













# massis Weekly

Volume 42, No. 31

Saturday, August 27, 2022

## PM Pashinyan: Armenia Still Fighting For Independence



YEREVAN -- In a congratulatory message issued on the occasion of the 32nd anniversary of the Declaration of Independence (from former Soviet Union) Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said that the independence process has not been completed until today 'not because we do not have independence, but because independence is like health, which even if you have it, you have to take care of it every day.'

"The Government is fighting for the independence of the Republic of Armenia every day," he said. "For us, independence is security. The international structures that provide it are cracking in front of all of us, and one of the first cracks unfortunately manifested itself in Nagorno-Karabakh."

"Independence is normalized relations with neighbors. Although we

have excellent relations with some of our neighbors, there is no significant progress in our relations with others because they demand too much from us or they think that we are demanding too much from them."

"For us, independence is strong allied relations, but allies are not always only allies to you but also to those who ally against you," Pashinyan added

The Declaration of Independence adopted by the Supreme Council of former Soviet Armenia on August 23, 1990, states that the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic begins the process of establishing an independent state. The process that began de jure ended with a referendum on independence on September 21, 1991 and the recognition of the Republic of Armenia by the international community," Pashinyan's message read.

## For the First Time Member of Turkey's Armenian Community Becomes Governor



ANKARA — A member of Turkey's Armenian community has been appointed as a governor for the first time in the history of the Turkish Republic, according to reporting by Agos. The 27-year-old Berk Acar will soon assume his duty as the district governor of Denizli's Babadag.

Acar, born in 1995, attended Sahakyan Nunyan Armenian Middle School and Isik High School. In 2020,

he graduated from the faculty of law at Bilgi University. He later took the state exams to be a governor. He came 72nd out of 13,374 people at a written exam conducted in the capital Ankara in July 2021. He was among the 475 people summoned for the interview.

He has now been appointed as the Babadag district governor and will replace the previous governor Adem Karatas. Acar is expected to start his job in the upcoming days.

## Armenian, Georgian Leaders Inaugurate Border 'Friendship Bridge'



Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and his Georgian counterpart Irakli Garibashvili attended today the inauguration of a new bridge on the border of the two countries.

Located 60 kilometers from the Georgian capital Tbilisi and 200 kilometers from the Armenian capital Yerevan, the Friendship Bridge at the Sadakhlo-Bagrataшен checkpoint is the main crossing between the two countries.

Speaking at the opening ceremony Pashinyan said that the two friendly nations have now an up-to-date infrastructure that will provide a solid foundation for intensifying the bilateral cooperation.

'It is obvious that for the development of trade and economic rela-

tions, communications, which enable integration into the world economy and provide vital links at the national, regional and international level is of key importance," he said.

"Georgia is important for Armenia as a transit country for reliable and secure supplies of energy, communications and telecommunications," he stressed.

Garibashvili, for his part, also emphasized that friendship between Georgia and Armenia is measured by many centuries and added that relations between the two countries are "not only an example of brotherhood and friendship, but a prerequisite for prosperity, stability, security and de-

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## EU Strongly Supports Ongoing and Future Efforts for Reconciliation Between Armenia and Azerbaijan

YEREVAN -- The EU strongly supports the ongoing and future talks on the border issues, unblocking of communication links in the region, peace treaty and reconciliation efforts, the head of the EU Delegation to Armenia, Ambassador Andrea Wiktorin said in an interview with Armenpress.

'Since the end of the 2020 war, we have been engaged at the highest level by President Michel to contribute, in addition to other efforts that exist, in the normalization of the Armenian-Azerbaijani relations. Our objective is to see successes in all these areas,' she said.

She said the EU is interested in reconciliation and a sustainable solution. 'We regret every incident that happened. It is important to ensure that a proper environment is in place to guarantee progress in the several areas you mentioned. In this context, I have to say that more needs to be done to achieve the return of remaining prisoners, ensure progress in the area of demining as well as the search for missing persons.'



