



EUROUZ MONTHLY REPORT ON UZBEKISTAN

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EUROUZ Monthly Report on Uzbekistan

September 2022

EUROPE-UZBEKISTAN ASSOCIATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION



EUROPE-UZBEKISTAN ASSOCIATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION

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Monthly Report on Uzbekistan

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IMPORTANT QUOTES

"Uzbekistan is a valued partner and plays an important role in ensuring Central Asia's strategic autonomy, including through the C5+1 diplomatic platform".

Antony J. Blinken
Secretary of State

"Uzbekistan, however, resisted the decline and last year continued its HDI steady upward trend. Uzbekistan remains in the high human development category, with almost 20% increase of HDI value during the past 20 years"

Matilda Dimovska
UNDP Resident Representative in Uzbekistan

"The EU is ready to take our bilateral relations into a new future".

Luc Devigne
Deputy managing director, Director for Russia,
Eastern partnership, Central Asia, EEAS

NOTABLE EVENTS PAST MONTH

Uzbekistan hosted and chaired the 2022 annual summit of the SCO Heads of State Council on September 15-16, which took place in Samarkand.

The main outcomes:

- The procedure for granting Belarus membership of the SCO has been initiated, and Iran has signed a Memorandum of Obligations that would begin a year-long formal process for the country to attain full member status. Qatar, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia signed a legal memorandum for SCO dialogue partner status, while Türkiye announced its intention to become a full SCO member.
- The total amount of contracts signed only by Uzbekistan is estimated at **USD 26 billion**. Uzbekistan and China signed agreements worth USD 15 billion, while a package of new investment agreements signed between Uzbekistan and Russia was worth USD 4.6 billion.
- The China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railroad agreement was signed, while on the sidelines of the summit, China, Mongolia, and Russia agreed to establish the Economic Corridor and to construct the Power of Siberia-2 pipeline.

Uzbekistan beats Spain and becomes the №4 world exporter of sweet cherries in 2022

In 2022, the volume of exports of sweet cherries from Spain decreased, according to various estimates, by 30-40%. This means that Uzbekistan will continue to be ahead of Spain in the global export rankings of this trendy fruit.

Financial closure on Central Asia's largest wind farm'

UAE-based renewables developer Masdar has reached financial closure on Uzbekistan's first wind farm – a 500MW project in the country's southwest. It will invest **USD 600 mln** in designing, building, and operating the Zarafshan project. By the end of 2024, with a capacity of 500 MW, the project would provide enough electricity to power 500,000 homes while displacing 1.1 million tons of carbon dioxide per year.

Uzbekistan overtakes Kazakhstan in new Global Innovation Index

The republic took the 82nd place and entered the group of the most active in the innovation sphere.

Uzbekistan recognized as safest country in Central Asia

Uzbekistan was recognized as the safest country in Central Asia by the Global Peace Index rating. This index was calculated for the first time in May 2007.

REGIONAL COOPERATION & PARTNERSHIPS

NORTH & SOUTH AMERICA

Antony Blinken: US supports Uzbekistan's reform agenda and appreciates its commitment to protecting human rights

The US State Department has published an official congratulatory message from Secretary of State Antony Blinken on the 31st anniversary of Uzbekistan's independence. In the official statement, Uzbekistan was called a valued partner that plays an essential role in ensuring Central Asia's strategic autonomy, including through the C5+1 diplomatic platform. The United States expressed its support for Uzbekistan's reform agenda and appreciated its commitment to expanding and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

[Learn more](#)

Acting US Assistant Secretary of State - Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau - to visit Uzbekistan

Elizabeth Trudeau will be on a trip to Nepal, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, and the Kyrgyz Republic from September 28 to October 9.

[Learn more](#)

President of Uzbekistan received outgoing US Ambassador

The US diplomat was awarded the honorary state award - the Order of Dustlik.

[Learn more](#)

A delegation of Uzbekistan visited the USA

On 19-24 September 2022, a delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, headed by Minister of Foreign Affairs Vladimir Norov, visited New York (USA). Vladimir Norov participated in the 77th session of the UN General Assembly. Among the others, he met with the Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Qu Dongyu, US Special Representative for Afghanistan, Thomas West, and United States Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Victoria Nuland.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan continues close ties in C5+1 format

On September 22, in New York, a ministerial meeting of the CA countries and the USA was held in the C5+1 format. During the event, heads of the foreign ministries of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and the United States of America discussed topical issues of cooperation in mutually beneficial areas.

[Learn more](#)

US may give about 50 former Afghan aircraft to Uzbekistan and Tajikistan

The US is negotiating with Uzbekistan and Tajikistan to trade nearly 50 military aircraft flown across the border as the Afghan government collapsed last summer.

[Learn more](#)

EUROPE

Vladimir Norov completes a working visit to Brussels



- On the 6th of September, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Vladimir Norov, met with the HRVP Josep Borrell in Brussels. The sides discussed cooperation between Uzbekistan and the EU, preparations for the EU-Central Asia Ministerial Meeting on 17 November and the EU-Central Asia Connectivity Conference on 18 November, and the upcoming summits of the Shanghai Cooperation

Foreign Ministers of Uzbekistan and Belgium held talks in Brussels



On the 6th of September, Vladimir Norov, met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Affairs, Foreign Trade, and Federal Cultural Institutions of Belgium, Hadja Lahbib. During the talks, the current state and prospects for the development of relations between Uzbekistan and Belgium were discussed.

[Learn more](#)

September 2022

Organisation (SCO) and of the Organisation of Turkic States (OTS), which both will be hosted by Uzbekistan this year.

[Learn more](#)

- On the same day, Vladimir Norov held talks with the European Commissioner for Justice Didier Reynders. The European side expressed its readiness to cooperate in providing practical assistance in the field of the rule of law.

[Learn more](#)

- The Uzbek delegation also participated in the roundtable discussion on “Constitutional Reforms: Basis for Ensuring the Rule of Law, Security, and Free and Fair Civil Society,” which was also attended by representatives from the constitutional commission of Uzbekistan; the European Parliament; the European Commission and think tanks.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan and Sweden discuss issues of cooperation in innovation field

In Stockholm, Chargé d’Affaires of Uzbekistan Nodir Ganiyev met with Director General of the Agricultural Affairs Department of the Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Innovation of Sweden Johan Kraft and Deputy Head of the EU and International Cooperation Department Caroline Tornemo. The Swedish partners expressed their interest in organising meetings for representatives of Uzbekistan in certain departments of the Swedish Ministry of Innovation.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan, Serbia sign a Protocol on cooperation and inter-MFA consultations

On the sidelines of the 77th UNGA session, Vladimir Norov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan, met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia, Nikola Selakovich. Following the meeting, the Protocol on cooperation and consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan and Serbia was signed, which regulates the holding of political consultations between the foreign ministries of the two countries.

[Learn more](#)

Honorary Consulate of Denmark to open in Uzbekistan

[Learn more](#)

CENTRAL ASIA

Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and China sign tripartite agreement on construction of railway

The implementation of the project will expand the geography of trade and transportation from China through Uzbekistan to Europe and the Persian Gulf states through

European Mobility Week 2022 in Uzbekistan



On the 19th of September, the 4th European Mobility Week Campaign (EMW) in Uzbekistan kicked off. The Campaign invited people to prioritise sustainable mobility that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and helps tackle environmental challenges. United under the slogan “*Move and Connect! Be the Heart of Your City!*” thousands of people joined a range of mobility events and actions that took place from 19 to 25 September.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbek-Swiss cooperation in the public administration

On the 7th of September, a meeting was held at the Anti-Corruption Agency with the international expert of the Embassy of Switzerland in Uzbekistan, Erica Schlappi, and national expert Dilfuza Kurolova. The sides discussed the creation of a virtual anti-corruption academy in Uzbekistan and the development of educational programs.

