

**UZBEKISTAN** 

**EUROUZ**MONTHLY REPORT ON

OCTOBER 2022



#### **EUROUZ Monthly Report on Uzbekistan**

October 2022

#### **EUROPE-UZBEKISTAN ASSOCIATION**

#### FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION



#### **EUROPE-UZBEKISTAN ASSOCIATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION**

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### Monthly Report on Uzbekistan

### October 2022

#### **IMPORTANT QUOTES**

"I invite every entrepreneur to visit our country and see that today, the best place to invest is Uzbekistan!"

#### Shavkat Mirziyoyev President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

"Uzbekistan is not only the most populous state in Central Asia, but is also the fastest-growing economy in the region, which needs sustainable infrastructure solutions. Our Bank stands ready to support this growth by financing such projects".

#### Jürgen Rigterink EBRD First Vice President

"Uzbekistan is opening its doors to the digital world and we are committed to helping it emerge as an IT hub that can benefit the whole of the Central Asian region".

Kaan Terzioglu CEO of VEON Group

#### **NOTABLE EVENTS PAST MONTH**

#### **Shavkat Mirziyoyev receives Charles Michel in Tashkent**

Top-level talks between Charles Michel and the President of Uzbekistan - Shavkat Mirziyoyev, took place on the 28th of October. In the EU-Uzbek relations, priority has been given to attracting direct investments, the latest technologies, best practices, and high standards of EU companies to Uzbekistan. The Uzbek side proposed to host the first EU-Central Asia Tourism Forum in Uzbekistan in 2023. Charles Michel also visited the city of Samarkand.

### The US Department of Commerce delegation visited Uzbekistan

A delegation from the Department of Commerce, led by an Under Secretary for Commerce for International Trade -Marisa Lago, visited Uzbekistan for the first time since the pandemic. Marisa Lago is the first high-level US trade official in the Joe Biden administration who visited the country. As part of the trip, the US delegation held meetings and negotiations in several ministries and departments while also visiting the production facilities of American and domestic companies.

### VEON Boosts Uzbekistan's IT Powerhouse with its AdTech, Big Data and Cybersecurity Services

On the 12th of October Veon announced new initiatives aimed at bridging the IT talent gap in Uzbekistan and supporting the country's plan to become a major IT hub in Central Asia. Among the others, VEON intends to open a regional hub of its OTM Global digital advertising organisation which will be located in Uzbekistan's new IT Park in Tashkent.

### Open Skies regime to be introduced at Samarkand International Airport

Starting from the 1st of October, foreign airlines will be able to operate flights to Samarkand International Airport irrespective of whether or not there is an intergovernmental agreement on air services.

#### Uzbekistan ranks 78th in rule of law ranking

Uzbekistan bypassed Russia, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan in the world ranking of the rule of law, compiled by the international organisation World Justice Project.

### **REGIONAL COOPERATION & PARTNERSHIPS**

#### **EUROPE**

#### Central Asia - EU summit takes place in Astana



President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev paid a working visit to the city of Astana on 27 October to attend the first meeting of heads of states in the Central Asia-European Union format. The event was attended by President of the European Council Charles Michel and leaders of the region. Prospects for the development of political dialogue, expansion of inter-regional cooperation, intensification of trade and economic cooperation and cultural and humanitarian exchanges were discussed. In this context, participants welcomed the EU-Central Asia Ministerial Conference on Connectivity planned for November 2022.

Learn more

#### Foreign Minister of Germany visited Uzbekistan



#### **Charles Michel visits Tashkent & Samarkand**



On the same day (on the 27th of October) after the Central Asia-EU summit in Astana Charles Michel - the President of the European Council departed to Uzbekistan, Top-level talks between Charles Michel and the President of Uzbekistan - Shavkat Mirziyoyev, took place on the 28th of October. In EU-Uzbek relations, priority has been given to attracting direct investments, the latest technologies, best practices, and high standards of EU companies to Uzbekistan. The EU-Central Asia Ministerial Conference on Connectivity to be held on the 18th of November 2022 in Samarkand, will accelerate the joint efforts for closer cooperation in harmonising Central Asia and EU transport routes. The Uzbek side proposed to host the first EU-Central Asia Tourism Forum in Uzbekistan in 2023. Charles Michel also visited the city of Samarkand.

Learn more

#### Josep Borrell to visit Uzbekistan

On November 17-18, Samarkand will host a ministerial meeting in the "European Union - Central Asia" format and an international conference on the theme "European Union - Central Asia interdependence: Global gateways for sustainable development".

Learn more

Uzbekistan, Hungary sign 15 documents to develop strategic partnership

Germany's Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock will start a three-day trip to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan on October 30. On the 1st of November she held negotiations with Vladimir Norov - Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan, discussing topical issues of the Uzbek-German agenda. The German delegation will also visit large enterprises of Tashkent and Samarkand.

Learn more

## The European Union's Special Representative for Central Asia, Ambassador Terhi Hakala visited Uzbekistan

During the visit which took place on the 19-24th of October, the EUSR CA met with the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Minister for Development of Information Technologies and Communications Sherzod Shermatov, as well as First Deputy Minister of Energy Azim Akhmedkhadjaev, First Deputy Minister of Water Resources Azimjon Nazarov and Deputy Minister for Transport Jasurbek Choriyev and travelled to Karakalpakstan. During the meetings, the issues of further expansion of the Uzbek-European multifaceted relations and strengthening of regional cooperation were considered. An exchange of views took place on the current international agenda.

Learn more

### Presidents of Uzbekistan and Türkiye discuss current issues on the bilateral agenda

As part of the Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia on the 13th of November, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev met with the President of the Republic of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The main attention was paid to the promotion of joint investment projects and the participation of leading Turkish companies in the privatisation of state-owned enterprises in Uzbekistan. An agreement was reached to deepen a productive dialogue within the framework of regular ministerial meetings in the Uzbekistan – Türkiye – Azerbaijan format.

Learn more

### Shavkat Mirziyoyev receives Minister of Industry and Trade of Russia

The President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev met the Deputy Chairman of the Russian Government Denis Manturov. The sides reached an agreement on the preparation of a bilateral program to expand the practical partnership between leading enterprises of Uzbekistan and Russia.

Learn more



As a result of the official visit of the President of Uzbekistan to Hungary, which took place on the 3-4th of October, 15 documents were signed at the level of governments, ministries and agencies of the two countries. Shavkat Mirziyoyev also held a meeting with President Katalin Novák in Hungary and with the representatives of business circles of Hungary.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan to open diplomatic representation in Budapest

On the 4th of October, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán held talks in an expanded format with the participation of official delegations of the two countries. An agreement was reached on opening a diplomatic mission of Uzbekistan in Budapest.

Learn more

### Germany intends to increase exports of Uzbek products

Representatives of the Consulate General of Uzbekistan in Frankfurt am Main held negotiations via videoconferencing with Yulia Shammasova, Director General of RSP International. It was emphasised that today Uzbekistan is becoming an important exporter in the international fruit and vegetable market. The possibilities of increasing exports to the German market of dried vegetables and fruits, as well as medical and hygiene products were considered.

Learn more

### More than 318 thousand Russian nationals entered Uzbekistan over 9 months

According to the Main Directorate for Migration and Citizenship of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, over the 9 months of this year, 318,156 citizens of the Russian Federation entered the country. Of these, 210,902 were men and 107,254 - women.