According to Ambassador Wiktorin, the position of the EU has been quite clear before and also during the war that we are in full support of the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group led process.

'It was really the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs, who were in the lead. Yes, you are right that the Euro-

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## Russian Peacekeepers Will Not Move From Lachin Corridor Until a New Road Is Operational

YEREVAN — Russian peacekeepers “will not move a single centimeter” from the existing Lachin corridor until a new road linking Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia is put into operation, according to a senior Russian diplomat in Yerevan.

Talking to RFE/RL’s Armenian Service on Wednesday, Maxim Seleznyov, a counsellor-envoy at the Russian embassy in Armenia, stressed that there are agreements in this regard and the parties are in direct contact over this issue. He did not elaborate.

“Russian peacekeepers will move only at the moment when the new Lachin corridor is opened. The tripartite statement [from November 9, 2020] spells out the steps, the sequence of steps. First, the corridor is completed, and as it comes into operation, Russian peacekeepers take control of a five-kilometer corridor around this road,” Seleznyov said.

Amid fresh fighting around Nagorno-Karabakh earlier this month ethnic Armenian authorities in Stepanakert said that the Azerbaijani side, through Russian peacekeepers, demanded that a new connection be organized between Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia along a new route.

Nagorno-Karabakh’s authorities informed the few remaining Armenian residents of the town of Berdzor and the villages of Aghavno and Sus that are situated along the current Lachin corridor that no Russian peacekeepers will be left in the territory after August 25 and, therefore, they needed to leave their homes before the end of the month.

Meanwhile, the Russian diplomat stressed on Wednesday that the Russian peacekeepers will be redeployed



only when the new road is ready.

“The Russian peacekeepers will not be deployed along the new corridor until it is put into operation, and there are agreements in this regard. The parties are in direct contact, and I assure you that the peacekeepers will not move a single centimeter until there is a new corridor,” Seleznyov said.

Seleznyov also said that the Russian peacekeepers “are doing the maximum that their mandate allows.”

“One would like to see restraint on all sides: on the part of the Azerbaijani troops, and most importantly on the part of the Armenian public. Here in Yerevan and in Stepanakert everyone should know and understand that the Russian peacekeeping contingent is doing the maximum it can, that it is there to try to protect the civilian population from the horrors of war as far as possible,” the Russian diplomat stressed.

At the same time, Seleznyov said that Russia is ready to expand the powers of its peacekeeping mission in Karabakh if Yerevan and Baku agree on this issue.

## Armenia’s NSS Unveils Plan to Set Up Checkpoints on Border With Azerbaijan



YEREVAN—Armenia’s National Security Service (NSS) has unveiled today a draft plan to set up three checkpoints on the border with Azerbaijan. The draft plan has been developed upon Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan’s order issued on August 4.

According to the draft plan, posted on the portal of legal acts at [www.e-draft.am](http://www.e-draft.am), one of the border checkpoints is to be set up in the Sotk community of Gegharkunik province, which borders with Kelbajar district of Azerbaijan.

The second checkpoint will be established in the Yeraskh community of Ararat province that borders with Sadarak community of Nakhchivan (exclave of Azerbaijan) and the third one is to be established in the Karahunj community in Syunik province, (approximately 7.5 km south of it), which borders with Eivazly village in Azerbaijani Fizuli district.

Speaking at the August 4 government session Pashinyan stated that Armenia was ready to provide overland communication between the west-

## U.S. is Committed to Working With Armenia and Azerbaijan for Comprehensive Long-Term Peace

WASHINGTON, DC — The United States continues to work with Armenia and Azerbaijan and still sees an opportunity of comprehensive long-term peace between the two nations, Ned Price, spokesperson for the Department of State, said during a weekly press briefing in Washington on Wednesday.

