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"We Will Achieve Our Goal of a Turkey Without Terror and Prove That the Sacrifices of Our Martyrs and Veterans Have Not Been in Vain"

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United Effort of Turkic States Against Disasters

The Turkic States Red Crescent and Red Cross Network Volunteer Camp, which began in Istanbul, marks the beginning of a new era for rapid response to crises and disasters.

SOURCE: VEDAT KURT

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A meeting of leaders in Turkmenistan

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24th Anniversary of the Ohrid Framework Agreement in North Macedonia



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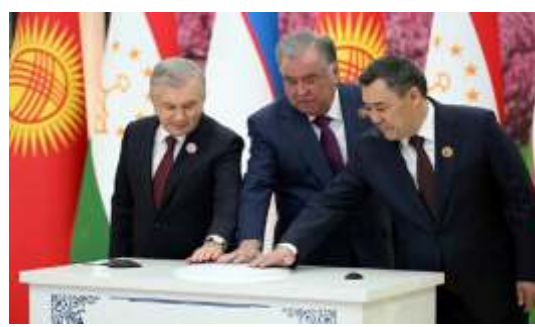
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"We Will Achieve Our Goal of a Turkey Without Terror and Prove That the Sacrifices of Our Martyrs and Veterans Have Not Been in Vain"

Following the Presidential Cabinet Meeting, President Erdoğan stated: "We will certainly achieve our goal of a Turkey without terror and show that the sacrifices of our heroic martyrs and veterans have not been in vain. Last week, another meaningful step was taken on this path: the National Solidarity, Brotherhood, and Democracy Commission, established with the participation of opposition parties, was extremely valuable in terms of our Parliament, the manifestation of national will, embracing and supporting this process."

President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan addressed the press after the Presidential Cabinet Meeting held at the Presidential Complex. Commenting on the topics discussed at the meeting, President Erdoğan said: "First of all, I would like to extend my condolences to all our citizens affected by the 6.1-magnitude earthquake that occurred yesterday evening in the Sındırgı district of Balıkesir. I pray for mercy on one citizen who passed away after being pulled from the rubble and wish a speedy recovery to six brothers and sisters undergoing treatment in hospitals. As soon as we received news of the earthquake, we immediately dispatched our Ministers of Interior and Health to the district, put all members of our Cabinet on alert, and closely monitored the ongoing operations. Search and rescue efforts have been completed, and damage assessments are ongoing. Our ministers have transparently shared relevant information with the public. All institutions of our state stand by our citizens affected by the earthquake."

"WE MUST CARRY OUT THE URBAN TRANSFORMATION EFFORT WITH A SPIRIT OF MOBILIZATION"



"Every earthquake and tremor reminds us once again of the importance of preparedness. Our government's efforts to renew our building stock, especially through urban transformation, are well known. However, as we have always said, this is not a burden the central administration can handle alone. It is essential to carry out this struggle with a spirit of mobilization, hand in hand with the government, the opposition, local administrations, and, of course, the residents themselves. A consensus must now be formed, ideological prejudices must be set aside, and no one should avoid taking responsibility. We are open to any cooperation to achieve this. May God protect our country and nation from all disasters."

"Today marks the eighth anniversary of the martyrdom of our child Eren Bülbül,

who was only 15 years old, and Gendarmerie Non-Commissioned Officer Ferhat Gedik. I once again commemorate these two heroes who fell for their homeland and flag; may their souls rest in peace, and their places be in paradise. We will continue to protect the sacred legacies for which our martyrs sacrificed their lives. We will certainly achieve our goal of a Turkey without terror and demonstrate that the sacrifices of our heroic martyrs and veterans have not been in vain. Last week, another meaningful step was taken on this path. The National Solidarity, Brotherhood, and Democracy Commission, established with the participation of opposition parties, was extremely valuable in terms of our Parliament, the manifestation of national will, embracing and supporting this process. We are pleased that this sense of ownership has been realized. The unanimous decisions taken in the first two meetings of the Commission were another promising development. We hope this constructive approach will continue." "From the very beginning, our stance on this issue has been clear: it is the duty of the political institution to demonstrate a national stance on national matters. Turkey is the common homeland of all of us; this state belongs to every one of the 86 million citizens, whether Turkish, Kurdish, Arab, Alevi, or Sunni. These lands, where a martyr rests in every corner, are our eternal homeland. Even if our political views, lifestyles, origins, or ideas differ, we are all the rightful owners of the Republic of Turkey, members of the same household. Neither our differences, nor political competition, nor daily debates should stand in the way of this; none of us should allow it. In resolving an issue that concerns the survival, security, peace, and future of 86 million people, the contribution, support, and guiding criticism of everyone responsible is particularly important."

"THE HOPES OF THE NATION MUST NOT BE SACRIFICED FOR DAILY POLITICAL GAINS"

"It is extremely important to make wise choices during the Commission's work and avoid statements that could infect the process. We hope that the emerging hopes of our nation will not be sacrificed for the daily calculations of political gain. A window of opportunity has opened for Turkey to be permanently free from terror, and failing to seize it would carry a heavy responsibility. I believe the Commission will fulfill its duties properly to ensure the success of efforts for a Turkey without terror in line with the expectations of our

nation. Both the People's Alliance and the government fully support the work of the Commission." "Last Friday, our Ministers of National Defense and Interior, along with the President of the National Intelligence Organization, gave comprehensive presentations to the Commission, informed its members, and answered questions candidly. Together, we want to stop the flowing blood, ease the pain and tears, and fulfill our responsibility to our nation properly." "I hope the National Solidarity, Brotherhood, and Democracy Commission will once again serve as a source of good. Yesterday, as President, we successfully completed our 11th year of service to our nation, thanks to God. On this occasion, I thank my beloved nation, who has never withheld their prayers, support, and loyalty from the moment I first stepped into the political arena. I also express my gratitude to every brother and sister who has helped us adorn every square meter of Turkey with achievements."

We aim to serve both our people and God with the peace of mind that comes from fulfilling our duty. Guided by the saying, "A day in which nothing is accomplished is a lost day," we work tirelessly, day and night. When a citizen, anywhere in our country, benefits from our services and sincerely prays, "May God be pleased with you," it is our greatest honor and happiness. To earn the trust and prayers of our nation, we engage in a multi-layered effort both at home and abroad. With this understanding, since our last Cabinet Meeting, we have worked relentlessly. On July 29, we hosted President Tokayev of Kazakhstan and his delegation in Ankara for the 5th Meeting of the High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council. During the visit, we signed a total of 20 agreements across different sectors. We remain committed to achieving our trade target of 15 billion dollars. I once again send my regards to my valued brother President Tokayev and express my pleasure in hosting him.

Over the past 20 years, our Africa initiative and Turkey-Africa partnership policies have borne fruit across various fields. For instance, while we had 12 embassies on the continent in 2002, that number has now risen to 44. The number of African embassies in Ankara has reached 38. Our trade volume with Africa increased ninefold from 4.3 billion dollars in 2002 to 36.6 billion dollars by the end of 2024. Turkish contractors undertook

projects worth a total of 97 billion dollars in Africa, covering 2031 projects. Our investments on the continent rose from 67 million dollars to 10 billion dollars. As a country without a colonial past, we have demonstrated to the world that a win-win cooperation model is possible. Despite the internalized colonial mindset in some minds, we have achieved all this. Now, we are elevating these achievements through reciprocal visits.

The visits of Gabonese President Nguema on July 31 and Senegalese Prime Minister Ousmane Sonko on August 7 confirmed that our African brothers share the same commitment. We signed a total of 12 agreements: eight with Gabon and four with Senegal. On August 1, we hosted Italian Prime Minister Meloni and Libyan Prime Minister Dibeybe in Istanbul. At our trilateral cooperation summit, we addressed issues concerning all three countries. Over the weekend, I held a phone conversation with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to discuss Israel's new plans to occupy Gaza. I conveyed Turkey's firm stance on this issue to President Abbas. We will not allow Netanyahu and his massacre network to prolong their political survival at the cost of plunging our region into greater disasters. As Chair of the Council, we called an extraordinary meeting of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Foreign Ministers to stop the atrocities in Gaza and ensure uninterrupted humanitarian aid reaches our starving brothers and sisters. We have mobilized all the capabilities of our state and diplomatic resources to bring hope to Gaza.