#### **NORTH & SOUTH AMERICA**

### The US Department of Commerce delegation visited Uzbekistan

A delegation from the Department of Commerce, led by an Under Secretary for Commerce for International Trade -Marisa Lago, visited Uzbekistan for the first time since the pandemic. Marisa Lago is the first high-level US trade official in the Joe Biden administration who visited the country. As part of the trip, the US delegation held meetings and negotiations in several ministries and departments while also visiting the production facilities of American and domestic companies.

Learn more

### US to help accelerate the process of Uzbekistan's accession to WTO

Deputy Prime Minister – Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade Jamshid Khodjaev held talks with US Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade Marisa Lago. The parties agreed to continue close cooperation with a view to the speedy joining of Uzbekistan into the WTO.

Learn more

#### Another US organisation registered in Uzbekistan

A branch of the non-governmental non-profit organisation East-West Management Institute, inc. (USA) has obtained state registration from the Ministry of Justice.

Learn more

### Delegation of the US Department of Commerce visits IT Park

On the 17th of October, a delegation from the US Department of Commerce led by Deputy Secretary of Commerce for International Trade Marisa Lago visited the IT Park Uzbekistan complex. During the meeting, the parties discussed issues of education, cooperation with USAID, the development of IT-English for the population of Uzbekistan, and the further development of the One Million Uzbek Coders project.

Learn more

#### Made in Uzbekistan products in the US market

The Uztekstilprom Association and WRAP International Certification signed a memorandum of cooperation that creates a solid foundation for the development of Uzbek-American cooperation in terms of clothes production. WRAP certification creates new export opportunities for Uzbek manufacturers.

Learn more

### Negotiations takes place at the Ministry of Energy with the Canadian Golden Horizon

On 17 October 2022, negotiations were held at the Ministry of Energy with the Golden Horizon Exploration Inc (Canada) and TransAtlantic Petroleum (Turkey) delegations. The parties discussed a project improving the production capacities of 5 gas fields of Dayakhatin, Kulbeshkak, Khodjikazgan, Savatli and Jeyhun through their 3D / 4D seismic survey, and the introduction of pressure maintenance technologies.

Learn more

#### **CENTRAL ASIA**

### Uzbekistan ranks 3rd among the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) by population

As of January 1, 2022, the number of permanent residents in Uzbekistan was 35.3 million people. As of October 1, 2022, the population of Uzbekistan is 35.8 million people, nearing 36 million.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan sign declaration on deepening strategic partnership

## Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan to swap land within border agreement

The meeting of the Jogorku Kenesh Committee on International Affairs, Defence, Security and Migration of Kyrgyzstan on 10 October, revealed the results of the recently signed agreement between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. It has been agreed that Uzbekistan received 4,485 hectares, and Kyrgyzstan - 19,699 hectares. After the ratification of the agreement, the map of Kyrgyzstan will increase by 15,806 hectares.



On October 20-21, Shavkat Mirziyoyev paid an official visit to Turkmenistan. President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev and President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov signed the Declaration on deepening the strategic partnership.In addition, 13 documents were signed at the level of governments, ministries and departments of the two countries, providing for the expansion of multifaceted Uzbek - Turkmen cooperation. Learn more

### Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan agree on border

A draft agreement has been prepared between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan on the demarcation of the state border. According to the document, the length of the demarcated line of the state border is 2,356.666 km. The agreement provides that after its entry into force, the parties conduct a joint check of the designation of the state borderline every 10 years.

#### Learn more

demarcation

### The President of Uzbekistan attends the meeting of the leaders of Central Asia and Russia



On October 14, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev attended the Central Asia – Russia Summit, in Astana. The leaders of Central Asia and

# Asian countries discussed security issues at Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) summit in Astana

On October 13, the sixth summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) started its work in Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan. CICA brought together the representatives of 50 countries, with 11 heads of state present. The key outcome of the summit was the adoption of the **Astana Declaration**, which laid the foundation for a full-scale transformation of the CICA from a platform into an international organisation to better address the issues of regional stability and security.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan discussed construction of highway "Irkeshtam – Daroot – Korgon – Uchkurgan"

On the 18th of October the negotiations were held via videoconferencing between Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade Jamshid Khodjayev and Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan Bakyt Torobayev. The deputy heads of the two countries considered the possibility of resuming passenger bus and railway transportation, increasing the number of flights between the two countries, and constructing the Irkeshtam - Daroot - Korgon - Uch - Korgon motorway, the progress in preparing for the meeting of the Uzbek-Kyrgyz Intergovernmental Commission on Bilateral Cooperation and a business forum in Bishkek.

Learn more

# Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan sign a roadmap for development of trade-economic and investment cooperation

Prime Minister of Uzbekistan Abdulla Aripov met the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Alikhan Smailov, on the sidelines of a meeting of the CIS Council of Government Heads held in Astana. Following the meeting, the heads of government signed a roadmap for the development of trade-economic and investment cooperation between the two countries. In particular, the document reflects plans to launch joint production projects in various industries, develop logistics infrastructure, increase the supply of industrial goods and prepare a number of important interstate agreements.

Russia exchanged views on the current issues of interaction in the "Central Asia – Russia" format, as well as on the regional and international agenda.

Learn more

#### CASPIAN REGION, MIDDLE EAST, SOUTH ASIA & AFRICA

#### Uzbekistan, Iran agree on simplification of visa regime

On the 13th of October, an agreement between the governments of Uzbekistan and Iran on the simplification of visa procedures for representatives of business and scientific circles, and tourist groups came into force.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan and UAE discuss prospects for expanding economic cooperation

A business forum took place in Dubai on 28 October, with a delegation from the Uzbek National Commodity Exchange and investors from the Emirates, India and Pakistan.

Learn more

#### Tashkent hosts a meeting of OTS transport ministers

As a result of the meeting of the ministers of transport of the Turkic states held in Tashkent on the 28th of October, two important documents were agreed upon. These are: agreement on international multimodal transportation between the member states of the organisation of Turkic states, put forward by Uzbekistan, and a program of cooperation in the field of transport, developed by the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Learn more

#### **EAST ASIA & PACIFIC**

A delegation of Uzbekistan takes part in the 15th Cooperation Forum "Central Asia - the Republic of Korea"



### Defence ministers of Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan signed a cooperation plan for 2023

On October 19, at the meeting of the Minister of Defence of Uzbekistan Bakhodir Kurbanov and the Minister of Defence of Azerbaijan Zakir Khasanov in Baku, a bilateral cooperation plan for 2023 was signed.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan and Israel agree on cooperation between customs authorities

A delegation of Uzbekistan headed by Chairman of the State Customs Committee Akmalhoja Mavlonov is in Israel on a trip within the framework of the Global Program of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Customs Organisation to control container traffic. At the meeting, the parties agreed to launch an online exchange of information between the customs authorities of Uzbekistan and Israel and establish other forms of interaction.

Learn more

## Thailand changes procedure for citizens of Uzbekistan planning to visit the kingdom

By the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kingdom of Thailand in the period from October 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023, the period of temporary stay in Thailand for citizens of Uzbekistan receiving visas on arrival has been increased from 15 to 30 days.

Learn more

### Tashkent and Seoul to prepare a free trade agreement between the two countries

Working group of the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan visited the Republic of Korea on the 18-21st of October.

On 25 October 2022, in Busan (Republic of Korea), a delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan Vladimir Norov took part in the "15th Central Asia-Republic of Korea Cooperation Forum". The participants of the event were invited to create a regular mechanism for Dialogue between expert and analytical circles, as well as to hold the first Forum on traditional medicine in Tashkent. As a result of the Forum, a Joint Statement was adopted.

