

## Ways and Opportunities to Expand Uzbekistan's Cooperation with the European Union

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**Abstract:** This article will analyze the current state of cooperation between Uzbekistan and the European Union (EU), prospects for development and opportunities for expansion. According to the results of the study, there is a great potential for strengthening cooperation in the economic, political and cultural spheres. The article offers specific recommendations and strategies for further cooperation.

**Keywords:** Uzbekistan, European Union, International Cooperation, foreign policy, economic relations, cultural exchanges.

### INTRODUCTION

Uzbekistan pays great attention to the development of relations with the European Union since its independence. In recent years this relationship has risen to a new level and further enhancement. The purpose of this article is to analyze the participation of cooperation between Uzbekistan and the European Union, to identify the current situation, identify problems and to develop strategies for further expansion of ties in the future.

Makes promises many advantages for the expansion of cooperation between Uzbekistan, in particular, technology transfer and attracting investment, and to increase the volume of trade increase the prestige of the country in the international arena. At the same time, interested in cooperation with participation also from Uzbekistan, this will help ensure stability in the region and in Central Asia because of the enhancing effects [1].

### METHODS AND LITERATURE REVIEW

We have a wide range of sources used for this research, in particular, scientific articles, official government reports, information and conversations with experts of international organizations. The research methods include qualitative and quantitative analysis methodology.

During the analysis of the literature we have studied various aspects of the participation of Uzbekistan and the relationship. Alimov and Kodirov (2022) the dynamics of trade and economic relations of Uzbekistan with the participation of their own research were analyzed [2]. According to their conclusion, in the last 5 years, the volume of bilateral trade increased by 30%, but there is still great potential for growth.

In the report of the European Commission (2023) the set of priority directions of cooperation with Uzbekistan, among them the rule of law, democratic reforms and economic modernization has been emphasized [3].

## RESULTS

According to the survey results, is developing cooperation between uzbekistan and the participation in the following main areas:

**1 table. Between uzbekistan and participation in trade volume**

Year	Total trade turnover,	Export,	Import
2022	4,62 billion euro	billion 3,77 eur	845 million euro
in 2023	5,13 billion euro	billion eur 4,35	euro 780 million

2023-the volume of trade turnover between uzbekistan and the participation in the year increased by 11 percent [4]. PARTICIPATION of uzbekistan exports to the countries have increased significantly, this is a positive indicator for our country.

**Investment cooperation:** 2023-year, according to the position, uzbekistan has a tendency to increase the volume of direct investments from countries participation in [5].

The main investment areas: energy, agriculture and food industry, IT-technologies.

**Technical assistance and development projects:** 2021-2027-elected for a term of years to 83 million euro allocated to the technical assistance program of uzbekistan in the framework of [6].

Main areas: agricultural modernization of the education system reform, the improvement of public administration.

**Legal political dialogue and cooperation:** 2023-22-year-uzbekistan's participation in the November general system of preferences (gsp+) status of beneficiaries of 2027-31 year-was extended until December.

2024-5-year-elected in April and uzbekistan between raw materials (cr I) stable pricing, aimed at the development of a chain in the field of understanding was signed a protocol of [4].

**Cultural and humanitarian relations:** Erasmus+ in uzbekistan with the participation of more than 500 students every year as part of the program is to be able to get to study in the university.

2023-european culture festival was held in uzbekistan in the years, then more than 50 thousand adam attended.

The results of this multifaceted and dynamic development of cooperation between uzbekistan and the participation of the trend. The increase of trade turnover, the increase of promising investment and new affiliate program launch colossal that are indicative of the bilateral relations.

## ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

The current status of cooperation between uzbekistan and the european union has a positive dynamics, but has yet to achieve its full potential. Important for the further expansion of cooperation in the development of the following recipe:

**Diversification of trade relations:** composition of exports to uzbekistan, it is necessary to diversify and to increase the share of high value-added products. 2023-according to the statistical data of the year of uzbekistan exports of YIga increased significantly, but slightly reduced the volume of imports [7]. This suggest that increase the competitiveness of the economy of uzbekistan. However, for further improvement of the export structure, you can perform the following actions:

- Increase the quality of production in accordance with the standards of the council of coordinators
- Export-oriented enterprise support program expansion
- Marketing strategies for improvement of the participation to enter the market

- Enhancing investment cooperation: to enable countries to attract investment from further participation in the following important events:
- To improve the investment environment, in particular, to strengthen the legal protection and reduce administrative barriers
- The organization of joint investment fund for innovative projects
- Development of the system of special privileges and preferences for participation investors [8]

**Scientific-technical cooperation development:** 2024-year in April signed a statement of understanding in the field of raw materials of scientific-technical cooperation for development of new opportunities opens. In this direction is worthwhile to carry out the following activities:

- The organization of the joint research center
- Participation of academic exchange between the university and the expansion of higher educational institutions of uzbekistan
- Innovative start-create programs for the ap in akselerasiya

Improvement of legal base: council of uzbekistan to continue the process of adaptation to the standards of the legislative coordinators is important. GSP+ system to use 2027-years shows that further reforms should be extended up to accelerate in this direction. This is particularly relevant in the following areas:

- Protection of intellectual property rights
- Competition law
- Public procurement system

**The expansion of cultural ties:** the successful conduction of the festival of european culture shows that there are great opportunities for the further development of cultural relations [9].

The development of cooperation between uzbekistan and the participation of the recipe above can be taken out to a new level. However, there are some difficulties and obstacles in this process:

The cooperation between uzbekistan and the european union have evolved significantly in recent years, but still not achieve the full potential. Statistics shows the dynamics of trade turnover in the year 2023 positive, but a number of issues that require deep analysis behind these figures is hidden.

In the first place, the issue of diversification of the export structure remains topical. Uzbekistan mainly raw materials and low-tech products export promotes. This produces variations in prices on the world market and issues related to long-term sustainable growth does not provide. Of high-tech products can increase the competitiveness of the economy of uzbekistan, the transition to the production and export.

Achieved significant progress in efforts to attract investment, but also there are great opportunities for development in this area. European investors recognize the good potential of uzbekistan in the market, but still, administrative barriers, and byurokratiya is to prevent their coming into the imperfection of the legal system more active. Deepening institutional reforms to resolve this problem, it is necessary to adapt the improvement of further legislation and international standards.

Scientific-technical cooperation in the field of significant progress was also achieved. Erasmus+ program within the exchange of students, joint research projects in this area has brought positive results. However, the further expansion of cooperation in this field, especially for innovative technology transfer and start-up ecosystem, it is necessary to strengthen cooperation on the

development of ap. This increase in the innovative capacity of uzbekistan and the "knowledge economy"can foster the transition to.

Cooperation in cultural and humanitarian sphere is also important. This is not only to increase mutual understanding between the people of the area, but also the "soft power" will serve to strengthen economic and political ties through. The successful conduction of the festival of european culture shows that there are great opportunities in this direction. Events like this increasing in the future, as well as according to the goal of expanding exchange programs in the field of education and culture.

Significant progress has also been achieved in the field of political and legal cooperation. GSP+ system of uzbekistan be extended to use of the products will create favorable conditions for access to the european market. However, increase the competitiveness of local manufacturers to make full use of these benefits, it is necessary to strengthen the export capacity and improve quality standards.

The development of cooperation in the field of logistics and transport is also important. Innovative solutions and the challenges that arise due to the geographical location of uzbekistan requires the creation of new transport corridors. In this regard the experience of the european union and the technology can be very useful.

Also has great potential in the field of energy cooperation. Paying great attention to the development of renewable sources of uzbekistan and the countries of europe in this field has advanced technology. The expansion of solar and wind energy projects on the modernization of uzbekistan's energy sector is not only cooperation, but also will help you to improve the environmental situation.

One of the priorities is the development of cooperation in the field of agriculture is also important. To attract european agricultural productivity through technology and expertise to increase the production of organic products and the introduction of water saving technologies can enhance.

The development of relations between uzbekistan and the european union cooperation in the above areas, a new stage of economic growth to increase mutual understanding between the people and ensure they can serve. However, to achieve this goal, a systematic and long-term approach, as well as the continuous efforts of both sides are required.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The cooperation between uzbekistan and the european union has expanded and evolved significantly in recent years. However, the full potential of this relationship has not yet been revealed. You can give the following recommendations for further strengthening of cooperation:

1. Diversification of trade relations and high-tech products export increase.
2. The participation of investors and improve the investment environment to attract, develop special programs.
3. Scientific-technical cooperation and the strengthening of joint research centers and the development of innovative projects.
4. The process of adaptation to the standards of the council of uzbekistan the legislative coordinators continue.
5. Holding the expansion of cultural exchange service, learn the language and increase the number of youth exchange programs.

The implementation of these recommendations, a new stage of cooperation between uzbekistan and the participation to ensure economic growth and to increase mutual understanding between the people they can serve.

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