

## THE TURKIC WORLD VISION-2040

STRATEGIC INTEGRATION AND EURASIA'S  
EMERGING POWER AXIS



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## Key Takeaways

- ▶ **The Turkic World is Becoming a Strategic Bloc, Not Just a Cultural Idea:** The Organisation of Turkic States (OTS) is evolving from symbolic cultural cooperation into a structured geopolitical and economic platform with long-term ambitions.
- ▶ **Vision 2040 Anchors Cooperation on Four Pillars:** Power, Prosperity, People, and Partnerships - The framework integrates political-security coordination, economic-technological integration, people-to-people diplomacy, and global outreach into a coherent long-term roadmap.
- ▶ **Security Cooperation Signals a Shift Toward Strategic Autonomy:** OTS states are expanding collaboration on counter-terrorism, border security, cyber threats, and military-technical cooperation—positioning themselves as a regional stabilising force.
- ▶ **The Middle Corridor is the Geoeconomic Spine of the Turkic Vision:** The Trans-Caspian East-West Middle Corridor is envisioned as a Eurasian logistics and trade artery linking East Asia to Europe, challenging existing trade routes.
- ▶ **Energy and Digital Sovereignty Are Core Power Multipliers:** Joint energy infrastructure, renewable energy investments, and ICT collaboration aim to create a self-reliant Turkic energy and digital ecosystem.
- ▶ **Soft Power and Civilizational Identity Are Being Institutionalised:** Culture, education, diaspora engagement, media networks, and Ankara's designation as Cultural Capital 2026 reflect a deliberate effort to build a shared Turkic civilizational narrative.

## Executive Summary

The **Turkic World Vision–2040** outlines a long-term strategic framework to transform the Organisation of Turkic States (OTS) from a culturally anchored platform into a coordinated geopolitical, economic, and civilizational actor within Eurasia. Built around political and security cooperation, economic and sectoral integration, people-to-people connectivity, and engagement with external actors, the Vision seeks to enhance institutional capacity, strategic autonomy, and collective influence of the Turkic world.

Central to this framework are initiatives aimed at strengthening security coordination, advancing economic integration, developing digital and energy cooperation, and institutionalising the Trans-Caspian International East–West Middle Corridor as a key Eurasian connectivity artery. Parallely, the emphasis on culture, education, youth, media, and diaspora networks reflects a deliberate effort to consolidate civilizational cohesion and soft power.

In this evolving context, the Turkic World Vision–2040 carries growing relevance for India, particularly in relation to Eurasian connectivity, energy diversification, and regional stability. The consolidation of transport corridors and institutional cooperation across the Turkic world intersects with India's strategic interests in Central Asia and the broader Eurasian space. More broadly, the Vision reflects the rise of regional blocs in a multipolar order, aligning with India's emphasis on strategic autonomy and multi-alignment.

## INTRODUCTION - THE TURKIC WORLD AT A STRATEGIC JUNCTURE

Since its founding in 2009, the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States—also referred to as the Turkic Council—has drawn strength from our peoples' shared history, language, and culture. This has made it possible for its Member States' cooperation to gradually become institutionalised and develop into a regional organisation. The Turkic Council's new name, Organisation of Turkic States, appropriately reflects the direction it has taken. The Turkic Council has been expanding and deepening its cooperative work in a variety of disciplines during the past few years. The Organisation, which depends on the political will of its autonomous and sovereign

Member States, is now a more effective platform for cooperation that promises to increase solidarity and mutual support in accordance with its members' requirements. A realistic, forward-thinking vision is required to assist this ongoing effort.

The 8th Summit of the Turkic Council, which took place in Istanbul on November 12, 2021, is seen as a turning point. It contributed to the creation of Turkic World Vision-2040, which seeks to provide a framework that will enable its members to confront contemporary issues both individually and collectively. The current cooperative attitude will be utilised to support each Member State's primary goal of improving the political, economic, social, and cultural standards of their own societies. The Organisation will offer a strong and open platform of increasing



cooperation and solidarity through cooperative methods, collaborative projects, experience sharing, and the provision of material and intellectual resources as required. Cognizant of regional and global geopolitical realities, the Organisation will make an effort to operate as a constructive and increasingly capable body that is prepared to engage all partners who are willing to work together constructively in order to achieve regional and global peace, stability, and prosperity. In order to maintain a predictable state of affairs on a global scale, the Organisation will uphold international law and the culture of multilateral cooperation.