[Learn more](#)

Honorary Consulate of Lithuania opens in Tashkent

[Learn more](#)

The governmental delegation of Turkmenistan visited Uzbekistan

Turkmen delegation consisted of the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan, Batyr Atdaev visited Uzbekistan on the 7th of September. The parties considered the possibility of holding the next 17th meeting

September 2022

the Southern Corridor. The project's technical and economic basis in Kyrgyzstan is to be completed in 2023. [Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan will mutually simplify the registration of medicines.
[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan and Tajikistan agree on mutually reducing train ticket prices

From September 6, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan have introduced a 20% discount on tickets for passenger trains on the route "Dushanbe - Tashkent - Dushanbe".
[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan to shoot a joint adventure film "Once Upon a Time in Samarkand"
[Learn more](#)

of the Uzbek-Turkmen joint commission on trade before the end of this year, aiming to increase the bilateral trade up to **USD 2 billion**.
[Learn more](#)

Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan agreed to start exchange of customs information from 2023

Customs will exchange advanced information about goods and vehicles that need to cross the border through digital customs tools.
[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan sign joint protocol on delimitation and demarcation of the state border



The protocol will make it possible to begin the procedure for agreeing on a draft of a new Treaty on certain sections of the state border.
[Learn more](#)

CASPIAN REGION, MIDDLE EAST, SOUTH ASIA & AFRICA

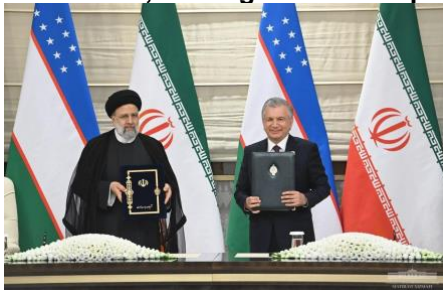
Uzbek delegation took part in the Arab States of the Gulf-Central Asia Strategic Dialogue

On the 7th of September, the first ministerial meeting of the Strategic Dialogue "Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf - Central Asia" was held in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia). The development of relations with the Gulf Cooperation Council countries was named one of the priorities of the foreign policy of New Uzbekistan. The Uzbek delegation initiated the idea to create a Business Council, construct the Termez - Mazar - i - Sharif - Kabul - Peshawar railway, and launch the meeting format for transport ministers.
[Learn more](#)

Egypt considers intensifying cooperation with Uzbekistan in textiles, agriculture, and pharmaceuticals

On the 1st of September, acting Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan Vladimir Norov received the Ambassador of Egypt Amira Fahmy. The parties scheduled the next meeting of the Uzbek-Egyptian Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation and the next round of consultations between the two countries' foreign ministries.
[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan, Iran sign a set of important documents



Director of Afghan Railways arrived in Uzbekistan

The purpose of Bakht ar-Rahman Sharafat's visit was to work out a project for a transport corridor between Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and China. The Afghan delegation met with the director of the educational centre for training Afghan citizens, Oybek Ruziev, who gave the diplomas of Afghans who completed their studies in the railway sector.
[Learn more](#)

September 2022

On the 14th of September, during the meeting of President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev and the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ebrahim Raisi, who was in Uzbekistan on an official visit, **18 documents** on bilateral cooperation were signed. These are: agreement on simplification of visa procedures for representatives of business and scientific circles and tourist groups; memorandum on the implementation of international cargo transportation and transit through the port of “Chabahar,” and memorandum on the exchange of electronic customs information on the movement of goods and vehicles across the customs border.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan provides humanitarian aid to families living in difficult conditions in Hayraton

24 tons of humanitarian goods were delivered to families living in difficult social conditions in Hayraton, Balkh province, Afghanistan by the representatives of Surkhandarya regional administration and Uzbekistan's consulate in Mazar-i-Sharif.

[Learn more](#)

Egypt eyes to import textile products from Uzbekistan

A preliminary agreement on cooperation was reached between the Egyptian company and the textile enterprises of Uzbekistan.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan sends humanitarian aid to Pakistan

Almost 40 tons of cargo were delivered to Pakistan by military air transport. The shipment includes vegetable oil, flour, rice, canned meat, confectionery, pasta, warm blankets, and other goods.

[Learn more](#)

EAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Uzbekistan and China sign agreements worth USD 15 billion

On the 14th of September, the President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, held talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping, who arrived in Samarkand for a state visit to Uzbekistan as well as to attend the 22nd Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. At the meeting, the parties signed trade, investment, and financial and technical agreements on implementing priority projects for a total of **USD 15 billion**.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan hosted Russia-China-Mongolia summit

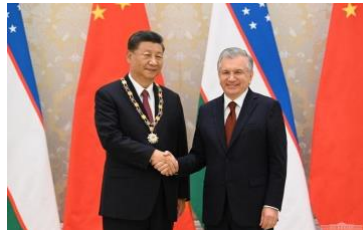
On the premises of the SCO Head of States Summit, Russia, China and Mongolia held a trilateral summit in Samarkand. The parties agreed on establishing the China-Mongolia-Russia Economic Corridor in five years and on constructing the Power of Siberia-2 pipeline. The Russian-Chinese natural gas pipeline transiting through Mongolia will be operational in 2024.

[Learn more](#)

Japanese deputy proposes holding the Central Asian summit in Japan

Keiji Furuya, a member of the Japanese parliament, is working on establishing an inter-parliamentary friendship

Shavkat Mirziyoyev awards Xi Jinping “Oliy Darajali Do‘stlik” Order



President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, noted that the Chinese President made a great contribution to the development of centuries-old friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

[Learn more](#)

Tashkent region expands cooperation with regions and leading companies of South Korea

In September, an Uzbek delegation led by the khokim of the Tashkent region, Zoir Mirzaev, visited South Korea. During the visit, the meeting and negotiations were held with the heads of about 15 leading companies in South Korea. Among the others, it was agreed that the Hanshin Engineering & Construction company will build 400 hectares of the smart medical city in the Tashkent region, while the K-TDC Group company will assist with the

group with five countries of Central Asia and holding a summit of Central Asian leaders in Japan.

[Learn more](#)

construction of the modern 150 hectares Nurafshon-Korea New City to be completed by 2026.

[Learn more](#)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

USAID supports Uzbekistan's Draft Entrepreneurship Code

On the 7th of September, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), together with the Ministry of Justice of Uzbekistan, organised a conference on Uzbekistan's draft Entrepreneurship Code that brought together more than 150 government representatives, national and international experts, and private entrepreneurs. The new Entrepreneurship Code will contribute to the liberalisation of Uzbekistan's economy by replacing more than 100 existing rules and regulations. The code reduces government overreach while also strengthening private property ownership rights.

[Learn more](#)

Tashkent hosted SCO Information Security Forum

On the 6th of September, Tashkent hosted the 1st SCO Scientific and Expert Forum on Information Security at the initiative of the President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev. The Forum was held in three-panel sessions, and it strengthened regional cooperation and increased the potential of the SCO member states in countering threats in information and cyberspace.

[Learn more](#)

The 14th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament of the member states of the Inter-Parliamentary Union took place in Tashkent



The 14th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament, convened by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), in close cooperation with the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan, took place in Tashkent from 8 to 9 September 2022. The agenda included essential issues of global and regional importance, and the implementation of gender policy. As a result of the Summit, the Tashkent Declaration was adopted.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan took part in USAID's first Central Asia Clean Energy Forum

The first Central Asia Clean Energy Forum themed "Energy Transition and Innovation" brought together nearly 300 participants from the Central Asian region and around the world to address key energy sector challenges and opportunities. As part of the Forum, USAID launched the American Innovation Centre for Central Asia – a virtual platform to promote the use of global best practices and modern technologies for renewable energy development and integration.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan took part in the Global Tourism Forum

During the official visit to Belgium on the 6th of September, Vladimir Norov took part in the Global Tourism Forum "Leaders Summit Europe 2022" in Brussels. The head of the Uzbek delegation made a presentation on "Investment, Connectivity, and Hospitality," providing information on the tourism potential of Uzbekistan and the country's policy to support the tourism sector, which is one of the strategic sectors of the national economy.