Asked by a reporter about whether the U.S. remained optimistic about peace prospects in the region after the latest escalation in Nagorno-Karabakh in early August, Price said: “We are still working to do what we can to facilitate what we hope to see, and that is a comprehensive long-term peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan. You know that Secretary [of State Antony] Blinken recently had an opportunity to engage with the leaders of these countries. We did so, registering our deep concern about the recent fighting in and around Nagorno-Karabakh, including the casualties and the loss of life that had resulted from that.”

The spokesman for the Department of State said that Washington urged “immediate steps to reduce tensions and to avoid further escalations between the parties.”

“And the recent increase in tensions underscores, we believe, the need for a negotiated, comprehensive, and sustainable settlement of all remaining issues related to or resulting from the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. So while we’ve seen an intensification of ten-



sions resulting in some violence, we are going to remain committed to working with the parties. We will continue to do so bilaterally, but also with likeminded partners in the EU and through our role as an OSCE Minsk co-chair to help the countries find that long-term comprehensive peace,” Price added.

Asked by the reporter whether Washington still saw the same level of “historic opportunities” as three weeks ago and “how much it has faded away”, Price said: “We absolutely still see an opportunity here despite the setbacks. We always recognized this was never going to be a linear process. We believe that through continued dialogue, continued engagement, including at the senior levels, we will be in a position to do everything we can to help advance that long-term comprehensive peace.”

## Gyumri Man Arrested for False Bomb Threats

YEREVAN—Armenian law-enforcement authorities have arrested the man who called August 15 and August 16 with two false bomb threats and was charged with false reports of terrorism, the Prosecutor General’s office announced Friday.

An anonymous caller told police Monday and Tuesday he was planning to plant bombs at the regional tax and customs office in Gyumri, Armenia’s second city, as well as several other government buildings.

Police officers and specialists from the Ministry of Emergency Situations quickly determined that the bomb threats were false and confirmed that no explosive devices had been planted.

The arrested man was identified as resident of Gyumri J.S. He was detained on August 16 and the next day, the prosecutor supervising the investigation made a decision to institute proceedings against J.S. under the relevant articles of the Criminal Code of Armenia for giving false informa-



tion on terrorism, which created panic, paralyzing the work of several government institutions in Gyumri.

On August 18, a petition for his arrest as a preventive measure was filed with the court of general jurisdiction of the Shirak region, which was granted the same day.

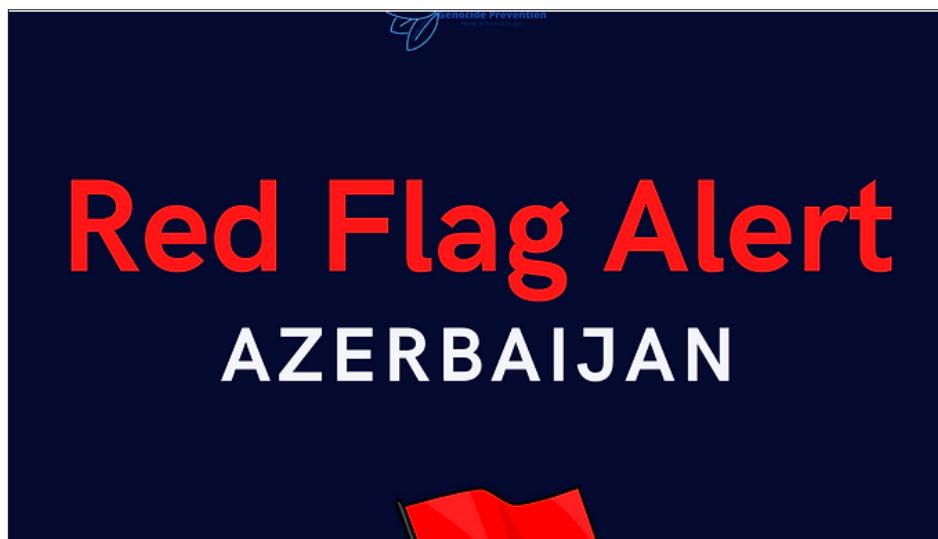
ern districts of Azerbaijan and its Nakhichevan exclave across the Armenian territory. He guaranteed the safety of this route for Azerbaijanis.

