

PROJECTS SUPPORTED

2023

1. Armenia	American University of Armenia (AUA)	“The World of Western Armenians; topographic, ethnographic and historiographic literature digitization” (memory books, travelogues, and other works documenting history, traditions, dialects, language), digitizing 24 new titles, to be available in a free and searchable format in the Digilib Armenian literature repository.
2. Armenia	Ashot Johannissyan Research Institute in the Humanities	The publication of book on Jean-François Lyotard within the framework of “The Calouste Gulbenkian Translation Series”, including essays by Jürgen Habermas, Fredric Jameson, and Richard Rorty, with an Introduction and Afterward by Vardan Azatyan.
3. Armenia	Newmag Publishing House	Armenian translation and publication of 3 books: Bessel van der Kolk’s “The Body Keeps the Score”, Julia Samuel’s “Every Family has a story”, and Joan Didion’s “The Year of Magical Thinking”, dealing with psychological trauma, its aftermath, and that offer ways of healing.
4. Armenia	Arman Dzhragatspanyan	"Trauma and Resilience in the Post-2020 War Period", research project about those who were affected by the war.
5. Armenia	Vlume	Technolinguistics Cultural NGO Armenian E-book and audiobook platform Vlume; adding more than 75 new books and an average of 50 audiobooks to the platform.
6. Armenia	Western Armenian Writing and Language Educational NGO	Supporting various initiatives by the Western Armenian Wikipedia , to sustain the community of Western Armenian Wikimedians, generate quality content, and expand the number of articles in Western Armenian up to 12,000.
7. Armenia	Shahen Arab Oglian	Campaign aimed at increasing the adoption and usage of the Nayiriboard Armenian spellcheckers in Armenia and the Diaspora, contributing to improving the quality of written Armenian communication and ensuring the development of the language, specifically Western Armenian.
8. Armenia	Sunrise Cultural Foundation	“ Sunrise Creative Education Workshops”, 10 creative education workshops delivered by

			international Armenian experts in various fields of culture, free to attend with a hybrid online/offline format.
9.	Armenia	Hamlet Petrosyan	The development of a website serving as a primary source of scientific and academic content on Dikranagerd, with updated content, professionally edited by researchers, endowed with scientific texts, and the expansion of the visual library. Available in 3 languages: Armenian, English, and Russian.
10.	Armenia	Vahakn Keshishian	Managing and editing content for Zndoog (Western Armenian resource website), and other online platforms, administrative support, and technical assistance.
11.	Armenia	Vahakn Keshishian	" Աղնուր քաւէր ", (Aghvor Paner) Western Armenian content, including words, phrases, photos, videos and more on social media platforms.
12.	Armenia	Tumanyan Development Foundation	Tumanyan International Storytelling Festival 2023, hosting local and international performers, with a curated Western Armenian component, enhancing the use of the language and culture.
13.	Armenia	Harutyun Vermishyan	"Armenian bordering communities. Conceived, lived and perceived spaces", sociological research on the everyday lives of the Armenian border communities of Tavush and Syunik.
14.	Armenia	Kapan Scientific Progress NGO	" Kapan Math Club "; giving access to high-quality and free mathematics tutoring to students in Kapan, Syunik, Goris, and other neighboring cities.
15.	Armenia	Arshak Balayan	Publication of "Moral Philosophy: Methods, Theories and Problems", a 30-chapter moral philosophy manual in Eastern Armenian.
16.	Armenia	Global to Local NGO	"Safe Environment in Armenian schools", a co-funded collaboration with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation to develop five educational modules for teachers along with animated tutorial guidelines based on the Olweus bullying prevention programme.
17.	Armenia	Women's Support Center NGO	"Strengthening the Response to Domestic Violence in Armenia". The project has two outputs: a) the development of Training the Trainers modules, and b) the Armenian translation of the book "Trauma and Recovery: The Aftermath of Violence" by Judith Lewis Herman.
18.	Armenia	Albert Petrosyan	"Eggs", a short film exploring themes such as abusive familial dynamics and domestic violence, bringing the voices of the people on the margins