"TURKEY PROVIDES THE CLEAREST RESPONSE TO ISRAEL'S BRUTALITY AND OPPRESSION"

I want my beloved nation to know this: Turkey is the country that has given the clearest response to the brutality, slaughter, torture, and oppression of the terrorist state Israel against our Palestinian brothers and sisters. Our civil society organizations, foundations, and associations, together with our people, never leave the people of Gaza alone. We witnessed this firsthand at the Turkey Youth Foundation Summer School Finale Program, attended by 50,000 young friends. The young people, whose eyes shine with hope, love, and faith, both inspired us and transported us to different worlds. With their conscience, morality, vision, confidence, and achievements, our youth is coming forth like a roaring flood. I extend my gratitude to the young participants at TÜGVA and the tens of

thousands who marched from Beyazit to Hagia Sophia for the Gazan Muslims with pure hearts. May God grant us to see the beautiful days when Gaza enjoys peace, security, and freedom.

On Saturday, I also held a phone conversation with my brother President İlham Aliyev of Azerbaijan. Following the liberation of Karabakh after 30 years of occupation, a new era has already begun in our region. The agreement reached in Washington on August 8 marked a historic step toward establishing lasting peace in the South Caucasus. I welcomed to President Aliyev the news that restrictions on Azerbaijan will now be lifted. I emphasized that Turkey will always stand by Azerbaijan. Today, we discussed the same matter with Armenian Prime Minister Pashinyan. The restoration of road and rail connections, opening of border gates, and free flow of trade with the establishment of peace in the region will benefit all countries in the area. Tomorrow, we will host Georgian President Kavelaşvili in Ankara. From the Balkans to the Caucasus, from Africa to Central Asia, we will continue our efforts to ensure peace and stability across this region.



We successfully held the 2025 meeting of our Supreme Military Council, critical for our Turkish Armed Forces, on Tuesday, August 5. I congratulate the officers promoted, extended in duty, or assigned to new posts by the Council's decisions and thank the officers retired for their service to our state.

This year, at the 38th Ordinary General Assembly of the Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEİK), celebrating its 40th anniversary, we met with our business community. We also hosted archaeologists at the Presidential Complex during the International Archaeology Symposium and the “Golden Age of Archaeology” Exhibition. The Marcus Aurelius Bronze Statue, which was taken from our country 65 years ago and returned after extensive efforts, began to be displayed in the exhibition. I invite our youth and all citizens interested in archaeology to visit our exhibitions at the National Library.

“WE ARE PROGRESSING CONFIDENTLY TOWARD OUR \$64 BILLION TOURISM TARGET”

We also received encouraging news in tourism. In the first six months of 2025, we broke the record for all-time revenue with 25.8 billion dollars, a 7.6% increase compared to the same period last year. In the first half of this year, we hosted 26,389,000 visitors in our country. Foreign tourist spending per night increased by 10% to \$121. We are steadily progressing toward our 64 billion dollar tourism target

for 2025.

I am also pleased to note that inflation has been falling continuously for 14 months. In July, both annual inflation and food inflation reached the lowest levels in the past 44 months. Inflation on essential goods fell to 20.7%. Even in rents, which have fueled inflation persistence, declines have begun. However, it is still not at the desired level. As work in the earthquake region continues, our projects to increase housing supply will accelerate further. Our industrial production is also, thanks to God, performing well.

“OUR CENTRAL BANK RESERVES HAVE RISEN TO 169 BILLION DOLLARS”

We listened to the real sector and revised the SME definition. Now, more businesses can benefit from SME support. Our Central Bank reserves have also been rising rapidly since May. Despite all the attempts of the main opposition to undermine the Turkish economy, our gross reserves have reached 169 billion dollars. Likewise, despite the provocations of the opposition, negotiations with public sector workers concluded with consensus. I hope the protocol, which contains significant improvements, will once again be beneficial for our public workers and for labor relations in general.

Even looking at the key points I summarized here is enough to understand how much attention Turkey's real agenda demands. Positioned at the center of three continents, Turkey is engaged in a fierce struggle that will shape the next century on multiple fronts. We call this effort the construction of the Turkey Century. Once again, let me say this clearly: with God's permission, no one can stop Turkey's rise. We will never allow our country to be sidelined through various schemes.

However, I must also sadly state this bitter truth: in this difficult journey, our challenges are not only external. We are also confronting their internal extensions and subcontractors. Since the AK Party came to power in 2002, those whose privileges were cut off, who lost their special rights, and who were equalized with the public after years of undue advantage, have attacked our government, the state, and our national institutions in a frenzy, driven by the desire for revenge.

As I have stated before, no one—including myself—is infallible. No one is beyond criticism. We have never shut our ears to constructive criticism; on the contrary, we have considered it carefully and acted on suggestions that benefit our country and nation without any complex. But we have never accepted fifth-column activities inside our country under the guise of criticism.

Our unchanging principle is this: we are as clear as water and humble as the earth toward our nation. Yet, we also consider it better to confront those who aim at the state's reputation and the nation's gains than to leave them unchecked.

Throughout our political life, we have acted with this sensitivity, and we will continue to maintain our line and stance. Recent debates have once again confirmed that Turkey's biggest problem remains an opposition that turns political competition into a destructive campaign, sees discrediting the government as legitimate, and seeks to undermine state institutions. As you know, first they carried out a smear campaign against Imam Hatip schools based on LGS results. They twisted a congratulatory message on the wall of one of our schools in Bursa to cast doubt on the exam. They played with the hopes, dreams, and pure feelings of hundreds of thousands of young people. When their claims were proven false, instead of acting honorably and apologizing, they quietly withdrew as if nothing had happened. Later, to cover up a bribery scandal in Manavgat, they spread a conspiracy allegation against our police and judiciary. We told them: if there is a conspiracy, go to court with the 32-hour video you have. They immediately went into reverse again. I want to draw your attention: in this campaign of wear and tear, the target was not only our government but also our children, our youth, our state, and the services that make life easier for our citizens.

Now, we see the same chorus crowding around a legal investigation file. Press ethics, journalistic principles, political responsibility, human dignity, the reputation of state institutions, Turkey's gains—none of these matter to them. They have taken a brush of slander and are blackening everyone in front of them. Yet the clear reality is this: the crime in question was detected, reported, and brought to justice by our state institutions a year ago. Judicial proceedings have been initiated against 220 suspects, and public cases have been filed against 199. In two waves of operations, 37 people were arrested and 150 placed under judicial control. Just as in the Istanbul-centered corruption and fraud investigation, our state has not spared those who embezzled the nation's rights; it delivered them all to justice.

“WHOEVER INTERFERES WITH THE NATION'S RIGHTS OR SEIZES ITS PROPERTY, WE WILL CONTINUE TO HOLD ACCOUNTABLE”

I state clearly: just as the positions and titles of those apprehended in Istanbul after 30 years were irrelevant, no one's standing was considered in this case either. More importantly, no one took to the streets to exonerate the members of the criminal organization, no protests were held, no calls were made to boycott national brands, and no complaints were lodged to Western media. Above all, no one attempted to intimidate or pressure the courts. Everything has been conducted according to law, order, and the principles of a state governed by law.

I want everyone—especially the rude, loud, and brazen individuals who, through their provocateurs, attack state



institutions—to know this: no matter what you do, you cannot dilute Turkey's fight against bribers, criminal organizations, and political usurers who prey on the nation's property. Stop using our youth and innocent children to exonerate yourselves and your accomplices. Be honest, be principled, and act with at least a minimum sense of responsibility toward the state whose bread you eat. I repeat: whoever interferes with the nation's rights, property, or assets, we will continue to hold accountable.

Remember: Turkey is a state governed by law, and our legislation clearly defines the punishments for theft, corruption, malpractice, and fraud. No matter who they are, violators will face the necessary penalties. Within the authority and responsibilities granted by our constitution, we will pursue this matter to the very end.

