



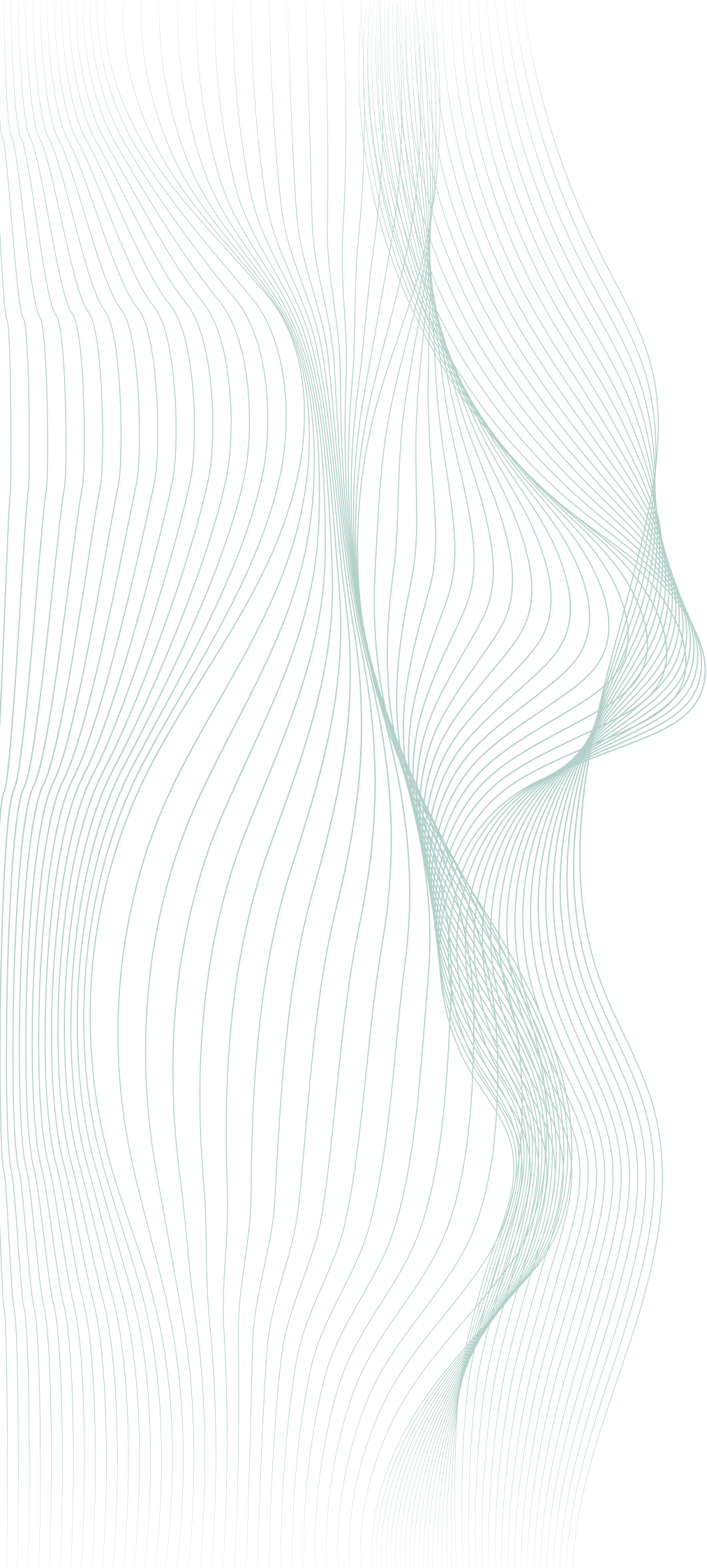
CENTER OF ANALYSIS  
OF INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS

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# CENTER OF ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ANNUAL  
REPORT **2025**

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OF INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS

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# CENTER OF ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ANNUAL  
REPORT **2025**



CENTER OF ANALYSIS  
OF INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS

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**Editorial Team**

Editor: Turbat Baghirova

Design: Intigam Mahammadli

Annual report 2025



## CENTER OF ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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In 2025, the Center of Analysis of International Relations (AIR Center) continued to produce and provide comprehensive research materials, cutting-edge analyses, and policy recommendations on the core issues of international affairs, with a particular focus on the South Caucasus. The AIR Center's work focused on preparing reports, books, and analytical papers, building new partnerships, organizing conferences, events, and webinars on the issues important to Azerbaijan and the wider region.

The peace process between Azerbaijan and Armenia was a central priority for the AIR Center throughout the year. Major developments, including the achievements reached in Washington on August 8, the initialing of the peace treaty text, and important milestones in US-Azerbaijan relations, were closely analyzed and reflected in the Center's work. The AIR Center team contributed to policymaking through evidence-based analysis and forward-looking research.

