



EU-CENTRAL ASIA RELATIONS

A STRONGER PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE, PROSPERITY, AND SECURITY

The European Union (EU) and Central Asia share a commitment to **peace, stability, and economic cooperation**. The EU supports the region's **green and digital transition, transport and energy connectivity, security cooperation, and resilience**. Both sides are also working to **prevent the circumvention of sanctions**.

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

The EU and Central Asia maintain regular **high-level political dialogues**, including Foreign Minister meetings. The **first-ever EU-Central Asia Summit in April 2025** will bring together the Presidents of the European Council, the European Commission, and the five Central Asian states.

Key Agreements and Cooperation

ENHANCED PARTNERSHIP AND COOPERATION AGREEMENTS (EPCAS)

Modernising EU-Central Asia relations. Agreements are in place with **Kazakhstan** (2020), signed with **Kyrgyzstan** (2024) and planned for signature with **Uzbekistan** (2025). Negotiations with **Tajikistan** concluded in 2024.

JOINT ROADMAP FOR DEEPENING EU-CENTRAL ASIA TIES (2023)

A concrete plan with 79 actions in five priority areas:

political dialogue and security

transport and digital connectivity

critical raw materials and energy

people-to-people cooperation

The 2019 [New EU Strategy on Central Asia](#): Three Priorities

REGIONAL COOPERATION

- ◇ Facilitating trade, investment, and market integration.
- ◇ Addressing climate change and security challenges.

RESILIENCE AND GOVERNANCE

- ◇ Strengthening institutions, human rights, and the rule of law.
- ◇ Supporting economic and political reforms.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND CONNECTIVITY

- ◇ Promoting green energy, research, and digital innovation.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

The EU is a key trading partner for Central Asia, supporting WTO accession and economic modernisation. The EU's GSP/GSP+ schemes provide tariff-free access to the European market for Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan. The EU also fosters SME development and job creation.

EU-Backed Flagship Initiatives in Central Asia

STRENGTHENING CONNECTIVITY: TRANS-CASPIAN TRANSPORT CORRIDOR

A core part of the EU's Global Gateway strategy, the corridor aims to reduce Europe-Asia transit time to no more than 15 days. The EU supports this through regional programs (€30 million for connectivity and €28.4 million for economic prosperity). A €10 billion international investment package is being mobilised.

TEAM EUROPE INITIATIVE ON DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

€55 million for digital transformation in Central Asia, supporting telecoms reform, cybersecurity, and personal data protection. Cooperation with European private sector on satellite connectivity.

TEAM EUROPE INITIATIVE (TEI) ON WATER, ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

€200 million to boost sustainable water and energy management, including programmes:

- ◇ [EU SECCA \(Sustainable Energy Connectivity in Central Asia\)](#)
- ◇ [CAWEP \(Water & Energy Program\)](#)
- ◇ Support for Rogun Hydropower and climate resilience programs.

CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS (CRM) & RENEWABLE ENERGY

- ◇ MoUs signed with Kazakhstan (2022) and Uzbekistan (2024)
- ◇ €16 million allocated for CRM cooperation, plus a €30 million [investment guarantee for renewable energy projects](#)

INVESTING IN PEOPLE: EDUCATION & SKILLS

- ◇ Erasmus+ (€73 million) supports student mobility and academic exchange (2021-2027)
- ◇ [DARYA Project](#) (€10 million) enhances youth skills and employment
- ◇ The annual EU-Central Asia Civil Society Forum strengthens engagement in policy reforms.

EU – CENTRAL ASIA: A FUTURE OF CLOSER COOPERATION

The EU is the largest provider of development assistance to Central Asia, supporting economic growth, sustainability, and regional security. Through high-level engagement, trade, investment, and digital transformation, the EU and Central Asia are building a stronger, interconnected future.