

KURDS FEELING ARMENIA'S PULSE


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Naira Hayrumyan, Political Commentator, Lragir.am, 4 November 2014

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While recently visiting Yerevan, the ex-mayor of Diyarbakir and Kurdish political activist Osman Baydemir met with the Kurds of Armenia and made a number of significant statements. They can be his personal observations, but it is more likely that Baydemir is an "emissary" who is trying to feel the pulse of Armenia.

While the creation of a Kurdish state is gradually becoming reality, in Armenia people know very little about the ambitions of the founders of the Kurdish state. Judging by some statements, Armenia is being considered part of the "Kurdish" space. For example, Baydemir suggests: "Armenia, Kurdistan, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Israel must create something like the European Union."

Besides, the Kurdish activist announced that Kurds must recognize the genocide of Armenians, assist the Armenians to achieve compensation and return to their former homes. In brief, things are proposed which do not seem realistic while Kurds are seeking for "allies", "neighbors" and "enemies".

The Armenian organizations of the Diaspora have announced that next spring the package of Armenian legal claims from Turkey. The Armenians may apply to the international court. The process which also contains claims to real estate in Western Armenia will inevitably affect the interests of Kurds. The Armenian lawyers and politicians must have liaised with Kurds because they will have to deal with these matters soon.

Baydemir has announced that Turkey is perpetrating a genocide of Kurds not only on its territory but also in Syria and Iraq. He says Turkey is supporting the terrorists of the Islamic State. The Kurdish activist is calling Armenians to condemn the genocides of Kurds, Kurd-Yezidis and Kurd-Alevis. As a first step, Baydemir has visited the memorial to the victims of the Armenian Genocide.

It is not known which Armenian diplomats Baydemir met but obviously the Kurds will continue to try to come to terms with Armenians. Will Armenian diplomacy rely solely on the opinion of the Russian ministry of foreign affairs?