[Learn more](#)

USAID hosts Central Asia Women's Summit in Tashkent

The summit brought together 100 female-owned and female-managed businesses, activists, businesswomen's associations, government agencies and NGOs from all over Central Asia to collaborate on how best to integrate gender considerations into all sectors of the economies of Central Asia countries, particularly into trade and customs.

[Learn more](#)

President of Uzbekistan met with the Inter-Parliamentary Union delegation

On 8 September, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev received a delegation of the Inter-Parliamentary Union consisting of the IPU President Duarte Pacheco and Secretary General Martin Chungong.

[Learn more](#)

António Guterres: Uzbekistan is our reliable partner in all areas

Tashkent hosted international conference on low-carbon development



The international scientific and technical conference "New horizons for low-carbon development in the world and Uzbekistan" took place in Tashkent on 23-24 September 2022. It was organised by the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Research Institute of Renewable Energy Sources and attended by UNDP and EBRD offices in Uzbekistan and by investors and leading companies.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan’s representative starts work in World Customs Organisation (WCO)

A representative of the State Customs Committee of Uzbekistan, Aminjon Makhmudov, has started working in the Tariff and Trade Office of the WCO as part of the WCO/Japan Career Development Program for 2022/2023.

[Learn more](#)



On September 19, at the UN headquarters in New York, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan Vladimir Norov held a meeting with the Secretary-General of the United Nations António Guterres. The UN Secretary-General expressed support for the projects promoted by Uzbekistan to strengthen interregional interconnectedness, including the construction of the Termez-Mazar-i-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar railway.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbek Foreign Minister met UN Under-Secretary-General in Samarkand

Rosemary DiCarlo expressed UN’s support for New Uzbekistan’s ongoing transformation, including work on the Sustainable Development Goals.

[Learn more](#)

LEGISLATIVE & STATE STRUCTURAL CHANGES

Uzbekistan Direct Investment Fund is reorganised

According to the presidential decree, the Uzbekistan Direct Investment Fund reorganised from a joint stock company (JSC) to a limited liability company (LLC) to not just invest but also attract investments. The initial authorised capital of the company will be US\$100 million; the Investment Company is tasked with attracting additional investments in the amount of US\$200 million from partner investors in 2022-2023.

[Learn more](#)

Procedure for military service of citizens to be amended

Citizens who have been dismissed from service since they committed an act that tarnishes the name of an employee who previously served in a particular rank or became unfit for duty will be refused to enter military service under the contract.

[Learn more](#)



Legal Alert from Vakhidov & Partners



New Advertising law

The Law entered into force on September 9, 2022 and provides for an expanded definition of the advertising term. A number of new definitions, such as “unethical advertising”, “inappropriate advertising”, “incentive action”,

Benefits and preferences for the pharmaceutical industry

According to the presidential decree “On Additional Measures for the Accelerated Development of the Pharmaceutical Industry of the Republic in 2022–2026”

“sponsored advertising”, “counter-advertising”, etc. are introduced. Advertising should be disseminated in the state (Uzbek) language. However, it’s permitted to duplicate the advertising in other languages, subject to certain conditions, including preventing distortion of the text’s main meaning in the state (Uzbek) language. Previously, advertisers could disseminate advertisements in other languages.

[Learn more](#)

Vakhidov & Partners is the first legal consultancy boutique in Central Asia focused on life sciences (pharma, medical devices, healthcare), FMCG, retail and IT/Telecom. For over 17 years they have been advising and representing foreign investors in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and other Central Asian countries on a wide range of issues, including corporate, pharmaceutical, anti-corruption, competition, labour, telecommunications and intellectual property.



Individuals to be identified by phone number in Uzbekistan

Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan from 30 August 2022, "On measures to introduce the Mobile-ID identification system for individuals in the Republic of Uzbekistan," was adopted. The document approved the Regulations providing for the procedure for identification, use, and termination of identification in the Mobil-ID system

[Learn more](#)

Activity of transporting passengers by car considered self-employment from September 1

[Learn more](#)

Representatives of 10 other industries exempted from income tax

The list of self-employed persons has been enlarged. From November 1, representatives of 10 industries, such as brokers, producers of milk products at home, renters of household items such as tables and chairs for weddings and ceremonies, can have official work experience.

[Learn more](#)

Agency of Strategic Development transformed into Agency for Strategic Reforms to focus on reform process in Uzbekistan

The tasks of the Agency will re-focus the development of proposals for reforms and their implementation & effectiveness; monitoring the performance of the Development Strategy and state programs;

[Learn more](#)

Decree No. UP-55, from 01.04.2022 it is planned to introduce a mechanism for guaranteed procurement of pharmaceutical products subject to localization by concluding a contract for a 3 years period. The Procurement will be carried out at the expense of the State budget, which will be allocated for the procurement of pharmaceutical products.

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Citizens to be leased additional land for farming for 30 years

The presidential decision “On additional measures to increase the income of the population by supporting the establishment of farms” was adopted. By 2022, 100,000 hectares of arable land will be leased to the population through an open electronic tender.

[Learn more](#)

Law “On e-commerce” approved

At the 32nd plenary session, the law “On e-commerce” was approved. The law establishes a straightforward procedure for concluding electronic contracts. In particular, the legal force of electronic documents, the requirements for an offer, and the process for conducting an electronic transaction are legally consolidated. The law introduces a cash deposit system (escrow) and grants self-employed persons the right to participate in e-commerce.

[Learn more](#)

ECONOMY SECTION

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS, LOANS, & PUBLIC FINANCE

Government fails to meet budget deficit limit

At the end of the year's first half, the budget deficit was 3.7% of GDP or 14.4 trillion soums. This figure is higher than the previously approved limit. The government will ask the parliament to increase the deficit limit.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan to introduce a new procedure for checking the activities of entrepreneurs

Following the presidential decree, the "Single State Control" information system was introduced to coordinate the processes of checking business entities' activities and ensure those checks' openness and transparency. **From November 1, 2022:**

- all inspections of business entities to be registered in the "Single State Control" information system;
- information on the results of inspections and preventive measures in the activities of business entities will be entered into the "Single State Control" information system within three days from the completion date of the inspection or preventive measures.

[Learn more](#)

Procedure for importing goods to Uzbekistan to be simplified

In Uzbekistan, regulations for a number of goods imported by individuals may be cancelled. Restrictions on the import of goods other than household appliances, computers, mobile devices, alcohol and tobacco products, perfumes, and jewellery will be lifted.

[Learn more](#)

Fitch Affirms Uzbekistan at 'BB-'; Outlook Stable

Fitch affirms BB- sovereign rating with Stable outlook and increases the GDP growth forecast from 3.1% to 5.1%, the inflation is planned at 11.7% in 2022 and 9.4% for 2024.

[Learn more](#)

EBRD is forecasting 5.5 and 6.5% GDP growth rates in 2022-2023

Figure 1 Infographics: Real GDP growth, in per cent per annum

Uzbekistan simplifies customs procedures

Cabinet of Ministers resolution "On the introduction of amendments...in connection with the improvement of procedures in the customs sphere" was adopted. Among the others, the changes affected the digitalisation of the procedure for licensing the activities of a customs warehouse, a duty-free shops; procedure for exporting fruits and vegetables, and licensing.

[Learn more](#)

Private investors to be attracted to the Aydar-Arnasay system of lakes

The Ministry of Water Resources has announced a tender for transferring the Aydar-Arnasay lake system to trust management. The winner must invest at least **USD 30 million**.

[Learn more](#)

ADB: Uzbekistan's economic growth in 2022 will be 4%, in 2023 - 5%

The growth of the economy of Uzbekistan in 2022 will be 4%. This is stated in the new report of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). At the same time, ADB raised its forecast for the growth of the economy of Uzbekistan in 2023 from 4.5% to 5%. ADB notes that inflation in Uzbekistan will be 12% in 2022 and 11% in 2023. In April, the ADB forecast inflation in the region of 9% in 2022 and 8% in 2023, respectively.

