages reforms, as well as programs aimed at continuing development of medium and small enterprises in NKR.

SOCIETY

Dr. Anzhela Elibegova and head of the "Initiative for Prevention of Xenophobia" NGO Armine Adibekyan published their joint work titled "Armenophobia in Azerbaijan" that researched anti-Armenian rhetoric in Azerbaijani mass media and society in the last five years. See Artsakh TV coverage in Armenian.

Also watch an Artsakh TV report on a recent student conference at the Artsakh State University.

HISTORICAL REFERENCE

On January 13, 1990, mobs in Baku, Azerbaijan launched brutal, house-by-house attacks on ethnic Armenians still living in the Azerbaijani capital that came to be known as Baku pogroms. The total death toll was never definitively established, but deaths of many dozens of Armenians had been confirmed. In the following days, Soviet authorities evacuated remnants of the community of Baku that prior to the conflict numbered more than a quarter million people.

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ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

January 31, 2014

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POLITICS

Artsakh Defense Army junior sergeant Armen Hovhannisyan, born in 1994, was killed on the Line of Contact while repelling an attack by Azerbaijani forces. On the night of January 19-20, Artsakh Defense Army units stopped two simultaneous night-attacks by Azeri forces in the northeastern (Jraberd) and southeastern (Korgan) directions, and forced them to retreat to their original positions inflicting considerable personnel and material losses on the enemy. NKR President Bako Sahakyan awarded Armen Hovhannisyan posthumously by the Artsakh Medal of Courage "for bravery shown during the defense of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic state border."

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The NKR Foreign Ministry strongly condemned provocative actions of Azerbaijan in its statement that stressed aggressive nature of Azerbaijani actions and "seriously undermine the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group co-chair countries aimed at peaceful settlement of the conflict between Azerbaijan and Nagorno Karabakh."

In another separate incident, Armenian Army Private Karen Galstyan (1994) was killed on the Line of Contacts as a result of Azerbaijani sniper fire. NKR President Bako Sahakyan awarded Karen Galstyan posthumously by "For Service in Battle" medal.

In a statement, U.S. Member of Congress Brad Sherman urged holding Azerbaijan accountable for its actions. Rep. Sherman stressed that "Azerbaijan continues to show that it is not serious about establishing peaceful relations with Artsakh and repeatedly creates obstacles to the peace process." Meanwhile, another member of U.S. Congress Adam Shchiff in his interview stressed that those violations are supported implicitly by the Aliev administration, and international community has to speak out strongly about it. "I think we have to stop supporting them and drive home the message that this kind of dangerous, provocative, and fatal conduct is just not going to persist," said Rep. Schiff.

The U.S. State Department once again reiterated its position that the use of force will not resolve Karabakh conflict, and called on all parties to refrain from the use or threat of force. Meanwhile, Russian Foreign Ministry called the conflicting sides to take additional measures to stabilize the situation, including introduction of mechanisms under the February 4, 1995 agreement on strengthening of ceasefire.

The three OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs expressed their deep concern over recent violence and stressed that those incidents "undermine negotiations and diminish the prospects for peace." Amid the recent escalation, Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan met in Paris in a previously agreed meeting. Meeting with OSCE mediators, Armenian Foreign Minister pointed to the increasing number of cease fire violations and continuing bellicose rhetoric of Azerbaijan that impede the peace process.

Spokesman for the NKR President David Babayan said that NKR continues informing the mediators about the situation on the borders. President's press secretary expressed concern over international community's failure to condemn Azerbaijan directly.

The Los Angeles City Council has adopted a resolution, introduced by Councilmember Paul Krekorian, recognizing the independence of Republic of Artsakh and honoring its citizens. The resolution also calls upon the international community to "give appropriate recognition to the Republic of Artsakh as a free, independent, and sovereign state."

Freedom House ranked Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh as "Partly Free" in its "Freedom in the World 2014" annual report. Azerbaijan once again was ranked as "Not Free." Freedom House also indicated a decline in civil liberties in Azerbaijan.

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ECONOMY

NKR President Bako Sahakyan stressed the importance of development of banking sector in a meeting with "Ardshininvestbank" chair Mher Grigoryan.

The president chaired a meeting with participation of Hayastan Fund representatives that discussed issues related to construction of Martakert-Vardenis highway, stressing the importance of conducting the project with high quality and within a fixed time frame.

President Sahakyan visited Askeran and Hadrut regions to discuss local issues. Watch an Artsakh TV report.

Armenia and Artsakh took a part in Fitur International Tourism Trade fair organized in Madrid, Spain. Watch an Artsakh TV report.

SOCIETY

AGBU, along with the Cherchian Family Foundation and NKR authorities, continues providing assistance to the Syrian-Armenians who left for Artsakh due to continuing military conflict in Syria. Through the project tractors and other agricultural supplies were provided to Syrian-Armenian families in Artsakh.

President Sahakyan honored Armenian Assembly of America board member Annie Totah with the Medal of Gratitude for her contribution in developing and promoting Artsakh's interest and international recognition. The medal was awarded at the Assembly's annual holiday briefing and reception at the Embassy of Armenia.

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ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

February 1-15, 2014

Artsakh Newsletter summarizes key developments in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh and is prepared by the NKR Office in the United States.

POLITICS

The OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs traveled to Baku and Yerevan to discuss the Karabakh peace process. In a statement after the trip, they expressed deep concern over recent cease-fire violations, and called upon the sides to "exercise restraint in their actions and rhetoric."