		to the foreground, and contributing to discussions on the role of women in Armenia.
19. Armenia	Ari Literature Foundation	Administration of the " Calouste Gulbenkian Translation Series ", completion of the first phase and transition into the second phase of the project.
20. Argentina	Khatchik Derghougassian	The publication of an anthology of original poems in Western Armenian entitled "Sahmaneli", «Մահմանէլի».
21. Argentina	Vachel E. Hoveyan	"Halink-Varink", creative workshops for students and educators of Armenian day schools in Buenos Aires, including theatre, music, storytelling, and art education.
22. Austria	Jasmine Dum-Tragut	Austrian-Armenian Autumn School project, organised in cooperation with the Armenian Studies Division, Salzburg University and the Faculty of Humanities, Goris State University. Taking place in Goris.
23. Brazil	Sonia Maria De Freitas	Publication of the book "Weaving Threads and Memories: Armenian Embroiderers in São Paulo"; including 26 life stories of Armenian women, survivors of the Genocide, offering an introduction to the Armenian immigration to São Paulo.
24. Canada	Hrair Hawk Khatcherian	Research for the creation and publication of a photo album dedicated to Armenian manuscripts and their places of origin.
25. Canada	Adrien Zakar	"Armenian Map History", research, academic publication, and the creation of an open access database with searchable maps.
26. Canada	Luc Baronian / National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR)	Organisation of "The Twelfth International Conference on Armenian Linguistics" (ICAL XII) taking place at the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR), in Boston, USA.
27. Czech Republic	Informacni Centrum Kavkaz - Vychodni Evropa	"Armenian Studies in Europe", the publication of a special issue of the Ozer magazine (also online) dedicated to Armenian Studies centers in Europe, including chairs, institutes, and schools.
28. France	Anouche Der Sarkissian Boris Adjemian	"Armenian Diaspora(s) in Motion: Places, Practices & Stakeholders in the 21st century", international academic conference in France, on the contemporary dynamics of the Armenian diasporas.
29. France	Nazli Temir Beyleryan	"The Nagorno-Karabakh war in the Turkish media and Armenians in Turkey", research, workshops and academic publication on the perception of Armenians.

30. France	Patrick Donabedian	Publication of the book "Le patrimoine armenien de Jerusalem".
31. France	John Christopher Tordai	"Armenian Haven" documenting current civil society in Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh through photography.
32. France	Alexis Pazoumian	"Black Garden", a book in French dedicated to photographic works and testimonies gathered between 2016 and 2022 in Nagorno-Karabakh and neighbouring Armenian villages. Including English translation and exhibition.
33. France	Association culture et harmonie	" Yertik ", children's online educational programme in Western Armenian broadcast weekly on YouTube and other social media outlets, helping to improve the children's language skills, while offering a safe environment in front of the screens.
34. France	Association mille et un mondes and INALCO, Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales	" Zarmanazan ", the annual Western Armenian immersion programme open to all children and youth of the Diaspora, as well as a teacher training programme in collaboration with INALCO.
35. France	Groupe Scolaire Saint Mesrop – Arabian	Second professional development days for Armenian language teachers from Europe over a period of 5 days in Alfortville, France.
36. France	INALCO	"Documentation du patrimoine arménien en péril - Recensement et préservation du patrimoine arménien", in collaboration with the "Hishatakaran" organisation in Armenia. The project aims to document Armenian heritage sites and monuments in Nagorno-Karabakh and create up to 2,000 informational "passports" that will be made available to the public digitally.
37. France	NORH Publications	The publication of "Zartiss" books for children offering world literature translated into Western Armenian from English, French, Portuguese, German, Chinese, and more.
38. Germany	Houshamadyan E.V.	Translation of articles published on Houshmadyan into Turkish, to make research about Ottoman Armenian legacy available in Turkish.
39. Greece	Haroutiun Kurkjian	Complete editing of the digitized oeuvre by H. Oshagan published on the Digilib Armenian literature repository.
40. Greece	Zavarian Armenian National School	"Film Creation and Theatre", a two-week in-school workshop for 5-th and 6-th grade students to screen, discuss, and evaluate various films and

