

AEGEE-Europe / European Students' Forum

April '14

#### **ARMENIA**

### Armenia did not participate in Eurasian Economic Suprem Council session

Armenia did not participate in Eurasian Economic Suprem Council since it does not form part from it. The Minister of Foregin Affairs of the Republic of Armenia Eduard Nalbadyan stated this during the conversation with the Government at the National Assembley.

http://armenpress.am/eng/news/760341/

#### **Yerevan Denies Recognizing Crimea Secession**

Armenia did not recognize Crimea's secession from Ukraine when it voted against a pro-Ukrainian resolution that was adopted by the UN General Assembly in March, a senior official insisted on Thursday.

http://www.azatutyun.am/content/article/25403570.html

#### The Armenian Predicament in Turkey

Archbishop Aram Atesyan, General Vicar (Acting Patriarch) of the Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople in an interview with CivilNet's Aline Ozinian, spoke about the various issues the Armenian community in Turkey confronts.

http://civilnet.am/archbishop-atesyan-acting-patriarch-istanbul-armenian-community/

### Chairman Royce Discusses Artsakh Peace and Security with NKR President

YEREVAN—House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce (R-Calif.) explored ways to strengthen ongoing U.S. efforts to facilitate a peaceful resolution to the Karabakh issue during a meeting with Nagorno Karabakh Republic (NKR) President Bako Sahakyan on April 27th.

http://www.armenianweekly.com/2014/04/27/

Ferran Huidobro Casamitjana, AEGEE-Tarragona

#### **AZERBAIJAN**

#### Azerbaijan warns the International community: "Karabakh is not Crimea"

As the crisis in Crimea continues, Azerbaijan has warned the international community against judging the territorial crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh and surrounding regions by the same criteria as Ukraine's.

http://www.news.az/articles/karabakh/87783

### Azerbaijan welcomes outcome of Moscow ministerial meeting on Caspian Sea

Azerbaijan appreciates the meeting of foreign ministers of the Caspian states in Moscow and believes in the promotion of the Caspian agenda, Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov has said at a Press Conference.

http://www.news.az/articles/economy/87969

#### Jordan calls for fair solution to Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

Chairman of the Jordanian Senate has said Nagorno-Karabakh conflict should find its fair solution. Abdelraouf al-Rawabdeh, who is on a visit to Baku to attend the second Global Shared Societies Forum, told journalists on April 28.

http://www.azernews.az/azerbaijan/66520.html

### Azerbaijani FM to attend meeting of FMs from Vishegrad group and Eastern Partnership

Azerbaijani Foregin Minister Elmar Mammadyarov will attend the meeting of foreign ministers from the Vishegrad group and the countries of EU Eastern Partnership program on April 29 in Budapest, Hungary.

http://www.azernews.az/azerbaijan/66502.html

Damiano Deidda, AEGEE-Cagliari



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#### **BELARUS**

#### Selling arms to one's enemy? Ukrainian-Belarusian method

Last March was very "Ukrainian" for the whole region of Eastern Europe. For the first time in the Crimean issue, Belarus and Belarusian president has come into the spotlight, besides the Ukraine and Russia.

http://www.civicbelarus.org/index.php/

#### Freedom House Warns Press Freedom 'Lowest In A Decade'

Freedom House's latest report on media freedom asserts that Eurasian countries continue to have the world's poorest ratings, with no country in the region rated as "free." Belarus, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Iran remained among the world's eight worst-rated countries on press freedom.

http://www.rferl.org/content/freedom-house-press-freedom-lowest-in-decade-report-media/

### Kupchina stresses the need to revise Eastern Partnership Initiative

Deputy Foreign Minister of Belarus Yelena Kupchina believes it is necessary to revise the Eurasian Partnership Initiative after five years of its operation taking into account new present-day challenges and the current situation in the region.

http://news.belta.by/en/news/politics?id=746889

#### **Putin arrives in Belarus for Troika summit**

The agenda of the summit will include the consideration of the progress made in the work on the draft Eurasian Economic Union Treaty and the implementation of the action plan (roadmap) on Armenia's accession to the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia.

