



**HRANT DİNK VAKFI**  
**HRANT DINK FOUNDATION**  
**ՀՐԱՆԴ ՏԻՆԷ ՀԻՄՆԱՐԿ**

 **HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG**  
**DERNEĞİ TÜRKİYE TEMSİLCİLİĞİ**

Let's pin down the headline  
at the neighbour's!

Turkey-Armenia Journalists' Dialogue Programme  
Turkey 2012

# Let's pin down the headline at the neighbour's!

## Turkey-Armenia Journalists' Dialogue Programme

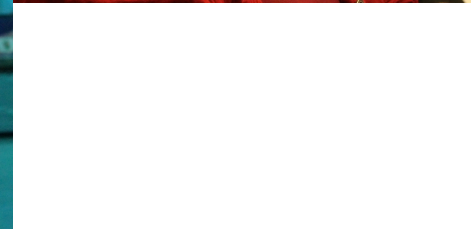
- Since **2009**, in cooperation with **Heinrich Böll Stiftung Turkey Office, Hrant Dink Foundation** has been implementing this programme with a view to strengthen ties between journalists from Turkey and Armenia and to contribute to the establishment of direct and accurate channels of communication and news reporting across the two countries.
- In the 4th year of the programme, a group of **7 journalists** from Armenia visited **Istanbul, Turkey** from **November 12th to November 18th, 2012**.
- Participating journalists had special interest in social issues, human rights issues and use of social media.
- Journalists from **Civilnet, Internews, Journalists for the Future, Lragir, Radio Liberty, Tert, Yerkir Media** paid their first visits to Turkey, met their colleagues and received first-hand information about Turkey as well as the current situation of media and journalists in the country.

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Turkey-Armenia Journalists' Dialogue Programme

## **2012 Turkey, Programme Participants:**

- Gayane Avetisyan – Yerkir Media
- Gayane Mirzoyan – Journalists for the Future
- Gegham Vardanyan – Internews Armenia
- Karen Harutyunyan - Civilnet
- Karine Ionesyan – Lragir
- Naira Bulghadaryan – Radio Liberty
- Sasun Khachatryan – Tert





# Let's pin down the headline at the neighbour's!

Turkey-Armenia Journalists' Dialogue Programme

## Individuals and Organisations Visited

12-18 November 2012

- AGOS, Rober Koptaş, Pakrat Estukyan
- Hrant Dink Foundation Melisa Akan, Nora Mildanoğlu
- Center for Truth, Justice and Memory, Emrah Gürsel
- Anadolu Kültür, Osman Kavala, Ciğdem Mater
- Today's Zaman, Mustafa Edib Yılmaz, Şule Yılmaz, Lamiya Adil Guliyeva
- T24, Aydın Engin
- Bianet, Nadire Mater
- Aras Publishing, Payline & Yetvart Tomasyan
- Heinrich Böll Stiftung Turkey Office - Ulrike Dufner, Yonca Verdioğlu, Özgür Gürbüz
- Radikal, Fehim Taştekin
- Hürriyet Daily News, Barçın Yinanç, Vercihan Ziflioğlu

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Turkey-Armenia Journalists' Dialogue Programme

## Individuals and Organisations Visited

12-18 November 2012

- CNN Türk, Hande Aşık
- Journalists and Writers Foundation, Cemal Uşak, Erkam Tufan Aytav
- Gedikpaşa Armenian Evangelical Church, Krikor Ağabaloğlu
- Peace and Democracy Party – BDP, Özgür Sevgi Göral
- Republican People's Party – CHP, Şafak Pavay
- NTV, Can Ertuna, Mete Çubukçu, Fehmi Gürdallı, Kürşat Özmen
- Helsinki Citizens Assembly, Emel Kurma, Yetvart Danzikyan, Hakan Ataman
- Nor Radyo, Armenian Culture and Solidarity Association, Sayat Tekir
- Human Rights Association, Ayşe Günaysu
- 140 Journos, Engin Önder
- Ahmet Şık, Pınar Öğünç, Oral Çalışlar, Cengiz Çandar