Overall, 2025 was a particularly successful year for strengthening cooperation with partner think tanks. The AIR Center organized several high-level gatherings, including the 13th Session of the CICA Think Tank Forum, the OTS Think Tank Forum, the inaugural US-Azerbaijan Think Tank Forum, and the Azerbaijan-Türkiye Think Tank Forum.

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## AIR CENTER STAFF



**FARID SHAFIYEV**

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Ambassador, Chairman of the  
Center of Analysis of International  
Relations (AIR Center)



**GULSHAN PASHAYEVA**

---

Board member of the  
AIR Center



**JAVID VALIYEV**

---

Board member of the  
AIR Center

## AIR CENTER STAFF



**VASIF HUSEYNOV**

Head of Department



**SHAHMAR HAJIYEV**

Head of Department



**MASIAGHA MAHAMMADI**

Senior Advisor



**MATIN MAMMADLI**

Senior Advisor



**YUNIS GURBANOV**

Senior Advisor



**NASIBA MIRZAYEVA**

Leading Advisor



**ROZA BAYRAMLI**

Leading Advisor



**LALA KHALILZADE**

Leading Advisor



**SULTAN ZAHIDOV**

Leading Advisor



**FUAD ABDULLAYEV**

Leading Advisor



**VUSAL GULIYEV**

Leading Advisor



**NURAD MAMMADOV**

Advisor



**MARYAM ISMAYILOVA**

Advisor



**HUSEYN SULTANLI**

Advisor

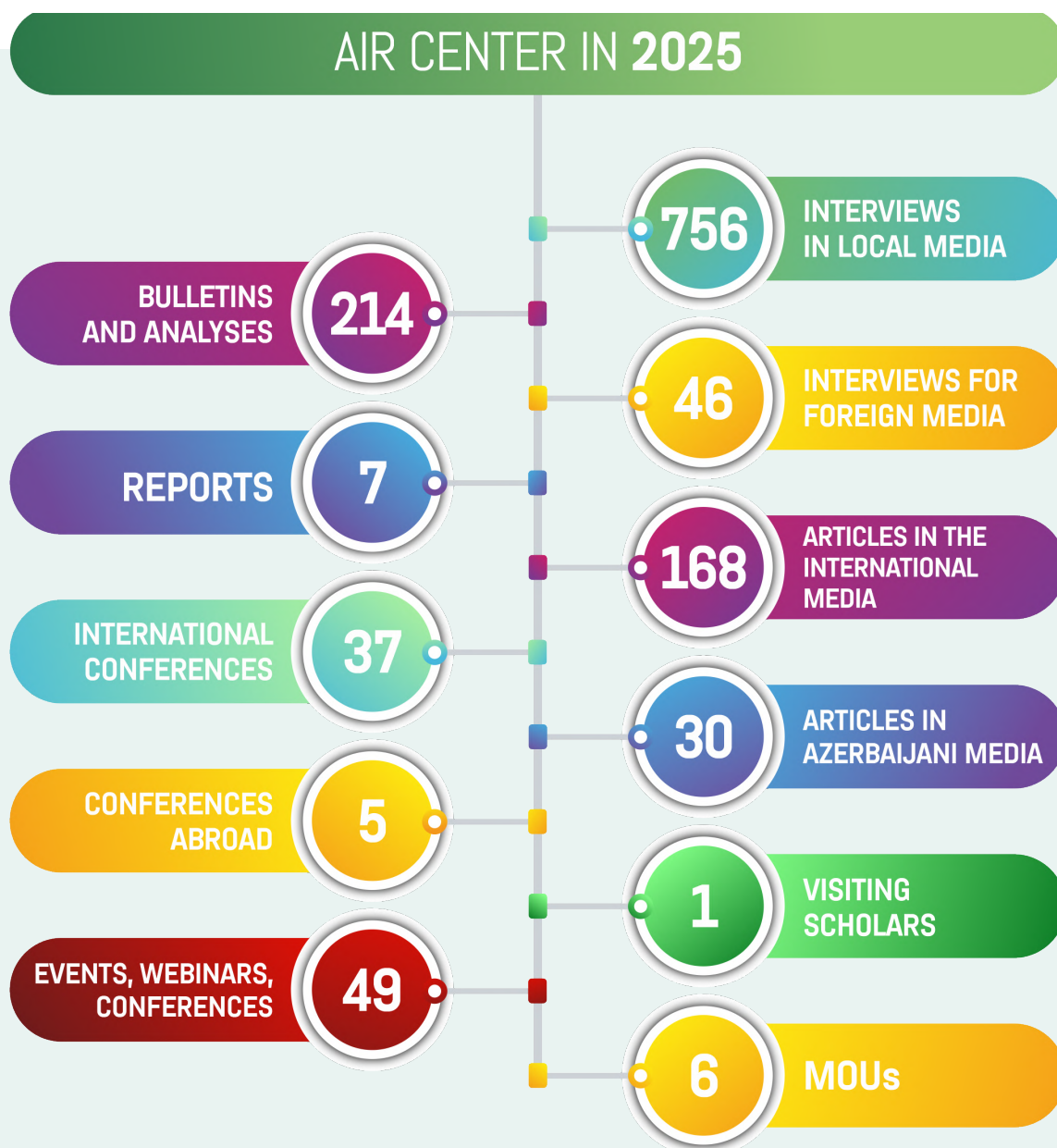


**TURBAT BAGHIROVA**

Press officer



CENTER OF ANALYSIS  
OF INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS



# THE AIR CENTER

## international media engagement

As part of its mission to foster informed global dialogue, the AIR Center published analytical articles in foreign media outlets. In doing so, the Center enhanced the international visibility of its research, underscored its role as a credible source of regional and global expertise, and effectively communicated Azerbaijan’s foreign policy agenda to international audiences.

More than 168 articles authored by AIR Center experts were published in renowned foreign media outlets across the United States, Türkiye, Russia, the Balkans, Arab countries, and Latin America. Major platforms featuring these contributions included The National Interest, The Jamestown Foundation, The Times of Central Asia, Common Space, Transatlantic Policy Quarterly, Anadolu Agency, Modern Diplomacy, EU Reporter, Eurasia Review, Daily Sabah, The Liberum, Yeni Şafak, as well as other international media outlets.