If the decision is adopted by the government, the director of the National Security Service will have to ensure the adoption of a corresponding legal act within two weeks to guarantee the safety of the movement

of people, goods and vehicles through the new checkpoints. However, the draft does not specify what customs regulations will apply.

The draft has been placed on e-draft.am for public discussions for the next two weeks until September 2. It is not clear when it may appear on the government’s agenda.

**Lemkin Institute:**  
**Red Flag Alert – Azerbaijan Update**



The Lemkin Institute calls on all international and state bodies to monitor Turkey and Azerbaijan for genocidal ideology and practices, to place pressure on Turkey and Azerbaijan to cease their genocidal threats against the Armenian people, and to reinforce the security of Armenians and the Armenian identity in the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Artsakh, and in Diaspora communities worldwide.

A recent Telegram video making its way through Azerbaijani social media shows an Azerbaijani soldier tying what is allegedly an Armenian skull dug up from a nearby Armenian cemetery to the back of a military truck while fellow soldiers cheer.

In the wake of this new apparent atrocity, the Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention is once again issuing a Red Flag Alert for Azerbaijan, warning of threatened genocide against Armenians, both in the breakaway Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh) and in Armenia proper. The desecration of graveyards and other burial sites is a commonly seen atrocity in genocide, as it seeks to target, humiliate, destroy the identity, and deny the dignity of the target group, even after death.

The Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention would like to emphasize, in particular, one statement from our first Red Flag Alert for Azerbaijan, where we stated: "Given the extreme racialized othering of Armenians by the Azerbaijani government, military, press, and educational system, any Azerbaijani incursions into territories that include ethnic Armenians can be expected to be characterized by genocidal atrocities."

The risk of genocidal atrocity is especially significant now, given the recent news of the transfer of

the Armenian-populated towns of Aghvano and Berdzor to Azerbaijan as well as the continued documented violations of the ceasefire agreement by Azerbaijan. Former Armenian Human Rights Defender Armen Tatoyan has reported Azerbaijani soldiers mass slaughtering animals and leaving their organs in water sources used by Armenian villagers in the region and poisoning the water supply. Tatoyan also reported that Azerbaijani soldiers have been firing on Armenian farmers in their fields outside of the towns, which endangers both the farmers' livelihoods and an important source of food for the villagers in Aghvano and Berdzor.

The conduct of Azerbaijani soldiers during the 2020 war with Artsakh, where torture, murder, and beheading videos involving captured Armenian soldiers and civilians were common, as well as the many statements made by Azerbaijani president Ilham Aliyev that Yerevan (the capital of Armenia) is Azeri "historic land," provide the larger genocidal context for current Azerbaijani atrocities.

The international community, especially NATO and its member countries, continues to ignore Azerbaijan's genocidal statements, genocidal domestic ideological culture, and genocidal actions, all of which are supported and furthered by Turkey.

We call on all international and state bodies to monitor Turkey and Azerbaijan for genocidal ideology and practices, to place pressure on Turkey and Azerbaijan to cease their genocidal threats against the Armenian people, and to reinforce the security of Armenians and the Armenian identity in the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Artsakh, and in Diaspora communities worldwide.

## Armenian, Georgian Leaders Inaugurate

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development in the region."

"The Friendship Bridge, which we have built together, embodies the success of our cooperation and friendship," the Georgian prime minister said, adding that it will help double traffic between the two countries.

The construction of the bridge is a joint Armenian-Georgian project funded by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, as well as the governments of Armenia and Georgia. The project was carried out

through a •6 million loan from the EBRD.

The contract for the design and construction of the bridge was concluded with Ariana Tunnel Dam Co. (Iran), and technical control was implemented by the joint company Soosung Engineering Co., Ltd and Korea Consultants International Co., Ltd. (Korea).

