



MONTHLY REPORT ON UZBEKISTAN

JANUARY 2021

**Europe-Uzbekistan Association for Economic
Cooperation (EUROUZ)**

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1. SPECIAL UPDATE – COVID-19

More than 4,500 Uzbek citizens vaccinated with Chinese ZF 2001 against coronavirus

As of January 23, the number of people who came for screening was 9,596. Of these, 4,281 volunteers received the first dose of the vaccine, 251 – the second dose. Uzbekistan is taking part in large scale trials of the Chinese vaccine candidate.

<https://kun.uz/en/41328467>

Uzbek and Russian scientists found new way to combat coronavirus

A team of scientists from Uzbekistan and Russia discovered that low doses of radiation (such as X-ray radiation) could help fight coronavirus.

<https://kun.uz/en/61958060>

Uzbekistan will import 100,000 doses of Pfizer vaccine

Uzbekistan is cooperating with the GAVI alliance to import 100,000 doses of Comirnaty vaccine prepared by the American company Pfizer and the German company BioNTech.

<https://kun.uz/en/21814413>

First case of British coronavirus strain registered in Uzbekistan

The Ministry of Health urged the population to be vigilant, wear medical masks and maintain social distance.

<https://kun.uz/en/02716475>

2. NOTABLE STATEMENTS

Uzbekistan to hold presidential elections in October

Previously, the presidential election was held on the last Sunday of December.

<https://kun.uz/en/91497002>

Le Figaro: Uzbekistan carrying out drastic reforms to break out of old economic model

The French newspaper Le Figaro has published an article “Countries bypassing the crisis in 2020”, in which Uzbekistan was recognized as one of the few countries in the world to overcome the economic crisis in 2020 caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

<https://invest.gov.uz/mediacenter/news/le-figaro-uzbekistan-is-one-of-the-few-countries-in-the-world-that-managed-to-avoid-a-recession-in-2020/>

Uzbekistan Military Strength (2021)

For 2021, Uzbekistan is ranked 51 of 139 out of the countries considered for the annual GFP review.

https://www.globalfirepower.com/country-military-strength-detail.asp?country_id=uzbekistan

Uzbekistan ranks 96th in Crime Index

In 2021, the crime index in Uzbekistan is estimated at 34.70 points, the safety index – at 65.30 points.

https://www.numbeo.com/crime/rankings_by_country.jsp?title=2021

Uzbekistan ranks 146th in Corruption Perceptions Index

Compared to last year, the republic was able to improve its position by seven places.

<https://kun.uz/en/93937867>

Uzbekistan ranks 155th out of 165 countries in the Democracy Index 2020

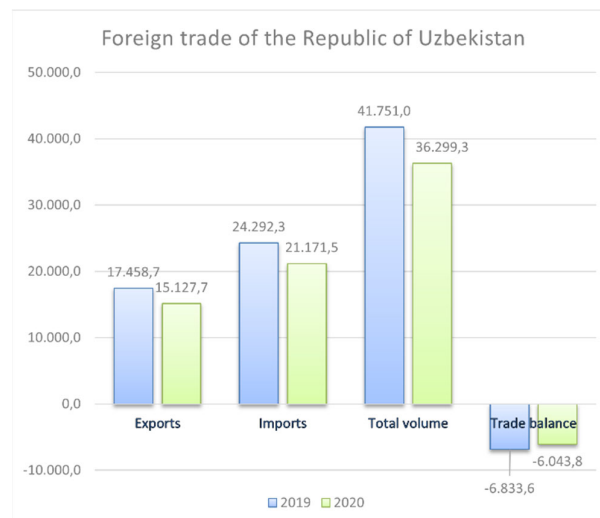
Uzbekistan scored 2.12 points, climbed 2 lines compared to 2019, but remained on the list of countries with an “authoritarian regime”.