# Let's pin down the headline at the neighbour's!

## Turkey-Armenia Journalists' Dialogue Programme

- Throughout the programme, the participants visited **more than 30 individuals and organisations** including press and media agencies, politicians, academics and non governmental organisations.
- The journalists entered the newsrooms of news agencies and media outlets such as Bianet, CNN Türk, Hürriyet Daily News, NTV, Radikal, T24, Today's Zaman and Yeni Şafak and had the chance to meet with their colleagues and discuss the bilateral relations and political atmosphere and problems in Turkey.
- Apart from official meetings, the participants had discussions over informal lunches with some of the guest speakers.
- They paid visits to Anadolu Kültür, Heinrich Böll Stiftung, and Journalists and Writers Foundation and got informed about the civil society projects in Turkey.

# Let's pin down the headline at the neighbour's!

## Turkey-Armenia Journalists' Dialogue Programme

- Within the one-week programme the group also visited the Agos newspaper, Hrant Dink Foundation, Aras Publishing, Nor Radyo and Gedikpaşa Armenian Evangelical Church and received information about the Armenians in Turkey.
- To get a deeper insight into a political and human rights developments in Turkey participants met with representatives of Peace and Democracy Party (BDP), Republican People's Party (CHP), Helsinki Citizens' Assembly, Human Rights Association and 140 Journos.
- They met in person with Cengiz Çandar, Oral Çalışlar, Ahmet Şık, Pınar Öğünç, Çiğdem Mater and received in-depth information about various issues on Turkey's agenda.
- The group also witnessed the demonstration of Cumartesi Anneleri, the mothers of thousands of disappeared persons in Turkey since 1990s.



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Turkey-Armenia Journalists' Dialogue Programme

- After the programme, **15 columns and news articles** were published in the online media in azatutyun.am, civilnet.am, iragir.am and tert.am.
- Apart from the news articles, there were **short videos and audio reports** published on the azatutyun.am website. <http://www.azatutyun.am/media/video/24775350.html>
- Yerkir Media journalist Gayane Avetisyan hosted a **TV programme**.
- Other than the news covered in the print and broadcast media, the programme participants Karine Ionesyan, Karen Harutyunyan, Sasun Khachatryan actively used the **social media** during the programme and shared their impressions and thoughts about Turkey with their friends and followers.

# «Ակոս»-ի խմբագիրը կարեւորում է թուրք ժողովրդի հետ հայության երկխոսությունը

Հայությունը պետք է զանազանի թուրքական պետությունը եւ ժողովուրդը, ասում է Ռոբեր Բոփթաշը:

Տպել Նշարկել Մեկնաբանություն Փոխանցել



«Ակոս»-ի խմբագրապետ Ռոբեր Բոփթաշը հայաստանցի լրագրողների հետ հանդիպման ժամանակ, Ստամբուլ, 15-ը նոյեմբերի, 2012թ.

Նաիրա Բուլղադարյան

ՏԵՔՍՏ ԶԱՓԸ - +

Հրապարակված է՝ 15.11.2012

Naira Bulghadaryan

Azatutyun.am

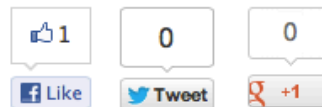
15/11/2012

*The Editor-in-Chief of Agos attaches importance to dialogue between Armenians and Turks.*

*Armenians should make a distinction between the Turkish government and people of Turkey, says Rober Koptaş.*

## Կամ Թուրքիան կլուծի քրդական խնդիրը կամ քրդերը՝ Թուրքիայի. թուրք լրագրող

Երկուշաբթի, 26 նոյեմբեր, 2012 - 17:15 | Սիվիլնեթ  
Բաժիններ՝ ԹՈՒՐԵԿԻԱ, ԼՐԱԳՈՍ, ՀԱՐԵՎԱՆՆԵՐ



Մերձավոր Արևելքում սահմանները փոփոխվելու են, Թուրքիայի սահմաններն էլ ներառյալ, հայտարարել է Radikal թերթի լրագրող Ջենքիզ Չանդարը, հաղորդում է «Ակօսը»:

«Կամ Թուրքիան կլուծի քրդական խնդիրը կամ քրդերը՝ Թուրքիայի...», - ասել է Չանդարը:

