

PROGRAMME
International Conference
“Central Asian Connectivity: Challenges and New Opportunities”
(Tashkent, 19-20 February 2019)
Location: Palace of Symposia

First working day of the conference
19 February

08.00-09.00	<i>Registration of conference participants (Grand Hall of the Palace of Symposia, registration ends at 9.00)</i>
10.00-10.40	<p>Opening ceremony <i>Moderator: Abdulaziz Kamilov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan</i></p> <p>1. Speech by President of the Republic of Uzbekistan <i>Shavkat Mirziyoyev</i> 2. Speech by Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of UNRCCA <i>Natalia Gherman</i></p>
10.40-11.00	<i>Break</i>
11.00-12.20	<p><u>First panel discussion:</u> “New dynamics of regional cooperation in Central Asia: The view from the region” (<i>speeches by directors of expert and analytical structures of the countries of Central Asia, time limit 5-7 minutes</i>)</p> <p><i>Moderators:</i> <i>Eldor Aripov, Director, Center for International Relations Studies under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan</i> <i>Frederick Starr, Chairman of the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute of the American Foreign Policy Institute (USA)</i></p> <p><u>Presenters:</u></p> <p>1. <i>Sadyk Safayev</i>, First deputy chairman of the Senate of Uzbekistan 2. <i>Ilhomjon Ne'matov</i>, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan 3. <i>Kuvanichbek Shadybekov</i>, Director, National Institute for Strategic Studies of Kyrgyzstan 4. <i>Sanat Kushkumbayev</i>, Deputy Director, Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan 5. <i>Parviz Muhammadzoda</i>, Deputy Director, Center for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan</p>

	<p>6. <i>Isgender Orazov</i>, Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan</p> <p>7. <i>Fouzai Arral Habibi</i>, Specialist of the Office of the Special Representative of the President of Afghanistan for Central Asia</p>
12.20-12.50	<i>Discussion</i>
12.50-13.00	<i>Group photograph</i>
13.00-14.00	<i>Lunch (buffet) for conference participants</i>
14.00-18.00	Parallel breakout sessions “Priority areas for regional connectivity: new opportunities and lingering obstacles”
<p>1) <i>Breakout session on issues of cooperation in the trade, economic and transport and communication spheres (time limit for speeches 5-7 minutes)</i></p>	
14.00-15.40	<p>Moderators:</p> <p><i>Elena Panova</i>, UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan</p> <p><i>Ji Zhiye</i>, Member of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Senior Advisor of China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Sardor Umurzokov</i>, Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan 2. <i>Alan Wolff</i>, Deputy Director-General, WTO 3. <i>Lilia Burunciuc</i>, Regional Director for the Central Asia Region, World Bank 4. <i>Mr. Safdar Parvez</i>, Director, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division of the Central and West Asia Department, Asian Development Bank 5. <i>Umberto Del Panta</i>, Managing Adviser of the European Investment Bank 6. <i>Denis Berdakov</i>, Director, Analytical Centre of the State Customs Service of the Kyrgyz Republic, National OSCE Consultant 7. <i>Saidali Siddiq</i>, Director, National information agency of Tajikistan «Khovar» 8. <i>Kamila Sidiqi</i>, Deputy Minister for Trade and Industry of Afghanistan 9. <i>Qi Zhenhong</i>, Director, Chinese Academy of the Global Challenges 10. <i>Anastasia Likhacheva</i>, Director, Centre for Comprehensive European and International Studies of the High School of Economy (Russia) 11. <i>Ali Reza Bikdeli</i>, Deputy Director General, Institute for Political

	<p>and International Studies under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran, the Head of the Central Asia Studies Group</p> <p>12. <i>Khalid Jaffery</i>, President, Center for Global and Strategic Studies (Pakistan)</p>
15.40-16.00	<i>Discussion</i>
16.00-16.15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.15-17.30	<p><i>Continuation of the breakout session on issues of cooperation in the trade, economic and transport and communication spheres</i></p> <p><i>Moderators:</i></p> <p><i>Denis Berdakov</i>, Director, Analytical Centre of the State Customs Service of the Kyrgyz Republic, National OSCE Consultant, <i>Maria Eline Liivale</i>, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Finland to Uzbekistan</p> <p><u>Presenters:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Adkham Ikramov</i>, Chairman, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan 2. <i>Akmal Kamalov</i>, Vice chairman, JSC «O'zbekiston temir yo'llari» 3. <i>Andris Spruds</i>, Director, Latvian Institute of International Affairs 4. <i>Ajay Kumar Patnaik</i>, Director, Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (India) 5. <i>Muratbek Imanaliyev</i>, Professor, Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic 6. <i>Elkhan Alesgarov</i>, Director, Baku Network Expert Council (Azerbaijan) 7. <i>Ali Rıza Akıncı</i>, Head of Department, Center for Strategic Research under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey 8. <i>Ko Jae Nam</i>, Professor, Korean National Diplomatic Academy of the Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea 9. <i>Avinoam Idan</i>, Professor of the University of Haifa (Israel) Senior non-resident Research Scientist of the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program (USA) 10. <i>Arthur Gaschenko</i>, “Friendship Bridge” Project Leader and economic analyst (Ukraine) 11. <i>Bruno Hellendorff</i>, Joint Research Fellow, Egmont Royal Institute for International Relations (Belgium) 12. <i>Ilgar Velizade</i>, Director of the Sputnik Azerbaijan multimedia press centre, director of the political analysts’ club “South Caucasus”