The construction of the 386-meter long Friendship Bridge over the Debed River was launched in April 2021. The width of the road is 8.35 m. The bridge is equipped with external lighting and drainage system.

## No Indication of Terrorism or Criminal Intent in Surmalu Blast



YEREVAN — Armenian law-enforcement authorities say they have so far found no evidence to suggest that the recent deadly explosion and fire at a popular market in Yerevan was a result of a terrorist attack.

A total of 16 people were killed and 62 others were injured when a fireworks warehouse within the premises of the Surmalu shopping center exploded on August 14.

The death toll in the incident may rise to 17 as rescuers continue to search for one missing person presumed to have been at the epicenter of the explosion.

During a weekly cabinet meeting on Thursday Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan asked Argishti Kyaramyan, the head of the Investigation Committee, to comment on whether the explosion could be a terrorist attack.

"Various theories are being considered with the framework of the criminal case," Kyaramyan said. "But at the moment there is no factual evidence in the case that would testify to a terrorist attack or other intentional crimes."

Kyaramyan added that the evidence gained so far suggested that the explosion was a result of negligence.

Pashinyan, in his turn, said that the footage of the explosion and what proceeded it also suggested that there was smoke and fire before the power-

ful explosion that triggered a massive blaze in the sprawling shopping center.

The premier also reminded about his instructions after a powerful explosion at an ammonium nitrate warehouse in the port of Beirut in Lebanon two years ago to inspect all facilities in Armenia where explosive materials were stored and where there was a risk of similar explosions.

He said that the inspection conducted at the Surmalu shopping center in the spring of 2021 was part of the fulfillment of his instruction and asked the head of the State Supervision Service to submit a report on how his instruction was fulfilled in general.

Minister of Emergency Situations Armen Pambukchyan reported that the search operation for one missing person continued at the scene of the tragedy. He said that rescue workers were looking for one missing person feared to be dead, since that person was near the very epicenter of the explosion.

Health Minister Anahit Avanesyan, meanwhile, said that most of the 62 people who were injured in the explosion and fire had already been discharged from hospitals and the few remaining patients were on their way to recovery. She confirmed that all current and future costs for the treatment of all injured persons were covered from the state budget.

## EU Strongly Supports Ongoing and Future Efforts

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pean Union has undertaken a more active stance now and plays a visible role at the highest possible level, by President Michel, as well as in regular consultations and visits of the EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the Crisis in Georgia Toivo Klaar. He was here again on 13 and 14 July. Therefore, we are in very regular contacts, President Michel is personally engaged.

These efforts are in no way in competition or against other actors; I need to underline this as we see many speculations on the matter. We need to speak about complementarity, not competition.

The three trilateral meetings, which took place in December in Brussels, in April, and on May 22, were all meant to support a sustainable solution. At the same time, and I think it's

also appreciated by the leaders, Toivo Klaar, the EU Special Representative initiated high level meetings also hosted in Brussels between the Secretary of the National Security Council of Armenia Armen Grigoryan and Hikmet Hajiyev, Advisor of President of Azerbaijan Aliyev.

These high-level interventions, the quality of exchanges are the contribution we can make and EU is really committed to continue our efforts in these formats. Naturally, we listen to what the two countries want. But I repeat again - it is not a competition; it is complementarity with other efforts. We welcomed direct contact that happened on 16 July in Tbilisi. EU welcomes the direct communication that was established between the two foreign ministers. I think all these elements come together, and there are efforts to find sustainable solution between the two countries.'

## Dr. Hrag Papazian Named as 19th Henry S. Kanzadian Kazan Visiting Professor in Armenian Studies at Fresno State

FRESNO — Dr. Hrag Papazian has been named as the 19th Henry S. Kanzadian Kazan Visiting Professor in Armenian Studies at Fresno State for the Fall 2022 semester. The Kazan Visiting Professorship was established in Fall of 2000.