“ONLINE BETTING, GAMBLING, AND ADDICTION HAVE REACHED ALARMING LEVELS”

With increasing digitalization, new threats and dangers emerge every day. Chief among these is the addition of new forms of addiction. After screen addiction and cyberbullying, online betting, gambling, and gaming addiction have recently reached alarming levels. Unfortunately, easy access and the difficulty of regulating the internet have contributed to the spread of this affliction.

According to the latest data from our Green Crescent (Yeşilay), online gambling and betting addiction has surpassed other forms of addiction. We also see criminal organizations profiting significantly from this. As a government, we are determined to tackle this issue, which extinguishes livelihoods, tears families apart, and weakens the national fabric from within.

On the security side, our police and intelligence units, as well as the judiciary and the Financial Crimes Investigation Board (MASAK), are working meticulously. Regarding social and health aspects, a comprehensive action plan is being prepared under the leadership of our Vice President. We are addressing this problem in a multifaceted manner without leaving any gaps.

Before more lives are harmed, the state, civil society, and politics must work hand in hand to stop this scourge. Our hope is that those who oppose every step we take against digital crime under the pretext of freedom will, at the very least, not repeat the same mistake when it comes to combating illegal online gambling and betting. Otherwise, God forbid, society as a whole will bear the consequences.

United Effort of Turkic States Against Disasters

The Turkic States Red Crescent and Red Cross Network Volunteer Camp, which began in Istanbul, marks the beginning of a new era for rapid response to crises and disasters.



Leaders and Volunteers Together Secretary General of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS), Ambassador Kubanychbek Omuraliev, spoke at the opening of the Turkic States Red Crescent and Red Cross Network Volunteer Camp held in Istanbul. The event brought together Red Crescent and Red Cross representatives from member states along with volunteers.

Emphasis on Solidarity Against Global Challenges

Omuraliev stressed that the growing impacts of conflicts, social polarization, and climate change have made international humanitarian cooperation more important than ever.

Civil Protection Mechanism to Strengthen Joint Response Highlighting the significance of the Civil Protection Mechanism Agreement signed at the OTS Summit in Bishkek, Omuraliev stated that this step would enhance the capacity for rapid response in times of disasters and crises.

“Faster and More Effective Response”

“With this mechanism, the Turkic States Red Crescent and Red Cross Network will act more swiftly and effectively during times of crisis,” he said.

SOURCE: Vedat KURT



A meeting of leaders in Turkmenistan



The United Nations conference held in the Avaza Tourism Zone of Turkmenistan is also hosting regional diplomacy. The leaders of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Azerbaijan came together in a trilateral meeting.

The United Nations conference held in the Avaza Tourism Zone of Turkmenistan is also hosting regional diplomacy. The leaders of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Azerbaijan came together in a trilateral meeting. The discussions focused on multidimensional cooperation, particularly in the fields of energy, transportation, and logistics. The President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, was awarded the “Order of Turkmenistan for Contributions to the Development of Cooperation.”

VOICEOVER SCRIPT

One of the most notable engagements during the UN Summit in Avaza was the trilateral meeting attended by the National Leader of the Turkmen People and Chairman of the People’s Council, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, and Prime Minister of Azerbaijan Ali Asadov.

During the meeting, the parties reached an agreement on expanding regional cooperation in areas such as energy, transportation, industry, agriculture, and logistics; promoting joint projects; and establishing a permanent cooperation format.

The Turkmen leader noted that President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev attaches importance to cooperation in the Turkmenistan–Uzbekista

n–Azerbaijan format, emphasizing that this meeting could serve as the foundation for a new model of regional partnership.

The agenda also included the development of humanitarian and cultural ties. Emphasis was placed on strengthening people-to-people interaction and deepening economic relations.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the parties expressed their determination to further enhance cooperation in strategic areas, particularly transportation, energy, and digital connectivity.

In between the sessions, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev was awarded the “Order of Turkmenistan for Contributions to the Development of Cooperation.” The award was recognized as a symbol of efforts to strengthen friendship, good-neighborliness, and partnership in the Turkic world.

Mirziyoyev expressed his gratitude to the Turkmen leaders and the brotherly Turkmen people, noting that the strategic partnership between the two countries has been further strengthened in recent years through significant economic and humanitarian projects.



Foreign Minister Fidan: We Completely Reject Israel's Intention to Fully Occupy Gaza

Foreign Minister Fidan stated, “(We) completely reject Israel's intention to fully occupy Gaza; this plan represents a new phase of Israel's expansionist and genocidal policy.”

Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan spoke at a joint press conference with Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty, held in El-Alameyn, Egypt. Minister Fidan said, “(Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin) Netanyahu’s government has taken a new step and announced its intention to fully occupy Gaza. We completely reject this plan. This plan is a new phase of Israel's expansionist and genocidal policy.” Minister Fidan stated, “(Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin) Netanyahu’s government has taken a new step and announced its intention to fully occupy Gaza. We completely reject this plan. This plan is a new phase of Israel's expansionist and genocidal policy.” Fidan emphasized that, in response to this step, the Islamic world must act in full solidarity and the international community must be mobilized, saying, “In this understanding, as the Chair of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, we have decided to call the Organization of Islamic Cooperation for a meeting. We will defend international law and humanitarian values in the strongest possible way against Israel’s genocidal policies.” Minister Fidan added, “Palestine belongs to the Palestinians. Any effort aiming to remove Palestinians from their lands is null and void and doomed to fail. Turkey and Egypt will continue to stand against such scenarios (Israel’s Gaza occupation plan).”

Highlighting the vital importance of delivering humanitarian aid to Gaza, Fidan stated: “So far, we have sent approximately 102,000 tons of humanitarian aid for our brothers and sisters in Gaza. I would like to once again express my gratitude here for Egypt’s close cooperation in delivering humanitarian aid to Gaza.” Fidan noted that his visit began with a meeting with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, stating, “President Sisi generously shared his vision regarding bilateral relations and the region. Essentially, under the leadership of our President (Recep Tayyip) Erdoğan and President Sisi, Turkey-Egypt relations in the past 3–4 years have advanced to unprecedented levels in recent history.” Fidan said that bilateral relations have

not only advanced in defense industry, technology, and trade but also in aligning views and strategies on regional issues, providing opportunities to find joint solutions. He added, “We also thank our leaders here once again.”

Emphasizing that 2025 marks the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Egypt, Fidan continued: “We are determined to further advance our 100-year diplomatic legacy based on mutual understanding and respect. We are making intensive efforts to strengthen the institutional structure of our relations. As you know, the first meeting of the High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council mechanism was held last year in Ankara. Today, we had the opportunity to review preparations for the joint planning group we established to follow up on this mechanism.” Fidan drew attention to the continuing strengthening of economic and trade relations between the two countries, stating, “Our trade volume reached approximately 9 billion dollars in 2024. Our goal is, God willing, to reach 15 billion dollars. Turkish companies are making concrete contributions to employment and production with their investments in Egypt. We will also continue to work together in areas such as defense industry, transportation, and energy security.” Referring to infrastructure projects and reforms implemented in recent years, Fidan said, “These have transformed Egypt into an important model for development. As Turkey, we wholeheartedly congratulate this success and reaffirm our belief that our cooperation will further strengthen the regional peace and prosperity environment.”