In this regard, Turkic World Vision-2040 will give Member States guidance for both individual and collective action to further develop their administrative skills in order to meet the needs and aspirations of their citizens. Based on four pillars, the Vision offers a strategic approach that promises to strengthen each Member State both individually and collectively, without compromising their current international obligations. Mutual interests, trust, and respect—all made possible by the brotherly affinities among the Member States—will be the foundation of the space of cooperation, progress, and solidarity that the Organisation seeks to establish.

● Observer States ● Turkish Council Members



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### Areas of Cooperation of the 2040 Turkic World Vision

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Political and Security Cooperation | Political Cooperation<br>Security Cooperation  |
| Economic and Sectoral Cooperation  | Economic Cooperation<br>Transport and Customs<br>Information and Communication Technologies<br>Energy<br>Tourism<br>Health<br>Environment<br>Agriculture |
| People-to-People Cooperation       | Culture<br>Education and Science<br>Youth and Sports<br>Diaspora<br>Information and Media<br>Civil Society Organisations                                 |
| Cooperation with External Parties  | International Organizations<br>Humanitarian and Development Cooperation  |

### FROM CULTURAL AFFINITY TO INSTITUTIONAL POWER: THE ORGANISATION OF TURKIC STATES

The most significant organisation in the Turkic world is the Organisation of Turkic States. The OTS, which serves as an umbrella organisation to which other Turkic international organisations are associated or related, is based on the Summits of the Heads of Turkic Speaking States. On October 3, 2009, the Nakhchivan Agreement created the OTS. Members of the OTS include Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkey; observers include Hungary (2018), Turkmenistan (2021), and the TRNC (2022). The main bodies of the OTS are the Secretariat, the Council of Heads of State, the Council of Foreign Ministers, the Council of Elders, and the Senior Officials Committee.

The situation of Uzbekistan, which joined OTS in 2019, ten years after the organisation was founded (in 2009), is particularly significant in this regard. Even if Uzbekistan's participation in Turkic global cooperation is institutionally and politically delayed, it is crucial for the OTS. Additionally, Uzbekistan's perspective on implementing structural changes during the OTS's 2023 chairmanship term is beneficial for the organisation's institutional structure and operation, as well as the efficacy and efficiency of cooperation between the Turkic states and the Turkic world.

## **POLITICAL AND SECURITY COOPERATION: TOWARD STRATEGIC AUTONOMY**

The Council encourages collaboration on bolstering the legal infrastructure, judicial systems, institutional capacities, and rule of law in OTS member states. In this regard, the goal is to guarantee efficient collaboration and coordination among various Turkic cooperation organisations (TURKSOY, Turkic Academy, Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation, and TURKPA) in order to promote collaboration in the fields of academia, politics, and culture. Increased collaboration with other regional (European) and international (UN) organizations as well as the implementation of concrete cooperative initiatives, was also mentioned.

To counter the threats of radicalisation, violent extremism, Islamophobia, xenophobia, and terrorism, as well as transnational organised crime, such as the “illegal drug trade, irregular migration, human trafficking, illicit arms trade, organ trafficking, economic, financial, and cybercrimes, and to guarantee border security”. It also promotes the establishment of a network for cooperation and information sharing among the law enforcement authorities of the Member States. In this respect, it is also crucial to note that, before the Turkic World Vision-2040, military-technical cooperation among the Turkic states was one of the key areas of expanding collaboration, particularly in the post-1991 era. For the Turkic world to become a global and regional actor in

the next 20 years and beyond, these cooperation sectors must result in the formation of political cooperation based on democracy, the rule of law, fundamental rights, and freedoms of expression.

## **ECONOMIC AND SECTORAL COOPERATION: BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS OF INTEGRATION**

The Economic Cooperation covers a wide range of topics, including developing financial and investment tools to support the private sector, promoting economic growth and socio-economic development, creating programs that assist diaspora members who are willing to launch a business in their home countries, and working toward the achievement of free movement of merchandise, capital, services, technologies, and people among the OTS member nations. The Transport and Customs section highlights the following: streamlining border crossing customs and transit procedures for OTS Member States; increasing investments to ensure intra-regional connectivity with well-developed and interconnected hard and soft transport infrastructure projects among OTS Member States; harmonizing transport policies and freight-related technical standards for the Trans-Caspian International East-West Middle Corridor; working closely to ensure that OTS Member States effectively implement international conventions in the field of transportation; and emphasizing the Zangazur Corridor at various international economic platforms.

