

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7月18日～7月24日

在アゼルバイジャン大使館

1. 軍事・治安関係

● 6 か国が「統一の力 2026」共同軍事演習の計画協議会議を開催

Six countries hold planning conference for "Power of Unity 2026" joint military exercise

Representatives from Azerbaijan, Türkiye, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Pakistan held a planning conference for the "Power of Unity 2026" joint military exercise in Azerbaijan. Participants reviewed the exercise's objectives, visited the training area, and signed a protocol outlining the conference's results. The exercise aims to strengthen military cooperation, enhance operational skills, and promote regional peace and security. (TREND / 17.07.2026)

● キーウへのミサイル攻撃で在ウクライナ・アゼルバイジャン大使館が再び被害

Azerbaijani Embassy in Ukraine again damaged in missile strikes on Kyiv

A missile strike on Kyiv on July 19 damaged the administrative building of the Azerbaijani Embassy in Ukraine. According to Azerbaijani sources, a missile landed about 200–250 meters from the embassy, near Lukyanivska metro station, causing shattered windows and structural damage, but no embassy staff were injured. Azerbaijan noted that the embassy building had been damaged several times in previous attacks. (KAVKAZ UZEL / 19.07.2026)

● 国防省軍警察局代表団がトルコを訪問

Military Police Department delegation of Ministry of Defense visits Türkiye

Deputy Chief of the Main Department of Internal Security and Investigations – Chief of the Military Police Department, Major General Elgun Aliyev was received by Türkiye's Minister of National Defense Yaşar Güler. The delegation also met with the Commander of the Turkish Special Forces and the Chief of the Special Forces School. The delegation observed the training process of the Close Protection Course organized for the Close Protection Unit of the Azerbaijan Military Police at the Turkish Armed Forces Special Forces Command and attended the graduation ceremony of the Close Protection Course. (AZERTAG / 20.07.2026)

● **アゼルバイジャン軍兵士がヨルダンの演習に参加**

Azerbaijan Army servicemen participate in exercise in Jordan

Special Forces of the Azerbaijan Army are participating in the joint military exercise "Zulfikar" on counterterrorism and special operations held in Jordan. The exercise, conducted within the military cooperation and training programs, involves personnel of the King Abdullah II Royal Special Forces Command of the Jordan Armed Forces - Arab Army and Special Forces from Azerbaijan, Türkiye, and Pakistan. (AZERTAG / 20.07.2026)

● **アゼルバイジャンとスロバキア、機密情報の交換・相互保護協定に署名**

Azerbaijan and Slovakia signed an agreement on the exchange and mutual protection of confidential information

A delegation led by Roman Konečný, Director of the National Security Agency of the Slovak Republic, visited Azerbaijan. The guests met with Colonel General Ali Naghiyev, Head of the State Security Service, where the parties discussed a number of pressing issues of mutual interest. “Following the meeting, a signing ceremony was held for the Agreement between Azerbaijan and the Slovak Republic on the exchange and mutual protection of classified information, with the aim of expanding cooperation between the two countries in the field of security. (TREND / 22.07.2026)

2. 内政関連

● **アリ・カリムリ氏の収監条件がさらに厳格化**

Ali Karimli's prison conditions further tightened

The committee defending the rights of opposition Popular Front Party chairman Ali Karimli says the conditions of his detention have become even harsher. According to the committee, the inmate sharing Karimli's cell is still a prisoner reportedly suffering from mental health problems and facing terrorism-related charges. The committee says the inmate makes noise throughout the night, preventing Karimli from sleeping. It also states that Karimli has long been denied visits from his family, phone calls, outdoor exercise, and access to news. In recent days, the restrictions have reportedly been tightened further: his family is no longer allowed to send him food, handwritten notes — including legal motions prepared for court — have been confiscated, and his lawyers have been prohibited from giving him written materials during visits. The committee believes these restrictions are linked to interviews Karimli gave to international media and claims they were imposed on the direct orders of the president. It is calling for the release of Karimli and all political prisoners.