[Learn more](#)

Figure 2 Infographics: GDP growth forecast: Developing Asia



Source: Asian Development Bank

	Actual			Forecast (Sep'22)		Revision since			
	2020	2021	2022H1	2022	2023	May'22	2022	2023	2022-23
EBRD Regions	-2.4	6.8	3.9	2.3	3.0	1.2	-1.7	-0.5	
Central Asia	-0.6	5.0	4.3	4.3	4.8	1.2	1.1	2.3	
Kazakhstan	-2.6	4.0	3.4	3.0	3.5	1.0	1.0	2.0	
Kyrgyz Republic	-8.6	3.6	6.3	7.0	7.0	6.0	3.0	9.0	
Mongolia	-5.3	1.4	1.9	3.5	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Tajikistan	4.5	9.2	7.4	7.0	8.0	4.0	3.0	6.9	
Turkmenistan	5.9	6.2	6.0	7.0	6.0	1.0	0.5	1.4	
Uzbekistan	1.6	7.4	5.2	5.5	6.5	1.5	1.5	2.9	

Source: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

[Learn more](#)

CERR raises forecast for Uzbekistan’s GDP growth in 2022 by 5.77%

The Center for Economic Research and Reforms (CERR) estimated GDP forecasts for 2022 using a new approach (nocasting) based on extremely detailed streams of large data streams.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan’s foreign trade turnover reaches USD 32.12 billion in Jan - Aug

According to the results of January-August 2022, the foreign trade turnover of Uzbekistan reached USD 32 126.6 million, which, compared to the same period in 2021, increased by USD 6 975.0 million (an increase of 27.7%). Of the total volume of the FTT, exports amounted to USD 12 697.8 million (an increase of 36.5%), and imports – USD 19 428.7 million (an increase of 22.6%). As a result, the balance of foreign trade turnover amounted to a passive balance in the amount of USD 6 730.9 million.

[Learn more](#)

ADB to allocate USD 153 million to Uzbekistan to improve food security and water management

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a **USD 150 million** loan and a **USD 3 million** grant to help improve food and water security in Uzbekistan through better land and water resources management for improved agricultural productivity, including in the Aral Sea region.

[Learn more](#)

EBRD to provide USD 15 million loan to Tashkent Pipe Plant LLC

The loan will allow TPP to launch the production of longitudinal submerged arc-welded pipes (LSAW) and

The region’s economy is expected to grow 4.3% this year, compared with the bank’s projection in April of a 5.2% expansion, according to an update of the Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2022. The growth forecast for next year has been lowered to 4.9% from 5.3%, while the region’s inflation forecast has been raised. Excluding China, the rest of developing Asia is projected to grow by 5.3% in both 2022 and 2023.

[Learn more](#)

The average price level in the consumer market of Uzbekistan increases by 0.5% - State Statistics Committee

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan continues to buy more gold

The Central Bank of Uzbekistan purchased 9 tons of gold in July. That placed the country in the 4th position in the world, right after Türkiye.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbek banks will allocate USD 200 million for credit lines for the tourism industry

Commercial banks have until November 1 to open credit lines of USD 100 million for the tourism business and another USD 100 million by the end of the year. The Central Bank will issue 1 trillion soums of credit resources for this purpose.

[Learn more](#)

EBRD-led USD 74 million package supports biggest renewables project in Central Asia

The EBRD has organised a financing package of **USD 74 million**, provided as an A/B loan and a revolving facility, to Uzbekistan’s Shamol Zarafshan Energy Foreign Enterprise LLC for the development, construction and operation of a 500 MW greenfield wind power plant in the Navoi region of Uzbekistan – the largest renewable project in Central Asia to date. The EBRD will take on USD 42 million of the senior loan, while the B loan portion of USD 10 million will come from the Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank, FMO.

[Learn more](#)

EBRD provides EUR 14 million loan to support UzCarlsberg

A senior EBRD loan of up to **EUR 14 million** (to be provided in two tranches) to UzCarlsberg will help finance the company’s capital expenditure and improve its resource management.

[Learn more](#)

EBRD provides EUR 7 million grant for remediation of former uranium mining sites in Uzbekistan

gradually reduce the output of the spirally submerged arc-welded pipes (SSAW).

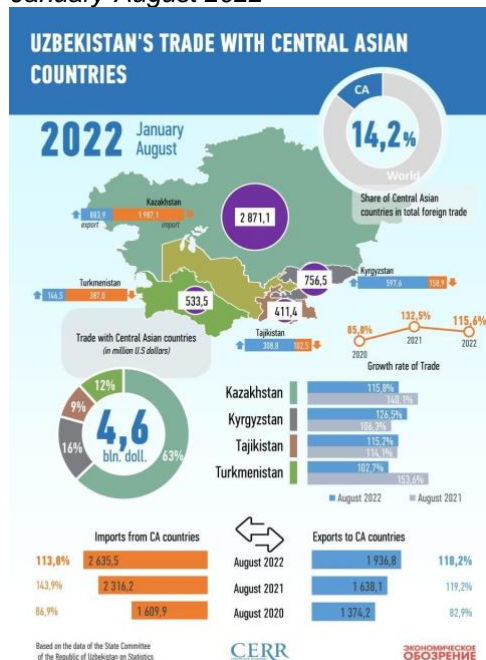
[Learn more](#)

UAE allocates USD 300 million to improve the infrastructure of Samarkand

The lender - Abu Dhabi Development Fund, will provide a **USD 300 million** loan for 17 years with four years grace period with 2.5% interest to Uzbekistan to modernise road and water-supply infrastructure in Samarkand. The project will be implemented under the investment agreement signed during the president’s visit to the UAE in 2019. The loan is to be repaid by 2039.

[Learn more](#)

Figure 3 Infographics: Foreign trade turnover of the Republic of Uzbekistan with Central Asian countries in January-August 2022



Source: CERR

[Learn more](#)

Islamic Development Bank to provide more than USD 200 million to Uzbekistan for two projects

The money will be directed to the construction of a new thermal power plant in Surkhandarya, as well as to the development of transport infrastructure in the country.

[Learn more](#)

Turkish Alkatas İnşaat ve Taahhut signed a USD 22.2 million deal to reconstruct water treatment infrastructure in the Tashkent region

Uzbekistan will receive **EUR 7 million** for the reclamation of two former uranium mines in Yangiabad, Tashkent province, and Charkesar, Namangan province. The works at the two sites are expected to begin in the first quarter of 2023 and will take approximately two years to complete.

[Learn more](#)

EU to allocate EUR 1.6 million to support Afghan migrants in Surkhandarya

On September 8, the State Committee for Family and Women, the khokimiyat of the Surkhandarya region, the European Union (EU), and UNICEF launched a program to expand access to inclusive education, social services, and legal assistance in Surkhandarya. The program plans to reach around 35,000 people focusing on the most vulnerable groups, including Afghan migrants.

[Learn more](#)

The Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD) to provide USD 15 million Murabaha facility to UzbekLeasing International JSC

The Murabaha Facility Agreement with Uzbek Leasing International will help financial institutions to further increase on-financing to SMEs in Uzbekistan.

[Learn more](#)

EBRD announced the first unfunded risk sharing facility in Uzbekistan - half of the risks under the UZS 44 billion loan from UzPSB (SQBN) to Idea Concept Group, a consumer electronics and household appliances retailer

[Learn more](#)

Mareven Food Holdings to invest USD 125 million in 2023-2031 into a new production facility of Big-Bon and Rollton instant noodles in Angren free economic zone

[Learn more](#)

China's Silk Road Fund becomes a co-investor in USD 1 billion Sirdarya project in Uzbekistan

China's Silk Road Fund Acquired a 49% Stake in the USD 1 billion 1.5 GW Sirdarya Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Facility, while ACWA Power owns the remaining 51%. A Share Purchase Agreement was signed during the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit in Samarkand.

[Learn more](#)

Mubadala and Taqa ink agreements to invest in Uzbekistan’s power sector

As a result, the coverage level of the population of Chirchik with centralised wastewater services will be raised from 61% to 84%.

