

アゼルバイジャン政治・治安情報

(公開情報とりまとめ)

2026年2月14日～2月20日

在アゼルバイジャン大使館

1. 内政関連

● アゼルバイジャンと英国、サイバーセキュリティ演習に参加

Azerbaijani and UK servicemen involved in cybersecurity training exercise

As part of the bilateral military cooperation plan for the 2026-2027 years, signed between the Ministries of Defense of Azerbaijan and the UK, highly qualified cybersecurity specialists from both countries took part in Defence Cyber Marvel 2026, part of which takes place in Baku. (MOD.GOV.AZ / 14.02.2026)

● 国防省、2025年度成果を検証する理事会を開催

Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense holds board meeting reviewing outcomes of 2025

On Feb. 14, a Ministry of Defense board meeting reviewing the outcomes of 2025 was held under the leadership of Defense Minister Colonel General Zakir Hasanov. He noted that significant measures were implemented to strengthen territorial defense, military security, combat capability, and the integration of modern weapons into the Azerbaijan Army. In 2025, Azerbaijani servicemen participated in 15 international exercises. Special focus was placed on mobilization readiness, with over 19,000 reservists undergoing advanced training and practical exercises using newly adopted weapons.

Looking ahead to 2026, Hasanov emphasized increasing combat readiness, expanding training intensity, mastering new technologies and weapons, and maintaining strict discipline and safety standards. He stressed the importance of international cooperation and joint exercises for regional peace and security. (MOD.GOV.AZ / 14.02.2026)

● 裁判所、ヴァルダニャンに判決

Azerbaijani court hands down verdict to Ruben Vardanyan

A military court in Baku has sentenced former “state minister” of the former unrecognised “Nagorno-Karabakh Republic,” Ruben Vardanyan, to 20 years in prison. He was convicted of war crimes, terrorism, financing terrorism, and other serious offenses. The trial lasted more than a year; the charges covered more than 40 episodes and were presented in 422 volumes

of case materials. Prosecutors had demanded a life sentence. Vardanyan has repeatedly said he considers the proceedings a farce, while human rights groups in Armenia say the case and verdict are political rather than legal. (JAM-NEWS.NET / 17.02.2026)

● 亡命中の政権批判アゼルバイジャン人2名、欠席裁判で有罪判決 Two exiled Azerbaijani critics convicted in absentia

The Baku Court of Grave Crimes has sentenced the US-based politician Arastun Orujlu in absentia to eight years in prison for 'calls for mass riots'.

The day before, Altay Goyushov, a scholar and historian living in France, was convicted of 'inciting open protests against the state' and sentenced in absentia by the same court to six years in prison. The pro-government media outlet APA wrote that Orujlu 'made and disseminated open calls on YouTube encouraging the use of force against the current government'. According to APA, Goyushov was convicted for comments made on social media with a 'group of individuals' that allegedly constituted calls for the use of force against the government. (OC-MEDIA / 19.02.2026)

2. 外政関連

● アリエフ大統領、ドイツを訪問 President Aliyev's visit to Germany

On Feb.13-14, President Aliyev, together with First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva, arrived in the Federal Republic of Germany to participate in the Munich Security Conference.

President Aliyev held meetings with:

- *Nechirvan Barzani, President of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.* They exchanged views on the development of relations in the economic, trade, cultural, and humanitarian spheres, and discussed issues of mutual interest.
- *Robert Kaliňák, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense of the Slovak Republic.* They noted that there are opportunities to expand cooperation in various directions, particularly hailing the development of military-technical partnership.
- *Mike Sicilia, Chief Executive Officer of the U.S.-based Oracle Corporation.* The discussion also covered long-term cooperation, including the provision of Oracle services to both state and private enterprises in Azerbaijan.

