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BUSINESS AND LEGAL

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THE NETHERLANDS AS A
EUROPEAN HEADQUARTER
COMPANY OR A JOINT-VENTURE
JURISDICTION

KAIRAT ABDRAKHMANOV

ADVANCING KAZAKHSTAN-
NETHERLANDS COOPERATION IN
CHANGING WORLD

RASSUL RYSMAMBETOV

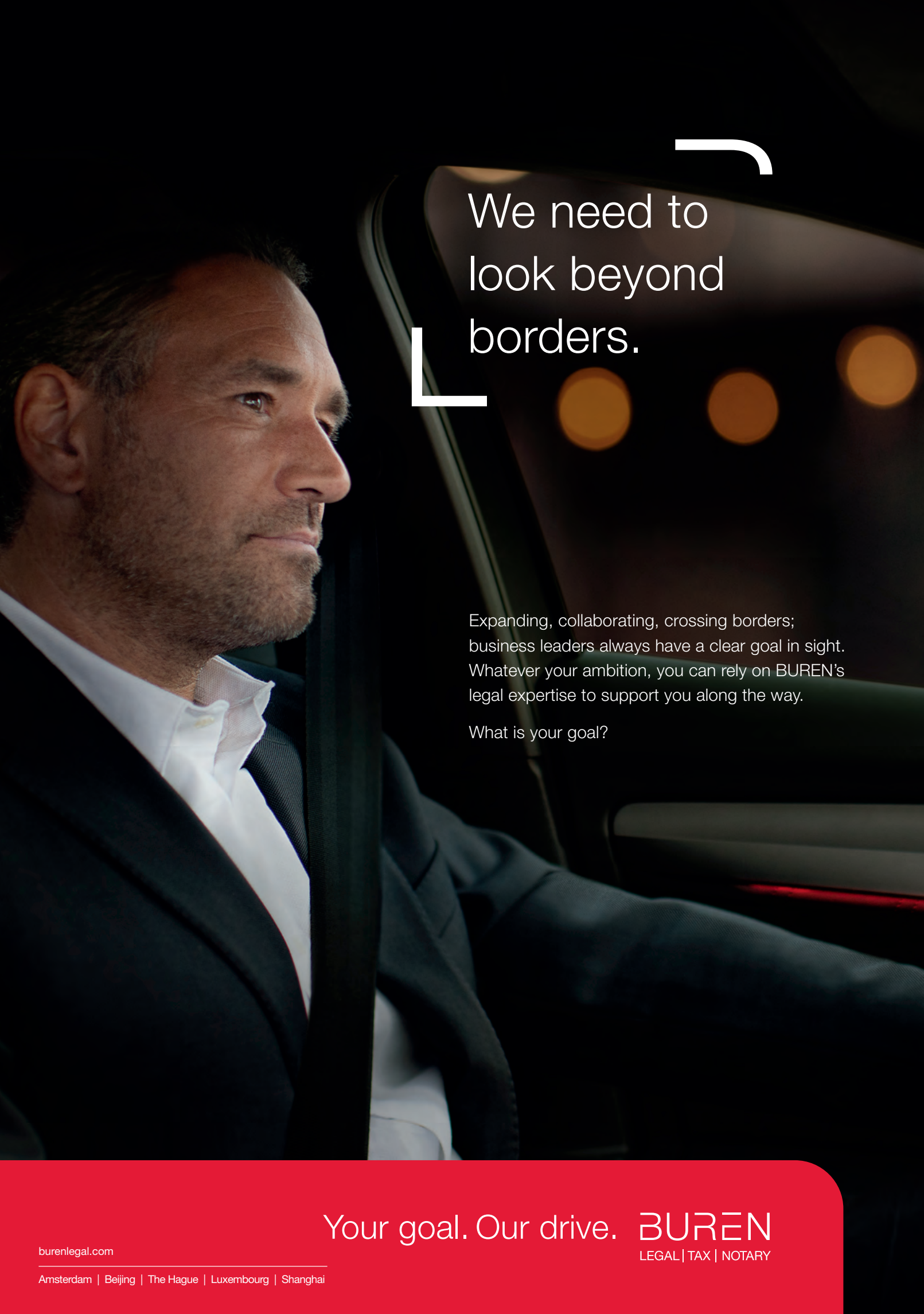
KAZAKHSTAN'S STRATEGY AND
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IN THE NETHERLANDS