<https://pages.eiu.com/rs/753-RIQ-438/images/democracy-index-2020.pdf>

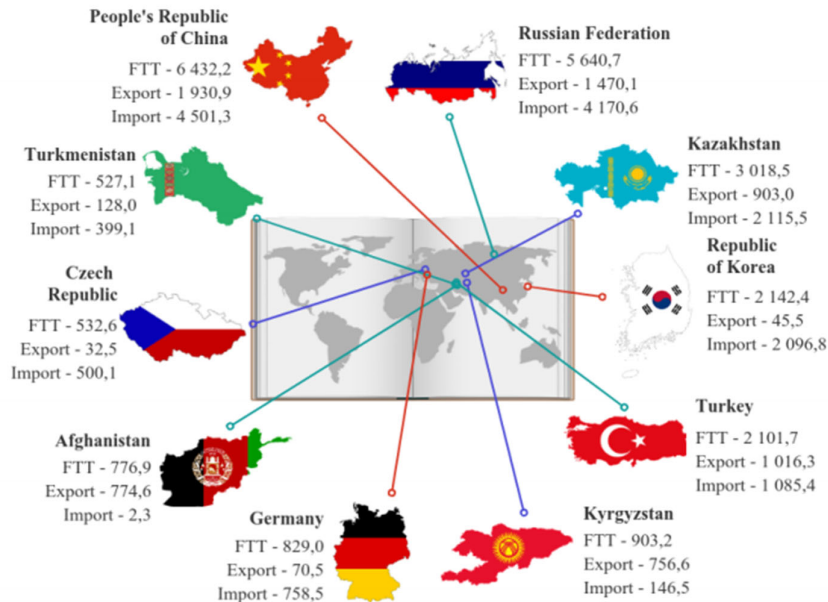
3. ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Uzbekistan released economic activity data for 2020

We take a closer look at the foreign trade turnover (January-December)



TOP TEN COUNTRIES WITH THE LARGEST TRADE TURNOVER WITH THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
(for January-December 2020, million US dollars)



DYNAMICS OF STRUCTURE OF FOREIGN TRADE TURNOVER
(for January-December, million US dollars)

	2019	2020	Growth rate, in %	Specific weight, in%
Foreign trade turnover	41 751,0	36 299,3	86,9 %	x
Export	17 458,7	15 127,7	86,6 %	100,0
products	9 105,6	7 319,4	80,4	48,4
services	3 434,8	2 003,9	58,3	13,2
gold	4 918,3	5 804,4	118,0	38,4
Import	24 292,3	21 171,5	87,2 %	100,0
products	21 866,5	19 955,1	91,3	94,3
services	2 425,9	1 216,4	50,1	5,7
Balance	-6 833,6	-6 043,8	x	x
Export without gold	12 540,4	9 323,3	74,3 %	x

A full & detailed report can be downloaded on the official website of Uzbekistan's <https://stat.uz/en/press-center/news-of-committee/7421-foreign-trade-turnover-of-the-republic-of-uzbekistan-january-december>

Uzbekistan Stock Exchange in 2020

The following are top 20 trade turnovers at the Uzbekistan Stock Exchange in 2020.

