

## 2025 : Turbulences & Incertitudes : ARPA

Table ronde de l'Institut ARPA sur  
L'Arménie en 2025 : une période de turbulences et d'incertitudes

Intervenants : David Akopyan, Yeghia Tashjian et Robert Beglaryan.  
Modérateur : Hriar Cabayan

L'événement aura lieu le samedi 25 janvier 2025 à 10h00 (heure du Pacifique)

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## ARPA Institute Panel Discussion

### Armenia in 2025: A Time of Turbulence and Uncertainty

**Panellists: David Akopyan, Yeghia Tashjian and Robert Beglaryan.**

**Modertor: Hriar Cabayan**

**January 25 at 10:00 AM PST**

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**Abstract:** Armenia will face turbulence and uncertainty in 2025. After the devastating 2020 war, the country experienced a significant blow in 2023 with the exodus and the ethnic cleansing of Artsakh Armenians. Peace negotiations with Azerbaijan are slow and raise doubts on their genuine interest in a lasting peace. Azerbaijan avoided war for its hosting of COP29, and for the U.S in 2024 presidential election. The new U.S. administration seems pro-Armenia, but events of 2023 indicate it does not mean pro-actions. From pro-Iranian and Russian to a pro-Turkish HTS regime change in Syria, maybe a victory for Turkey. Will Turkey build its influence in Syria, or act on expansion eastward—through the Zangezur Corridor to Azerbaijan? The latter sees itself as dominant in the South Caucasus, asserting itself against Armenia and even with Russia. The approach Trump takes on geopolitical issues, international rule of law, and even on the Russia-dominated areas and Middle East, is unpredictable. Armenia is in the middle of a storm and at the whim of Azerbaijan and will need resilience to navigate the existential pressures. The expert Panellists will present their insights on all the above issues.



Dr. David Akopyan had dual careers- he has a PHD in physics, studied complex systems for 26 years and then worked for the UN in 15 countries across many regions. During the last 10 years of his UN career, he spent in Afghanistan, Somalia and Syria, and other worst crisis affected countries and held leadership positions as UN Development Program Deputy Director, Country Director, and Resident Representative. He is an American University of Armenia (AUA), 2019 distinguished alumnus. In 2021 David retired from the UN and joined the Artsakh Government as the Principal advisor to State Minister helping to coordinate humanitarian and development assistance. He is an ex officio advisor to the President of Armenia, Chair of the Board of Trustees of reArmenia foundation, member of APRI (Applied Policy Research Institute/AGBU) Board of directors and the Insurance Foundation of servicemen.



Yeghia Tashjian is the Issam Fares Institute Public Policy and International Affairs-Regional and International Affairs Cluster Coordinator in AUB. His BA is from Haigazian University and MA in Public Policy and International Affairs from AUB and studied "Strategic Leadership in Global Societal Security Program" at the Swedish Defense University. Yeghia has worked in Armenian Diaspora Research Center in Haigazian. His thesis was on the geopolitical and energy security interests in Iran and the Persian Gulf and now researches Turkey-Russia competition in the MENA+ Caucasus and Russia's involvement in the North-South Transport Corridor. He contributes to local and regional newspapers, is a columnist in the Armenian Weekly, and is a part-time instructor in the Department of Political Studies and Public Administration at the AUB.



Robert Beglarian was born in Tehran in 1961. He studied physics and mathematics in Tehran and Isfahan. Robert has contributed significantly to the New Julfa cultural and political organizations. In 1989 Mr. Beglarian received his master's degree in economics from the university of Isfahan. He has worked in the Ministry of Social Welfare and Labor and has taught market economics in the Isfahan. In 2000 Robert moved to Tehran and worked in the Ministry of Social Welfare and Labor as an economist. 2002-2004 he served on the editorial board of the Payman Journal. He has been elected four consecutive terms as a Parliamentary deputy of Armenian descent. Beglarian has given numerous interviews & analyses on Armenia-Iran and Iran-Middle East.



Dr. Hriar Cabayan is a Visiting Scientist at the Lawrence Livermore Lab since 1977. In 1997 he joined the Joint Staff (Pentagon) and managed a program on operational planning. Hriar received the Joint Meritorious Civilian Service Award from the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff in 2007 and in 2019. Dr. Cabayan returned to Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in October 2019. He received his Doctorate Degree from the University of Illinois in Urbana. After graduating, he taught mathematical physics for four years at New York University's Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences and at McGill University before joining Lawrence Livermore lab.

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