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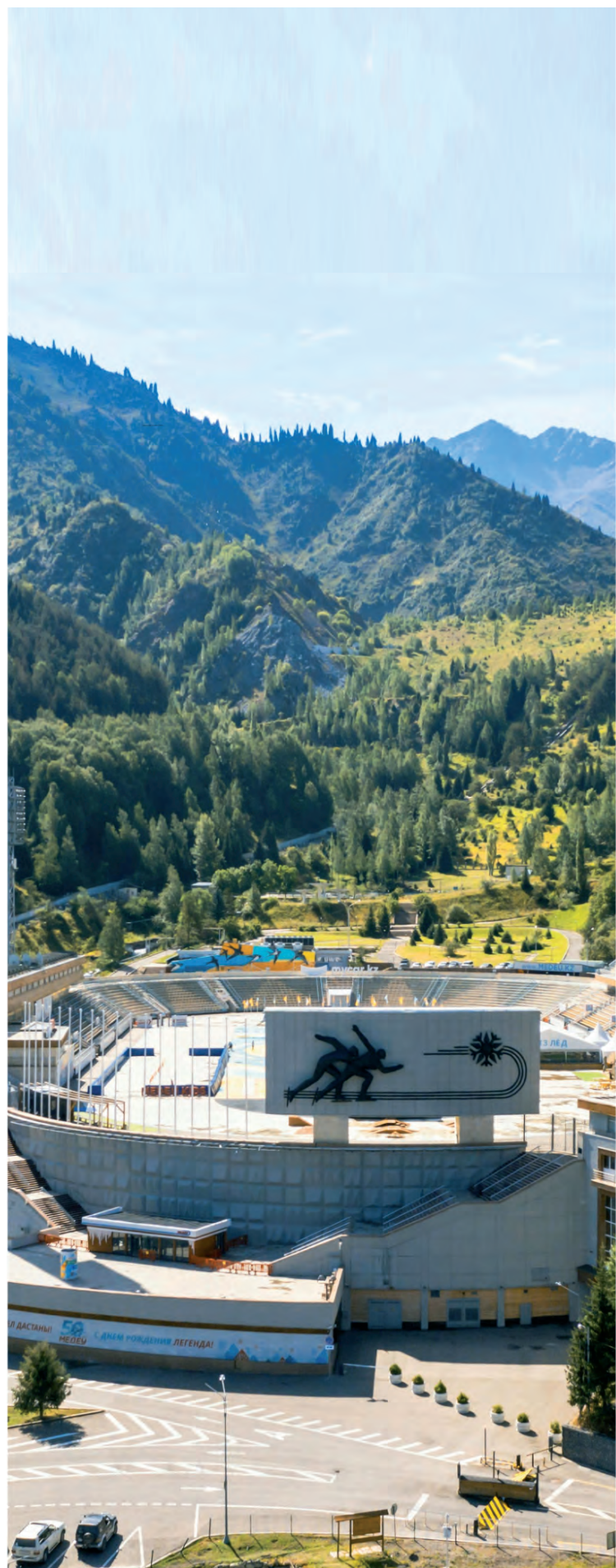
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FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

As spring unfolds in vibrant color, this issue of *Tulip Magazine* celebrates not only the seasonal beauty of blooming fields but also the growing momentum behind global green industry collaboration.

In this edition, we look beyond the flowerbeds to the systems, strategies, and partnerships shaping the future of horticulture and sustainable enterprise. From Flora Expo Astana 2025, where international players gathered to showcase innovation and strengthen ties, to the strategic insights featured in our articles.

