



## REPORT SUMMARY

In the month of March, the UK has offered to teach the Uzbek Parliament members about youth rights protection to help the country further improve its legal system. A “Human Rights House” was established in Uzbekistan. And, the global boycott of Uzbek cotton was finally ended by the Cotton Campaign, signalling a significant improvement in Uzbekistan’s human rights laws. However, in the 2022 World Happiness Report Uzbekistan was ranked 11 lines lower than last year.

For improving the local labour market, the government of Uzbekistan has decided to assist the young generation in making the study-work transition smoother. Government organizations were tasked to open vacancies for the youth and, subsequently, hire them.

In terms of sustainability, Uzbekistan has set plans to stop the use of non-renewable types of energy by 2050 and is trying new collaborative approaches and tools to tackle environmental issues.

In addition, Uzbek tourism is becoming more convenient and accessible to a wider range of people thanks to the opening of the Support Centre for Disabled Entrepreneurs. And, due to the inflow of Russians an Action Plan was signed with Russia to promote tourism in Uzbekistan.

## MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

“Students will be allowed to work in all government agencies and institutions.”

**Shavkat Mirziyoyev,**  
**President of the Republic of Uzbekistan**

“Uzbekistan definitely has a lot to offer in terms of tourism, including cities with unique architecture and history, hospitable people, and excellent cuisine.”

**Dmitry Chernyshenko,**  
**Russian Deputy Prime Minister**

“Every third murder was committed due to family problems in 2021”

**Pulat Bobojonov,**  
**Minister of Internal Affairs**



### IMPORTANT NEWS PUBLICATIONS AND ARTICLES

#### HUMAN RIGHTS & LOCAL LIFESTYLE

##### **The UK to teach Uzbek Parliament members about youth rights protection**

During a meeting between the Embassy of Uzbekistan and the Head of Programmes of the British NGO Global Partners Governance (GPG) views on cooperation between Uzbekistan's legislative institutions and the GPG were discussed. The British side expressed willingness to share experience in youth rights protection with Uzbekistan's Oliy Majlis.

Source: [UzA](#)

##### **The 24th plenary session of the Senate highlighted the main sources of crime in 2021**

In 2021, one in three homicides or 158 crimes and 190 cases of grievous bodily harm were committed due to family problems. The main cause was linked to the untimely settlement of disputes. Hence, in 2021 14,935 offenses were committed. To address this issue, the Senate of the Oliy Majlis adopted a relevant resolution.

Source: [Senat.uz](#)

##### **“Human Rights House” established in Uzbekistan**

According to a presidential decree, an information and library centre for human rights, the “Human Rights House”, was established at the National Centre for Human Rights.

Source: [Kun.uz](#)

#### EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

##### **Measures being taken to boost student employment in the Uzbek labour market**

Under the chairmanship of the President of Uzbekistan, government officials were instructed to assist students and graduates in finding a job. It was revealed that out of 510,000 students 100,000 have a desire to work. And, currently, the labour market has 105,000 vacancies available for them.

During a videoconference the President of Uzbekistan gave a number of tasks to local authorities:

- For ministries and agencies to work with universities related to their industries and organize regular employment competitions
- Involve students in research projects funded by state grants in 2022
- For khokims to cooperate with the private sector and universities and regularly hold job fairs

Source: [Yuz.uz](#); [Kun.uz](#)

##### **Cotton Campaign ending the call for a global boycott of Uzbek cotton**

During a visit, the “Cotton Campaign” International Coalition took part in a joint press briefing at the Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan. There, after reviewing the progress made to protect worker's rights and eradicate forced labour, the global boycott of Uzbek cotton was finally declared over.

Source: [CottonCampaign](#)

##### **Uzbekistan drops by 11 lines in the ranking of happy countries**

The 2022 World Happiness Report, which is published by the United Nations Division of Sustainable Development Solutions, has dropped Uzbekistan rank to 53<sup>rd</sup> out of 146 countries. Among other Central Asian countries, Uzbekistan came in 2<sup>nd</sup> with Kazakhstan in the lead at rank 40. For comparison, in 2021 Uzbekistan was in the lead with a rank of 42.

Source: [WHR2022](#) ; [WHR2021](#)

##### **Unemployment rate in Uzbekistan amounts to almost 10%**

As of the beginning of 2022 the unemployment rate in Uzbekistan amounted to 9.6%. This is 0.9% less compared to the same period in 2021. The total size of Uzbekistan's labor resource for 2022 grew to 19 million people. As of January, most of the employed citizens were in the official sector and 4.3 million people were economically inactive, which is 0.5% less than last year.

Source: [Ministry of Employment and Labor relations](#)

##### **Uzbekistan and Japan develop cooperation in field of science and education**

The President of the Japan Institute of Advanced Science and Technology (JAIST) and representatives of Uzbek diplomats agreed to hold online negotiations with interested universities and research centers of Uzbekistan.