Dr. Papazian graduated from the Social Anthropology MPhil program at the University of Oxford, and then continued with his DPhil studies at the same institution. His doctoral dissertation was on “Contesting Armenianness: Plurality, Segregation, and Multilateral Boundary Making among Armenians in Contemporary Turkey.”

Dr. Papazian was born in Beirut, Lebanon, and attended and graduated from Hamazkayin’s “Djemaran” College. He was very actively involved in Armenian community life since his early childhood, in cultural activities, sports, and community service.

As part of his duties as Kazan Visiting Professor, Dr. Papazian will be teaching a course “From Genocide to Post-Genocide Experience: Armenians under Late Ottoman and Turkish Republican Rule.” The goal of the course is to examine the history of the Armenian Genocide in the late Ottoman period and explore the fate of survivors who remained in the emerging Republic of Turkey until contemporary times.

Dr. Papazian’s research interests focus on issues of identity, group formation, inter-group relations, ethnicity, nationalism, diaspora and transnationalism, and politics and conflict. His doctoral research was on Armenians in contemporary Turkey, but he has also been conducting research in Armenia during the past two years.

For the past academic year, Dr. Papazian has been a Promise Armenian Institute post-doctoral fellow in the department of anthropology at UCLA.



He taught as an Adjunct Lecturer at the American University of Armenia from Fall 2019 to Spring 2021 and taught three courses there: “Introduction to Cultural Anthropology,” “Cultural Geography,” and “Research Methods.”

While at Fresno State, Dr. Papazian will give three public lectures, under the general title of “Armenians and ‘Other Armenians’ in Contemporary Turkey.” The first lecture of the series on “The Christian Armenian Community” will take place in person at 7:00PM on Friday, September 9 at the Smittcamp Alumni House on the Fresno State campus. The second lecture will discuss Muslim and Alevi Armenians who have been getting more and more vocal and visible during the past few decades in Turkey. The third lecture will examine the recently emerged community of migrant Armenians arriving from the Republic of Armenia since the early 1990s. Throughout his lectures, Dr. Papazian will be also discussing relations between these different factions of Armenians in contemporary Turkey.

For information about Dr. Papazian’s lectures please follow Armenian Studies on its Facebook page, @ArmenianStudiesFresnoState or visit the Armenian Studies Program website, <https://cah.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies/index.html>.

## SAS and NAASR to Hold an International Conference on the Technologies of Communication and Armenian Narrative Practices Through the Centuries

BELMONT, MA-The Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) and the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR) will hold a major international in-person conference on September 17-18, 2022, at NAASR’s headquarters in Belmont, MA. Titled “Technologies of Communication and Armenian Narrative Practices Through the Centuries,” the conference aims to foster an interdisciplinary conversation with researchers working across historical periods and different themes pertaining to communication and narratives.

From Cilician era Armenian manuscripts to nineteenth-century newspapers, to exciting new forms of digital storytelling today, Armenians have always taken advantage of the most contemporary technologies for conveying information and producing knowledge. In adopting these infor-

mation technologies, Armenians have made them their own: Armenian iconographic and book arts are in conversation with imperial neighbors but develop their own styles; Armenian newspapers became a vehicle for the development of the modern Armenian vernacular and an opportunity to plumb the depths of Armenian history; and TUMO, the Center for Creative Technologies in the Republic of Armenia pushes boundaries of digital storytelling. Focusing on technologies of communication (i.e., manuscripts, print, visual, and digital media) this conference aims to foster an interdisciplinary conversation with researchers working across historical periods around the question of how technologies of communication have impacted Armenian narrative style and practices (such as modes of storytelling, narrative structure, and exegetical principles), and reversely

## Pasadena’s Vrej Pastry Named 41st Assembly District’s Small Business of the Year

In a ceremony in Sacramento, Assemblymember Chris Holden honored Vrej Pastry as “Small Business of the Year” for the 41st Assembly District.