- *Armin Laschet, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Bundestag.* They touched upon the important role Azerbaijan plays in Europe's energy security, and exchanged views on the expansion of inter-parliamentary cooperation and the prospects for bilateral relations.
- *President of the Republic of Bulgaria Iliana Iotova.* The parties discussed cooperation in the fields of energy, electricity exports, agriculture, tourism, and other areas, as well as collaboration within international organizations.
- *Kaja Kallas, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission.* The meeting underlined the European Union's interest in further developing relations with Azerbaijan. The meeting also discussed the prospects for Azerbaijan–European Union cooperation, ensuring lasting peace and stability in the South Caucasus region, as well as other issues of mutual interest.
- *President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy.* The parties discussed the expansion of cooperation between the two countries in various areas, including the energy sector. The presidents of Azerbaijan and Ukraine exchanged views on the prospects for bilateral relations between the two nations.
- *Jared Cohen, President of Global Affairs at The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.* The discussion also focused on prospects for cooperation between Azerbaijan and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. across various sectors of the country's economy.

President Aliyev gave an interview to Azerbaijani television channels in Munich.

- Aliyev said Azerbaijan's message at the conference is focused on cooperation, peace, and partnership. He emphasized that Azerbaijan now participates as a country that has "already achieved peace," highlighting its growing role in security, energy, transport, connectivity, artificial intelligence, and economic development.
- On the prospect of a peace agreement with Armenia, Aliyev stated that the signing depends on Armenia. He said Azerbaijan has long made its position clear and that Armenia must amend its Constitution to remove territorial claims against Azerbaijan. Once that happens, he said, a peace treaty could be signed immediately. He described the current situation as "de facto peace," with only formal steps remaining.
- Discussing the emerging global order, Aliyev argued that international law is increasingly ineffective and that institutions like the United Nations are paralyzed. He welcomed the creation of the Board of Peace, initiated by President Trump, as a promising new mechanism in a changing world order. He stressed that a new system of international

relations should be based on cooperation and civilized mechanisms, not on the principle that “whoever is stronger is right.”

- Regarding transport corridors between Europe and Asia, Aliyev said Azerbaijan sees itself as a key connectivity hub. He highlighted the country’s role in energy and transport infrastructure, as well as plans to expand into electricity transmission, fiber-optic cables, data transit, and artificial intelligence. He noted Azerbaijan’s strategic geography, strong regional ties, surplus electricity, and skilled workforce as advantages that make it an essential link between East and West.

President Aliyev was interviewed by France 24 in Munich

- President Aliyev said the August 8 trilateral summit at the White House with Armenia’s Prime Minister and U.S. President Donald Trump marked the effective end of the Armenia–Azerbaijan conflict. He stated that peace has already been achieved in practice, citing a calm border situation, the initialing of a peace agreement, Azerbaijan lifting transit restrictions, and beginning oil product supplies to Armenia. He expressed confidence that a formal peace treaty would be signed this year, once Armenia amends its constitution to remove references seen by Azerbaijan as territorial claims over Garabagh.
- Aliyev strongly supported the U.S.-backed TRIPP project, saying it will be built and will enhance regional connectivity. He highlighted the newly signed U.S.–Azerbaijan Charter on Strategic Partnership, covering defense, energy, AI, trade, and connectivity, and noted that U.S. arms sale restrictions on Azerbaijan have been lifted.
- On the sentencing of former leaders of the former separatist entity in Garabagh, Aliyev rejected the idea of clemency, describing them as responsible for serious crimes and comparing their prosecution to post-World War II trials. He said the trials were lawful and transparent. Regarding Armenians who left Garabagh, he said Azerbaijan had offered citizenship or work permits, but they chose to leave. He also emphasized the right of return for displaced Azerbaijanis from what he calls Western Azerbaijan (present-day Armenia), calling for reciprocity.
- Addressing relations with France, Aliyev said tensions arose after France supported what he described as separatists during and after the Second Garabagh War. He argued Azerbaijan’s harsh rhetoric was a response to French political actions and statements. However, he noted that his recent meeting with President Macron was positive and that both sides agreed to “reset” relations, with ongoing diplomatic contacts and potential future meetings.

President Aliyev's remarks at the Munich Security Conference panel on "Open Corridor Policy? Deepening Trans-Caspian Cooperation"

President Aliyev emphasized that Azerbaijan has significantly expanded its role as a key Eurasian transit hub since the last Munich panel. He highlighted major investments in ports, railways, highways, and air cargo infrastructure, stating that Azerbaijan's geographic position between Europe and Asia only becomes strategic when supported by strong physical infrastructure and good relations with neighboring countries.

