



ARMENIA

BY DAVID MONLUX

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NATIONAL ANTHEM OF ARMENIA

"MER HAYRENIK""(OUR FATHERLAND)

- **Verse 1: Our fatherland, free and independent, That lived from century to century His children are calling Free independent Armenia. His Children are Calling Free Independent Armenia.**
- **Verse 2: Here brother, for you a flag, That I made with my hands Nights I didn't sleep, With tears I washed it. Nights I didn't Sleep, With tears I washed it.**
- **Verse 3: Look at it, 3 colors. It's our gifted symbol. Let it shine against the enemy. Let Armenia always be glorious. Let it shine against the enemy. Let Armenia always be glorious.**
- **Verse 4: Everywhere death is the same. Everyone dies only once But lucky is the one Who is sacrificed for his nation. Everyone dies only once But lucky is the one Who is sacrificed for his nation. (Sing entire 1st verse again.)**



MAP OF ARMENIA



ARMENIAN FAST FACTS

- **Total Area: 29,743 sq km (Land: 28,203 sq km. Water: 1,540 sq km)**
- **Border Countries: Azerbaijan , Georgia, Iran & Turkey**
- **Lowest Point: Debed River: 400 m.**
- **Highest Point: Aragats Lerrnagagat: 4,090 m**
- **Ethnic Groups (2011): Armenian: 98.1%. Yezidi: 1.1%. All others: 0.8%**
- **Official Language: Armenian.**
- **Languages Spoken: Armenian and Kurdish.**
- **Religion: Armenian Apostolic: 92.6%. Unspecified: 2.9%. All other Religions: 2.4%. Atheist: 1.1%. Evangelical: 1%.**
- **Population (July 2014 est): 3,060,631**

ARMENIAN FAST FACTS CONTINUED

- Population Growth Rate (2014est): -0.13%
- Average Life Expectancy at Birth (2014 est): 74.12 years (Females: 77.78 years. Males: 70.9 years).
- Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (2010): 54.9%
- Health Expenditures: 4.3% of 2011 GDP.
- Clean Drinking Water Access: 99.85% (Urban: 99.7%. Rural: 100%)
- % of Population with Aids (2012): 1/5 of 1%.
- Obesity Rate (2008): 24%

ARMENIAN FAST FACTS CONTINUED

- % of Children Age 5 or younger under weight (2010): 5.3%
- Education Expenditures: 3.3% of 2012 GDP.
- Literacy Rate: 99.6% (Female: 99.5%. Male: 99.7%)
- Average Years of Schooling (2009): 12 (Male: 11. Females: 14)
- % of Children Working in Illegal Child Labor (2007: Ages 5-14): 4%.
- Youth Unemployment (2011: Ages 15-24): 39.2% (Females: 45%. Male: 35%)

ARMENIAN FAST FACTS CONTINUED

- Type of Government: Republic.
- Independence Day: September 21st, 1991 when Armenia broke away from the Soviet Union.
- Legal System: Civil Law.
- Voting Age: 18
- GDP (USD): 2011: \$18.38 Billion. 2012: \$19.7 Billion. 2013: \$20.61 Billion.
- GDP Per Capita (USD): 2011: \$5,600. 2012: \$6,000. 2013: \$6,300.

ARMENIAN FAST FACTS CONTINUED

- Agriculture: Fruit (mostly grapes), livestock & vegetables.
- Industrial Production Growth Rate: 2013: 3.9%
- Labor Force: 2013: 1.394 Million People.
- Unemployment Rate: 2011: 18.4%. 2012: 17.3%
- % of Population Living below the Poverty Line (2010): 35.8%
- Average Citizen Tax Rate: 25.6%
- Inflation Rate: 2012: 2.6%. 2013: 6.2%
- Military Service: Mandatory between ages 18-27 unless pursuing Higher Education in which case 9 year of service starts upon completion or drop of College. Clergy, Doctors, Lawyers, Teachers, Politicians & Professors are exempt.
- Military Expenditures of GDP: 2010: 3.92%. 2011: 3.87%. 2012: 3.92%

ECONOMY OF ARMENIA

- Border Countries: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran & Turkey.
- Natural Resources: Bauxite, Copper, Gold, Molybdenum & Zinc.
- Ethnic Groups (2011): Armenian: 98.1%. Yezidi: 1.1%. All others: 0.8%
- Official Language: Armenian.
- Languages Spoken: Armenian and Kurdish.
- Religion: Armenian Apostolic: 92.6%. Unspecified: 2.9%. All other Religions: 2.4%. Atheist: 1.1%. Evangelical: 1%.

ECONOMY OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- Population (July 2014 est): 3,060,631
- Median Age (2014 est): 33.7 years (Female: 35.8. Males: 31.8)
- Clean Drinking Water Access: 99.8% (Urban: 99.7%. Rural: 99.9%)
- Sanitation Facility Access: 90.5% (Urban: 95.9%. Rural: 80.9%)
- Literacy Rate: 99.6% (Female: 99.5%. Male: 99.7%)
- Average Years of Schooling: 12 (Males: 11. Females: 14)

ECONOMY OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- % of Children in Illegal Child Labor (5-14): 4%
- Youth Unemployment (2011): 39.2% (Females: 45%. Males: 35%)
- Type of Government: Republic
- Legal System: Civil Law.
- GDP (USD): 2011: \$18.38 Billion. 2012: \$19.7 Billion. 2013: \$20.61 Billion.
- GDP Official Exchange Rate (USD): 2013: \$10.44 Billion.
- GDP Per Capita (USD): 2011: \$5,600. 2012: \$6,000. 2013: \$6,300.

ECONOMY OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- GDP Real Growth Rate: 2011: 4.7%. 2012: 7.2%. 2013: 4.6%.
- Gross National Savings: 2011: 16.1% of GDP. 2012: 13.2%. 2013: 16.2%.
- GDP Composition by End Use (2013): Household Consumption: 84.7%. Government Consumption: 13%. Investment in Fixed Capital: 22.7%. Investment in Inventories: -0.9%. Exports of Goods & Services: 23.6%. Imports of Goods & Services: -43.1%.
- GDP Composition by Sector of Origin: Agriculture: 20.6%. Industry: 37.3%. Services: 42.1%.

