



## Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor and Connectivity Investors Forum

27 November 2025, Tashkent

Hotel InterContinental

### Agenda

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#### Event Objective:

As follow up to the Investors Forum for EU-Central Asia Transport Connectivity organized in Brussels on 29/30 January 2024, the Investors Forum will:

- Update stakeholders on progress regarding the EUR 10 billion commitment announced in January 2024.
- Include South Caucasus and Türkiye in investment discussions, aligning with the new EU Black Sea Strategy.
- Enhance the strategic investment engagement with the private sector along the corridor between Europe and Central Asia.

Building on the outcomes of the first Investors Forum, held in Brussels in January 2024, and on the series of events under the TCTC Coordination Platform — including country-specific workshops, and private sector roundtables — the second Investors Forum will bring together high-level policymakers, investors, and project developers to accelerate the progress from dialogue to deal-making.

#### **08:15 – 09:15 Registration (*Hall near ball room*)**

#### **09:15 – 10:00 Opening session (Ball room)**

Objective: Reaffirm the strategic importance of the TCTC, highlight achievements since the first Investors Forum, and set the tone for future investment and cooperation.

Master of Ceremony: Mr Jasurbek Choriyeu, Deputy Minister of Transport of Uzbekistan

- Video clip provided by the Uzbek Ministry of Transport
- Opening speeches
  - Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan, Jamshid Khodjayev
  - Minister of Transport of Uzbekistan Ilkhom Makhkamov
  - EU Commissioner for International Partnerships Jozef Sikela
  - EU Commissioner for Enlargement Marta Kos



**10:00 – 10:30 Stocktaking since the 2024 Investors Forum for EU-Central Asia Transport Connectivity (Ball room)**

(including conclusions of the TCTC Platform Senior Officials Meeting hold on October 7, 2025)

Objective:

- Present a concise update on progress achieved since TCTC Investors Forum in Brussels (January 2024).
- Examples on realization of the pledges made on 2024 Investors Forum
- IFIs to highlight concrete examples of hard infrastructure projects funded or in preparation under this programme.

Moderator: Peteris Ustubs (European Commission, DG INTPA)

Speakers:

- Mr Marek Mora, Vice-President EIB
- Mr Hüseyin Özhan, Managing Director Central Asia and Mongolia, EBRD
- Mr Charles J. Cormier, Infrastructure Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, World Bank
- Mr Yongkeun Oh, Representative from ADB

**10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break (*Foyer in front of the ball room*)**

**11:00 – 12:30 A comprehensive Connectivity Agenda for Central Asia, the South Caucasus and the Black Sea Region (*Ball room*)**

(including findings of a study in preparation for a cross-regional Connectivity Agenda linking Europe with Central Asia through the South Caucasus)

- Presentation by senior level representative of the European Commission
- Panel discussion (high-level government representatives, IFIs)

Moderator: Mr Matej Zakonjšek, Director Transport Community Secretariat

Speakers:

- Ms Adrienn Kiraly, European Commission, Director DG Enlargement and Eastern Neighbourhood
- Mr Philippe Tabarot, Minister of Transport of France (*tbc*) Mr Matteo Patrone, Vice-President Banking, EBRD
- Mr Ilkhom Makhkamov, Minister of Transport of Uzbekistan
- Mr Davit Khudatyan, Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure of Armenia
- Ms Mariam Kvrivishvili, Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
- Mr Rashad Nabiyev, Minister of Digital Development and Transport of Azerbaijan
- Mr Nurlan Sauranbayev, Minister of Transport of Kazakhstan

12:30 – 14:00

**Buffet Lunch**

*Foyer in front of the Ball room and Restaurant “Nomad”,*

*VIP lunch – Restaurant Ember (separate Invitations)*

14:00 – 17:25

**Thematic panel sessions (high-level government representatives, IFIs, State transport companies, private sector)**

**14:00 – 15:10 Session 1: Rail connectivity / Multimodal transport (*Ball room*)**

**Objective:** Improve investment readiness for priority rail corridors and strengthen the integration of the rail sector with other transport modes to enable a seamless multimodal TCTC network.

Provide a dedicated discussion platform to advance investment-ready logistics hubs and multimodal centres while exploring PPP models as a primary financing mechanism for logistics infrastructure.