“We Will Continue to Work for the Rights of Gaza’s People” Fidan drew attention to discussions with his Egyptian counterpart on Gaza, stating, “We discussed steps that can be taken to protect the people of Gaza, ensure unhindered delivery of humanitarian aid, and achieve a lasting ceasefire. In fact, we are in almost daily coordination on this issue. We appreciate the mediation efforts jointly conducted by Egypt, Qatar, and the United States.” Noting that Israel has persistently



sabotaged ceasefire efforts despite all attempts, Fidan stated: “The whole world now knows that Israel is governed by a fascist, militarist, and fundamentalist mindset. What needs to be done is for the international community to come together and defend justice and humanity against the (Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin) Netanyahu regime. Today, the Palestinian cause has gained a much stronger position on a global scale. In particular, public opinion in the Western world that supports Palestine has begun to exert greater pressure on their governments. No one, absolutely no one, wants to bear the cost and moral weight of standing alongside Israel anymore.” Fidan noted that the recent increase in the number of countries recognizing Palestine is the result of awareness created within the international community, stating, “Here, together with my valued colleague, the efforts of the contact group we are part of (the Gaza Contact Group) have also played a truly significant role. We consider this development extremely valuable and promising. Together with my dear friend Badr and our other counterparts, we will continue to work for the rights of the people of Gaza.” Emphasizing the key role of Egypt’s presence on the ground in alleviating the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and establishing a ceasefire, Fidan said, “We will continue to work together with Egypt to deliver aid to our Palestinian brothers and sisters.”

“Turkey and Egypt Will Continue to Be Key Pillars of Peace and Stability in This Region” Fidan highlighted that Egypt is Turkey’s neighbor in the Mediterranean, stating, “We also see it symbolically significant that today’s meetings are held in El-Alameyn, right across from our Mediterranean coasts. We want to see the Eastern Mediterranean as a region of stability and prosperity where the legitimate interests of all parties are respected and the principle of fairness prevails.” Referring to the strategically developed relations with Egypt in recent years,

Fidan noted that they have also worked together on regional and African issues, adding: “In today’s meetings, we had the opportunity to extensively discuss the files on Libya, Sudan, Somalia, Syria, and Lebanon. We were pleased to see that our views largely overlap. We continue our joint efforts in Libya to ensure unity, cohesion, and lasting stability. We wish our Libyan brothers and sisters a prosperous future.”

Fidan said, “Ending ongoing conflicts in Sudan and establishing peace in the Horn of Africa is likewise a joint aspiration with Egypt,” emphasizing that Turkey supports Sudan’s unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. Underlining the need for diplomatic and peaceful solutions to current problems, Fidan stated, “The bloodshed must stop immediately, and steps that could lead the country toward division must be abandoned.” Referring to the examples of Lebanon and Syria, Fidan noted that Israel does not only plan to occupy the West Bank, stating, “We also see that, in addition, Israel has long-term plans for neighboring countries, primarily Lebanon and Syria. We closely observe that these plans are either occupation-related or linked to weakening these countries and creating chaos.” Fidan highlighted that he and his Egyptian counterpart particularly discussed Israel’s expansionist policies, stating, “We considered what our region and the international community can do about this. We emphasized together that it is no longer just genocide but also Israel’s regional expansionism that poses a highly significant threat both to regional security and to the international community.”

Thanking Abdulati for hosting, Fidan concluded: “Turkey and Egypt will continue to be key pillars of peace and stability in this region. With this awareness, we will continue to work jointly and maintain our consultations. I hope that today’s meetings will take Turkey-Egypt relations to new horizons.”

Japarov, Mirziyoyev, and Rahmon Nominated for the International Leo Tolstoy Peace Prize

Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov, Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, and Tajik President Emomali Rahmon have been nominated for the International Leo Tolstoy Peace Prize.



The three leaders of the Turkic world were nominated for their contributions to ensuring common and equal security based on the global legal order and to the formation of a new, just, multipolar world order.

In 2022, Kyrgyzstan resolved its 200-kilometer border dispute with neighboring Uzbekistan, and in 2025, it resolved its 486.94-kilometer border issue with Tajikistan through a mutual land swap.

In the city of Khujand, Tajikistan, the three countries—Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan—signed the Khujand Declaration of Friendship at the point where their borders meet, dedicating it to eternal friendship.

24th Anniversary of the Ohrid Framework Agreement in North Macedonia

This constitution imposed certain restrictions on the rights of minority groups in the country, especially Albanians.

It has been 24 years since the signing of the Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA) in 2001, which ended internal unrest in North Macedonia.

At that time, in what was then called Macedonia, the first constitution adopted after the country declared independence from the former Yugoslavia in 1991 without war imposed certain limitations on the rights of minority groups, particularly Albanians.

Albanians, demanding the right to higher education in their native language, established their own universities in 1994. After this movement, which was not supported by the government at the time, the police demolished the university building. In the ensuing clash, one person lost their life and many others were injured.

Albanians also insisted on the use of their flag and, in 1997, raised their own flags on municipal buildings in Gostivar and Tetovo, where they lived in large numbers. However, government officials declared this action illegal and removed the flags. Police intervention led to further arrests and fatalities.

The Road to the Ohrid Framework Agreement

The path to the Ohrid Framework Agreement began with internal conflicts on January 22, 2001, when a group of armed Albanians attacked a police station in the village of Tearce near Tetovo in northwestern North Macedonia. One police officer was killed, and three others were injured. The attack was claimed by a group called the National Liberation Army (NLA).

The clashes continued in other cities across the country with varying intensity during the spring months.

On July 5, under the mediation of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and NATO,



a general ceasefire agreement was reached, although both sides violated it multiple times afterward.

These events, which some describe as a “civil war” and lasted from January 22 to November 12, 2001, resulted in hundreds of deaths from both sides and the displacement of tens of thousands of people.

The conflicts continued in the northern and northwestern regions of the country, as well as near the capital, Skopje, with incidents of violence occurring in various cities.

The Ohrid Framework Agreement

On August 13, 2001, the country’s largest political parties signed the Ohrid Framework Agreement in the southwestern city of Ohrid, after approximately two months of negotiations, in the presence of special representatives from the European Union (EU) and the United States.

While the agreement ended the clashes, it also created a starting point to enhance the rights of ethnic Albanians in the country. The agreement included provisions on the official status of the Albanian language, local governance, non-discrimination, fair representation, language, culture, education, symbols, and special parliamentary procedures.

As part of this, the “Law on the Use of Languages,” approved by the North Macedonian Parliament on January 11, 2018, made Albanian an official language alongside Macedonian, and it officially became the second state language across

the country on January 15, 2019.

Additionally, it was decided that any language spoken by over 20% of the population in a municipality would also be recognized as an official language. Accordingly, Turkish became an official language in several municipalities with a significant Turkish population.

To implement the agreement, a secretariat responsible for the Ohrid Framework Agreement was established in 2004 as part of the government. It later became the Ministry of Political System and Inter-Community Relations, and following changes last year, it was renamed the Ministry of Inter-Community Relations.

Turks in the Ohrid Framework Agreement

The Turks, who make up approximately 4% of the country’s population, believe that “their rights have not been adequately provided” despite the years that have passed since the agreement.

North Macedonian Turks, who consider themselves one of the founding elements of the country, seek greater representation at both local and state levels.

They emphasize that the Ohrid Framework Agreement should be revised to include them as the “third largest community in North Macedonia.”

Demographic Structure of North Macedonia

According to the population, household, and housing census conducted in September 2021, North Macedonia has a population of 1,836,713.

North Macedonian Turks constitute 3.86% of the population, ranking third. Macedonians account for 58.44%, Albanians 24.3%, Roma 2.53%, Serbs 1.3%, Bosniaks 0.87%, and Vlachs 0.47% of the population.

Those categorized as “other,” including various ethnic groups, make up 1.03%, while data obtained from administrative sources accounted for 7.2%.

The previous census in the country had been conducted in 2002.



Pakistan Celebrates Its 78th Independence Anniversary

Pakistan is celebrating the 78th anniversary of its independence, which it gained from the United Kingdom on August 14, 1947.



Pakistan’s independence, declared by Muhammad Ali Jinnah, is commemorated every year on August 14. The All India Muslim League (AIML), founded in 1906 in British-ruled India to defend the rights of Muslims, gradually adopted a policy calling for independence. The AIML, the first Muslim political party in colonial India, continued its political activities in the 1930s under the influence of Pakistan’s national poet Muhammad Iqbal’s vision of a “Muslim state in India.”

During this period, AIML also became a party that organized public rallies and engaged directly with the people.

Reviving the idea of “a separate country for Muslims,” initially voiced by Hindu nationalists, AIML introduced the “two-nation theory,” aiming to establish a separate state in regions of colonial India where Muslims were the majority. In 1930, Iqbal, in his opening speech at the AIML session in Allahabad, emphasized the necessity of a separate and independent state for Muslims. His speech was described as “the first serious step toward the establishment of Pakistan.”