Անդրադառնալով Զրդստանի աշխատավորական կուսակցության հիմնադիր, Իմրալը կղզում բանտարկված Աբդուլլահ Օջալանի հետագա ճակատագրին՝ Ջենքիզ Չանդարն

ասել է, որ լավ կլիներ, եթե Օջալանին և Թուրքիայի վարչապետ Էրդողանին միասին տեսներ Թուրքիայի Ազգային մեծ ժողովում, ինչը սակայն իրատեսական չէ:

Karen Harutyunyan

Civilnet.am  
26/11/2012

*Either Turkey will solve the Kurdish Issue or the Kurds will 'solve' Turkey's.*

## ARMENIA



**Firework in Yerevan's Avan district as vote count begins (video)**

"The team is in a festive mood. I think they are appreciating their work ...

## REGION



**Saakashvili has no security guarantees – Georgian Dream**

"Nobody - whether a president or any other official - can have a safeguard if he has committed a crime ...



## PRESS DIGEST



**Haykakan Zhamanak: Gabala radar rent issue makes Russian-Azerbaijan relations tensed**

The 10-year rent contract expires in December and for prolonging it Baku demands 300 million USD annually

instead of 7 million which Moscow considers inadmissible...

## WORLD



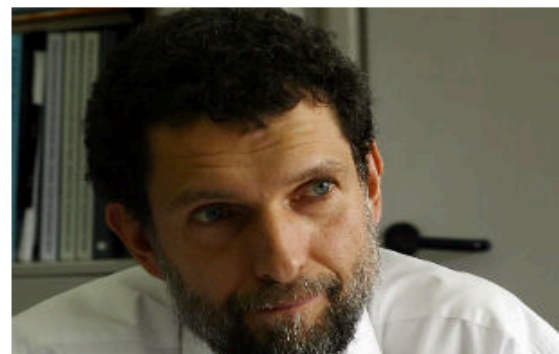
**UN's Ban Ki-moon warns Israel of 'fatal blow' to peace**

Israel authorised 3,000 additional housing units a day after the UN voted to upgrade Palestinian status...

# Turkey has most part of responsibility for failure of Turkey-Armenia Protocols, says Turkish intellectual

09:45 • 16.11.12

f Like 0
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Sasun Khachatryan

Tert.am  
16/11/2012

*Osman Kavala is the Chair of Board of Anadolu Kulture which is a non-profit company based in Istanbul. The mission of Anadolu Kulture is to build bridges among different ethnic, religious regional groups through cinema, literature, photography, contemporary art and music. Tert.am has interviewed Osman Kavala over the Armenian Genocide issue and the normalization of Armenia-Turkey relations.*

**When do you think the relations between Turkey and Armenia will normalize?**

I think this issue is not too much dependent on the historical problems. It seems at the moment the Karabakh conflict and Turkey's close economic relations with Azerbaijan are the dominant





Karine Ionesyan

Lragir.am  
25/11/2012

### **Kurdish issue: 30,000 victims in 28 years**

Every Saturday the twelve-year-old Kurdish boy Mert Aydoghan together with his grandmother comes to the most famous and crowded street in Istanbul – Istiklal. He comes here since 4 years old. On that day hundreds of Kurds organize a demonstration demanding from the Turkish government information on the whereabouts of their relatives who have been missing for years.

“I have a friend who is always coming to this demonstration. Of course, we could stay at home and play games but we understand that our relatives are more important because they are arrested, then they disappear and get killed,” says Aydoghan who wants to be an astronomer when he grows up.

# Armenian Genocide major cause of Turkey's problems – Turkish rights activist

13:04 • 18.11.12



3



3



+1



**The Armenian Genocide and its denial are a major cause of the problems Turkey faces today, says a Turkish human rights activist.**

Speaking to Tert.am, Ayse Gunaysu, a member of the Istanbul-based Human Rights Association, described denialism as a kind of curse upon the country and condemnation. She said Turkey hasn't seen peace ever since, with the bloodsheds going on and the Kurdish rebellions following one another. Gunaysu, who is also a columnist for the Armenian Weekly, noted that Turkey, has no real democracy, despite the military coups that occurred repeatedly.

The Turkish activist thinks the country has to find itself in the position of a loser to realize the importance of treating others well.