Ali Karimli has been under arrest since November 2025. At the same time, party member and MP Mammad Ibrahim was also detained. Both are charged with actions aimed at violently overthrowing the government. Their arrests are linked to an investigation involving former head of the presidential administration Ramiz Mehdiyev. The opposition and international human rights organizations have described the arrests as politically motivated repression. More than 20 party members and activists are currently in prison. The latest list compiled by the Union for the Freedom of Political Prisoners of Azerbaijan includes 328 political prisoners. The authorities deny that arrests in the country are politically motivated. (JAM-NEWS.NET / 20.07.2026)

3. 外政関連

● アリエフ大統領、新任駐アゼルバイジャン大使らの信任状を受け

President Aliyev received credentials of newly appointed ambassadors to Azerbaijan

On July 17, President Aliyev received credentials of newly appointed ambassadors of:

- Brazil – Mr. Bernard Jörg Leopold de Garcia Kling
- Cambodia – Mr. Sok Chea
- Oman – Mr. Saif bin Rashid bin Saif Aljahwari
- Ireland – Ms. Clare Brosnan

(AZERTAG / 17.07.2026)

● バイラモフ外相とラブロフ露外相のモスクワ会談について

On the meeting between FM Bayramov and Russian FM Lavrov in Moscow

Opening remarks by FM Lavrov (mid.ru)

On Jul.17, Russian FM Lavrov highlighted the steady development of Azerbaijan–Russia relations, emphasizing regular high-level dialogue and progress in implementing the 2022 Moscow Declaration on Allied Interaction. He noted that issues related to the 2024 Azerbaijan Airlines crash had been resolved through joint efforts, pointed to positive momentum in economic, cultural, and humanitarian cooperation, and said the talks would also cover developments in the South Caucasus, including growing interest in the 3+3 Regional Cooperation Platform.

Opening remarks by FM Bayramov (apa.az)

Bayramov said the talks with Russia provide a platform to review the full range of bilateral relations. He highlighted economic cooperation, noting that despite global challenges, Azerbaijan–Russia ties show positive dynamics, with discussions focusing on 2025 trade indicators and future priorities. He also emphasized the importance of humanitarian

cooperation and readiness to address regional, international, and multilateral issues of mutual interest.

Press release on FM Lavrov's talks with FM Bayramov (mid.ru)

Russian FM Lavrov and Azerbaijani FM Bayramov discussed bilateral, regional, and international issues during talks in Moscow, reaffirming their commitment to strengthening cooperation under the 2022 Declaration on Allied Cooperation. They reviewed progress in political, economic, transport, cultural, and humanitarian ties, while Russia reiterated its readiness to support the Azerbaijan-Armenia normalization process, including a peace treaty and regional connectivity. The ministers also underscored the importance of cooperation among the Caspian states and continued engagement through the 3+3 Regional Cooperation Platform.

Press release on FM Bayramov's talks with FM Lavrov (mfa.gov.az)

Bayramov and Lavrov discussed the current state and future prospects of Azerbaijan–Russia relations, including political dialogue, economic cooperation, transport links, humanitarian ties, and regional and international security issues. Both sides emphasized the importance of further developing bilateral relations based on mutual respect, national interests, and the allied partnership framework established by the 2022 Declaration on Allied Interaction signed by Presidents Ilham Aliyev and Vladimir Putin.

- The ministers reviewed the work of the Azerbaijan–Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation, the role of the Business Council, and opportunities to expand trade and investment ties.
- They discussed cooperation in regional transport projects and the development of transit routes, including the International North–South Transport Corridor.
- Both sides stressed the importance of strengthening cooperation in education, culture, and humanitarian fields.
- The ministers exchanged views on regional and international security developments and emphasized continued dialogue.

FM Lavrov's statement and answers to media questions at a joint news conference following talks with FM Bayramov (mid.ru)

- Russian Lavrov said his talks with FM Bayramov reaffirmed the steady development of Russia-Azerbaijan relations under the 2022 Declaration on Allied Interaction. He welcomed President Aliyev's recent statement that bilateral ties had been "fully normalized" and said both sides agreed to overcome the recent slowdown in relations.
- Lavrov highlighted active political engagement, including a March 11 phone call between Vladimir Putin and Ilham Aliyev, during which Putin thanked Azerbaijan for assisting in the evacuation of Russian citizens from Iran and facilitating humanitarian aid deliveries following the U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran. He also noted growing intergovernmental

and parliamentary cooperation, including the 25th anniversary session of the Russian-Azerbaijani Interparliamentary Commission scheduled for December in Moscow, and the signing of a 2026-2027 foreign ministry consultation plan to strengthen diplomatic coordination.

