

# NOUVEL HAY MAGAZINE

*SANS FRONTIÈRES*

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Tuesday, January 23, 2018

**100 THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**  
CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE

MAY 11-12, 2018  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

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## **AYF: The History-Making Youth Movement at 85** **By Dickran Khodanian and Verginie Touloumian**



The delegates and guests at the first annual ARF Tzaghagron (AYF) Convention at the Hairenik Headquarters in Boston, June 1-3, 1934 (Photo: ARF Archives)

Picture this: Armenian youth across the U.S. have gathered at the Hairenik Hall in Boston on a Friday night in June of 1934. Legendary statesman and military strategist Karekin (Garegin) Nejdeh and Justice Minister of the First Republic of Armenia turned Editor of the Hairenik Daily newspaper Reuben Darbinian deliver remarks after the singing of “*Harach Nahadag.*” In the midst of the gathering, the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF) Central Committee of America gifts the youth in attendance a tricolor flag in a time when no independent Armenian Republic exists.

This was the first convention of the Armenian Youth Federation (AYF, known as the ARF Tzaghagrons until 1941). This gathering democratically set the foundation of the organization by adopting an organizational name,...

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## NGO Suggests Garo Paylan's Nomination for Nobel Peace Prize

MOSCOW—The Hamshenuhi International Women's Association recently announced that it is calling for individuals and organizations to officially nominate Garo Paylan for a 2018 Nobel Peace Prize. The organization has also submitted a letter to the Nobel Prize Committee, suggesting Paylan's nomination as an individual who has "devoted whole his life to protection of the rights of Armenians and other indigenous populations in the region."



Garo Paylan at the HDP Parliamentary office in Ankara (Photo: Rupen Janbazian)

"He is one of the few who has assumed the responsibility to protect humanitarian rights, the rights of indigenous people, religious and national minorities," part of the association's statement reads, adding that Paylan's efforts come despite persistent threats and pressures by Turkish nationalists and extremist forces backed by Turkish authorities.

Founded in 2012, the Hamshenuhi International Women's Association is a registered NGO, which works to foster...

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## Human Rights Watch Reports on Violations in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Turkey

Human Rights Watch (HRW), a respectable and prominent NGO, issued last week its annual report that documented human rights violations during 2017 in more than 90 countries, including Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Turkey.



Azerbaijani journalist Afgan Mukhtarli is brought to the court after he has been abducted in Georgia and forcibly taken to neighboring Azerbaijan where he was detained in custody (Photo: Azadiq Radiosu/RFE/RL/HRW)

### Armenia

Below is the summary of HRW's report on violations in Armenia during 2017:

"Parliamentary elections, the first since the 2015 constitutional amendments moving the country from a presidential to a parliamentary system, failed to improve public confidence in the electoral system. The ruling Republican Party dominated the polls amid reports of irregularities. Authorities failed to bring to justice officials responsible for excessive use of force against protesters and journalists, including during largely peaceful protests in Yerevan in July 2016....

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## UCLA to Host 16th Annual Student Colloquia in Armenian Studies

LOS ANGELES—The graduate students of Armenian Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), recently announced the 16th Annual Student Colloquia in Armenian Studies, to be held on Feb. 1 and 2. The two-day event is composed of the undergraduate colloquium on Feb. 1 from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. and the graduate colloquium on Feb. 2 from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Both events will be held at UCLA, in Royce Hall 314, and will be followed by catered receptions.



UCLA Library Special Collections 2089 MS. 1, f. 8: *Gladzor Gospels*, "Canon Table 1"

Feb 1, 2018, 3:30–7:00pm, Undergrad  
Feb 2, 2018, 9:30am–6:00pm, Graduate  
University of California, Los Angeles  
Royce Hall 314  
Catered Receptions to Follow

## 16<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL STUDENT COLLOQUIA IN ARMENIAN STUDIES

With generous sponsorship from:  
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For more info, visit: <http://nelc.ucla.edu/agsc>

The graduate students of Armenian Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), recently announced the 16th Annual Student Colloquia in Armenian Studies, to be held on Feb. 1 and 2 (Flyer: UCLA Armenian Studies)

For 16 years, the graduate student colloquium has dedicated itself to encouraging, fostering, and promoting scholarly research among young scholars in the field of Armenian studies.

This year it will feature presentations by 13 scholars from seven countries on a variety of topics relating to modern...