### The Times of Central Asia

*Opinion: Washington Meeting and the Shifting Geopolitics of the Caspian*  
Farid Shafiyev



<https://timesca.com/opinion-washington-meeting-and-the-shifting-geopolitics-of-the-caspian/>

### Transatlantic Policy Quarterly

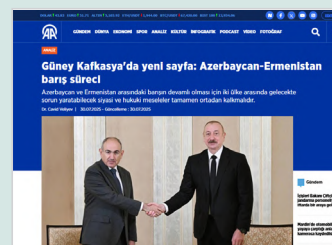
*Moving Towards The Common Future: Stepping Into A Breakthrough*  
Gulshan Pashayeva



<https://transatlanticpolicy.com/moving-towards-the-common-future-stepping-into-a-breakthrough/>

### Anadolu Agency

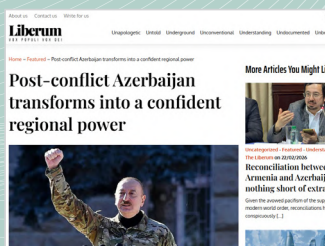
*Güney Kafkasya’da yeni sayfa: Azerbaycan-Ermenistan barış süreci*  
Javid Valiyev



<https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/analiz/guney-kafkasyada-yeni-sayfa-azerbaycan-ermenistan-baris-sureci/3646114>

### The Liberum

*Post-conflict Azerbaijan transforms into a confident regional power*  
Vasif Huseynov



<https://theliberum.com/post-conflict-azerbaijan-transforms-into-a-confident-regional-power/>

### EU Reporter

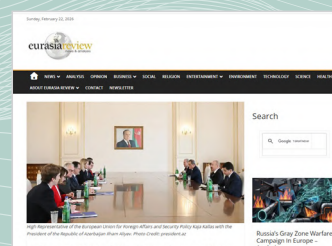
*Azerbaijan’s path to economic diversification and connectivity leadership*  
Shahmar Hajiyev



<https://www.eureporter.co/azerbaijan/2025/12/06/azerbaijans-path-to-economic-diversification-and-connectivity-leadership/>

### Eurasia Review

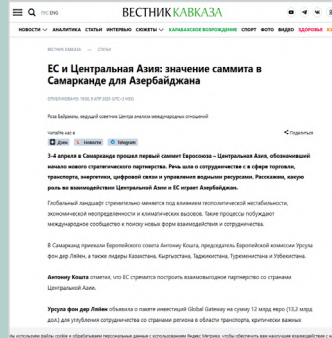
*A Conceptual View of Azerbaijan-European Union Relations – OpEd*  
Matin Mammadli



[https://www.eurasiareview.com/26112025-a-conceptual-view-of-azerbaijan-european-union-relations-oped/#google\\_vignette](https://www.eurasiareview.com/26112025-a-conceptual-view-of-azerbaijan-european-union-relations-oped/#google_vignette)

### Вестник Кавказа

*ЕС и Центральная Азия: значение саммита в Самарканде для Азербайджана - Roza Bayramli*



<https://vestnikkavkaz.ru/articles/es-i-centralno-azia-znachenie-sammitta-v-samarkande-dla-azerbaydzana.html>

