



Organization of  
Turkic States



Center for Analysis of Economic  
Reforms and Communication  
of Azerbaijan



# 2<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF LEADING NATIONAL ANALYTICAL CENTERS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF TURKIC STATES



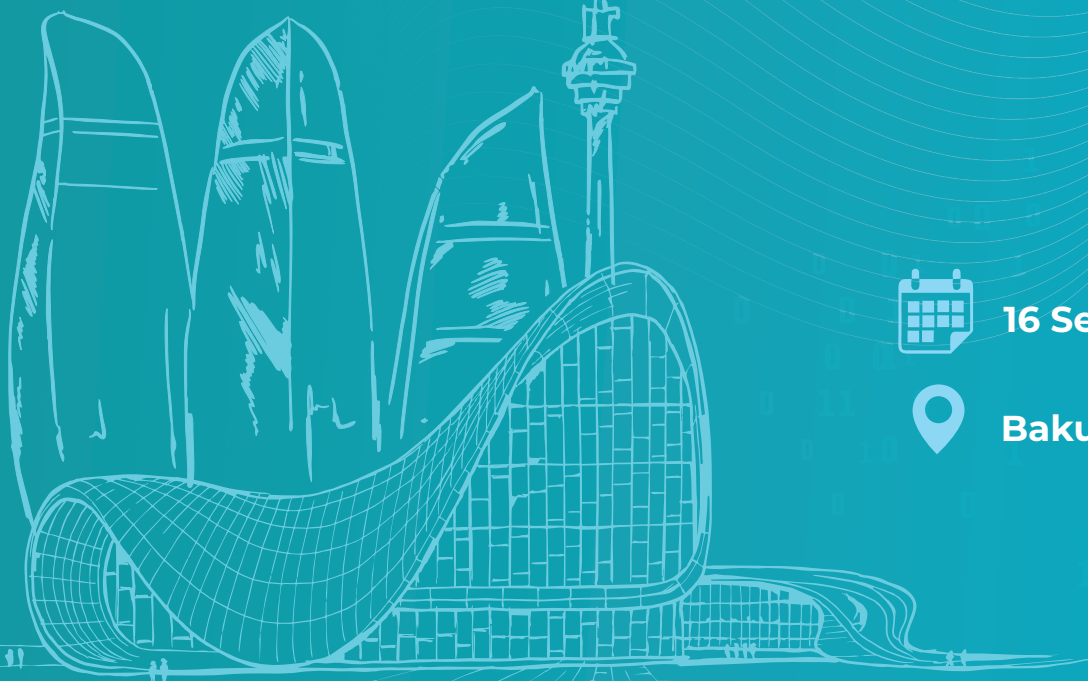
Enhancing Economic Cooperation across  
the Organization of Turkic States through  
Continuous Consultations and  
Joint Research



16 September, 2026



Baku, Azerbaijan



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Baku, Azerbaijan

## Enhancing Economic Cooperation across the Organization of Turkic States through Continuous Consultations and Joint Research

### INTRODUCTION



#### Premises

In an era characterized by geopolitical uncertainty, economic fragmentation, supply chain disruptions, and the transformation of the global economic order, regional cooperation has become increasingly important for ensuring sustainable development and long-term stability. Within this context, the Organization of Turkic States has emerged not only as a platform of cultural and political solidarity, but also as a growing framework for economic integration, institutional coordination, and strategic partnership among Turkic states.

The member states of the Organization of Turkic States possess significant economic and geopolitical potential due to their strategic location connecting Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. This creates broad opportunities for strengthening trade, investment, transport corridors, energy cooperation, digital transformation, and technological exchange. However, contemporary global challenges — including financial instability, protectionist tendencies,

and uneven development patterns — demonstrate that sustainable regional progress requires more than short-term economic interaction. It requires continuous consultations, coordinated policy approaches, and joint research mechanisms capable of identifying common challenges and generating shared solutions.