Learn more

#### Online Meeting of Senior Officials of the Dialogue "Central Asia + Japan" takes place

On 20 October 2022, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan Furkat Sidikov took part in the working meeting of senior officials of the Central Asia + Japan Dialogue in an online format. During the meeting, the agenda, concept and program of the upcoming 9th Conference of Foreign Ministers (CMFA) of the Dialogue "Central Asia + Japan" in Tokyo were discussed.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan establishes diplomatic relations with Guyana

Guyana became the 142nd country with which Uzbekistan established diplomatic relations.

Learn more

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

#### Tashkent hosts International Economic Forum

Tashkent hosted the International Economic Forum on the 5th of October. The forum included B2B and B2G meetings and the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between I-Cell and the Road Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) renew strategic partnership

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Government of Uzbekistan have extended their successful cooperation to continue to support the country in meeting its rural development goals. Over the next five years, IFAD and the Government of Uzbekistan commit to investing in the resilience and productivity of 205,000 rural households, representing 1.2 million rural people, small-scale producers, women and youth.

Learn more

#### Learn more

### Entrepreneurs from South Korea intend to participate in major projects in Uzbekistan

On 5 October, First Deputy Chairman of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sodik Safoyev received a delegation led by Chairman of the Board of Daewoo Construction Group Jeong Joon-won. Representatives of the Daewoo Construction Group stressed that they are interested in establishing and further developing long-term cooperation in the field of infrastructure and construction of modern housing, the implementation of Smart City projects, renewable energy and other areas in Uzbekistan.

Learn more

### Samarkand and Nara agree on sister cities partnership

On the 18th of October, a ceremony was held in the city of Samarkand to create sister cities between Samarkand, which was a strategic point of the Great Silk Road, and the city of Nara, which was the eastern terminus of the Great Silk Road. Nara was the capital of ancient Japan.

Learn more

### UN General Assembly voted for territorial integrity of Ukraine: Uzbekistan abstained

The United Nations General Assembly has voted overwhelmingly to condemn Russia's "attempted illegal annexation" of four Ukrainian regions and demand its immediate reversal.

Learn more

#### IFAD to open its office in Uzbekistan

Tashkent hosted a regional conference on the topic "A unified way to finance the transformation of the food system in the Europe-Central Asia region" with the participation of the government of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan and representatives of international organisations. Within the framework of the conference, a ceremony was held to sign an agreement on opening a representative office of the United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Uzbekistan.

## Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan takes part in extraordinary meeting of Organisation of Turkic States Ministerial Council

At the meeting, the participants exchanged views on topical issues of the regional and international agenda and interaction within the organisation, and also considered draft documents submitted for signing during the OTS summit scheduled for November 11, 2022, in Samarkand. Learn more

#### **OSCE Forum in Uzbekistan**

Combating human trafficking and forced labour in supply chains of companies and public entities was the focus of a forum organised on the 5th of October in Tashkent by the Office of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings. The forum aimed to establish a network of experts to support OSCE participating States, including Uzbekistan, in adopting and implementing policies to ensure that their supply chains do not contribute to human trafficking. Learn more

#### Tashkent hosts conference on Afghanistan

On the 19th of October, Tashkent hosted an international conference "Afghanistan: regional interconnectedness, security and development". This forum became a logical continuation of the international high-level conference "Afghanistan: security and economic development" held in Tashkent in July this year. The conference was attended by delegations from the security and intelligence agencies of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan to host World Conference on Creative Economy in 2024



# President of Uzbekistan attended a meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in Almaty

Trade turnover of Uzbekistan with the states of the Organisation increased by 35 percent last year, and since the beginning of this year it has grown by another third. Shavkat Mirziyoyev stressed the importance of the new logistics corridors such as railways Termez - Mazar-i-Sharif - Kabul - Peshawar, as well as China - Kyrgyzstan - Uzbekistan, which will contribute to the transformation of the CIS into a key link in transcontinental transport. It was also agreed to nominate Samarkand as the cultural capital of the Commonwealth in 2024.

Tashkent received the status of "observer" of the World Alliance of International Financial Centres

<u>Learn more</u>

## The 54th plenary meeting of the Council of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly takes place in Samarkand

On 27 October 2022, a meeting of the Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the CIS Member States was held. The meeting was attended by parliamentary delegations of the Commonwealth countries, representatives of partner international organisations.

Learn more

### Better Cotton Initiative to open representative office in Uzbekistan

On the 14th of October, Head of the Senate Tanzila Narbayeva met with Rachel Beckett, manager of the Better Cotton Initiative (BCI), a non-governmental non-profit organisation. The sides reached an agreement to open a BCI representative office in Tashkent in the near future.

Learn more

Learn more

## Uzbekistan and UN Counter-Terrorism Office sign agreement to strengthen cooperation

On October 18, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan Vladimir Norov held talks with the UN Deputy Secretary General – Head of the UN Counter-Terrorism Office Vladimir Voronkov. Following the meeting, a "road map" was signed, which includes initiatives and proposals put forward during the Tashkent conference and defines priority areas for bilateral cooperation.

Chiefs of Communications of the Armed Forces of the CIS Member States met in Samarkand

The Third World Conference on the Creative Economy was held from 5 to 7 October 2022 in Bali (Indonesia). In 2024, the Fourth World Conference on Creative Economy will be held in Uzbekistan, organised by the Art and Culture Development Foundation under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Learn more

The Chiefs discussed a Concept for the Development of the Joint (Unified) Communications System of the Armed Forces of the CIS Member States, proposed by the Belarussian delegation.

Learn more

#### **LEGISLATIVE & STATE STRUCTURAL CHANGES**

### Exporters of Uzbekistan to be provided with additional benefits

The President signed a decree "On measures to further expand the export potential of business entities". According to the document, active exporters who take part in the special program can receive financial assistance in the amount of up to USD 5 million.

Learn more

### More than 18k standards will be moved from mandatory to voluntary status

The new law will allow new types of production using modern international standards and greatly facilitate running the businesses.

Learn more

Uzbekistan to launch e-system for declaring information about income of a civil servant and his/her family members

Learn more

### Government to support citizens in the acquisition of renewable energy devices

From 1 October 2022, citizens of Uzbekistan (individuals) can purchase solar and wind power plants and solar water heating devices of domestic production with payment in instalments without interest for three years. In addition, when paying the full cost of RES devices, consumers can receive compensation.

Learn more

### Stricter punishment for computer fraud introduced in Uzbekistan

In particular, the punishment for fraud using computer equipment has been toughened. Now such an act is punishable by a fine of 300 to 400 sizes of basic estimated value or correctional labour from 2 to 3 years or imprisonment from 5 to 8 years with deprivation of a certain right.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan nullifies rate of import customs duty for some types of goods

On October 12, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev signed a decree waiving customs import duties for 14 types of equipment and 21 types of raw materials and semi-finished products.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan plans to reduce statistical and tax reporting of business

Learn more

### The Law "On Standardisation" in a new edition is approved

With the adoption of the Law, more than 18,000 standards are moving from mandatory to voluntary. At the same time, the procedure for applying international, regional and foreign standards in the Republic of Uzbekistan is being introduced

Learn more

### "How long will they steal gas?": Sardor Umurzakov instructs to check methane gas stations

Shavkat Mirziyoyev, having learned about dissatisfaction of entrepreneurs with the shutdown of gas supply to greenhouses, assigned a corresponding task to the head of administration Sardor Umurzakov to consider this issue. At a meeting chaired by the head of administration, a lot of criticism was expressed. An audio recording of the meeting was later circulated online. It turned out that "Khududgaztaminot" JSC disconnected 268 greenhouses from natural gas on a total area of 700 hectares. As a result, 70 thousand tons of crops will be lost, 30 million dollars of exports, and most importantly, about 10 thousand people working in greenhouses disconnected from gas may lose their jobs.