[Learn more](#)

Finland allocates EUR 1.5 million to UNDP for strengthening Rule of Law in Uzbekistan

On the 9 of September 2022, in Tashkent, H.E. Mr. Ilkka Räisänen, Roving Ambassador of Finland to Central Asia, and Ms. Matilda Dimovska, UNDP Resident Representative in Uzbekistan, signed a cooperation agreement. The new project, supported by the Government of Finland, will improve access to justice with a focus on the most vulnerable for the next three years.

[Learn more](#)

ADB to provide USD 650 million by the end of the year to support mortgage refinancing and budget expenses.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan to receive about USD 500 million for energy and financial development

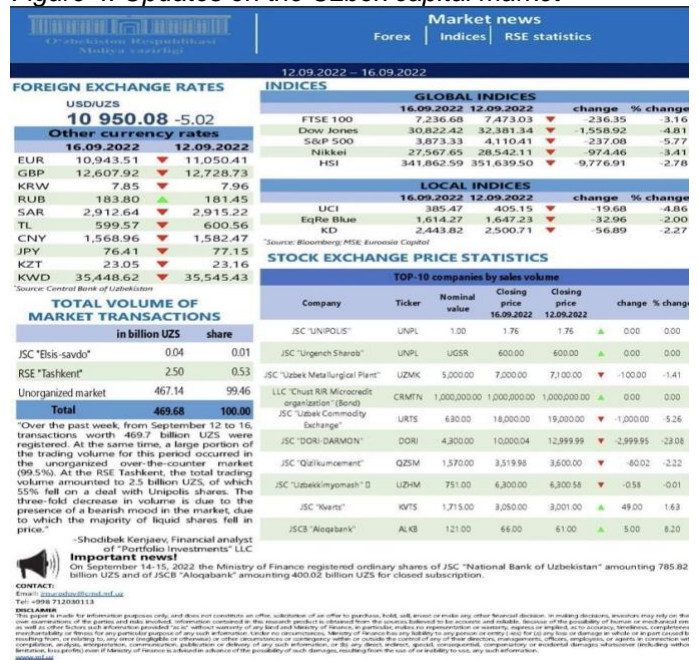
International Finance Corporation (IFC) will finance 28 investment projects worth USD 480 million in banking, finance, energy, textiles, food, chemicals, furniture and SME development.

[Learn more](#)

Mubadala and TAQA from UAE signed the contract on establishing a particular Joint Venture and investments in Talimarjan Power Station. The foreign investment will amount to about **USD 1 billion**, of which USD 700 million will be used to repay loans previously taken out by the thermal power plant.

[Learn more](#)

Figure 4: Updates on the Uzbek capital market



Source: Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan

[Learn more](#)

TRADE & BUSINESS

Export of Uzbek textiles reached almost USD 2 billion in seven months

According to the State Statistics Committee, from January-July 2022, the export of textile products from Uzbekistan carried out **USD 1.91 billion**, accounting for 17% of the total export deliveries. Compared to January-July 2021, it increased by 19.2%. In the structure of exports of textile products, the main share is occupied by cotton yarn (51.3%), as well as finished knitwear and garments (25.1%). According to official forecasts, export deliveries are expected to grow to USD 7 billion by 2025.

[Learn more](#)

A delegation of Uzbekistan holds a number of meetings with the heads of large Russian companies

Uzbekistan might increase its garlic exports to the EU

European importers became interested in the possibility of partial replacement of Chinese garlic in the EU market with garlic from Uzbekistan.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan may open a trade house in London

[Learn more](#)

Business mission "Made in Uzbekistan" visited Latvia

The Export Promotion Agency under the Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan, with the assistance of the Uzbek Embassy in Latvia, organised the Made in Uzbekistan business mission in Riga on 12-13 September. The 46 different businesses represented the Uzbek side.

September 2022

On 3 September 2022, as part of the visit of the government delegation of Uzbekistan to the Russian Federation, Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan Jamshid Khodjaev held a meeting with representatives of a number of large Russian companies representing such areas such as construction, textiles, agriculture, retail, green economy and real estate.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan at International exhibition Euro Shoes Premier Collection-2022 in Moscow

Within the framework of the exhibition, the Uzcharmsanoat Association and the Russian Fashion Industry Association agreed to create new joint brands based on fashion trends in leather and footwear. At the meeting with the Chairman of the Beijing International Chamber of Commerce, the cooperative Uzbek-Chinese educational program to train personnel for the industry was initiated.

[Learn more](#)

Huawei and ZTE to implement USD 506.8 million value projects in Uzbekistan

Uzbektelecom JSC (UZTL) signed eight contracts with ZTE and Huawei for USD 506.8 million to modernise and expand the internet network in rural areas and along the transportation lines.

[Learn more](#)

BANKING & FINANCE

Central Bank predicts annual inflation at about 12%

By September 1, inflation since the beginning of the year reached 6.98%, which is noticeably higher than in previous years.

[Learn more](#)

Central Bank leaves interest rate unchanged

At the regular meeting on September 8, the Board of the Central Bank decided to keep the interest rate unchanged at 15% per annum.

[Learn more](#)

The Central Bank issues a licence to BEELAB LLC for the right to carry out the activities of a payment organisation

[Learn more](#)

Moscow Exchange to start trading in Uzbek soum

[Learn more](#)

Tinkoff Business launches currency transfers to Armenia and Uzbekistan

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan at Riga Food 2022

On the 8-10 of September, Uzbekistan was presented at the Riga Food 2022 exhibition - the biggest in the Baltics food industry fair. At "Riga Food 2022", 400 companies from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Austria, Moldova, Italy, Poland, Canada, Spain, and Ukraine, a total of 25 countries, presented their products and services. As a result of B2B negotiations, local Uzbek exporters have signed contracts for deliveries of dried fruits (dried prunes, apricots, sultanas), pulses, melons and watermelon, cooking utensils (cauldrons), and other goods worth over **USD 1 million** to Latvia and other Baltic countries.

[Learn more](#)

Tashkent hosted the Uzbek-Azerbaijani Business Forum

[Learn more](#)

Foreign reserves decreased by USD 0.5 billion in August down to USD 34.09 billion, while the gold part of the reserve is stable at USD 21 billion with the growth of physical amount from 12 to 12.3 million ounces

[Learn more](#)

ADB signs partnership agreement with Davr Bank to expand trade support in Uzbekistan

The Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program (TSCFP) and Private Joint-Stock Commercial Bank "Davr Bank" have signed an issuing bank agreement to further promote trade in Uzbekistan.

[Learn more](#)

UzRTSB JSC (URTS) obtained the electronic money licence for the ExMoney system

Trastbank JSCB (TRSB) registered as an issuer of this money.

[Learn more](#)

Several banks in Uzbekistan tighten conditions for issuing cards to foreigners

[Learn more](#)

Asakabank JSC confirmed the loss of USD 700k due to the cyber-attack

[Learn more](#)

Since September 12, Kapitalbank and Ipak Yuli Bank have tightened the conditions for issuing bank cards to non-residents.

[Learn more](#)

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

China Road and Bridge Corporation to reconstruct 1,204km A-380 highway from Guzar to Beyneu

The completion date for the project is 22 June 2023.

[Learn more](#)

First freight train departs from Uzbekistan to Afghanistan along a new transport corridor

On September 19, a pilot launch of a container train started along the new transit route Kashgar-Osh-Andijan-Galaba-Khayraton (China - Kyrgyzstan - Uzbekistan - Afghanistan). The first train consisting of 12 units of 40-foot containers departed from Uzbekistan along this route.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan may acquire up to 40 trains and 100 wagons from the EU and South Korea

"Uzbekistan Temir Yullari plans to purchase 34 electric trains, six diesel trains, and 100 new passenger cars and has held talks with Alstom, Siemens, Skoda, and Hyundai.

[Learn more](#)

Latvia may simplify visa procedure for Uzbek truckers

Representatives of the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Transport of Uzbekistan agreed to hold a joint commission meeting on international road transport issues by the end of this year to address the simplification of the visa procedure for national carriers and to organise a visit of the Minister of Transport and Communications of Lithuania to Tashkent in the first half of 2023.

[Learn more](#)

Two buses and 40 minibuses were brought to Samarkand from China

In connection with the upcoming summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation in Samarkand, the People's Republic of China brought two buses and 40 minibuses to the host country - Uzbekistan.