	Sectors	Sum, UZS	Num. of deals	Avg. price, UZS	% of turnover	% of equity	Mcap (bln. UZS)	Change, %
MPBS	Leasing	92 400 570 218	3	3,9	15,99%	81,00%	114,1	0,00%
KPBA1	Bank	75 168 083 881	12	3 938,2	13,01%	9,40%	329,0	3,65%
INFB	Bank	64 256 000 000	4	1 000,0	11,12%	16,06%	400,0	0,00%
SQB6	Bank	49 750 000 000	34	1 000 000,0	8,61%	99,50%	50,0	0,00%
HMKB	Bank	43 412 574 192	4 608	31,5	7,51%	2,95%	617,9	-24,97%
UNVB	Bank	35 020 771 750	33	5 068,2	6,06%	23,35%	150,0	0,00%
KFLT	Insurance	26 532 406 053	149	2,6	4,59%	32,53%	180,8	113,33%
NAVI	Winery	17 043 685 134	23	16 757,9	2,95%	97,47%	23,8	35,99%
TKTN	Bank	16 420 673 605	20	925,5	2,84%	13,98%	117,5	-20,00%
AABK1	Bank	13 418 556 977	31	1 031 284,4	2,32%	28,63%	45,2	0,00%
SVDB	Bank	12 115 609 371	74	160,9	2,10%	18,63%	135,2	-35,00%
SHRD	Winery	11 874 441 640	1	3 877,9	2,05%	51,00%	3,0	0,00%
ALSM	Insurance	10 966 243 042	227	1 394,7	1,90%	35,62%	27,3	-13,43%
UZMK	Metallurgy	9 604 256 723	2 579	26 818,5	1,66%	0,79%	1 390,3	-3,00%
TSMB	Construction	8 969 382 180	5	9 465,4	1,55%	56,19%	19,9	0,00%
TRSB	Bank	8 538 696 371	102	6 400,5	1,48%	1,43%	2 521,6	-2,78%
QZSM	Cement	8 395 715 805	3 907	2 173,9	1,45%	1,04%	1 744,9	117,82%
URTS	Service	7 335 191 001	3 315	9 839,6	1,27%	1,02%	599,7	33,33%
KASU	Insurance	7 042 575 838	312	1,9	1,22%	16,83%	43,4	-51,46%
KVTS	Glass	6 479 523 004	5 458	2 999,8	1,12%	2,16%	306,8	-7,66%
Others		53 200 424 290	15 162		9,21%			
Total		577 945 381 075	36 059		100,00%			

<https://t.me/avestagroupuz/3061>

3.1 LOCAL LEVEL

The World Bank forecasts Uzbekistan's GDP will grow by 4.3% in 2021

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's (EBRD) new Regional Economic Prospects report forecasts a 6.5% increase in the country's GDP for 2021.

TABLE 2.2.2 Europe and Central Asia country forecasts¹

(Real GDP growth at market prices in percent, unless indicated otherwise)

Percentage point differences from June 2020 projections

	2018	2019	2020e	2021f	2022f	2020e	2021f
Albania	4.1	2.2	-6.7	5.1	4.4	-1.7	-3.7
Armenia	5.2	7.6	-8.0	3.1	4.5	-5.2	-1.8
Azerbaijan	1.5	2.2	-5.0	1.9	4.5	-2.4	-0.3
Belarus	3.1	1.2	-1.6	-2.7	0.9	2.4	-3.7
Bosnia and Herzegovina ²	3.7	2.7	-4.0	2.8	3.5	-0.8	-0.6
Bulgaria	3.1	3.7	-5.1	3.3	3.7	1.1	-1.0
Croatia	2.7	2.9	-8.6	5.4	4.2	0.7	0.0
Georgia	4.9	5.1	-6.0	4.0	6.0	-1.2	0.0
Hungary	5.1	4.6	-5.9	3.8	4.3	-0.9	-0.7
Kazakhstan	4.1	4.5	-2.5	2.5	3.5	0.5	0.0
Kosovo	3.8	4.2	-8.8	3.7	4.9	-4.3	-1.5
Kyrgyz Republic	3.8	4.5	-8.0	3.8	4.5	-4.0	-1.8
Moldova	4.3	3.6	-7.2	3.8	3.7	-4.1	-0.2
Montenegro	5.1	4.1	-14.9	6.1	3.9	-9.3	1.3
North Macedonia	2.7	3.6	-5.1	3.6	3.5	-3.0	-0.3
Poland	5.4	4.5	-3.4	3.5	4.3	0.8	0.7
Romania	4.4	4.1	-5.0	3.5	4.1	0.7	-1.9
Russian Federation	2.5	1.3	-4.0	2.6	3.0	2.0	-0.1
Serbia	4.4	4.2	-2.0	3.1	3.4	0.5	-0.9
Tajikistan	7.3	7.5	2.2	3.5	5.5	4.2	-0.2
Turkey	3.0	0.9	0.5	4.5	5.0	4.3	-0.5
Ukraine	3.4	3.2	-5.5	3.0	3.1	-2.0	0.0
Uzbekistan	5.4	5.6	0.6	4.3	4.5	-0.9	-2.3

<https://gratanet.com/news/gdp-growth-of-uzbekistan-in-2020>

3.2 REGIONAL, BILATERAL & MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

U.S. International Development Finance Corporation and Uzbekistan expand partnership through Uzbekistan's support for the Abraham (Ibrahim) Fund

Uzbekistan committed \$50 million to improve economic cooperation, connectivity and bring prosperity to participating countries.

