

**« La diaspora arménienne : enjeux actuels et perspectives d'avenir »**



VIDÉO de discussion en groupe de l'Institut ARPA  
Sur « La diaspora arménienne : enjeux actuels et perspectives d'avenir »



Panélistes : Khachig Tölölyan, Hratch Tchilingirian et Vahe Sahakyan  
Modérateur : Ani Shabazian  
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[La diaspora arménienne](#)

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**ARPA Institute Panel Discussion**  
**"The Armenian Diaspora: Current Issues and Future Prospects"**  
 Khachig Tölölyan, Hratch Tchilingirian and Vahe Sahakyan  
 Moderator: Ani Shabazian  
**Saturday, December 10, 2022 @ 10:00 am, PST**

**Abstract:** There are Armenian researchers who have strong and well-developed views on why the idea of uniting and "governing" the diaspora is an impossible endeavor. Others have views about the gap between the Armenian public's idea of what the Diaspora is, how it behaves and thinks versus what the recent Armenian Diaspora Survey reveals. Scholars have written extensively on diasporas and transnationalism as it relates to many other diasporas, emphatically including the Jewish one. Many of the current issues related to the future of the Armenian Diaspora, its characteristics, capabilities, the problems it faces, and its relations with Armenia will be discussed and analyzed. Moreover, the several types of relationships that will prevail between the Homeland and Diaspora entities and institution will be examined. Khachig Tölölyan is one of the founders of the field of diaspora studies and the founding editor of the Zoryan Institute's award-winning DIASPORA: A JOURNAL OF TRANSNATIONAL STUDIES, which he edited for nearly 30 years. Professor Tölölyan grew up in the Armenian diaspora communities of Syria, Egypt, and Lebanon, then immigrated to the US. He received his BA from Harvard in Molecular Biology and his PhD from Brown University in Comparative Literature. As an academia-based scholar, he has published numerous articles on literature, Armenian terrorism, and diaspora studies; as an Armenian intellectual, he has published over 200 columns, reviews and articles on Armenian issues, principally in Paris' newspaper Hrach. He is currently interested in the challenges faced by countries that send migrants, those that receive them, and the ways in which the migrants form transnational communities, particularly diasporas – what political, economic and cultural challenges do they face, when and how do they overcome them, or fail to, and how do they function as the exemplary communities of global transnationalism?

Hratch Tchilingirian, Ph.D., is a sociologist specializing in Middle Eastern and Armenian studies, with a particular focus on identity, culture, religion, homeland-diaspora relations, and inter-ethnic conflicts in the Middle East and the Caucasus. He is Associate in the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Oxford, an Associate Professor of Armenian Studies (IMAS program) at Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales, and the Director of Armenian Diaspora Survey, a 10-country, public opinion research project funded by the Gulbenkian Foundation, about which he has so far published two of the projected four edited volumes. He is the author of *The Struggle for Independence in the post-Soviet South Caucasus: Karabakh and Abkhazia* (2003), *The 'Other' Citizens: Armenians in Turkey between Isolation and (Dis)Integration* (2017), and numerous studies and publications ([www.hratch.info](http://www.hratch.info)). He has lectured internationally, recently drawing attention to the plight of minorities and Christian communities in the Middle East, especially in academic and policy-making circles.

Vahe Sahakyan is Research Associate and Senior Information Resources Specialist at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Armenian Research Center. He received his PhD in Near Eastern Studies from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He also holds a Candidate of Sciences degree in Sociology from Yerevan State University (YSU). Sahakyan has held teaching, research, and administrative appointments at YSU, and at the University of Michigan. During the past decade, he has conducted multi-sited empirical studies of the Armenian diaspora as part of his doctoral research, and later as member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Armenian Diaspora Survey. He is broadly interested in the study of diasporas, nationalism, and transnationalism from both theoretical and comparative perspectives. With the grant support of the Calouste Gulbenkian foundation, he compiled and edited *Soyurkagitutyan: Knrakn Antologia (Diaspora Studies: A Critical Anthology)*, a volume bringing together Armenian-language translations of 19 fundamental articles and book chapters in *Diaspora Studies* by renowned Western scholars, which was published in 2022 by Yerevan State University Press.

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