President BakoSahakyan discussed the situation along the Karabakh – Azerbaijan border with Andrzej Kasprzyk, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office. Kasprzyk also received a letter from Artsakh youth groups demanding an adequate reactionby the OSCE Minsk group to permanent cease-fire violations by Azerbaijan.

Armenian Representative to the United Nations, Amb. Garen Nazarian raised the issue of snipers and bellicose rhetoric by Azerbaijan during the UN Security Council's open debate on the protection of civilians in armed conflict.

"We agree that it's time for restoration of full-fledged negotiations with direct participation of Nagorno Karabakh", the Artsakh Foreign Ministry twitted in response to a twit on restoring comprehensive talks by Ambassador Warlick, the US mediator.

Canadian Parliament member Jim Karygiannis called upon the government of Azerbaijan to respect a ceasefire agreement with Artsakh, expressed condolence to victims of the recent Azeri attack.

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The Hawaii state legislature debated and rejected two resolutions initiated by the Azerbaijani embassy in Washington. Hawaiian-Armenian community activists testified before their legislators revealing the resolutions' misleading content.

The European Parliament's Ethics Committee is investigating a group of lawmakers, who reportedly accepted gifts from Azerbaijan government and gave positive reviews to the most recent Azerbaijani elections, criticized by the U.S. and the European Council.

ECONOMY& BUSINESS

The number and geographic diversity of tourists visiting NKR is continuing to grow, the government's department on tourism reports. In 2013, the number of foreign tourists was about 17,000.

The unemployed rate decreased slightly in 2013, reported the NKR Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. As of January 2014, there were 2861 people looking for work in Karabakh compared to 291 more a year before..
President Sahakyan visited the Stepanakert textile factory, which has recently resumed operations; he stressed the state would continue supporting the factory.

SOCIETY

President Sahakyan received American-Armenian philanthropistsVaroojKureghian, GourgenMelikyan and Emil Mayilyan to discuss implementation of different programs in Artsakh.

Nagorno Karabakh team will participate in the first ever World Soccer Cup to be held under the aegis of CONIFA, a global umbrella organization for all soccer teams outside FIFA. The tournament will take place this June in Sweden.

HISTORICAL REFERENCE

In February 1995 a cease-fire consolidation agreement was signed by Armenia, Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh. Azerbaijan has refused to abide by the agreement.For the agreement text visithttp://www.ca-c.org/dataeng/books/book-1/12.appendix-12.shtml.

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ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

February 15-28, 2014

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POLITICS

Chairman of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee Rep. Ed Royce's (R-CA) statement commemorated the anniversary of 1988 anti-Armenian pogrom in Sumgait calling on Azerbaijan to "refrain from provocative statements and commit to fruitful negotiations for a lasting peace in Nagorno-Karabakh". U.S. Representatives Brad Sherman (D-CA), Tony Cardenas (D-CA), Anna Eshoo (D-CA) and Katherine Clark (D-MA) have also issued statements on the occasion, and condemned Azerbaijan's policies.

NKR Foreign Minister Karen Mirzoyan visited students of the Artsakh State University to discuss the republic's foreign policy priorities. Watch a TV report.

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British parliamentarians discussed the Karabakh conflict, the upcoming 20th anniversary of the 1994 cease-fire agreement and prospects for peace. Labour MP Stephen Pound, who has visited Artsakh several times, led the debate and a government Minister from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office was also on hand to respond. Video of the remarks is available via BBC.

NKR parliamentary delegation, led by NKR parliament speaker Ashot Ghulyan, participated in annual General Assembly of the European Free Alliance (EFA). The Alliance has 40 national and regional member parties from 17 EU member-states that represent stateless people, the national minorities and regions.

Personal Representative of the OSCE Chair-in-Office, Amb. Kasprzyk reiterated the international mediators' view that withdrawal of snipers from the Line of Contact, long refused by Azerbaijan, would "boost mutual confidence."

ECONOMY & SOCIETY

The Fuller Center for Housing Armenia (FCHA) and the NKR government agreed to launch a project to provide low income families in Artsakh with affordable housing.

Artsakh's Hadrut and Vienne of France signed a Declaration of Friendship. NKR Minister of Culture Narine Aghabalyan and Vienne city Mayor Jacques Remiller pledged to "develop friendly relations between the two cities and boost cooperation in the educational, cultural, sports and other spheres".

HISTORICAL REFERENCE

This February 20th marked the 26th anniversary of the Karabakh Liberation Movement. On February 20, 1988, reflecting the will of local population, Karabakh's legislature petitioned Soviet leadership bodies of Azerbaijan and Armenia to transfer the autonomy from Soviet Azerbaijan to Soviet Armenia, aiming to correct Stalin's fateful decision of 1921. In response to peaceful manifestations in Stepanakert, Azerbaijan responded with attacks and murders of ethnic Armenians in towns and villages throughout Azerbaijan, including Sumgait and Baku. In his statement on this occasion, NKR President Bako Sahakyan stressed that February 20 had symbolized the Artsakh people's aspiration to be masters of their own future, to be independent and free.