- Lavrov said bilateral trade reached nearly \$5 billion in 2025, while Russian direct investment in Azerbaijan totals approximately \$10.7 billion. More than 1,400 Russian-capital companies operate in Azerbaijan, and both sides agreed to expand trade and investment. They also reviewed implementation of the December 2024 agreement to increase transit cargo along the western branch of the International North-South Transport Corridor, involving Russia, Azerbaijan, and Iran.
- The ministers also discussed cross-border cooperation, noting progress on the Samur River water-sharing project following the 29th meeting of the joint commission on July 9. In education and culture, they supported establishing a Russian-Azerbaijani university based on St. Petersburg State University, noted that about 9,000 Azerbaijani students are currently studying in Russia, and discussed opening schools at each country's embassy.
- On regional issues, Lavrov reiterated Russia's support for the Azerbaijan-Armenia normalization process, including unblocking transport links, resolving humanitarian issues, and advancing agreements reached between 2020 and 2022. He also backed continued cooperation through the 3+3 Regional Cooperation Platform, noting that experts from all six participating countries met in June and expressing hope that the next foreign ministers' meeting would be held in either Baku or Yerevan later this year.
- The ministers reaffirmed the importance of cooperation among the Caspian Five to address environmental challenges and preserve the Caspian Sea as a zone of peace and stability. Lavrov added that Russia and Azerbaijan would continue coordinating positions in multilateral organizations, including the CIS, OSCE, and the UN, expressing confidence that the talks would further strengthen bilateral ties and contribute to peace and security in the South Caucasus.
- Asked about progress on the International North-South Transport Corridor and the Rasht-Astara railway section, Lavrov said Russia, Azerbaijan, and Iran discussed the project during the talks. He noted that Iran has completed the long-delayed land allocation for the Rasht-Astara segment, removing a key obstacle to construction, and said the three countries are now working on practical implementation. Lavrov expressed confidence that the shared commitment of all parties would lead to tangible progress on the corridor.
- Asked about the state of Russia-Azerbaijan relations following President Aliyev's remarks that ties had been fully normalised, Lavrov said the two sides agreed to deepen

cooperation through a new 2026–2027 foreign ministry consultation plan, closer coordination on economic initiatives, expanded cultural and educational exchanges, including a joint Russian-Azerbaijani university, and enhanced media cooperation. He also highlighted continued collaboration on Caspian issues, the International North-South Transport Corridor, and efforts to advance the 3+3 Regional Cooperation Platform, expressing hope that the next foreign ministers' meeting would be held later this year.

- Asked about cooperation on protecting the Caspian Sea, Lavrov said Russia and Azerbaijan discussed encouraging Iran to ratify the Convention on the Legal Status of the Caspian Sea, which has already been approved by the other littoral states. He also highlighted growing concern over the Caspian's shrinking water levels, welcomed Azerbaijan's support for proposed five-party discussions on the issue, and reaffirmed Russia's commitment to joint environmental monitoring and other initiatives to preserve the sea's unique ecosystem.
- Asked about the ongoing U.S. actions against Iran, Lavrov called for an immediate ceasefire and warned that continued fighting threatens global security, disrupts key maritime trade routes, and increases economic risks. He also said the conflict has diverted U.S. attention from Ukraine, while reaffirming Russia's commitment to pursuing its objectives in the Ukraine conflict.

FM Bayramov's statement and answers to media questions at a joint news conference following talks with FM Lavrov (report.az)

- FM Bayramov said that his talks with FM Lavrov were comprehensive and constructive, covering the full spectrum of Azerbaijan–Russia relations, as well as regional and international developments. He noted that the discussions focused on strengthening bilateral cooperation, implementing agreements reached at the highest level, and identifying new areas for cooperation. Bayramov stated that Azerbaijan–Russia relations have been fully normalized after a period of difficulties. He emphasized that this was achieved through the political will and personal efforts of the leaders of both countries. According to him, Baku and Moscow have moved beyond previous challenges and restored cooperation across political, economic, humanitarian, and other areas. He highlighted the importance of historical, cultural, and humanitarian ties between the two peoples as a foundation for further development of bilateral relations. Bayramov stressed that the current stage of relations is focused on practical cooperation and institutional mechanisms. He welcomed the continuation of political dialogue at all levels and noted the signing of the Azerbaijan–Russia Foreign Ministries Consultation Plan for 2026–2027, which will help structure and expand diplomatic contacts between the two countries.

