

PRESS RELEASE

EU–Central Asia Partnership Evening Reception



Event photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjCBYJN>

Tashkent, Uzbekistan — 26 November 2025. The EU–Central Asia Partnership Evening brought together around 400 leaders, senior government officials, diplomats, business representatives from across Europe and Central Asia for a distinguished high-level reception dedicated to strengthening economic ties and advancing political and business dialogue between the European Union and the countries of Central Asia.

The reception served as the official closing event of Day 1 of the 3rd EU–Central Asia Economic Forum, offering a dynamic platform for meaningful exchange and continued engagement. The evening highlighted a shared commitment to deeper collaboration, long-term connectivity, and sustainable regional development.

The formal segment of the reception featured welcome remarks and keynote addresses from distinguished leaders, including:

- **Jamshid Khodjaev**, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan
- **Jozef Síkela**, European Commissioner for International Partnerships
- **Marta Kos**, European Commissioner for Enlargement
- **Marek Mora**, Vice President of the European Investment Bank
- Moderated by **Oybek Shaykhov**, Secretary-General of EUROUZ

Their remarks emphasized the mutual ambition of the EU and Central Asian countries to advance economic cooperation, enhance investment opportunities, and strengthen regional connectivity.

Following the official addresses, guests participated in an open networking reception accompanied by live music and a curated gourmet menu. The evening provided an exceptional setting for discussions among policymakers, business leaders, investors, and representatives of international institutions, fostering new connections and reinforcing existing partnerships.

The reception also marked the transition toward the Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor and Connectivity Investors Forum taking place the following day, underscoring the region's increasing focus on building resilient, future-oriented transport and trade routes that connect Europe and Central Asia.

EUROUZ expresses its sincere appreciation to all participants and partners for their engagement and contribution to the success of the event.

Key insights from our speakers:

Pierre-Paul Antheunissens, EUROUZ Chairman of the Board comments: *EUROUZ is honoured once again to stand alongside the European Union, Uzbekistan, and our Central Asian partners in bringing together the people who shape our region's future. Tonight's gathering of more than 400 leaders demonstrates a shared commitment to dialogue, trust, and genuine partnership. When Europe and Central Asia come together around one table, we do more than exchange ideas — we build momentum for the next chapter of regional cooperation.*

Zafar Vakhidov, EUROUZ Member of the Board comments: *Europe's partnership with Uzbekistan is built on trust, respect, and a shared commitment to progress. The EU's presence in the region strengthens connectivity, opens channels for cooperation, and reinforces ethical values that underpin stable economic relations. EUROUZ is honoured to help create the platforms where these partnerships can grow and deepen. We also look forward to further enhancing cooperation and exchange in areas, such as healthcare, life sciences, education and digitalization.*



Marta Kos, European Commissioner for Enlargement in her speech mentioned: *If you just count the stars on the flags of Uzbekistan and the European Union, they are both 12 and I count that as a good sign for a special and a new dynamic in the new era of partnership.*

A special acknowledgement is extended to the event sponsors:

Gold Sponsors: European Investment Bank, Veolia

Silver Sponsors: ŠKODA Group, Crowe, PwC



EUROUZ, the Europe-Uzbekistan Association for Economic Cooperation, is an international business association & a European Chamber of Commerce in Uzbekistan, working to provide comprehensive support to its members to understand their target market, build more robust business networks & enable a better dialogue with both public & private stakeholders. EUROUZ is a recognized European non-profit, non-commercial association with headquarters in Brussels & a full official branch office in Tashkent. Its members fully fund EUROUZ through membership fees.

Contact: info@eurouz.com