[Learn more](#)

AZAL to launch direct flights to Samarkand, increase frequency of flights to Tashkent

[Learn more](#)

ESCO begins transporting goods from Japan to Uzbekistan via China

The Russian group FESCO organised intermodal transportation of containerized cargo from Japan to Uzbekistan. Shipments will be sent twice a month. The first batch of 18 containers is already in Lianyungang and awaiting train departure on September 30.

[Learn more](#)

Samarkand Airport launches E-gates system

The system automatically identifies travellers based on biometric data, with minimal human involvement. The complex includes document scanners, as well as high-resolution video cameras.

[Learn more](#)

FlyDubai launches flights from Dubai to Samarkand

The number of flights between Uzbekistan and the UAE has reached 13 per week.

[Learn more](#)

A new transit corridor "Uzbekistan - Turkmenistan - Iran - India" through the port of Chabahar was discussed

Figure 5: Transit corridor "Uzbekistan - Turkmenistan - Iran - India"



On 20 September, the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade with a delegation of the Economic and Social

Uzbekistan may become a new transit hub for Russian tourists instead of Istanbul

[Learn more](#)

Buses start running between Tashkent and Moscow every day

[Learn more](#)

Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) discussed a new transit corridor "Uzbekistan - Turkmenistan - Iran - India" through the port of Chabahar. At the talks, an agreement was reached on the development of a feasibility study for a new transport route, created in connection with the need to serve the growing volume of trade between Uzbekistan and India, which will reach **USD 1 billion** in the near future.

[Learn more](#)

AGRICULTURE, MINING, & MANUFACTURING

Uzbekistan beats Spain and becomes the №4 world exporter of sweet cherries in 2022

In 2022, the volume of exports of sweet cherries from Spain decreased, according to various estimates, by 30-40%. This means that Uzbekistan will continue to be ahead of Spain in the global export rankings of this trendy fruit.

[Learn more](#)

US Department of Labour lifts restrictions on Uzbek cotton

The US Department of Labour has published two reports on the situation with forced labour in the world in which for the first time since 2011, Uzbekistan is classified in the best category of "significant progress" in terms of the effectiveness of efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. This decision cancels formal restrictions on the import of cotton produced in Uzbekistan and products from it into the United States, thereby opening up new opportunities for the export of domestic textile products.

[Learn more](#)

The cotton harvesting season in Uzbekistan - updates

Almost two million people participated in the cotton harvest campaign, including 0.6 million of cotton cluster employees and 1.2 million of seasonal workers. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) confirmed that 99% of the workers are paid and working voluntarily on commercial terms. State prices for collected cotton gradually increased during the last few years - in 2022, from UZS 1,200-1,500 to 1,500-1,800 per kg.

[Learn more](#)

UzAuto Motors JSC (UZAM) increased production by almost 50% compared to 8 months of the year - up to 187.6k cars

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan GTL plant launched an exclusive synthetic jet fuel production

For the first time, the Uzbekistan GTL plant has launched the production of synthetic jet fuel that meets international standards (ASTM D-7566) and technical requirements. It should be noted that the Uzbekistan GTL complex plans to produce import-substituting oil products and hydrocarbons for a total of USD 1 billion by synthesising natural gas.

[Learn more](#)

American Boeing and French Airbus, confirmed the possibility of using Uzbekistan GTL's GTL jet fuel as a Jet A-1 component

On September 23, 2022, Boeing, followed by Airbus officially confirmed the possibility of using GTL kerosene of the Uzbekistan GTL Plant as a component for blending with Bukhara Oil Refinery's Jet A-1 conventional jet fuel.

[Learn more](#)

Sanoat Energetika Guruhi (SEG) begins the largest modernization of the Ferghana Oil Refinery (FNPZ)

Reportedly, SEG will invest over USD 400 million to double the volume of oil refining, launch the production of Euro-5 gasoline and jet fuel.

[Learn more](#)

Fergana to start producing electric cars

The Central Asia Motors enterprise is launching a USD 50 million project to kick off the production of 10 thousand electric vehicles per year, of which 40% are expected to be exported. The project will create more than 350 jobs.

[Learn more](#)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & R&D

Uzbekistan overtakes Kazakhstan in new Global Innovation Index

The republic took the 82nd place and entered the group of the most active in the innovation sphere.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan plans to create a national messenger and social network

According to the Ministry of Innovative Development, applications from the initiators of startup projects participating in the contest will be accepted **from July 31 to October 1 this year.**

[Learn more](#)

Startup from Uzbekistan in the top 15 out of 237 projects in CA, Mongolia, and Azerbaijan

Uzbekistan-based startup avlo.shop has been ranked one of the top 15 projects by Google for Startups and Astana Hub as part of their joint programme Silkway Accelerato.

[Learn more](#)

IT Park team takes 3rd place at Eurasian Championship-2022 “WorldSkills International”

[Learn more](#)

META representatives visited IT Park

On the 23rd of September Meta's Managing Director for Greater China, Mongolia and Central Asia George Chen visited IT Park in Tashkent. As it is noted, after the meeting, Meta is considering opening a representative office in Uzbekistan. It is worth adding that more than 10 million people use Facebook and Instagram in Uzbekistan.

[Learn more](#)

New data centre for the e-government projects launched in Uzbekistan by Huawei

The data storage and processing centre in the Zangiata district includes 580 servers installed with China's Huawei. Their total capacity is 20 petabytes - the first system of such high performance in Uzbekistan.

[Learn more](#)

IT Park residents' exports increased 4.4 times in the year's first half

Exports are expected to reach USD 100 million by the end of the year.

[Learn more](#)

CONSTRUCTION & REAL ESTATE

Accor continues its expansion in Uzbekistan

Accor announced the signing of a cooperation agreement with Ayvan Palace LLC to open a new Mercure hotel in Bukhara. Mercure Bukhara Old Town will welcome its first guests later in 2022.

[Learn more](#)

Sales in real estate market of Uzbekistan increase sharply

The Centre for Economic Research and Reforms (CERR) analysed the situation on the real estate market in August this year. Since the beginning of the year, sales have grown by 8.5%.

[Learn more](#)

Cost of housing rental in multi-storey buildings in Tashkent announced

The average cost of renting multi-storey buildings in Tashkent is USD 339. In the housing rental market, the lowest price was recorded in Sergeli and Almazar districts and the highest – in Mirabad and Yakkasaray districts.

[Learn more](#)

Master plan for landscaping of Tashkent approved

According to the Master Plan, designed for 2023-2027, about 7 million flowers and more than 75 thousand seedlings of trees and shrubs will be planted in the capital every year.

[Learn more](#)

ENERGY & FUEL

Masdar finances 'central Asia's largest wind farm'

UAE-based renewables developer Masdar has reached financial close on Uzbekistan's first wind farm – a 500MW project in the country's south-west. It will invest **USD 600 million** on designing, building and operating the Zarafshan project. This includes a USD 74 million loan package organised by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The Zarafshan wind farm is expected to begin commercial operation by the end of 2024. At a capacity of 500 MW, the project would provide enough electricity to power 500,000 homes, while displacing 1.1 million tons of carbon dioxide per year.

[Learn more](#)

Investment projects for the production of solar panels approved

The list of investment projects includes five companies, the total cost of projects is estimated at USD 38.7 million.

[Learn more](#)

Ireland may produce energy-saving insulation panels in Uzbekistan

Kingspan Group Plc confirmed its readiness to localise products in Uzbekistan and supply innovative and energy-saving materials to the country's major infrastructure projects.

[Learn more](#)

In the field of electrical engineering it is planned to implement projects worth USD 148 million

From 2023, the Ministry of Innovation has been tasked with providing separate grants to finance research projects, experiments and start-ups in the fields of electronics, including microelectronics. There are also plans to introduce land and property tax exemptions for the use of RES.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekneftegaz holds negotiations with a Finnish company on the localization of the production of chemical reagents

As a result of the negotiations, it was agreed to conduct laboratory analyses of chemical reagents offered by Bang & Bonsomer.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan creates solar-powered devices for quick charging of electric vehicles

High-speed chargers will save more than 11 thousand cubic metres of gas and prevent the release of harmful substances into the atmosphere.