<https://www.dfc.gov/media/press-releases/joint-us-uzbek-statement-abraham-ibrahim-fund>

USA, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan announced the launch of the Central Asia Investment Partnership

The U.S. International DFC, Astana International Financial Centre, and the Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan will raise at least \$1 billion over five years to support projects that advance private sector led growth and increase economic connectivity within Central Asia and the broader region.

<https://kz.usembassy.gov/joint-statement-on-the-announcement-of-the-central-asia-investment-partnership/>

The World Bank supports Uzbekistan's transition to a transparent market economy

The WB committed \$500 million to improve the efficiency, sustainability, and transparency of resource allocation in the economy and enhancing economic inclusion and social resilience.

<https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P171751>

South Korea accelerates the process of concluding a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Uzbekistan

South Korea is the fourth largest foreign trade partner of Uzbekistan. According to the State Statistics Committee data, the volume of trade turnover between the two countries in 2019 reached \$2.755 billion, in January-November 2020 – \$1.908 billion.

<https://kun.uz/en/33209508>

Uzbekistan enters into agreement on exchange of classified information with Germany

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev approved an agreement on the exchange and mutual protection of classified information between the Governments of Uzbekistan and Germany.

<https://kun.uz/en/38216155>

Uzbekistan Takes Further Steps Toward Eurasian Economic Union

Tashkent plans to commit to half of the EAEU's requirements and technical standards for products exported to the union market

<https://thediplomat.com/2021/01/uzbekistan-takes-further-steps-toward-eurasian-economic-union/>

4. MARKET DEVELOPMENT BY SECTORS

4.1 BANKING SECTOR

JCB starts merchant acquiring operations in Uzbekistan

JCB International and JSCB "Uzbek Industrial and Construction bank" have announced the start of JCB merchant acquiring operations across the Republic of Uzbekistan. It is likely to expand the tourism potential of Uzbekistan, increase cashless money circulation and improve the quality of customer service.

<https://payspacemagazine.com/fintech/jcb-starts-merchant-acquiring-operations-in-uzbekistan/>

Davr Bank joins EBRD's Women in Business Programme

The programme promotes women's entrepreneurship and participation in business by assisting with access to finance, know-how and technical advice. The funds of up to \$2 million will be used to support women-led businesses and up to \$3 million will be channeled to facilitate lending to micro, small and medium-sized companies.

<https://www.ebrd.com/news/2020/davr-bank-joins-ebirds-women-in-business-programme-.html>

Uzbekistan to prepare 6 state-owned banks for privatization in 2021

Sanoatqurilish, Asaka, Ipoteka, Aloqa, Turon and Qishloqqurilish banks will be prepared for privatization.

<https://kun.uz/en/65617709>

Central Bank to start updating currency exchange rates on a daily basis

Starting from February 2021, currency exchange platforms are open every day from 10:00 to 15:00. At the end of the working day, the Central Bank will update the exchange rates, based on the average prices in the market

<https://kun.uz/en/41707454>

4.2 INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

IDB provides \$35.1 million loan for road reconstruction in Uzbekistan

The loan will be provided for 20 years. The total cost of the project amounts to \$40.7 million, with \$5.5 million contributed by Uzbekistan. The funds will be used for the reconstruction of two sections of the M39 Tashkent-Termez highway.

<https://www.ice.it/it/news/notizie-dal-mondo/166164>

Tashkent spends \$140 million on a new VIP airport's construction

The new aviation complex will create the necessary conditions for the reception of high-level foreign delegations.