On February 26-29, 1988, the Azeri town of Sumgait (hundreds of miles away from Nagorno Karabakh) became the scene of mass pogroms and brutal killings of ethnic Armenians. The massacre claimed dozens of innocent lives and left more than 100 injured, setting a dangerous precedent which was later repeated in Baku and elsewhere in Azerbaijan. Conducted with the connivance of the Azerbaijani authorities, the tragedy never saw a comprehensive investigation. Soviet courts prosecuted 80 individuals, sentencing one to death and others to prison terms, but the organizers behind the pogroms were never determined. Commemoration of the Sumgait pogrom took place in Artsakh, Armenia and dozens of states worldwide. Click here to watch a

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documentary "Ordinary genocide" about Sumgait massacres. On this tragic anniversary, a people and authorities of Artsakh visited the Stepanakert Memorial Complex and laid flowers to the monument of the innocent victims.

The present Azerbaijani government refuses to admit the responsibility and condemn the violence that led to the Karabakh war, focusing instead on misleading the international community on war-time events near Akna, former Aghdam. In February 1992, Azerbaijani civilians were killed after they fled Khojaly via a corridor provided by Armenian forces and as they neared the frontline. Watch here a documentary "Between Hunger and Fire" on those events.

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ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

March 1-15, 2014

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POLITICS

Sen. Mark Kirk (R-IL) recalled the anniversary of 1988 anti-Armenian pogrom in Sumgait by issuing a statement that called on Azerbaijan "to immediately halt its campaign of incitement and hatred against Armenia that threatens to de-stabilize the region". Reps. Frank Pallone (D-NJ), David Cicilline (D-RI), Adam Schiff (D-CA), Linda Sanchez (D-CA), Judy Chu (D-CA), Gary Peters (D-MI), Jim Costa (D-CA), among others, made separate statements on the occasion, denouncing Azerbaijan's policies.

Congressman Brad Sherman (D-CA) called on the State Department to zero-out US military assistance to Azerbaijan. Representative Sherman raised concerns about Azerbaijan's continued aggressive policy against Armenians during a Congressional hearing, mentioned the case of murder of Armenian officer during NATO program and Azeri threats to shoot down civilian planes in Artsakh. Click for video

The state of Wyoming rejected an Azerbaijani government-lobbied resolution, with its House of Representatives voting down the measure. Wyoming is the third state, after South Dakota and Hawaii, to reject pro-Aliyev regime resolutions in recent months.

The Armenian Embassy in Washington issued a statement on February 1992 war-time civilian deaths near Akna (former Aghdam). The statement condemned attempts to mislead the public.

OSCE Minsk Group mediators held separate meetings with Armenian and Azeri foreign ministers, agreeing on the "need for further talks on the highest level to advance the peace process."

Foreign Minister of Serbia, which will be the next OSCE member to chair the organization, visited Yerevan and Baku.

British Ambassador to Azerbaijan Irfan Siddiq drew parallels between referenda in Artsakh and Scotland, suggesting that a popularvotein both cases can produce a "logical compromise to determine status".

ECONOMY &BUSINESS

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A new wage policy for public sector comes into force in Karabakh on July 1, 2014. NKR Government says the system will standardize salaries, base on indexation of minimum wage rate.

Greenhouse agriculture is developing in Artsakh's Qashatagh region. Watch an Artsakh TV report.

SOCIETY

Armenian athletes, including those from Artsakh, won ten gold, five silver and three bronze medals at the Kung-FuEurasian Cup Championship.

Traditional "Bread Holiday" attracted hundreds to Khantsk, NKR's Askeran region. Watch an Artsakh TV report.

HISTORICAL REFERENCE

On March 11, 1999 the European Parliament passed a resolution in support of the peace process in the Caucasus stressing that "the autonomous region of Nagorno-Karabakh declared its independence following similar declarations by former Soviet Socialist Republics after the collapse of the USSR in September 1991" and instructing its President "to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Council of
Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE, the Presidents in the OSCE's Minsk Group, the parliaments of Armenia and Azerbaijan and the representatives of Nagorno-Karabakh."

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ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

March 15-31, 2014

Artsakh Newsletter summarizes key developments in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh and is prepared by the NKR Office in the United States.

SECURITY AND POLITICS

Commenting on the forced displacement of more than 2,000 Armenians from their homes in Kessab, Syria as a result of a Turkey-back attack by Islamist radicals, NKR president's aide David Babayan noted that "Turkey continues its anti-Armenian policy, now in Syria."Babayan said that Artsakh was ready to support the compatriots.

In March, Azerbaijan continued to violate the cease-fire with Artsakh. In separate incidents and while on frontline duty, Defense Army servicemen Arman Ghukasyan, Garnik Torosyan and Arayik Babayan were killed by enemy fire and Capt.Varazdat Zakaryan was wounded; Sr. Lt. Harutyun Safaryan was killed in a mine detonation.The casualty rate was the worst for Armenian forces since June 2012. Azerbaijani forces also continued firing at civilian areas in Armenia's border districts.

Artsakh President Bako Sahakyan and Foreign Minister Karen Mirzoyan received the OSCE envoy Andrzej Kasprzyk discussed tensions along the Line of Contact.

"Should Azerbaijan attacks Artsakh again, it will face the entire Armenian nation", NKR President told Armenpress. Sahakyan stressed that Azerbaijan's anti-Armenian policy is the main obstacle for a peaceful settlement.

The OSCE Minsk Group mediators met with Armenian and Azerbaijani presidents on the sidelines of an international summit on nuclear security in the Netherlands. Mediators "emphasized the need to avoid violence along the border and contact line".