17.30-18.00	<i>Discussion</i>
2) <i>Breakout session on issues of cooperation in the area of regional security (time limit for speeches 5-7 minutes)</i>	
14.00-15.40	<p>Moderators: <i>Kuvanichbek Shadybekov</i>, Director, National Institute for Strategic Studies of the Kyrgyz Republic <i>Stanislav Chernyavskiy</i>, Director, Center for Post-Soviet Studies at the MGIMO University</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Ismatulla Irgashev</i>, Special Representative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Afghanistan 2. <i>Muhammad Rafiuddin Shah</i>, Senior Political Affairs Officer, Policy and Coordination Unit, UNOCT 3. <i>Rachida Dati</i>, Member of the European Parliament (France) 4. <i>Nikita Mendkovich</i>, The Head of the Eurasian Analytical Club 5. <i>Botir Tursunov</i>, Director, Institute for Strategic and Interregional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan 6. <i>Sun' Juanji</i>, Director, Institute of East European, Russian and Central Asian Studies under the auspices of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences 7. <i>Sujan R. Chinoy</i>, Director General, Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses (India) 8. <i>Marian Abisheva</i>, Director, Institute of Diplomacy, Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan 9. <i>Hüseyin Bağcı</i>, Head of International Relations Faculty, Middle East Technical University (Turkey), member of the International Discussion Club "Valdai" 10. <i>Raffaello Pantucci</i>, Director for Research on International Security, Royal United Services Institute (United Kingdom) 11. <i>Jason Campbell</i>, Policy Researcher, RAND Corporation (USA) 12. <i>Mohamed Fayez Farahat</i>, expert of the International Relations Department, Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies (Egypt)
15.40-16.00	<i>Discussion</i>
16.00-16.15	<i>Coffee break</i>

<p>16.15-17.30</p>	<p><i>Continuation of the breakout session on issues of cooperation in the area of regional security</i></p> <p><i>Moderators:</i></p> <p><i>Furkat Kadyrov, The Head of the Systemic Studies Centre, High School of Strategic Analysis and Forecast</i></p> <p><i>Barnett Rubin, Director, Centre on International Cooperation of the New York University (USA)</i></p> <p><u>Presenters:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Levent Bilman</i>, Director, Europe Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the UN 2. <i>Alikber Alikberov</i>, Deputy Director, Institute of the Oriental Studies (Russian Academy of Science), Head of the Centre for Central Asian, Caucasus and Urals-Volga Region Studies 3. <i>Burkhard Kuhnaphel</i>, Head of Division of Defense Policy, Federal Academy for Security Policy (BAKS) of Germany 4. <i>Dr. Sebastian Schiek</i>, Director of the Eastern Europe and Asia Department, German Institute for International and Security Affairs 5. <i>Elman Nasirov</i>, Deputy of the Milli Majlis, Director of the Institute for Political Research of the Academy of the State Administration under the President of Azerbaijan 6. <i>Eduard Solovev</i>, Head of the Post-Soviet Studies Centre, Institute of World Economy and International Relations 7. <i>Konstantine Zhghenti</i>, Researcher, Levan Mikeladze Diplomatic Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia 8. <i>Inomjon Bobokulov</i>, Associate Professor, University of World Economy and Diplomacy 9. <i>Wang Jifeng</i>, Research Associate, China Anti-Corruption Research Center/ Chinese Academy of Social Sciences 10. <i>Guy Olivier Faure</i>, Honorary Professor of the University of Paris 11. <i>Brianne Todd</i>, Assistant Professor of the Near East South Asia (NESA) Center for Strategic Studies, U.S. Department of Defense Institution
<p>17.30-18.00</p>	<p><i>Discussion</i></p>
<p><i>3) Breakout session on issues of cooperation in the water, ecological and energy spheres (time limit for speeches 5-7 minutes)</i></p>	
<p>14.00-15.40</p>	<p><i>Moderators:</i></p> <p><i>Sanat Kushkumbayev, Deputy Director, Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan</i></p> <p><i>Anders Lunggren, Ambassador at Large (Nordic Council, Sweden)</i></p>