Decision to Establish an Independent State

Following Iqbal’s speech at the Congress, Rahmat Ali, a member of AIML, proposed the name “Pakistan,” becoming the namesake of the new Muslim country to be established. In the Indian subcontinent, where both Muslim and Hindu independence movements were active, the British administration began gradually transferring authority to local people by establishing provincial assemblies in 1935.

In the 1937 elections held in the northwestern and eastern provinces (now Bangladesh), Muslims secured majorities in some assemblies, while Hindu-majority assemblies emerged elsewhere. This situation, though not formally defined, contributed to the delineation of the future borders of the two countries.

After the AIML congress held in Lahore from March 22–24, 1940, it was decided that provinces with Muslim majorities would unite under an independent state. Exhausted by World War II and the independence movements in India, the British administration struggled to maintain control over the region. In the 1946 provincial elections in British India, AIML achieved a major success by winning nearly 90% of the Muslim vote.

With the political power it gained in Muslim-majority regions, AIML pushed for the establishment of Pakistan during independence negotiations with India. As a result of the 1946 elections and AIML’s efforts, British India was formally partitioned into Pakistan and India on the night of August 14–15, 1947. At that time, present-day Bangladesh remained within Pakistan as “East Pakistan.”

“August 14 – Pakistan Independence Day”

Since the Night of Power (Laylat al-Qadr) in 1947 coincided with August 14, Pakistan’s Independence Day was officially set as August 14. In independent Pakistan, which was a member of the British Commonwealth, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, as the leader of AIML, became the first head of state under the title of “Governor-General,” representing the British King.

After 1956, the British King’s role as head of state was legally abolished, and the office of “President of Pakistan” replaced the Governor-General. The first President of Pakistan was Iskander Ali Mirza, the fourth Governor-General. Pakistan, established in Muslim-majority regions in eastern and western India, was later divided in 1971, when East Pakistan declared independence as Bangladesh.

Kyrgyz Cabinet Chairman Kasymaliev Received by Turkmen President Berdymukhamedov



Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers and Head of the Presidential Administration of Kyrgyzstan, Adylbek Kasymaliev, met with Turkmen President Serdar Berdymukhamedov during his working visit to Turkmenistan.

During the meeting, Kasymaliev conveyed greetings from Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov and emphasized that the high-level organization of the United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries was a clear indication of Turkmenistan’s growing international prestige.

President Berdymukhamedov, in turn, thanked Kasymaliev for attending the conference and conveyed his warm regards to President Japarov.

Highlighting the steady growth of trade volume between Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan, Kasymaliev expressed his country’s interest in expanding cooperation in international transportation, logistics, and transit.

Record Exports from Turkey to Turkic States

Turkey's exports to the Turkic republics—Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan—reached a record level of approximately 5.1 billion dollars in the first half of this year.



According to a compilation of data from the Turkish Statistical Institute (TÜİK), trade between Turkey and the Turkic republics, both bilaterally and through the Organization of Turkic States (OTS), has reached remarkable levels. Turkey's exports to Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan amounted to 4 billion 983 million 480 thousand dollars in the first half of last year, rising to 5 billion 93 million 718 thousand dollars in the same period this year. This represents a record for first-half exports.

Kazakhstan Receives the Largest Share of Exports

Among these countries, the largest share of exports went to Kazakhstan, with shipments exceeding 1 billion 510 million 122 thousand dollars in the first half of the year.

Following Kazakhstan, exports to Azerbaijan amounted to 1 billion 417 million 850 thousand dollars. Exports to Uzbekistan reached 931 million 604 thousand dollars, while exports to Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan totaled 639 million 373 thousand dollars and 594 million 769 thousand dollars, respectively. During this period, imports from the Turkic republics totaled 4 billion 3 million 881 thousand

dollars, bringing the total trade volume between Turkey and these countries to 9 billion 97 million 599 thousand dollars.

Boilers and Machinery Exports Near 1.1 Billion Dollars

When examining exports to the Turkic republics by product category, the leading segment was boilers, machinery, mechanical devices, nuclear reactors, and their parts, accounting for 1 billion 83 million 957 thousand dollars in exports.

This category was followed by electrical machinery and devices at 478 million 318 thousand dollars, and plastics and their products at 264 million 49 thousand dollars.

Exports of knitted clothing and accessories to these five countries totaled 263 million 907 thousand dollars, while exports of motor vehicles and their parts, components, and accessories reached 235 million 93 thousand dollars.



The 7th Kyrgyzstan–Russia Economic Forum has opened in Cholpon-Ata

The opening ceremony began with the reading of congratulatory messages from the President of Kyrgyzstan, Sadyr Japarov, and the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin.



Afterwards, First Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan, Daniyar Amangeldiev, addressed the participants. In his speech, he highlighted the forum's key role in sharing experience, developing joint ventures, and deepening bilateral and multilateral relations. He thanked the organizers — the Russian-Kyrgyz Development Fund — as well as national and international experts, representatives of the business community, academia, and public institutions for their active participation and fruitful cooperation. “The 7th Kyrgyzstan–Russia Economic Forum is an effective platform for constructive dialogue on economic development, strengthening partnerships, and identifying new growth opportunities,” he said.

Amangeldiev also recalled the 10th anniversary of Kyrgyzstan's accession to the Eurasian Economic Union, noting that the member states have recorded stable growth in key socio-economic indicators, with GDP growth, a decline in unemployment, and positive developments in priority sectors.

The speech also placed special emphasis on strengthening bilateral cooperation with Russia, one of Kyrgyzstan's most important trading partners.

This year's forum theme is “Digital Sovereignty as a Driver of Economic Growth.” Amangeldiev stated that the state gives priority support to digital transformation processes, including the implementation of the national programs “Digital Kyrgyzstan” and “Startup Kyrgyzstan.” Highlighting the achievements of the High Technology Park, he noted that by the end of 2024, 477 companies were operating in the park, generating a total income of 11.4 billion soms (approximately USD 130 million), with 94% of products exported.

Speaking about the implementation of digital solutions in the public sector, Amangeldiev particularly mentioned the “E-Kyzmat” project. He also touched upon Kyrgyzstan's growing appeal as a tourism destination, referring to the year-round mountain resort projects initiated by the President.

“I believe that holding the forum in this beautiful setting on the shores of Issyk-Kul will best showcase our country's tourism potential and help attract new investments to this promising sector,” he concluded.



Uzbekistan Hopes for Faster Access to the Sea with the Launch of the Trans-Afghan Railway

Uzbekistan aims to significantly increase freight transport along the Trans-Afghan Railway route, while reducing transportation costs and delivery times, by securing the shortest possible access to the sea once the project becomes operational.

As one of only two countries in the world—alongside Liechtenstein—whose neighbors also lack a coastline, Uzbekistan continues its efforts to reach global markets via the shortest routes, minimize transportation costs, and diversify its transport networks. With this goal, the Uzbek government has accelerated initiatives to reach seaports through neighboring Afghanistan and Pakistan. In February 2021, in Tashkent, the governments of Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan signed a roadmap for the construction of the Termez–Mazar-i-Sharif–Kabul–Peshawar railway.

Although construction was initially planned to start in September 2021, political changes in



Afghanistan—specifically, the Taliban’s takeover—caused a slowdown in the project. However, after Uzbekistan’s diplomatic efforts, the Taliban government expressed its willingness to participate in December 2021, reviving work on the Trans-Afghan Railway.

In July 2022, exploratory work began to determine the route and conduct a feasibility study. In July 2023, at a high-level trilateral meeting in Islamabad, the three countries agreed on the final route: Termez – Naybabad – Maidan Shahr – Logar – Kharlachi. That same year, Uzbek company Boshtransloyiha, together with an international consultancy, completed the initial feasibility study, estimating the total project cost at \$4.6 billion.