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Tennessee became the latest U.S. state to reject an anti-Armenian resolution lobbied by the Azerbaijani government. ANCA activists, Tennessee-Armenian community joined effort against the measure sponsored by Aliyev's regime.

Xocali.net website continues to unveil manipulations by Azerbaijani government. 44 individuals previously reported to be civilian victims of events near Aghdam have now been identified by Azerbaijani authorities as "Azerbaijani military servicemen who became martyrs."

ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

NKR representative Robert Avetisyan visited Montebello, Calif. to attend the annual event organized by the local ARF chapter. Avetisyan thanked the Montebello City Council and Montebello-Stepanakert Sister City committee members for continued support. Earlier, Montebello community donated a fire-truck to Stepanakert.

New equipment delivered in NKR was expected to boost local agriculture. Watch Artsakh TV report.

"Hayastan" All-Armenian fund completed construction of the school in Chaparin Martakert district. The Fund announced construction of the Shushi orphanage and reported on progress in construction of the Vardenis-Martakert highway.

More families of Karabakh war veterans (azatamartiks) moved into new apartments. Watch an Artsakh TV report.

Artsakh will have its own Matenadaran, a museum and research center dedicated to the study and preservation of ancient manuscripts.

NKR President discussed his administration's policies with students at the Artsakh State University. Watch Artsakh TV report.

President Sahakyan awarded Primate of the Artsakh Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church Archbishop Pargev Martirosyan with "Vachagan Barepasht" medal for his contribution and services to his country and the Armenian Church.

About the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh

The Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, was established in 1991 basing on a declaration of the local legislature, and results of a subsequent nation-wide referendum. The people of Artsakh defended their choice in a war unleashed by Azerbaijan. The Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh has emerged as a democratic, rule-of-law state with capable armed forces, a growing market economy, and an independent foreign policy.

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ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

April1-15, 2014

Artsakh Newsletter summarizes key developments in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh and is prepared by the NKR Office in the United States.

POLITICS &SECURITY

Artsakh President Bako Sahakyan posthumously awarded Sr. Lt. Harutyun Safaryan with the Combat Service medal for courage shown in defense of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic. Safaryan was killed in a mine explosion on March 31.

Artsakh President, Armenia's Defense Minister observed Defense Army exercises with the use of air and ground forces. Watch Artsakh TV report from the military exercises.

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Artsakh Defense Army reports three Azeri soldiers killed and six others wounded in an incident in southeast of Karabakh. Azerbaijani soldiers are reported to hit a minefield, April 7, while retreating after being detected by Armenian forces.

As part of working trip to Germany, NKR parliamentary delegation headed by Chairman Ashot Ghulian met with members of the German parliament and representatives of German-Armenian community. Later, Ghulian delivered a keynote address at the European Academy of Berlin. Watch Artsakh TV report on Speaker Ghulian's briefing after the visit.

Armenia's Permanent Representative to UN, Ambassador Garen Nazarian sent letter to the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the anniversary of Maragha massacre organized by Azeri forces in Karabakh in 1992, focused on the continued racist and xenophobic rhetoric and actions of Azerbaijan.

The Annual Capitol Hill Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide took place on Capitol Hill featured members of U.S. Congress, as well as Armenia's Ambassador to the U.S. and Artsakh Representative. Turkish dissident Ragip Zarakolu delivered a keynote address, stressed the importance of genocide recognition.

Meanwhile, Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ), along with 27 other members of U.S. Congress, sent a letter to Chairwoman Kay Granger and Ranking Member Nita Lowey of the House Foreign Operations Subcommittee requesting increased funding for Armenia and Artsakh, suspension of U.S. military aid to Azerbaijan, and enhancement of Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act that "stands as a statement of U.S. opposition to Azerbaijan's blockades and other aggressive uses of force against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh."
Hayastan All-Armenian Fund opened an account to accept donations aimed to support Kessab Armenians. The Fund called upon the Armenians all over the world to help their Kessab compatriots. Artsakh Prime Minister Ara Harutyunyan donated his salary to the Fund's banking account for this purpose.

NKR Prime Minister Ara Harutyunyan sent a message of congratulations to the newly appointed Armenian Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan.

ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

"Artsakh continues to register demographic growth", Prime Minister Harutyunyan said during his meeting with students of political science and history departments of Artsakh State University. Watch Artsakh TV report.

"ArtsakhKat" dairy producer expands production, opens new outlets in Artsakh regions.

SOCIETY & CULTURE

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President Sahakyan received a delegation of the Confederation of International Football Associations (CONIFA) to discuss soccer development in Artsakh. The CONIFA delegation was also received by NKR Foreign Minister Karen Mirzoyan.

Residents of Kovsakan of Kashatagh region, NKR received keys for newly-built apartments. President Sahakyan took part in the ceremony handing keys to their new owners. Watch Artsakh TV report.

Prime Minister Ara Harutyunyan visited the Kashatagh region to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Tsitsernavank community.

A family from Azerbaijan received a refugee status and was granter shelter in Armenia after applying for political asylum to avoid persecution from Azerbaijani authorities. Watch a TV report.

