

## La 1ère république d'Arménie

On 28 May, the Armenian people celebrated the 102nd anniversary of the first Republic of Armenia, which was proclaimed in 1918 under extremely harsh circumstances, in the direct aftermath of the Armenian Genocide and as a result of the heroic existential battles of the Armenian people against the military aggression of the Ottoman army against the remaining part of Armenia.

On this occasion the European citizens involved in activism with the committees the Armenian cause across Europe extended their congratulations to the Armenians all over the world. They elaborated on how the first Republic of Armenia had inspired their activism and spoke about the values of the first Republic that Armenians must continue to bring to life.

The implementation of a series of democratic and progressive reforms in the first Republic of Armenia has deeply inspired generations of activists of the Armenian cause in Europe.. Watch the message of representatives of the Armenian cause committees of Greece, Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Poland and Belgium [here](#).

On the occasion of the anniversary of the first Armenian Republic independence, watch EAFJD President Kaspar Karampetian's speech [here](#) (in Armenian). Inter alia he speaks about his memories of Simon Vratsian – the last Prime Minister of the first Republic of Armenia (1920).



## The Armenian lobby consists of citizens involved in civic activism



While addressing issues related to Covid-19 pandemic, the Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan called Armenian and Greek lobbies "evil forces".

In an interview with the Turkish Artı TV, the Executive Director of the EAFJD Heghine Evinyan commented on Erdoğan's statement: "By demonizing the Armenian lobby Erdogan in fact attacks democracy, civic activism and freedom of expression as such. As far as European Armenians are concerned, it simply means attacking the value system that European democracies pride themselves on".

source : EAFJD