In this regard, economic cooperation within the Turkic world should be understood not only as the expansion of trade or investment flows, but also as the development of a comprehensive ecosystem based on institutional dialogue, mutual trust, knowledge-sharing, and long-term strategic vision. Strengthening cooperation among academic institutions, think tanks, policymakers, and economic experts can contribute significantly to evidence-based policymaking, regional resilience, and sustainable economic integration across the Turkic region.



The conference “Enhancing Economic Cooperation across the Organization of Turkic States through Continuous Consultations and Joint Research” aims to examine the strategic foundations, institutional mechanisms, and future directions of economic cooperation among the member states of the Organization of Turkic States within the evolving global economic environment. The conference seeks to promote a deeper understanding of how continuous dialogue, coordinated research, and institutional collaboration can strengthen regional integration, economic resilience, and sustainable growth across the Turkic world.

By bringing together policymakers, academics, think tanks, international organizations, financial institutions, and business representatives, the conference serves as a high-level platform for intellectual exchange, strategic consultation, and the sharing of practical experiences. It aims to encourage innovative and evidence-based approaches in areas such as trade and investment cooperation, transport and logistics connectivity, energy partnerships, digital economy, food security, sustainable development, and financial integration.

The conference also aspires to support the development of long-term research networks and consultation mechanisms that can facilitate coordinated economic strategies among Turkic states. Through interdisciplinary dialogue and institutional engagement, it seeks to identify untapped regional opportunities and contribute to the formation of a more integrated, competitive, and sustainable Turkic economic space.



The conference prioritizes a strategic and multidimensional approach to regional economic cooperation, emphasizing that sustainable integration requires not only expanding economic relations, but also strengthening institutional coordination, intellectual collaboration, and policy alignment among member states. Central to this priority is the establishment of continuous consultation mechanisms capable of improving mutual understanding, policy coherence, and collective responsiveness to global economic transformations.

Particular emphasis is placed on practical cooperation in strategic sectors such as trade, transport and logistics, energy connectivity, digital transformation, innovation, investment partnerships, food security, and sustainable development. The conference seeks to strengthen the connection between regional cooperation and real economic productivity through joint initiatives, cross-border partnerships, and coordinated economic policies that generate tangible value for member states and their societies.

Another important priority is the advancement of joint research and knowledge-sharing platforms among academic institutions, think tanks, and policy centers across the Turkic world. By fostering collaborative analysis and intellectual engagement, the conference aims to support forward-looking policymaking, strengthen regional resilience, and enhance the international role of the Turkic states within the evolving global economic architecture.



## Description

The conference is designed as a high-level international platform, bringing together keynote speakers, thematic panel discussions with experts, dialogues, and consultations within an integrated program. Its sessions are organized to facilitate comprehensive discussion of the opportunities and challenges related to economic cooperation among the member states of the Organization of Turkic States while encouraging continuous interaction among policymakers, scholars, business representatives, and international experts.

The program moves from conceptual and strategic discussions toward practical policy

applications and future-oriented perspectives. It addresses key themes including regional economic integration, trade and investment cooperation, transport connectivity, energy partnerships, digital transformation, innovation ecosystems, sustainable development, and institutional coordination. Through interdisciplinary dialogue and collaborative knowledge production, the conference seeks to generate practical recommendations capable of strengthening regional economic resilience, supporting evidence-based policymaking, and contributing to the development of a more integrated and sustainable Turkic economic space.

## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES



Strengthen economic cooperation within the Organization of Turkic States through continuous consultations, joint research, and coordinated policy action.



Promote collaboration in key sectors such as trade, transport, energy, digital economy, innovation, and sustainability.



Assess the impact of regional cooperation on sustainable growth, resilience, institutional stability, and shared prosperity.



Exchange successful national and regional practices in economic integration and institutional development.



Advance mechanisms for deeper economic integration and efficient flows of trade, investment, and knowledge.



Address emerging trends shaping regional economies, including digital transformation, AI, fintech, and data-driven governance.

You can visit

[www.turkicthinktanks.ereforms.org](http://www.turkicthinktanks.ereforms.org)

for registration  
and additional information.