HISTORICAL REFERENCE

April 10 marked the anniversary of the one of the bloodiest chapters of the Karabakh war. On this date in 1992, Azerbaijani military units invaded the village of Maragha in Martakert district. As a result of the aggression, between 43 and 53 of Maragha residents, mostly women, children, and elderly person, were brutally killed, with others taken hostage or forcefully displaced. The fate of a number of them still remains unknown. Two weeks after the Maragha massacre, on April 22-23, the village was repeatedly attacked and locals who had come back to their burnt homes were forced to abandon the village, which has since been occupied by Azerbaijan. Baroness Caroline Cox visited Maragha area a few days after tragedy. She expressed her horror at the crime saying "They are not of human race" about those who carried out the slaughter, lately described in her book "Ethnic Cleansing in Progress". The NKR Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement on the anniversary.

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ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

April 15-30, 2014

Artsakh Newsletter is prepared by the NKR Office in the United States, and covers the key developments in and around the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh

POLITICS & SECURITY

On April 24th, people around the world commemorated the 99th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Artsakh people, leadership laid flowers to the Genocide memorial in Stepanakert.

NKR President Bako Sahakyan discussed Artsakh-US ties with Chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs Ed Royce (R-Calif.) and members of the ANCA. They met at the NKR Permanent Representation in Yerevan.

"The European Union can be more active in elaboration and implementation of confidence-building measures between the conflicting sides", Artsakh Parliament Speaker Ashot Ghulian said in his interview to EurActiv.

ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

Development of IT sector discussed in Artsakh. President Sahakyan met in Stepanakert with Bagrat Yengibaryan of the Incubator Foundation Enterprise, and Vahan Shaqaryan, President of Technology and Science Dynamics Inc.

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'Forest' wool processing company expands output of thread, explores new markets to sell the anticipated 60 tons of wool thread in the 2014.

New water pump will expand arable lands in the Martakert district in northern Artsakh. Watch an Artsakh TV report.

SOCIETY & CULTURE

The Cilicia Catholicosate, the Tufenkian, the Qashatagh and Help your Brother foundations have helped 12 more families in Kovsakan to move into brand new apartments. Kovsakan community, Artsakh authorities and guests attended the ceremony. Watch an Artsakh TV report.

The American City of Pico Rivera, California, has established a relationship with the town of Karvachar.

Artsakh Republic President offered condolences to the family of famous Armenian composer, musician and conductor Konstantin Orbelyan, who passed away on April 24, 2014, in Los Angeles.

Cultural projects in Artsakh were discussed during a visit of the "Michael Tariverdiev" Charitable Fund chair Vera Tariverdieva and Russian poet Victor Konoplev.

NKR authorities, Cédric Martin' Foundation (CMF) of Switzerland and Solidarité Protestante France-Arménie discussed humanitarian programs in Artsakh. President Sahakyan awarded CMF founder Jacques Martin with "The Gratitude" medal for its work in the republic.

Close to 700 young Armenians from Armenia and Artsakh attend the Youth Camp in Araksavan in Hadrout district.

The village of Talish in the northeastern corner of Mardakert district celebrated the 20th anniversary of its liberation from Azerbaijani occupation. Watch an Artsakh TV report.

HISTORICAL REFERENCE

On April 24, the world marked the 99th anniversary of Armenian Genocide committed by the Ottoman Turkey. The genocide claimed lives of more than one and half million Armenians in Turkey as well as in neighboring Iran and the Caucasus. The Turkish government continues to refuse to properly condemn the genocide. Watch Artsakh TV report about commemoration.

About the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh

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battlefield their choice for freedom and dignity, forcing neighboring Azerbaijan to sign a ceasefire in 1994. Since then, the republic has developed into a sovereign, democratic republic, with capable armed forces and a market economy.

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ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

May 1-15, 2014

Artsakh Newsletter is prepared by the NKR Office in the United States, and coversthe key developments in and around the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh

POLITICS & SECURITY

On May 9, Artsakh marked its triple holiday - victory against Nazi Germany in the WWII, Liberation of Shushi in 1992, and formation of the Artsakh Defense Army. Artsakh President Bako Sahakyan issued a congratulatory statement on the occasion.

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Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan was in Artsakh to commemorate the May 9 holidays. Armenian and Artsakh Presidents participated in the celebration ceremonies in Stepanakert and Shushi. Artsakh President Sahakyan awarded Armenian President Sargsyan with the "Grigor Lousavorich" medal.

California State Assembly adopted resolution AJR32 supporting NKR's independence, and calling on the federal government to recognize NKR's sovereignty.

NKR Foreign Ministry criticized Azerbaijani government's efforts to intimidate the OSCE Minsk Group's US Co-Chair Amb. James Warlick by calls to replace him, judging it as another destructive step of the Aliyev regime.

"NKR independence and security are absolute values that are not subject to any bargaining", Foreign Ministry press service said in response to remarks issued by Amb. Warlick. In addition, NKR continues to be committed to the peaceful resolution of its conflict with Azerbaijan and "renews its proposals to consider a package of confidence and security building measures", the NKR Foreign Ministry said in connection with the twentieth anniversary of the ceasefire agreement between Azerbaijan, Nagorno Karabakh and Armenia.

President of Artsakh discussed the Karabakh peace process and cooperation with Europe with a delegation of European parliamentarians. A group of MEPs issued a statement on Karabakh, calling upon "Azerbaijani leadership to commit to peaceful resolution of the conflict".

The OSCE envoy Amb. Andrzej Kasprzyk was in Artsakh to discuss the Karabakh peace process and the situation along the contact line, preservation of ceasefire.

NKR Representative discussed NK settlement process at a roundtable on Artsakh at Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

Artsakh President visited Shushi, stressed importance of further development of the town.

