Basic information

2016/0166(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments	Procedure completed
EU/Kazakhstan Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement See also 2017/2035(INI) **Subject** 6.20.03 Bilateral economic and trade agreements and relations 6.40.04.04 Relations with Caucasus countries **Geographical area** Kazakhstan	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	JAAKONSAARI Liisa (S&D)	13/12/2016
	Shadow rapporteur KUKAN Eduard (PPE) KARSKI Karol (ECR) PAET Urmas (ALDE) SCHOLZ Helmut (GUE/NGL) MESZERICS Tamás (Verts/ALE)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
DEVE Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
INTA International Trade	BORRELLI David (EFDD)	13/07/2016

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Foreign Affairs	3742	2020-01-20
Foreign Affairs	3498	2016-11-14

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner

	European External Action Service	MOGHERINI Federica

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
07/06/2016	Preparatory document	JOIN(2016)0026	Summary
25/10/2016	Legislative proposal published	12409/2016	Summary
14/11/2016	Debate in Council		
24/11/2016	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
10/10/2017	Vote in committee		
23/10/2017	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0325/2017	Summary
11/12/2017	Debate in Parliament		
12/12/2017	Decision by Parliament	T8-0484/2017	Summary
12/12/2017	Results of vote in Parliament		
20/01/2020	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
20/01/2020	End of procedure in Parliament		
25/02/2020	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2016/0166(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Amendments and repeals	See also 2017/2035(INI)
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 337 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 209-p1 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p8-a2
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/8/06811

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE608.080	13/07/2017	
Committee opinion	INTA	PE609.316	27/09/2017	

Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A8-0325/2017	23/10/2017	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T8-0484/2017	12/12/2017	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	12409/2016	25/10/2016	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
ECHR	Preparatory document	JOIN(2016)0026	07/06/2016	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2020/0244
OJ L 052 25.02.2020, p. 0001 Summary

EU/Kazakhstan Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement

2016/0166(NLE) - 25/10/2016 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude 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.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: in accordance with Council Decision (EU) 2016/123, the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Kazakhstan, of the other part was signed on 21 December 2015, subject to its conclusion at a later date.

The Agreement constitutes an important step towards increased political and economic involvement of the Union in Central Asia. By strengthening political dialogue and improving cooperation in a broad range of areas, it will provide the basis for more effective bilateral engagement with Kazakhstan.

It is now necessary for the Agreement to be approved on behalf of the European Union.

CONTENT: under this proposal, the Council is invited to adopt, on behalf of the Union, the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Kazakhstan, of the other part.

The Agreement is attached to the draft Decision.

As regards its content, the Agreement is based on three key points:

- **Political dialogue and cooperation in the field of foreign and security policy** in order to enhance provisions on political dialogue, democracy and the rule of law;

- **Trade and business** to promote exchanges and trade with the EU;
- **Sectoral cooperation** in a wide range of areas including sustainable economic development.

(*For further details on the measures of the draft Agreement, please refer to the initial legislative proposal from 7.6.2016*).

Duration of the Agreement: the Agreement is concluded for an **unlimited period**, and can be terminated at six months' notice.

As of its entry into force, the Agreement supersedes the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Kazakhstan, of the other part, signed on 23 January 1995.

EU/Kazakhstan Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement

2016/0166(NLE) - 07/06/2016 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude 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.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: relations between the European Union (EU) and Kazakhstan are currently based on the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement signed in Brussels on 23 January 1995, which entered into force in June 1999.

On 13 April 2011, the Council adopted a Decision authorising the European Commission to negotiate the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Kazakhstan. Negotiation of the Agreement began in June 2011.

The Agreement between the parties was signed on 21 December 2015, subject to its conclusion at a later date.

For the EU, the Agreement constitutes an important step towards **increased political and economic involvement in Central Asia**. By strengthening political dialogue and improving cooperation in a broad range of areas, it will provide the basis for more effective bilateral engagement with Kazakhstan.

Legal nature: the Agreement was negotiated and initialled by the European Union and the Republic of Kazakhstan as the Union's Agreement only. As the European Union's Member States were unanimous in preferring a **mixed Agreement**, it was agreed to amend the initialled text of the Agreement and the Joint Proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the European Commission for a Council Decision on the signing and provisional application of the Agreement accordingly.

In response to this measure, the **European Commission** made the following statement: 'Given the political and economic relevance of the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (EPCA) with Kazakhstan, the Commission stresses the importance of signing and ratifying it swiftly. The Commission reiterates its position that a "mixed" agreement is legally unnecessary in the present case and that all matters covered by the agreement fall within the EU's competence. The Commission therefore regrets that the Member States insist on signing and ratifying the EPCA with Kazakhstan as a "mixed" agreement. The Commission reserves its position as to the future presentation of acts linked to the legal nature of an international agreement.'

Following the adoption of the Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement, the Agreement was signed by the European Union and the Republic of Kazakhstan as a **mixed Agreement**.

CONTENT: the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the European Commission jointly proposed that the Council adopt a Council Decision approving, on behalf of the European Union, the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Kazakhstan, of the other part.

The text of the Agreement is attached to this Decision.

The Agreement is based on three key points:

– Political dialogue and cooperation in the field of foreign and security policy: provisions are provided to set the political dialogue with this country as well as cooperation in the field of foreign and security policy. The Agreement includes the EU's standard political clauses on human rights, the international criminal courts, weapons of mass destruction, small arms and light weapons and counterterrorism.

Provisions are also laid down as regards:

- democracy and the rule of law,
- foreign and security policy,
- space security,
- serious crimes of international concern,
- conflict prevention and crisis management and counter-terrorism.