Vrej and Armig Tomboulian—co-owners of Vrej Pastry, accepted the recognition during the annual Small Business of the Year luncheon organized by the California Small Business Association. Vrej Pastry recently celebrated their 28th anniversary. The company is located at 1074 N. Allen Ave.

“The fabric of Pasadena is made of local small businesses that provide us a glimpse of culture through traditional food,” said Assemblymember Chris Holden. “From Lebanon to Pasadena, the Lebanese and Armenian sweets have a place in my heart. Frank and Armig embody the small business American dream.”

Vrej Tomboulian was born and raised in a small town in Lebanon to a family of bakers. His father owned a well-known bakery where Vrej would spend much of his time after school, helping customers and learning to bake. In his 30’s, he began traveling to and from the US as a tourist. Armig Tomboulian was born and raised in Lebanon as well. After graduating high school, she began working for a jewelry store as a receptionist, often assisting the owners with design

One evening in August 1987, Vrej had returned to Lebanon and visited a neighbor, where Armig would be tutoring. The two met and married after a month. In 1988, the couple moved to San Diego, CA searching for the American Dream. They started a family, having two daughters. Vrej and his brother partnered to open a fast food restaurant, but Vrej wasn’t happy.

how Armenian narrative practices have shaped each new technology.

Scholars from Armenia, the U.S., Hungary, and Australia, will deliver exciting papers on the topic. The conference will feature four panels: Narrative Practices and Power; Adapting to change: Mobility, Changing Socio-Economic Patterns, and Technologies of Communication; Technologies of Communication and Identity Making; Can the Provinces Speak? Mainstreaming Peripheral Narratives and Perspectives on Ottoman-Armenians. “Most of the papers delivered at this conference are by young and uprising scholars. The interdisciplinary and cross-cultural perspectives and the depth of the topics of the papers are just breathtaking,” noted Prof. Bedross Der Matossian, President of the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS). He continued, “It is indeed an honor to cooperate with NAASR on hosting its first in-person conference in the newly renovated Vartan Grigor Building. I would like to thank Drs. Dzovinar Derderian and Christophe Sheklian for spearheading this project and extend my gratitude to the different Armenian Studies Programs and Chairs for co-sponsoring the conference.”

Marc Mamigonian, Director of the Academic Affairs at NAASR, commented “NAASR is excited to cospon-



After many trials and tribulation, Vrej and Armig decided to move to Pasadena, where they found a warm and supportive Armenian community in which they raised their children, and in 1994, opened the doors to their business, Vrej Pastry.

At first, Vrej would do all the baking and designing, while Armig tended to customers. Armig began to pick up some techniques, learning what she could from Vrej, then finding other resources to learn more about cake design. The early years were difficult, but they were blessed. The business began to grow, and additional staff was hired. Customers would come from all parts of California, and eventually, other states. The demand for their desserts were so high, customers would request additional locations.

“We’ve been in business for 28 years and called Pasadena our home. We are so excited to be honored as small business of the year and to continue sharing our Lebanese and Armenian homemade desserts with everyone,” the couple said.

For more information about Vrej Pastry, visit <https://vrejpastryca.com/>

sor and host this important conference. It is the first chance to have a major academic event at our new building and a welcome opportunity to continue our collaboration with SAS and the other co-sponsors.”

The organizers Dzovinar Derderian and Christopher Sheklian, are thrilled by the depth of the papers that will be offered at the conference. “We believe that the variety of the papers, spanning disciplines and historical eras, will foster a unique and productive conversation. Our hope is that the arrangement of panels will create intellectual connections that will push Armenian Studies in new and exciting directions,” they added.

The conference was made possible with the support of University of Southern California, Institute for Armenian Studies; Mashtots Chair in Armenian studies, Harvard University; Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno; Armenian Studies Program; University of California, Irvine; and Krikor and Clara Zohrab Information Center, NYC; and the Center for Armenian Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

To view the full program, please visit the SAS website.

The conference is open to the public.













# ARMENIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY Festival

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