- Bayramov said that Azerbaijan and Russia continue to observe positive dynamics in economic relations despite global economic challenges. He emphasized the importance of expanding trade, investment, and business cooperation. He highlighted the role of the Azerbaijan–Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation and noted that further discussions between economic officials are planned, including a meeting between Azerbaijani Deputy Prime Minister Shahin Mustafayev and Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexey Overchuk in September. Bayramov stressed that economic cooperation remains one of the key pillars of bilateral relations and that both sides are interested in increasing trade volumes and expanding investment cooperation.
- Bayramov said Azerbaijan and Russia are working to restore practical connectivity between the two countries, including the resumption of air traffic on several routes that had been suspended. He described the restoration of transport links as an important element of returning bilateral relations to normal levels and strengthening economic, humanitarian, and people-to-people contacts. The ministers also discussed broader regional transport cooperation, including the development of transit routes and connectivity projects involving Azerbaijan, Russia, and neighboring countries.
- Asked about the Azerbaijan–Armenia normalization process, he said the 44-day war created new realities in the South Caucasus and established a new regional security environment. Bayramov emphasized that Azerbaijan’s approach is based on the principles of international law, including: sovereignty; territorial integrity; recognition of internationally accepted borders. He said that the progress achieved in the peace process, including the preparation of a peace agreement framework, represents a historic opportunity to establish lasting peace, stability, and prosperity in the region. Bayramov stated that de facto peace exists between Azerbaijan and Armenia, and that completing the remaining steps of the normalization process would create conditions for a comprehensive settlement. He also briefed the Russian side on Azerbaijan’s reconstruction efforts in territories affected by the conflict and measures related to the return of internally displaced persons.
- Bayramov emphasized that the 3+3 Regional Cooperation Platform remains relevant and in demand. He said the format provides an opportunity for countries of the region and neighboring states to directly discuss issues affecting regional stability, security, and economic cooperation. He recalled that meetings within this format have already taken place in Moscow, Tehran, and Istanbul, and reiterated Azerbaijan’s readiness to host a future meeting. Bayramov said regional problems should be addressed through cooperation among the countries of the region and their neighbors, emphasizing the importance of dialogue mechanisms that support stability and connectivity.

- Bayramov said Azerbaijan remains deeply concerned about the continuation of the Russia–Ukraine conflict because of its humanitarian consequences and impact on regional and international stability. He reiterated Azerbaijan's position in favor of peaceful resolution of conflicts, reduction of tensions, and respect for international law.
- Bayramov said the issue of the Caspian Sea's declining water level received special attention during his discussions with Lavrov. He stressed that the shrinking of the Caspian Sea represents a serious environmental and socio-economic challenge that requires coordinated action by all five littoral states. Bayramov emphasized the need for: joint efforts by Caspian countries; scientific research and data exchange; coordinated measures to reduce negative environmental impacts; protection of the Caspian ecosystem and sustainable development of coastal areas. He noted that the issue affects not only environmental balance but also economic activities, biodiversity, and communities living around the Caspian Sea. Bayramov said the ministers also exchanged views on broader regional and international developments, including security challenges in the South Caucasus, the Middle East, and other regions. He emphasized the importance of continued dialogue, diplomacy, and cooperation in addressing international challenges. (MID.RU, MFA.GOV.AZ, APA, REPORT / 17.07.2026)

NOTE: *Despite the emphasis on normalization, several contentious matters were not discussed in public remarks, including the detention of Russian citizens in Azerbaijan and Azerbaijani diaspora members in Russia, unresolved details surrounding the AZAL crash(officials did not publicly address issues of responsibility, investigation findings, or remaining legal questions), strikes affecting Azerbaijani facilities in Ukraine such as SOCAR facilities and Azerbaijani Embassy, attacks involving ships with Azerbaijani citizens aboard in the Sea of Azov and sensitive questions related to Russia's post-war role in the South Caucasus.*

● 国連首脳会合でアゼルバイジャンの和平に関する経験を紹介 Azerbaijan's peace experience highlighted at UN summit

Sheikhulislam Allahshukur Pashazade, Chairman of the Caucasus Muslims Office, attended the Peace Alliance Summit in Luanda, Angola, on July 16–17 at the invitation of Miguel Ángel Moratinos, UN Alliance of Civilizations High Representative. He was the only religious leader participating in the summit, which focused on promoting peace, ending wars, and upholding international law. Pashazade met with the presidents of Angola and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Namibia's prime minister, and other leaders. In his address, he praised the UN Alliance of Civilizations' peace efforts, highlighted Azerbaijan's experience in multiculturalism and interfaith dialogue, and noted international support for President Aliyev's role in the Azerbaijan-Armenia peace process. (AZERTAG / 17.07.2026)

● **アゼルバイジャンの圧力で、イスラエルがクネセト議題からアルメニア人虐殺承認を削除**

Pressured by Azerbaijan, Israel removed recognition of Armenian genocide from Knesset's agenda