ECONOMY OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- Industries: Brandy, Chemicals, Diamond Processing, Electric Motors, Food Processing, Forging & Pressing Machines, Hosiery, Instruments, Jewelry, Knitted Wear, Metal-Cutting Machine Tools, Microelectronics, Mining, Shoes, Silk Fabric, Software, Tires, Trucks & Wine.
- Industrial Production Growth Rate (2013): 3.9%
- Labor Force: 1.394 Million People.
- Unemployment Rate: 2011: 18.4%. 2012: 17.3%
- % of Population Living below the Poverty Line (2010): 35.8%

ECONOMY OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- Household Income or Consumption by % Share (2008): Lowest 10%: 3.7%. Highest 10%: 25.4%.
- Budget (2013): Expenditures: \$2.707 Billion. Revenue: \$2.677 Billion.
- Average Citizen Tax Rate: 25.6%
- Public Debt: 2012: 41.4% of GDP. 2013: 37.7% of GDP.
- Inflation Rate: 2012: 2.6%. 2013: 6.2%.
- Central Bank Discount Rate: Dec 2nd, 2008: 7.25%. Jan 11th, 2012: NA.

ECONOMY OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- Commercial Bank Prime Lending Rate: Dec 31st, 2012: 17.23%. Dec 31st, 2013: 16.5%.
- Stock of Narrow Money: Dec 31st, 2012: \$1.352 Billion. Dec 31st, 2013: \$1.418 Billion.
- Stock of Broad Money: Dec 31st, 2012: \$1.829 Billion. Dec 31st, 2013: \$2.051 Billion.
- Stock of Domestic Credit: Dec 31st, 2011: \$3.548 Billion. Dec 31st, 2012: \$4.355 Billion.
- Market Value of Publically Traded Shares (USD): Dec 31st, 2010: \$144.8 Million. 2011: \$139.6 Million. Dec 31st, 2012: \$132.1 Million.

ECONOMY OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

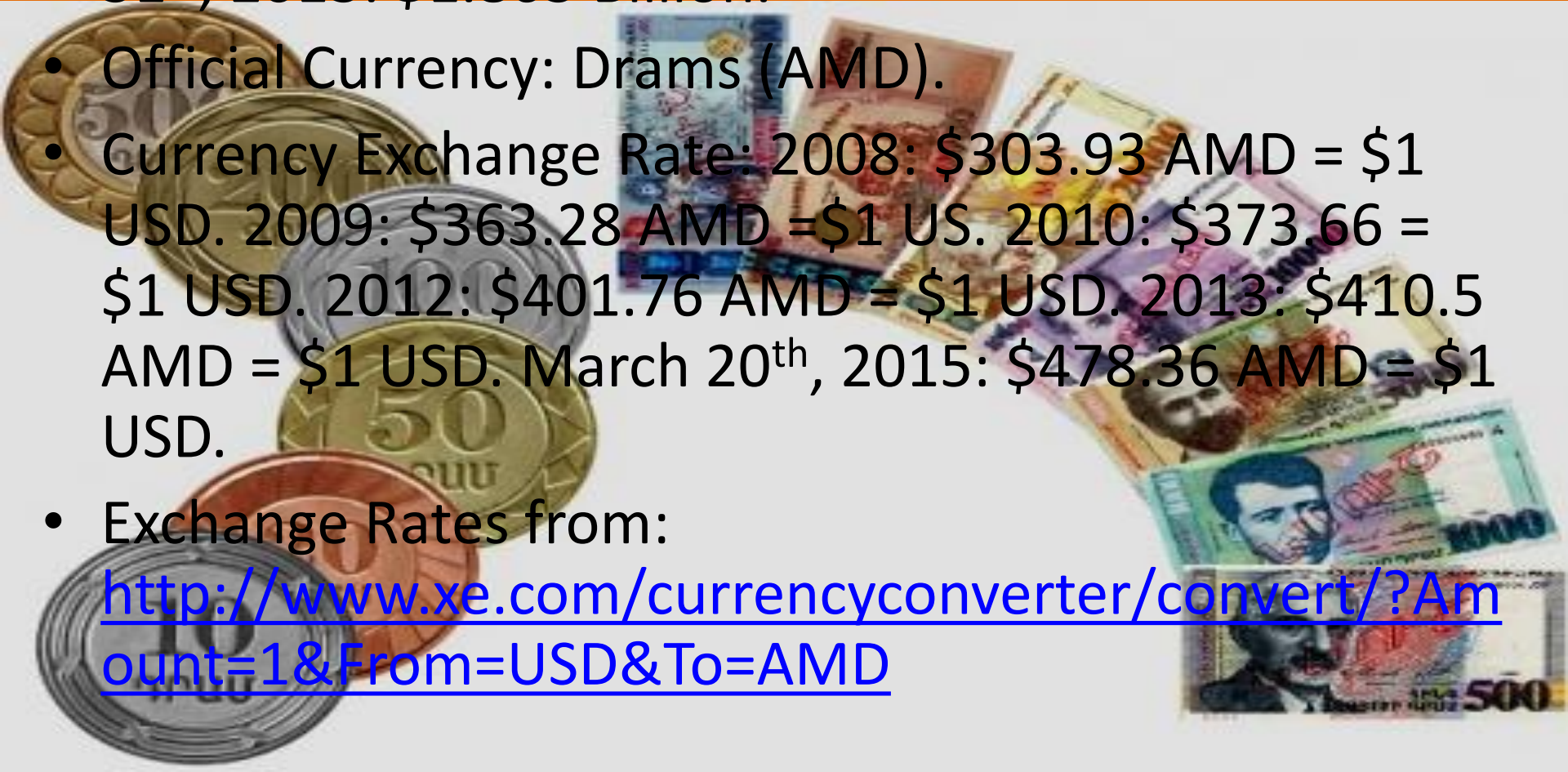
- Account Balance: 2012: -\$1.052 Billion. 2013: -\$720.6 Million.
- Exports: 2012: \$1.588 Billion. 2013: \$1.653 Billion.
- Export Products: Brandy, Diamonds, Energy, Foodstuffs, Mineral Products, Nonferrous Metals, Pig iron, Unwrought Copper & Wine.
- Export Partners (2012): Belgium 8.9%, Bulgaria 9.1%, Canada 6%, Georgia 5.7%, Germany 10.7%, Iran 6.9%, Netherlands 5.6%, Russia 19.6%, Switzerland 5% & the US 6.1%. All others, but less than 2% individually: 16.4%.

