



ROYAL DIPLOMACY CULTURAL SECURITY EU ALIGNMENT

*“The House of Savoy as a Strategic Bridge
between Armenia and Europe”*



**The Academic and Diplomatic Prelude
to Establishing a House of Savoy Branch in Armenia*



“THE HOUSE OF SAVOY AS A STRATEGIC BRIDGE BETWEEN ARMENIA AND EUROPE”

We commence our gathering under the banner of magnificent history and the continuity of dynastic ties that have shaped the map of Europe and the Near East for centuries. The Royal House of Savoy - one of the continent's oldest and most influential dynasties - possesses a legacy deeply interwoven with Armenian history through the title of King of Armenia, inherited from the monarchs of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia and the Lusignan dynasty.

THE ACADEMIC MISSION IN OXFORD

The conference aims to look beyond mere historical analysis. Our objective is to academically substantiate and reinterpret this dynastic union within a modern context. We will gather leading historians, international law experts, and theologians to comprehensively examine:

- The mechanism of title transfer and its significance in dynastic law.
- The role of Italian-Armenian institutions, such as the Mekhitarist Congregation, in preserving Armenian cultural heritage.

VENUE IN OXFORD

Option 1 - Blackfriars Hall, Oxford`s Catholic College

Option 2 - The Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (AMES), Calouste Gulbenkian Professorship.

DATE OF THE EVENT - MARCH OR APRIL 2026

Dates to be finalized in coordination with Oxford and VIP guests



MODERN RELEVANCE AND THE ARMENIA-EU CONTEXT

In the 21st century, as Armenia actively strengthens its ties with European structures and seeks to deepen its relationship with the European Union, this historical heritage takes on critical geopolitical significance. The establishment of a branch of the House of Savoy in Armenia would be the logical and visible realization of this historical and cultural vector. This will be not merely a symbolic gesture; it will be a strategic bridge that:

- 1. Affirms the depth and antiquity of Armenia's connections to the European monarchical tradition and culture.*
- 2. Creates a new platform for international humanitarian cooperation (including cultural preservation and philanthropy) under the patronage of the House of Savoy.*
- 3. Signals Armenia's European orientation, utilizing monarchical heritage as a tool for "soft power" and diplomacy in the context of EU integration.*

Therefore, the Oxford Conference serves as the fundamental academic and diplomatic prelude, providing irrefutable justification for establishing a representation of the House of Savoy in Armenia, thereby strengthening its standing as a European nation deeply rooted in a shared continental history.



1

THE HOUSE OF SAVOY IN ARMENIA

The Core Objective & Setting the Scene

TITLE

«*From Artifact to Asset: Reinterpreting Dynastic Heritage for 21st-Century Statecraft*»

Objective: *To leverage the academic authority of Oxford to legitimize Savoy patronage as a high-level diplomatic tool for Italo-Armenian cooperation and European heritage.*

KEY POINTS

***The Heritage:** *The House of Savoy holds the nominal title: King of Armenia (inherited from the Lusignan/Cilician monarchs).*

***The Problem:** *How to translate this historical claim into tangible diplomatic and strategic value today.*

***The Venue:** *Oxford University provides the irrefutable academic justification for this geopolitical move.*



2

THE HOUSE OF SAVOY IN ARMENIA

Academic Rationale & Strategic Significance

TITLE

“Why This Title Matters Now: Soft Power, EU Alignment, and Cultural Security”

Focus Area 1: Educational Bridge & Cultural Security

Highlight the role of Italo-Armenian institutions (e.g., Mekhitarist Congregation).

**Link cultural preservation to National Security and International Soft Power*

Focus Area 2: National Context & EU Path

Affirm Armenia's deep historical ties to European monarchical tradition.

**The title is a Soft Power signal of Armenia's commitment to its European vector*

Focus Area 3: Archival Focus & Diplomatic Tangibility

Emphasize joint research (Oxford/YSU/Matenadaran).

**Convert historical claims into tangible assets for modern diplomacy*



3

THE HOUSE OF SAVOY IN ARMENIA

Session I: Academic Foundation (The "Why")

TITLE

“The Academic Legitimacy: Historical Insights and Diplomatic Roots”

Goal: Provide the essential academic and legal foundation for the subsequent strategic discussions.

KEY SPEAKERS & TOPICS

****Prof. Theo van Lint (Oxford University, AMES) - TBC***

The Academic Legitimacy of Dynastic Claims (Cilicia, Lusignan, Savoy Title)
<https://www.ames.ox.ac.uk/people/theo-maarten-van-lint>

****Hrachia Margarian (Oxford; Fribourg PhD, CEO/Founder White Cross Foundation):***
Theological Dialogue and Cultural Unity. Catholic-Armenian Relations and Savoy-Cilicia Links for modern Diaspora identity.