**Information and communication technologies (ICT)** allow for the development of joint e-government and e-services programs and projects with a focus on trade, transportation, health, and education; to harmonize policies and regulations in the field of ICT by increasing cooperation among the regulators, public and private service providers, and other pertinent stakeholders of the OTS Member States; to expand collaborations on ICT services and infrastructure development, such as broadcast services, mobile, satellite technologies, and fiber optics; to develop the joint ICT potential of the OTS Member States by establishing a regional technological ecosystem through the establishment of cooperation platforms and networks; to bring together top research and development centres, such as techno and IT parks, to exchange knowledge

and experience in digital matters.

It is to further improve cybersecurity cooperation in response to regional security challenges by creating a common platform in close collaboration with international cybersecurity centres; to achieve digital connectivity and communication through the efficient use of space technologies in all areas of social-economic life; to harmonize national space policies and establish result-oriented cooperation among the OTS Member States through joint programs and projects, including knowledge, experience, and know-how sharing, and capacity building programs; to establish cooperation mechanisms among the OTS Member States to use shared space-based data for resource management, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable development; to promote scientific cooperation in the field of space studies.

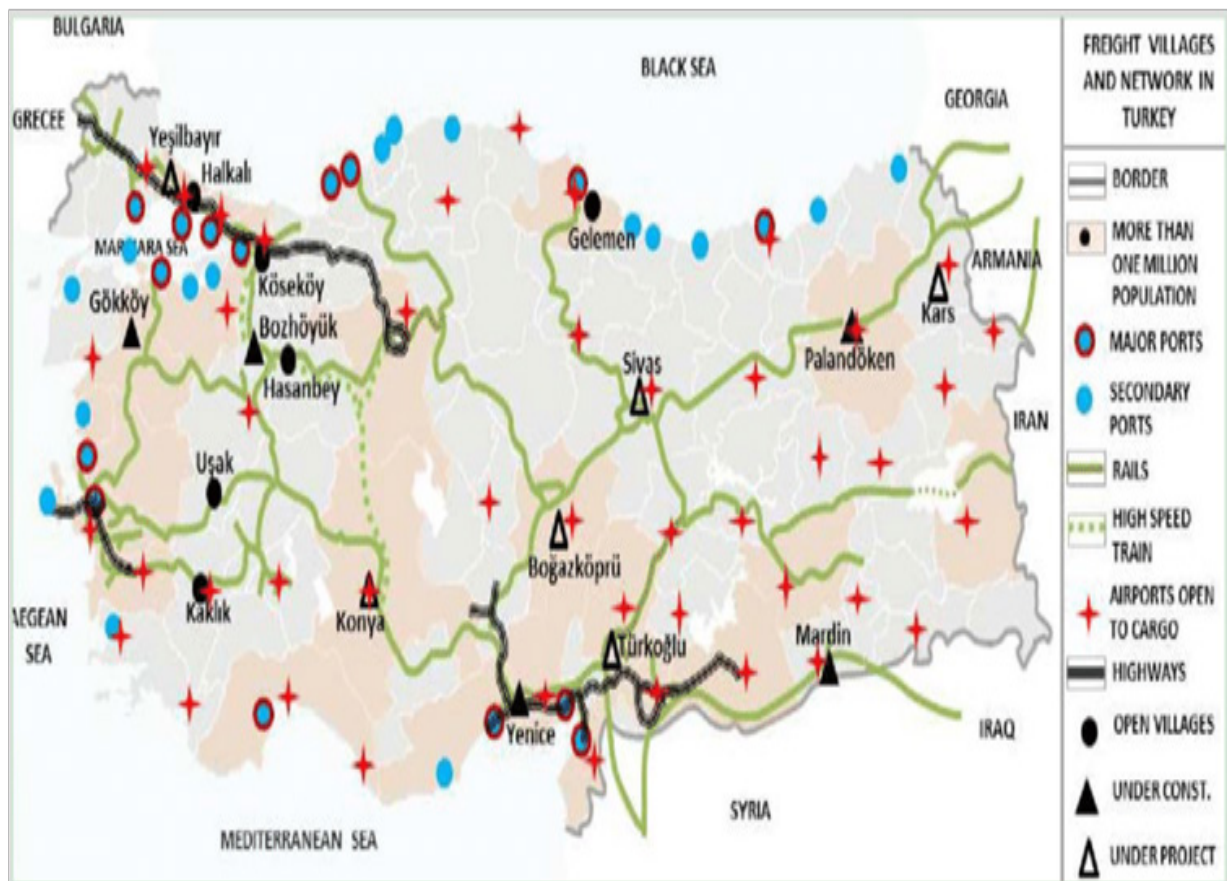


*Trans-Caspian International Transport Route (Middle Corridor)*



Developing strategic energy infrastructure projects in the region, such as “Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan, Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum, Southern Gas Corridor and its components TANAP and TAP”, and promoting energy trade, investments, research, and technological cooperation to provide reliable, environmentally sound, competitive, and affordable energy to the OTS Member States. Assuring cooperation among the OTS Member States for energy diversification and clean/green energy, especially in the field of renewable energy like solar, bioenergy, wind, and nuclear through joint investments; meeting the demand of the OTS Member States, offering them alternative routes, and contributing to European and global energy security. It is further to provide knowledge, experience, and

know-how exchanges; establishing close collaboration between the public and private sectors to carry out research and innovation to lower costs and increase the use of modern energy technologies, particularly those related to energy efficiency and energy storage; establishing joint manufacturing and distribution of petrochemical products; guaranteeing that all households and communities in urban and rural areas have access to reasonably priced clean/green energy carriers and end-use services; establishing close collaboration with international organizations such as the International Energy Agency (IEA), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), and Energy Charter; institutionalizing energy cooperation among the OTS Member States through the creation of an integrated Turkic Energy Market.





