EU/Kazakhstan Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement

2016/0166(NLE) - 25/02/2020 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Kazakhstan, of the other part.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision (EU) 2020/244 on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Kazakhstan, of the other part.

CONTENT: the Council decided to approve, on behalf of the Union, the Partnership and Enhanced Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Kazakhstan, of the other part.

The Agreement establishes a strengthened partnership and cooperation between the Parties which contributes to international and regional peace and stability as well as to economic development and is based on principles which the Parties also reaffirm through their international commitments, notably in the framework of the United Nations and the OSCE.

The Agreement is based on the will of the Parties to:

- strengthen the promotion, protection and implementation of fundamental freedoms and human rights, as well as respect for democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance;
- respect the principles of the market economy;
- develop trade and investment in all sectors on the basis of a strengthened legal basis, in particular this Agreement and the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organisation (WTO);
- develop regular political dialogue on bilateral and international issues of common interest;
- combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to cooperate in the fields of non-proliferation and nuclear safety and security;
- fight against the illicit trade and accumulation of small arms and light weapons;
- fight against organised crime and trafficking in human beings and intensify cooperation in the fight against terrorism;
- strengthen dialogue and cooperation on migration issues, as part of a comprehensive approach focusing on cooperation on legal migration and the fight against illegal migration and trafficking in human beings;
- respect the principle of sustainable development, including by promoting the implementation of international multilateral agreements and regional cooperation;
- strengthen cooperation on energy, ensure security of energy supply and facilitate the construction of appropriate infrastructure, building on the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of energy between the European Union and Kazakhstan, concluded in Brussels on 4 December 2006, and in the framework of the Energy Charter Treaty;
- raise the level of security in public health and human health protection, which is a prerequisite for sustainable development and economic growth;
- promote mutual understanding and convergence of their legislative and regulatory frameworks in order to strengthen mutually beneficial links and sustainable development.

The Agreement establishes an institutional framework comprising a Cooperation Council, a Cooperation Committee and a Parliamentary Cooperation Committee. It also introduces a dispute settlement procedure, to be used if one of the Parties fails to fulfil its obligations under the Agreement.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 20.1.2020.