****Mr Anthony O'Mahony (Oxford University, Blackfriars Hall) - TBC***

Armenian-European relations during the Middle Ages. Oriental Christianity and Catholicism on the path to unity, along with their historical and modern contexts.
www.bfriars.ox.ac.uk/people/mr-anthony-omahony

Ruben Ghazaryan (Chevalier of the Order)

The Dynastic Claim and its Diplomatic Future. The Savoy Order's role in advancing Italo-Armenian cooperation and the perspective for a Royal presence in Armenia.

****Dr. Sebastian P. Brock (Oxford University, AMES) - TBC***

www.ames.ox.ac.uk/people/sebastian-p-brock

****Alberto Garzoni (Oxford University, DPhil Candidate in Theology) - TBC***

<https://www.theology.ox.ac.uk/people/alberto-garzoni>

****The Reverend Dr Andrew Teal (Oxford University, Pembroke College) - TBC***

<https://www.pmb.ox.ac.uk/person/reverend-dr-andrew-teal>

****Scholars: Papers on Dynastic Law, title transfer, and legal/cultural value in 21st-century international relations. Highlight the Mekhitarist Legacy as the Italian-Armenian Cultural Axis (Ara Hovsepyan).***

KEY TAKEAWAY

The Savoy title is not symbolic; it is academically substantiated and legally transferable within the context of European dynastic tradition.



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THE HOUSE OF SAVOY IN ARMENIA

Session II: Strategic Statecraft (The "How")

TITLE

“Leadership Roundtable: Heritage as a Bridge for Armenia's EU Integration”

Theme: Converting historical connections into actionable diplomatic and philanthropic outcomes.

Key Participants

**Former President Sarkissian: Geopolitical Perspective, Utilizing Historical Soft Power -TBC*

**Armenian Ambassador (UK): The role of the Italo-Armenian Axis in Contemporary Foreign Policy. - TBC*

**Rep. of House of Savoy: The Strategic Depth of Italo-Armenian Relations and Cultural Diplomacy. Emphasis on high-level engagement and action-oriented results. - TBC*

Royal/Philanthropic Focus

H.R.H Prince/Princess: Launching the Savoy-Armenia European Youth Initiative (Commitment to Educational/Cultural Exchange). - TBC

Vache Manoougian: Philanthropy and Cultural Security (Support for Armenological-European projects). - TBC

This session culminates in the Actionable Outcomes



5

THE HOUSE OF SAVOY IN ARMENIA

Actionable Outcomes
& The Next Step

TITLE

“The Final Resolution: Establishing the House of Savoy Branch in Armenia”

*Goal: Announce the tangible outcome of the conference: the establishment of the
Representative Office*

Actionable Outcome

*Launch/Announcement Ceremony: The Armenian Royal House Foundation (or similar
initiative) is launched by H.R.H. Prince Emanuele Filiberto.*

*Sponsorship: Acknowledge the role of Vatche Manoukian and external sponsors in funding VIP
logistics and the activities of the Fund.*

The Branch Mission (Clause 3.2)

- 1. Charity Programs: Humanitarian relief and medical cooperation.*
- 2. Educational Exchange: Launching Scholarship Programs with Europa/Italian universities.*
- 3. Cultural Cooperation: Sponsoring joint archival research (Matenadaran, Oxford, Italy).*
- 4. Diplomatic Dialogue: Platform for informal Royal Diplomacy.*



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THE HOUSE OF SAVOY IN ARMENIA

Implementation Timeline & Call to Action



IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE & CALL TO ACTION

TITLE

“Implementation: The Road to the Official Installation (2026)”

Goal: Present a clear, achievable roadmap to maintain momentum

Next Steps & Timeline

****Feb - April 26: Formation of a Joint Steering Committee to finalize Branch action plans.***

****Spring 2026: Follow-up Conference in Dilijan (UWC, YSU, Matenadaran).***

****Autumn 2026: Official Installation Ceremony of the House of Savoy Branch in Armenia.***

Emphasize the continuity from Oxford to Yerevan/Dilijan

Call to Action

The Participants Call Upon: Governments, academic institutions, and private donors to support this initiative as a pivotal step to advance Armenia's European vector and preserve its unique cultural heritage.