ECONOMY OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- Imports: 2012: \$3.656 Billion. 2013: \$3.459 Billion.
- Import Products: Diamonds, Foodstuffs, Natural Gas, Petroleum & Tobacco Products.
- Import Partners (2012): Belgium 9%, Bulgaria 9%, Canada 5.9%, Georgia 5.6%, Germany 11%, Iran 6.5%, Netherlands 5.6%, Russia 20%, Switzerland 5.2% & the US 6.1%. All others Collectively but less than 2% Individually: 16.1%.
- Reserves of Foreign Exchange & Gold: Dec 31st, 2012: \$1.799 Billion. Dec 31st, 2013: \$1.863 Billion.

ECONOMY OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- External Debt: Dec 31st, 2012: \$1.799 Billion. Dec 31st, 2013: \$1.863 Billion.
- Official Currency: Drams (AMD).
- Currency Exchange Rate: 2008: \$303.93 AMD = \$1 USD. 2009: \$363.28 AMD = \$1 US. 2010: \$373.66 = \$1 USD. 2012: \$401.76 AMD = \$1 USD. 2013: \$410.5 AMD = \$1 USD. March 20th, 2015: \$478.36 AMD = \$1 USD.
- Exchange Rates from:
<http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert/?Amount=1&From=USD&To=AMD>



INFASTRUCTURE OF ARMENIA

- Electricity Production (2011): 7.432 Billion kWh.
- Electricity Consumption (2011): 5.8 Billion kWh.
- Electricity Exports (2011): 1.36 Billion kWh.
- Electricity Imports (2010): 246 Million kWh.
- Electricity Installed Generating Capacity (2010): 3.472 Million kWh.
- Electricity from Fossil Fuels (2010): 55.6%
- Electricity from Nuclear Fuels (2010): 10.8%
- Electricity from Hydroelectric Plants (2010): 33.5%
- Electricity from Other Renewable Sources (2010): 0.1%

INFASTRUCTURE OF ARMENIA

CONTINUED

- Refined Petroleum Products Consumption (2011): 45,300 Barrels per day.
- Refined Petroleum Products Exports (2010): 32 Barrels per Day.
- Refined Petroleum Products Imports (2010): 46,550 Barrels per Day.
- Natural Gas Consumption (2013): 2.1 Billion cu m.
- Natural Gas Imports (2013): 2.1 Billion cu m.
- Telephones: Landlines (2012): 584,000. Cellphones (2012): 3.223 Million.

INFASTRUCTURE OF ARMENIA

CONTINUED

- TV Stations: 2 State Run. 40 Privately owned.
- Radio Stations: 1 State Run. 20 Privately owned.
- Internet Country Code: .am
- Internet Host Websites (2012): 194,142
- Average Daily Internet Users (2009): 208,200
- Airports: 13 (Paved Runways: 12. Unpaved Runways: 1)
- Natural Gas Pipelines (2013): 2,233 km.
- Railroad Lines/Tracks: 869 km.
- Roads (2012): 7,705 km (ALL PAVED).

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA: TAKEN FROM:

<http://www.parliament.am/parliament.php?id=constitution&lang=eng>

- **CHAPTER 1: THE FOUNDATIONS OF CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER:**
- **Article 1:** The Republic of Armenia is a sovereign, democratic, social state governed by rule of law.
- **Article 2:** In the Republic of Armenia the power belongs to the people. The people exercise their power through free elections, referenda, as well as through state and local self-governing bodies and public officials as provided by the Constitution. The usurpation of power by any organization or individual constitutes a crime.
- **ARTICLE 3:** The human being, his/her dignity and the fundamental human rights and freedoms are an ultimate value. The state shall ensure the protection of fundamental human and civil rights in conformity with the principles and norms of the international law. The state shall be limited by fundamental human and civil rights as a directly applicable right.
- **ARTICLE 4:** The elections of the President of the Republic, the National Assembly and local self-government bodies, as well as referenda shall be held on the basis of the right to universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 5:** The state power shall be exercised in conformity with the Constitution and the laws based on the principle of the separation and balance of the legislative, executive and judicial powers. State and local self-government bodies and public officials are competent to perform only such acts for which they are authorized by Constitution or laws.
- **ARTICLE 7:** The ideological pluralism and multiparty system are recognized in the Republic of Armenia. Parties are formed freely and promote the formulation and expression of the political will of the people. Their activities may not contravene the Constitution and the laws, nor may their practice contravene the principles of democracy. Parties shall ensure the openness of their financial activities.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 8:** The right to property is recognized and protected in the Republic of Armenia. Freedom of economic activity and free economic competition is guaranteed in the Republic of Armenia.
- **ARTICLE 8.1:** The church shall be separate from the state in the Republic of Armenia. The Republic of Armenia recognizes the exclusive historical mission of the Armenian Apostolic Holy Church as a national church, in the spiritual life, development of the national culture and preservation of the national identity of the people of Armenia. Freedom of activities for all religious organizations in accordance with the law shall be guaranteed in the Republic of Armenia. The relations of the Republic of Armenia and the Armenian Apostolic Holy Church may be regulated by the law.
- **ARTICLE 10:** The state shall ensure the protection and reproduction of the environment and the reasonable utilization of natural resources.
- **ARTICLE 11:** Historical and cultural monuments and other cultural values are under the care and protection of the state. Within the framework of the principles and norms of the international law the Republic of Armenia shall contribute to fostering relations with the Armenian Diaspora, protecting the Armenian historical and cultural values located in other countries, advancing the Armenian education and culture.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINEUD

- **ARTICLE 11.2:** The Republic of Armenia guarantees the local self-governance.
- **CHAPTER 2: FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN & CIVIL RIGHTS & FREEDOMS:**
- **ARTICLE 14:** Human dignity shall be respected and protected by the state as an inviolable foundation of human rights and freedoms.
- **ARTICLE 14.1:** Everyone shall be equal before the law. Any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, color, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or other personal or social circumstances shall be prohibited.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 15:** Everyone shall have a right to life. No one shall be condemned to the death penalty or executed.
- **ARTICLE 16:** Everyone shall have a right to liberty and security. A person can be deprived of or restricted in his/her liberty by the procedure defined by law and only in the following cases: 1) a person is sentenced for committing a crime by the competent court; 2) a person has not executed a legitimate judicial act; 3) to ensure the fulfillment of certain responsibilities prescribed by the law; 4) when reasonable suspicion exists of commission of a crime or when it is necessary to prevent the commission of a crime by a person or to prevent his/her escape after the crime has been committed; 5) to establish educational control over a minor or to present him/her to the competent body; 6) to prevent the spread of infectious diseases and other social dangers posed by mental patients, persons addicted to alcohol and drugs, as well as vagrants; 7) to prevent the unauthorized entry of a person into the Republic of Armenia, as well as to deport or extradite him/her to a foreign country. Everyone who is deprived of his/her freedom shall in a language comprehensible to him/her immediately be informed of the reasons for this and of an indictment should such be brought against him/her. Everyone who is deprived of his/her freedom shall have a right to immediately notify this to any person chosen by him/her. If the arrested person is not detained within 72 hours by the court decision he/she must be released immediately. Every person shall have the right to recover damages in case when he/she has illegally been deprived of freedom or subjected to search on the grounds and by the procedure defined by the law. Every person shall have the right to appeal to a higher instance court against the lawfulness and reasons for depriving him/her of freedom or subjecting to search. No one shall be deprived of freedom for not honoring his/her civil and legal obligations. No one shall be subjected to search otherwise than in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the law.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 17:** No one shall be subjected to torture, as well as to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Arrested, detained or incarcerated persons shall be entitled to human treatment and respect of dignity. No one shall be subjected to scientific, medical and other experiments without his/her consent.
- **ARTICLE 18:** Everyone shall be entitled to effective legal remedies to protect his/her rights and freedoms before judicial as well as other public bodies. Everyone shall have a right to protect his/her rights and freedoms by any means not prohibited by the law. Everyone shall be entitled to have the support of the Human Rights' Defender for the protection of his/her rights and freedoms on the grounds and in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law. Everyone shall in conformity with the international treaties of the Republic of Armenia be entitled to apply to the international institutions protecting human rights and freedoms with a request to protect his/her rights and freedoms.
- **ARTICLE 19:** Everyone shall have a right to restore his/her violated rights, and to reveal the grounds of the charge against him/her in a fair public hearing under the equal protection of the law and fulfilling all the demands of justice by an independent and impartial court within a reasonable time". The representatives of the mass media and the public may be excluded from all or part of the trial in the interests of morals, public order, national security, protection of the private life of the participants, or if the administration of justice so require.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 20:** Everyone shall be entitled to legal assistance. In cases prescribed by the law the legal assistance shall be provided at the expense of the state resources. Everyone shall have a right to the assistance of a legal defender chosen by him/her starting from the moment of his/her arrest, subjection to a security measure or indictment. Every convicted person shall have the right to review of the judgment passed on him/her by a higher instance court in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the law. Every convicted person shall have a right to request pardon or mitigation of the punishment. All damages incurred by the victim shall be compensated in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the law.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 21:** Everyone charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty by the court judgment lawfully entered into force as prescribed by law. The defendant shall not be obliged to prove his/her innocence. The remaining suspicions shall be interpreted in favor of the defendant.
- **ARTICLE 22:** No one shall be obliged to testify about himself/herself, his/her spouse or close relatives. The law may prescribe other cases of release from the obligation to testify. The use of illegally obtained evidence is prohibited. Imposing of a heavier punishment than the one prescribed by the law in effect at the time when the crime was committed shall be prohibited. No one shall be held guilty for a crime on account of any act which did not constitute a crime under the law in effect at the time when it was committed. The law eliminating or mitigating the punishment for the offence shall be retroactive. The law prescribing or increasing liability shall not be retroactive. No one shall be tried twice for one and the same act.
- **ARTICLE 23:** Everyone shall have the right to respect for his private and family life. The collection, maintenance, use or dissemination of any information about the person other than that stipulated by the law without the person's consent shall be prohibited. The use and dissemination of information relating to the person for purposes contravening the aims of their collection or not provided for by the law shall be prohibited. Everyone shall have the right to become acquainted with the data concerning him/her available in the state and local self-government bodies. Everyone shall have the right to correction of any non-verified information and elimination of the illegally obtained information about him/her. Everyone shall have the right to secrecy of correspondence, telephone conversations, mail, telegraph and other communications, which may be restricted only by court decision in cases and in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the law.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 25:** Everyone legally residing in the Republic Armenia shall have the right to freedom of movement and choice of residence in the territory of the Republic Armenia. Everyone shall have a right to leave the Republic of Armenia. Every citizen and everyone legally residing in the Republic of Armenia shall have the right to return to the Republic of Armenia.
- **ARTICLE 26:** Everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right includes freedom to change the religion or belief and freedom to, either alone or in community with others manifest the religion or belief, through preaching, church ceremonies and other religious rites. The exercise of this right may be restricted only by law in the interests of the public security, health, morality or the protection of rights and freedoms of others.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 27:** Everyone shall have the right to freely express his/her opinion. No one shall be forced to recede or change his/her opinion. Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression including freedom to search for, receive and impart information and ideas by any means of information regardless of the state frontiers. Freedom of mass media and other means of mass information shall be guaranteed. The state shall guarantee the existence and activities of an independent and public radio and television service offering a variety of informational, cultural and entertaining programs.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 28:** Everyone shall have the right to freedom of association with others, including the right to form and to join trade unions. Every citizen shall have a right to form political parties with other citizens and join such parties. The rights to form parties and trade unions and join them may be restricted in a manner prescribed by law for the employees in the armed forces, police, national security, prosecutor's office, as well as judges and members of the Constitutional Court. No one shall be compelled to join any political party or association. The activities of associations can be suspended or prohibited only through judicial procedure and in cases prescribed by the law.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 29:** Everyone shall have the right to freedom of peaceful and unarmed assembly. Restrictions on exercising these rights by the employees in the armed forces, police, national security, prosecutor's office, bodies as well as judges and members of the Constitutional Court may be prescribed only by the law.
- **ARTICLE 30:** Eighteen-year old citizens of the Republic of Armenia have the right to take part in the elections and referenda as well as the right to take part in the public administration and local self-governance through their representatives chosen directly and through the expression of free will. The law may define the right of suffrage for the elections of the bodies of local self-government and for the local referenda for persons who are not citizens of the Republic of Armenia. Citizens found to be incompetent by a court decision, duly sentenced to prison or serving the sentence, shall not be entitled to vote or be elected.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 30.1:** A child born of citizens of the Republic of Armenia, shall be a citizen of the Republic of Armenia. Every child whose one parent a citizen of the Republic of Armenia, shall have the right to citizenship of the Republic of Armenia. The procedure for being granted or terminating the citizenship of the Republic of Armenia shall be defined by the law. No person may be deprived of citizenship of the Republic of Armenia, or the right to change citizenship. A citizen of the Republic of Armenia may not be extradited to a foreign state save for cases stipulated in the international treaties ratified by the Republic of Armenia. The rights and responsibilities of the persons having dual citizenship shall be defined by the law.
- **Article 30.2 :** All citizens shall have the right to equal access to public service in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the law. The principles of and the procedure for the organizational aspects of public service shall be defined by law.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINEUD

