



Հայաստանի Հանրապետության
սփյուռքի նախարարություն

MINISTRY OF DIASPORA OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA



International Dialogue on Migration 2013
Diaspora Ministerial Conference
18 - 19 June, 2013



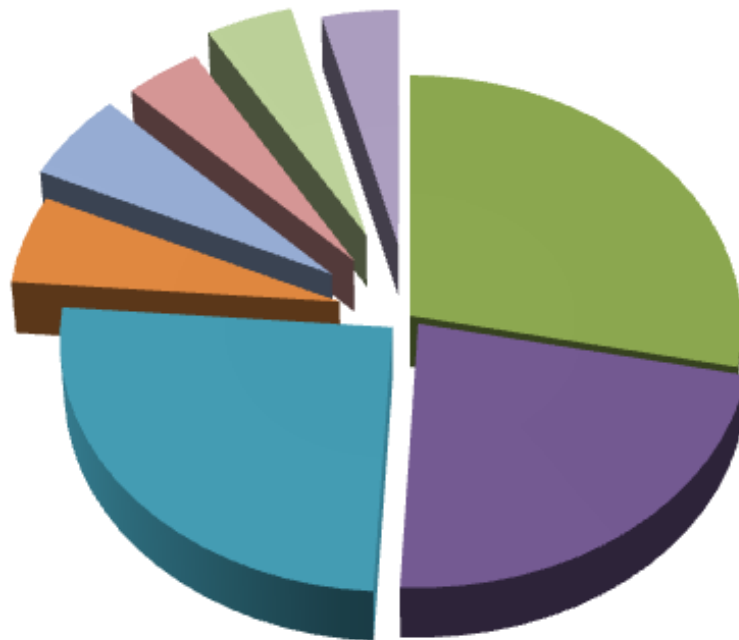
FORMATION OF THE ARMENIAN DIASPORA

- **Middle Ages**-Establishment of the first Diaspora communities in Europe and Middle East
- **1915-1925**- Formation of the Armenian Diaspora as a result of Armenian Genocide
- **1988-1991** - Forced displacement of more that 500.000 Armenians from Azerbaijan (Baku, Sumgait, Kirovabad, Nakhijevan)



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THE ARMENIAN DIASPORA SPREAD IN MORE THAN 100 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD



- Russian Federation - 2.200.000
- United States of America - 1.200.000
- France - 500.000
- Ukraine - 400.000
- Georgia - 450.000
- Latin America - 100.000



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ARMENIA-DIASPORA INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

- **1964** - *Committee for Cultural Relations with Diaspora Armenians*
- **1998** - *Executive Secretariat for Relations with Diaspora*
- **2002**- *State Agency on Relations with Diaspora of the RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs*
- **2008** - *State Committee on Diaspora Affairs of the RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs*



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2008- ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RA MINISTRY OF DIASPORA

- ***Elaboration of the Concept on Armenia-Diaspora Partnership Development***
- ***Elaboration of the Charter of the RA Ministry of Diaspora***



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THE STRATEGICAL ISSUES OF THE RA MINISTRY OF DIASPORA

- **Preservation of Armenian Identity in the Diaspora
(Language, Armenian Family, Culture and Religion)**
- **Identification of Armenian potential and its use for the
development of Armenian economy**
- **Elaboration of projects to assist repatriation**



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STATE POLICY

- Armenia is the Homeland of all Armenians around the world.
- Armenians must integrate into the country of residence, become its law-abiding citizens and stay true to their identity. (Culture, language, religion, family, etc.)
- The Institute of Dual Citizenship has been incorporated, helping thousands of Armenians become citizens of Armenia.
- The formula for collaboration with the Diaspora is: Know-Trust-Cooperate.
- Besides charities, Diaspora Armenians can and must make investments and gain profits in the Homeland (Today, more than 4,000 Diaspora Armenians have businesses in Armenia).
- The peculiarities of every region are taken into account during the implementation of activities.
- Efforts are made to assist the self-organization of newly established communities, (especially the communities in the CIS countries).
- The set priorities of the nation are the strengthening of Armenia, a peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, recognition and condemnation of the Armenian Genocide and elimination of the consequences, as well as the fight against assimilation and the consolidation around the Armenian Church.



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MECHANISMS OF COLLABORATION

- “Hayastan” All-Armenian Fund
- Armenia-Diaspora Conferences
- Pan-Armenian athletic games
- Mechanisms created by structures, organizations and individuals to promote investments



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THE ARMENIAN DIASPORA STRUCTURES

- **Churches** - (*Apostolic, Catholic, Evangelical*)
- **Schools** - (*Sunday & Everyday*)
- **Media** - (*more than 300 newspapers,
TV & radio channels*)
- **Centers for Armenian Studies**
(*in more than 80 communities*)
- **Political Organizations**
(*with headquarters in more than 40 countries*)



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30 Armenian organizations

- *Armenian General Benevolent Union*
established in 1906 in Paris, France, has more than 30 headquarters worldwide
- *Howard Karagiozian Foundation*
established in 1921, has more than 5 headquarters worldwide
- *Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation*
established in 1956 in Lisbon, Portugal and promotes scientific, educational programmes



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MAIN PROJECTS- CONFERENCES

- Professional Conferences (Lawyers, Bankers and Financiers, Architects, Cardiologists, Journalists, Graduates of Armenian Universities, Writers etc).
- Pan-Armenian Forum of Representatives of Diaspora Armenian Organizations and Heads of Diaspora Armenian Communities
- “State of Instruction of Western Armenian in the Diaspora” and the creation of pan-Armenian textbooks;
- “Preservation of Features of Armenian Identity in Mixed Marriages ”
- “The Role of Armenian Women in the Diaspora”
- “Prospects of Diaspora in the Globalizing World”
- “Key Issues Facing Converted Armenians in the Diaspora”
- Scientific conference devoted to 500th anniversary of Armenian printing
- “100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide: borderline for establishment of justice” etc.