### **ECONOMY SECTION**

#### **KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS, LOANS, & PUBLIC FINANCE**

Central Bank updates Uzbekistan's growth scenarios and approves monetary policy for 2023-2025

The Central Bank of Uzbekistan expects inflation to remain at 8.5%-9.5% in 2023 and decrease to 5% by the second half of 2024. Medium-term macroeconomic estimates are projected by two scenarios:

- The baseline scenario predicts real GDP growth of 4.5%-5% in 2023, 5%-6% percent in 2024, and 6%-6.5% in 2025. This scenario assumes a fiscal deficit-to-GDP ratio of 3% in 2023, 2.5% in 2024, and 2% in 2025.
- Risky scenario: 3%-3.5% real GDP growth in 2023, 4%-4.5% in 2024, and 4%-5% in 2025. The total budget deficit to GDP ratio in 2023 may be 4%-4.5% under this scenario. In 2024, 3.5%-4%, and in 2025, 3%-4%.

Learn more

VAT rate will be changed from 15 to 12% from 2023, which may help to decrease inflation by 0.8% Learn more

#### Uzbekistan's GDP increased by 5.8% in 9 months

The economy of Uzbekistan continues to demonstrate stability and strong growth against the backdrop of unstable global conditions, global market price shocks and uncertainty. The gross domestic product (GDP) of Uzbekistan increased by 5.8% in January-September. Learn more

#### In September, inflation in Uzbekistan was 1%

Inflation in the consumer sector of Uzbekistan in September amounted to 1.03%.

Learn more

Over 80% of remittances to Uzbekistan come from Russia - CBU

Learn more

Average interest rate on loans in Uzbek soums decreased to 22.2%

The weighted average interest rate on loans in the national currency has been decreasing for the third month in a row.

Learn more

Fitch assigned BB- rating with stable outlook to Regional Electrical Power Networks JSC

Learn more

Agrobank JSCB (AGBA) attracted syndicated loans for almost USD 150 million from Credit Suisse AG

Learn more

### Volume of Uzbekistan's external assets reached USD 13.3 billion

The external assets of Uzbekistan for the second quarter increased markedly, following from the report of the Central Bank on the balance of payments.

Learn more

### Uzbek, Hungarian banks sign EUR 50 million loan deal

Uzbekistan's National Bank for Foreign Economic Activities will get a EUR 50 million loan from the state-owned Hungarian Export-Import Bank to finance projects implemented in the country.

Learn more

### ADB loans USD 500 million to Uzbekistan for food security, social protection, and jobs

The Asian Development Bank has approved a USD 500 million loan to ensure food security, social protection for vulnerable groups and support employment in Uzbekistan amid the economic consequences of the war in Ukraine.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan to spend USD 506 million on 5G and telecommunications networks

Uzbektelecom reached an agreement with Chinese companies Huawei and ZTE on the implementation of four investment projects worth USD 506.8 million to develop the telecommunications infrastructure of Uzbekistan.

Learn more

#### State sells stake in Uzcard for UZS 210.1 billion

The 75% state share in the Unified Republican Processing Centre LLC (UzCard company) was privatised for UZS 210.1billion by four individuals - existing shareholders that owned 25% of the company.

#### Banks in Uzbekistan face a severe shortage of Learn more cash dollars

Several banks in Uzbekistan have imposed restrictions on the sale of cash foreign currency. This is explained by the increase in speculative practices. In some banks in Uzbekistan, there is a shortage of cash currency.

Learn more

Uzbekistan in top 10 countries with the greatest progress in ensuring food security

Learn more

Uzbekistan exports USD 760.2 million worth of fruits and vegetables

In January-September 2022, Uzbekistan exported 1.2 million tons of fruits and vegetables worth USD 760.2 million. The figure increased by 169,000 tons compared to the corresponding period of last year. Learn more

Uzbekistan exports finished textile products worth **USD 3 billion** 

Learn more

Uzbekistan sold USD 4 billion worth of products to Russia and China

In 9 months (January-September 2022), Uzbekistan exported USD 4 billion worth of products to Russia and China. During the specified period, the highest export of Uzbekistan was recorded with Russia - USD 2.1 billion. It is followed by China and Turkey, which imported USD 2 billion and USD 1.1 billion, respectively.

Learn more

Uzbekistan and Russia to develop more than 20 projects worth nearly USD 4 billion

Learn more

Uzbekistan's export of IT services to exceed USD 100 million in 2022

The export of IT services in 2022 will exceed USD 100 million. In 2021, the number of exporting enterprises amounted to 102, the volume of exports was USD 46 million, and since the beginning of 2022, the number of such enterprises has reached 257.

Learn more

The average rental price in Uzbek capital has risen 22.4% - CERR

Learn more

EBRD to loan Uzbekistan USD 47.1 million to improve country's power grid

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development will help the National Electric Grid of Uzbekistan by providing the sovereign loan of up to USD 47.1 million to finance the construction of a new transmission line between the settlements of Sarimay and Djankeldy in the Khorezm and Bukhara region. Learn more

EBRD approves a USD 2 million loan for the Universal Bank in Uzbekistan to support private micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in Uzbekistan

Learn more

ADB to allocate USD 59 million for the development of four cities in Uzbekistan

The Asian Development Bank has approved a USD 59 million loan to improve living conditions and economic competitiveness in four medium-sized cities in Uzbekistan.

Learn more

EBRD estimates its loan portfolio in Uzbekistan at **EUR 2 billion** 

The current loan portfolio of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) projects in Uzbekistan is estimated at over EUR 2 billion. The bank's loan portfolio is calculated for the implementation of 63 projects.

Learn more

World Bank to allocate USD 300 million of soft loans to livestock industry in Uzbekistan

Learn more

US Department of Labour awards USD 2 million grant to help improve labour conditions in Uzbekistan's cotton industry

Learn more

Uzbekistan significantly increases imports of electric vehicles (EVs)

From 2018 to 2021, 991 electric vehicles have been Uzbekistan, imported to while only January-September 2022, the country imported 1,629 electric vehicles.

IFI GDP GROWTH **FORECAST FOR CENTRAL ASIA** Kyrgyz Republic ■ Tajikistan ■ Uzbekistan ■ Turkmenistan ■ Kazakhstan 8 7 6 5.5 5.3 5.2 5 3.8 4 3 2 5 Ω World Bank (Oct-22) EBRD (Sep-22) IMF (Oct-22) ■ Kazakhstan 3 3 2.5 4 3.8 Kyrgyz Republic Tajikistan 4.2 5.5 ■ Uzbekistan 5.3 5.5 5.2 ■ Turkmenistan 7 1.2

Figure 1 Infographics: IFI GDP growth forecast for Central Asia

Source: EUROUZ

#### **TRADE & BUSINESS**

#### "Investor Support Centre" to be created in Uzbekistan

The Centre will be authorised to resolve issues at all levels based on an innovative approach, providing support to investors and entrepreneurs on the principle of a "one stop shop".