According to the Israeli newspaper Haaretz, the Israeli Knesset did not vote on a proposal to recognize the Armenian genocide after contacts between Azerbaijani officials and the office of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Although the proposal had reportedly received prior government approval, it was removed from the Knesset's agenda before the parliament's summer recess. Haaretz claims that Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar supported advancing the measure, but Netanyahu prevented the vote following communication from Azerbaijani presidential aide Hikmet Hajiyev. Israeli officials subsequently informed Azerbaijan that the proposal had been withdrawn and would not be considered before the recess. While the Israeli Foreign Ministry denied that Netanyahu personally canceled the vote, it did not explain why the proposal was ultimately not brought before the Knesset. (MINVAL.AZ / 19.07.2026)

● **バクーで独露の非公開会合、アゼルバイジャン側は関与を否定**

Closed-door Russian-German meeting held in Baku, Azerbaijani sources deny involvement

Former German politicians and Russian officials recently held a closed-door meeting in Baku, according to The Times, with Azerbaijani government sources stressing that the gathering was a private initiative and was not organized or facilitated by the Azerbaijani authorities. According to The Times, the participants included Ronald Pofalla, former chief of staff to German Chancellor Angela Merkel, former Brandenburg Minister-President Matthias Platzeck, Valery Fadeyev, head of the Russian Presidential Council for Civil Society and Human Rights, and Viktor Zubkov, former Russian prime minister and current chairman of Gazprom's board of directors. Earlier reports by Die Zeit and ARD's Kontraste also identified former Swiss ambassador to Germany Tim Guldemann as one of the attendees. The newspaper described the meeting as part of an informal Russian-German dialogue network that has continued operating since the suspension of the Petersburg Dialogue forum. Similar meetings have reportedly taken place in Baku and Abu Dhabi several times since 2022. Official Berlin has distanced itself from the contacts, emphasizing that they are private meetings that do not reflect the position of the German government. Azerbaijani government sources likewise underscored that the talks were organized solely by the participants and took place without any involvement by the Azerbaijani authorities. (MINVAL / 20.07.2026)

● **ドイツが新駐アゼルバイジャン大使を任命**

Germany appoints new ambassador to Azerbaijan

Dirk Lölke, Germany's former ambassador to Oman, has been appointed as the new

ambassador to Azerbaijan. (APA / 20.07.2026)

NOTE: President Aliyev arrived on an official visit to Germany in the evening of July 20.

● ウズベキスタンの検事総長が司法協力の高官協議でバクー訪問

Uzbekistan's prosecutor general visits Baku for high-level talks on legal cooperation

Uzbekistan's Prosecutor General, Nigmatilla Yuldashev, visited Baku on 20 July at the invitation of his Azerbaijani counterpart, Kamran Aliyev. The two prosecutors discussed expanding cooperation between their offices, strengthening mutual legal assistance, and combating transnational crime, corruption, and cybercrime, before signing a new Cooperation Program.

During the visit, Yuldashev also met with Speaker of Azerbaijan's Milli Majlis, Sahiba Gafarova, to discuss bilateral relations and legal cooperation. He was also awarded the 100th Anniversary Medal of the Azerbaijani Prosecution Service for his contribution to strengthening ties between the two prosecutorial bodies. (TREND / 20.07.2026)

● アゼルバイジャンとパキスタン、司法協力拡大を協議

Azerbaijan, Pakistan discuss expanding justice cooperation

On Jul.20, Justice Minister Farid Ahmadov met with Pakistan's Minister of State for Law and Justice, Aqeel Malik, to discuss expanding bilateral cooperation in the justice sector. The two sides highlighted the strategic partnership between Azerbaijan and Pakistan, reviewed the implementation of existing cooperation programs, and emphasized the importance of joint training initiatives for justice officials. Malik is visiting Baku to participate in a training program for Azerbaijani judges, justice officials, and court personnel. (REPORT /20.07.2026)

● アリエフ大統領のドイツ訪問

On the visit of President Aliyev to Germany

President Aliyev arrived in Germany for an official visit on the evening of July 20. His first meeting was with Chairman of the Eastern Committee of the German Economy Michael Harms in Berlin. ●

The parties exchanged views on the existing potential in traditional and alternative energy, opportunities in connectivity, transport and logistics, including the Middle Corridor, cooperation in agriculture and tourism.

