

STORY NAME:	Armenia`s Next Step		
COPYRIGHT HOLDER:	Expert-KR / OPEN Media Hub		
COPYRIGHT NOTICE:	Ownership of content belongs to Expert-KR / OPEN Media Hub		
USAGE TERMS:	Share & Adapt - Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/		
EDITOR'S NOTES:	None		
SOURCE:	Expert-KR - www.facebook.com/expertkr Open Media Hub – http://www.openmediahub.com <i>"This production was supported by OPEN Media Hub with funds provided by the European Union"</i>		
LANGUAGE:	Russian	DURATION:	00:27:03
JOURNALIST:	Olha Honchar	EMAIL:	expertkr2015@gmail.com
SLUGLINE:	Armenia call, Post Factum about velvet revolution in Armenia		
HEADLINE:	Documentary about how political scientists, public figures, former revolutionaries, now ministers, and former ministers, and now opposition, are evaluating events that have changed the socio-political situation in Armenia.		
DATELINE:	Yerevan, Armenia - 24/11/2018		
SCRIPT:	<p>00:08-00:24 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan "I have simple principles. Power must be from the people. If it is not from the people, it should be from the people. That's final. This is the main idea. If my rights are violated, I rise"</p> <p>00:25-00:34 – Interview – Isabella Sargsyan "Frankly, revolution is not very good. I mean, if they wouldn't drove the country to the ground, then the revolution would not have happened"</p> <p>00:38-00:43 – Interview – Martin Misakyan "We were closing streets, struggling, shouting namely everything that had to be done"</p> <p>00:44-00:48 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan "The streets can be closed, but it can't be shut our mouth"</p> <p>00:51-00:59 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan "One of our symbols was open arms, and this meant a peaceful demonstration without the use of force"</p>		

01:10-01:21 – Interview – Grant Ter-Abraamyan

“We need to look for the roots not only in the near past but also to go further until 2008 and even until 1988 in order to understand better”

01:22-01:31 – Interview – Hayk Balanyan

“You know about 1 of March 2008. In Yerevan after the rigged presidential elections there were large-scale clashes”

01:32-01:44 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“After ten days of peaceful demonstrations the authorities decided to beat these people catch them early in the morning, put them in police stations”

01:45-02:00 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“In the evening became clear that there were more and more people the authorities decided to shoot the demonstrators on the night of March 1st. Eight demonstrators died, one soldier and one policeman”

02:01-02:07 – Interview – Hayk Balanyan

“It was a big shock for our society, and I think we still have not overcome this shock”

02:08-02:16 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“Speaking of criminal proceedings of the case of March 1. It seemed to be in sleep mode, in stagnant mode”

02:17-02:32 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“For our political circle it is important to solve the murders on March 1-2, 2008 and punish those who responsible”

02:33-02:45 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“For 10 years in this case there was no movement, neither were not identified those who gave the illegal order nor those who performed. Previous government did not intend to solve this case”

02:46-03:11 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“Then tragic events of the first of March were investigated and people whose guilt was proven in court were punished. These court decisions have not yet been revised, and Nikol Pashinyan was one of the main actors of these events who was convicted of these events and subsequently amnestied by Serzh Sargsyan”

03:19-03:35 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“After 2008 about 13% of the population has emigrated from the country it is 380.000 people. The main reason was injustice. There was no hope for the future”

03:36-03:51 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“People are tired. People are tired of those who talk too deep and profound about problems that are difficult to solve and people believed those who simply promised everything and everyone at once”

03:52-04:10 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“There wasn't the word "revolution" then Nikol first said this word on April 17, four

days later, when Serzh Sargsyan was elected as prime minister in parliament. At that moment he stated that the velvet peaceful revolution was starting in Armenia”

04:11-04:21 – Interview – Levon Margaryan

“They themselves call this process a revolution. We do not know whether it is a revolution or not but in order not to be confused, we start from this term”