On July 17 in Kabul, the foreign ministers of Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan—alongside their respective transport ministers—held a trilateral meeting where, for the first time, concrete steps were taken toward

the project’s realization. They signed an agreement to complete feasibility studies for the railway, which will run through all three countries.

Project Expected to Triple Transport Volume, Cut Costs and Delivery Times According to Uzbek authorities, construction is planned to begin this year, with completion targeted within five years. The railway will span approximately 573 kilometers, including 33 stations, 187 kilometers of station tracks, three tunnels, 107 railway crossings, 1,212 structures, and over 700 kilometers of power lines. The line will start in Termez, near the Afghan border, pass through Naybabad, Maidan Shahr, and Logar in Afghanistan, and connect to ports in Pakistan. Once operational, Uzbekistan expects to reduce its shipping time to the sea via Pakistan from 30 days to just 5 days.

Currently, Uzbekistan transports nearly 1 million tons of goods annually through Pakistan. With the Trans-Afghan Railway, freight capacity on this route is expected to at least triple in the first phase, while transportation costs could be halved and delivery times cut sixfold. Initially, the line is projected to carry 3 million tons of cargo per year, eventually reaching 20 million tons annually.

“The Trans-Afghan Railway Offers Great Potential”

Logistics expert Alisher Davirov noted that Uzbekistan and Liechtenstein are the only two countries in the world

whose neighbors also have no coastline, making direct access to the sea of strategic importance. He pointed out that while Uzbekistan currently has access to ports in Iran and Turkey via Turkmenistan, and to Baltic ports via Kazakhstan and Russia, recent global events have revealed the vulnerability of supply chains, prompting Uzbekistan to seek more secure and shorter routes. According to Davirov, access to Pakistani ports via Afghanistan will minimize transport time to the sea, enabling significant savings in both time and cost. He added that the railway’s operation will open Uzbekistan further to world markets and boost the country’s foreign trade volume.

Davirov also highlighted that once the under-construction China–Kyrgyzstan–Uzbekistan railway is connected to the Uzbekistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan line, it will form a major transport corridor linking different parts of Asia. “In this regard, the Trans-Afghan Railway offers great prospects,” he said.

He concluded that the Uzbekistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan Corridor, also known as the Trans-Afghan Railway, will be a key link between Central and South Asia. “Its operation will not only enhance trade and economic cooperation among the region’s countries, but also contribute to the further development of political and diplomatic relations between them,” he emphasized.



Text of Peace Agreement Paraphed by Azerbaijan and Armenia at the White House Released

The text of the “Agreement on Peace and the Establishment of Inter-State Relations” paraphed by Azerbaijan and Armenia at the White House has been made public.

According to the agreement, Azerbaijan and Armenia recognize each other’s sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of international borders, and political independence. Both sides confirm that they have no territorial claims against each other and agree that they will not make any such claims in the future. Additionally, Azerbaijan and Armenia commit not to deploy any third-party forces along their shared border.

The agreement was paraphed by the foreign ministers of both countries during a trilateral summit in Washington, hosted by U.S. President Donald Trump, with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan in attendance.



The 17-article agreement text, simultaneously released by the foreign ministries of Azerbaijan and Armenia, is as follows:

Article 1 – The Parties reaffirm that the borders of the former Soviet Socialist Republics have become the international borders of the relevant independent states and are recognized as such by the international community. They recognize and respect each other’s sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of international borders, and political independence.



Article 2 – In full compliance with Article 1, the Parties confirm that they have no territorial claims against each other and agree not to make any such claims in the future. The Parties shall refrain from any actions, including planning, preparing, promoting, or supporting acts aimed at wholly or partially dividing or weakening the other Party’s territorial integrity or political unity.

Article 3 – The Parties shall refrain from using or threatening to use force against the territorial integrity or political independence of the other Party, or from acting in any manner inconsistent with the United Nations Charter. The Parties shall not permit their territories to be used by a third party for any acts of force against the other Party contrary to the UN Charter.

Article 4 – The Parties shall refrain from interference in each other’s internal affairs.

Article 5 – Within _____ days following the exchange of the duly ratified forms of this agreement, the Parties shall establish diplomatic relations in accordance with the provisions of the 1961 and 1963 Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic and Consular Relations.



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Putin to Become First Russian Leader to Visit Alaska, Sold to the U.S.

Russian President Vladimir Putin will become the first Russian leader to visit the U.S. state of Alaska, which was purchased from the Russian Empire by the United States in 1876.



Putin plans to meet with U.S. President Donald Trump on August 15 to discuss the Ukraine issue and bilateral relations, marking his first visit to the United States in many years. His last trip to the U.S. was in 2015, when he attended the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in New York.

Although past visits to the U.S. have been made by Nikita Khrushchev, Leonid Brezhnev, Mikhail Gorbachev, Boris Yeltsin, and Dmitry Medvedev, Putin will make history as the first Russian leader to set foot in Alaska. Alaska was first discovered in 1732 by explorers Mikhail Gvozdev and Ivan Fedorov, and in later years it began to be exploited by traders. Originally Russian territory, the region provided revenue to the Russian state through the fur trade. In 1799, the Russian-American Company was established in the area.

During the Crimean War, it became evident that managing and defending such a distant and geopolitically sensitive region was more costly than the potential profit.

The idea of selling Alaska was first proposed in 1857 by Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolayevich, brother of Tsar Alexander II. Later, with the Tsar’s approval, Alaska was sold to the United States on March 30, 1867. In exchange for an area of approximately 1,518,800 square kilometers, the U.S. paid Russia \$7.2 million at the time — an amount estimated to be worth more than

\$150 million today. The United States purchased Alaska for its perceived strategic and economic potential. However, then-U.S. Secretary of State William H. Seward was criticized by many Americans for acquiring what was seen as a remote and useless land made up of nothing but ice. This sentiment became known as “Seward’s Folly.”

Years later, when Alaska’s wealth in gold, oil, natural gas, fisheries, and its strategic value became clear, the criticism turned into praise, and the purchase was dubbed “the most profitable land acquisition in U.S. history.”

The Border Between Russia and the U.S. — A Turning Point in Time
The distance from U.S.-owned Alaska across the Bering Strait to Russia’s Chukotka region is 86 kilometers. The border between the two countries runs through the midpoint of the 3.8-kilometer stretch separating Russia’s Big Diomed Island (Ratmanov) and the U.S.’s Little Diomed Island.

This area, which forms the Russia–U.S. border, is also a key location where the time zone changes. The International Date Line passes through here. During the Putin–Trump summit to be held on August 15, 2025, within U.S. territory, the date on the Russian side of the border will already be August 16, 2025. Despite the short distance between the two countries, the time difference is 21 hours.

Azerbaijani Natural Gas Reaches Homs via Turkey-Syria Pipeline

Natural gas transported through the Turkey-Syria Natural Gas Pipeline has been delivered to the Cender Gas Power Plant in Homs, located in central Syria.



The Azerbaijani natural gas reached Homs via the Turkey-Syria pipeline. In the next phase, the gas will be directed from the Cender Station to the Nasiriyah and Tishrin thermal power plants near the capital, Damascus. The valves at the power plants were opened in a ceremony attended by Syrian Deputy Minister of Energy Qayyas Diab and Homs Governor Abdurrahman al-Ama.

Speaking to journalists after the opening, Diab stated that as of today, the Azerbaijani gas has arrived at the Cender Gas Station via Turkey. He noted that the pipeline, which has a maximum daily capacity of 3.4 million cubic meters, is currently transmitting 1.4 million cubic meters per day, sufficient to generate 250 megawatts of electricity.

Diab emphasized that this flow from Turkey represents a strategic step for connecting the Arab Gas Pipeline to the Republic of Turkey, enabling Syria to integrate with regional countries’ electricity networks, which will strengthen stability within the country.

Once the gas reaches all thermal power plants, the existing electricity supply in Syria will increase to five hours per day. With a new agreement anticipating a daily transmission of six million cubic meters of gas, electricity supply to households is expected to reach up to eight hours per day.

The first natural gas flow from Turkey to Syria began on August 2, when Azerbaijani gas was delivered through the Turkey-Syria pipeline via Kilis.