Through a variety of creative tourism projects and programs, the tourism industry reveals the region's ancient and modern cultural heritage; develops and promotes a variety of tourism packages, cultural routes, and tours in the areas of eco-tourism, culinary tourism, adventure tourism, health tourism, and spiritual/sacred tourism; and creates a network of cooperation among the pertinent public and private organizations of the OTS Member States to attract investments, organize capacity-building programs, integrate legislation and regulations, and achieve common standards in the tourism industry. The OTS also seeks to form a coalition of well-known tourist destinations in the Turkic world to improve collaboration and guarantee experience sharing; to create the policies, rules, and incentives required to lower travel costs for visitors to the OTS Member States; to improve the facilitation of visas for travel purposes for citizens of specific third parties, which will be carried out in compliance with national laws of the OTS Member States; and to develop a shared stance in this regard.

The Health Sector Strategy mentions working to harmonize national policies and laws for better development of healthcare infrastructure, communications, and health information systems among the OTS Member States; promoting collaborative investments, public-private partnership models, and creative financing for upgrading and modernizing healthcare industry, infrastructure, and services in the OTS Member States; and strengthening

human resources and organizational abilities in the health sector through the exchange of knowledge and efficient procedures, joint capacity building and training programs, and mobility of health professionals. This in turn would lead to strengthening the national health systems' through capacity and resilience to guarantee emergency preparedness for prevention, detection, and response to transnational health threats, such as pandemics and other infectious diseases; to promote collaborative scientific cooperation, research, and development endeavours among health institutions and universities to develop prevention, diagnosis, treatment approaches, vaccines, and other medications for current and future challenges; and to facilitate trade in medical goods, equipment, and services within the region as well as internationally.

The OTS Civil Protection Mechanism was established to prevent uncontrolled contamination from the energy sector, residential heating, industrial complexes, automobiles traffic, the incineration of waste and other toxic materials, and other sources; to prioritize environmental protection in the national and joint policies of the OTS Member States and take the necessary steps to raise societal awareness of this global challenge; and to prevent and respond to natural and man-made disasters, mitigate their effects, and aid in recovery. It would boost the use of green technological advances for the environment's benefit and encourage the implementation of green digital solutions that speed up low-emitting

energy networks, enable agricultural precision, reduce pollution, fight biodiversity loss, and maximize resource efficiency; leverage data to address societal, environmental, and climate-related issues as well as contribute to more prosperous, healthy, and sustainable societies.

