



NEWSLETTER

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Eastern Partnership Program Launched

On May 7, Eastern Partnership program was officially launched at the summit of the European Union, in Prague, Czechia. The event brought together heads of state and government of the EU and Eastern Partnership initiative member countries. Leaders from Azerbaijan, Belarus, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine as well as the 27-nation European bloc have signed a joint declaration at the end. The partnership, initiated by Poland and Sweden and proposed by the European Commission last year, is meant to bring the six former Soviet republics closer to the EU and achieve stability in the region. The issue of "visa liberalization" for partner countries was not included into the declaration. Azerbaijani President attending the summit named Azerbaijan one of the European Union's very important partners, noting the country's contribution to ensuring Europe's energy security. President Aliyev also attended the summit "Southern Corridor-New Silk Road" of European and Central Asian countries in Prague, seeking to smooth the path for eventual gas imports from Central Asia to help for diversification of energy routes in Europe. The countries signed the Declaration, where they stated that they agreed to give necessary political support and, where possible, technical and financial assistance to the construction of the Southern Corridor, including the Trans-Caspian energy transportation projects, in order to support the diversification of energy sources, markets and transport routes. "We attain the energy security of all parties including consumer and transit states, such as Turkey, Georgia and Azerbaijan, on the basis of commercial agreements that are in line with the Parties' international commitments", the Declaration reads. The Declaration was signed by President of the European Council, President of the European Commission, Presidents of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Turkey, Minister of Petroleum of Egypt. The participants of the Nabucco project will work for the intergovernmental agreement until June, they said in the Declaration.

Turkish Premier Visits Azerbaijan

Prime Minister of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan visited Azerbaijan. In their one-on-one meeting, the two presidents emphasized the high level of bilateral relations based on the brotherhood between Azerbaijani and Turkish peoples. Mr. Erdogan said the "meeting is the best reply to those attempting to cast shadow on our cooperation. Speculations over the borders are inadmissible. The borders can not be opened, unless the occupation of Azerbaijani lands ends" the Turkish Premier underlined. He stressed that Turkey was a first country to recognize Azerbaijan's independence. The Premier noted that Azerbaijan and Turkey protect each other's interests in the international community. He pointed out that Turkey closed its borders with Armenia after it occupied the Azerbaijani territories, adding the border will not be opened until they are liberated. As long as the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict is not resolved, peace and security in the South Caucasus region is impossible, underlined Mr. Erdogan. The Premier also noted European and Asian countries would derive benefit from settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. It is worth noting that May 12, marks the 15th anniversary of a ceasefire between Azerbaijan and Armenia, although being fragile and imperfect, as every year lives are lost along the front lines.

Azerbaijani and Canadian Scientists to Conduct Joint Researches

"Azerbaijani and Canadian scientists are keen to conduct the joint researches" said Mr. Thomas Coleman, dean of the University of Waterloo's Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science during his visit to Azerbaijani Academy of Science together with the professor Ilham Akhundov, Waterloo University. He said the aim of the visit is to familiarize themselves with the state programs, projects and other documents implemented in the field of education and science and discuss cooperation issues.