Kazakhstan Supports China’s Initiative to Establish a Global AI Cooperation Organization

Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has proposed supporting China’s initiative to establish a global artificial intelligence (AI) cooperation organization.



According to Kazinform, President Tokayev made this proposal on August 11 during a meeting with government members and heads of central state institutions. He noted that the People’s Republic of China aims to establish a global AI cooperation organization to promote a multilateral approach to AI governance, reduce the digital divide, and develop ethical and sustainable AI practices. The president said, “I believe that supporting China’s initiative to establish such an organization and participating in its preparatory work is in our country’s best interest.”

The Chinese government has proposed establishing a global AI cooperation organization, initially planning to base its headquarters in Shanghai. Its objectives include deepening cooperation among countries in innovation, promoting pragmatic collaboration to fully realize AI’s limitless potential, and serving as a platform for shared development and prosperity.

Previously, President Tokayev

emphasized that Kazakhstan should become a digital state within the next five years, highlighting the importance of all government institutions operating in a digital environment. He also underlined that the country’s parliament should soon



Meeting of the Permanent Cooperation Commission Between the National Assembly of Tajikistan and the Senate of the Parliament of Kazakhstan

The third meeting of the Permanent Cooperation Commission between the National Assembly of Tajikistan and the Senate of the Parliament of Kazakhstan was held in Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan.



The meeting was attended by parliamentary delegations from both countries, headed by the Co-Chairs of the Commission — First Deputy Chairman of the National Assembly of Tajikistan Rajab Ahmadzoda and Deputy Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of Kazakhstan Zhakip Asanov.

The discussions focused on priority issues aimed at developing bilateral relations. The parties reviewed the current state and future of trade and economic cooperation, emphasizing in particular the expansion of transport and logistics infrastructure, as well as strengthening cooperation in the fields of digitalization and information technology.

The expansion of cultural and humanitarian ties in areas such as education, science, culture, and tourism was also highlighted as an important part of cooperation.

At the end of the meeting, the Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Roadmap for the 2025–2027 period was approved. In addition, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan reached an agreement on increasing transit capacity.

Five More People Die of Starvation in Gaza Amid Israeli Blockade

In the past 24 hours, five more Palestinians have died of starvation in the Gaza Strip, where famine is being imposed due to Israeli attacks and blockade. This brings the total number of starvation-related deaths to 227.

Munir al-Bursh, Director General of the Ministry of Health in Gaza, shared information about the deaths on X. He emphasized that the blockade and Israeli attacks continue to claim lives in Gaza, noting that two of the five recent deaths were children.

Nine Killed in Israeli Attacks Targeting Civilians Awaiting Aid
According to hospital sources and eyewitnesses, Israel targeted the tents of displaced persons, civilian homes, and those awaiting humanitarian aid. In Zaytun neighborhood in southeast Gaza, an Israeli strike hit a home, killing four and injuring two. Another home in the same neighborhood was also targeted, resulting in four more deaths.

Israeli forces targeted a home in the Sahabe area of Gaza City and another near the Sheikh Ridwan reservoir, killing seven Palestinians. In southern Gaza, an airstrike on a home claimed one life.
Israeli vehicles shelled the roof of a home in the “Belahiye” area of Shatii Refugee Camp in western Gaza City. Near Gaza Valley distribution points in central Gaza, Israeli forces fired on Palestinians awaiting aid, killing one child and injuring eleven.
In southern Gaza’s Mevasi area, an airstrike on a tent sheltering displaced persons killed five, including a married couple and two children.

Aid Recipients Targeted
Israeli forces fired at Palestinians awaiting aid near the Netzarim



Corridor in central Gaza, killing four. In addition, four more were killed near a distribution center in southern Khan Yunus. Near Gaza Valley distribution points, Israeli attacks on aid recipients killed one child and injured eleven.

EU Commissioner: Gaza on the Brink of Famine

Hadja Lahbib, European Commissioner for Equality, Preparedness, and Crisis Management, warned on social media that Gaza is on the brink of famine. She highlighted that aid is being blocked, aerial deliveries are ineffective, and new NGO registration rules risk worsening the crisis. Lahbib added, “A full-scale Israeli strike would be catastrophic. There is a risk of mass casualties, collapsing services, and hostages. We call for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and unhindered humanitarian access.”

WHO: Malnutrition Continues to Claim Lives in Gaza



Rik Peepkorn, WHO Representative to Palestine, spoke at a weekly UN Geneva press briefing, noting that the overall health situation in Gaza remains catastrophic. Only 50% of hospitals and 38% of health centers are partially functional, with critical shortages of medicine and supplies.

Since May 27, 1,655 people attempting to access food have died, and over 11,800 have been injured. Peepkorn stated that as of August 5, 2025, 148 people have died due to malnutrition, including 98 adults, 49 children, and 39 under five years old. Peepkorn criticized the restrictions preventing international health teams from reaching Gaza, warning that limiting access to healthcare will lead to more deaths.

7,522 Medical Evacuations Since October 2023

Since March 18, the denial of entry for healthcare personnel has increased by

nearly 50%, including 102 critical international medical staff such as surgeons and other specialists. “Since October 2023, a total of 7,522 patients have been evacuated,” Peepkorn said, urging more countries to accept patients from Gaza.



Gaza “Dying of Hunger”
Under Israel’s attacks and strict blockade, Gaza faces a humanitarian catastrophe with widespread hunger and shortages of water, medicine, medical supplies, and hygiene materials. Children are especially affected.

Israel’s military operations have destroyed 88% of Gaza’s civilian infrastructure. Repeated displacement has affected up to 2 million people, many of whom have been forced to move multiple times. Displaced Palestinians live in overcrowded shelters or makeshift tents, with inadequate sanitation and limited access to water, increasing the risk of infectious diseases.

Israeli forces continue daily strikes on civilian shelters and displaced persons’ sites, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis. Local and international observers accuse Israel of using hunger and deprivation as a weapon of war.

Chaste Tree Seed: The Silent Master of Balance, Fine-Tuning the Mind and Body

Dear readers,
Today, I want to tell you about nature's fine-tuning master — a plant that quietly restores harmony in the body and mind: the chaste tree seed.
In some places, it is called “monk's pepper,” in others “vitex.” But whatever the name, the chaste tree seed touches one of the body's most delicate balances — the hormonal system.

The chaste tree grows along the warm shores of the Mediterranean and in the mild regions of Anatolia. With its purplish flowers, it dazzles in summer, but its true healing power lies hidden in the small, peppercorn-like seeds that ripen in autumn.
Its most well-known benefit for women's health is regulating the balance of estrogen and progesterone. In cases such as irregular menstrual cycles, premenstrual syndrome (PMS), and menopausal symptoms, the iridoid glycosides and dopamine-like compounds it contains stimulate the pituitary gland. This stimulation helps the body balance its own hormone production, easing both physical and emotional fluctuations.
But the chaste tree seed is not only a quiet supporter for women — it can also benefit men. It may help maintain testosterone balance in men and reduce the damage that excessive stress causes to the hormonal system. Thanks to its antioxidant content, it also supports the nervous system, promotes mental clarity, and may improve focus.



Some observations suggest that people who use chaste tree seeds experience better sleep quality, reduced symptoms of mild depression, and a greater sense of overall well-being. This effect is thought to stem from its role in balancing dopamine levels in the brain.
It is generally consumed as an herbal tea made from dried seeds, or the ground seeds are mixed with honey. It is also available in supplement form. However, it is important to remember: because it affects the hormonal system, it should not be used during pregnancy or breastfeeding, and anyone undergoing hormone therapy should consult a doctor before using it.

Dear readers,
The chaste tree seed is nature's lesson in “balance.” Without making unnecessary noise, it softens what is excessive and completes what is lacking. Sometimes healing does not arrive with a loud announcement — it comes with quiet adjustment. And the chaste tree seed is one of the finest examples of that silent harmony.



Ersin Tatar: Attacks Against Afzal Khan Are Unacceptable

President Ersin Tatar stated that the intolerant statements and disproportionate attacks made by the Greek Cypriot side following the visit of UK Member of Parliament for Manchester Rusholme and UK Trade Envoy to Turkey, Afzal Khan, to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) are unacceptable.