We are honored to include contributions from Kairat Abdrakhmanov, who emphasizes the growing Dutch–Kazakh partnership in areas such as agriculture, logistics, innovation, and sustainable development. Hans Drijer, and Maarten Smit explore why the Netherlands continues to stand out as a European headquarters and joint-venture hub — offering valuable tax and commercial advantages for international companies. At the same time, Rassul Rysmambetov provides a compelling look at Kazakhstan’s evolving economic strategy, emphasizing its shift beyond oil and toward diversification.

New in this issue, we also spotlight the strategic role of the Netherlands in European logistics and transportation — a crucial theme for those navigating international supply chains. From the Port of Rotterdam to its integrated rail and road networks, the Netherlands offers unmatched efficiency and reach in the movement of goods across the continent.

In this season of renewal, we hope the ideas shared in these pages inspire you to think big, cultivate meaningful partnerships, and help grow a more sustainable, connected future.

Warm regards,

Vlad Khassanov



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THE NETHERLANDS AS A EUROPEAN HEADQUARTER COMPANY OR A JOINT- VENTURE JURISDICTION. KEY COMMERCIAL AND TAX BENEFITS.

1. What makes the Netherlands so attractive for Kazakh businesses and investors?

You know, the Netherlands has always been a flagman in attracting businesses from all over the world. Dutch “holding company regime” (so-called “participation exemption”), has been in place for more than 100 years. It grants exemption from tax to certain dividends and capital gains from sale of shares.

Although the Netherlands ranks 131st in territory size globally, it possesses the densest network of public roads (139,000 km) and Europe's largest port – Rotterdam. All these reflects Dutch strong focus on trade relations.

Furthermore, the Netherlands has a very broad network of double tax treaties (98) and bilateral investments treaties (75), which makes it an attractive jurisdiction for holding companies and joint ventures. In our practice we see a lot of joint-ventures in the Netherlands with respect to Kazakh investments.

Bilateral investment treaties (BITs) provide foreign investors who structure their investments via the Netherlands with an extra layer of protection: should the foreign governments unlawfully expropriate the foreign investments, the investor under the BIT has the right to claim compensation for these governmental actions and there is an option for arbitration.

The Kazakh Dutch double tax treaty has been in force since 1997 and has significantly influenced bilateral economic activity by promoting cross-border trade and mutual investment. Notably, it marked Kazakhstan's first double tax treaty since its independence.

This double tax treaty reduces tax barriers, by aiming to prevent double taxation and establishing reduced withholding tax rates on dividends, interest, and royalties. This therefore enhances the attractiveness of the Netherlands for Kazakhstan Dutch investors and vice versa.

The Netherlands positions itself among the jurisdictions with one of the most extensive tax treaty networks globally, making it ideal place for establishing European headquarters or a joint-venture structure (see Q4).



Besides these practical advantages, the Netherlands is an attractive gateway due to its political stability and highly developed financial infrastructure. It has a multilingual highly skilled workforce enabling foreign investors to easily set-up and maintain their Dutch investments.

2. The Dutch tax system is internationally recognized for its transparency and attractiveness to businesses. Could you maybe highlight some of its key features?

The corporate Dutch tax system includes the “participation exemption” (holding company regime), that allows Dutch tax resident entities to receive dividends and capital gains from qualifying subsidiaries free of Dutch taxation and prevents double taxation. In principle, the Netherlands does not levy withholding taxes on interest and royalty payments made to both individuals and companies in non-blacklisted jurisdictions.

In order to be attractive for highly skilled workforce, the Netherlands has in place a 30% ruling regime allowing to receive nearly 30% of salary free of Dutch payroll taxes for the first five years.

The Dutch Tax Authorities strive to maintain open lines of communication with taxpayers. There is the possibility to apply and obtain an Advance tax ruling giving certainty and thereby reducing the risk of unexpected adverse Dutch tax consequences.

3. What are the key tax benefits under the Kazakh-Dutch double tax treaty (DTT)?

The regular Dutch domestic withholding tax rate on dividends is 15% when paid to individuals or companies. The DDT reduces this rate to 5% when paying from Kazakhstan, while dividend payments from the Netherlands can be even 0%: if at least 5% of the shares





in a Dutch tax resident entity are held by a qualifying Kazakh tax resident company.