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Baku, Azerbaijan

**Enhancing Economic Cooperation across  
the Organization of Turkic States through  
Continuous Consultations and  
Joint Research**

Working language: **English**

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9:00 - 9:30 **REGISTRATION**

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9:30 - 10:00 The National Anthem of the Republic of Azerbaijan

## **OPENING CEREMONY**

Outlining the strategic importance of the Leading National Analytical Centers of the OTS and the role of the expert community in supporting it.

### **Hikmat Hajiyev (confirmed)**

*Assistant to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan - Head of the Department of Foreign Policy Affairs of the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Azerbaijan*

### **Kubanychbek Omuraliev (confirmed)**

*Secretary General of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS)*

### **Vusal Gasimli (confirmed)**

*Executive Director of the Center for Analysis of Economic Reforms and Communication of Azerbaijan Republic*

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10:00 - 10:10 A film commemorating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CAERC

# PANEL 1:

## The Middle Corridor as a Catalyst for Regional Integration and Infrastructure-Led Development



Baku, Azerbaijan

Speaking time: 10–15 minutes  
10:10 – 11:40

### PANELISTS

#### Farid Shafiyev

Chairman of the Center of Analysis of International Relations (AIR Center) (Azerbaijan)

#### Cholpon Sydykova

Director of the Higher School of Economics and Business under Kyrgyz State Technical University named after I.Razzakov

#### Güven Sak

Founding Director of the The Economic Policy Research Foundation of Türkiye (TEPAV)

#### Aripov Eldor

Director of the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (ISRS)

#### Balazs Hendrich

Head of the Representation Office of the Organization of Turkic States (Hungary)

#### Hasan Kılıç

Rector of the Eastern Mediterranean University (TRNC)

#### Yagmyr Nuriev

Director of the Institute of State, Law and Democracy of Turkmenistan

### KEY DISCUSSION TOPICS

#### The Middle Corridor as a Strategic Backbone of Turkic World 2040 Connectivity

Assessing the role of the Middle Corridor in shaping long-term regional connectivity by 2040, positioning it as a strategic backbone that physically and economically links Turkic states into a more integrated space.

#### Infrastructure Harmonization and Cross-Border Logistics Efficiency

Discussing the need for harmonized infrastructure standards, interoperable transport systems, and streamlined customs procedures to enhance the efficiency, predictability, and scalability of Middle Corridor operations.

#### Economic Corridors as Drivers of Regional Value Chain Integration

Exploring how infrastructure development along the Middle Corridor can enable the formation of integrated regional value chains in energy, manufacturing, agriculture, and logistics, contributing to structural economic transformation.

#### Financing Mechanisms and Sustainable Infrastructure Investment

Analyzing the role of multilateral development banks, sovereign wealth funds, and public-private partnerships in financing large-scale infrastructure projects aligned with the Turkic World 2040 Vision.

#### Geoeconomic Resilience and Diversification through the Middle Corridor

Examining how the Middle Corridor enhances the strategic autonomy and economic resilience of Turkic states by diversifying trade routes, reducing external dependencies, and strengthening intra-regional interconnectivity.

### Q&A

11:40 - 12:00

COFFEE BREAK

#### Moderator

#### Fariz Ismailzade

Director of the Institute for Development and Diplomacy (IDD) (Azerbaijan)

## PANEL 2:

### Assessing Trade and Economic Relations among OTS States: Trends and Untapped Opportunities



Baku, Azerbaijan

Speaking time: 10–15 minutes  
12:00 – 13:30

#### PANELISTS

##### Nazim Imanov

Director General of the Institute of Economics of the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan

##### Birzhan Batkeyev

Chairman of the Management Board of the Economic Research Institute (ERI) (Kazakhstan)

##### Adilbek uulu Shumkarbek

Director of the National Institute for Strategic Initiatives under the President of the Kyrgyz Republic

##### Ramazan Erdağ

Chairman of the Center for Strategic Research (SAM) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye

##### Gladden J. Pappin

President of the Hungarian Institute of International Affairs

##### Latif Akça

General President of the Rauf R. Denктаş Preservation of His Ideas Association (TRNC)

##### Shiri Shiryev

Director of the Center for Strategic Studies under the Institute of International Relations (IIR) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan

#### KEY DISCUSSION TOPICS

##### Deepening Economic Integration under the Turkic World 2040 Vision

Assessing how OTS states can progressively move from fragmented trade relations toward a more integrated economic space by 2040, focusing on harmonization of trade policies, customs convergence, and reduction of internal economic barriers.