Content:

- Strategic Rail & Multimodal Connectivity Initiatives: Additional strategic projects not covered in workshops but relevant for increasing carrying capacity of the main corridor routes and linking rail with ports and logistics hubs. Approximation of Standards between EU, Caucasus and CA.
- TCTC Workshop Follow-up Projects: presenting national TCTC workshop outcomes on projects, including updates, bottlenecks, agreed actions, steps taken since the workshops, remaining needs, and next steps toward bankability.
- Financing & Feasibility in the Rail Sector: Discussion on the high CAPEX nature of railway investments, the need for robust feasibility and pre-feasibility studies to meet IFI requirements and the role of data-informed budget planning. The session will also cover structuring financing packages that combine public funding, IFI loans, and private investment where possible.
- Logistics and containerization: Infrastructure and regulatory requirements for a further integration of Central Asia into European / Asian logistics chains

Moderator: Ms Mona BJORKLUND, Director, European Commission, DG MOVE

Speakers:

- Mr Jasurbek Choriyev, Deputy Minister of Transport of Uzbekistan
- Mr Aleksandr Kuzmenko, Secretary General, OTIF
- Mr Andreas Stöckli, Board member, Rhenus Group
- Ms Cassilde Breniere, Deputy Director General for Operations, Expertise France
- Mr Abdulaziz Abdurahmanov, CEO, Centrum Group
- Mr Asset Assavbayev, Secretary General, Permanent Secretariat TRACECA

**15:10 – 15:15 Technical Break**

**15:15 – 16:15 Session 2: Soft connectivity & trade facilitation (including digitalisation) (Ball Room)**

**Objective:** Present and compare recent findings from international studies and initiatives, while also creating a space for donors, IFIs, and regional actors to understand each other's ongoing work. The aim is to reduce overlaps, avoid duplication of efforts, and build complementarities between different programmes. The session will focus on identifying practical reforms to reduce (*non-physical*) bottlenecks along the corridor, drawing on both policy-level recommendations and concrete national examples.

Consensus on some reform areas (e.g., digital customs platforms, harmonization of transit procedures, coordinated border management) where tangible progress can realistically be achieved.

Moderator: Céleste Laporte-Talamon, Policy Analyst, Central Asia unit, Eurasia division OECD Global Relations and Co-operation Directorate

Speakers:

- Mr Khikmatulla Rakhmetov, First Deputy Chairman of the Board, Uzbek Railways
- Mr Carsten-Schmitz-Hoffmann, Director General Europe / Central Asia, GIZ
- Ms Aizhan Beiseyeva, Chairperson Women in Transport and Logistics (TLP) Central Asia & Caucasus
- Mr Pavel Djuraev, CEO, Cotton Logistics, Uzbekistan
- Mr Zoir Kulobiev, Head of Foreign Investment department, Ministry of Transport of Tajikistan
- Ms Vasilisa Dzehtsiarenka, Chairman of the Board, Clever Logistic, Poland
- Ms Adelina Harunjen, Trade Facilitation Lead, ITC

**16:15 – 16:20 Technical Break**



### 16:20 – 17:25 Session 3: Roads, Sea Ports and Maritime transport (Ball Room)

**Objective:** Advance investment readiness for priority maritime infrastructure, fleet development and operational improvements along the Caspian, highlighting the role of private sector engagement, regional cooperation, and integration with the wider Trans-Caspian Corridor network. Exploring PPP models as a primary financing mechanism for both logistics' infrastructure in ports and toll roads.

Workshop & Roundtable Follow-up Projects with emphasis on projects previously discussed during the Kazakhstan workshop and private sector roundtables. These include the port upgrades and planned increase in Caspian fleet capacity. Toll road projects. Private Sector Role & PPP Models in Toll roads, Port Investment & Operations.

Moderator: Ms Aleska Simkic (EU Ambassador to Kazakhstan)

#### Speakers

- Mr Begench Akiyev, Deputy Chairman of The State Service of Maritime and River Transportation of Turkmenistan
- Mr Dauren Kutpanbayev, Acting Chairman of the Board, Aktau Port Authority
- Mrs Madina Anet, Semurg Invest, Business Development Director
- Mr Ilkhomjon Abdugafarov, Deputy Minister of Transport of Uzbekistan
- Mr Talgat Lastayev, Deputy Minister of Transport of Kazakhstan
- Mr Alper Özel, CEO, Türkiye International Transporters Association (UND)

### 17:30 – 18:00 High-level closing remarks by European Commission and Government of Uzbekistan / Next steps (Ball Room)

**In the Evening Dinner (Separate invitations by Ministry of Transport of Uzbekistan)**

***Information about the Venue will be provided by the Ministry of Transport***



## Parallel Events:

**14:00 – 15:30**

***Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the European Union, Central Asia, the South Caucasus and the Black Sea region***

***(separate invitation)***

***(Amudaryo Hall)***

**From 15:45**

**Announcement of Deals – Ceremony Day 2**

***(Syrdaryo Hall)***

Moderator: Charlotte Adriaen, European Commission, DG INTPA

**Approx from 16:30**

**Press event**

***(Syrdaryo Hall)***