

Keeping the Painting on the Easel – Reflections on Life, Career, and the Art of Continually Becoming

By HRATCH TCHILINGIRIAN

Life is not a finished painting hung upon the wall to be admired as a static artifact of who we are. It is not something we frame and declare, “Here it is; this is my life.” To view life this way is to deny its very essence. Life is fluid, dynamic, and ever-changing—a living work of art that evolves with every passing moment. This is also true for professional life.

Imagine instead that your life is a painting that remains on the easel, perpetually unfinished. Each day, you approach it with fresh eyes, a brush in hand, ready to add new strokes of color, refine its details, or sometimes paint over entire sections to create something entirely new. This metaphor has helped me see life as a process—a canvas upon which we continuously create and recreate ourselves.

Embracing Imperfection

Experience in life—and in art—teaches us that perfection is not the goal. A masterpiece is rarely the result of flawless execution. Instead, it is born from the artist’s willingness to experiment, to make mistakes, and to embrace the unexpected. The same is true of living a fulfilling life. Each misstep, each moment of uncertainty, is not a failure but a brushstroke—a necessary part of the larger composition.

When we view life as an ongoing painting, we learn to accept imperfection as part of the journey. We begin to understand that what may seem like an error today can become the foundation for transformation tomorrow. The layers of paint—some vibrant, others muted; some chaotic, others deliberate—tell the story of who we are and who we are becoming.

The Courage to Revisit the Canvas

To keep our life’s painting on the easel requires courage. It means revisiting the canvas often, even when we are unsure of what to add or afraid of what we might see. I have often returned to my own canvas after feeling stuck or disappointed, unsure whether to add a new color or scrape away what no longer felt true.

One must be willing to ask oneself: What needs to change? What can I improve? What do I want this painting to say about me?



As we grow and evolve, regardless of age, new experiences, relationships, and insights become the colors on our palette. Sometimes life offers bright and joyful hues—moments of love, success, and celebration that brighten the canvas. At other times, it brings darker shades—grief, loss, and struggle that add depth and contrast to the painting. Both are essential. Without darkness, light has no context; without contrast, the painting lacks dimension.

An Endless Work in Progress

I value the moments when I stand before my “unfinished painting”—to look, think, reflect, and discover a new color. The beauty of life is that it is never truly finished. We continue adding to the canvas until the very end. The desire to leave behind a legacy of color and texture for others to admire and draw inspiration from can become one of life’s pleasant motivations.

Perhaps the greatest gift of all is the knowledge that our painting, though uniquely ours, is part of a larger gallery—a shared human experience that connects us to one another.

So, I have learned to be comfortable keeping my life’s painting on the easel and returning to it often. Approach your own painting in progress with fresh inspiration from daily living, courage, and an open heart. Remember that the most extraordinary works of art are not those that are perfect, but those that are alive with the spirit of their creator.

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Civil Contract Wins Election

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need the most accurate picture possible,” he said.

Hovakimyan explained that the discrepancy regarding Prosperous Armenia’s vote share resulted from the fact that electronic voting results were not initially included in the online system and because percentages displayed on the website were rounded.

“In this case, even a single vote can be decisive for a political force

that is very close to the threshold. I would remind everyone that these are preliminary results. We still have a verification and recount phase ahead. Every effort must be made to ensure that the final figures reflect the will of Armenia’s voters with the highest possible accuracy,” he said.

He reiterated that no election-day violations were recorded that could have influenced the final outcome and again expressed support for a full recount of votes nationwide.

Congratulatory Message

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On this occasion, we congratulate Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and “Civil Contract” party on their impressive victory in these decisive elections. We would also like to note that, by once again entrusting the Prime Minister and his team with the responsibility of governing the country, the citizens of Armenia have reaffirmed their belief that the homeland is on the right path. They expect the continuation of the peace process, the deepening of strategic and economic relations with the European Union and the United States, as well as the implementation of programs aimed at improving the welfare and standard of living of the population.

If, during the 2021 elections,

an existential threat hung over the homeland like the sword of Damocles, today both the country and the region are entering a new era of peace and economic cooperation, in which Armenia is destined to play an important role. This, however, requires prudent and balanced decisions from both the executive branch and the National Assembly. Therefore, we remain hopeful that the new National Assembly formed as a result of this election will engage in effective legislative work, in which the opposition will also make its important contribution, rather than pursuing the futile objective of changing the government at any cost.

**Central Committee of the Social
Democrat Hunchakian Party
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International Leaders Congratulate

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ment Marta Kos also pledged to visit Yerevan as soon as possible.

“In the face of broad Russian pressure and interference, this victory reaffirms the Armenian people’s choice in favor of a strong, sovereign, and independent Armenia,” she said.

Unlike previous elections, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was among the first foreign leaders to congratulate Pashinyan. Zelenskyy stressed that now is the moment for Brussels to stand by Armenia as it faces Russian pressure, describing the situation as a test for the European Union.

“The European Union must provide real support to Armenia and do everything necessary so that people feel their lives are improving through relations with Europe. It is important not to lose time or miss opportunities,” he said.

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio also congratulated Prime Minister Pashinyan on his party’s reelection.

“Congratulations to Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan on his party’s reelection. The United States stands with the Prime Minister and Armenia in advancing peace,” Rubio said.

He added that Washington remains committed to advancing the goals of the historic Washington Peace Sum-

mit, including the implementation of TRIPP, and looks forward to working together to promote peace, stability, and prosperity in the South Caucasus and beyond.

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian also sent a congratulatory message to Pashinyan and the Civil Contract party.

In his message, Pezeshkian said the renewed confidence shown by the Armenian people reflects their desire to continue policies aimed at peace, development, stability, and regional cooperation. He expressed confidence that the positive and dynamic trajectory of Armenian-Iranian relations would continue to deepen through broader and more constructive bilateral cooperation.

The Iranian president stated that such cooperation would not only serve the national interests of both countries but would also contribute to strengthening peace, stability, and development throughout the region.

Pezeshkian concluded by wishing Pashinyan, his government, and the people of Armenia peace, prosperity, happiness, and continued success.

As of now, congratulations have also been received from Spain, the Baltic states, Sweden, and India. Russia, however, has yet to issue an official response.

Armenia Set to Become a Global Center

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“This project is not only a powerful architectural structure but also one of the most important cornerstones of Armenia’s future technology-driven economy,” Hayrapetyan wrote. “Our strategic goal is to transform the country into a global ‘garden of AI factories,’ where advanced computing capabilities, local talent, and an innovative ecosystem work together in synergy.”

According to the minister, the first phase of the project involves an investment of \$500 million, while total investments are expected to reach approximately \$4 billion upon completion of the second phase.

The facility is expected to be-

come the largest AI infrastructure project in the region. Once operational, it will cover 200,000 square meters and utilize more than 6,000 NVIDIA Blackwell GPUs.

Hayrapetyan noted that by the end of 2027, the number of GPUs is projected to exceed 100,000, including NVIDIA Blackwell and Vera Rubin processors, placing Armenia among the world’s top five countries in terms of AI computing capacity.

“Through the joint cooperation of the Armenian government and Firebird AI, Armenia is transforming from a consumer of technology into a country capable of offering advanced AI solutions and technological products to the world, ready to help shape the rules of the future,” he wrote.