To bring in lesser carbon footprint, it is essential to promote urban development based on high-tech infrastructure and widespread access to smart technology while putting into practice urban policies that minimize pollution and emissions, reduce resource and energy consumption, and help cities become greener, more equitable, secure, and resilient; to use green financing instruments and transfer green technologies in the implementation of the OTS Member States' climate agenda; to create a broad international exchange and a variety of the best technologies in the field of low carbon development, particularly in industry, agriculture, energy, transportation, and renewable energy sources.

To achieve sustainable agricultural development, the Agriculture Department places a strong emphasis on organizing public and private institutions, academics, civil society organizations, research institutions, and farmer associations; developing organic farming as an agricultural means to produce food using natural substances and processes with a limited environmental impact and maintaining a strict control and enforcement system; advancing sustainable rural development programs and policies; promoting modern practices

and innovative techniques; and encouraging productive linkages in the agricultural sector by forming partnerships between agro-clusters, agro-businesses, and agro-clusters through the rules set up by "FAO, IFAD, IOFS, and UNDP".

## **CONNECTIVITY AND ENERGY CORRIDORS: THE GEOECONOMIC SPINE OF THE TURKIC VISION**

It strives for the free flow of people, capital, goods, services, and technologies between Member States. Further, it is to create plans and initiatives that satisfy the demands of the upcoming digital environment and give economic activity diversification top priority in order to boost resilience, with an emphasis on developing digital technology. This leads to increased collaboration, which creates opportunities, improves infrastructure for increased production capacities across various industries, and constructs the future knowledge economy. Through frequent communication and capacity-building initiatives among the Member States, share best practices and expertise in national economic development policies. It would then create suitable financial and investment tools to assist the private sector, promote socioeconomic development and economic progress. Additionally, it organises global networks and finances and works together to use them to finance shared large-scale infrastructure projects and creates policies that maintain macroeconomic and financial stability while promoting

sustainable, green, inventive, astute, and equitable economic growth. It seeks to establish an atmosphere that is conducive to the growth of startups and creative entrepreneurship; increase the number of incubators among Member States, and preserve an open and stable investment climate that encourages larger inflows of foreign direct investment (FDI).

The strategy calls for establishing the Trans-Caspian International East-West Middle Corridor as the quickest and safest route for transportation between the East and the West, and uses it to integrate Member States into regional and global supply and value chains. It streamlines and standardises the Member States' border crossing customs and transit processes. Further, it advocates for investing more in well-developed, integrated hard and soft transportation infrastructure projects

among Member States to ensure intraregional connectivity. For the Trans-Caspian International East-West Middle Corridor, harmonise freight-related technical standards and transportation policies. It seeks to collaborate closely to guarantee that Member States successfully implement international transportation conventions. Encourage eco-friendly transportation options and stimulate creative legislation to make more eco-friendly transportation technologies possible. By streamlining airline operations' administrative processes, there would be an increase in the number of flights between Member States in accordance with demand and help diversify air transportation connections between Member States. This, in turn, optimises and encourages the Member States to digitise their transportation networks through the promotion of the Zangazur Corridor in several global economic forums.



*The Trans Anatolian Natural Gas Pipeline and Trans Adriatic Pipeline projects are part of the Southern Gas Corridor (Source: Nuran Erkul Kaya)*



In order to provide the Member States with safe, sustainable, competitive, and reasonably priced energy, the Member States should establish a strategic partnership in the field of energy through policy coordination, the promotion of energy trade, investments, joint production of energy products, research, and technological cooperation. Further, set up strategic energy infrastructure projects in the area, such as “Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan, Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum, and the Southern Gas Corridor and its parts TANAP and TAP”, to satisfy Member State demand, give them alternate routes, and support European and global energy security. Assure cooperation between Member States for energy diversification and clean/green energy, especially in the area of renewable energy like solar, bioenergy, wind, and nuclear, through cooperative investments, knowledge, experience, and know-how exchanges. In order to lower costs and boost the use of modern energy technologies, especially those pertaining to energy efficiency and energy storage, as well as to establish cooperative production and distribution of petrochemical products, governments and the private sector should work closely together to conduct research and innovation. Make sure all homes and communities in both urban and rural regions have access to reasonably priced clean/green energy carriers and end-use services. Create an integrated Turkic Energy Market to institutionalise energy cooperation among the Member States. Work closely with international organisations, such as the Energy Charter, the International