Key sponsors will be acknowledged separately





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THE HOUSE OF SAVOY IN ARMENIA Sponsorship Overview



SPONSORSHIP OVERVIEW

TITLE

“Sustaining the Initiative: Key Sponsors and Funding”

Goal: Demonstrate financial viability and list strong partners

VIP Funding

All VIP logistics (travel, accommodation, security) covered by External Sponsors (Vatche Manoukian, Rafi Manoukian / Local Sponsors). Confirm financing

Key Potential Sponsors of the Conference

**Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (Principal Sponsor: Funds the Oxford Chair)*

**Vatche Manoukian (Core Stakeholder & VIP Underwriter)*

**Raffi Manoukian (Demonstrated interest in Oxford Armenian Heritage)*

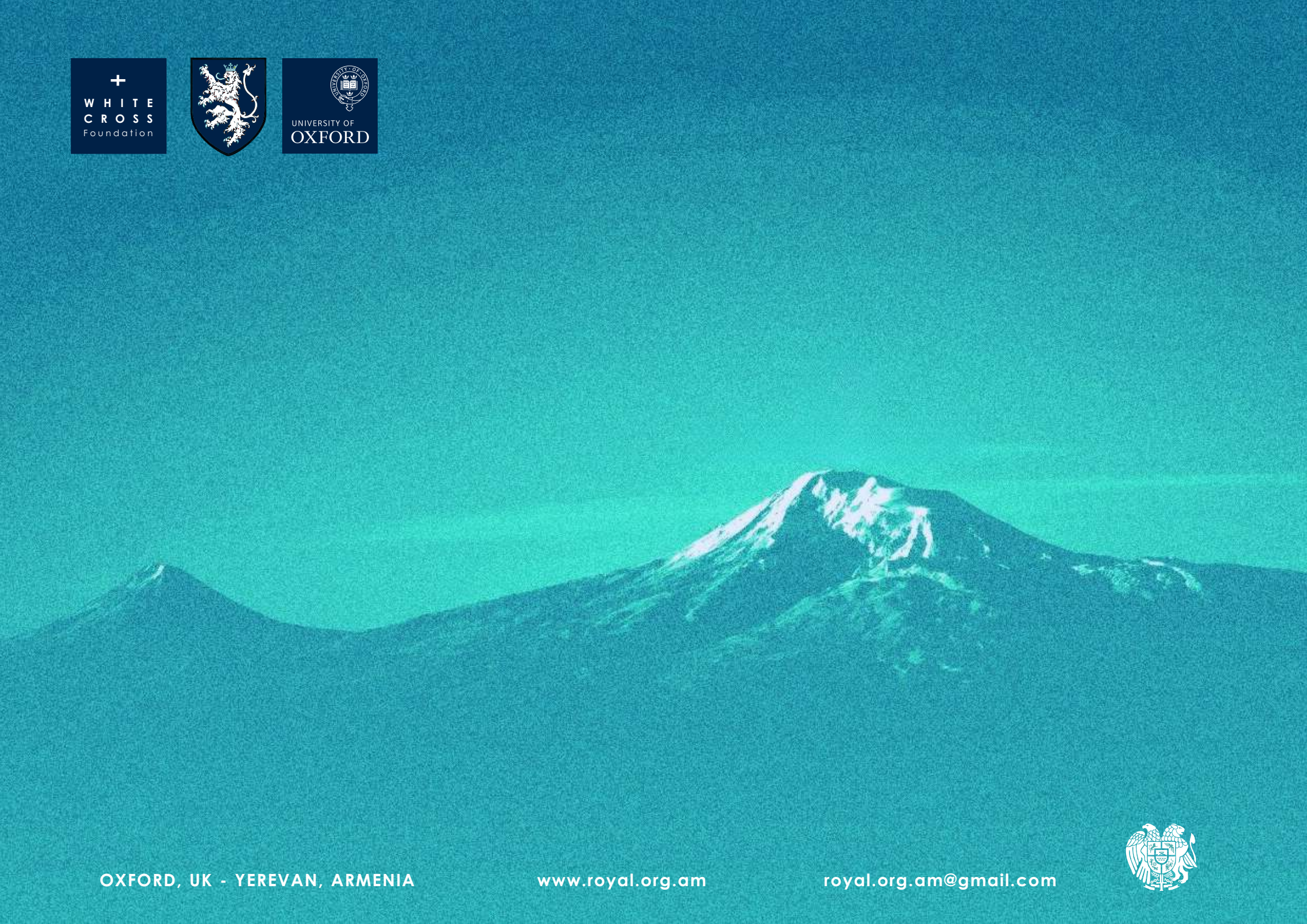
**Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU) (Global Non-Profit & Cultural Partner)*

Cooperation with other Sponsors is possible

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