<https://kun.uz/en/40479032>

USM Holdings Limited to complete construction of Uzbekistan's Center for Islamic Civilization in 2021

The total cost of the project is \$119 million.

<https://kun.uz/en/47075527>

4.3 AUTOMOBILE AND TRANSPORTATION SECTOR

Uzbekistan to introduced a car-sharing system

From January 10, 2021, car-sharing organizations will have the right to lease motor vehicles to individuals and legal entities for up to 30 days without notarization and registration with the internal affairs bodies.

<https://kun.uz/en/93927463>

A railway linking Uzbekistan with Pakistan through Afghanistan will be constructed

It is expected that a \$4.8 billion loan will be attracted from international financial institutions for the implementation of the project.

<https://kun.uz/en/73180180>

South Korean investors to build a new car market in Tashkent

South Korean company Evergreen Motors Co Ltd will build a centralized shopping mall in the Tashkent region. The project, worth a total of \$1 million, will create 100 jobs.

<https://kun.uz/en/51284984>

Drones begin recording traffic violations in Fergana

Offenses of drivers who do not comply with the speed limits and other traffic rules, as well as citizens who do not wear medical masks, violate public order are being detected.

<https://kun.uz/en/27609243>

Uzbekistan plans to produce new car models in cooperation with foreign companies

Uzbekistan will work jointly with South Korea, Austria, Turkey, China, UAE and France on various automobile production projects.

<https://kun.uz/en/23879137>

4.4 HEALTHCARE

Samarkand region healthcare system misappropriates 7 billion soums (\$665,241)

In the first nine months of 2020, damage to the regional health institutions by the shortage and theft of funds is estimated at 1,384 million soums. The Anti-Corruption Agency identified cases of misuse and embezzlement of 7 billion soums.

<https://kun.uz/en/44917220>

UNICEF donates equipment to Uzbekistan to strengthen social protection

The government of Uzbekistan, together with UNICEF, is working to improve the information system of the Single Register, which will manage a wider range of social protection programs, including social assistance projects, aimed at preventing the consequences of crises like the coronavirus pandemic.

<https://kun.uz/en/12455464>

Eximbank funds \$160 million for hospital, R&D center in Uzbekistan

The Export-Import Bank of Korea said Friday it had agreed to extend a \$160 million loan as part of the Economic Development Cooperation Fund to Uzbekistan to build a hospital and a research and development center. Of the total loan, \$120 million would be funneled to the construction of a general hospital in Tashkent, while \$40 million would support the establishment of a chemicals R&D center.

<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20210129000668>

Rafarma Secures Joint Venture Agreement with the Pharmaceutical Industry Development Agency of Uzbekistan

The venture will entail the acquisition of real property (10 hectares in the established Innovative Scientific Production Pharmaceutical Cluster known as “Tashkent Pharma Park”) and construction of a physical plant on the premises. Projected costs are currently at \$82,000,000.

<https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2021/01/29/2166722/0/en/Rafarma-Secures-Joint-Venture-Agreement-with-the-Pharmaceutical-Industry-Development-Agency-of-Uzbekistan.html>

4.5 AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Winrock International opens a branch in Tashkent

The main goals and objectives of the branch are to assist in improving nutrition and socio-economic well-being, improving the production of food and non-food products, fiber and fuel, including livestock, distribution and rational use of natural resources.

<https://tashkenttimes.uz/national/6196-winrock-international-opens-branch-in-tashkent>

New Uzbekistan Lounge appears in FAO’s Rome Office

The aim is to create an innovative space for showcasing agriculture, technology and facilitating knowledge exchange.

<https://kun.uz/en/85672077>

Water Ways Technologies to launch an irrigation project worth over \$1 million in Uzbekistan

Canadian Water Ways Technologies Inc. will launch a drip irrigation project in Uzbekistan, worth 1.3 million Canadian dollars.

