Making Sense of Armenia’s Political Landscape 
ahead of the May 6 Parliamentary Elections
Part of IERES’ Behind the Headlines Series

with

Garegin Chukaszyan
Sardarapat Movement

On May 6, 2012, Armenians are scheduled to elect a new parliament. Given the country’s record of holding fraudulent elections since 1995 and presently high levels of social apathy, these elections will be a test for President Sargsyan’s increasingly unpopular regime, which has strengthened its grip on power since the bloody events in March 2008 through the control of powerful oligarchs and the security apparatus. Garegin Chukaszyan will offer his assessment of the political landscape ahead of the May elections, including the role of pro-establishment and some opposition parties in prolonging the status quo. He will also talk about the role of civil society, especially the newly formed environmental activist groups that have successfully challenged the regime in Yerevan on a number of critical issues. Finally, he will talk about the use of social media and its role in the birth of a new, younger opposition movement in Armenia.

Garegin Chukaszyan is a member of Sardarapat Movement’s initiative group. He is one of the leading IT experts in Armenia with experience in government, business, civil society, and academia. Mr. Chukaszyan is a member of the Bureau of the Steering Committee on the Media and New Communication Services (CDMC) of the Council of Europe, a member of the High-level Panel of Advisers of the UN Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development (GAID), a member of Armenia’s Presidential IT Development Support Council, and executive director of the Information Technologies Foundation (ITF) in Yerevan.

Friday, April 6, 2012
12:30-1:30pm
Brown Bag Lunch (drinks provided)
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E Street NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP at http://tinyurl.com/Chukaszyan

This event is on the record