### Modern Diplomacy

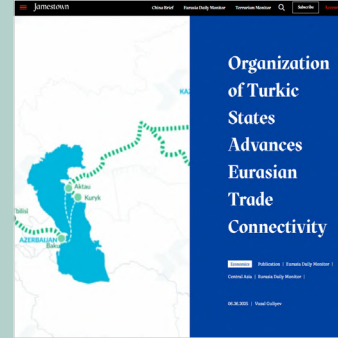
*The Washington Summit and Its Implications for South Caucasus Geopolitics Sultan Zahidov*



<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2025/08/19/the-washington-summit-and-its-implications-for-south-caucasus-geopolitics/>

### The Jamestown Foundation

*Organization of Turkic States Advances Eurasian Trade Connectivity Vusal Guliyev*



<https://jamestown.org/program/organization-of-turkic-states-advances-eurasian-trade-connectivity/>

### ALAIN

*الإمارات وأذربيجان.. شراكة استراتيجية نحو المستقبل Lala Khalilzade*



[https://al-ain.com/article/uae-azerbaijan-strategic-partnership-future?utm\\_source=site&utm\\_medium=social\\_share&utm\\_content=whatsapp](https://al-ain.com/article/uae-azerbaijan-strategic-partnership-future?utm_source=site&utm_medium=social_share&utm_content=whatsapp)

### Geopolitical Monitor

*Washington's Gambit: How the US Is Rebooting the Geopolitics of the South Caucasus - Yunis Garbanov*



<https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/washingtons-gambit-how-the-us-is-rebooting-the-geopolitics-of-the-south-caucasus/>

### Kvira

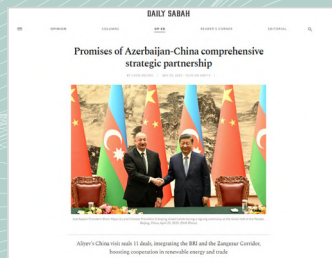
*აზერბაიჯანს და საქართველოს შორის გეოპოლიტიკური რეალობის ცვლილებების ფონზე სტრატეგიული პარტნიორობა გრძელდება - Nasiba Mirzayeva*



<https://kvira.ge/1004870>

### Daily Sabah

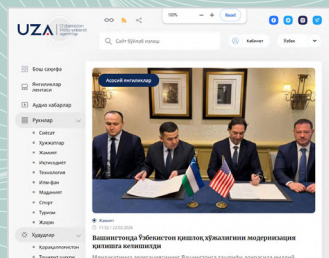
*Promises of Azerbaijan-China comprehensive strategic partnership Javid Valiyev*



<https://www.dailysabah.com/opinion/op-ed/promises-of-azerbaijan-china-comprehensive-strategic-partnership>

### O'zbekiston Milliy axborot agentligi

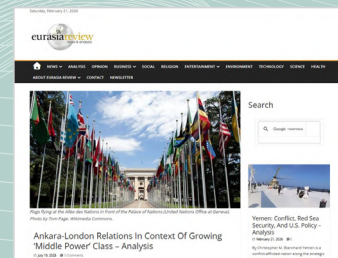
*Значение ратификации союзнического соглашения между Азербайджаном и Узбекистаном - Roza Bayramli*



[https://uza.uz/ru/posts/znachenie-ratifikacii-soyuznicheskogo-soglasheniya-mezhdu-azerbaydzhanom-i-uzbekistanom\\_721622](https://uza.uz/ru/posts/znachenie-ratifikacii-soyuznicheskogo-soglasheniya-mezhdu-azerbaydzhanom-i-uzbekistanom_721622)

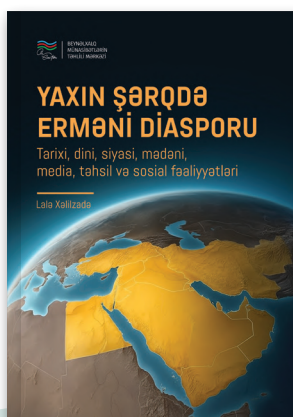
### Eurasia Review

*Ankara-London Relations In Context Of Growing 'Middle Power' Class – Analysis- Huseyn Sultanli*



<https://www.eurasiareview.com/19072025-uk-turkey-relations-in-context-of-growing-middle-power-class-analysis/>

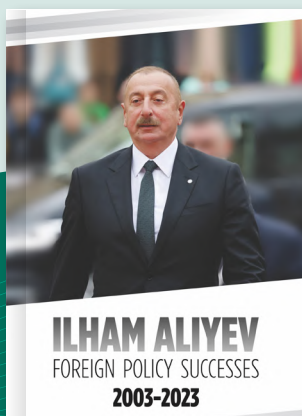
# ***THE AIR CENTER*** prepared books, reports and other academic publications



