BUSINESS CONFERENCE

STRENGTHENING KAZAKHSTAN–EU CONNECTIVITY: PERSPECTIVES AND STRATEGIC POTENTIAL OF THE MIDDLE CORRIDOR

Venue: Steigenberger Icon Wiltcher's, Brussels
Date: Monday, 22 June 2026 • Time: 09:00 – 14:00

Background

The evolving geopolitical environment and the transformation of global supply chains have reinforced the strategic importance of diversified transport routes connecting Europe and Asia. In this context, the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route (TITR), commonly referred to as the Middle Corridor, has emerged as a key platform for sustainable, secure, and resilient connectivity across Eurasia.

Kazakhstan plays a central role in the development of the Middle Corridor as a reliable transit and logistics hub connecting Central Asia, the Caspian region, the South Caucasus, and Europe. The corridor contributes to the diversification of trade routes, strengthens transport resilience, and supports enhanced economic interconnectivity between the European Union and Central Asia.

This Business Conference is dedicated to the development of the Middle Corridor and the strengthening of practical cooperation between Kazakhstan and European partners in the transport and logistics sector. It aims to promote Kazakhstan's transit and investment potential, showcase the maturity and sustainability of the corridor, and facilitate direct engagement between Kazakh and European businesses, investors, and institutions.

Special attention is devoted to the alignment of the Middle Corridor with the EU Global Gateway initiative, including opportunities for infrastructure investment, logistics modernization, digital connectivity, and sustainable transport solutions.

Programme

Opening

09:00 – 09:30	Registration of participants and welcome coffee
09:30 – 09:32	The moderator welcomes the participants and gives the floor to the speakers **Moderator: Mr. Marat TERTEROV, Founder of the Brussels Energy Club**
09:32 – 09:37	Welcoming remarks by Ms. Asel ZHANASSOVA, Deputy Head of the Administration of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan
09:37 – 09:40	Welcoming remarks by Ms. Myriam FERRAN, Deputy Director-General DG INTPA
09:40 – 09:43	Welcoming remarks by Mr. Kuanyshbek YESSEKEEV, Assistant to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan
09:43 – 09:45	The moderator introduces the speakers and gives them the floor to present **Moderator: Mr. Marat TERTEROV**

Discussion 1 — Strategic Value of the Middle Corridor for KZ–EU Relations

- Strategic importance of the Middle Corridor for Eurasian connectivity
- Kazakhstan as a reliable transit and logistics hub between Asia and Europe
- Infrastructure modernization and transport resilience
- Synergies between the Middle Corridor and the EU Global Gateway initiative

09:45 – 09:50	Mr. Nurlan SAURANBAYEV, Minister of Transport of the Republic of Kazakhstan
09:50 – 09:53	Ms. Charlotte ADRIAEN, Head of Unit for Central Asia DG INTPA
09:53 – 09:56	Mr. Sergey LAGODINSKY, member of the European Parliament
09:56 – 09:59	Mr. Arman ISSETOV, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan
09:59 – 10:02	Mr. Huseyin OZHAN, Managing Director, Central Asia and Mongolia EBRD
10:02 – 10:05	The moderator introduces the speakers and gives them the floor to present **Moderator: Mr. Marat TERTEROV**

Discussion 2 — Business, Investment and Logistics Cooperation: Unlocking Potential

- Investment opportunities and public–private partnerships in transport and logistics
- Enhancing EU–Central Asia transport connectivity and supply chain resilience
- Cooperation between Kazakh and European logistics operators
- Container transportation development and logistics modernization

10:05 – 10:07	Presentation of a promotional video of Kazakhstan Railways
10:07 – 10:12	Mr. Talgat ALDYBERGENOV, Chairman of the Management Board of JSC “NC “Kazakhstan Temir Zholy”
10:12 – 10:17	Presentation by Mr. Aibek KAPAR, Acting CEO of JSC “KTZ Express”: “Development of Container Transportation Along the Middle Corridor: Current Results and Future Steps”
10:17 – 10:22	Presentation by Ms. Alua SATYBALDIYEVA Deputy CEO of Global DTC “Digital Middle Corridor: Connecting Europe and Asia”
10:22 – 10:25	Dr. Stephen DOHM, Business Development Manager HHLA International
10:28 – 10:31	Representative of Hellmann Worldwide Logistics
10:31 – 10:34	Mr. Thomas KOWITZKI, Vice-president DHL Global Forwarding
10:34 – 10:37	Mr. Edvardas BUMSTEINAS, Head of Division for Central Asia, European Investment Bank
10:37 – 10:40	Dr. Alexandra OGNEVA Head, Board Projects Central Asia and South Caucasus, RHENUS
10:40 – 10:43	Mr. Dave VAN DEN BOS, CEO, “Ahlers Logistics”
10:45 – 10:55	Q&A; and announcement of the signing ceremony

Signing Ceremony / Exchange of Cooperation Documents / Group Photo

10:55 – 11:20	• Memorandum on cooperation in the field of integrated digitalization of state airports, including biometric identification between SITA and the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Kazakhstan • Agreement on the implementation of the port project in Midia between KTZ Express and Midia Marine Terminal • Agreement on the implementation of the terminal construction project in Poland between KTZ Express and Ecco Rail • Agreement on the development of transportation along the Middle Corridor between KTZ Express and A.P. Moller – Maersk

Networking

11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break and networking
12:00 – 13:00	B2B meetings between Kazakh and European transport and logistics companies
12:00 – 14:00	Media interviews