Energy Agency (IEA), and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

## PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE COOPERATION: INSTITUTIONALISING CIVILIZATIONAL SOFT POWER

For the People-to-People networking, there are six components of the cooperation pillar, which are: (i) Culture; (ii) Education and Science; (iii) Youth and Sports; (iv) Diaspora; (v) Information and Media; and (vi) Civil Society Organizations. The Culture facilitates the development of cooperative social, cultural, and educational initiatives by the pertinent institutions of the OTS Member States to further uncover the similarities and strengthen the sense of unity among the Turkic societies; to create a shared list of the Turkic world’s cultural heritage, protect it, and work together to repatriate it to its home country. To promote the common Turkic heritage of the greatest scientists, poets, thinkers, and artists; to foster the traditions, customs, folklore, and role of the Turkic world on intercultural dialogue; to organize annual joint film festivals, music and art events, as well as other similar cultural activities for bringing our peoples together; and to ensure strong coordination and cooperation among the appropriate entities of the OTS Member States and the Turkic Cooperation Organizations to submit nominations to “*UNESCO’s Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity*”.



The Education and Science section calls for standardizing the curriculum and credit system to improve cooperation in the field of higher education among the OTS Member States; encouraging cooperation in diploma recognition and academic qualifications in the OTS Member States; contributing to the further development of education systems in the OTS Member States to correspond with international guidelines, introducing creative approaches of learning, critical thinking, and practical use of technology; intensifying scientific and statistical studies on the common Turkic history, culture, language, literature, and geography; making the Turkic Universities Union (TURKUNIB) the leading cooperation mechanism. It also calls for an action plan to facilitate the movement of scholars, researchers, and students through collaborative policies and tools, such as twinning programs, and to host contests in many scientific fields; to create educational films

using innovative and contemporary methods that would pique young pupils' interest in common Turkic history, geography, literature, values, culture, and tradition; to establish a uniform worldwide index for the scientific journals of the OTS Member States and make scientific publication data available to scholars, researchers, and students. Therefore these initiatives and action plans would develop a common innovative ecosystem, support technology transfer among OTS Member States, and encourage the commercialization of scientific results; to share their best experiences in entrepreneurship and vocational education and investigate opportunities for the realization of joint projects on increasing skills and knowledge in this direction; to promote effective intellectual property protection in accordance with international instruments; to create a joint online Encyclopaedia of the Turkic world; to accelerate collaborative work among think tanks

and establish the “Turkic world Think Tanks Network”.

The Youth and Sports program provides a venue for initiatives aimed at empowering the youth of the OTS Member States, improving their coordination and cooperation, and upgrading their entrepreneurial skills. It also launches a variety of competitions, championships, and activities in the various sports to benefit the unifying power of sport for further integration of the societies of the Turkic world. This strategy is determined to establish connections between platforms for youth and ethno-sports of the OTS Member States and pertinent regional and international initiatives tailored to these fields; to institutionalize the organization of World Nomad Games, started and founded by the Kyrgyz Republic, and turn it into a global brand to present the ancient cultural heritage of the Turkic peoples to the entire world; to institutionalize and operationalize the current Youth Platform as an umbrella bringing together the Youth NGOs and ensure the sustain youth camps and festivals.

The Diaspora places a strong emphasis on creating a strategic framework for diaspora investment and engagement in the countries of origin; encouraging academic diaspora to support higher education and scientific institutions in the Turkic world and fortifying ties between diaspora academicians worldwide; and guaranteeing the active participation of Turkic Diaspora communities in pertinent Organisation of Turkic States projects and programs.