He noted record transit growth through the Middle Corridor, with over 100,000 containers transported last year and targets of up to 500,000 in the coming years. Azerbaijan is expanding its Caspian Sea trade port and building or renovating approximately 600 kilometers of railway on its territory, including connections to the Nakhchivan exclave. He also stressed new digital connectivity projects, including a fiber-optic cable under the Caspian Sea in cooperation with Central Asian partners.

Aliyev linked connectivity directly to peace with Armenia. He reiterated that peace has effectively been achieved following the White House Joint Declaration signed with Armenia and U.S. President Donald Trump, citing six months of border stability, resumed transit, and the start of oil product supplies to Armenia. However, he stated that a formal peace agreement depends on Armenia amending its constitution to remove territorial claims against Azerbaijan. Once that happens, he said, the treaty could be signed immediately and expressed hope it would occur this year.

He strongly backed the U.S.-supported TRIPP (Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity), describing it as a transformative corridor linking China, Central Asia, the Caspian, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Nakhchivan, Türkiye, and Europe. He argued that naming the project after President Trump demonstrates long-term U.S. commitment. Aliyev also revealed that, according to open sources, a U.S.-Armenia company structure is being discussed to build the Armenian segment of the corridor.

Aliyev stressed that regional connectivity predates U.S. involvement, citing major energy and rail projects completed by Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Türkiye independently. However, he said U.S. engagement now significantly increases the project's scale and potential.

He underscored Azerbaijan's growing ties with Central Asia, noting Azerbaijan's inclusion in the C5 platform (now C6), and highlighted China-backed infrastructure projects connecting Central Asia to the Caspian, which would ultimately pass through Azerbaijan toward Europe.

On relations with Russia, Aliyev confirmed that Azerbaijan has repeatedly raised diplomatic objections over Russian attacks on Azerbaijani energy assets and its embassy in Ukraine,

“After the first attack, we could imagine that it was accidental, and we gave our Russian colleagues all the coordinates of Azerbaijan's diplomatic representations, including the consular department, our cultural centers, and the embassy. Despite all that, there have been two more attacks. So that was a deliberate attack on Azerbaijan's diplomatic representation. We issued special statements, and the ambassador was invited and a diplomatic note was submitted. We act only in a diplomatic way. We cannot do anything else. But of course, it's something which is considered to be unfriendly to Azerbaijan,” Aliyev said.

Overall, Aliyev presented connectivity—through transport, energy, and digital corridors—as both an economic strategy and a peace-building mechanism, arguing that interdependence among Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Türkiye, Central Asia, China, and Europe can create lasting stability in the South Caucasus. (AZERTAG / 13-14.02.2026)

● アルメニア、「平和の架け橋」イニシアチブの下でアゼルバイジャンとアルメニアの市民社会代表による円卓会議を主催

Armenia hosts roundtable with Azerbaijani and Armenian civil society representatives under “Bridge of Peace” initiative

On February 13–14, a bilateral roundtable under the “Peace Bridge” initiative was held in Tsaghkadzor, Armenia, bringing together Armenian and Azerbaijani civil society, media, and experts. Discussions focused on the current stage of Armenia–Azerbaijan relations, implementation of the August 8, 2025 Washington peace agenda, regional security, connectivity, and economic opportunities arising from the peace process. Participants also addressed trust-building, public diplomacy, joint projects, and practical steps to support intersocietal rapprochement.

The Azerbaijani delegation of 19 members entered and exited Armenia via a delimited border section near Voskepar and Ashaghi Askipara, marking a confidence-building step. Meetings were also held with senior Armenian officials, including Secretary of the Security Council Armen Grigoryan and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Vahan Kostanyan, to discuss the role of civil society in advancing peace. (TREND / 14.02.2026)

● アリエフ大統領、セルビアを公式訪問

President Aliyev arrived in Serbia on an official visit

On Feb.15, President Aliyev arrived in the Republic of Serbia on an official visit accompanied by First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva.

They visited the monuments to National Leader Heydar Aliyev and prominent Serbian writer Milorad Pavić in Tašmajdan Park in Belgrade.