Learn more

#### **IPO of UzAuto Motors starts**

The IPO of UzAuto Motors started on 6 October 2022, being the first public offering (IPO) by a large state-owned company in Uzbekistan. The company will place up to 5% of shares on the Uzbekistan Stock Exchange, which can be purchased by individuals and legal entities.

Learn more

858 investment projects worth USD 1.7 billion planned to be implemented in Syrdarya

### The Ministry for Investments and Foreign Trade introduced the "Investment Guide to Uzbekistan"

The Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan has published the Investment Guide of Uzbekistan (<a href="https://mift.uz/ru/investp">https://mift.uz/ru/investp</a>), designed to provide potential investors and business representatives with all necessary information in English, Russian and Japanese to make investment decisions.

Learn more

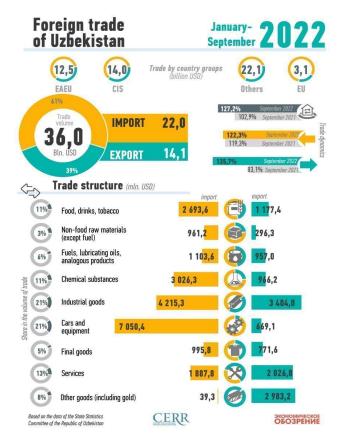
# The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan launched the first digital digest "New Uzbekistan. New Opportunities"

The digest contains information on the latest developments in Uzbekistan's economic life, ongoing reforms and transformations, new business opportunities, success stories and upcoming events.

On October 6, a meeting was held in the Sayhunabad district on measures for the economic and social development of the Syrdarya region.

Learn more

Figure 2 Infographics: Uzbekistan's foreign trade for January-September 2022



Source: CERR

Uzbekistan's foreign trade turnover in January-September 2022 amounted to USD 36.0 billion. Exports in foreign trade turnover amounted to USD 14.1 billion, while imports in foreign trade amounted to USD 22.0 billion.

Learn more

Uzbekistan Temir Yollari announces tender to buy 34 electric trains

Learn more

#### **Budapest hosts Uzbek-Hungarian Business Forum**

On the 3rd of October, an Uzbek-Hungarian business forum was held in Budapest. The sides discussed such topics as the opening of a logistics hub in Hungary with its subsequent re-registration into a customs warehouse to organise the export of Uzbek products to the markets of

Toyota Tsusho Corporation and Uzbektelecom sign a contract for a total amount of more than USD 150 million

Learn more

#### French b1 to open 250 grocery stores in Uzbekistan

The French bi1 grocery store chain will open 25-30 new stores by the end of 2022 to reach a strategic plan of 250 stores in Tashkent and the region.

Learn more

### Revotech and Effika Corp. sign a memorandum for USD 20 million

On 24 October, as part of ICTWEEK Uzbekistan - 2022, Minister of ICT Sherzod Shermatov held a meeting with representatives of the American company Effika Corp. As part of the negotiations, a memorandum was signed between a resident of the Revotech IT park and the American company Effika Corp on the provision of outsourcing services in the insurance sector for 2023, in the amount of USD 20 million.

Learn more

#### Uzbekistan may open a trading house in Minsk Learn more

### The General Motors (GM) President visited Uzbekistan on 21-24 October

During the talks in Tashkent, the head of GM discussed the current state of cooperation with Uzbekistan, as well as further steps for the development of the automotive industry in the country.

Learn more

Enterprises of Kashkadarya and Vitebsk regions sign contracts for USD 3 million

Learn more

## Uzbekistan's FTT exceeds USD 36 billion after nine months of trading

Compared to the corresponding period of 2021, the figure increased by USD 7.7 billion.

Learn more

Boston Consulting Group to open an office in Tashkent

Learn more

A branch of the Association of Independent Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of Türkiye (MÜSİAD) opened in Tashkent

Hungary and neighbouring countries, using the seaports of Poti (Georgia) and Constanta (Romania).

Learn more

**BANKING & FINANCE** 

For the moment, MÜSİAD represents 60,000 Turkish businesses in Uzbekistan.

Learn more

#### Central Bank reports rising cash demand in Uzbekistan

The turnover of cash in banks since the beginning of the year has reached 503 trillion soums. This is 39% more than the same period last year.

Learn more

### Uzbek joint stock companies issue securities for UZS 164.6 trillion

Learn more

#### Inflation at 1.2% in October

In the past month, prices for food products increased by an average of 1.4%, non-food products – by 0.9% and paid services to the population – by 1.5%. Inflation in October reached 1.2% turning into 12.2% year over year (y-o-y).

Learn more

### Nearly 70 thousand Russians opened bank accounts in Uzbekistan in 2022

Almost half of them live and work in Uzbekistan on a permanent basis.

Learn more

### Figure 3 Infographics: UZS depreciation against USD/EUR and RUB



UZS depreciation against USD in September was 0.77%, turning into just 3.01% y-o-y figures. Against the EUR the annual appreciation reached 14.4% and 30.5% for RUB. Learn more

### The banking system of Uzbekistan maintains financial stability - Central Bank

The banking system of Uzbekistan currently maintains financial stability, despite the shocks associated with the deterioration of the external geopolitical situation, high global inflation, an increase in the level of domestic debt burden and the volume of problem loans.

Learn more

### Uzbekistan Currency Exchange announced the launch of futures contracts trading - initially on USD only

Currently settled futures are available only for USD FX rate positions with expiration 1, 2, and 3 months, and only commercial banks are allowed to deal with these instruments. In the future, the availability will be expanded in both types of the basis asset and expiration terms.

Learn more

### Central Bank of Uzbekistan revokes licences of two banks

The Central Bank has revoked licences of Turkistonbank and Hi-Tech Bank. According to the law "On guarantees for the protection of citizens' deposits in banks", deposits of individuals in banks are guaranteed by the Fund for Guaranteeing Citizens' Deposits in Banks, in this regard, all funds of depositors in Turkistonbank and HI-TECH BANK will be returned as a matter of priority in full within 2 months.

#### TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

#### ATI.SU enters Uzbek market

International freight trucks delivery on-line aggregator ATI.SU opened the office in Uzbekistan and started expansion at the local market.

Learn more

#### Open Skies regime to be introduced at Samarkand **International Airport**

Starting from the 1st of October, foreign airlines will be able to operate flights to Samarkand International Airport irrespective of whether or not there intergovernmental agreement on air services.

Learn more

#### Malaysian company may be engaged in modernisation of Bukhara airport

The company operates the air harbour of Istanbul, has experience in India and the Maldives. Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad is considering its participation in tendering procedures for the management of Bukhara international Airport.

Learn more

### Emirati DP World may build a logistics hub in Tashkent region

On the 20th of October, the Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan (MIFT) held a meeting with representatives of DP World. Following the negotiations, representatives of the company expressed interest in the construction of a modern logistics centre in the Tashkent region.

Learn more

#### Three toll roads are planned to be built in Uzbekistan until 2026

Reportedly, by 2026 Uzbekistan plans to implement 154 public-private partnership projects worth USD 14 billion. Learn more

#### Uzbekistan Railways to launch high-speed electric trains on 8 new routes

Learn more

#### AGRICULTURE, MINING, & MANUFACTURING

#### Scientists from Uzbekistan and the US have created a Uzbek cotton products for Italian brands new variety of cotton

Learn more

#### UzAuto Motors to increase car production capacity to 500,000 in 2023

Learn more

#### Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan plan to jointly produce cars

Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan will prepare an agreement for joint production of agricultural machinery and passenger cars. The parties have also agreed to cooperate in the circulation of medicines and medical devices.