		theatre plays, and to create a short video in Western Armenian. As well as extra-curricular educational activities for language acquisition.
41. Italy	Padus-Araxes Cultural Association	“Summer School of Armenian Language and Culture in Venice”, an intensive summer course on Armenian language and culture in Venice for adult language learners, graduate and post-graduate students, researchers, and Armenian language teachers.
42. Italy	Pontifical Legation of the Armenian Apostolic Church of the Western Europe-	Two-day international conference on the life and achievements of St. Nerses Shnorhali, at the Pontifical Oriental Institute.
43. Italy	Dicastery for Communication	Supporting the creation and publication of news pieces in Western Armenian on Radio Vaticana and Vatican News .
44. Italy	Università Degli Studi Di Udine	Two-day international conference “In the Shadow of Ararat. Armenian Art in Travel Literature (13th-20th centuries)”, in collaboration with the Institute of Art of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia. Along with the photographic exhibition “Mural paintings in Armenian Christian churches from the 7th to the 13th centuries”.
45. Lebanon	Khatchig-Hrag Derjian	“Mathematics and Beyond”, a programme of mathematical concepts and content for 6th grade students presented with audiovisual and virtual exercises in Western Armenian.
46. Lebanon	Armenian Prelacy of Lebanon	Aid to Armenian schools and humanitarian relief for communities in the Middle East.
47. Lebanon	Union of the Social Workers of the Armenian Community in Lebanon	Evaluating and administering the Emergency Scholarship for Armenian University Students in Lebanon. Reviewing the applications and interviewing the candidates through a specialized group of evaluators.
48. Lebanon	Armenian Church University Students’ Association (ACUSA)	A series of 3 youth conferences on issues pertaining to religion and youth, within the context of the year of “Reorganization and Renewal of the Diaspora” proclaimed by His Holiness Aram I.
49. Lebanon	Hamazkayin Vahe Setian Publishing House	«Կը խաղամ, կը սորվիմ, կը մեծնամ», [I play, I learn, I grow] educational manual III in Western Armenian for 3–5-year-olds, with publications, cards, visual content, and posters.
50. Portugal	ILNOVA	Armenian Language course taught at the Instituto de Línguas da Universidade Nova de Lisboa by Professor Lia Khachikyan.
51. Spain	AGBU Young Professionals Madrid	Third edition of the conflict zone journalistic training “Storytelling in Journalism: From Hard

		Data to Harder Narratives.” Five-day training taking place in Goris, led by three experienced journalists specialized in human rights and war zones.
52. Sweden	Saghatelyan Basil	“A life on the streets of Aleppo” an interactive book in Western Armenian, documenting the oral histories that describe the people, events, social traditions, customs, and lifestyle of the Aleppo-Armenian community in the 1990s.
53. Turkey	Narod Erkol Selvioglu	The production of 10 new episodes of the segment “Անձամտօթմանը” of the Asbantag podcast in Western Armenian.
54. Turkey	Parrhesia Collective	“ Parrhesia Collective ”, a team of women scholars, writers, and artists organizing webinars, seminars, workshops, and publications on indigeneity, temporality, and gender, in Western Armenian, English and Turkish.
55. Turkey	Hrant Dink Foundation	Multi-level Western Armenian language courses for adults at the Hrant Dink Foundation.
56. Turkey	Yolcu Theatre	“Gomidas”, staging of the play in Istanbul to sensitize people about Turkey’s multicultural past and about the Armenian composer. A short documentary will also be produced.
57. Turkey	Kayane Gavrilof	“ Haba Yete ”, online platform for children aged 8-12, offering workshops that stimulate children's imagination and creativity while fostering their language and communication skills in Western Armenian.
58. Turkey	Rober Koptas	“Mer Bolise / (Our Bolis)”, 26 video interviews and 26 articles (in Western Armenian and English) related to the social and cultural realities of the Armenian Community in Turkey, in collaboration with CivilNet.
59. UK	Centre for Western Armenian Studies	“Centre for Western Armenian Studies”, a Western Armenian language programme targeting the teaching of Western Armenian in the Diaspora, Memory Documentation, and other language-related initiatives.
60. UK	Elmira Gulumyan	“From Policy to Practice: Teachers’ Perceptions and Attitudes towards Implementation of Inclusive Education”, research to survey and evaluate the implementation of inclusive education in public schools in Armenia.
61. UK	Tatevik Aivazyan, Naneh Hovhannisyan	Publishing a special issue of the London-based Wasafiri magazine of international writing, titled:

		“Armenia(n)s: Rupture”, dedicated to new Armenian writing including academic pieces, fiction, poetry, essays with over thirty contributors.
62. USA	Rafael Khachaturian	The development and delivery of a Critical Studies seminar entitled: "Post-Soviet Knowledge Production and the Armenian Academy: Critical Perspectives" at the American University of Armenia.
63. USA	Taline Kalfayan Ashekian	“Introducing the Western Armenian Phonemes and Functional Vocabulary in the Early Stages of Development”, a user-friendly teaching project for preschool teachers, parents, and speech therapists.
64. USA	Michael Bedrosian Pifer	«Khigar Nabasdag», an original children’s book in Western Armenian that tells a linguistically playful story about a little rabbit.
65. USA	Arin Shahjahanian	“Portrait Concert”, the creation and premiere of 2 new compositions featuring solo voice, with the first text weaving fragments from the works of Krikor Naregatsi with contemporary Armenian poetry (Tenny Arlen) and original text; and the second piece incorporating traditional and contemporary Diné texts.
66. USA	The Western Prelacy of Armenian Apostolic Church of America (Board of Regents)	Two initiatives: a) the first “Zarmanazan” (the language immersion programme in Western Armenian) in California, taking place in June 2024; and b) the fourth series of "Oos-Hartag", a yearly online teacher development platform for Armenian language teachers of the Diaspora.
67. USA	National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR)	Support the Calouste Gulbenkian Lectures Series on Contemporary Armenian Issues. This programme presents unique seminars on contemporary Armenian issues. They will be organised in a hybrid system between digital and in person.

10 արդ ԷԼՍ | in view awards in 2023

արդ ԷԼՍ | in view was launched in fall 2021 as the first and only Western Armenian culture grant in face of the great need to bring the language to the forefront of contemporaneity and innovation, in order to stimulate and enhance cultural production that would sustain its speakers for years to come.

Ten projects were selected, these are:

Aleksander Varadian (Norway) for “Tamzara: an exploration of nationalism” — a play investigating how the absence of language complicates the Armenian identity amongst the younger generations of the Diaspora, told against the backdrop of the Second Nagorno Karabakh war. Written with an adaptive structure in order to fit the respective diaspora-homeland relationship of those staging it, content from the play will be produced in collaboration with artists from the Diaspora as a collaborative effort to tailor each version to its respective environment. The project will connect young writers to generate French, Western and Eastern Armenian versions of the script, as well as short audioplay excerpts of the story.

Alik Tamar Barsoumian (USA) for “Perennial” — a short documentary that tells the story of a group of Armenian monks on an island in the Venetian lagoon. As this small community fights to keep their cultural heritage alive, the role of their survival on foreign soil is brought into question. The Western Armenian language will lead the narrative of this untold story. The documentary will encourage dialogue within its diasporan audience by posing the fundamental question: is it possible to bring new values to an ancient cultural heritage without threatening its very existence?

Ara Madzounian (USA) for “The House on Tomarza Street” — a documentary centered around a filmmaker returning to his birthplace to reclaim his abruptly fragmented past. Blurring the boundaries of documentary and narrative conventions, the story transpires in present-day Bourj Hammoud, an endangered settlement on the outskirts of Beirut, predominantly inhabited by Armenians, where the language had become the property of a people searching for an identity marker to define them, a place where Western Armenian came to flourish in the dire need to communicate with each other and find refuge in its familiarity. After a self-imposed exile at the start of the Lebanese civil war in 1975, the filmmaker, a native of Bourj Hammoud, journeys back to tell his story of growing up in this once flourishing community, hailed as the heartbeat of the Armenian Diaspora.