http://news.belta.by/en/news/politics?id=746871

Ferran Huidobro Casamitjana, AEGEE-Tarragona

#### **GEORGIA**

### **EU Reaffirms Support to Early Signature of AA with Georgia, Moldova**

EU foreign ministers, who met in Luxembourg on April 14, reiterated support to "early signature" of Association Agreements, including its deep and comprehensive free trade treaties, with Georgia and Moldova "no later than June."

http://www.civil.ge/eng/article.php?id=27137

## Amnesty International Calls on Georgian Authorities Not to Water Down Anti-Discrimination Bill

Amnesty International has called on the Georgian authorities to ensure that the country's first anti-discrimination bill becomes "an effective tool to combat discrimination." The bill, proposed by the government, was passed with its first reading by the Georgian Parliament on April 17.

http://www.civil.ge/eng/article.php?id=27163 http://www.civil.ge/eng/article.php?id=27146 (More about The Bill)

#### **Key Election Dates and Deadlines**

June 15 has been formally set as the date of local elections in Georgia in which 2,088 members in total of 71 local councils, Sakrebulos, as well as mayors in 12 cities and heads (gamgebeli) of 59 municipalities will be elected. Below are some of the key deadlines, dates and procedures related to the June 15 municipal elections as envisaged by the election code and published by the Central Election Commission (CEC).

http://www.civil.ge/eng/article.php?id=27138

#### Youth Policy Document to Actively Engage Youth in Social Activities

The Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs together with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) held a press conference on April 2 to present the newly adopted National Youth Policy document to the media and non-governmental organizations.

http://www.georgiatoday.ge/article\_details.php?id=12106

Ivan Bielik, AEGEE-Brno



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#### **MOLDOVA**

### Association Agreement with EU will be ratified in record time, Igor Corman

The Association Agreement with the European Union, which is to be signed in June, will be ratified by the end of the spring-summer session of Parliament, Speaker Igor Corman said in the program "Fabrika" on Publika TV channel, IPN reports.

http://www.allmoldova.com/en/moldova-news/1249058122.html

# Gazprom sees the risks associated with natural gas transit through Moldova because of the actions in the Ukraine

This was stated in the Management Report of the Russian gas holding in 2013. It is noted that currently supply of a substantial part of "Gazprom" of the natural gas to the customers in Europe depends on the pipeline system, passing through Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova.

http://www.allmoldova.com/en/moldova-news/1249058118.html

### OSCE Head in Moldova meets US senators, discusses OSCE role in Transdniestrian settlement process

During the meeting, they discussed the current situation in Moldova, including Transdniestria and Gagauzia, OSCE involvement in the Transdniestrian settlement process as well as the recent developments in the region.

http://en.interlic.md/2014-04-17/

# Sandwiched between Romania and Ukraine, Moldova emerged as an independent republic following the collapse of the USSR in 1991.

The bulk of it, between the rivers Dniester and Prut, is made up of an area formerly known as Bessarabia. This territory was annexed by the USSR in 1940 following the carve-up of Romania in the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact between Hitler's Germany and Stalin's USSR.

http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17601580

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#### **UKRAINE**

#### Joint Geneva Statement on Ukraine from April 17: the full text

Following is the text of the statement released by diplomats meeting in Geneva on the Ukraine crisis; they agreed that parties would refrain from "violence, intimidation, or provocative actions" and that all "illegal armed groups will be disarmed."

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/

### Agreements between Yanukovych and Tymoshenko found in Mezhyhirya

Reporters have published Yanukovych's documents revealing his agreements with Yuliya Tymoshenko on creating "wide coalition" between Batkivshchyna Party and Party of regions in 2009.

http://24tv.ua/home/

#### Ukraine signs gas deal with Slovakia

Slovakia is set to pump reserve natural gas to Ukraine in a reverse-flow deal signed on Monday (28 April). "This is an important first step to diversify Ukraine's sources of gas supply and contributes to greater energy security in Eastern Europe and the EU as a whole," said EU President Jose Manuel Barroso..

http://euobserver.com/foreign/123946

#### 46 die after unrest in Odesa

As the prosecutor of Odesa region Ihor Borshulyak reports, during unrests on 2<sup>nd</sup> May and fire in the Trade Unions building in Odesa, 46 died, over 200 sought medical assistance in health centers, including 20 police officers, eight died falling from the building.

http://24tv.ua/home

Victoria Horiachko, AEGEE-Lviv



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