Sasun  
Khachatryan

Tert.am  
18/11/2012

# Թուրքիայում շարունակվում են քրդերի բողոքի ակցիաները

Տպել Ուղարկել Մեկնաբանություն

Փոխանցել

Նաիրա Բուղադարյան

Տեղեկություն

Հրապարակված է՝ 19.11.2012



Թաքսիմ հրապարակը Ստամբուլում:

**Առաջիկա շաբաթ օրն անցկացվելիք բողոքի ակցիան կլինի 400-րդը, որ կազմակերպվում են Թուրքիայի քրդերը Ստամբուլի կենտրոնում գտնվող Թաքսիմ հրապարակին հարող ճեմափողոցում:**

Քրդերն ասում են, որ 19 տարի շարունակ իրենք Նույն նպատակով հավաքվում են այստեղ՝ Թուրքիայի կառավարությունից պահանջելով հստակ ու սպառիչ պատասխան տալ 1990-2000 թվականներին անհետ կորած իրենց հարազատների վերաբերյալ:

Շուրջ մեկ ժամ գետնին նստած՝ կորած հարազատների նկարներով, կարմիր մեխակները ձեռքներին, նրանք կոչերով ու բողոքի ելույթներով դիմում են կառավարությանը:

Բողոքի ակցիային մասնակցող Հասան Կարակոչը հայաստանցի լրագրողներին պատմում է, որ այստեղ հավաքվելու են այնքան ժամանակ, մինչեւ

Naira  
Bulghadaryan

Azatutyun.am  
19/11/2012

*Kurdish people  
continue their  
protest in  
Turkey*

## Մուլտիմեդիա

### Աուդիո

- Թուրքիայում շարունակվում են քրդերի բողոքի ակցիաները

Լսել Ցուցակ



Sasun Khachatryan

Timeline

November



Ariadna Grigoryan shared a link.

November 17 near Istanbul, Turkey

**Ahmet Şık – Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia**  
en.wikipedia.org

Ahmet Şık (IPA: [ähmēt şuk]; b. 1970, Adana) is a Turkish investigative journalist, author of several books and a trade unionist.[1]

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Sasun Khachatryan was tagged in 3 photos in Arev Cholakian's album Turkey-Armenia Journalists' Dialogue Program. at Istanbul.

November 15



Like · Comment · Share



Գևորգ Սահակյան

November 16

Հուզիչ պատմություն էր: Հատկապես Գիթորի մասը: Հլը էս մանչուկներին նայեք: Ամբողջ մաքմնով փշաքաղվեցի: Էս ինչ ազգ ենք մենք էէէ...

Շնորհակալություն մեր **Sasun Khachatryan** –ին հիանալի լրագրողական աշխատանքի համար:

Հայաստանում ավելի լավ էր, ասում է Ստամբուլում ուսանող ներգաղթյալ հայ աշակերտը (լուսանկարներ)

<http://tert.am/am/news/2012/11/16/armenian-school/>

See Translation







Karen Harutyunyan shared a link.

November 16



Ստամբուլում եղա Հայաստանցի ներգաղթյալների դպրոցում:  
Այն ներգաղթյալների, որոնց էրդողանը ցանկանում էր  
առտաքսել: Այդպիսի կազմակերպված և լավ դպրոց անգամ  
չընկանում է ընտելացնել: Բայց ընդհանուր պատկերը մոռաց  
է, մեր երեխեքը նման են Գիքորների

[See Translation](#)



Հայաստանցի ներգաղթյալ  
աշակերտների դպրոցը Ստամբուլում  
մեծանում է  
[civilnet.am](http://civilnet.am)

Դպրոցի տնօրենը ցավում է, որ այս  
տարի առնվազն 20 աշակերտ է ընդունվել

Like · Comment · Share



1



3 people like this.



Write a comment...

Press Enter to post.