[Learn more](#)

Ferghana refinery increases processing of local raw materials

Ferghana Oil Refinery (FNPZ) increased the share of Uzbek oil refining up to almost 90 percent.

[Learn more](#)

SOCIAL, EDUCATION, & ENVIRONMENT SECTION

HUMAN RIGHTS & LOCAL LIFESTYLE

Meeting of heads of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) from the OSCE region

On the 5th-6th of September, an Uzbek delegation, led by Oliy Majlis Ombudsman Feruza Eshmatova, went to Warsaw to discuss how to build resilience in their institutions. Meetings were held with OSCE ODIHR Director Matteo Micacci and Polish Commissioner for Civil Rights (Ombudsman) Marcin Wensek, who provided detailed information about the work being done to ensure human rights in Uzbekistan.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan in the Human Development Report 2021/22

According to a recent report, Uzbekistan rose from 106th to 101st among 191 countries with an index score of 0.727 (improving the rating score by 0.007 compared to the last report) and fixed itself in the classification of countries with a high level of human development.

[Learn more](#)

Grandmaster Nodirbek Abdusattorov has become one of the world's top 30 chess players, surpassing his rating of 2,700

[Learn more](#)

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

USAID supports vulnerable women and women with disabilities as e-commerce entrepreneurs

Approximately 250 women in the Tashkent and Kashkadarya regions will receive training in e-commerce, social media marketing, and advertising. Program graduates will receive support in finding employment and opening their own businesses.

[Learn more](#)

Ministry of Public Education, USAID collaborate on distribution of 6.5 million new textbooks

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) handed over 33 high-quality, internationally-sourced English as a Foreign Language (EFL) textbooks and teacher's guides to the Ministry of Public Education for use during the 2022-2023 academic year. The Ministry of Public Education printed the new textbooks for over 6.5 million students.

[Learn more](#)

Orient Group is first in Uzbekistan to adopt Korn Ferry Hay international job evaluation method

[Learn more](#)

USAID supports Karakalpak's women entrepreneurs reviving cultural heritage industry

USAID will train local craftswomen to use modern wool production and processing technologies to improve the standard of material inputs, provide financing for equipment purchase, and support access to new markets.

[Learn more](#)

Huawei transfers part of its employees from Russia to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan

The Chinese company Huawei moved part of its employees from Russia to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. Some of these employees are managers and heads of vendor divisions from China.

[Learn more](#)

HEALTHCARE & COVID-19

Central Asia's only "Vaccine Innovation Centre" to be set up in Uzbekistan

Chinese Luye Investment Group is considering a USD 100 million project in Uzbekistan to establish the vaccine production centre with an annual production of 200 million doses of different vaccines for USD 2 billion. The centre will be Central Asia's only full-cycle biotech facility. The centre

USAID Supports USD 10 million Youth Workforce Development Programme

USAID, along with the Ministry of Public Education, officially launched the five-year, \$10 million Uzbekistan Youth Employment Skills (YES) activity. The activity will increase youth workforce readiness and employability by equipping young people in grades 8-11 with the necessary skills to enter Uzbekistan's economy as competent employees or entrepreneurs.

[Learn more](#)

UNICEF applauds Uzbekistan Government's leadership on inclusive education

Two hundred twenty-five schools in all regions of Uzbekistan opened their doors to children with disabilities. UNICEF called this a "decisive and important undertaking." According to international experience, the foundation said that introducing inclusive education contributes to improving the overall quality of education.

[Learn more](#)

Trade officials from Central Asia visited France and Estonia

Twenty-five public and private-sector representatives from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan now know about the best practices in implementing electronic queue management systems (e-QMS) thanks to a study tour to France and Estonia.

[Learn more](#)

Statistics Committee provides data on Uzbekistan's labour force

As of the first half of 2022, Uzbekistan's total labour force amounted to 19.4 million people.

[Learn more](#)

UNICEF and Romanian government help to improve health services in Surkhandarya province

[Learn more](#)

Egypt sends medicines for Hepatitis C to Uzbekistan for the first time

September 2022

will produce ten types of vaccines against viral hepatitis, papilloma, measles, tetanus, and other diseases and will be able to export to CIS countries.

[Learn more](#)

In total, the Egyptian government sent 15,000 units of Sofosbuvir and 15,000 units of Daclatasvir to our country as gratuitous aid for a total of USD 302,000. The drugs will be used to treat patients diagnosed with viral hepatitis Type "C" in screening trials.

[Learn more](#)

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

In 6 months Uzbekistan allocated UZS 1.9 trillion from the state budget for environmental protection

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan, UAE to organise joint research in the Aral Sea region

The Ministry of Innovative Development delegation paid a working visit to the United Arab Emirates and met with representatives of the UAE Innovation Centre. The parties agreed to organise joint research on cultivating drought-resistant plant varieties in the Aral Sea region and their use in agriculture to study the possibilities of joint financing of the project.

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan to install about 19,000 modern waste containers at social facilities

Reportedly, equipment with waste containers will be financed from additional sources of local budgets and off-budgetary funds of the Ministry of Public Education, Ministry of Preschool Education and Ministry of Health.

[Learn more](#)

Head of Tashkent city ecology department arrested

The head of the Tashkent City Department of Ecology and Environmental Protection and three other persons suspected of committing crimes were arrested.

[Learn more](#)

CULTURE & TOURISM

Tashkent to host International Tourism Fair "Tourism on the Silk Road"

From 30 November to 2 December, Tashkent will host the 27th Tashkent International Tourism Fair, "Tourism on the Silk Road" (TITF) 2022. As part of TITF 2022, conferences, B2B meetings, round tables, exhibitions of tourism services and handicrafts, presentations of regions of Uzbekistan with tourism potential, and a gastro-bazaar with master classes in cooking national dishes will be organised.

[Learn more](#)

Premiere of the documentary film by Russian TV presenter Valdis Pelsh "Uzbekistan. Look Beyond the Horizon" took place on Channel One

[Learn more](#)

Tashkent will host the International Biennial of Contemporary Art on 24-28 October

[Learn more](#)

Two large-scale exhibitions dedicated to the cultural heritage of Uzbekistan will open in Paris

Musee du Louvre will host the exhibition "Discovering the wonders of the oases of Uzbekistan" between November 23, 2022 and March 6, 2023. The exhibition will present 180 pieces representing 16 centuries of the history of Uzbekistan. Around the same time, the Institut du Monde Arabe is organising the exhibition "On the roads of Samarkand, Wonders of silk and gold".

[Learn more](#)

Uzbekistan recognized as safest country in Central Asia

Uzbekistan was recognized as the safest country in Central Asia by the Global Peace Index rating. This index was calculated for the first time in May 2007.

[Learn more](#)

UNICEF, UNDRR and the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan announced the "Sing for Resilience" musical contest

[Learn more](#)

EUROUZ & MEMBER NEWS

SUMMARY

EUROUZ attended B2B conference for textiles from Uzbekistan and Europe



EUROUZ took part in the B2B conference for textiles from Uzbekistan and Europe on the opportunities and requirements of GSP+, organised by the German Cooperation and Development Agency (GIZ) in collaboration with the Belgian Business Association - amfori on the 1st of September in Brussels. The event brought together textile and clothing professionals from the Benelux and several European countries such as France and Germany, executives of textile manufacturing companies and retailers, representatives from the high fashion sector, and senior staff from European Union institutions. Speakers at the event included representatives of the European Commission, international organisations, and the Uzbek and European private sectors. As a result of the conference, EUROUZ established relations with a few new textile companies such as Texeurop, G. Guldenpfennig GmbH, Haj Tex, Imron and Daka-Tex.