- **ARTICLE 31:** Everyone shall have the right to freely own, use, dispose of and bequeath the property belonging to him/her. The right to property shall not be exercised to cause damage to the environment or infringe on the rights and lawful interests of other persons, the society and the state. No one shall be deprived of property except for cases prescribed by law in conformity with the judicial procedure. The private property may be alienated for the needs of the society and the state only in exclusive cases of prevailing public interests, in the manner prescribed by the law and with prior equivalent compensation. Foreign citizens and non-citizens shall not enjoy the right to land ownership except for cases prescribed by the law. The intellectual property shall be protected by the law.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 32:** Everyone shall have the freedom to choose his/her occupation. Everyone shall have the right to fair remuneration in the amount no less than the minimum set by the law, as well as the right to working conditions in compliance with the safety and hygiene requirements. The employees shall have the right to strike for the protection of their economic, social and employment interests, the procedure and limitations thereof shall be prescribed by the law. The children under the age of 16 shall not be allowed to work full time. The procedure and conditions for their hiring to a part-time job shall be defined by the law. Compulsory employment shall be prohibited.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 33.2:** Everyone shall have the right to live in an environment favorable to his/her health and well-being and shall be obliged to protect and improve it in person or jointly with others. The public officials shall be held responsible for hiding information on environmental issues and denying access to it.
- **ARTICLE 35:** The family is the natural and fundamental cell of the society. Men and women of marriageable age have the right to marry and found a family according to their free will. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and divorce. Dismissal for reasons connected with maternity is prohibited. Everyone woman-employee shall, in case of pregnancy and childbirth, have the right to paid maternity leave and parental leave following the birth or adoption of a child.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 38:** Everyone shall have the right to benefit from medical aid and service under the conditions prescribed by the law. Everyone shall have the right to free of charge benefit from basic medical aid and services. The list and the procedure of the services shall be prescribed by the law.
- **ARTICLE 39:** Everyone shall have a right to education. Basic general education shall be compulsory except the cases prescribed by law. The law may establish a higher level of compulsory education. The secondary education in state educational institutions is free of charge. The law shall define the principles of autonomy in higher educational institutions. The procedures for establishing and operations of educational institutions shall be defined by the law. All citizens shall have the right to free higher and professional education in state higher and other professional educational institutions on the basis of competition as prescribed by the law. In cases and in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law the state shall provide financial and other assistance to institutions conducting higher and other professional education programs, as well as their students.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 40:** Everyone shall have the right to freedom of literary, aesthetic, scientific and technical creation, to make use of the scientific advancement and to participate in the cultural life of the society.
- **ARTICLE 45:** Everyone shall be obliged to pay taxes, duties and other compulsory fees in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the law.
- **CHAPTER 3: THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 50:** The President of the Republic shall be elected by the citizens of the Republic of Armenia for a five year term of office. Every person having attained the age of thirty five, having been a citizen of the Republic of Armenia for the preceding ten years, having permanently resided in the Republic for the preceding ten years, and having the right to vote is eligible to be elected as President of the Republic. The same person may not be elected for the post of the President of the Republic for more than two consecutive terms.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 51:** The election of the President of the Republic shall be held fifty days prior to the expiration of his/her term of office in conformity with the procedure defined by the Constitution and the law. The candidate who has received more than half of the votes shall be elected President of the Republic. If the election involves more than two candidates and none of them receives the required number of votes a second round of election shall be held on the fourteenth day following the voting. The two candidates having received the highest number of votes may participate in the second round of election of the President of the Republic. In the second round the candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected President of the Republic. If only one candidate runs for the election, he/she shall be elected if he/she receives more than half of the votes of electors participated in the polls. If the Constitutional Court admits a case on the results of presidential elections, it must render a decision within ten days following the receipt of the application, and the terms defined in this article shall be calculated starting from the moment the court decision comes into force. If the President of the Republic is not elected, a new election shall be appointed and the voting shall be held on the fortieth day following the date of appointment of the new election. The President of the Republic shall take office on the day when the term of office of the previous President expires. The President of the Republic elected by new or extraordinary elections shall take office on the twentieth day following the elections.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 52:** Should one of the presidential candidates face insurmountable obstacles, the election of the President of the Republic shall be postponed for two weeks. In the event that the obstacles recognized as insurmountable are not eliminated within the aforementioned period of time a new election shall be appointed and the voting shall be held on the fortieth day following the expiration of the two-week's period. In case of the death of one of the candidates before the day of voting a new election shall be appointed and the voting shall be held on the fortieth day following the date of appointment of the new election.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **CHAPTER 4: THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**
- **ARTICLE 62:** Legislative power in the Republic of Armenia shall be vested in the National Assembly. In cases stipulated in Clauses 13 and 14 of Article 55, Articles 57, 59, part 2 of this Article, 66, 67, 69, 73, 74, 74.1, 75, 77, 79, part 2 of Article 80, 81, 83, 83.1, 83.2, 83.3, 83.4, 84, 94.1, Clause 2 of Article 101, 103, 111 and 112 as well as on matters related to the organization of its activities the National Assembly shall adopt resolutions, which shall be signed and promulgated by the Chairman of the National Assembly. The National Assembly shall make addresses and announcements in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the Law on the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly. The powers of the National Assembly shall be defined by the Constitution. The procedure of the activities of the National Assembly, as well as the formation and activities of its bodies shall be defined by the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly.
- **ARTICLE 63:** The National Assembly shall consist of one hundred and thirty one deputies. The National Assembly is elected for a term of five years. Its term of office shall begin at the moment when the newly elected National Assembly convenes for its first sitting. The term of office of the National Assembly shall expire at the moment of opening of the first sitting of the newly elected National Assembly. The National Assembly may not be dissolved during the of state of martial law and state of emergency as well as in the event a motion on impeaching the President of Republic is put forward. In the course of martial law or state of emergency elections to the National Assembly may not be held and the term of office of the National Assembly shall be extended until the opening of the first session of the newly elected National Assembly following the end of the martial law and state of emergency. In this case the election to the National Assembly shall be held no sooner, than fifty and no later than sixty days after the state of emergency or martial law is abolished.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 64:** Any person having attained the age of twenty five, having been a citizen of the Republic of Armenia for the preceding five years, having permanently resided in the Republic for the preceding five years, and having the right to vote, may be elected a Deputy.
- **ARTICLE 65:** A Deputy may not be engaged in entrepreneurial activities, hold an office in state and local self-government bodies or in commercial organizations, as well as engage in any other paid occupation, except for scientific, educational and creative work. A Deputy shall discharge his/her responsibilities on a permanent basis. The status and guarantees of the activity of a Deputy shall be defined by the Constitution and law.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 66:** A Deputy shall not be bound by an imperative mandate and shall be guided by his or her conscience and convictions. A Deputy, during and after the term of his/her parliamentary powers, may not be prosecuted and held liable for actions arising from his/her status, including the opinions expressed by him/her in the National Assembly, provided these are not insulting or defamatory. A Deputy may not be involved as an accused, detained or subjected to administrative liability through a judicial procedure without the consent of the National Assembly. A Deputy may not be arrested without the consent of the National Assembly except for cases when he/she is arrested when caught in the act. In such a case the Chairman of the National Assembly shall be immediately notified.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 68:** Regular elections to the National Assembly shall be held no sooner than forty and no later than thirty days prior to the expiration of the term of the National Assembly. The extraordinary elections of the National Assembly shall be held no sooner than thirty and no later than forty days after the dissolution of the National Assembly. The date of elections to the National Assembly shall be appointed by a Presidential decree. The first session of a newly elected National Assembly shall convene on the third Thursday following the election of at least two thirds of the total number of Deputies. The first session of a newly elected National Assembly shall convene on the third Thursday following the election of at least two thirds of the total number of Deputies. In case of an extraordinary election the first session of the newly elected National Assembly shall convene on the second Thursday following the election of at least two thirds of the total number of Deputies.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 72:** Should the National Assembly decline to accept the recommendations and objections presented by the President of the Republic, it shall pass the remanded law, again with a majority vote of the number of Deputies. The National Assembly shall deliberate on a priority basis any law, which has been remanded by the President.
- **ARTICLE 76:** The National Assembly shall adopt the state budget upon its submission by the Government. If the budget is not adopted by the start of the fiscal year, all expenditures shall be incurred in the same proportions as in the previous year's budget. The procedure for debate on and adoption of the state budget shall be prescribed by the Law on the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA

CONTINUEUD

- **ARTICLE 77:** The National Assembly shall oversee the implementation of the state budget, as well as the use of loans and credits received from foreign governments and international organizations. The National Assembly shall examine the annual report on the execution of the state budget and adopt the report based on the findings of the Control Chamber.
- **CHAPTER 5: THE GOVERNMENT:**

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 90:** The Government shall submit the draft of the state budget to the National Assembly at least ninety days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year and may request that this draft be voted on prior to the expiration of the budget deadline with any amendments it may adopt. The Government may put forward a motion of its confidence in conjunction with the adoption of the state budget. If the National Assembly does not express no confidence in the Government in conformity with the procedure set forth in Article 75 of the Constitution, then the state budget as well as the amendments approved by the Government shall be considered adopted. If the National Assembly expresses no confidence in the Government in conjunction to the draft of the state budget, the new Government shall submit the draft state budget to the National Assembly within a period of ten days after the approval of its program. This draft shall be debated and voted on by the National Assembly within a period of thirty days in accordance with the procedure defined by this Article.
- **CHAPTER 6: THE JUDICIAL POWER:**
- **ARTICLE 91:** In the Republic of Armenia justice shall be administered solely by the courts in accordance with the Constitution and the laws. The final acts of the court shall be adopted in the name of the Republic of Armenia.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **ARTICLE 92:** The courts operating in the Republic of Armenia are the first instance court of general jurisdiction, the courts of appeal, the Court of Cassation, as well as specialized courts in cases prescribed by the law. The highest court instance in the Republic of Armenia, except for matters of constitutional justice, is the Court of Cassation, which shall ensure uniformity in the implementation of the law. The powers of the Court of Cassation shall be defined by the Constitution and the law. Establishing emergency tribunals shall be forbidden.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- **CHAPTER 7: THE LOCAL-SELF GOVERNMENT:**
- **ARTICLE 104:** The local self-government shall be exercised in the communities. The local self-governance is the right and power of the community to resolve on its own responsibility issues of local significance aimed at the welfare of the inhabitants in accordance with the Constitution and the law.
- **ARTICLE 104.1:** A community comprises the populace of one or more residential areas. A community shall be a legal entity, have the right to property and other economic rights.
- **ARTICLE 105:** The powers of the community pertaining to managing and administering the community's property, resolving issues of community significance, and other powers aimed at fulfilling the requirements of the community shall be exercised by the community in its own name and under its responsibility. A certain part of community's authorities may by law be deemed obligatory. In order to secure more effective exercise of the power of state bodies the law may envisage the delegation thereof to the local self-government bodies.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINEUD

- **ARTICLE 105.1:** The land in the administrative territory of the community with the exception of the land necessary for state needs and those belonging to natural persons and legal entities shall be deemed property of the community.
- **ARTICLE 106:** The community shall generate its budget independently. The law shall define the sources of the community revenues. The law shall define the sources of community finances that will secure the discharge of their responsibilities. Responsibilities delegated to the communities shall be funded from the state budget. The communities shall establish local taxes and duties within the scope defined by law. The communities can set forth fees for their services.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA CONTINEUD

- **ARTICLE 107:** The community shall exercise its right of self-government through the bodies of local self-government – the Council of Aldermen and the Head of Community, who shall be elected for a four-year term of office in conformity with the procedure defined by law. The Council of Aldermen of the community shall in conformity with the procedure defined by the law manage the community property, approve the community budget upon the submission of the Head of Community, oversee the community budget execution, envisage local taxes, duties and fees in conformity with the procedure defined by the law and adopt legal acts subject to observance in the territory of the community. The acts adopted by the community Council of Aldermen shall not contradict the legislation; the law shall define the procedure for their publication and coming into force. The law shall define the powers of the Head of Community and the procedure for the exercise thereof. The community members may directly take part in the administration of the community affairs by resolving the issues of local significance through local referenda. The law shall define the procedure for conducting a local referendum.

CONSTITUTION OF ARMENIA

COTNIENUED

- **ARTICLE 110:** The communities may, based on the interests of the public, be merged with each other or separated by the law. The appropriate law shall be adopted by the National Assembly upon the recommendation of the Government. Before submitting the legislative initiative the Government shall appoint local referenda in those communities. The outcomes of the local referenda shall be attached to the legislative initiative. The communities may be merged or separated irrespective of the outcomes of the local referenda. The law shall define the principles and procedure for consolidation or separation of the communities as well as the terms for the election of local self-government bodies of the newly formed communities.

ARMENIAN AMBASSADOR/EMBASSY IN THE US



- **AMBASSADOR:** H.E. Mr. Tigran Sargsyan
- **EMBASSY ADDRESS:** 2225 R Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008 USA

- **EMBASSY WEBSITE:** <http://www.usa.mfa.am/en/>
- **EMBASSY EMAIL:** contact@armembassy.org
- **EMBASSY PHONE:** +1 (202) 319 1976





AMERICAN AMBASSADOR/EMBASSY IN ARMENIA

- **AMBASSADOR:** Richard M. Mills Jr.
- **EMBASSY ADDRESS:** 1 American Avenue
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- **EMBASSY WEBSITE:** <http://armenia.usembassy.gov/>
- **EMBASSY EMAIL:** ConsYerevan@state.gov
- **EMBASSY PHONE:** (+37410) 464-700



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LEGAL RIGHTS UNDER THE UN

- **UN UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS:**
- **ARTICLE 1:** All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.
- **ARTICLE 3:** Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.
- **ARTICLE 4:** No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.
- **ARTICLE 5:** No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- **ARTICLE 7:** All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.
- **ARTICLE 8:** Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.

LEGAL RIGHTS UNDER THE UN

- **ARTICLE 9:** No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.
- **ARTICLE 10:** Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.
- **ARTICLE 11: Part1.** Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defence.
- **PART 2:** No one shall be held guilty of any penal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a penal offence, under national or international law, at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the penal offence was committed.
- **ARTICLE 13: 1.** Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.
- **2.** Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

LEGAL RIGHTS UNDER THE UN

- **ARTICLE 17: Section 2: No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.**
- **ARTICLE 19: Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.**
- **ARTICLE 26: Section I: Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.**
- **Section II: Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.**
- **Section III: Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.**

LEGAL RIGHTS UNDER THE UN

- **ARTICLE 27: SECTION I:** Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.
- **SECTION 2:** Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.



LEGAL RIGHTS UNDER THE EU

- EU Charter: Title 1 Article 2: Right to Life: “No one shall be condemned to the Death Penalty or Executed.”
- EU Charter: Title 1: Article 4: Prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment : “No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.”
- EU Charter: Title 2: Article 10: Freedom of thought, conscience and religion: 1. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right includes freedom to change religion or belief and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or in private, to manifest religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance. 2. The right to conscientious objection is recognized, in accordance with the national laws governing the exercise of this right.



LEGAL RIGHTS UNDER THE EU

- EU Charter: Title 2: Article 11: Freedom of Expression and Information: 1: “Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers.”
- EU Charter: Title 2: Article 13: Freedom of the Arts and Sciences: “The arts and scientific research shall be free of constraint. Academic freedom shall be respected.”
- EU Charter: Title 3: Article 20: Equality before the Law: “Everyone is equal before the law.”
- EU Charter: Title 5: Citizens Rights: Article 41: Right to good Administrations: “4. Every person may write to the institutions of the Union in one of the languages of the Treaties and must have an answer in the same language.



