

## SECTION 4. WORLD POLITICS

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### AZERBAIJAN AND UKRAINE: NEW DYNAMICS OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

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The future of humanity and the prospects for its development require a serious perception and awareness of the realities and new challenges of the 21st century. At the moment, the significant progressive and dangerous processes taking place in the world can be systematized to a certain extent.

First of all, it should be noted that a number of different trends have emerged in the new system of international relations and in matters of global security. The idea that the global political system entered a conflict-free phase after the end of the cold war has lost its relevance over time. Recently, the dynamics of the increasing number of conflicts has become an object of concern to humanity. Secondly, the accelerated processes of globalization have caused problems that humanity has not yet encountered. The new realities and problems created by such dynamic processes as globalization and integration in the 21st century are remembered by new challenges that require serious solutions. On the other hand, awareness of the significance and importance of inter-civilizational dialogue and taking measures in accordance with it are not at the proper level. On the contrary, the factors that caused the clash of civilizations put us in front of new threats.

Strategic partnership is the highest level of interstate relations, in which countries officially recognize that their national interests coincide on most key issues.

A state facing encroachment on its borders, a strategic partner, is the first to declare support for its territorial integrity and the duty to coordinate diplomatic pressure in the international arena.

The participation of Azerbaijan and Ukraine in strategic cooperation, based on a comprehensive and solid political and legal framework, has been reflected at the level of state policy, such important documents and foreign policy concepts should be considered using the example of both countries.

The relevant principles within the framework of the new geopolitical reality are reflected in a more complete and comprehensive form in the Constitutional Act on the Restoration of State Independence of October 18, 1991 and the Constitution of the State of November 12, 1995, as well as in other strategic documents of the independent Republic of Azerbaijan, the successor State of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic. Principles such as “peaceful settlement of disputes”, “cooperation of States”, etc. The issues mentioned in article 16 of section III of the Constitutional Act concerning interstate relations are of particular importance from the point of view of humanitarian cooperation [1].

The potential of strategic cooperation between the two countries also includes their geostrategic position and importance. Factors such as the important geostrategic position and location at the intersection of inter-regional transport hubs and transnational energy projects, along with economic and political dividends, are a kind of “humanitarian bridges” bringing peoples closer together.

In this regard, it can be noted that the role of Ukraine in the global economy is due not only to the presence of rich minerals, but also to the optimal geographical location connecting the transport routes of Europe and Asia. Being located between Northern and Central Europe with the South Caucasus and Central Asia, and at the same time being a country with access to the Black Sea, Ukraine can be considered both a land and a maritime state. Based on the above, we can say that Ukraine is, as it were, a “connecting link” between these regions, playing a special role in the international transit system.

The issue of development and diversification of transport routes in Ukraine is of particular importance in many aspects, including at the regional and global levels. These policies and related activities are becoming increasingly relevant in the modern era of increasing interdependence between different countries and regions. Transnational flows are currently increasing in the world and the volume of capital turnover is growing. It should be emphasized that before the war, 7 international transport corridors passed through the territory of Ukraine. Further, it can be noted that both countries, within the framework of regional and international cooperation, have used the Erasmus+ program of the European Union in the field of education (Azerbaijan until March 2025), TAIEX and Twinning instruments of the European Union.

The strategic importance of cooperation between Azerbaijan and Ukraine in 2025 can be described as the formation of an axis of stability and mutual support based on international law.

Mutual recognition of territorial integrity as the foundation of the Union. The main strategic vector is to create a precedent for the “inviolability

of borders”. For Azerbaijan: Ukraine’s support in the international arena (at the UN, GUAM and other venues) has confirmed the legitimacy of restoring control over Karabakh. This deprived the opponents of the opportunity to isolate Baku diplomatically. For Ukraine: Azerbaijan’s 44-day war in 2020 has become a strategic benchmark for how a state can effectively restore sovereignty by combining military force and diplomatic pressure. Further, humanitarian diplomacy as a tool of “soft power”. In 2025, Azerbaijan’s humanitarian aid to Ukraine went beyond simple charity and became strategic.

Energy security: The supply of transformers and cables from Azerbaijan helps Ukraine to maintain the viability of the rear, which directly affects the stability of the state.

The fact that Ukraine was one of the first to openly support Azerbaijan in the Patriotic War has created a deep level of trust between leaders and peoples. In 2025, this trust will be converted into the priority participation of the Azerbaijani business in the reconstruction projects of Ukraine. Coordination of actions in international organizations against the policy of double standards.

In 2025, the share of Azerbaijan’s non-oil exports to Ukraine amounted to almost 9% of the total volume, and supplies of metallurgy and pharmaceuticals are being restored.

The strategic partnership between Azerbaijan and Ukraine is not just a bilateral format, but a strategic alliance of two key players in their regions, who, through humanitarian and political support, provide each other with a “diplomatic rear” and contribute to the revision of the security system in Eurasia based on the principle of inviolability of borders.

#### **References:**

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