The domestic Kazakh dividend withholding tax rate normally amounts to 15% as well. Kazakhstan also levies a withholding tax on interest of normally 15%. The DTT reduces this interest withholding tax rate to 10%.

Another benefit is taxation of capital gain arising from the sale of shares. If the Kazakh tax resident company sells shares in the Dutch tax resident company, any capital gain should not be subject to Dutch taxation as the DTT allocates the taxing right Kazakhstan.

In case where a Kazakh tax resident individual is the shareholder of the Dutch resident company, the dividend withholding x tax rate will be 15% at source in the Netherlands, as the beneficial DDT dividend treatment does not apply to individuals. However, if the shares are cancelled, no Dutch dividend withholding tax should be due.

4. Why the Netherlands would be a good place for joint-venture with the participation of a Kazakh enterprise/investor?

Dutch legislation on Flex B.V. allows a lot of flexibility when structuring operations via a Dutch private limited liability company (besloten vennootschap, B.V.), e.g. shareholders' agreement can be governed by foreign law, there is no minimum share capital requirement upon incorporation of the Dutch B.V. or a requirement to pay up shares before the incorporation.

Dutch judicial system is fair and cost-efficient. There is an extensive support from government agencies for companies that want to run innovative business in the Netherlands. The Netherlands also has a strong IP (protection) system.

5. There is a proposal to increase "European substance" under ATAD3 Directive, how in your view this would impact Kazakh businesses having presence in the Netherlands?

The proposed ATAD3 Directive may have a major impact on international structures, as it requires companies to have inter alia their own office with qualified staff to continue to benefit from EU tax treaty relief.

So-called "paper-box companies" have not been allowed in the Netherlands since 1999 and minimum substance was in practice already required. With the proposed ATAD3 Directive such an increase in the required substance may be rather significant. It is therefore important to monitor this development and be ready for the challenges it might bring.

Frankly speaking, we support the reasoning behind the directive proposal, as this strengthens the economic nexus of foreign-owned Dutch companies, and we see that the draft EU substance guidance is already applied in practice.

For more background information on ATAD3, we refer to our ATAD3 articles which can be accessed via our website free of charge.

6. What factors drive Dutch foreign direct investment (FDI) into Kazakhstan?

Direct investments by Dutch companies in Kazakhstan are mainly driven by Kazakhstan's economic potential, particularly in the field of natural resources, renewable energy, agriculture (e.g. greenhouses), and infrastructure development. The Dutch enterprises have a lot of knowledge and technical expertise and are happy to add to the success of local businesses.

The Dutch-Kazakh double tax treaty benefits as described above and the BIT in place make it more attractive for Dutch investors looking to invest in Kazakhstan, as this ensures protection of their Kazakh assets in case of unlawful government expropriation or negative change of laws with retroactive effect.

7. What are common compliance challenges for Kazakh entities under Dutch tax laws?

In principle there are no material compliance challenges for Kazakh investors.

What we see in practice is that, some of our clients experience difficulties in opening local bank accounts with Dutch banks. A common solution would be to open a bank account with an online bank, which is more open to international investment structures.



8. What mechanisms exist to resolve tax disputes between Kazakh businesses and Dutch authorities?

The Dutch legal system allows a taxpayer to file an objection to a tax assessment with the Dutch tax authorities. If denied, the taxpayer could file an appeal and start a legal procedure with an independent Dutch tax court.

If the taxpayer disagrees with the court's ruling, his case can be referred to an independent Tax Court of Appeal and subsequently to the independent Supreme Court via an appeal in cassation and in some cases even to the EU Court of Justice.

If tax issues arise as a result of the application of the Dutch-Kazakh DTT, the tax authorities of one or both countries may start a Mutual Agreement Procedure (MAP) under the DTT to resolve tax disputes. This procedure is in practice time consuming, and furthermore, as both the Netherlands and Kazakhstan are sovereign states, the outcome of such a MAP does not always lead to an implemented solution.

9. How will global corporate tax reform trends, such as OECD's global minimum tax, impact Dutch-Kazakh relations?

Initiated by the OECD Pillar 2 introduces a global minimum taxation rate of 15% on operating income for Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) with a consolidated turnover of at least EURO 750 million.