##### Building a Competitive and Diversified Turkic Economic Space

Exploring pathways to transform the economic structure of OTS countries from resource-based models to innovation-driven and value-added economies, with emphasis on industrial diversification, green growth, and knowledge-based sectors.

##### Strengthening Institutional and Financial Architecture of Cooperation

Evaluating the role of existing and emerging institutions such as the Turkic Investment Fund in supporting long-term economic convergence, enhancing capital mobility, and creating sustainable financing mechanisms for joint development projects.

##### Digital Transformation and Interoperable Economic Systems

Discussing the importance of developing a unified digital economic ecosystem by 2040, including interoperable e-customs systems, digital trade platforms, fintech cooperation, and harmonized regulatory frameworks for cross-border digital services.

##### Inclusive Growth and Human Capital Development across the Turkic World

Focusing on reducing development asymmetries among member states through education cooperation, labor mobility schemes, skills development programs, and joint innovation ecosystems to ensure balanced and inclusive economic growth by 2040.

#### Q&A

13:30 - 14:30

#### LUNCH

##### Moderator

##### Khakimov Obid

Director of the Center for Economic Research and Reform under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

## PANEL 3:

### Innovation for Sustainable Development: Policy Frameworks and Economic Transformation



Baku, Azerbaijan

Speaking time: 10–15 minutes  
14:30 – 16:00

#### PANELISTS

##### Shahin Sadigov

Chairman of the board of the Economic Scientific Research Institute (Azerbaijan)

##### Zhumabek Sarabekov

Director of the Institute of World Economics and Politics (Kazakhstan)

##### Roman Mogilevsky

Executive Director of the Center for Social and Economic Research in Kyrgyzstan (CASE)

##### Azer Allahveranov

Secretary General of the NGO Platform of Turkic States Member States

##### Tacan İldem

President of the Center for Economics and Foreign Policy Studies (EDAM)

##### Eldor Tulyakov

Executive Director of the Development Strategy Center (Uzbekistan)

##### John O'Sullivan

President of the Danube Institute (Hungary)

##### Ahmet Sözen

Chair of the Cyprus Policy Center

##### Allaberdy Ashirov

President of the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan

#### KEY DISCUSSION TOPICS

##### Building a Unified Digital Trade Ecosystem across the Turkic World

Exploring the development of interoperable digital platforms, e-customs systems, and cross-border e-commerce frameworks to facilitate seamless trade and economic integration by 2040.

##### Artificial Intelligence as a Driver of Sustainable Economic Transformation

Assessing how AI can enhance productivity, optimize supply chains, and support data-driven policymaking across OTS member states, contributing to long-term sustainable growth.

##### Digital Infrastructure and Data Governance Frameworks

Discussing the importance of robust digital infrastructure (cloud systems, data centers, connectivity) alongside harmonized data governance, cybersecurity standards, and digital sovereignty principles.

##### Innovation Ecosystems and Technology-Driven Entrepreneurship

Analyzing how the Turkic World can foster innovation through startup ecosystems, R&D collaboration, tech parks, and joint innovation funds to accelerate digital transformation.

##### Human Capital, Skills, and Inclusive Digital Development

Focusing on education, upskilling, and workforce transformation to ensure that digitalization and AI adoption lead to inclusive growth, reducing digital divides among member states.

#### Q&A

16:00 - 16:20

#### CLOSING REMARKS

##### Vusal Gasimli

Executive Director of the Center for Analysis of Economic Reforms and Communication of Azerbaijan Republic

#### Moderator

##### Zhandos Shaimardanov

Director of the Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies (KazISS) under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan

