



THE EUROPEAN UNION AND AZERBAIJAN

#StrongerTogether

September 2025



Relations between the EU and Azerbaijan are based on the **EU-Azerbaijan Partnership and Cooperation Agreement**, in force since 1999. Cooperation between the EU and Azerbaijan is guided by three main areas of cooperation:

- Investing in connectivity and climate action
- Economic development and market opportunities
- Strengthening institutions and people-to-people contacts

The EU is a key reform partner in Azerbaijan, bringing best practices and experience to a wide range of sectors.

Energy Cooperation

The EU is the main investor in Azerbaijan's non-oil sector, playing a key role in the country's economic diversification through its bilateral assistance programmes. A Memorandum of Understanding, signed in July 2022, deepens EU-Azerbaijan energy cooperation. It contributes to the EU's energy diversification and promotes climate change resilience in Azerbaijan by supporting renewable energy generation and addressing methane emissions.

Mine Action

The EU and its Member States are the largest international donor to mine action in Azerbaijan with a Team Europe Initiative launched in 2024 providing vital support to reduce risks, save lives, and promote sustainable development.

Civil Society

The EU is the leading supporter of civil society in Azerbaijan, promoting human rights and making a difference for youth, gender equality, and the most vulnerable people by providing capacity-building for independent NGOs.

Regional stability

The EU supports closer cooperation with the South Caucasus and regional cooperation on connectivity through its Strategic Approach to the Black Sea region and a dedicated Connectivity Agenda. The EU remains committed to contribute to a prosperous and stable South Caucasus by fostering ties across the region, bringing economies and people closer together.

INSTITUTIONS

The EU helps to promote better access to justice for citizens and businesses. Since 2020, more than 5,300 vulnerable people received free legal aid in Baku and the regions with EU support. The EU also supported the development of the Mediation Communication and Awareness Strategy for 2025-2028.

ECONOMY

In 2024, over 7000 SMEs were supported through the EU4Business initiative in Azerbaijan, generating an extra EUR 40.4 million in income, creating more than 10,167 new jobs, and increasing their exports by 6.4%.

EDUCATION

Over 6,000 students and academic staff have benefitted from Erasmus+ international mobility projects. Since 2021, with EU support, over 724 students enrolled in dual vocational education learning programmes, with more than 80% graduating from the programme.

GREEN

The EU and Azerbaijan are working to strengthen climate change resilience, ensure environmental protection, and make significant strides in the green transition. Contributing to sustainable connectivity in Azerbaijan to build better links between Europe and Asia is part of these efforts.

With EU support, the Port of Baku received a certification in energy management and support in preparing monitoring and accounting for greenhouse gas emissions, becoming the first Green Port in the Caspian Sea.

DIGITAL

The EU is supporting regional capacity building and institutional frameworks, conducting targeted training programs, strengthening governance structures, and enhancing cooperation with regional and international cybersecurity stakeholders. The EU contributed to the preparation of the national digital development concept and the Cyber Security Strategy. The EU also assisted in development of an e-agriculture system providing online services to farmers and investors as well as invested in cyber resilience governance with special focus on women in cyber.





GLOBAL GATEWAY IN AZERBAIJAN

Under the Global Gateway strategy, expected mobilised investments now exceed €130 million, fostering the country's economic diversification, accelerating the green and digital transition, and promoting smarter and greener cities.

The EU is supporting a project by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), aiming to rehabilitate **water supply and sanitation services** across the entire city of Ganja. In its first phase, the EU is providing a €5 million EU investment grant under the Neighbourhood Investment Platform. The project will leverage a budget of €306 million.

To improve municipal street lighting infrastructure in the city of Ganja, the EBRD will invest up to €12.5 million as part of its **Green Cities programme**. This will be complemented by a €2.5 million E5P grant. It is expected to upgrade more than 80% of the existing street lighting infrastructure in the city and will create significant energy savings.



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Mine Action Team Europe Initiative

The Team Europe Initiative on Mine Action, formally launched in May 2024, is the joint undertaking of the EU and 8 EU Member States – Italy, Germany, France, Slovenia, Estonia, Hungary, Belgium, Croatia.

With a combined financial envelope expected to reach over EUR 23 million, the initiative supports the capacity-building and institutional strengthening of the Azerbaijan National Agency for Mine Action, awareness raising among the population, clearing of explosive ordnance, as well as assistance to victims of mines.



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