According to information from the Presidency, President Tatar made the following remarks on the matter:
"As is known, UK MP for Manchester Rusholme and UK Trade Envoy to Turkey, Afzal Khan, visited the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus recently at my invitation. Hosting Mr. Khan, whom I also met in Manchester in recent months, has been a great honor for me and for the Turkish Cypriot people.

The intolerant statements and attacks made by the Greek Cypriot side and certain other circles after this visit are a new example of the long-standing unjust and unlawful policy of isolation directed against the Turkish Cypriot people. The disproportionate attacks and pressures directed at a foreign high-level official, as if it were their first visit to the TRNC, are completely unacceptable. This approach constitutes a direct disrespect not only to our guest but also to the honor and will of the Turkish Cypriot people. The Greek Cypriot side considers isolating us from all contacts, international participation, trade, sports, culture, and all areas of life as its main

duty. I strongly condemn this policy and all statements made in this direction. Such an exclusionary, oppressive, intolerant, and unequal approach cannot expect the Turkish Cypriot people to be recognized as equal partners in the future. These events serve as a wake-up call to those who still expect equality from the Greek side. The stance of the Greek leadership once again clearly demonstrates how wrong and dangerous it is to base the will of the Turkish Cypriot people on the approval of the Greek side.

The Turkish Cypriot people deserve a future shaped on the basis of two existing states on the island, under sovereign equality, with equal international status, and according to their own will. We will continue resolutely toward this goal, undeterred by all obstacles."





Hasan Yiğit

The State’s Embrace of Its Citizens

Every person harbors a deepest desire in life—one that is never openly expressed, yet never absent: to be embraced, to be acknowledged. This sense of being “owned” begins in a mother’s arms, continues under a father’s shadow, and evolves over time, changing and taking on new forms. From childhood to youth, and onward into life’s journey, one pursues this feeling. In moments of loneliness amid crowds, one seeks a shoulder to lean on, and even if unable to voice it, hopes that someone hears them. The state must answer this silent, unspoken, yet deeply rooted longing. A state does not exist through institutions alone; it gains meaning through the care it shows its people.

The state is not merely a structure that draws borders, collects taxes, or enacts laws. A true state is one that can embrace its people, making them feel they are not alone. This embrace is not just a reflex that appears in times of crisis; it is knowing how to stand by an individual even in life’s ordinary moments. This care should be felt not only when rescuing someone from disaster debris but also in the small details—like a sidewalk built so a child’s feet won’t get wet on the way to school. When a person senses that they are valued, that thought has been given to them, they feel the state just behind their shoulder. Just as a mother watches over her child, the state must watch over its people. You cannot claim a state exists in a country where children go to bed hungry. When a young person feels inadequate and finds no refuge, the state has already left them alone. When an elderly person cries not because they cannot see their grandchildren, but because there is no one to take them to the hospital, the state has not stepped across that threshold. To embrace is not merely to provide resources; it is to turn to an individual and say, “I am here.”

For a state to embrace its citizens means looking them in the eye. It may not be possible to attend to every citizen’s story, but it is possible to recognize every citizen’s existence. If a person feels their existence matters, the state is there. To be embraced is to see a glimmer of trust in the individual’s eyes. Without that light, people alienate

themselves from the state. They feel isolated. When left alone with their problems, they do not turn to the state—they turn to fate. Yet the state must be the alternative to fate. It must tell people, “You are not alone. I see you.”

Being embraced often begins with small gestures: a civil servant’s warm smile, a teacher listening to a student, a doctor reaching out to a patient. Behind all these acts, the individual sees the state. Because the state is not only large institutions; it lives in the conscience of the people working within them. That conscience belongs to the state. That hand is not just an extension of personal compassion—it is also an expression of public responsibility. The state must be a mechanism with a heart. Laws may be flawless, buildings may be solid, but if there is no life in them, the state is nothing more than a shadow.

The state embracing its citizens does not merely protect their rights; it carries their emotions. It carries their fears, hopes, anxieties, and dreams. When a young person fears the future, the state should respond not only with job postings but with an atmosphere of hope. To embrace is not merely to solve problems; it is to build trust. The state must not only heal wounds but also prevent them from forming. This preventive embrace constitutes genuine protection.

If a child feels different in the school cafeteria, if a young woman fears walking alone at night, if an elderly man is utterly alone in the city, the state is absent. To be embraced provides not only legal security but emotional security as well. When a person does not feel alone, when they think, “This country has cared for me,” the state has fulfilled its duty. Being embraced is the foundation of belonging. When an individual feels they are part of this country, they become a citizen not only in official documents but in spirit as well. A person measures their debt to their homeland by how much they feel embraced. They pay their taxes willingly, do not evade military service, and vote thoughtfully. Because an individual who does not feel abandoned has learned to take care of

their state.

The state’s embrace is not limited to economic or social aid. It also means making space for an individual’s thoughts, voice, and objections. When a person can speak without fear, knowing they will be heard, the state’s compassion is present. To embrace is not to silence but to listen; not to ignore but to give an ear. If an individual feels silenced, then there is no state there—only loneliness prevails. Being embraced does not only mean arriving by helicopter in a disaster. Sometimes it is responding to a petition, rectifying an injustice, or attending to an ordinary need. If a child goes to school with torn shoes, the state must see that child. Those shoes do not just symbolize poverty—they signify invisibility. When that child thinks, “No one notices me,” their faith in the state is shaken. The state, however, begins by seeing.

The state must stand behind its citizens not only as a strong force but also as a calm, reassuring voice. A voice that says, “I am with you.” Sometimes that voice is found in a teacher, a gendarme, or a postal worker. To be embraced is not only about being a friend in bad times—it is to be present in moments of joy as well. Even if a single state representative attends a wedding in a village, that wedding becomes a memory not just for two people but for an entire community. Citizens need their state not only in crises but in everyday life.

To embrace also means defending an individual’s right to live with dignity. If a person cannot protect their own honor, their faith in the state is shaken. It is not about giving alms to the beggar but creating a system in which begging is unnecessary. It is not about sheltering the homeless but making life on the streets no longer a fate. To embrace is to take responsibility for an individual’s destiny—to chart a path for them. The state’s embrace links the past and the future: learning from past suffering and opening arms to future hope. A person grows up shaped by the state they see as a child. What the state shows them as they grow, they remember when they are older. If they

were belittled, marginalized, or made to feel worthless, they will always feel a wall where the state should be. But if they have felt loved, heard, and protected, the state lives within them like a home.

The state’s embrace often carries great meaning in small acts: a scholarship for the child of a martyr, a health clinic built in a village, a regulation that facilitates a woman’s participation in the workforce... All of these shape an individual’s perception of the state. When a person sees effort made for their sake, they believe in the state. And to believe is as precious as being embraced.

Being embraced sometimes happens without words. When a mother’s eyes fill with tears, when a healthcare worker sits beside her, when a teacher visits a home, when a municipal worker trudges through the mud... The state does not always arrive in uniform. Sometimes it comes in muddy boots, sometimes in a thermos of tea. And when the individual drinks that tea, they realize they are not alone. Being embraced is so human that no one can look down on it. Every individual needs it—not only the poor but also the wealthy, not only the oppressed but also the strong. Being embraced reminds people of their sense of belonging. Beyond being citizens of this land, it makes them feel like children of this nation.

And to embrace is the state’s greatest moral duty. People are bound to their state not only by laws but by compassion. If the state cannot show compassion, the individual fears. And a fearful person neither loves nor trusts. They do not embrace a state they do not love or trust. This is a cycle. An individual takes care of their state only as much as they feel taken care of. That is why the state must recognize not only its citizens’ needs but also their emotions. It must touch their hearts, not merely solve problems, but show presence. A state that acknowledges each citizen’s life, looks them in the eyes, and places a hand on their shoulder is strong. It is a true state. And a true state does not merely stand—it keeps its people standing.



ULUSLARARASI SİVİL DİPLOMASİ GAZETESİ

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