04:22-04:42 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“One thing is obvious this is not a revolution. Except for the rhetoric, publications, branding, political manipulations and technologies only people who understand nothing in politics and political science can call what happened in Armenia a revolution”

04:45-05:05 – Interview – Alexandr Iskandaryan

“Today's revolutionaries have a more difficult task to justify their power with the help of the law adopted by the people they are overthrowing. I call it the transit of power”

05:06-05:19 – Interview – Grant Ter-Abraamyan

“There was change of power. The revolution is a little more in my opinion. This is reorganization of society. It is still unknown whether it will work or not, is there potential in society for it. I hope there is”

05:20-05:33 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“A year ago in summer I decided to do start sort of countdown when he ends his second term as president. Every day I left posts, that he had 30 days left and with description of harm he had done to Armenia for 10 years”

05:34-05:47 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“The guys in Yerevan decided to organize a civil movement, “Say no to Serge”, “Reject Serg”. In Armenian, it sounds interesting “Merzhizh Serzhin””

05:51-05:54 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“These actions coincided with Nikol Pashinyan’s “My Step” movement”

05:55-06:08 – Interview – Arayik Harutyunyan

“We had several plans. Gyumri is the second city in Armenia. We decided there that we will keep moving for 13-14 days and the route would pass through Gyumri. It was the most convenient route”

06:10-06:25 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“Nikol made his first step from my city, from the central square. He called me and said: “Levon, I am starting my action”. Nothing was known in advance. At that moment I drove to another city, Igenvan, which is Nikol’s hometown, one hundred forty kilometers from here”

06:26-06:42 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“I said: “Nicol, it is possible to wait a little bit so that I could return?” He said: “No, everything is decided, I am starting to move.” I said: “Okay”. He began to walk from Gyumri to Vanadzor and to Dilijan. 200-220 kilometers. For thirteen days”

06:46-06:58 – Interview – Grant Ter-Abraamyan

“He began his campaign, came down from the mountains and gathered a rally here the usual rally for 2,000 people, no one paid any attention to it at all. They gathered here, not on this square but above”

06:59-07:15 – Interview – Arayik Harutyunyan

“On the 13th day, when we returned to Yerevan, I said that we did it. Thousands of people met us on the outskirts of the city. And there were several thousand people on the square”

07:16-07:32 – Interview – Grant Ter-Abraamyan

“Traditionally our meetings took place on Freedom Square in front of the opera house. What they changed. I don’t know whether they did it on purpose, they moved the rallies to the Republic Square where no rally was ever held, only official Soviet events”

07:33-07:45 – Interview – Grant Ter-Abraamyan

“This is a very interesting effect. Rallies which were traditionally held near the opera, “This is a very interesting effect. Rallies which were traditionally held near the opera, they had their own, probably, a given ritual, even fate. Here this was something new”

07:46-08:15 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“When we reached Liberty Square, we saw that it was filled with people. On this area about 20 thousand people are located. We continued to call people to the square and moved to the Square of France. We blocked the intersection of the street by benches. We can say that from the Square of France events began to develop faster”

08:18-08:33 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“On the 13th I personally felt that everything was going to change. A lot of people thought that it would rain on that day. “Oh, God willing there would a sun. I explained to people that if you are afraid of rain, let's not go out on the streets at all. Neither against Serge nor against anyone”

08:34-08:49 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“But the area that day was full in the rain. People came, and on the same night, Nikol decided to make a rally of civil disobedience and close the streets next to the opera”

08:50-09:02 – Interview – Arman Musinyan

“People closed the streets, crossroads, and now the moment came when the whole country, all of Yerevan, and even the districts life stopped”

09:03-09:25 – Interview – Eva Tovmasyan

“ On April 16th under my windows the rally took place, we spoke in Armenian “Merzhi Sergin”, “take your step, say no, reject Serge, deny him””

09:26-09:38 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“On April 17th election of Serzh Sargsyan was scheduled in parliament. And we decided to go on this day along Baghramyan Avenue”