LEGAL RIGHTS UNDER THE EU

- EU Charter of Fundamental Rights: Title VI: Article 47: Right to an effective remedy and to a fair Trial: “Everyone whose rights and freedoms guaranteed by the law of the Union are violated has the right to an effective remedy before a tribunal in compliance with the conditions laid down in this Article. Everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal previously established by law. Everyone shall have the possibility of being advised, defended and represented. Legal aid shall be made available to those who lack sufficient resources in so far as such aid is necessary to ensure effective access to justice”
- EU Charter of Fundamental Rights: Title VI: Article 48: Presumption of Innocence and Right to Defense: “1. Everyone who has been charged shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law.”
- EU Charter of Fundamental Rights: Title VI: Article 50: Right not to be tried or punished twice in criminal proceedings for the same criminal offence: “No one shall be liable to be tried or punished again in criminal proceedings for an offence for which he or she has already been finally acquitted or convicted within the Union in accordance with the law. “

POLITICAL PARTIES OF ARMENIA

- 1: ANC: <http://www.anc.am/>
- 2: ARF: <http://www.arfd.info/>
- 3: Country/Rule of Law: <http://www.oek.am/>
- 4: Heritage: <http://www.heritage.am/en>
- 5: Prosperous Armenia: <http://www.bhk.am/>
- 6: Republican Party: <http://www.hhk.am/en/>
- 7: Social Democratic Hnchakyan Party:
<http://www.hunchak.org/about.php>



BRANDY OF ARMENIA

- [Ararat 20 Year Old Nairi Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Ararat 5 Years Old Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Ararat 10 Year Old Akhtamar Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Armenian Dragon Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Diamond X.O. Armenian Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Mane X.O. Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Armenian Horse Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Kilikia X.O. Aged 10 Years Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Proshyan Brandy Factory Royal Pomegranate Semi Sweet Red Wine, Armenia](#)
 - [Noy Araspel 5 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Ararat 15 Year Old Donakan-Prazdnichny Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Aratta X.O. 12 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Saint Grigor 50 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Noy Tirakal 25 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)
 - [Ararat 3 Years Old Brandy, Armenia](#)
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BRANDY OF ARMENIA CONTINUED

- [Mane V.S.O.P. Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Ararat 7 Year Old Otborny Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Saint Grigor 30 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Armenian Cobra Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Zoravar Seven Star Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Armenian Bull Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Tigran The Great 40 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Sheram V.S.O.P. Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Vivat Apricot Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Noy Classic 20 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Armenian Fish Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Noy Classic 10 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Ararat 6 Year Old Ani Brandy, Armenia](#)
- [Noy Classic 7 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)

[Vivat 10 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)

[Noy Classic 15 Year Old Brandy,](#)

[Armenia](#)

[Avshar 3 Star Brandy, Armenia](#)

[Armenac 18 Year Old Brandy, Armenia](#)

[Sheram X.O. Brandy, Armenia](#)

[Armenian Pistol Brandy, Armenia](#)

[Armenian Monkey Brandy, Armenia](#)

[Mane V.S. Brandy, Armenia](#)

[Armenian Shoe Brandy, Armenia](#)

[Armenian Rifle Brandy, Armenia](#)

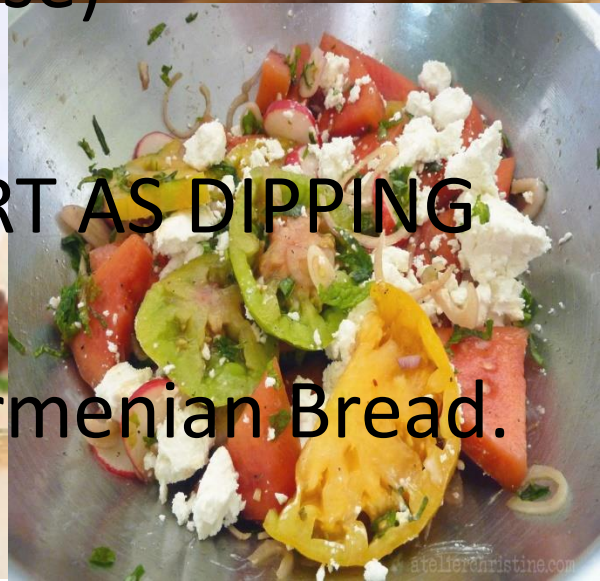
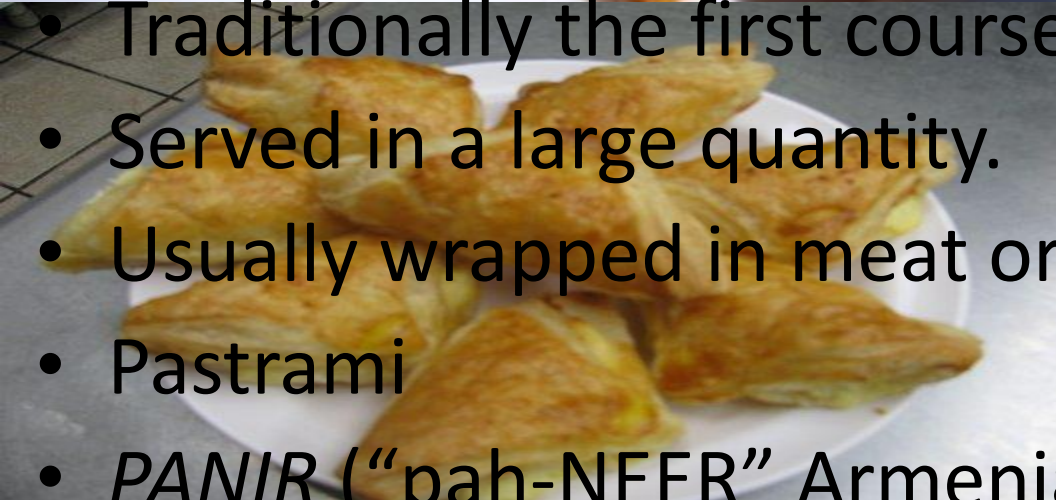
[ArArAt Dvin Brandy, Armenia](#)

[Boxing Glove Brandy, Armenia](#)



APPETIZERS (KHORTIK "khohr-TEEK") OF ARMENIA

- Traditionally the first course.
- Served in a large quantity.
- Usually wrapped in meat or fish.
- Pastrami
- *PANIR* ("pah-NEER" Armenian cheese)
- EGGPLANT
- MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF YOGURT AS DIPPING SAUCE.
- *LAVASH* (lah-VAHSH): Traditional Armenian Bread.



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- <http://www.tacentral.com/dining.asp>

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