- Trade and business: a specific title is provided for:

- trade in goods,
- customs,

- technical barriers to trade,
- sanitary and phytosanitary matters,
- services and establishment,
- capital movement and payments,
- intellectual property,
- government procurement,
- raw materials and energy,
- trade and sustainable development,
- competition and trade dispute settlement.

The Agreement contains a substantive trade section with important commitments in several trade policy areas. These will ensure a better regulatory environment for businesses in Kazakhstan, and thus bring substantial economic benefits for EU businesses.

- Sectoral cooperation: a series of provisions on cooperation are provided in a wide range of areas:

- economic and sustainable development;
- freedom, security and justice;
- financial and technical cooperation;
- other types of cooperation include such as migration, the environment, taxation, transport, education, the information society, agriculture and rural development.

- Institutional framework: the Agreement sets up an institutional framework comprising the Cooperation Council, the Cooperation Committee and the Parliamentary Cooperation Committee. It also introduces a procedure for settling disputes, to be used should one of the parties fail to fulfil its obligations under the Agreement.

Duration of the Agreement: the Agreement is concluded for an **unlimited period**, and can be terminated at six months' notice. As of its entry into force, the Agreement supersedes the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Kazakhstan, of the other part, signed on 23 January 1995.

EU/Kazakhstan Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement

2016/0166(NLE) - 12/12/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 511 votes to 115, with 28 abstentions, a legislative resolution 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.

In line with the recommendation made by the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the opinion of the Committee on International Trade, Parliament gave its **consent** to the conclusion of the Agreement.

Parliament also adopted a non-legislative resolution on the draft decision.

EU/Kazakhstan Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement

2016/0166(NLE) - 07/06/2016

PURPOSE: to conclude 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.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: relations between the European Union (EU) and Kazakhstan are currently based on the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement signed in Brussels on 23 January 1995, which entered into force in June 1999.

On 13 April 2011, the Council adopted a Decision authorising the European Commission to negotiate the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Kazakhstan. Negotiation of the Agreement began in June 2011.

The Agreement between the parties was signed on 21 December 2015, subject to its conclusion at a later date.

For the EU, the Agreement constitutes an important step towards **increased political and economic involvement in Central Asia**. By strengthening political dialogue and improving cooperation in a broad range of areas, it will provide the basis for more effective bilateral engagement with Kazakhstan.

Legal nature: the Agreement was negotiated and initialled by the European Union and the Republic of Kazakhstan as the Union's Agreement only. As the European Union's Member States were unanimous in preferring a **mixed Agreement**, it was agreed to amend the initialled text of the Agreement and the Joint Proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the European Commission for a Council Decision on the signing and provisional application of the Agreement accordingly.

In response to this measure, the **European Commission** made the following statement: ‘Given the political and economic relevance of the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (EPCA) with Kazakhstan, the Commission stresses the importance of signing and ratifying it swiftly. The Commission reiterates its position that a "mixed" agreement is legally unnecessary in the present case and that all matters covered by the agreement fall within the EU's competence. The Commission therefore regrets that the Member States insist on signing and ratifying the EPCA with Kazakhstan as a "mixed" agreement. The Commission reserves its position as to the future presentation of acts linked to the legal nature of an international agreement.’

Following the adoption of the Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement, the Agreement was signed by the European Union and the Republic of Kazakhstan as a **mixed Agreement**.

CONTENT: the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the European Commission jointly proposed that the Council adopt a Council Decision approving, on behalf of the European Union, the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Kazakhstan, of the other part.

The text of the Agreement is attached to this Decision.

The Agreement is based on three key points:

– Political dialogue and cooperation in the field of foreign and security policy: provisions are provided to set the political dialogue with this country as well as cooperation in the field of foreign and security policy. The Agreement includes the EU’s standard political clauses on human rights, the international criminal courts, weapons of mass destruction, small arms and light weapons and counterterrorism.

Provisions are also laid down as regards:

- democracy and the rule of law,
- foreign and security policy,
- space security,
- serious crimes of international concern,
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- Trade and business: a specific title is provided for:

- trade in goods,
- customs,
- technical barriers to trade,
- sanitary and phytosanitary matters,
- services and establishment,
- capital movement and payments,
- intellectual property,
- government procurement,
- raw materials and energy,
- trade and sustainable development,
- competition and trade dispute settlement.

The Agreement contains a substantive trade section with important commitments in several trade policy areas. These will ensure a better regulatory environment for businesses in Kazakhstan, and thus bring substantial economic benefits for EU businesses.

- Sectoral cooperation: a series of provisions on cooperation are provided in a wide range of areas:

- economic and sustainable development;
- freedom, security and justice;
- financial and technical cooperation;
- other types of cooperation include such as migration, the environment, taxation, transport, education, the information society, agriculture and rural development.

- Institutional framework: the Agreement sets up an institutional framework comprising the Cooperation Council, the Cooperation Committee and the Parliamentary Cooperation Committee. It also introduces a procedure for settling disputes, to be used should one of the parties fail to fulfil its obligations under the Agreement.

Duration of the Agreement: the Agreement is concluded for an **unlimited period**, and can be terminated at six months’ notice. As of its entry into force, the Agreement supersedes the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Kazakhstan, of the other part, signed on 23 January 1995.

EU/Kazakhstan Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement

2016/0166(NLE) - 23/10/2017 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted the report by Liisa JAAKONSAARI (S&D, FI) on the draft Council decision 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.

The committee recommended the European Parliament to **give its consent** to the conclusion of the agreement.

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.