EUROUZ meets Chairman of Uzbekistan's Chamber of Commerce



At the beginning of September, in Tashkent, EUROUZ Secretary General - Oybek Shaykhov, and the Head of the EUROUZ Tashkent office - Akrom Fozilov, had an excellent meeting with the Chairman of Uzbekistan's Chamber of Commerce, Davron Vakhobov. The latter was appointed to this position in March 2022. It has been agreed that EUROUZ and its members would consider developing joint training & capacity building programs for Uzbek enterprises and have also discussed his upcoming visit to Belgium.

EUROUZ to assist in the organisation of the Belgian business mission to Uzbekistan in 2023

On the 16th of September, EUROUZ team held a meeting with Mr Eric Bletard, Trade and Investment Counsellor of the AWEX (Agence wallonne à l'Exportation et aux Investissements Etrangers) - Walloon Export and Foreign Investment Agency of Wallonia, Belgium. During the meeting, the sides stressed the importance of the joint preparatory work for organising the upcoming Belgian business and trade mission to Uzbekistan in 2023. In addition, EUROUZ proposed a joint web event for Belgian companies before the end of the year to update on Uzbekistan's economic situation and opportunities.

The Secretary General's interview for the Azerbaijani TV channel

On the 15th of September, EUROUZ Secretary General Mr. Oybek Shaykhov briefly discussed with Azerbaijan's Caspian International Broadcasting Company (CBC TV) the tangible value and prospects of closer economic collaboration between

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation member states following the Samarkand SCO summit in Uzbekistan. The broadcast was live and in Russian.

[Link to video](#)

Meeting with the Ambassador of Turkmenistan

This month, EUROUZ paid a visit to the newly appointed Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Belgium and the EU to share our experience in connecting European & Uzbekistan’s business networks and leaders. The Europe-Uzbekistan Association for Economic Cooperation — EUROUZ while focusing on Uzbekistan is also fully dedicated to supporting inter-regional dialogue and is always looking for ways to help European businesses succeed across the entire Central Asian region.

Save the day for Tashkent Textile Summit



We have the honour of **inviting you to the Tashkent Textile Summit**, which will be held **on October 11-12, 2022, in the Hilton Hotel**, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Textile Summit aims to attract representatives and experts of the global textile business, and the key issue of presentations and discussions will be on the topic of New balance in the global textile market. Topics covered include:

- Sustainable and traceable Sourcing
- Blockchain is the digital revolution of the textile supply chain
- Industry 4.0 Digitization
- Special Sessions: International round table on ILO activity in Uzbekistan ILO/UNECE & a panel on Fast global fashion trends.

To express interest in participation, contact: info@eurouz.com

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS IN UZBEKISTAN ORGANIZED BY ITECA EXHIBITIONS IN 2022

5 - 7 OCTOBER TASHKENT UZBEKISTAN	OZUPACK UZBEK-PRINT	PACKAGING. PRINTING. LABELLING. PAPER.
12 - 14 OCTOBER TASHKENT UZBEKISTAN	plastex POLYMER	PLASTICS & POLYMERS
2 - 4 NOVEMBER TASHKENT UZBEKISTAN	TransLogistica UZBEKISTAN	TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS
	securex Uzbekistan	SAFETY, SECURITY and FIRE PROTECTION
	miningmetals UZBEKISTAN	MINING INDUSTRY, METALLURGY and METALWORKING

Contact point: oyimkhon.babadjanova@iteca.uz

NOTABLE GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS

- **Supreme Court Chairman**
Appointed - Bakhtiyor Islomov
Previously served as - Adviser to the President
- **Head of the Financial Flows and Pricing Policy Department of the Ministry of Energy**
Appointed - Bakhtiyor Umarov
Previously served as Head of the department of the Financial and Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- **Chairman of the Board of the Stock Exchange**
Appointed - Georgi Paresishvili
Previously served as Head of the Georgian Stock Exchange
- **Chairman of Jokargy Kenes**
Appointed - Amanbay Orinbayev
Previously served as - First deputy of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan on issues of ecology and development of coastal regions.
- **Presidential adviser on youth, science, education, health, culture and sports**
Appointed - Odil Abdurakhmanov
Previously served as - Rector of the Tashkent State Transport University.
- **Head of the Inspectorate of Control in the Office of the President**
Appointed - Saidlaziz Saidkarimov
Previously served as - Deputy Chairman of the Court of Audit
- **Deputy Chairman of the Court of Audit**
Appointed - Utkir Jumanov
Previously served as - Head of Presidential Administration Sector
- **Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan**
Appointed - Aziz Voitov
Previously served as - First Deputy Minister of the Minister for Investment and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan
- **Minister of Energy of the Republic of Uzbekistan**
Appointed – Jurabek Mirzamakhmudov
Previously served as – Chairman of UzAtom Agency & JSC “Uzkimyosanoat”

NOTABLE ARTICLES

America needs a strategic partnership with Uzbekistan	The Hill	https://thehill.com/opinion/international/3632514-america-needs-a-strategic-partnership-with-uzbekistan/amp/
China, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan sign landmark railroad deal	Eurasianet	https://eurasianet.org/china-kyrgyzstan-uzbekistan-sign-landmark-railroad-deal
Deux projets de train qui pourraient transformer l'Asie centrale	Les Echos	https://www.lesechos.fr/amp/1787194
Uzbekistan and Georgia: Strengthening Interregional Connectivity	Cabar	https://cabar.asia/en/uzbekistan-and-georgia-strengthening-interregional-connectivity? utl t=ln
Why the upcoming Samarkand SCO summit is important and what to expect from the outcome	NewEurope	https://www.neweurope.eu/article/why-the-upcoming-samarkand-sco-summit-is-important-and-what-to-expect-from-the-outcome/
Why The Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit In Uzbekistan This Week Should Matter For The West	Forbes	https://www.forbes.com/sites/kenrapoza/2022/09/16/why-the-shanghai-cooperation-organization-summit-in-uzbekistan-this-week-should-matter-for-the-west/?sh=23709d4b5f0d
The SCO Samarkand Summit Dialogue and Cooperation an an Interconnected	Diplomatic World Institute	https://www.diplomatic-world-institute.com/en/sco-samarkand-summit-president-mirziyoyev/
Securing Afghanistan Remains SCO's Neglected Mission Possible	The Diplomat	https://thedi diplomat.com/2022/09/securing-afghanistan-remains-scoss-neglected-mission-possible/
Inequality and super-ups: how the fintech market in Uzbekistan	Forbes.ru	https://www.forbes.ru/svoi-biznes/475829-neravenstvo-i-superappy-kak-ustroen-finteh-rynok-uzbekistana-i-cego-tam-ne-hvataet

works and what's missing		
The most important drivers of Uzbekistan's development at the modern stage	Telegraph	https://telegra.ph/The-most-important-drivers-of-Uzbekistans-development-at-the-modern-stage-09-04
Expanding the Geography of Foreign Relations in the Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan as a Priority Objective	Asia Today	https://theasiatoday.org/opinions/expanding-the-geography-of-foreign-relations-in-the-development-strategy-of-new-uzbekistan-as-a-priority-objective/amp/
Uzbekistan's democratic transformation continues, pledges Foreign Minister	The EUReporter	https://www.eureporter.co/world/uzbekistan/2022/09/06/uzbekistans-democratic-transformation-continues-pledges-foreign-minister/
Egregious viceroys: the Uzbek impact on chess	The Article	https://www.thearticle.com/egregious-viceroys-the-uzbek-impact-on-chess
Stunning New Tourist Complex: Silk Road Samarkand Opens in Uzbekistan	Euronews	https://www.euronews.com/travel/2022/09/01/stunning-new-tourist-complex-silk-road-samarkand-opens-in-uzbekistan
Possible impact of secondary western sanctions on Uzbekistan	KunUz	https://kun.uz/en/15768777
Uzbekistan, Central Asia Try to Redefine Shanghai Cooperation Organisation	Voice of America	https://www.voanews.com/a/uzbekistan-central-asia-try-to-redefine-shanghai-cooperation-organization/6751857.html
Think Tanks of the SCO Countries Summed Up the Results for 2022	Review.Uz	https://review.uz/en/post/mozgove-centr-stran-shos-podveli-itogi-za-2022-god-ekspert-ceir