**YAXIN ŞƏRQDƏ  
ERMƏNİ DİASPORU**  
Tarixi, dini, siyasi, mədəni, media,  
təhsil və sosial fəaliyyətləri



**CICA: HOW TO  
ADVANCE AZERBAIJAN'S  
CHAIRMANSHIP**



**ILHAM ALIYEV:  
FOREIGN POLICY  
SUCCESSES 2003-2023**



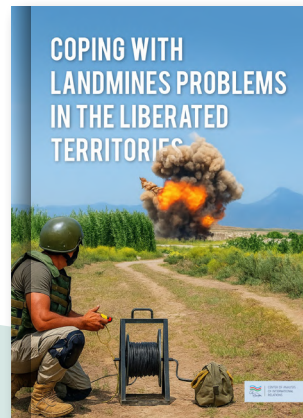
**FRANCE'S ROLE IN THE  
ARMENIA-AZERBAIJAN CONFLICT:  
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES AND  
MODERN DYNAMICS**

# THE AIR CENTER

## prepared reports and other publications



**GLOBAL SOUTH:  
HOW AZERBAIJAN  
CAN BENEFIT**



**COPING WITH LANDMINES  
PROBLEMS IN THE LIBERATED  
TERRITORIES**



**AZERBAIJAN-U.S. RELATIONS:  
CHARTING A NEW COURSE FOR  
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**



**Center of Analysis of  
International Relations  
ANNUAL REPORT 2024**



# analyses

## ANALYSES

- AIR Center's Response Clarifying Misinterpretations in Clingendael's policy brief "Armenia and Azerbaijan: Peace or Pause?"
- Proactive Policy In a Volatile Region: Azerbaijan's Middle East Strategy
- Azerbaijan within the C6: A New Stage of Regional Integration and Connectivity between Central Asia and the South Caucasus
- Legacy of the Azerbaijan-Armenia conflict: mines, missing persons and war crimes
- Integration without Accession? Armenia's EU Turn and the Limits of Transformation
- Digitalization Strategies along the Middle Corridor: Transforming Trans-Eurasian Logistics
- Between Summits: Azerbaijan's Role in EU-China Engagement with Central Asia
- Establishing a Strategic Partnership Framework: Azerbaijan, Central Asia, and the European Union in a Shifting Geopolitical Order
- Azerbaijan and CICA: Chairmanship Prospects and Regional Initiatives
- Joint activities of Armenian revanchist forces and representatives of the defunct illegal regime

# THE AIR CENTER

## organized conferences and forums



ADA  
CENTER OF ANALYSIS  
OF INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS

7<sup>th</sup> ADA University Policy Forum  
**Facing the New World Order**  
April 7-10, 2025  
Baku & Khankendi, Azerbaijan

## Facing the New World Order



New World Order

Farid Shafiyev  
Cağrı Erhan  
Rachael Rudolph



Khankendi and Baku hosted the 7th Policy Forum, co-organized by ADA University and the AIR Center. More than 80 experts from think tanks across 44 countries came together to discuss emerging political, economic, and security trends under the theme “Facing the New World Order.”



## Islamophobia in Focus: Unveiling Bias, Shattering Stigmas

Baku hosted a two-day international conference titled “Islamophobia in Focus: Unveiling Bias, Shattering Stigmas” from May 26 to 27. Co-organized by the Baku International Multiculturalism Center, the Center of Analysis of International Relations, and the Baku Initiative Group, the conference convened policymakers, scholars, and civil society representatives to examine the root causes, manifestations, and global implications of Islamophobia.





## The CICA Think Tank Forum

The 13th CICA Think Tank Forum, co-organized by the AIR Center and the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies, focused on the institutional transformation of CICA under the theme “Resonance of Development and Security.” Discussions addressed Asian security governance, development-led security, supply chain cooperation amid green and digital transitions, and Eurasian connectivity initiatives, alongside a dedicated session on CICA’s transition into a full-fledged international organization and a side event on the emerging Asian order.



## The first Azerbaijan-United States Think Tank Forum

On November 18, 2025, the AIR Center convened the inaugural Azerbaijan-United States Think Tank Forum. Titled “Bridging Visions: Azerbaijan-United States Dialogue for a Strategic Partnership,” the forum brought together government representatives, local research institutions, and leading U.S.-based think tanks, including the Atlantic Council, the New Lines Institute, the Hudson Institute, the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute, and the National Interest, to advance structured dialogue on bilateral strategic cooperation.





## The OTS Think Tank Forum

On September 29, 2025, the AIR Center hosted the think tanks conference of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS). Titled “The Organization of Turkic States as a Regional Actor during Global Uncertainty,” the conference convened representatives of participating countries to examine the OTS’s role in the evolving international system, assess strategic challenges, and explore opportunities for deepening cooperation among member states.



## Shusha: Venue for the Inaugural Azerbaijan-Türkiye Think Tank Forum



The inaugural Azerbaijan-Türkiye Think Tank Forum, organized by the AIR Center, was held in Shusha on November 24, 2025. The Forum convened leading think tank directors and researchers from both countries to discuss prospects for cooperation in regional security, foreign policy, economic integration, transport and communications, and energy.



## The second meeting of the Azerbaijan-Uzbekistan Expert Council

The second meeting of the Azerbaijan-Uzbekistan Expert Council was held on June 4, 2025. Jointly organized by the AIR Center and the Institute for Strategic and Interregional Studies under the President of Uzbekistan (ISRS), the meeting focused on the development prospects for mutually beneficial cooperation.



## The fourth meeting of the Azerbaijan-Kazakhstan Expert Council



The fourth Azerbaijan-Kazakhstan Expert Council meeting on April 23, 2025, served as a platform for expert dialogue and scholarly exchange.



## France and the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict

On January 31, 2025, the AIR Center organized an international conference titled “France and the Armenia-Azerbaijan Conflict,” bringing together scholars, policymakers, and international experts to analyze France’s role in the former conflict, the influence of the Armenian diaspora, and the evolving dynamics in South Caucasus diplomacy. Participants highlighted France’s shift from neutrality to a pro-Armenian stance after the Second Karabakh War, its impact on regional security, and the importance of continued academic dialogue and bilateral engagement despite political tensions.



## Azerbaijan-Iran Relations in the Context of Regional Processes

On May 6, 2025, the AIR Center hosted discussions titled “Azerbaijan-Iran Relations in the Context of Regional Processes.”

The primary objective of the event was to assess the current state and future directions of Azerbaijan-Iran relations against the backdrop of evolving geopolitical dynamics in the South Caucasus region.



## The Constitution: A Fundamental Legal Framework for Safeguarding the Independence, Sovereignty, and Territorial Integrity of the State

On May 1, 2025, AIR Center and Baku State University’s Faculty of Law held an international conference highlighting the Constitution of Azerbaijan as the cornerstone of statehood, sovereignty, territorial integrity, human rights, and socio-economic development, with participants emphasizing its national and international legal significance in the context of the Year of the Constitution and Sovereignty.



# ***THE AIR CENTER*** organized conferences abroad

## **Saving Lives through Humanitarian Mine Action in Azerbaijan**

On April 4, 2025, Azerbaijan's Permanent Mission to the UN and the AIR Center held a briefing at UN Headquarters in New York on humanitarian mine action, highlighting the challenges posed by landmines in Azerbaijan.



## The Middle Corridor: A New Geopolitical and Economic Lifeline?



On June 14, 2025, the AIR Center and GLOBSEC organized a high-level panel on the Middle Corridor, where its growing geopolitical and economic importance, Azerbaijan’s connectivity vision, and the evolving security and peace dynamics in the South Caucasus were highlighted.



### The Normalization Process in the South Caucasus: Opportunities Created by Azerbaijan-Türkiye Cooperation

An event titled “The Normalization Process in the South Caucasus: Opportunities Created by Azerbaijan-Türkiye Cooperation”, jointly organized by the AIR Center and the Turkic States’ Youth Community, was held at Hacettepe University on December 10, 2025.



## Azerbaijan's OTS Chairmanship and the Future of the Turkic World

The AIR Center, in collaboration with the Social Sciences University of Ankara (ASBU), organized an event titled "Azerbaijan's OTS Chairmanship and the Future of the Turkic World," where diplomats, political representatives, and experts discussed the organization's institutional development, strategic goals, and future cooperation under Azerbaijan's presidency.



## Cairo Seminar: Azerbaijan's Peace and Energy Agenda

Cairo hosted a seminar titled “Opportunities for Peace and Cooperation in the South Caucasus,” jointly organized by Egypt’s Hiwar Center and the AIR Center. The seminar featured presentations on Azerbaijan’s peace agenda, energy policy, and bilateral relations with Egypt.



## The Future of the Caucasus and the Middle Corridor: Economy, Transport, and Energy

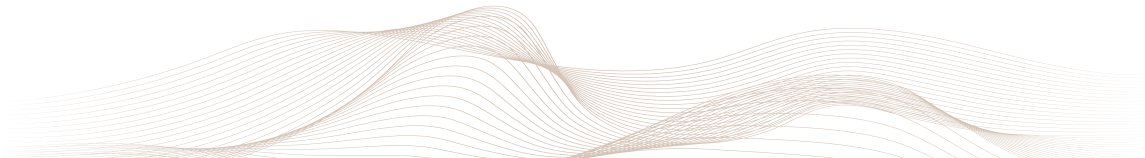
The AIR Center, Gazi University, and the Turkish Foundation for Political and Strategic Research (TÜRPAV) jointly organized an event titled “The Future of the Caucasus and the Middle Corridor: Economy, Transport, and Energy.”



