
CENTRAL ASIA AND AZERBAIJAN DISCUSS TRADE EXPANSION AT TURKMENISTAN SUMMIT

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Dmitry Pokidaev

The leaders of Central Asia and Azerbaijan met in Turkmenistan on October 8, with expanding trade between their countries high on the agenda. Kazakhstans President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev called for trade among the six countries to rise to at least \$20 billion, up from approximately \$13 billion in 2025.

The eighth Consultative Meeting of the Heads of State of Central Asia and Azerbaijan was held in the resort of Avaza, with Azerbaijan participating as a full member of the grouping for the first time. According to Tokayev, trade between the six countries accounted for just 8% of their combined trade turnover last year. He proposed that governments develop a joint action plan to increase that share.

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