	<p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Shavkat Khamrayev</i>, Minister of Water Resources of Uzbekistan 2. <i>Brian Požun</i>, Political Affairs Officer, UNRCCA 3. <i>Mariusz Marzewski</i>, Leading Research Scientist, Central Asian and Caucasus Department of the Institute of Oriental Studies (Poland) 4. <i>Iskandar Abdullaev</i>, Executive Director, Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia 5. <i>Viacheslav Kholodkov</i>, Head of the Centre of Russia Neighboring Countries Studies, Russian Institute for Strategic Studies 6. <i>Robert F. Cekuta</i>, Advisory Board of Caspian Policy Centre, US ex-ambassador to Azerbaijan 7. <i>Joop de Schutter</i>, Leading Expert on water-energy issues, Water Partner Foundation (Netherlands) 8. <i>Beate Eschment</i>, Research Associate, Centre for East European and International Studies, Editor of Zentralasien-Analysen 9. <i>Carlo Frappi</i>, Junior Research Scientist of the Programmes “Central Asia and Caucasus” and “Energy Security”, Institute of International Political Studies (Italy)
15.40-16.00	<i>Discussion</i>
16.00-16.15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.15-17.30	<p><i>Continuation of the breakout session on issues of cooperation in the water, ecological and energy spheres</i></p> <p><i>Moderators:</i></p> <p><i>Boriy Alikhanov</i>, Chairman of the Ecological Party, Vice-Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis</p> <p><i>Joop de Schutter</i>, Leading Expert on water-energy issues, Water Partner Foundation (Netherlands)</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Tetsuji Tanaka</i>, Executive Director, Institute of Central Asia and Caucasus (Japanese) 2. <i>Jeffrey A. Mankoff</i>, Deputy Director of Russia and Eurasia Program, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (USA) 3. <i>Chen Yu</i>, Assistant Senior Advisor, Chinese Academy of Contemporary International Relations 4. <i>Karlygash Nugmanova</i>, Head of the International Centre for Strategic Forecast, Director of the Public Association of Political Studies (Kazakhstan) 5. <i>Filippo Costa Buranelli</i>, Lecturer on International Relations, University of St. Andrews (United Kingdom) 6. <i>Han Lu</i>, Research Scientist, Institute of International Studies of China

	7. Birgit Wetzel, Expert on Central Asia (Germany)
17.30-18.00	<i>Discussion</i>
<i>4) Breakout session on issues of cooperation in the tourism, culture and humanitarian spheres (time limit for speeches 5-7 minutes)</i>	
14.00-15.40	<p>Moderators: Parviz Muhammadzoda, Deputy Director, Center for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan Muhammet Kafkasyali, Director, Institute of Strategic Thinking (Turkey)</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Kamola Akilova</i>, Deputy Minister of Culture of Uzbekistan <i>Say Gine Yeen</i>, Senior Director of the International Strategy Institute (Malaysia) <i>A.Abdullah Mohammed</i>, Secretary General, King Abdulaziz Center for National Dialogue (Saudi Arabia) <i>Edward Shatz</i>, Program Director for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies Centre, University of Toronto (Canada) <i>Zeev Levin</i>, Head of the Central Asian Department, Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace (Jerusalem, Israel) <i>Tofiq Abbasov</i>, Political Scientist, Baku University International Centre for Multiculturalism (Azerbaijan) <i>Valentin Yakushik</i>, Professor, National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" (Ukraine) <i>Irene Martinez Fernandez</i>, Professor of the International Relations Faculty of the Blanquerna University in Barcelona, the Leading Researcher of the Analytical Centre "Economic Research Forum" in Dubai
15.40-16.00	<i>Discussion</i>
16.00-16.15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.15-17.30	<p><i>Continuation of the breakout session on issues of cooperation in the tourism, culture and humanitarian spheres</i></p> <p>Moderators: Doniyar Kurbanov, Deputy Director, Center for International Relations Studies under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan Siddharth Saxena, Director, Cambridge Central Asia Forum (United Kingdom)</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Tokon Mamytov</i>, Chairman of People's Assembly of Kyrgyzstan, <i>Sergii Tolstov</i>, Director, Institute of Political Analysis and

	<p>International Studies (Ukraine)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. <i>Antonio Alonso Marcos</i>, Counselor of the Eastern Europe and Central Asia Cooperation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain, Professor of San Pablo University 4. <i>Daniel Puls</i>, President and CEO, PASS, Global Strategic Economic and Humanitarian Platform (USA) 5. <i>M. Rakhimov</i>, Head of Department of the History Institute of the Academy of Science of Uzbekistan 6. <i>Majid Al Turki</i>, Director, Centre for Arabic and Russian Studies and Information 7. <i>Zaur Mammedov</i>, Political Expert, Lecturer of the State Management Academy under the President of Azerbaijan 8. <i>Haila Al Mekaimi</i>, Professor of the Political Science Faculty, the Kuwait University
17.30-18.00	<i>Discussion</i>