Learn more

#### Privatisation of Ferganaazot to be completed by year-end

By October 2023, it is planned to privatise another nine enterprises that are now part of the Uzkimyosanoat concern.

Learn more

The Uztektilprom association held talks representatives of the Uzbekistan-Italy Chamber of Commerce - CUIZ, headed by its president Giorgio Veronese and the CEO of Cottonella. Following the meeting, the parties agreed to establish an enterprise for the tailoring of finished products for Italian brands in Uzbekistan.

Learn more

#### UzCanna plans to start planting medical cannabis

In the first year of production, the sown area will be 500 hectares, and then it is planned to increase to 3,000 hectares in four years. The project cost is USD 33 million. Learn more

#### New cooperation projects discussed with Loftleiðir (Iceland)

The management of Loftleiðir expressed interest in participating in the privatisation of large enterprises in Uzbekistan, and the readiness to provide entrepreneurs with advisory services in these areas.

### Large poultry cluster to be created in Uzbekistan with participation of Hungary

The Bonafarm Group company (Hungary) will travel to Uzbekistan to study the existing potential in the country in this area, and assess the overall cost and timing of the project.

Learn more

### A modern mobile soil analysis laboratory set up in Uzbekistan

The mobile laboratory will be capable of providing the information on the nutrients and trace elements in the soil from taken samples within 3-4 hours. The mobile laboratory is equipped with a solar-powered electric generator, fuel, a water tank, air ventilation and a GPS navigator to ensure accurate positioning.

#### Learn more

#### China's Exeed prepares to enter Uzbekistan's market

Chinese car brand Exeed plans to enter the Uzbek market. The company is now negotiating the location of its future production facility. Exeed intends to launch production in Uzbekistan in early 2023.

Learn more

### Chinese investors create a cherry plantation and an agro-logistic complex in Ferghana region

The agro-logistic complex called "Yingtai agricultural food technology" includes refrigerators with a total capacity of 1,500 tons, sorting and drying line for processing 5,000 tons of fruits per year. Finished products in the form of dried fruits and fruit chips are planned to be exported to China.

Learn more

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & R&D

### **VEON** Boosts Uzbekistan's IT Powerhouse with its AdTech, Big Data and Cybersecurity Services

On the 12th of October Veon announced new initiatives aimed at bridging the IT talent gap in Uzbekistan and supporting the country's plan to become a major IT hub in Central Asia. Among the others, VEON intends to open a regional hub of its OTM Global digital advertising organisation which will be located in Uzbekistan's new IT Park in Tashkent.

Learn more

#### IT Village opened in Samarkand region



On the 27th of October, an "oasis" of high technologies was opened in the Oksoy district of Samarkand region. The IT Village project, developed jointly with the Unified

#### Huawei and IT Park jointly launch a Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) centres in Uzbekistan

As part of ICTWEEK UZBEKISTAN 2022 in Samarkand, Huawei and IT Park agreed to open BPO centres in two cities of Uzbekistan based on smart and green solutions. Learn more

### IT Park offers USD 10 million for Tajikistan's search system

Reportedly, IT Park of Uzbekistan offered USD 10 million for the Dodaho.tj search system developed in Tajikistan. <u>Learn more</u>

### Smart Farm industrial technology platform to be created in Uzbekistan

In cooperation between Uzbekistan and Korea, the industrial technology platform "Uzbekistan Smart Farm" is being launched, designed to become a driving force for economic growth by improving the efficiency of the agricultural sector. The project was developed in collaboration with the agricultural knowledge and innovation system - AKIS Agro Services Centre, Korean organisations KIAT, KOMI, KITECH, CAMTIC and Agro Solution Korea.

Learn more

InnoWeek.Uz-2022 in Tashkent

Integrator - UZINFOCOM will allow to organise an IT infrastructure in remote regions of the Republic, providing an opportunity to attract and teach advanced IT technologies to children from nearby areas and start developing a new direction of the ICT industry - IT.TOURISM.

Learn more

#### Prow announces expansion into Uzbekistan

Prow, a UAE-based provider of cybersecurity and data management, has announced its expansion into the key markets of Bahrain and Uzbekistan at the Gitex Global 2022 in Dubai.

Learn more

The event was attended by representatives of over 50 foreign countries, more than 100 companies and 40 foreign organisations. Within the framework of the week, the international robotics competition International Robotics Challenge (IRC) was held.

Learn more

#### **TEDxWomen** is back in Uzbekistan

TEDxWomen is an opportunity to help move the conversation about the power of girls and women in a meaningful way. The third TEDxWomen event in Tashkent, Uzbekistan will be held in November 2022. Learn more

#### **CONSTRUCTION & REAL ESTATE**

Dubai-based EVOPS Hotel consultancy awarded the interior design project for Chortoq Boutique Hotel managed by ATECA Hotels in Uzbekistan

Learn more

Shavkat Mirziyoyev gets acquainted with draft master plan of Tashkent until 2045

The concept of "New Tashkent" is integrated into the draft master plan of the city of Tashkent until 2045. This new city will be built to the east of the capital, between the Chirchik and Karasu rivers. It will be designed to accommodate 500 thousand people.

Learn more

IntercityHotel Tashkent to Open in Uzbekistan's Capital in Q1 2023

Learn more

Uzbekistan to strengthen protection of rights to real estate

Learn more

Large real estate asset in Bukhara sold to a company owned by Artel

In the city of Bukhara, state property on 17.6 hectares was sold for UZS 110 billion. The buyer is a company that was established 6 days before the auction, and its founder, who is linked to Artel, received a tax credit of 23 billion soums within 6 months.

Learn more

Turkish ECC Environmental Ltd plans to enter the Uzbek market

Learn more

#### **ENERGY & FUEL**

Uzbekneftegaz JSC produces 489,700 tons of liquefied gas in 9 months

Uzbekneftegaz JSC produced 489,700 tons of liquefied gas from January through September 2022. Overall, the company plans to produce 662,200 tons of liquefied gas in 2022.

Learn more

A new well for the extraction of natural gas and condensate was opened at the Kulbeshkak field

Uzbekistan to buy 4 billion kWh of electricity in Turkmenistan

Uzbekistan will purchase electricity from Turkmenistan. This was announced by the press secretary of the President of Uzbekistan Sherzod Asadov. Asadov noted that during the visit of the President of Uzbekistan to Turkmenistan, the countries reached agreements in the energy sector.

Drilling was successfully completed in well No. 68 at the Kulbeshkak gas condensate field, owned by the Gazliysky OGPD of Uzbekneftegaz JSC.After the development of the well, 70,000 cubic metres of industrial natural gas and 1 ton of gas condensate were produced per day. The well is currently connected to the pipeline of the Uchkir gas processing plant.

Learn more

#### IAEA to develop nuclear infrastructure in Uzbekistan

As part of the participation of the delegation of Uzbekistan in the work of the 66th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, a meeting was held between the Director General of the UzAtom Agency, Jurabek Mirzamakhmudov, and the IAEA Director General, Rafael Grossi.

Learn more

By 2026, solar and wind power plants with a total capacity of 8,000 MW are planned to be up and running.