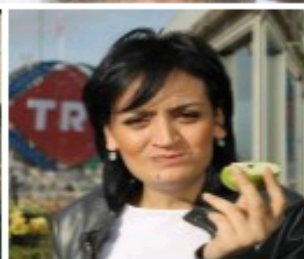
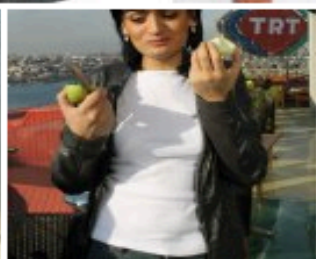
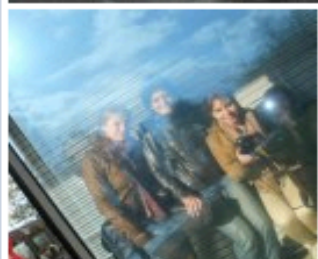
*I have been to migrant  
Armenian children's school  
in Istanbul.*

*Those migrants whom  
Erdoğan wanted to deport.  
It is difficult to find such a  
well-organised school even  
in Yerevan.*

*But the overall picture is  
sad, because our children  
are like 'Gikors'*



Gayane Avetisyan was tagged in 4 photos in Karine Ionesyan's album Untitled Album.  
November 24





Gayane Avetisyan Photos ▾

[Like](#) · [Comment](#)

21 people like this.

**Gegham Manukyan** Հրաշք են..... լուսանկարները: Իսկ հայերը.....November 15 at 11:40pm · [Like](#) · 2**Ojig Keoshgerian Kilejian** gayane jan shad lav ngarner en es al sevana lig jayer ngaradz em payts voch kez bes lavNovember 25 at 7:56pm · [Like](#) · 1

# Let's pin down the headline at the neighbour's!

Turkey-Armenia Journalists' Dialogue Programme

My attitude has always been realistic and the Turkey-Armenia relations is not an exception. The more I learn about Turkey the less chances I see for the two countries to normalize their relations officially due to some internal and external factors. However, there is something that gives hope: the civil society that shapes alternative views as opposed to the mainstream. Even these efforts look like some drops of water in a ocean, they are at least something and will hopefully make a difference in the foreseeable future.

**Sasun Khachatryan, Tert**



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The most useful thing I learned during this program was that Turkey is facing other and probably more urgent and day-to-day problems than the Armenian Genocide issue. This is a great program that allows us to meet with Turkish journalists, bloggers and columnists. I hope this will enlarge our network, and become a solid basis for future cooperation.

**Sasun Khachatryan, Tert**

The program was intense and provided us with broader perspective of domestic and human rights issues in Turkey. As a suggestion I would propose organizing meeting with the representatives of Armenian community in Istanbul, and if the program continues, it can have a positive and tangible effect given the absence of diplomatic relations between the countries.

**Naira Bulghadaryan, Liberty**

As a person who's been in Turkey for the first time I felt the urge to learn more about Turkish-Armenian relations, and Turkey in general. I found many cases of human rights violations, which are interesting to me as to a journalist, covering human rights issues.

**Karine Ionesyan, Lragir**

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The program improved my understanding of Turkish political discourse, which is not always very well understood in Armenia. I somehow discovered another Turkey which is different from what is depicted in the media.

**Karen Harutyunyan, Orakarg Daily, Civilnet**

After my trip to Istanbul, I have more questions than answers, which is I think good; because things are usually even more complicated than you think. It is a possibility, to speak, to discuss and argue with representatives of Turkish society and have your own impression from this country.

**Gayane Mirzoyan, Journalists for the Future**

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It's important to visit the country and see it with your own eyes and not only through media. It's important for journalists, who shape public opinion to visit the country and report on what they experience on the spot. The programme helped me to get to know journalists and social media activists from Turkey.

**Gegham Vardanyan, Internews**

For me the program was very interesting and well organized I believe this is a unique opportunity to visit so many media, outlets, see how they operate and ask sensitive questions in person. I think these kind of visits are very important for both sides to understand that we have many similarities.

**Gayane Avetisyan, Yerkir Media**

# Feedback from the Participants and Organisations Visited

- Allow more possibilities and time to speak with Armenian community in Istanbul and migrants from Armenia.
- It would be interesting to meet not only media people, but also academicians and researchers, preferably in their working setting for instance at a university.
- Meetings with state organizations and religious authorities will help to get the full picture of Turkey's current situation.



Let's pin down the headline at the neighbour's!