09:39-09:57 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“On the 17th they blocked all approaches to the parliament and people also gathered near policemen. Deputies drove there through the subway, in ambulances they drove

the Republicans there to be in parliament because we literally blocked everything”

09:58-10:10 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“Before reaching the parliament building we saw that the police blocked the road. On the passage was placed barbed wire fence”

10:11-10:28 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“Of course, we did not manage to break through this barrier. And only Nikol Pashinyan was able to pass through the barbed wire. He tore clothes, got injuries, and he was hospitalized”

10:29-10:43 – Interview – Isabella Sargsyan

“This was not happening somewhere specifically, on the most important street, but in different parts of the city, for example, sleeping areas, on some small streets. It happened at the same time and there was the effect of live stream”

10:44-11:07 – Interview – Isabella Sargsyan

“Effect of YouTube or Radio Free Europe because many people watched it all lives. 10 years ago, in 2008, in order to find out what was happening, I had to physically go out to see, and everything happened in one place. And there was the impression that this was happening everywhere and at the same time”

11:08-11:14 – Interview – Arman Musinyan

“On April 17-18th, it was already felt that authority loses the power and situation heterogeneous”

11:15-11:24 – Interview – Hayk Balanyan

“Closer to the 20th of April, I already realized that the situation is already somewhere on the verge of the collapse of authority”

11:25-11:44 – Interview – Isabella Sargsyan

“On that day when Pashinyan was arrested there were negotiations between Pashinyan and Prime Minister Sargsyan. He mentioned “you forgot the lessons of March 1”. I think that the mention of March 1 was the catalyst that moved the process”

11:49-12:03 – Interview – Hayk Balanyan

“Nikol Pashinyan was arrested on the same day along with other leaders of the movement. Next day number of protestors in the country doubled or tripled. A total paralysis of everything and everything has come”

12:08-12:21 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“And on the 23rd after the Prime Minister resigned, two or three hours later, Serzh Sargsyan announced that he was retiring. He said that I was wrong, Nikol is right”

12:24-12:33 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“When we arrived at the Republic Square, there was glee. It was the most festive day I guess”

12:34-12:44 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“On April 23th Serge Sargsyan resigned and our party nominated Nikol Pashinyan in

the parliament. But the Republican Party which had the majority did not choose Pashinyan”

12:45-13:06 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“According to the Constitution, a week later it was possible to re-nominate Nikol Pashinyan, and in the event of non-election, the parliament must be re-elected”

13:07-13:33 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“This week mass meetings continued in Yerevan and in the districts. Employees left workplaces, students also did not go to classes, and all people went out to the streets and took part in rallies. Having no other possibilities, on May 8 the Republican Party voted for Nikol Pashinyan”

13:34-13:51 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“In Armenia prior to the election of Nikol Pashinyan as prime minister total surveillance was organized, total persecution of parliamentarians with interference in their personal lives. Level of hate rolled over”

13:52-14:10 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“There was an uncontrollable situation where groups of revolutionary-minded young people went to the houses of deputies, shouted insults, hung black mourning ribbons, drove coffins and wreaths”

14:11-14:23 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“this period, these few days are one of the most shameful pages of the modern history of Armenia for the political culture of our country”

14:28-14:39 – Interview – Grant Ter-Abraamyan

“At some point I realized that nothing like this happened before. In the middle of the night on the Ashtarak highway, cars drove and people shouted, “Nikol! Nikol! ”- this has never happened. I realized that everything is already over”

14:43-15:02 – Interview – Isabella Sargsyan

“Young people, very young, schoolchildren, students, whom we have not seen for a long time... My generation, we always hoped that these people would appear, however, we did not know how and where they would appear. But it turned out that all these years these young people were among us”

15:05-15:25 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“I was the Minister of Education of Armenia for 7 years. Today, despite the criticism that I personally suffered, the new government recognizes that the right decision was to switch to a 12-year education system”