Second working day of the conference

20 February

Location: National Library

09.00-10.40	<p><u>Second panel discussion:</u></p> <p>“International perception of the new dynamics of regional cooperation: Promising areas for cooperation between Central Asia and countries outside of the region” (time limit for speeches 5-7 minutes)</p> <p><i>Moderators:</i></p> <p><i>Sherzod Abdullayev</i>, Professor of the University of World Economy and Diplomacy (Uzbekistan)</p> <p><i>Svante Cornell</i>, Research Director, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute (USA)</p> <p><u>Presenters:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Peter Burian</i>, EU Special Representative for Central Asia 2. <i>Stanislav Chernyavskiy</i>, Director of the Centre of Post-Soviet Studies, MGIMO University 3. <i>Frederick Starr</i>, Chairman of the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute of the American Foreign Policy Institute (USA) 4. <i>Ji Zhiye</i>, Member of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Senior Advisor of China Institutes of Contemporary International Relation 5. <i>Nasir Khan Janjua</i>, Independent Expert on Regional and Security Issues, former National Security Adviser of Prime Minister of Pakistan
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	<p>6. <i>Muhammet S. Kafkasyali</i>, Director, Institute of Strategic Thinking (Turkey)</p> <p>7. <i>Shirin Akiner</i> President of the British-Uzbek Society (United Kingdom)</p> <p>8. <i>Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Salamah</i>, Director General, Prince Saud Al-Faisal Institute for Diplomatic Studies (Saudi Arabia)</p> <p>9. <i>Ukeru Magosaki</i>, Director, Research Institute of East Asian Studies (Japan)</p> <p>10. <i>H.E. Ingrid Tersman</i>, Ambassador of Sweden to Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan stationed in Stockholm</p> <p>11. <i>Athar Zafar</i>, Expert on Central Asia, Indian Council of World Affairs</p> <p>12. <i>Vladimir Mesamed</i>, Professor, Institute of Asian and African Studies (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)</p> <p>13. <i>Kim Sang-Cheol</i>, Professor, Institute for Central Asian Studies (Republic of Korea)</p>
10.40-11.00	<i>Discussion</i>
11.00-11.10	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.10-12.10	<p><u>Third panel discussion:</u></p> <p>“International experience in regional cooperation and its possible application in Central Asia (time limit for speeches 5-7 minutes)</p> <p><i>Moderators:</i></p> <p><i>Alisher Kurmanov</i>, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, International Economic Relations, Investments and Tourism of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan</p> <p><i>Brian Požun</i>, UNRCCA Political Affairs Officer</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>1. <i>Marton Krasznai</i>, Director, Center for Central Asia Research of Corvinus University (Hungary)</p> <p>2. <i>Jens Nytoft Rasmussen</i>, Senior advisor at the Secretariat to the Nordic Council of Ministers</p> <p>3. <i>Harri Mäki-Reinikka</i>, Secretary General of Finland's Advisory Board on Arctic Affairs</p> <p>4. <i>Gonzalo Koncke</i>, Chief of Staff of the Secretary General of the Organization of American States</p> <p>5. <i>Svante Cornell</i>, Research Director, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute (USA)</p> <p>6. <i>Steven F. Blockmans</i>, Director of the Foreign Policy Division, Centre for European Policy Studies (Brussels)</p> <p>7. <i>Dr. Manoch Aree</i>, Head of Department of Political Science,</p>

	Social Sciences Faculty of the “Srinakharinwirot” University (Thailand)
12.10-12.30	<i>Discussion</i>
12.30-12.40	<i>Coffee break</i>
12.40-13.15	<p><u>Conclusions and brief statements by the organizers</u></p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> <i>Eldor Aripov</i>, Director, Center for International Relations Studies under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan</p> <p><i>1. Speeches by the moderators on the results of the work of the 4 breakout sessions (time limit 5 minutes)</i> <i>Kuvanichbek Shadybekov</i>, Director, National Institute for Strategic Studies of the Kyrgyz Republic <i>Sanat Kushkumbayev</i>, Deputy Director, Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of Kazakhstan <i>Parviz Muhammadzoda</i>, Deputy Director, Center for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan <i>Elena Panova</i>, UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan</p>
13.15-13.30	<p><i>2. Concluding words by the organizers:</i> <i>Abdulaziz Kamilov</i>, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan <i>Natalia Gherman</i>, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of UNRCCA</p>