Artsakh expects more tourists in 2014. NKR Government's Tourism Department says better infrastructure have attracted around 900 tourists in January – March 2014.

SOCIETY & CULTURE

Twelve more families moved into a newly-constructed apartment building in Stepanakert sponsored by Armenian benefactor Michael Harutyunyan and his family. Watch an Artsakh TV report.

NKR Prime Minister Ara Haroutyunyan discussed new humanitarian projects with a group of Argentinean-Armenian benefactors, donors of the Hayastan All-Armenian Fund.

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The Armenian General Benevolent Unionwill sponsor an IT center. NKR Government welcomed and pledged support to the initiative.

The second round of the Artsakh lottery has been launched.

HISTORICAL REFERENCE

Liberation of Shushi, May 1992.

On May 9, Artsakh marked the 22nd anniversary of liberation of the town of Shushi- one of the key early successes of the Armenian forces in Artsakh during the 1991-1994 Karabakh war. This military victory also symbolized the rebirth of the Armenian spirit that resonated far beyond Artsakh, to all corners of the world. In the following days Artsakh Defense Forces restored a vital land-link with Armenia. Fierce battles continued for two more years, but the Shushi operation made all subsequent victories possible. Read more about this heroic operation here.

Cease Fire Agreement, May 1994.

May 12 marks an anniversary of the cease fire agreement signed by Azerbaijan, Nagorno Karabakh and Armenia. Azerbaijan, having sustained major military reversals and with its armed units pushed out of most of Artsakh, was forced to sign a cease-fire agreement. Despite frequent violations of this agreement, the document remains one of the key achievements of the Karabakh peace process that helped re-establish stability in the South Caucasus region. The cease fire agreement was preceded by the Bishkek Protocol of May 5, 1994.

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ARTSAKH NEWSLETTER

May 15-31, 2014

Artsakh Newsletter is prepared by the NKR Office in the United States, and covers the key developments in and around the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh

POLITICS & SECURITY

Violations by Azerbaijani forces continued on the Line of Contact. On May 21, a sniper shot to death 20-year-old Jr. Sgt. Arthur Ohanjanyan. On May 26, Lt. Col. Garik Balayan was killed and Pvt. Ashot Grigoryan, 20, was wounded. On May 28, Corp. Erik Gasparyan, 19, died in action while repelling a subversive attack by Azerbaijani special forces. In each case, NKR Defense Army retaliated.

The OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs visited Artsakh and then crossed the Line of Contact to visit Azerbaijan; a statement was issued to summarize the trip. President Bako Sahakyan received the OSCE Minsk Group mediators in Stepanakert, reiterating that freedom and independence were exceptional values for Artsakh.

NKR Foreign Minister Karen Mirzoyan outlined main priorities of the Artsakh foreign policy in his interview with a Canadian Student Association. Read the interview here.

Louisiana State Senate adopted a resolution 166 condemning anti-Armenian atrocities in Azerbaijan and calling on the U.S. government to press Baku to bring the perpetrators to justice.

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Artsakh parliament issued a statement expressing gratitude to the California State Assembly for adopting resolution in support of Artsakh sovereign and democratic development.

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe condemned Azerbaijan for misusing the organization's Convention The measure referred to the case of axe murderer Ramil Safarov, who was sentenced to life in Hungary, extradited to Azerbaijan and unlawfully pardoned by Aliyev. Read more on Safarov case here.

The European Union issued a statement on the 20th anniversary of the Karabakh ceasefire, expressing support for the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group and urging the conflicting sides not to escalate tensions.

The U.S. State Department spokesperson criticized Azerbaijani president's recent anti-Armenian statements.

ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

Artsakh registered 9.3% in GDP growth in 2013, republic's Prime Minister informed in his report to Parliament.

The annual telethon of the "Hayastan" all-Armenian Fund will this year again be dedicated to the construction of the Vardenis - Martakert highway that will establish a key link between northern Artsakh and Eastern Armenia, the Fund's Board of Trustees decided at a meeting in Yerevan. Watch an Artsakh TV report. Prior to the meeting, the trustees and the Fund's executive director Ara Vardanyan visited Artsakh to assess the implementation of projects.

SOCIETY & CULTURE

"Fuller Centre for Housing Armenia" program launched work in Artsakh. The project offers long-term, interest-free loans to address housing needs of low-income families.

The Los Angeles City Council will provide necessary equipment for a fire truck donated to Stepanakert by the Montebello City Council.

"Praising the Motherland" art exhibition opened at the Shushi Museum of Fine Arts.

Baroness Caroline Cox returned to Artsakh, bringing a fresh group of visitors. Watch an Artsakh TV report.

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Question 16:

During this 6 month period, did you prepare, disseminate or Cause to be disseminated any informational material?

Answer: Yes. Below are the copies of the Press Releases and Medial Alerts distributed during the reporting period (12/01/2013 – 05/31/2014)

MEDIA ALERT: INTERVIEW TO CANADIAN STUDENT NEWSPAPERS

Date: February 06, 2014
To: Media Colleagues
Re: Canadian "The PA Herald" and AESPUL Student Association Newspapers PublishInterview on Artsakh

On February 5, 2014 Canadian The Prince Harold Herald student newspaper and AESPUL Student Association of the Laval University published interview with Artsakh's Representative.