Learn more

#### Cengiz Enerji finalised the construction of 220 MW power station in Syrdarya region

Turkish Chengiz Energy completed the construction and installation of a new gas-piston thermal power plant with a capacity of 220 MW in Khavast district of Syrdarya region. On 9 October, the first gas piston units were successfully tested, then in two weeks, the station was connected to the unified power grid of Uzbekistan and will start transmitting electricity

Learn more

More charging stations for electric vehicles in **Uzbekistan** 

Learn more

### SOCIAL, EDUCATION, & ENVIRONMENT SECTION

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS & LOCAL LIFESTYLE**

#### USAID launches vocational training for victims of Defying global turmoil, poverty rates fall across gender-based violence

The programme aimed at approximately 1,000 rural women who are either survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) or are at-risk for GBV. The training will take place in Bukhara, Samarkand, Fergana, Tashkent, Surkhandarya. The program will be administered by NGOs including Oydin Nur, Rahmdillik, Mehrjon, Nihol, and the Civic Initiatives Support Centre.

Learn more

#### Gender Equality Seal launched for Public Institutions in Uzbekistan

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), jointly with the Uzbek authorities, launched a Gender Equality Seal for Public Institutions (GES for PI) The program will promote women's empowerment and gender equality among government agencies in Uzbekistan.

Learn more

### **Central Asia**

The World Bank panel presented the latest World Bank estimates on poverty in Central Asia based on recently updated international poverty lines. According to these new poverty lines, about five million people are poor using the lower-middle income country threshold, and 20 million people are poor using the upper-middle income country threshold.

Learn more

#### Davlat Bobonov wins gold medal at World Judo Championship

In the decisive fight, the Uzbek judoka in the weight category up to 90 kg won the gold medal by defeating the world youth champion Christian Parlatti from Italy. Learn more

Tashkent reducing speed limit to 50 km/h on some streets

#### **EDUCATION & WORKFORCE**

### Uzbekistan wins the nomination "Best Skills" of Yale University

The FIRST Global Challenge Robotics World Championship was held from 13-16 October in Geneva, Switzerland. At the end of the championship, the team finished fifth, which is by far the best performance at this tournament in Uzbekistan's history. In addition, the contestants won the Best Skill category, spearheaded by Yale University.

Learn more

### USAID invests additional USD 5.35 million to support education in Uzbekistan

USAID partners with the Ministry of Public Education to improve the instruction of English, Uzbek language arts, mathematics, and information and communications technology; providing teacher training, textbooks, workbooks and teacher's guides.

Learn more

### Ten Uzbek entrepreneurs to have an internship in the USA

Learn more

#### Institute of textile industry established in Namangan

The Institute will train highly qualified personnel with higher education and scientific and pedagogical personnel, competitive in the labour market for the textile industry.

Learn more

## Young Entrepreneurs from Central Asia study Latvian experience in green business development

Supported by the EU-funded project "European Union – Central Asia Water, Environment and Climate Change Cooperation (WECOOP)" young entrepreneurs from Central Asia (CA) – finalists and winners of the International Green Business School competition – visited Latvia for a week-long study tour.

Learn more

#### **HEALTHCARE & COVID-19**

### **USAID** hands over portable and artificial intelligence-driven X-rays to National TB Program

The X-ray machines will be piloted in the Tashkent region. In addition to the donations, USAID facilitates training for radiologists to ensure optimal implementation. Additional devices will be procured by the Global Fund for roll out to equip all regions in Uzbekistan with this innovative solution to screening individuals in hard-to-reach areas. Learn more

Hwaseong Chamber of Commerce (South Korea) donated 3 social cars for people with disabilities Learn more

### Uzbekistan receives first batch of Johnson & Johnson vaccine against COVID-19

Under the COVAX mechanism, Uzbekistan received the first batch of 419,950 doses of Johnson & Johnson vaccines against COVID-19.

Learn more

### USAID facilitates access to six tuberculosis medicines in Uzbekistan

"USAID is proud to support the Government of Uzbekistan's efforts to combat tuberculosis. Accelerating the registration of TB medicines in Uzbekistan also benefits other areas of the health system and will increase access to safe, effective medicines," said Cherry Gumapas, Director of USAID's Health Office in Uzbekistan.

Learn more

### Japan grants USD 270 thousand to three medical institutions in Uzbekistan

Grants will be allocated for the provision of medical equipment to medical institutions in Tashkent, Bukhara region and Karakalpakstan.

#### **ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY**

#### Ecotourism: Andijan hosted the 1st International **Ecoforum**

On 20-21 October, the city of Khanabad, Andijan region, hosted the I International Ecotourism Forum "Hanabad wellness-resort". The forum involved scientists and professors from 7 foreign countries (Bulgaria, Poland, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia), experts in the field of tourism.

Learn more

#### Tashkent plans to raise more than UZS 3 trillion for waste disposal

Reportedly, the collection, removal, and processing of waste in Tashkent will be reorganised based on PPP. The agreement on the investment project to be concluded for 30 years. It is expected that during the concession, the investor will invest at least UZS 3.3 trillion in the waste processing system. Also, the project company will have to pay USD 29.6 million to reimburse payments on the ADB loan.

Learn more

#### Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction, Islamic Development Bank, OPEC Fund and UNDP joined their efforts to promote Sustainable **Rural Development in Uzbekistan**

On the 18th of October "Sustainable Rural Development in the Republic of Uzbekistan" project was launched. With a total amount of USD 338 million for 2022-2025, the project will focus on creating favourable living conditions for rural residents and ensuring their access to basic infrastructure. health and education services.

Learn more

#### **CULTURE & TOURISM**

#### Authorities in Uzbekistan remind visitors about Louvre to display one of the most ancient Quran simplified rules of temporary registration

Reportedly, temporary registration is carried out by applying to foreign citizens and stateless persons within 3 working days after entering Uzbekistan to the Migration and citizenship departments.

Learn more

#### Number of Uzbek language speakers exceeds 60 million people worldwide

Issues of further development of the Uzbek language and its transformation into the language of international communication were discussed in Mecca.

Learn more

#### triathlon hosted international Samarkand an tournament

On the 8-9th of October, the international triathlon tournament "2022 Asian Triathlon Cup Samarkand" and the championship of Uzbekistan between amateurs and professionals took place for the first time in the city of Samarkand.

Learn more

The Kattalangar Quran of the VIII century, part of which is preserved in Uzbekistan, is to be exhibited in Paris, at the Louvre from November 23, 2022 to March 6, 2023. The Quran of Kattalangar has enormous religious significance for Islam and Muslims and belongs to those values that make up the cultural and historical heritage of all mankind. Research shows that the Quran consisted of 206 pages, however, only 98 pages survived.

Learn more

#### Samarkand hosts the second tourism conference **Discovering Uzbekistan**

Learn more

#### The Turkic states are discussing the creation of a standard alphabet

A Commission for the Creation of a Common Alphabet has been formed to accelerate linguistic unity and the adoption of a standard alphabet by the Turkic states. The first meeting of the Commission will be held in Kyrgyzstan. Learn more

### **EUROUZ & MEMBER NEWS**

#### **SUMMARY**

**EUROUZ** is proud to be supporting the Samarkand EU-Central Asia Connectivity Conference: Global Gateway



Samarkand EU-Central Asia Connectivity Conference: Global Gateway for Sustainable Development

Date: 18 November 2022,

· Venue: Samarkand city, Uzbekistan

The Samarkand EU-Central Asia Connectivity Conference – Global Gateway will provide a platform for intra- and inter-regional dialogue on shared solutions, that will help translate the goals of resilience, prosperity and regional cooperation, set out in the EU Strategy on Central Asia, into action.

We welcome participants from the private sector, government officials, experts, researchers, journalists and professionals with links with the region and/or connectivity.

