## JOINT DECLARATION ON BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN

## THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

October 17-20, 2022

## Sofia

The President of the Republic of Armenia Vahagn Khachaturyan and the President of the Republic of Bulgaria Rumen Radev (hereinafter referred to as the Sides) upon the completion of the high-level talks conducted in the framework of President Vahagn Khachaturyan's State Visit to the Republic of Bulgaria,

In the context of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Bulgaria,

Mindful of long-standing traditions of friendship and cooperation, a rich historical and cultural heritage, and a strong sense of solidarity between the Armenian and Bulgarian peoples,

Reaffirming their commitment to promote, uphold, and protect the fundamental human rights and the Sides' respect for democratic values and the rule of law,

Aiming to raise the bilateral relations to a qualitatively new level as well as to enhance cooperation in multilateral dimensions,

## Declare:

The Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Bulgaria note with satisfaction a steady development and broadening of the political ties and express their unwavering commitment to further intensify the existing high-level political dialogue and economic cooperation at the bilateral level, as well as in the framework of the United Nations, Council of Europe, OSCE, BSEC, and other international and regional organizations;

The Sides reaffirm their commitment to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Helsinki Final Act and highlight the imperative to maintain international peace and security and condemn the threat or use of force. Armenia and Bulgaria express their respect to sovereignty, territorial integrity and internationally recognized borders of the states;

The Sides express their readiness to reinforce and broaden cooperation within the framework of the European Union initiatives, including the Eastern Partnership, and in the context of the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement, including but not limited to the political, economic and sectoral cooperation between the EU and Armenia, based on shared values and strong commitment to democracy, human rights and rule of law. Bulgaria supports EU's strong determination to enhance cooperation with Armenia, commends the progress of Armenia on the chosen democratic path and the principles of good governance and reiterates its readiness to assist Armenia in its reform path;

The Sides attach special importance to invigorating the activities of the Armenian-Bulgarian Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, aiming at strengthening the mutually beneficial economic, financial, and scientific ties between the two countries,

The Sides express their support to the further development of cooperation and regular exchanges between the Parliaments of the two countries, including through the relevant friendship groups;

The Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Bulgaria express their desire to continue and deepen bilateral defense cooperation;

The Sides attach special importance to invigorating the decentralized cooperation and partnership between local authorities of the two countries, including the one established between Yerevan and Sofia, as an additional impetus for the development of bilateral relations;

The Sides stress that bilateral cooperation in the humanitarian field has deep roots in the historical, cultural, and religious closeness and common values shared by the two peoples and States;

Toward this end, the Sides express their strong determination to make every effort for the effective implementation of this Declaration.

VAHAGN KHACHATURYAN

**RUMEN RADEV**