The interview covers formation and development of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, and prospects for settlement of the Karabakh-Azerbaijan confrontation.

Click here for the full article in English.

The article is also available in French.

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The Nagorno Karabakh Republic

Interview by Francois-Pierre Cartolano

Published: February 5, 2014

A small (11,450 km²) nation of around 140,000 inhabitants, the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic (NKR), or Artsakh Republic, is at in an ongoing confrontation with Azerbaijan. The roots of this conflict stem from Soviet dictator Josef Stalin's 1921 arbitrary decision to redraw Armenia's border. In doing so, he gave away the region of Nagorno-Karabakh (populated mainly by Armenians) to the Azerbaijan SSR, sowing the seeds of discontent that would erupt more than sixty years later. In 1988, when the USSR began to crumble, all the problems effectively suppressed for decades by the Soviet system sprang up across the Union. Clashes erupted in and around Nagorno-Karabakh, which had officially appealed for reunification with Armenia. On December 10 1991, the NKR declared independence. This triggered open warfare between Stepanakert (NKR's capital) and Baku (Azerbaijan's capital) which would last until 1994, and end with a ceasefire. Since then, the NKR is de facto independent, but its existence is continually threatened by Azerbaijan's bellicose irredentism. Relatively unknown in the West, the NKR is a

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fascinating example of tenacity and determination. To learn more, we asked four questions to Mr. Robert Avetisyan, Permanent Representative of the NKR to the United States.

Q: What is Nagorno Karabakh's current geopolitical status?

An.: The Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh has been proclaimed in 1991 in the process of disintegration of the Soviet Union, in full compliance with then acting USSR legislation and international norms and standards. In a referendum that took place on December 10, 99 per cent of the participants voted in favor of independence of Nagorno Karabakh. In spite of the peaceful and legitimate nature of the free expression of will of the people of Karabakh Azerbaijan responded with anti-Armenian pogroms and ethnic cleansing followed by a full-scale military aggression against the NKR in 1991-1994. In 1992 the International community has mandated the Minsk Group of the OSCE, currently co-chaired by the USA, Russia and France to conduct mediation for the settlement of the conflict between Azerbaijan and Nagorno Karabakh. In May 1994 a cease-fire agreement was signed by Nagorno Karabakh and Azerbaijan, joined by Armenia and mediated by Russia. Today, despite its unrecognized status the Nagorno Karabakh Republic is an established state, with its Constitution, functional civil society, dynamically developing economy, effective governance and all the attributes and institutions of statehood. Since independence the republic has conducted several rounds of elections on various levels, all of which have been praised by international observers as free and transparent.

Q.: What is the state of Armenia -Nagorno Karabakh friendship/cooperation?

An.: The two Armenian states the Republic of Armenia and the Nagorno Karabakh Republic are populated by a people which have the same identity, history and culture, but for decades have been separated by the fate of history. Today they are mutually interconnected in all spheres of life. From the very beginning of the Karabakh movement Armenia has supported the people of Karabakh in its aspirations for freedom. Armenia has on numerous occasions stated of its readiness to support the decision of the people of Karabakh.

Q.: With continued bellicose speeches from Azerbaijan's President, are renewed border aggressions to be expected in 2014?

An.: The aggressive policy of Azerbaijan manifested in its continuing bellicose rhetoric and military build up, is a constant threat to peace and security in the region. Anti-Armenian propaganda has become a state policy in Azerbaijan, which further deepens the gap between the two peoples, and postpones confidence-building – a minimal, yet a crucial initial requirement for setting the grounds for a lasting and durable settlement of the conflict between Azerbaijan and the Nagorno Karabakh Republic. Until the destructive policy of Azerbaijan and its regular violations of the cease –fire regime are strongly condemned and receive an adequate assessment of the international community there will always be a danger of resumption of aggression by Azerbaijan.

Q.: What is the state of Artsakh Army?

An.: As a nation, which has faced military aggression, the NKR pays special attention to the security of its population. The NKR defense army is strong enough to ensure the inviolability of

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its borders and rebuke any aggression. The balance of power maintained in the region by the NKR Defense Army is the main factor of non-resumption of full-scale military actions.

For more info:

Official website of the President of the NKR: www.president.nkr.am
Website of the NKR MFA: www.nkr.am
Website of the NKR Office in Washington: www.nkrusa.org
NKR Defense Army: www.nkr.mil.am

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ARTSAKH REPRESENTATIVE SPEAKS AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY
NKR Representative Robert Avetisyan Discussed Prospects for Peace

PRESS RELEASE
April 29, 2014

WASHINGTON, DC – On April 28, 2014, Artsakh Representative in the United States Robert Avetisyan delivered remarks during the round-table discussion organized at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy of the Tufts University by the students of the 2014 Tavitian Scholars Program.

Moderated by Professor ..., the event, titled *"In Pursuit of Peace in Nagorno Karabakh Conflict"*, was dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the cease-fire agreement between Azerbaijan, Nagorno Karabakh and Armenia.

In his remarks, Avetisyan reviewed the history of Karabakh conflict, establishment of cease-fire as well as current stage and challenges of the Karabakh peace process. The Artsakh representative reiterated the republic's commitment to the peaceful resolution of the Azerbaijan-Karabakh conflict, and stressed an importance of restoration of full-format of negotiation process with participation of all sides of the conflict including the NKR.