On July 21, President arrived at the "Villa Borsig" residence in Berlin to meet with President of Germany Frank-Walter Steinmeier. An expanded meeting reaffirmed the friendly and strategic nature of bilateral relations. Steinmeier praised Azerbaijan's progress in the peace process with Armenia and highlighted its growing contribution to Europe's energy security. Aliyev noted that Azerbaijan now exports natural gas to Germany and Austria, underscoring

the country's expanding energy partnership with Europe. The two leaders emphasized the potential to strengthen economic and business cooperation. They also stressed the significance of the upcoming Joint Declaration on the Strategic Agenda for Bilateral Partnership, to be signed by President Aliyev and German Chancellor Friedrich Merz. In addition, the discussions covered Azerbaijan-EU relations, the strategic importance of the Middle Corridor, and developments in the Middle East.

President Aliyev and Federal Chancellor of Germany Friedrich Merz signed the ["Joint Declaration on the Strategic Agenda for Bilateral Partnership between Azerbaijan and Germany"](#). The Joint Declaration on the Establishment and Operation of the Azerbaijan-Germany Business Council was also signed.

A Joint Declaration establishes a framework to deepen cooperation across political, economic, security, cultural, educational, scientific, and technological fields. The declaration reaffirms both countries' commitment to sovereignty, territorial integrity, international law, and closer Azerbaijan-EU relations. The agreement also welcomes progress in the Azerbaijan-Armenia peace process, with Germany reiterating its support for lasting regional peace. Key areas of cooperation include trade and investment, energy security, green energy and hydrogen, connectivity through the Middle Corridor, defense dialogue, cultural and academic exchanges, and digital transformation.

President Aliyev held a one-on-one meeting with Federal Chancellor Friedrich Merz, which followed by an expanded meeting. The leaders stressed the importance of implementing the newly signed strategic agenda between Azerbaijan and Germany through dedicated working groups and coordinated efforts across multiple sectors to deepen bilateral cooperation. They highlighted Azerbaijan's growing role in Europe's energy security and the strategic significance of the Middle Corridor. Friedrich Merz also congratulated Ilham Aliyev on the progress in the Azerbaijan-Armenia peace process, reaffirming Germany's commitment to supporting lasting peace and stability in the region.

Aliyev and Merz made press statements and answered journalists' questions:

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz welcomed President Aliyev to Berlin, noting that the visit had been postponed due to the conflict involving Iran. He said both Germany and Azerbaijan have been affected by global crises, including the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, and emphasized that lasting peace can only be achieved through negotiated solutions. Merz highlighted the importance of peace and stability in the South Caucasus, congratulating Azerbaijan and Armenia on initialing a historic peace treaty. He said Germany and the European Union are ready to support efforts toward a lasting settlement.

The Chancellor also stressed the steady development of bilateral relations, pointing to the signing of a Joint Declaration and the establishment of the Azerbaijan-Germany Business Council to strengthen economic cooperation. He underscored Azerbaijan's role as an

important energy partner, particularly in supplying oil and natural gas, and said both sides discussed expanding cooperation in renewable energy, hydrogen, investment, and transport corridors linking Europe and Asia. Merz concluded by expressing confidence in closer future cooperation between the two countries.

President Aliyev said the agreements signed during the visit, including the Joint Declaration, would elevate Azerbaijan-Germany relations and launch a strategic dialogue. He highlighted growing economic ties, noting that more than 200 German companies operate in Azerbaijan and expressing confidence that trade and investment would expand further. Aliyev emphasized energy cooperation, stating that Azerbaijan began exporting natural gas to Germany this year and now supplies gas to 10 EU member states, while also exporting oil and planning to deliver green energy to Europe. He also underscored Azerbaijan's role as a transport and transit hub connecting Central Asia and Europe.

On regional issues, Aliyev thanked Germany for supporting the South Caucasus peace process and said the peace agreement with Armenia had effectively ended a decades-long conflict. He highlighted practical steps taken since then, including energy supplies and cargo transit through Azerbaijan benefiting Armenia. Aliyev also welcomed closer Azerbaijan-EU relations and expressed confidence that Germany would continue playing a leading role in strengthening cooperation.

Then, they answered the journalists' questions.

- **On reports of a secret German-Russian meeting in Baku and Russia's war against Ukraine**, President Aliyev said Azerbaijan first learned of the reported meeting through media reports and was not informed by either Germany or Russia. After checking border records, Azerbaijani authorities confirmed that the individuals named in the reports were in Baku at the same time, suggesting the meeting may have taken place, although Azerbaijan had no direct knowledge of it. Aliyev added that if such contacts help end the war, Azerbaijan would welcome them. Asked what advice he would give President Vladimir Putin, Aliyev said he only offers advice when requested, but reiterated his consistent position that the war should end immediately and that peace must be restored as soon as possible.