Source: [Kun.uz](#)

### HEALTHCARE

#### Imported medical equipment to be exempted from VAT and customs duties until 2025

The President of Uzbekistan has announced “medical equipment, items, tools and materials imported by medical organizations” to be VAT free from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2022 to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2025. It was added that private clinics will be free from paying “tourism fees” for medical tourists and charged less for attracting foreign medical professionals.

Source: [Kun.uz](https://kun.uz)

#### WHO representative speaks about positive changes in Uzbekistan’s healthcare sphere

During President Shavkat Mirziyoyev’s meeting with medical workers, WHO’s representative in Uzbekistan applauded the President’s “excellent solution” in tackling the pandemic. She also noted how Uzbekistan “emphasis on disease prevention rather than treatment” has positively reflected on containing the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Source: [Kun.uz](https://kun.uz)

### ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

#### Uzbekistan plans to stop the use of non-renewable types of energy by 2050

Natural gas, coal and oil are planned to be fully replaced with renewable energy sources. The government expects for 30% of its energy to be renewable by 2030. However, hydrocarbon neutrality by 2050 will be hard to achieve as many industries are highly dependent on traditional energy sources. This is coupled with the energy demand growth rate of 11-12% per annum.

As a catalyst for the renewable energy transition, individuals and businesses are being rewarded for switching to and using solar energy.

Source: [Kun.uz](https://kun.uz)

#### Uzhydromet allocates 2.4 billion soums (USD 217.4 thousand) to reduce negative effects of climate change

The Hydrometeorological Research Institute has funded three projects aimed at reducing the negative effects of climate change. Specifically, the launch of 2 new geoportals monitoring air quality, MODIS equipment modernization, and the launch of the Geoportal for forecasting and monitoring high risk areas.

Source: [Kun.uz](https://kun.uz)

#### New collaborative approaches and tools to explore water-energy-food futures in Amudarya Basin

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) jointly with the University of Manchester organized a workshop for Uzbek authorities related to water-energy-food and the environment. Under the Future Dams program, a series of modeling tools and frameworks for the water-energy-food nexus were shown. Also, the data assembling progress with possible future scenarios for the Amu Darya River basin was presented.

Source: [IWMI](https://iwmi.org)

### CULTURE & TOURISM

#### Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain ready to cooperate with Uzbekistan on digitization of rare manuscripts

During the meeting, negotiations took place on establishing cooperation between research institutes and relevant state organizations of Uzbekistan and the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland (RAS). As part of the many joint projects, Uzbek experts shall be provided access to the society’s collections of manuscripts for scientific research, be able to participate at online seminars, and have Uzbek manuscripts digitalized.

Source: [AgenziaICE](https://agenziaice.it)

#### Uzbek language courses opened in Germany

The courses were organized by the Consulate General of Uzbekistan in Frankfurt am Main with the participation of the Germany – Uzbekistan Society “Humo”. The special course was called “Uzbek language and culture” and was dedicated to the children of Uzbekistan’s compatriots.

Source: [Dunyo](https://dunyo.uz)

#### Uzbekistan may become one of most popular countries for Russian tourists

The Russian Association of Tour Operators advised Russian travellers to visit countries with an “all-in-one” payment system and which can accept “Mir” payment cards. Belarus, Armenia, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan were reported to be most suitable for

### **The largest and best preserved treasure of the Mirzo Ulugbek era found in Surkhandarya region**

On the right bank of the Tupalang River in Surkhandarya, citizens from a nearby makhalla discovered 512, and later 620 copper coins and a chess board dating back to the Mirzo Ulugbek era. The artefacts were handed to the Agency for Cultural Heritage and the State Museum of Arts of Uzbekistan. According to the preliminary conclusions of archaeologists, these treasures are the largest and best preserved artefacts from the XV century.

Source: [TheTribute](#)

### **Support Centre for Disabled Entrepreneurs opens in Tashkent**

The Social Tourism Association and the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Heritage have jointly opened the Centre for the Support of Disabled Entrepreneurs and Persons with Disabilities. The goal of the centre is make tourism possible and convenient for people with limitations. The projects will be financed through government grants and charity donations.

Source: [UzbekTourism.uz](#)

“Mir” account users. This has turned Uzbekistan into a top destination for Russian travellers.

Source: [Kun.uz](#)

### **Action Plan to promote tourist flow was signed between Russia and Uzbekistan**

Signed by Deputy Prime Ministers from both nations, the document plans to make travelling between Russia and Uzbekistan easier and more attractive through implementing 20 events. To track progress, under the Russian-Uzbek Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation a subcommittee on tourism will be set up.

Source: [EinNews.com](#)

## SHOLARLY AND MARKET PUBLICATIONS

### **Developing the sanitation systems of secondary cities in the regions of Navoi and Kashkadarya, in Uzbekistan**

[AFD](#)



EUROUZ or Europe-Uzbekistan Association for Economic Cooperation is a new platform of cooperation between Europe & Uzbekistan, which has been created to assist the European business community in establishing and strengthening business, investment, and trade cooperation ties with Uzbekistan.

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