<https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2021/01/19/2160676/0/en/Water-Ways-Signs-a-CAD-1-3-Million-Irrigation-Project-in-Central-Asia.html>

4.6 INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Islamic Trade Finance Corporation approves a \$10 million finance facility for Uzbekistan's Orient Finans Bank

The International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) has provided a \$10 million line of trade finance agreement with Uzbekistan's Orient Finans Bank to support the private sector and SME development.

<https://www.intellinews.com/islamic-trade-finance-corporation-approves-10mn-finance-facility-for-uzbekistan-s-orient-finans-bank-201057/>

TAV, Uzbek Innovative Development Ministry to cooperate in fields of joint investment and innovative projects

TAV will cooperate with the Uzbek ministry in the modernization of airports and the implementation of a joint investment project for the construction of a new airport in the capital Tashkent.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkish-airport-operator-tav-inks-deal-with-uzbekistan/2124434>

4.7 INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Uzbekistan opens an ammonia and urea production complex worth \$985 million

The new complex will produce, at full capacity, 660,000 tons of ammonia and 577,500 tons of urea every year, increasing the output by 9.5 percent.

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2021-01/05/c_139643778.htm

ACWA Power and Uzbekistan sign an investment agreement for the construction of two wind power plants in Navoi and Bukhara

The total capacity of the wind power plants is 1000 MW. The total cost of the project amounts to \$1.3 billion.

<http://invest.gov.uz/mediacenter/news/saudi-acwa-power-strengthens-investment-presence-in-uzbekistan/>

Bukhara Oil Refinery starts producing AI-95 gasoline under QuWatt brand

In the first ten days of 2021, 480 tons of gasoline were produced, which is already available on the commodity exchange.

<https://kun.uz/en/59636937>

4.8 BUSINESS

Uzbekistan's largest jewelry factory put into operation

Gold Moon Tashkent, the newly commissioned factory with an annual production capacity of six tons and worth 21 million U.S. dollars, uses modern equipment from Italy, Germany and Turkey, and currently provides jobs for more than 200 jewelers.

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2021-01/15/c_139671329.htm

Apple to open offices in Uzbekistan

In January-November 2020, the import of mobile phones to Uzbekistan increased by almost 10 times (781.7 thousand units) compared to the same period last year.

<https://kun.uz/en/00724645>

Anti-Corruption Agency demands cancellation of the tender for privatization of Coca Cola Ichimligi Uzbekiston

According to the agency, the terms of the tender are unfair, limit competition and create a ground for corruption.

<https://kun.uz/en/23482059>

4.9 ENERGY SECTOR

Uzbekistan to commission 9 power plants in 2021

The plants to be commissioned are part of the 2.7-gigawatt project worth about \$2 billion. The project will be implemented on the basis of a public-private partnership.

<https://kun.uz/en/69165177>

Uzbekistan to abolish monopoly over gas and electricity supply

Uzbekistan plans to abolish special government permits and customs duty on imported liquefied petroleum gas from March 1 and create a wholesale market for electricity. Large enterprises will be allowed to import energy resources which will eventually introduce market mechanisms in the country's energy sector.

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2021-01/18/c_139678117.htm

Two new solar power plants to be commissioned in Uzbekistan in 2021

The power generation capacity of both projects is 100 MW and the total investment is expected to be \$210 million.

<https://kun.uz/en/92768851>

Uzbekistan's Ministry of Energy, ACWA Power and Air Products sign a hydrogen deal

The three companies have signed a strategic framework agreement that will support Uzbekistan's ongoing efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as part of global commitment to the Paris Agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

<https://www.h2-view.com/story/uzbekistan-ministry-of-energy-acwa-power-air-products-sign-hydrogen-deal/>

4.10 TOURISM

Bukhara to host international azan competition "Minorai Kalon"

According to a draft presidential decree, starting from 2021, Uzbekistan will organize the International Pilgrimage Tourism Week on an annual basis.

<https://kun.uz/en/46277439>

Tashkent to build 66 hotels in two years

In 2021-2023, it is expected that local and foreign entrepreneurs will invest in Tashkent a total of 9.442 trillion soums (\$897.3 million). 90 projects are planned to be implemented: 66 hotels, 12 shopping and entertainment centers, 9 parks and 3 artisans' centers.