Chancellor Friedrich Merz said he had no information about the reported meeting. He reiterated that Germany and its European partners have repeatedly sought negotiations with Russia, but President Vladimir Putin has refused to engage. He also thanked President Ilham Aliyev for sharing a similar assessment of the war and its possible resolution.

- **Asked about cooperation on the Middle Corridor**, Chancellor Friedrich Merz said he and President Aliyev had discussed the issue in detail and made it a key element of their Joint Declaration. He said Germany is interested in strengthening cooperation with Azerbaijan on infrastructure, logistics, and especially energy, emphasizing the need to

diversify German energy imports, including natural gas. Merz described Azerbaijan as an attractive partner because it produces more energy than it consumes and plays an increasingly important role in regional connectivity. He added that existing and expandable infrastructure, particularly for supplying Southern Germany, creates new opportunities for closer economic and energy cooperation between the two countries.

- **On energy cooperation**, Chancellor Friedrich Merz said Azerbaijan has become an important partner in strengthening Europe's energy security as Germany diversifies away from Russian gas. He said the two sides discussed increasing gas supplies from Azerbaijan, describing the issue as a key part of their joint agenda and future cooperation. President Aliyev said Azerbaijan can supply Germany with as much crude oil as needed and noted that natural gas exports to Germany began this year. He said a 10-year contract has been signed with German companies for an initial annual volume of 1.5 billion cubic meters, with potential for expansion. However, he stressed that increasing supplies would require greater demand, expanded pipeline and interconnector capacity, and renewed financing from European institutions for energy infrastructure projects.

● 中国共産党代表団がアゼルバイジャン国民議會を訪問

Chinese Communist Party delegation visits Azerbaijan's Milli Majlis

On July 21, Speaker of Azerbaijan's Milli Majlis Sahiba Gafarova met with a delegation of the Chinese Communist Party led by Kang Shuai to discuss expanding Azerbaijan-China cooperation. The talks focused on strengthening interparliamentary and inter-party relations, as well as collaboration in trade, education, culture, humanitarian affairs, and youth exchanges. Both sides highlighted the importance of political dialogue, cooperation between the Chinese Communist Party and the New Azerbaijan Party, and the existing memorandum of understanding between the ruling parties. (AZERTAG / 21.07.2026)

● メルツ独大統領、アリエフ大統領との会談後にパシニャン・アルメニア首相とアゼルバイジャン和平プロセスを協議

Merz discusses Azerbaijan peace process with Pashinyan after meeting Aliyev

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz held a phone call with Armenian PM Pashinyan a day after meeting President Aliyev in Berlin. Merz discussed the Armenia–Azerbaijan peace process, stressing the importance of advancing peace efforts for regional stability, while also addressing broader regional issues and Germany's ties with Armenia. (MINVAL.AZ / 22.07.2027)

● ドイツで抗議者が「独裁者！」と叫びアリエフ大統領を迎える

In Germany, protesters greeted Aliyev with chants of “Dictator!”

In Germany's capital, Berlin, during a meeting between Chancellor Friedrich Merz and President Aliyev, a group of Azerbaijani emigrants held a protest. According to Azerbaijani opposition media reports, the protesters greeted Aliyev with chants of "Dictator!"

Earlier, journalist Afgan Mukhtarli reported that German police did not allow Azerbaijani political emigrants to hold a protest against the president of Azerbaijan. According to him, in the morning, police officers guarding the German Foreign Ministry building demanded that photographs of Azerbaijani political prisoners placed nearby be removed. In addition, a construction crew was sent to the building, creating the appearance of repair work being carried out. After that, the participants in the protest were pushed away from the German Foreign Ministry building. (QAZETCHI / 22.07.2026)

● バクーでの独露秘密会合報道をめぐり、ペスコフ露大統領報道官、アリエフ大統領、ウクライナ外務省がコメント

Peskov, Aliyev, and the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry commented on reports of a secret meeting between Germans and Russians in Baku

The Kremlin has no information about an alleged meeting between representatives of Russia and Germany in Baku, Russian presidential press secretary Dmitry Peskov said in response to a question about whether the Kremlin had details of a meeting between representatives of Russia and Germany in Azerbaijan.

An unofficial meeting between former German officials and representatives of Russia in Baku has no practical significance for the peace process, for his part, said Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Heorhii Tykhyi. He emphasized that the Ukrainian side had not authorized the participants in the meeting to represent its interests or conduct negotiations regarding the end of the war.

