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**EU LOOKS TO SOUTH CAUCASUS FOR SOLUTIONS AS VON DER LEYEN HOLDS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT ALIYEV**

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The Caspian Post (2 July 2026)

*European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen begins her South Caucasus tour in Azerbaijan's capital Baku as the EU steps up engagement on regional stability, energy and connectivity.*

Von der Leyen met Azerbaijani President İlham Aliyev in Baku on Tuesday (July 1), opening a two-day visit to the South Caucasus that underscored the European Unions growing strategic interest in the region as it seeks to strengthen energy security, transport links and regional stability, The Caspian Post reports via Euronews.

Baku is the first stop of von der Leyens regional tour before she travels to Armenia, with the European Commission describing the visit as part of sustained high-level engagement with partners across the South Caucasus.

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