Plan your visit to the eternal city - Samarkand, follow the link to the registration website www.eucaconnectivity.uz

#### **EUROUZ assists BMB Trade Group Delegation during its working trip to Europe**



From October 22 to November 2, BMB Trade Group Delegation visited Italy, France, Belgium, Spain and Germany and held a series of B2B meetings with representatives of large European businesses. The Europe-Uzbekistan Association for Economic Cooperation — EUROUZ supported its member by organising, facilitating and assisting during the meetings with Le Safran de Cotchia, Saffron Line, Caspian Tradition, Viveros Veron, Mangold Consulting companies and others. At the same time, with the support of the EUROUZ, a lively dialogue was held with the former head of the representative office of Uzbek-French entrepreneurs, Christophe Fontaine.

#### Joint Eurasian newsletter launched by AEB, EUROUZ and EUROBAK

On the 25th of October Association of European Businesses (AEB) in partnership with other European business associations of the region – EUROBAK, EUROUZ, launched the first edition of Eurasian Newsletter, a new information product, aimed at presenting consolidated data on economic, legislative and integration issues of the region, as well as aforementioned associations' key news and initiatives.

Link to the newsletter

## EUROUZ joined the 35. meeting of the Berlin Eurasian Club in Brussels to discuss EU-CA connectivity

On the 18th of October at the invitation of its partner Ost-Ausschuss der Deutschen Wirtschaft and Kazakh Embassy in Berlin, EUROUZ joined the 35th meeting of the Berlin Eurasian Club in Brussels to discuss the opportunities for EU-CA joint projects under the Global Gateway project. Central Asia, especially Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan are becoming increasingly important for Europe as they create a diversification for European-Asian trade. The event has shown that connecting and partnering with Central Asia has finally become a part of the EU's rational self-interest.

The follow up event organised by EUROUZ jointly with Ost-Ausschuss der Deutschen Wirtschaft will be announced soon.

#### **EUROUZ at the conference "Day of the German Economy" in Tashkent**



On the 27th of October, EUROUZ took part in the "Day of the German Economy" conference, held at the Hyatt Regency Tashkent hotel with the support of the Representative Office of the German Economy in Central Asia. The event was also attended by more than 100 representatives of the German and Uzbek business community, investors, as well as heads and specialists of ministries and departments of Uzbekistan. Within the framework of the conference, negotiations and meetings in the B2B and G2B format were also held, during which representatives of politics and business from both countries could discuss opportunities and prospects for business cooperation.

## <u>EUROUZ invites to visit</u>: Bound for life and education: Sara Eshonturaeva and the Jadid Movement in Soviet Uzbekistan exhibition in London





On the 25th of October, over 150 individuals attended the opening reception of *Bound for Life and Education: Sara Eshonturaeva and the Jadid Movement in Soviet Uzbekistan* in London. Owing to this phenomenal response and the generosity of a private donor, the exhibition has **now been extended through Friday November 4**. For those who were unable to make it to the exhibition during its first week, it is open to the public this week from 10:00 to 18:00 Monday through Friday at Asia House, located at <u>63 New Cavendish Street, London, W1G 7LP</u>.

As part of the exhibition, curator Niloufar Edmonds has also overseen the publication of a **remarkable 103-page catalogue**. <u>Download</u> the catalogue.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the exhibition.

#### NOTABLE GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS

First Deputy Chairman of Central Bank
 Appointed - Nodirbek Saydullayev
 Previously served as - the Board Chairman of JSC Asakabank

Uzbekneftegaz Director of UNG Training LLC

**Appointed - Abdurazzok Bukhorov** 

**Previously served as** - the Head of the training centre for retraining and advanced training of employees of the Shurtan Gas Chemical Complex Limited Liability Company

### **NOTABLE ARTICLES**

No.	Title	Source	Link
	Regional Economic Outlook:		https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/REO/MECA/Issu
	Middle East and central Asia,		es/2022/10/13/regional-economic-outlook-mcd-octo
1	October 2022	IMF	<u>ber-2022</u>
	Financial Stability Report for H1		https://cbu.uz/upload/medialibrary/915/douehgg6gl
	2022		4b8ojwoc7fhk9to90dvcfu/Financial Stability Report
2		CBU	H1 2022.pdf
	The war in Ukraine is pushing	The Lowy	https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/war-u
3	Central Asia away from Russia	Institute	kraine-pushing-central-asia-away-russia
	A Distracted Russia Is Losing Its	The New	https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/08/world/asia/ru
4	Grip on Its Old Soviet Sphere	York Times	ssia-putin-soviet.html
	Putin's losses in Asia are bigger		https://thehill.com/opinion/international/3653962-p
5	than in Ukraine	The Hill	utins-losses-in-asia-are-bigger-than-in-ukraine/
	PANNIER: Russia's two centuries of	bne	https://www.intellinews.com/pannier-russia-s-two-ce
6	Central Asia dominance are over	Intellinews	nturies-of-central-asia-dominance-are-over-259059/
	Uzbek private sector supports UN	EUReporte	https://www.eureporter.co/world/uzbekistan/2022/1
7	sustainable development principles	r	<u>0/04/uzbek-private-sector-supports-un-sustainable-d</u>

### **EUROUZ Monthly Report on Uzbekistan**

#### October 2022

	and ESG		evelopment-principles-and-esg/
	What Is Happening With Sovereign	The	https://thediplomat.com/2022/10/what-is-happening
8	Debt in Central Asia?	Diplomat	-with-sovereign-debt-in-central-asia/
	Study: Development of		https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2022/10/11/study-deve
	Uzbekistan's Strategy for Foreign	Modern	lopment-of-uzbekistans-strategy-for-foreign-direct-inv
9	Direct Investment	Diplomacy	estment/
	Green Economy Transition in		https://www.oecd.org/greengrowth/green-economy-
	Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and		transition-in-eastern-europe-the-caucasus-and-centra
10	Central Asia	OECD	<u>l-asia-c410b82a-en.htm</u>
	Uzbekistan and World Bank to	Modern	https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2022/10/05/uzbekistan
11	Expand Strategic Partnership	Diplomacy	-and-world-bank-to-expand-strategic-partnership/
	Despite Scepticism,		https://www.voanews.com/amp/despite-skepticism-c
	China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan	Voice of	hina-kyrgyzstan-uzbekistan-railway-deal-chugs-forwar
12	Railway Deal Chugs Forward	America	<u>d/6775799.html</u>
	Three factors for the success of		
	fruit and vegetable exports from		https://east-fruit.com/en/news/three-factors-for-the-
	Uzbekistan to the EU and the		success-of-fruit-and-vegetable-exports-from-uzbekist
13	Middle East	East Fruit	an-to-the-eu-and-the-middle-east/
	Uzbekistan's media sector in		https://www.eureporter.co/world/uzbekistan/2022/1
	development: Reforms contribute	EUReporte	0/18/uzbekistans-media-sector-in-development-refor
14	to the inflow of private investment	r	ms-contribute-to-the-inflow-of-private-investment/
	Goldwind and Masdar, Abu Dhabi		
	Future Energy Strike Deal Bringing		
	the Largest Wind Project in Central	The Korea	https://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=2022100
15	Asia	Herald	9000124
	Reasons and facts: Why are house		
16	prices in Uzbekistan rising sharply?	KUN.uz	https://kun.uz/en/98074313
	Uzbekistan: Samarkand Reborn		
	with the largest complex for	Travel	
17	tourists in Central Asia	Magazine	https://www.thetravelmagazine.net/samarkand/
	The Silk Road by train   DW		
18	Documentary	DW	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TcqAu8VyjZA