To highlight the benefits of Turkic cooperation and to motivate citizens to engage more closely with sister societies and others, the information and media sector includes utilising the new and developing media to raise awareness of the common values, customs, history, and solidarity among citizens of Member States. It is further to establish a hub of broadcasters, media production companies, content creators, startups, R&D institutes, and production companies throughout the Turkic world for collaboration, innovation policy, and network building to create a greater impact that reflects collective history and shared values; to strengthen cooperation among the public and private media institutions of the OTS Member States; to develop new media partnerships, improve the mobility of media professionals, and foster an environment conducive to media creativity and high-quality journalism.

In an effort to strengthen communication between civil society organisations (NGOs) from the OTS Member States and ensure their active participation in the socio-economic and political development of their respective nations, the Cooperation with Civil Society Organisations places a strong emphasis on creating an environment that facilitates networking and collaborative work. It also involves civil societies in the activities of the OTS and other Turkic Cooperation Organizations, such as “TURKPA, TURKSOY, Turkic Academy, and Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation”, to advance shared values, promote understanding, and improve interpersonal contacts within the region.





## ENGAGEMENT WITH EXTERNAL ACTORS: POSITIONING THE TURKIC WORLD IN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

There are two parts to the Cooperation with External Parties pillar: (i) Collaboration with international organisations; (ii) Development and humanitarian cooperation. In order to create project-based and sectoral partnerships for mutual benefit and raise the OTS's profile and influence as a trustworthy international actor, the Cooperation with International Organisations provides a platform for improving cooperation with regional and international organisations as well as third countries.

To strengthen institutional ties with the UN and its bodies, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA); to create new partnership relationships with pertinent regional organizations, such as the European Union (EU), the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), and Visegrád Group; to carry out cooperative projects with UN specialized agencies and in collaboration with other pertinent stakeholders to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Member States and globally; to guarantee close coordination and cooperative actions to protect the shared interests of the OTS Member States within the framework of other international organizations.



*Hosted by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, H.E. Ilham Aliyev, the Twelfth Summit of the Organisation of Turkic States (OTS) was held on 7 October 2025 in Gabala under the theme “Regional Peace and Security.”*

The Humanitarian and Development Cooperation calls for establishing ties with the donor community to address the Member States’ development needs; working together to channel the official development funding and lines for developmental aid of the OTS Member States for the eradication of poverty in developing nations; starting a regular dialogue with the donor community and offering a regional perspective in donor assistance, thereby aligning donor interventions with the needs and priorities identified within Vision 2040 to the greatest extent possible. It is further to strengthen ties with the Global South and support South-South and triangular cooperation for the welfare of the South’s nations and people, their national and collective self-reliance, and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development; to implement cooperative projects that connect nations with development needs with Member States that have solutions, while facilitating the exchange of technical or economic knowledge and essential skills.

## **ANKARA 2026: CULTURAL CAPITAL AND THE POLITICS OF SYMBOLIC POWER**

For the Turkic States, significant choices were taken to improve the Turkic World’s tourist cooperation. During the 10th Meeting of the Ministers of Tourism of the Organisation of Turkic States summit, decisions were made to expand cultural cooperation, execute the joint application of a museum card, and designate Ankara, the capital of Turkey, as the “Tourism Capital of the Turkic World” for 2026.

Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan are among the organisation's members. Hungary and Turkmenistan are observers.

To substantiate, Mehmet Nuri Ersoy, the Turkish Minister of Culture and Tourism, emphasized the significance of cooperative tourism policies in his opening remarks, stating that “steps such as the creation of joint routes of tourism, the provision of visa facilities and the joint promotion of cultural heritage will make not only your countries but the entire Turkic World more visible and attractive.”

Minister Ersoy stated in a later post on the social media site X that “Ankara is one of the iconic cities that portray the collective memory of the Turkic world with its rich heritage, museums, artistic institutions, and cultural diversity.” Further, Ersoy added that, “Throughout 2026, we will be exploring Ankara together and continue sharing the rich tapestry of our capital city with brotherly nations.” This is a crucial move for the Turkic world after Jalal-Abad, Kyrgyzstan, which had been selected as the Cultural Capital of the Turkic World for 2025.

## **INDIA AND THE TURKIC WORLD VISION-2040**

The Turkic World Vision-2040 acquires particular significance for India when viewed through the lens of evolving Eurasian geopolitics, connectivity paradigms, and the reconfiguration of regional power structures in a multipolar international system. As the Organisation of Turkic States (OTS) advances toward

deeper political, economic, and socio-cultural integration, it is increasingly positioning itself as a consequential Eurasian actor—one whose ambitions intersect with India's strategic, economic, and civilizational interests across Central Asia, the Caucasus, and the broader Eurasian landmass.