President Aliyev held a one-on-one meeting with President of the Republic of Serbia Aleksandar Vučić.

The first meeting of the Strategic Partnership Council between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Serbia was held with participation of both presidents. Cooperation between Azerbaijan and Serbia in the fields of energy, investments, renewable energy, tourism, agriculture, culture, and other areas was discussed. The heads of state issued instructions to expand collaboration in these sectors and to present specific projects.

It was noted with satisfaction that direct Baku–Belgrade flights will commence in May of this year, with hopes that they will further promote humanitarian contacts and tourism between the two countries. Subsequently, Presidents Aliyev and Vučić signed the Decision of the first meeting of the Strategic Partnership Council between the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Azerbaijan.

A ceremony for the exchange of Azerbaijan–Serbia documents was held. The documents span energy, economy, agriculture, media, culture, sports, and healthcare cooperation between Azerbaijan and Serbia. (AZERTAG / 15.02.2026)

● アゼルバイジャン・アルメニア国境画定委員会次回会合はアルメニアで開催

Next meeting of Azerbaijan–Armenia border delimitation commissions to be held in Armenia

The next meeting of the commissions on the delimitation and demarcation of the state border between Armenia and Azerbaijan will take place on Armenian territory, Narek Minasyan, a participant in the Armenian-Azerbaijani "Bridge of Peace" initiative, said. "The decision was made given that the previous meeting of the two commissions was held on the territory of Azerbaijan," he said. Minasyan added that the sides continue consultations on issues related to the delimitation and demarcation of the border. (REPORT / 16.02.2026)

● アリエフ大統領、習近平国家主席に祝賀書簡を送付

President Aliyev sends congratulatory letter to Xi Jinping

The letter conveys congratulations to the President of China and the Chinese people on the occasion of the Spring Festival (Chinese New Year). The message also emphasizes the strong and growing strategic partnership between Azerbaijan and China, noting the importance of continued political dialogue and cooperation. (TREND / 17.02.2026)

● アリエフ大統領、米国を公式訪問

President Aliyev is on a working visit to the United States

President Aliyev is on a working visit to the US at the invitation of U.S. President Donald Trump to participate in the first meeting of the Board of Peace.

On Feb.18, the head of state met in Washington with Elliot Brandt, Chief Executive Officer of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), and other senior staff.

The conversation also touched on Azerbaijan-U.S. relations, highlighting the development of ties between the two countries following Donald Trump's taking office.

The role of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee in deepening Azerbaijan-U.S. and Azerbaijan-Israel bilateral relations was emphasized.

The meeting also included an exchange of views on the prospects for cooperation between Azerbaijan and this organization, as well as issues of mutual interest. (AZERTAG / 18.02.2026)

● アリエフ大統領、ワシントンでの「平和理事会」総会に出席 Inaugural meeting of the Board of Peace in Washington

On Feb.19, President Aliyev participated in the meeting of the Board of Peace at the invitation of U.S. President Donald Trump.

The event began with a family photo, followed by a speech from President Trump.

Donald Trump said that during his presidency he helped settle eight wars. He highlighted one particular achievement: brokering peace between Azerbaijan and Armenia, two countries that had been in conflict for decades. He said he would never forget this accomplishment. The U.S. President thanked the leaders of Azerbaijan and Armenia for making peace possible. He emphasized that war is far more costly than peace, saying that going to war can cost “100 times more” than reaching an agreement.

Trump described meeting President Ilham Aliyev and the Armenian leader in the Oval Office. According to him, one leader had been in office for more than 20 years and had spent most of that time in conflict, while the other had served for seven years under similar circumstances. Both leaders, he said, told him that fighting each other had defined their time in office. He recalled that at the beginning of the meeting, the two leaders were seated far apart and felt uncomfortable being near each other after more than 30 years of hostility. Trump said he encouraged them to sit closer together. Gradually, the atmosphere improved. After about an hour, they were sitting side by side. According to Trump, the agreement was reached within 24 hours. He said the leaders signed the deal, embraced, and established peace between their countries. He described them as “tough but good people” and said he believed they had even become friends. Calling it “a beautiful thing to see,” Trump praised both leaders for their efforts and said they should be proud of achieving peace after 32 years of conflict.