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MAIN PROJECTS «COME HOME»

WITHIN **5** YEARS MORE THAN **5000** YOUNG
ARMENIANS FROM **30** COUNTRIES HAVE
PARTICIPATED AND LIVE IN ARMENIAN FAMILIES.





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MAIN PROJECTS «MY ARMENIA»

- *Days of Armenian Literature*
- *Days of Armenian Dance*
- *Choir Art Days*
- *Days of Individual Performers*
- *Film festivals*
- *Theater festivals*
- *Pan-Armenian Duduk Contest-Festival*



ԻՄ ՄՆԱՅԱՏՄԱՆ



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SAYAT-NOVA



G.HOVSEPYAN

«OUR GREATS»



H.BAGHRAMYAN

The program envisages homage to notable Diaspora Armenian individuals and organizations in Armenia and the Diaspora by organizing television programs, events and preparing booklets, leaflets, recordings and video clips.



GARZOU



HOVSEP
ORBELI



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MAIN PROJECTS

- “State of Instruction of Western Armenian in the Diaspora” and the creation of pan-Armenian textbooks
- “Preservation of Features of Armenian Identity in Mixed Marriages ”
- Studies on Diaspora Armenian communities “History of Communities”
- Publication of the “Spyurk” Yearbook-periodical
- Advanced Training Course on Armenian Language
- Training Course for Diaspora Armenian Teachers
- Training Course for Cultural Figures, Teachers of Song and Dance and Group Directors
- Pan-Armenian Awards
 - Piece of Homeland
 - Best Armenian Language Teacher
 - Best Youth Organization
 - “For notable contribution to the preservation of the Armenian identity”



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MAIN PROJECTS

- **At Yerevan State University a Department of Diaspora Studies has been established**
- **At the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia Diaspora Departments have been established in the**
 - Institute of Literature
 - Institute of Arts
 - Institute of History
- **“Diaspora” Summer School includes**
 - School for Young Leaders
 - School for Diaspora Armenian Journalists
 - Advanced Course on Armenian Language
 - Training Course for Diaspora Armenian Teachers
 - Training Course for Cultural Figures, Teachers of Song and Dance and Group Directors
- **Creation of unified textbooks in Western Armenian**



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USE OF TECHNOLOGICAL OPPORTUNITIES

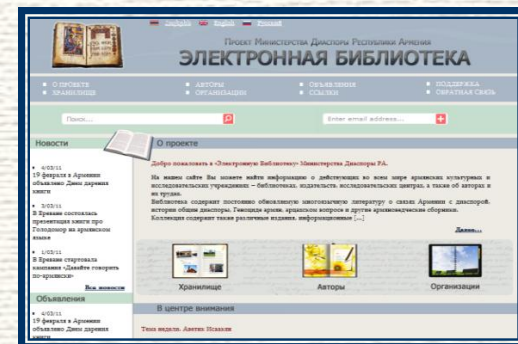
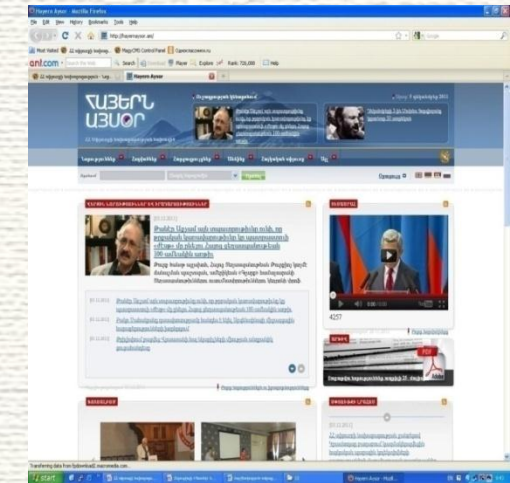
The web site of the RA Ministry of Diaspora
www.mindiaspora.am

«Hayern Aysor» online multilingual daily
www.hayernaysor.am

Electronic Library
www.lib.mindiaspora.am

Creating and applying the translation program
from Western Armenian-Eastern Armenian and
vice versa
www.translator.am

Organization of Teleconferences with far-
reaching Diaspora communities





OUR EXPECTATIONS

- To define the term Diaspora at the UN level, to formulate its rights and obligations, its role in transnational, bilateral, interstate relations, in the relations between the Diaspora and the Homeland;
- To create a UN task force;
- To adopt the UN Convention or Declaration on the rights of Diasporas;
- To Recognize and condemn Armenian Genocide to prevent Acts of Genocide and “Forced” Diasporization of Nations in the Future.



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SYRIAN ARMENIANS

- **10.000** Syrian Armenians have fled to their ancestors' birthplace since the start of conflict in Syria
- More than **2000** of them are pupils and students
- The Government of RA has spent more than **10 million dollars**

PROBLEMS

- Unemployment
- Lack of shelters

**WE EXPECT INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE IN
THE SOLUTION OF ARISING PROBLEMS.**



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DIASPORA RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES

- Cultural Dialogue through Education,
- Elimination of ghettoism, Racism, Xenophobia, regardless of nationality, race and social status,
- Exclusion of Hatred and the Threat of War,
- Advocacy of Solidarity and Tolerance for the Common Good of Nations.



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THANK YOU