
**RULING PARTY MP REJECTS CLAIMS AUTHORITIES OPPOSE INTERNATIONAL
RECOGNITION OF ARMENIAN CLAIMS**

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Sargis Khandanyan, the Civil Contract partys candidate for chair of the parliamentary Committee on Foreign Relations, said that the international recognition of the [genocide claims] are not and should not be a priority on Armenias foreign policy agenda, while rejecting opposition claims that the Armenian authorities oppose other countries recognition of the [claims].

We welcome all states that have recognized the [Armenian claims] and will continue to welcome the recognition process. However, in my opinion, the issue of genocide recognition is a matter for each states domestic agenda, reflecting the extent to which that state is committed to international humanitarian law and principles and, through its values, contributes to this process, Khandanyan said in Parliament.

He added that Armenia plays an important role in international efforts to prevent genocide, particularly within the UN framework. He recalled that Armenias Foreign Ministry holds the Against the Crime of Genocide conference annually.

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