Trump also mentioned in speech that Azerbaijan and several other countries jointly contributed more than \$7 billion to the council's Gaza budget. [NOTE: *Presidential aide Hikmet Hajiyev said Azerbaijan is not expected to participate in a \$7 billion Gaza financial project mentioned at the meeting. He noted that Azerbaijan supports the Peace Council's*

goals as a founding member and may consider future investment initiatives related to Gaza within that framework.]

U.S. Vice President Vance thanked the participating leaders for their commitment to peace and partnership. He gave special recognition to the President of Azerbaijan and the Prime Minister of Armenia, whom he had met the previous week, praising them for their leadership in advancing peace. Vance emphasized that choosing dialogue and investment in people over conflict and destruction leads to positive results, and he commended both leaders for demonstrating remarkable leadership.

Speeches from representatives of other participating countries were then delivered.

Members of the Board of Peace voted on a resolution defining the principles of financial integrity and transparency that will govern the Board's operations. The resolution was adopted unanimously. (AZERTAG, JAM-NEWS.NET / 19.02.2026)

NOTE: *During the Azerbaijani leadership's participation in the event, a group of radical individuals attempted provocative actions, shouting insults, using obscene language, and trying to enter a secured area. Azerbaijani presidential security staff and Washington police quickly intervened and brought the situation under control; no serious incidents were reported, according to Azerbaijani media.*

● **アリエフ大統領、ワシントンでパシニャン・アルメニア首相と非公式会談** **President Aliyev holds informal talks with PM Nikol Pashinyan in Washington**

President Aliyev held informal talks with Armenian PM Pashinyan in Washington on the eve of the first meeting of the Board of Peace. The footage shows that the presidents of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan also joined the conversation. The progress of the peace process was discussed during the conversation. (TREND / 19.02.2026)

NOTE: *Hajiyev also posted a photo on social media showing Aliyev and Pashinyan shaking hands at the meeting, calling the image highly symbolic, especially with the word "PEACE" visible in large letters behind them.*

● **アゼルバイジャン、湾岸諸国数か国の市民に対する査証免除を実施** **Azerbaijan lifts visa requirements for citizens of several Gulf states**

Azerbaijan has abolished visa requirements for citizens holding ordinary passports from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Sultanate of Oman, the State of Kuwait, and the Kingdom of Bahrain, in a move aimed at facilitating travel and strengthening ties between countries. According to the service, the new rules will apply from February 15, 2026, through February

15, 2027. During this period, citizens of the four countries will be allowed to enter Azerbaijan visa-free three times and stay for up to 30 days per visit. (TREND / 19.02.2026)

● 欧州議会議員、アゼルバイジャンに拘束されているアルメニア人の解放に向けて EU に実践的な措置を要請

European Parliament member urges EU to take practical steps towards release of Armenian captives in Azerbaijan

Fernand Kartheiser, a Luxembourg Member of the European Parliament, has urged EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas to take clearer and more practical action to secure the unconditional release of Armenians detained in Azerbaijan. He argues that the trials in Baku are politically motivated, lack transparency, and risk undermining the fragile progress in the Armenia–Azerbaijan peace process.

In response, Kallas' office said the EU is monitoring the trials of former Nagorno-Karabakh leaders and has called on Azerbaijan to respect international obligations, including the right to a fair trial and proper detention conditions. The EU also continues to encourage both sides to use recent momentum in peace talks to address unresolved and humanitarian issues. (NEWS.AM / 19.02.2026)

NOTE: *Hikmet Hajiyev, Assistant to the President of Azerbaijan, condemned calls by some European Parliament members and organizations like Amnesty International to release individuals accused of war crimes, calling such appeals immoral and unethical.*

Hajiyev argued that although international tribunals were not established, Azerbaijan conducted open trials through its own legal system, rejecting what he described as politicized double standards in international justice. He emphasized that accountability is essential for sustainable peace and reconciliation, and that releasing those accused of grave crimes would legitimize wrongdoing and undermine justice.

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