# Cooperation with foreign media outlets

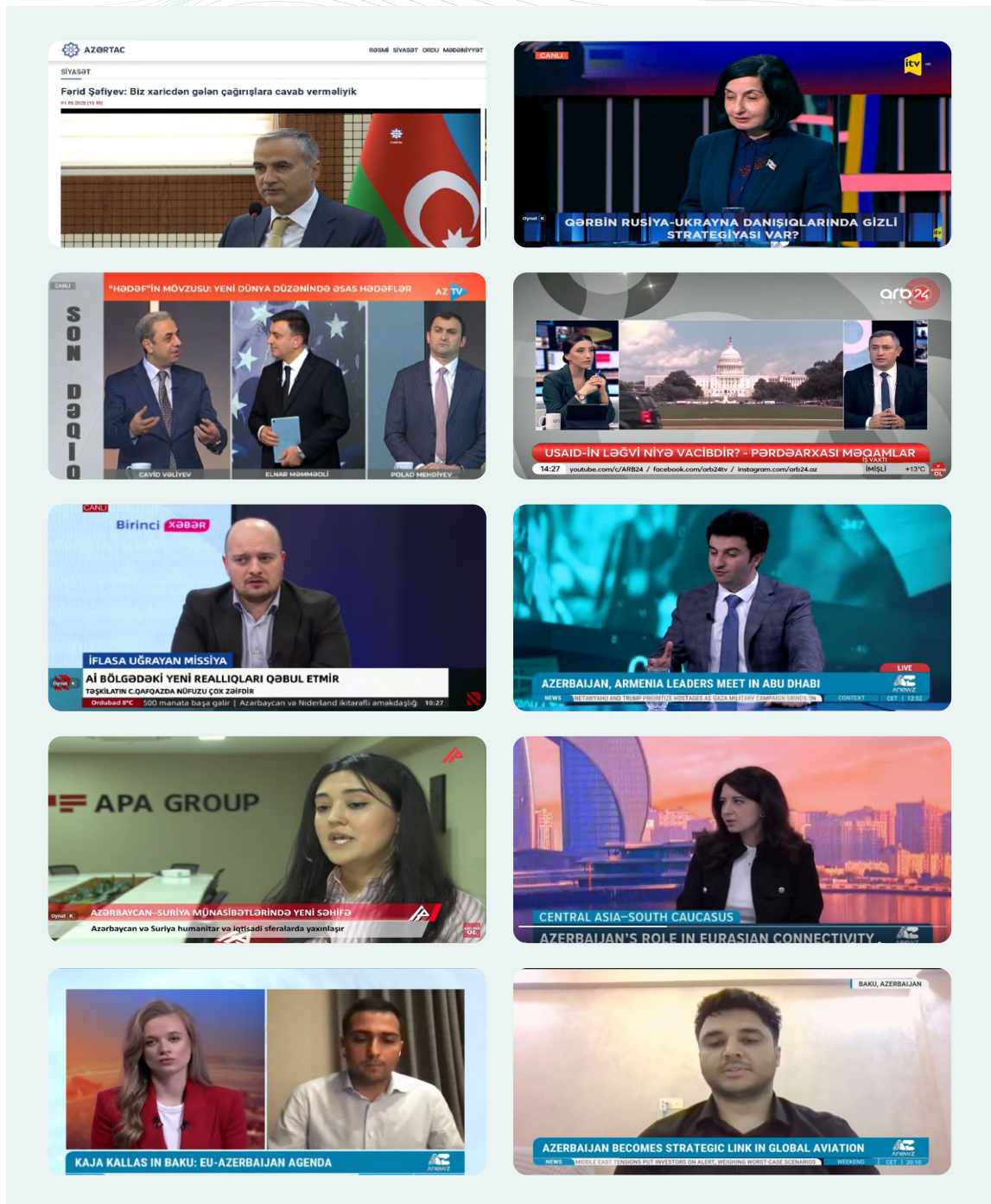


Throughout 2025, the AIR Center’s experts effectively engaged with foreign media outlets and the media centers of foreign-based think tanks. Overall, 47 interviews were conducted with international media in 2025.



# Cooperation with local media

AIR Center experts actively engaged with local media, giving a total of 764 interviews.