15:26-15:43 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“it was the right decision to create so-called high schools, a system of lyceums; it was right to open international schools in Armenia, it was right to introduce chess into schools as a compulsory subject; it was right to internationalize higher education in Armenia”

15:44-16:07 – Interview – Arayik Harutyunyan

“In the past, schools were much politicized. During the elections, the directors worked to ensure that their candidates were elected to parliament, and between elections they believed that it was their business and they earned on it”

16:08-16:19 – Interview – Arayik Harutyunyan

“Now we need to change the process of electing school principals. In my opinion, we will not have synchronization with approximately 70% of directors. They are in the past”

16:28-16:40 – Interview – Alexandr Iskandaryan

“On the one hand we have Iran, on the other - Russia, stone throw to Middle East. Caspian Sea on the right, the Black Sea on the left. An intersection at the crossroads”

16:41-17:03 – Interview – Alexandr Iskandaryan

“This is such a trademark of the Armenian policy, they are trying not to separate, but to unite, not to turn into a battlefield between the West and the East, but to try to combine both directions. As Pashinyan says, "we will improve relations with Europe, and we will improve relations with Russia”

17:04-17:13 – Interview – Arman Musinyan

“The new government should work with all our partners, they should somehow get used to each other”

17:14-17:34 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

Flirting with the geopolitical centres of power - the United States, Russia, Europe, and China - is fraught. Therefore in the foreign policy of Armenia sensible leaders can't undertake changes.

17:35-17:56 – Interview – Isabella Sargsyan

“There are 2.5 million of us, and for us any conflict is a danger. And so my greatest fear is how this government can talk with neighbors in a balanced and rational way...”

17:56-18:17 – Interview – Marine Manucharyan

“People are skeptical so far. Pashinyan did not make a big shift in foreign policy. He stated this repeatedly that what he said as an oppositionist already irrelevant, because he is already in government and this is a completely different story”

18:18-18:33 – Interview – Isabella Sargsyan

“The situation with Karabakh is a powder keg. As long as we do not have a peace treaty, you always sit on this powder”

18:34-18: – Interview – Isabella Sargsyan

“We have no diplomatic relations with Turkey, it is always explosive, less than with Azerbaijan, but nonetheless”

18:49-19:19 – Interview – Alexandr Iskandaryan

“Ararat is a symbol of Armenia, the mountain that is on the Armenian coat of arms, which is visible from every window in Yerevan. It is a symbol of Armenia, and it is located outside of Armenia”

19:20-19:38 – Interview – Alexandr Iskandaryan

“And not only Ararat, but also many lands that were inhabited by Armenians before the 1915 genocide. This is a painful, very difficult topic”

19:44-20:12 – Interview – Isabella Sargsyan

“People are most worried about the economic situation, unemployment, price rises - something that interests everyone, probably, in all countries. And I think that people hope, of course, that there will be less corruption, more economic opportunities, more jobs, but at the same time, more freedom, and freedom, it seems to me, it is now felt in the media, perhaps, just in the air”

20:13-20:34 – Interview – Alexandr Iskandaryan

“Society expects the sky in diamonds. Nikol Pashinyan will hold the parliamentary elections safely for himself”

20:35-20:51 – Interview – Alexandr Iskandaryan

“I look forward to the end of the transit of power, because today Mr. Pashinyan has taken executive power, and all the key ministers are all new”

20:52-21:04 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“Within 3 months, the government discovered \$ 85 million in taxes that were not paid to the state budget”

21:05-21:24 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“The prime minister promised, for example, before taking office, that in a very short time, I quote literally, “we will additionally find 1 billion in the Armenian budget.” 100 days have passed, there is now 1 billion and simply cannot be”

21:25-21:51 – Interview – Levon Barsegyan

“All those flows, business flows that were profitable, were put under the monopoly of different oligarchs. The oligarchs, of course, on the one hand owned serious streams of money, on the other, were in parliament, in power and served the president, whoever he was there”