Garine Boghossian (USA) for “These Ghostly Places We Call Home” — a project that traces indigenous Armenian neighborhoods, villages, and cities of what is today Turkey, as sites for Armenian futurities. Drawing on the vast collection of mental maps and photos from the early 20th century, as well as contemporary surveys and imagery, the project collates sites and stories, archival and present, towards a new reality where beyond violence and denial, Home is a site of joy and living. Through a process of unlearning and rediscovering, this drawing and writing work is centered on the Western Armenian language and, in some cases, the dialects used in the region, in an attempt to revive the relationship between language and place.

Gohar Sargsyan (Armenia) for “The Return of Western Armenian Poets” — a multimedia, interactive art installation consisting of audio/video installations and text drawings which will be displayed in the form of a solo exhibition at the National Library of Armenia. The aim is to show the audience the melodic and poetic aspects of the Western Armenian language and to enhance creativity while using it. The choice of Western Armenian as the main focus, and

the use of contemporary art methods as a vehicle, will generate more interest in the language and create a dialogue between the poets and the audience. This in turn can create a platform for the discovery of new poets.

Haig Gragian (Switzerland) and Edward Roumoulian (Lebanon) for “Alik” — an open-source and sample-based music creation platform, designed to be accessible to all, allowing users to explore the beauty of the Western Armenian language while experimenting with sounds and music production tools, regardless of their musical background. The platform actively encourages community engagement, inviting users to contribute and expand the audio sample library by uploading recorded material in Western Armenian. In addition, “Alik” offers a wide range of instrumental and vocal sample packs, catering to the needs of music producers and professionals.

Kamee Abrahamian (Canada) for “Flesh Immemorial” — a project in the undoing of absence and super(im)position of queer/feminist Western Armenian icons onto their home-landscapes of origin. It will install colossal augmented reality monuments in locations from which they descend but may no longer have access to. This project aims to creatively restore the relationships of indigenous Armenians with their ancestral landscapes by leaning into the complexities of indigeneity, belonging, and self-determination. A constellation of imprints that will be formed to generate ancestral healing, diasporic futurism, and creative reclamation. In relationship with the participants, these monuments will be generated by collaborating with the spirits, stories, flora and fauna of our homelands to generate large-scale, mixed media monuments.

Cercle des Amis de Krikor Beledian (France) for “The vowel in the image” — an artistic and multidisciplinary online exhibition that will present contemporary Armenian artist Asadour Bezdikian’s work in parallel to contemporary Armenian writer Krikor Beledian’s writings related to diasporic themes of displacement, erasure, cities, scattering... as well as their collective works in the form of illustrated books, exhibitions or publications. The exhibition will be accompanied by artistic and philosophical approaches in reference to these themes emphasizing the interaction of the domains of art and literature, and highlighting their creative connection. The exhibition will feature original music and video content.

Nvart Dalian and Sonia Sanan Kiledjian (Canada) for “Beyond the Veil” — a creative, artistic, multidisciplinary, cross-cultural collaborative experiment that aims to build a language and future between the two mediums of photography and poetry taken together. The poetic form expressed in language (Western Armenian) is brought together with the visual form expressed in photographs allowing for pathways to form from one medium to the other, making available ways of reading back and forth between both forms of art. The poetic lines step out from their usual format to become visible in the space created by the visual impact of the pictures. This is a reversible process, as the lines themselves also create a space where the images go beyond their own visible content.

Vartan Avakian (Lebanon/Germany) for “This Field Cannot Be Empty” — a carpet that is inscribed with hidden ciphers that serve as a map of a lost village. The village is Fendijak, one of many Armenian villages that were ethnically cleansed and decimated. The map in itself will also be an archive; a repository of the village’s flora, its fauna, its geography, its culture, and its almost forgotten dialect. The project includes research and an outreach component through lectures, talks, and workshops on art and archival practices, as well as exhibition participation.