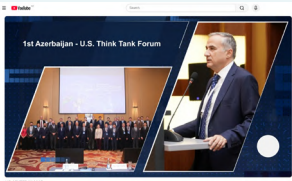










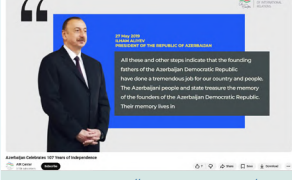


# THE AIR CENTER'S partners

 Danube Institute, Hungary	 The Amadeus Institute, Morocco	 The Center for Foreign Policy Studies and International Initiatives (CFPS)	 ICEUSB International Center for Eurasian Studies and Research at the University of Perugia	 ISIA – Italian Institute for Asia
 İbn Haldun University	 Anteo Edizioni publishing house	 Center for Eurasian Studies (AVİM)	 Ágora Diplomática	 НИСИ
 SAM-TURKEY	 Ankara Kriz ve Siyaset Araştırmaları Merkezi- ANKASAM	 Center for Iranian Studies in Ankara İRAM-Turkey	 NISI- Kyrgyzstan	 KAZISS-Kazakhstan
 Кыргыз Республикасынын Президентине караштуу Стратегиялык изилдөөлөр улуттук институту	 OZBEKISTON RESPUBLIKASI PREZIDENTI HUZURIDAGI STRATEGIK VA MINTAQALARARO TADQIQOTLAR INSTITUTI	 Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales -CARI	 New Strategy Center- Romania	 Middle East Media and Policy Studies Institute
 Columbia University Press	 Centro de Reflexión de Relaciones Exteriores de El Salvador- CREES	 Centro de estudios del Medio Oriente Contemporáneo CEMOC	 "New Direction" Foundation- Brussels	 Espaço Cáspio
 China Institute for International Studies	 ICBSS	 IFAT-Hungary	 China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations	 Warsaw Institute
 Islamabad Policy Research Institute-IPRI	 Middle East Institute-USA	 MUNK SCHOOL- CERES- Canada	 EGIC-Italy	 The Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research
 CGSS-Pakistan	 Shaanxi Normal University	 MEASAC-Pakistan	 Middle East Studies Center of Jordan- MESC	 Centar za Strateske Prognoze
 FESEI-Spain	 Dongduk Women's University- South Korea	 Rondell Foundation- Georgia	 Emirates Policy Center	 Muslim Institute- Pakistan
 NISS-Ukraine	 Белорусский институт стратегических исследований	 Российский совет по международным делам- РСМД	 Center of Information and Arabian - Russian Studies	 Republican Center for Strategic Studies
 International Institute for Central Asia	 RUSI	 Middle East Ins	 HK+ National Strategies Research Project Agency	

# THE AIR CENTER'S SELECTED VIDEOS

You can watch on YouTube channel- AIR Center

 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ae2GjbEQ5IE&amp;t=2s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ae2GjbEQ5IE&amp;t=2s</a></p>	<p>AIR CENTER IN 2025</p>
 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh7KlyyabQ&amp;t=4s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh7KlyyabQ&amp;t=4s</a></p>	<p>Интервью с бывшим премьер-министром и экс-министром иностранных дел Гасаном Гасановым.</p>
 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uB9nvxhITA&amp;t=5s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uB9nvxhITA&amp;t=5s</a></p>	<p>Беседа с известным азербайджанским журналистом, телеведущим, политологом Тофиком Аббасовым</p>
 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvPUj_P9fA&amp;t=9s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvPUj_P9fA&amp;t=9s</a></p>	<p>Беседа с бывшим дипломатом Руфатом Новрузовым о внутренней и внешней политике администрации Трампа</p>
 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D03gyRI9fK8&amp;t=6s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D03gyRI9fK8&amp;t=6s</a></p>	<p>Erməni millətçi irredentizmi və Qarabağ müharibələri</p>
 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dq65aHUI_wk&amp;t=1">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dq65aHUI_wk&amp;t=1</a></p>	<p>Ermənistanın II Qarabağ müharibəsində törədilən müharibə cinayətlərindəki rolu və məsuliyyəti</p>
 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wx4d6NzkIMQ&amp;t=642s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wx4d6NzkIMQ&amp;t=642s</a></p>	<p>Интервью с блогером Альбертом Исаковым о цели армянского миацума</p>
 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zX6wk4liqE&amp;t=1344s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zX6wk4liqE&amp;t=1344s</a></p>	<p>INDIA-PAKISTAN RIVALRY: GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS AND GLOBAL STAKES</p>
 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JslQ-Rt5q68&amp;t=12s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JslQ-Rt5q68&amp;t=12s</a></p>	<p>Интервью с доцентом Колумбийского университета Джавидом Гусейновым о развитии ИИ</p>
 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HJBD3-YnyHw&amp;t=21s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HJBD3-YnyHw&amp;t=21s</a></p>	<p>Azerbaijan and CICA: Advancing Confidence-Building Measures and Multilateral Cooperation in Asia</p>
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 <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g52nJyT_Vos&amp;t=65s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g52nJyT_Vos&amp;t=65s</a></p>	<p>Azerbaijan Celebrates 107 Years of Independence</p>



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