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The EU Newsletter No. 189

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Welcome to the EU Newsletter. This Newsletter will keep you abreast of all important developments in the EU and its relations with Kazakhstan.

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Quote by the HR/VP Catherine Ashton in the article "11 September. Europe remembers"

"10 years after the 9/11 attacks, the European Union remembers the victims of that terrible day and all those who have suffered at the hands of terrorists. We in Europe continue to work hard to put into effect the global strategy to combat terrorism agreed in 2006. We are striving both to eliminate the threat of terror and to address its causes. That is why we support all those who promote democracy and development around the world, said Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission.

"Next week, I will be in New York for the United Nations General Assembly, where I will address the UN Symposium on Counter-Terrorism and participate in the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum, in which the EU has played a prominent role. I hope these events will recommend a number of key actions to further enhance international cooperation in the fight against terrorism." [Full article](#)

European Commission boosts efforts to counter violent extremism

Today Cecilia Malmström, Commissioner for Home Affairs, launches the Radicalisation Awareness Network which aims to counter violent extremism. The initiative will support Member States' efforts to prevent violent radicalisation and the recruitment of individuals to terrorist activities. The network will connect key actors involved in countering radicalisation across the EU such as social workers, religious leaders, youth leaders, policemen, researchers and others who work on the ground in vulnerable communities.

"The EU needs to do more to counter the threat of growing violent extremism. This is why we are today launching the Radicalisation Awareness Network to support Member States in their efforts to enhance awareness about radicalisation and ways of countering extremists' ideology and propaganda. As experience has shown, terrorism cannot be linked to one faith or political persuasion, nor any particular region. Our efforts in the fight against violent extremism must

therefore take into account the different patterns of radicalisation. It is also important to acknowledge that ideological inspiration and reference points for radicalisation can also be found within the political ideas of populist movements in the EU," said Cecilia Malmström, EU Commissioner for Home Affairs. [Full text](#)

EU starts negotiations on Caspian pipeline to bring gas to Europe

Brussels, 12 September 2011 – Today the European Union has adopted a mandate to negotiate a legally binding treaty between the EU, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan to build a Trans Caspian Pipeline System. This is the first time that the European Union has proposed a treaty in support of an infrastructure project. The treaty will be concluded by the EU after decision by all 27 Member States that the European Commission should lead the negotiations on behalf of them all.

This decision is a direct follow-up of the visit of President José Manuel Barroso and Energy Commissioner Günther Oettinger to Baku and Ashgabat in January 2011 and their meetings with Presidents Aliyev and Berdimuhamedov. It constitutes a milestone in the realisation of the Southern Corridor and is the first operational decision as part of a co-ordinated and united external energy strategy, as proposed in the European Commission's Communication on security of energy supply and international cooperation - "The EU Energy Policy: Engaging with Partners beyond Our Borders" - adopted on 7 September. [Full text](#)

Delegation of EU Ambassadors paid an informal visit to Aktobe oblast

On 8 -9 September a delegation of EU ambassadors and Charge d'Affaires a.i. made an informal visit to Aktobe oblast. H.E. Norbert Jousten, the Head of the EU Delegation to Kazakhstan, H.E. Ursula Fahringer, Ambassador of Austria, H.E. Mikko Kinnunen, Ambassador of Finland, H.E. Jean-Charles Berthonnet, Ambassador of France, H.E. Juris Maklakovs, Ambassador of Latvia, H.E. Rokas Bernotas, Ambassador of Lithuania, H.E. Lubomir Rehak, Ambassador of Slovakia, and Charge d'Affaires of Sweden, Bulgaria, Poland and Romania paid a courtesy visit to participants of the seminar organized in the framework of the EU project "Enhancing the Capacity of Civil Society to Disseminate Human Rights Information in the Kazakh language". [Press release](#)

The EU Project on disseminating information about human rights in Kazakh language conducted regional training in Aktobe

The EU project "*Enhancing the Capacity of Civil Society to Disseminate Human Rights Information in the Kazakh language*," implemented by the Public Foundation "Charter for Human Rights," conducts the fifth regional training seminar. From 8 to 13 September 40 teachers, representatives of NGOs and mass media, as well as human rights defenders from the city of Aktobe will be trained in human rights fundamentals, international human rights standards, and methods for teaching human rights in the Kazakh language. [Press release](#)

The EU Project will present the first results of the monitoring of the work of Public Service Centres in Kazakhstan ASTANA – 13 September 2011.

The Civil Alliance of Kazakhstan will present the results of the monitoring of the work of Public Service Centres (PSCs) with the financial support from the European Union. The monitoring of PSCs has been carried out in the framework of the project "Public Monitoring". This project's goal is to measure the quality of PSCs' performance and the satisfaction of the recipients of the PSCs' services.

This monitoring was launched on 25 July 2011 in all oblast centres of Kazakhstan (cities of Astana, Almaty, Karaganda, Shymkent, Pavlodar, Ust'-Kamenogorsk, Kostanai, Kokshetau, Aktau, Kyzylorda, Taraz, Petropavlovsk, Uralsk, Taldykorgan, Aktobe, Atyrau)

at the 57 operating PSCs. 57 observers, 1,753 general public respondents and 282 PSCs' employees were engaged in this monitoring.

The EU allocated 279,990 euro for the implementation of this project. [Press release](#)

The EU project "Monitoring and Assessment of Social Programmes" will hold a seminar in Almaty

Almaty – For the first time in Almaty a set of training activities will be carried out from 13 to 16 September 2011 to plan the assessment of three components of the Almaty City Development Programme for 2011-2015.

The goal of these activities is to create and test a technology for assessing a city-level programme under auspices of the Public Council.

The Public Council under the Akim of Almaty city will be carrying out the assessment of the three components of the city programme. Such new function of the Public Council will enable to enhance the quality of city programmes and to take into account the public needs. Especially so given that such assessment will be carried out together with the population (participatory assessment) and leading experts. The Public Council will promote the results of the assessment and will influence the correspondent decision-making at the city level. Moreover, the position of this assessment is one of a developing function rather than of another control institute. The participants of the seminar will be apply the acquired skills in practice. Representatives of the Akimat's departments, members of the *maslikhat*, members of the Public Council under the Almaty City Akimat, NGOs, experts have been invited to participate in the seminar. [Press release](#)

RECENT SPEECHES

Joint statement by President Herman Van Rompuy and President José Manuel Barroso on the tenth anniversary of 9/11

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/124539.pdf

Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the attack on the Israeli Embassy in Cairo

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/124561.pdf

Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the killing of Ghiath Matar by Syrian security forces and on the detention of other human rights activists in Syria:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/124581.pdf