



## Green Central Asia - Weekly Newsletter featuring the Central Asian Republics and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

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### Climate Change and Environment

#### **30 years of independence: joining forces for environmental well-being 10/08/2021**

Turkmenistan is a party to 11 environmental conventions, including the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, the UN Convention on Biodiversity, the Framework (Tehran) Convention for the Protection of Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea, the Ramsar Convention, etc., actively implementing their provisions in its environmental strategies and programs. Protection of atmospheric air, preservation of biodiversity, development of "green belts", effective management of water, land and forest resources have become priorities of state policy.

Read more: [here](#)

#### **A new stage on the side-lines of the program «Startup Ecosystem 2021» 11/08/2021**

USAID and the Union of Economists of Turkmenistan on the side-lines of the program «Startup Ecosystem 2021» jointly finished formation of pair voluntary instructors for 17 most perspective start-ups who take part in the initiative.

The project is directed to creation in Turkmenistan the first association of business mentors and venture investors who will support ideas of enterprising Turkmen youth and to promote realization of innovative business ideas in the country.

Read more: [here](#)

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## **Day of the Caspian Sea was marked in Ashkhabad the international forum of ecology 12/08/2021**

The forum on protection of ecosystems of the Caspian sea was held on Thursday in Ashkhabad with participation of the Minister of Agriculture and Environment Protection of Turkmenistan, Director of the Institute of the Caspian sea and profile experts, representatives of diplomatic community of the coastal states and the international organisations. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan informs on it on its site.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Memorandums of Cooperation: Regional Cooperation Gains Vim to Keep up with the Green World 12/08/2021**

*The Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) held the solemn ceremonies of signing the memorandums of cooperation with its key partners at the Fourth Central Asia Climate Change Conference (CACCC-2021).*

The leading idea of the ceremonies is the enhancement of regional cooperation in the exchange of knowledge, information and data. “We need the holistic approach to enhance the effectiveness and resilience of the ambitious climate actions in the region so that we consider climate adaptation and climate change mitigation jointly not apart,” said Zafar Makhmudov, the Executive Director of CAREC.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Meeting of MFAs and Parliamentarians in Dushanbe: Climate Challenges and Achieved Results 12/08/2021**

*Representatives of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the parliamentarians of the countries of Central Asia participated in The Fourth Meeting on Climate Change in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 27 July 2021.*

*The meeting was attended by the representatives of the legislative and government organizations from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan at the level of the ministries of foreign affairs, the Parliaments, the ministries of environmental protection, the international organizations and the foreign embassies.*

Read more: [here](#)

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## **Video Contest for Youth: A Challenge to Climate Change 15/08/2021**

On the eve of the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, which starts in Glasgow (UK) in October of that year, the international video project “Earthbeat Challenge.

Under the theme “Restoring Balance with Nature”, this initiative aims to empower young people around the world to take action to tackle climate change by providing the platform, tools and knowledge to do so. Earthbeat was developed with the goal of empowering young people to develop their digital storytelling and journalism skills so that they can become active participants in addressing climate and environmental issues.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Water resources**

### **Drinking water supply systems to be built in 44 villages of Batken 10/08/2021**

**Bishkek, Aug. 10, 2021. / Kabar /. Drinking Water supply systems will be built in 44 villages of Batken region as part of the Improving Rural Water Supply and Sanitation in Batken and Talas Oblasts project through the Islamic Development Bank and the Saudi Development Fund.**

Dostukbek Obodoev, Director of the Department for Development of Drinking Water Supply and Wastewater Disposal under the State Agency for Architecture, Construction and Housing and Utilities said at a press conference that 10 out of 44 villages in the lists are in Leilek region, 5 in Batken region and 29 villages in Kadamjai region.

Read more: [here](#)

### **Drought and shortage of irrigation water lead to decrease in agricultural yields in Kyrgyzstan 10/08/2021**

**Bishkek, Aug. 10, 2021. / Kabar /. Drought and a shortage of irrigation water, have led to a significant decrease in the collection of basic agricultural crops in Kyrgyzstan, the country’s Bational Statistics Committee reports.**

According to the ministry, as of July 23 of this year, grain crops (excluding legumes, rice and buckwheat) were harvested from the area of 230.7 thousand hectares, which is 3.3% less than on the same date last year and about 285 thousand tons of grain, or 52% less.

Read more: [here](#)

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## **Hydro-diplomacy and modern methods of water resources management 11/08/2021**

The OSCE Center in Ashgabat organized a two-day online seminar, which discussed the experience of introducing digital technologies in the water industry, [according](#) to the organization's website.

Experts from Switzerland and Morocco shared the best practices of OSCE participating States on the implementation of innovative developments and digital technologies for sustainable water resources management. Special attention was paid to such aspects as the irrigation sector, water conservation, water supply.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Energy sector**

### **SOCAR Trading – Premier partner of the 26th “Oil and Gas of Turkmenistan” International Conference (OGT 2021) 11/08/2021**

SOCAR Trading – the Geneva-based global energy trader – is announced as the Premier Partner of the 26th [“Oil and Gas of Turkmenistan” International Conference \(OGT 2021\)](#).

Headquartered in Switzerland, SOCAR Trading SA was incorporated in December 2007 as the marketing branch of the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR). It was established with the mandate to market Azeri barrels produced from the Azeri-Chirag-Guneshli field and other surrounding fields in Azerbaijan. Since then SOCAR Trading has expanded into other markets and now boasts a long-lasting partnership with Turkmenistan in crude and products.

Read more: [here](#)

### **Turkmenistan signed a contract with Kyrgyzstan for the supply of more than 500 million kWh of electricity 11/08/2021**

The Minister of Energy of Turkmenistan Charymyrat Purchekov and the head of the Ministry of Energy and Industry of Kyrgyzstan Doskul Bekmurzaev signed an agreement on the export of Turkmen electricity to the Kyrgyz Republic.

An agreement was reached on the supply of 501.9 million kilowatt-hours of electricity from Turkmenistan to Kyrgyzstan from August to December 2021, the Kyrgyz media write,

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citing the press service of the Ministry of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Read more: [here](#)

## **President of Uzbekistan proposed to intensify the activities of the Electricity and Energy Coordination Council of Central Asian countries 13/08/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- During the third Consultative meeting of the heads of state of Central Asia, which took place on 6 August this year. in Turkmenistan, the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev put forward a number of initiatives to further develop the regional energy sector.

Read more: [here](#)

## **10 largest projects in the history of energy in Uzbekistan 16/08/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- 2021 in the energy sector of Uzbekistan is the year of the largest projects, while there have simply never been any analogues of many of them in the country.

The first project: Over the past 6 months of this year, 10 contracts were signed for the construction of thermal, solar and wind power plants in the electric power industry with a total capacity of 4341 MW, which is about a third of the current capacity of operating power plants in Uzbekistan.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries**

### **Defense Minister: Taliban Pose a Threat to Tajikistan 11/08/2021**

**DUSHANBE, 11.08.2021 (NIAT Khovar)** – Yesterday, during negotiations with the Russian and Uzbek military leaders, the Minister of Defense Sherali Mirzo noted that the stability of Central Asia largely depends on the political and military situation in Afghanistan.

He named as a special risk factor the Afghan terrorists, writes the Russian news agency Sputnik.

Mirzo noted that the Taliban already controls northern and northeastern Afghanistan.

Read more: [here](#)

### **The delegation of Turkmenistan took part in the Doha meeting on reconciliation in Afghanistan 12/08/2021**

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The delegation of Turkmenistan, headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Vepa Khadzhev, took part in a new round of talks on Afghanistan in the capital of Qatar - Doha.

Participants of the three-day conference of the meeting, including representatives of the UN, the European Union, the United States, Great Britain, Russia, Pakistan, China and Uzbekistan, note the need to accelerate the peace process in Afghanistan. The delegates affirm their readiness to continue to promote constructive measures to achieve an acceptable and realistic political settlement in the IRA.

Read more: [here](#)

### **Media: Representatives of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan held talks with Taliban 14/08/2021**

Representatives of Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Russia held talks with the chief of the group's political office in Qatar amid growing concerns in the region over the Taliban's military offensive across Afghanistan.

As reported by Parstoday, at the meeting the parties discussed the situation in Afghanistan.

Read more: [here](#)

### **A group of servicemen of the Armed Forces of Afghanistan was detained in Uzbekistan 15/08/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** – On 14 August 2021, at one of the sections of the State Border with Afghanistan, a group of military personnel of the Afghan Armed Forces in the amount of 84 people crossed the state border line and were detained by border detachments of the border forces of the State Security Service of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan said in a statement. At the same time, the violators of the border did not resist and asked for help, including medical aid for the three wounded.

Read more: [here](#)

### **Situation in the area of the "Termez-Hairaton" bridge is calm – MFA 15/08/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- As of 10:00 on 15 August 2021, there is a detente of the situation in the area of the Termez-Hairaton bridge. This was reported by the press service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan.

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Read more: [here](#)

## **Uzbekistan strengthens control on the border with Afghanistan 15/08/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- Uzbekistan took the border with Afghanistan under increased control. This was told by Lieutenant Colonel Abror Berdiev in an interview with Uzbekistan 24 TV channel.

According to him, the protection of the state border of Uzbekistan is carried out in an enhanced mode.

Read more: [here](#)

## **President Ghani's Plane Did Not Enter Tajikistan's Airspace 16/08/2021**

**DUSHANBE, 16.08.2021 (NIAT Khovar)** – The plane with President Muhammad Ashraf Ghani did not enter the airspace of Tajikistan and did not land on the territory of the country, reported the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

“The Tajik side has not received a corresponding request from the Afghan side,” they said.