Earlier, President Ilham Aliyev said that representatives of Russia and Germany had been in Baku at the same time, and this gives grounds to say that a meeting between them took place. German critics view the meetings in Baku as evidence of weaknesses in Berlin's Russia policy and an attempt to revive old German-Russian political ties.

A different perspective emerges in analyses by the Kyiv Post and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. They argue that while Baku continues to support Ukraine's territorial integrity and expand cooperation with Kyiv, it has not completely severed channels of communication with Moscow, seeking instead to preserve room for diplomatic manoeuvre. (MINVAL, RIA NOVOSTI, JAM-NEWS / 22.07.2026)

● 露国家院議員、アゼルバイジャンがウクライナとアルメニアの過ちから学んでいないのは遺憾と発言

State Duma deputy: It is regrettable that Azerbaijan is not learning from the mistakes of Ukraine and Armenia

According to Russian State Duma deputy Alexander Tolmachev, Azerbaijan appears to be following Armenia's path by seeking closer ties with Europe while distancing itself from Russia. His comments came after President Aliyev expressed interest in launching a strategic dialogue with Germany to strengthen bilateral relations and promote regional cooperation, peace, and stability. Tolmachev argued that countries that move away from Russia in favor of Europe face economic and political difficulties, citing Armenia and Ukraine as examples. While he said cooperation with European countries is not inherently problematic, he claimed that European partners often require countries to weaken or sever ties with Russia, including cultural and historical connections. (LENTA.RU / 22.07.2026)

NOTE: *That prompted a sharp response in an article published by Minval.az. The author argued that Azerbaijan had never accepted Moscow's vision of a "big brother", had chosen not to join the CSTO, and had consistently pursued a multi-vector foreign policy. In the author's view, the strategic partnership with Germany does not represent "turning away from Russia" but rather reflects a pragmatic approach. Notably, Baku has framed the issue not in defensive terms but as its sovereign right to make its own decisions.*

● **アゼルバイジャンで収監中のルベン・バルダニャン氏の件で欧州人権裁判所に申請**

An application has been filed with the European Court of Human Rights in Ruben Vardanyan's case imprisoned in Azerbaijan

An application has been submitted to the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) on behalf of Ruben Vardanyan, according to his lawyer, Siranush Sahakyan. The filing alleges violations of eight articles of the European Convention on Human Rights, challenging Vardanyan's 20-year prison sentence in Azerbaijan. The application argues that the verdict lacked factual evidence, mischaracterized his activities, and that he did not appeal domestically because he considered the trial unfair and domestic legal remedies ineffective. (NEWS.AM / 22.07.2026)

● **アゼルバイジャンとスーダン、外交官の査証を免除**

Azerbaijan, Sudan waive visas for diplomats

President Aliyev signed the law approving the agreement between the governments of Azerbaijan and Sudan on mutual exemption of diplomatic passport holders from visa requirements. The agreement was signed on May 19, 2026, in Baku. (REPORT / 22.07.2026)

● **バイラモフ外相、エデルゲリエフ露大統領補佐官を迎える**

FM Bayramov received the Assistant to the President of Russia, Special Representative of the President for Climate Issues, Ruslan Edelgeriyev

On Jul.23, Cooperation in the field of combating climate change, COP issues, as well as

regional and international issues of mutual interest have been discussed. The meeting also touched upon issues of bilateral cooperation in the Caspian Sea. In this context, the importance of intensifying the activities of the bilateral Working Group established on the Caspian Sea was emphasized. (TREND / 23.07.2026)

● **アゼルバイジャンと中国、政党間協力を模索**
Azerbaijan, China explore inter-party cooperation

On Jul. 23, Tahir Budagov, Deputy Chairman and Head of the Central Office of the New Azerbaijan Party (YAP), met with a delegation of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), led by Kang Shuai, Deputy Director General of Information Research Center of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee. Underscoring the importance of collaboration between both countries' ruling parties, Kang noted that the current visit of the CCP delegation would contribute to enhancing bilateral interstate and inter-party relations. The discussions also reviewed the current state and development of YAP-CCP partnership. (AZERTAG / 23.07.2026)

● **EU、ロシア制裁からアゼルバイジャンの銀行を除外**
EU removed Azerbaijani bank from Russian sanctions

The EU has removed Azerbaijan's Yelo Bank from its Russia sanctions list under the 21st sanctions package after the bank disconnected from all Russian systems and implemented robust safeguards to prevent sanctions circumvention, a senior European Commission official said. The EU continues to increase pressure on both Russian banks and banks in third countries that facilitate sanctions evasion. (JAM-NEWS.NET / 23.07.2026)

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