The question and answer session, followed the remarks of panel participants including NKR Representative Robert Avetisyan, Dr. Rouben Shugarian, Dr. ..., fielded the attendees' inquiries about various aspects of the Karabakh conflict as well as geopolitical and regional developments.

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DATE: May 29, 2014
TO: Media Colleagues
RE: Foreign Policy Journal publishes a commentary on the 20th anniversary of cease fire in Karabakh

On May 29, 2014, the Foreign Policy Journal published an article by Aram Avetisyan entitled "Twenty Years of Karabakh Armistice: No Peace, No Trust." The commentary discusses the Karabakh peace process and the obstacles that have made a comprehensive peace agreement so illusive.

The full text of the article is provided below. You can also view it online at:

http://www.foreignpolicyjournal.com/2014/05/29/twenty-years-of-karabakh-armistice-no-peace-no-trust/#.U4eTRvldVZg

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Foreign Policy Journal

Twenty Years of Karabakh Armistice: No Peace, No Trust

by Aram Avetisyan | May 29, 2014

Twenty years have passed since a cease fire agreement was signed between Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Nagorno Karabakh.[1] While the truce put an end the large-scale hostilities, there is no final peace agreement, and the sides continue to suffer casualties. The question why the cease fire has not lead to the comprehensive peace agreement remains rhetorical; the lack of confidence between the parties and aggressive behavior of Azerbaijan are major obstacles. Moreover, the current phase of the peace process remains incomplete with no comprehensive participation of Nagorno Karabakh authorities.

Why does Azerbaijan avoid negotiations with Nagorno Karabakh? Why does Baku deny previous contacts with NKR authorities?[2] The answer lies in Baku's policy and goals towards everything Armenian. Throughout last 20 years of relative peace, the world and the region have witnessed Azerbaijan's aggressive warmongering, instigation of hatred towards Armenians, military build-

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up, and disregard of calls from the international community to initiate confidence-building measures.[3]

The goals are evident and not new. Just like during the war from 1991-1994, Azerbaijan uses cease-fire "breaks" to regroup and rebuild its military capacities. As soon as it feels ready for another attempt, the Azeri leadership begins blackmailing with renewed aggression and demands from the Armenian sides to accept the unacceptable. [4] Sniper war and cross-border subversions are parts of these tactics.

Another aspect is Baku's efforts to distort the essence of the Karabakh problem and misrepresent the issue as "Armenia's territorial claim towards Azerbaijan". Azerbaijan manipulates with the UN Security Council's resolutions regarding the Karabakh conflict and complains about "occupation of its territories by Armenia". In reality, none of those resolutions, which remained unimplemented at Baku's fault [5], has ever mentioned Armenia as aggressor state, since Azerbaijan and Nagorno Karabakh are the two principal parties to the conflict.[6]

Two rhetorical questions: if the problem was between Armenia and Azerbaijan, why then would president Aliyev (the father of incumbent Azeri leader) delegate his envoys to negotiate with official representatives of the NKR [7]; why was the 1994 ceasefire document entered into force after being signed by three parties, including Nagorno Karabakh?

Restoration of the previous, OSCE-supported framework with participation of the NKR will promote negotiations and facilitate final settlement. Implementation of confidence-building measures (CBM) by all sides, especially between NKR and Azerbaijan, will help reduce the tension and create a favorable atmosphere for the two societies to overcome the existing problems. Unfortunately, all previous attempts to restore trust between the peoples failed after Azerbaijan blocked any CBM initiatives she had received through the OSCE mediators. [8]

The peaceful formula is simple: less casualties, less warmongering, more trust, more chances to achieve regional peace. Through the last 20 years, Armenia and NKR have tried to persuade Azerbaijan that a peaceful solution had no alternative, that snipers along the border further aggravated the situation and postponed settlement. Today, the Armenian states send the same message to "hawks" in Baku, calling them to abandon revanchist aspirations and prevent another tragedy. International community and mediators should make it clear that Azerbaijani leaders must assume responsibility, and prepare its people for peace, rather than war. [9]

Notes

[1] Text of cease fire agreement signed by Azerbaijan Armenia, and Nagorno Karabakh: http://nkr.am/en/ceasefire-agreement/147/

[2] Azerbaijani leaders official correspondence with NKR authorities: http://en.aravot.am/2013/05/17/154363/

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[3] "Our main enemies are Armenians of the world...", Extract from speech of Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliev, February 28, 2012 http://en.president.az/articles/4423

[4] Vladimir Kazimirov, former Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group (1992-1996),*"There is too much obscurity and fraud in Baku's policy on Karabakh"*, http://www.regnum.ru/english/700714.html

[5] Vladimir Kazimirov, former Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group (1992-1996), *"It's time to deal with Aliyev's war threats"*,http://reporter.am/index.cfm?objectid=466D0A64-DF81-11DE-89960003FF3452C2&pg=1

[6] See UN Security Council Resolutions 822,853,874 & 884: http://www.un.org/docs/scres/1993/scres93.htm

[7] President Heydar Aliev delegated his envoy to negotiate with the NKR: https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=345206142176802&set=pb.338103006220449.-2207520000.1400632709.&type=3&theater

[8] See http://en.milaz.info/azerbaijani-defense-ministry-we-wont-withdraw-snipers-from-the-front-line-unless-war-ends/

[9] Collection of war threat statements by Azeri President Ilham Aliyev and other Azerbaijani officials: http://www.eufoa.org/uploads/AliyevWarThreats.pdf

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