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## ARF Western Region Welcomes 41 New Members

ENCINO, Calif.—The Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF) Western U.S. recently announced that it welcomed 41 new members to its ranks during an officiating ceremony on Jan. 20, at the Ferrahian Armenian School's Dickranian Hall. Thirty-five novices, having completed a 10-week educational program, took their oath to join the 128-year-old party.

Joining the 35 will be four novices from Fresno, one from Las Vegas, and another who could not attend the ceremony.

The ceremony began with remarks from Harut Mgrdichian, who oversees the ARF novice educational program. After inviting each candidate, Mgrdichian introduced ARF Western U.S. Central Committee member Levon Kirakosian who officiated the ceremony.

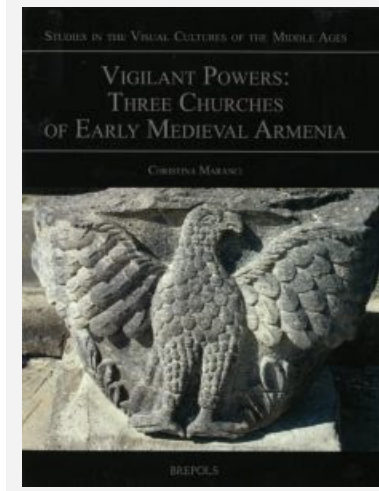
In his remarks to the novices, Kirakosian highlighted the importance of volunteerism as a backbone of the ARF. He then spoke of ARF's more than a century commitment to justice for the Armenian nation, saying that each newcomer will now join the larger ARF family in advancing social...

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## Maranci's 'Vigilant Powers' Wins Karen Gould Prize



The cover of *Vigilant Powers: Three Churches of Early Medieval Armenia* (Photo: Brepols)

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (A.W.)—*Vigilant Powers: Three Churches of Early Medieval Armenia* by historian Christina Maranci was recently awarded the prestigious Karen Gould Prize for books in medieval art history.

"[*Vigilant Powers*] is a closely-observed, beautifully written, and deeply evocative architectural analysis of a culture at a global crossroads," read a part of a statement published by [the Medieval Academy of America](#).

Established in 2016 by an endowed gift from Lewis Gould, the Karen Gould Prize is awarded annually for a book or monograph in medieval art history judged by the selection committee to be of outstanding quality.

*Vigilant Powers*, which was published in 2015, ushers the reader into the world of early medieval Armenia—its sacred landscapes, striking churches, and rich literary and religious traditions. An examination of three sculpted and inscribed monuments, produced during the...

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## Henrikh Mkhitaryan Officially Joins Arsenal

LONDON (A.W.)—Henrikh Mkhitaryan, Armenia's 29-year-old football/soccer captain and star midfielder, officially signed with London-based English Premier League football club Arsenal in a long-term contract on Monday.



Arsenal released this official photo of Mkhitaryan in his new jersey on Monday (Photo: Arsenal)

According to press release published by Mkhitaryan's new club, the deal has star Alexis Sanchez joining Manchester United—a club with which Mkhitaryan made 39 appearances, scoring five times. He was also part of Manchester United's UEFA Europa League winning squad last season.

"I'm very happy that we could finish this deal, and I'm very happy to be here. It's a dream come true because I've always dreamed of playing for Arsenal. Now that I'm here, I'll do my best for this club to create history," Mkhitaryan said of the new deal.

Mkhitaryan is the captain of the Armenian national team and its all-time top scorer. He has received the Armenian Footballer...

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## Letter to Yerevan (Part VIII)

Letter to Yerevan (Part VIII)



The Armenian Weekly is periodically publishing the English translation of Andranik Tzarukian's epic 1945 poem *Tught ar Yerevan* (Letter to Yerevan)

Do you recall, Abov? There was a rout elsewhere  
And petrified panic of disintegration;  
A riotous retreat, like a spooked and soused herd,

Of all the Russian conscripts;  
Lenin had heralded his call—Homeward!  
Greetings to the suffering land and men!  
Greetings to the foe! Hail to the vanquished!  
Greetings to all and a rush towards home...

Do you recall, Abov?  
The same bloody-snouted monster  
Was returning with sharpened fangs,  
With a sweeping ultimate onslaught  
To deliver the last blow to the last remnants...

Has there ever been throughout the ages  
A darker, hopeless cataclysmic time,  
When the bleeding moribund heart  
Of the Armenian realm,  
Hanging at the rim of eternity's chasm,  
Ceased to beat for an instant?

Do you recall, Abov? The sky...

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