From a geoeconomic and connectivity perspective, the Vision's emphasis on the Trans-Caspian International East–West Middle Corridor holds direct relevance for India's long-standing efforts to diversify trade routes and reduce dependence on single-corridor connectivity frameworks. India's engagement with initiatives such as the International North–South Transport Corridor (INSTC) and its broader outreach to Central Asia and the Caspian region underscore a shared interest in fostering resilient, multi-nodal supply chains across Eurasia. The institutionalisation of transport, customs harmonisation, and logistics integration within the Turkic World Vision-2040 thus presents India with potential avenues for synergistic connectivity, facilitating access to European markets while strengthening India's economic presence in Central Asia and the Caucasus.

In the domain of energy security and sustainable development, the Vision's focus on integrated energy markets, diversification of energy sources, and joint investments in renewable and clean energy technologies resonates strongly with India's strategic priorities. The Turkic region, endowed with substantial hydrocarbon resources and emerging renewable energy





potential, occupies a critical position in Eurasia's energy architecture. Cooperation frameworks envisaged under Vision–2040—ranging from energy infrastructure development to research and innovation in energy efficiency and storage—create opportunities for India to engage with the Turkic world as a long-term partner in securing affordable, reliable, and environmentally sustainable energy supplies.

The Vision also carries implications for regional security and stability, an area of enduring concern for India given its proximity to volatile geopolitical theatres, including Afghanistan and its extended neighbourhood. The OTS's emphasis on countering terrorism, violent extremism, transnational

organised crime, cyber threats, and irregular migration aligns with India's own security imperatives. Enhanced institutional coordination among Turkic states in these areas contributes to stabilising the broader Eurasian security environment, which indirectly reinforces India's strategic interests in maintaining a secure and predictable regional order.

Beyond material and strategic considerations, the civilizational and cultural dimensions of the Turkic World Vision–2040 offer meaningful intersections with India's own civilizational diplomacy. The institutionalisation of people-to-people cooperation, cultural heritage preservation, academic collaboration, and diaspora engagement reflects a

broader trend of regions reclaiming historical identities as sources of contemporary soft power. India's historical interactions with Central Asia—rooted in trade, intellectual exchange, Buddhism, and shared Silk Road legacies—provide a natural foundation for deeper cultural and academic engagement with the Turkic world under this framework.

Finally, the Turkic World Vision–2040 must be situated within the larger context of an emerging multipolar global order, wherein regional groupings are asserting strategic autonomy and shaping new norms of cooperation beyond traditional Western-centric frameworks. This trajectory aligns with India's long-standing commitment to strategic autonomy, multi-alignment, and principled engagement with diverse regional blocs. As the Turkic world consolidates its institutional coherence and external partnerships, India's calibrated engagement with the OTS can contribute to a more balanced, inclusive, and pluralistic Eurasian order—one that reflects the realities of contemporary power diffusion and civilizational diversity.

In sum, the Turkic World Vision–2040 is not merely a regional integration blueprint but a manifestation of shifting geopolitical currents across Eurasia. For India, it represents both a strategic opportunity and an intellectual imperative—to engage constructively with a rising regional formation that intersects with India's economic, security, cultural, and normative interests in the decades ahead.

## **CONCLUSION: VISION–2040 AND THE FUTURE OF EURASIAN REGIONALISM**

With the independent Turkic republics becoming equal and sovereign subjects in the framework of global and international politics, the Turkic world phenomenon evolved from an intellectual aspiration to a political reality after 1991. During this process, the Turkic republics founded a number of cooperation groups, including TWESCO, TURKSOY, and TURKPA. With Uzbekistan's membership in 2019, the Organisation of Turkic States (OTS), which was founded in 2009 as the umbrella organisation of the Turkic international cooperation groups, became even more powerful. For the future of collaboration in the Turkic world, the OTS's 2021 Istanbul Summit and 2022 Samarkand Summit are crucial. Thus, it is important to embrace the Turkic World Vision-2040 and the political vision for the OTS through this policy review.

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