Earlier TASS and a number of other news agencies with reference to Tolo News TV reported that President Ghani left the country on the evening of August 15 and allegedly fled to Tajikistan.

Currently Ghani is in Oman, according to the Kabul news TV channel on Twitter.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Foreign Ministry: Embassy of Tajikistan in Kabul Is Work As Usual 16/08/2021**

**DUSHANBE, 16.08.2021 (NIAT Khovar)** – The Embassy of Tajikistan in Kabul is working as usual, said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On Sunday, it became known that the Taliban entered the capital of Afghanistan. According to media reports, the militant command issued an order to refrain from violence and freely release anyone who wants to leave the city.

The Taliban also pledged to provide security for all diplomats in Afghanistan.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Kyrgyzstan to be able to accept about 1,200 ethnic Kyrgyz from**

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## **Afghanistan 16/08/2021**

**Bishkek, Aug. 16, 2021 . / Kabar /** . Kyrgyzstan will be able to accept about 1,200 refugees from Afghanistan, ethnic Kyrgyz, if they approach our borders, head of the Department for Work with Refugees of the Ministry of Health and Social Development Zhypara Mambetova told Kabar News Agency.

The country will be obliged to accept refugees because it has been a member of the United Nations Convention on Refugees since 1996.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Kyrgyzstan ready to provide Afghan students with study grants universities 16/08/2021**

**Bishkek, Aug. 16, 2021 . / Kabar /** . Kyrgyzstan intends to provide humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, Chairman of the State Committee for National Security (SCNS) of Kyrgyzstan Kamchybek Tashiev said.

The press service of the SCNS reported that Chairman Tashiev's statement with regard to political situation in Afghanistan was issued on Monday.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Kyrgyz Embassy in Kabul continues to work in normal mode: MFA 16/08/2021**

**Bishkek, Aug. 16, 2021. / Kabar /** . The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan has shared information regarding the situation in Afghanistan and reports the following:

"The ministry is closely monitoring the events, as well as hourly changes in the military and political situation in this country.

The Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in Kabul continues to work as usual. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan and the Embassy are in constant communication with the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic temporarily staying in Afghanistan and are taking all efforts to ensure their safety and evacuation to the homeland".

Read more: [here](#)

## **Taliban says taken control of presidential palace, soon to declare Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan – reports 16/08/2021**

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**Bishkek, Aug. 16, 2021 . / Kabar /** . The Taliban said on Sunday night that they have taken control of the presidential palace in Afghan capital Kabul, and they will soon declare the establishment of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, [Xinhua](#) reported citing media.

Afghan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani left the country earlier on Sunday night, Abdullah Abdullah, head of the Afghan National Reconciliation Council, said in a video on his Facebook page.

The report came as the Taliban has ordered its forces to enter Kabul city.

A curfew has been imposed in Kabul starting 9:00 p.m. local time on Sunday to prevent violence.

Reports said earlier in the day that a negotiation was underway in the presidential palace between the Afghan government and the Taliban on a peaceful power transfer.

Read more: [here](#)

### **Plane of Afghan armed forces crashed in Sherabad district of Surkhandarya 16/08/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- In Sherabad district of Surkhandarya region, a plane with the identification marks of Afghanistan reportedly crashed.

The Ministry of Defense of Uzbekistan is checking information about a plane crash in Surkhandarya region. Information about the plane crash was disseminated by the newspaper Gazeta.uz.

Read more: [here](#)

### **22 military aircrafts and 24 helicopters of Afghanistan forcibly landed in Termez 16/08/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- On 14-15 August, 22 military aircrafts and 24 military helicopters of Afghanistan, which violated the airspace of Uzbekistan, were forcibly landed at the international airport in Termez. This was reported by the press service of the General Prosecutor's Office of Uzbekistan.

**Prosecutor General's Office of Uzbekistan later deleted the statement on violation of the air space of Uzbekistan by the Afghan airplanes and helicopters, saying the information was not verified.**

Read more: [here](#)

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## **Prosecutor General's Office calls unverified report on Afghan planes and military 16/08/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- The message of the General Prosecutor's Office of Uzbekistan about the violation of the country's air border by dozens of [military planes and helicopters of Afghanistan](#) was removed from the department's Telegram channel.

In an additional statement, the Prosecutor General's Office noted that the previously published information was not fully verified and was not based on officially verified information from the responsible departments.

The Prosecutor General's Office apologized for the statement released in a hurry by the staff responsible for publishing the agency's information on the official channel.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Cooperation between Central Asian countries**

### **Tajikistan and Uzbekistan Agree to Cooperate in the Field of Labor and Employment 12/08/2021**

**DUSHANBE, 12.08.2021 (NIAT Khovar)** – The Minister of Labor, Migration and Employment of the Population of Tajikistan Shirin Amonzoda met with the Minister of Employment and Labor Relations of Uzbekistan Nozim Khusanov in Tashkent. The parties exchanged views on the plans in the field of labor and employment for 2021-2023.

Read more: [here](#)

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