21:52-22:09 – Interview – Grant Ter-Abraamyan

“I would even say a little pessimistic that almost the entire elite, not only the former government, will be against Nikol. He took away a lot of their benefits”

22:10-22:31 – Interview – Lena Nazaryan

“Our task is to prove that these funds are illegal, and return them to the budget. We will do everything according to the law”

22:32-22:38 – Interview – Levon Margaryan

“Only the fight against corruption and monopolies of Armenia will not help. It was an opposition slogan, which they always presented to the authorities but only cutting down corruption and monopolism would not work. Something else is needed”

22:39-22:52 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“There is corruption in Armenia, there was and, unfortunately, in the near future there will be. The fight against corruption must be institutionalized - these are issues of legislative regulation, increasing transparency”

22:53-23:08 – Interview – Levon Margaryan

“They are fighting corruption, we have various local incidents with corrupt officials, scandals, but, for example, we don’t have a specific course in the fight against corruption”

23:09-23:30 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“This is not a fight against corruption - what you see in Armenia is a witch hunt. I am more than confident that half of the cases that were presented to our people as a success story in the fight against corruption, in fact, will not withstand the criticism of the European Court of Human Rights”

23:31-23:47 – Interview – Eva Tovmasyan

“We have a Constitution, which in no way corresponds to the principles of democracy, - this needs to be changed. In our country, the right to vote does not in any way meet the principles of democracy, and this is also very urgently needed to be changed”

23:48-24:09 – Interview – Levon Margaryan

“There were a lot of problems with justice. People did not trust the judicial system, the judicial system worked for power, and this mistrust accumulated over the years. Judicial reform must be done so that this trust in Pashinyan is transformed into trust into a specific institution, a judicial institution”

24:10-24:35 – Interview – Hayk Balanyan

“I know the Prime Minister himself, he is a workaholic, he is incredibly efficient he likes to work, he knows how to work, he has a lot of political experience, he is very sober and he will make everyone work. Even if someone is lazy or does not understand. He is flexible, incredibly flexible”

24:36-25:04 – Interview – Alexandr Iskandaryan

“Maybe in a few months, I predict a drop in the rating. Such a high rating, which is now in power, cannot last very long. The authorities will have to get used to living with low ratings, which they are not yet ready for, they are used to living in overall adoration, and these are very different strategies”

25:05-25:17 – Interview – Isabella Sargsyan

“They shouldn’t overlap, so that this populism would not grow into open nationalism, and not let then this would play against us”

25:18-25:38 – Interview – Armen Ashotyan

“I will stay here, I will continue to fight the phenomena that undermine the stability and security of our country, I will help those reforms that will really be useful to ours. In the conditions of total euphoria, there must be someone who must resist, who must criticize, offer an alternative point of view”

25:39-25:45 – Interview – Marine Manucharyan

“Now it is generally difficult to even critically treat a new ruling team, because people are very protective of this team”

25:46-26:00 – Interview – Martin Misakyan

“Our government works, we must help, the failure of this government, which we have

OPEN MEDIA HUB

Supporting media professionals across the EU Neighbourhood area

	<p>achieved, will be a failure for Armenia, but there is a big chance”</p> <p>26:03-26:19 – Interview – Eva Tovmasyan</p> <p>“For me it was a very important lesson that everything is possible and always possible. And you never have to lose hope and stop fighting and follow the dream”</p> <p>26:20-26:28 – Interview – Grant Ter-Abraamyan</p> <p>“I think that nothing more is needed, only an understanding. Everything else is going to get resolved somehow by itself”</p>
SHOTLIST:	<p>In the story are used shots of revolution provided by Public TV company of Armenia and our own shots that were made indoor and outdoor during interviewing speakers for this video.</p>
SCRIPT: (Original language)	
CAMERA OPERATOR:	Valerii Liashenko, Kostiantyn Romanenko
VIDEO EDITOR:	Kostiantyn Romanenko
MUSIC RIGHTS: (If applicable)	Music used in the video was recorded on the street as a soundbites.