The European Union and Central Asia

The European Union (EU) and Central Asia have a long history of engagement and partnership. The EU has been a key player in the economic and social development of the region, providing support and assistance to Central Asian countries.

The European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica, added: “The European Union is a leading development partner for Central Asia, supporting the region with over €1 billion between 2014-2020 in areas such as the rule of law, environment, water, trade and border management.”

The European Union and Central Asia: New Partnership in Action

In June 2007, the Council of the European Union (EU) adopted “The EU in Central Asia: Strategy for a New Partnership,” highlighting the growing importance of Central Asia to the EU. This text examines the EU’s policy towards the five Central Asian states of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in light of this Strategy.

The role of the European Union (EU) in Central and Eastern European countries (CEECs) and its ‘near abroad’ has attracted much scholarly attention over the past few years. The ‘near abroad’ power of the EU in the region has often been called into question, both in terms of its depth and longevity.

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