<https://kun.uz/en/28395310>

Tashkent will host the 2025 Asian Youth Games

15,000 guests are expected to visit Tashkent, including coaches, doctors, members of the official delegation and the mass media.

<https://kun.uz/en/53317943>

Over 1.5 million tourists visited Uzbekistan in 2020

A total of \$261 million worth of tourism services were provided.

<https://kun.uz/en/40726881>

4.11 MINERALS

Uzbekistan's gold and foreign exchange reserves see sharp increase

Uzbekistan's official reserve assets increased from \$32.8 billion in December 2020 to \$34.9 billion in January 2021. Most of the reserves are stored in the form of gold – \$20.2 billion. Foreign currency assets amount to \$14.3 billion.

<https://kun.uz/en/75560321>

4.12 TRADE

Uzbekistan to abolish customs duties on LNG imports

From March 1, 2021, customs duties on liquefied gas imports and permitting documents required for its import will be abolished.

<https://kun.uz/en/35494335>

Natural gas exports to Tajikistan increased sharply in 2020

In 2020, Uzbekistan announced the export of 250 million cubic meters of gas to Tajikistan, compared to 140 million cubic meters of gas in 2019.

<https://kun.uz/en/78774030>

Statistics Committee reports on foreign trade turnover of Uzbekistan for 2020

The foreign trade turnover of Uzbekistan was recorded at around \$36.3 billion in January-December 2020. Compared to the same period in 2019, it decreased by \$5.4 billion (13.1%).

<https://kun.uz/en/92803445>

Uzbekistan imported \$475 million-worth cars in 2020

In 2020, the import of cars to Uzbekistan exceeded exports by 2.2 times.

<https://kun.uz/en/99095017>

Share of CIS countries in Uzbekistan's FTT declining for a third year in a row

In January-December 2020, the share of CIS countries in the foreign trade turnover of Uzbekistan was 32.6%, the share of EAEU member states – 27.1%.

<https://kun.uz/en/62196748>

5. EDUCATION

St. Petersburg State University branch to appear in Tashkent

The branch will start its educational activities in the 2021/2022 academic year, trainings will be conducted in Russian.

<https://kun.uz/en/64905232>

Ministry of Public Education launches new standards of educational achievement in partnership with USAID

The Ministry of Public Education is committed to an ambitious program of systematic and comprehensive reform of the general secondary education system. The Program is implemented by the Research Triangle Institute (RTI), Florida State University and Mississippi State University.

<https://kun.uz/en/75886933>

6. REGULATORY CHANGES

Changes in the taxation system for 2021

- VAT remains at 15% rate. Alcohol retailers and markets were added to the list of mandatory VAT users;
- Import excise taxes cancelled on 73 types of products, including household technics, etc.;
- Excise tax for cellular operators decrease from 20 to 15%;
- Excise tax for sugar at 20% rate;
- Excises on alcohol, tobacco, gasoline, natural gas, polyethylene increase by 10-25%;
- Planned introduction of 10% excise on cement clinker;
- Sales tax for real estate agents decrease from 25% to 13%;
- Water use and some types of property tax indexed by 15%;
- Subsoil tax for Navoi Mining and Almalyk Mining (AGMK) for precious metals and copper productions set at 15%;
- Mandatory annual revaluation (indexation) of fixed assets is cancelled for all types of entities (huge step toward harmonization of local standards to IFRS).

<https://www.spot.uz/ru/2020/12/31/tax2021/>

Uzbekistan ready to present state awards to individuals for helping fight corruption

Persons who report corruption offences or otherwise have contributed to the fight against corruption may be awarded a monetary bonus of 3 to 25 BCAs (from \$63.58 to \$522.69).

<https://kun.uz/en/15442638>

Anti-Corruption Agency proposes obliging all public officials to declare their income

The bill, developed by the agency, covers all categories of officials who are obliged to declare their property and assets. The President and the Prime Minister are among them.

<https://kun.uz/en/46186142>

Uzbekistan to introduce environmental charges for certain goods and packaging tools

The draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers “On measures to further improve economic mechanisms in the field of household waste” has been announced.

<https://kun.uz/en/67100917>

President instructs officials to train more than 500,000 young entrepreneurs in 2021

A \$93 million loan from the Asian Development Bank and an \$8 million loan from the World Bank will be provided for the vocational training of young people. A \$3 million UN grant will also be used to train youth and create new jobs for them.

<https://kun.uz/en/11042848>

7. SENIOR OFFICIALS CHANGES/APPOINTMENTS

- **Deputy Khokim of Kashkadarya region**
Appointed – Bahrom Yusupov.
Previously served as the Head of Corporate Governance at the National Bank
- **Minister of Housing and Communal Services**
Appointed – Sherzod Hidoyatov.
Previously served as the First Deputy Minister of Construction
- **Minister of Higher Education**
Appointed – Abdukodir Toshkulov.
Previously served as the Rector of Termez State University
- **Director of the Cadaster Agency**
Appointed – Fazliddin Umarov.
Previously served as the Deputy Chairman of the State Tax Committee
- **Minister of Higher Education**
Appointed – Abdukodir Toshkulov.
Previously served as the Rector of Termez State University

- **Authorized Person of Oliy Majlis for Human Rights**
Appointed – Feruza Eshmatova.
Previously served as the Chair of the Senate Committee on Women and Gender Equality

- **Khokim of Bukhara region**
Appointed – Botir Zaripov.
Previously served as the Board Chairman of the Uzqurilishmateriallari Association

- **Deputy Board Chairman of the Central Bank**
Appointed – Abrorkhuja Turdaliyev.
Previously served as the Head of the CB Department for Prudential Supervision of Credit Institutions

- **Chairman of the Central Election Commission (CEC)**
Appointed – Zayniddin Nizamkhodjayev.
Previously served as the Deputy Chairman of the Senate of Oliy Majlis

- **Judge of the Constitutional Court**
Appointed – Mirzo-Ulugbek Abdusalomov.
Previously served as the Chairman of the Central Election Commission

- **Deputy Advisor to the President of Uzbekistan**
Appointed – Shukhrat Atabayev.
Previously served as the Board Chairman of Ipoteka Bank

8. USEFUL PUBLICATIONS AND LINKS

Change and continuity: Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan after Nazarbayev and Karimov

<https://emerging-europe.com/voices/change-and-continuity-kazakhstan-and-uzbekistan-after-nazarbayev-and-karimov/>

Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan Report

<https://www.mf.uz/en/news-mf-ix/item/1344-1344.html>

Progress in Uzbekistan: Environmental, Social and Governance Report 2020

https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/15667cfc-6d6f-4e91-81a4-ac4243dea7c8/downloads/ESG_Report-Progress-in-Uzbekistan.pdf?ver=1612527750787

ILO: 2020 Third-Party Monitoring of Child Labour and Forced Labour During the Cotton Harvest in Uzbekistan

[https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/15667cfc-6d6f-4e91-81a4-ac4243dea7c8/downloads/ILO%20-%20Cotton%20Harvest%20in%20Uzbekistan%20\(2020\).pdf?ver=1612527750525](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/15667cfc-6d6f-4e91-81a4-ac4243dea7c8/downloads/ILO%20-%20Cotton%20Harvest%20in%20Uzbekistan%20(2020).pdf?ver=1612527750525)

Uzbekistan Textile and Garment Industry

<https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/15667cfc-6d6f-4e91-81a4-ac4243dea7c8/downloads/Textile%20UZB%20Jan-2021.pdf?ver=1612527569031>



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All organizations of any legal form registered within the EU Customs Union and European Free Trade Association countries or those who registered in Uzbekistan are all eligible to become members of EUROUZ. A special mechanism for cooperation is also established with the international organizations.

For any inquiries, contact us via: info@eurouz.com