The global OECD goal is to have all jurisdictions worldwide implement "global minimum taxation rules".

The Netherlands implemented Pillar 2 in the domestic legislation via the Dutch Minimum Tax Act as per 1 January 2024.

The United States and several other countries, however, have not made any plans yet to implement Pillar 2 legislation.

Although Kazakhstan has also not yet adopted Pillar 2 either, it does intend to implement the global minimum taxation rules in its domestic legislation.

For 2024 we see in practice material mismatches and implementation issues.

However, the Dutch tax authorities are very pro-active, as they created a special Pillar 2 team and a Pillar 2 Knowledge Group responsible for all Pillar 2 matters. As a result, together we can advise our MNE clients quite efficiently. The Netherlands has a long tradition of cooperative Dutch tax authorities.





AMBASSADOR KAIRAT ABDRAKHMANOV at the OPCW
(Photo credit: Begimay)

Kairat Abdrakhmanov joined the Kazakh Foreign Ministry in 1993, has held a number of a key positions, including Foreign Minister in 2016-2018 and Ambassador to Austria, Sweden, Denmark and Israel. He has represented his nation at the UN and the OSCE, also during the election campaign of Kazakhstan to become the first Central Asian State to be a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, as well as the Chairmanship of the OSCE with adoption of the final document of its Summit in 2010 in Astana.

ADVANCING KAZAKHSTAN-NETHERLANDS COOPERATION IN CHANGING WORLD

1. Mr. Ambassador, we appreciate your time and willingness to speak with us. Your diplomatic career includes roles as the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations and the OSCE, Ambassador to Austria, Sweden, Denmark, and Israel. How have these diverse experiences shaped your approach to international diplomacy and multilateral negotiations?

Along with other colleagues from my Foreign Ministry, I put all my efforts into exercising and showcasing the capacity and capability of the Kazakh school of diplomacy, intricately navigating the diplomatic terrains and carving a distinctive path toward building bridges, promoting dialogue, introducing a culture of tolerance, and widening cooperation, demonstrating that only through these efforts we can pave a way for sustainable peace and development in our region of Central Asia and around the world.

After my experience at the OSCE, I firmly trust in the quiet diplomacy principle to build trust among parties with conflicting interests, as we always need to be mindful of the considerable degree of sensitivities when discussing certain issues. In this regard, I recognize that seeing that fine line, observing the delicacy of the situation, and

seeking to balance the interests of all parties involved is the key to creating successful, lasting and peaceful solutions to the issues at hand. More efforts need to be focused on constantly seeking ways to increase synergies between the global and regional intergovernmental organizations in order to “deliver as one.”

2. During your tenure from December 2020 to September 2024, as the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, what were the most significant accomplishments, personal and on behalf of the institution?

Based on my previous experience, I have focused on building bridges between cultures, communities and countries, promoting diplomacy and dialogue for conflict prevention, according to the mandate of the HCNM. Together with my highly professional international team at the office, I initiated some steps, to include: signing a memorandum of understanding with the ministries of education of countries of Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan) and Mongolia on multilingual education; undertaking the first official visits of the HCNM to some OSCE participating states to the “west of Vienna”; signing a MoU with the UNHCR



and making a pledge to actively work on eliminating statelessness in the world. Additionally, I have actively sought cooperation in areas of mutual interest with the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and paid an inaugural visit to Jeddah. My team, with support of other renowned experts, has assisted me in launching a new set of the



Meeting between President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomar Tokayev and the Prime Minister of the Netherlands Mark Rutte

HCNM Recommendations on the effective participation of national minorities in social and economic life. We've made concerted efforts to increase cooperation with other partner organizations and academia by hosting joint events, launching joint initiatives and initiating study visits to discuss tangible ways to take our partnership forward.

3. Considering the evolving global landscape, what do you see as the primary opportunities and challenges for international diplomacy in the coming years?

International diplomacy faces both opportunities and challenges in a rapidly evolving world. Three key areas will shape diplomatic efforts in the coming years according to observers. First, geopolitical stability and conflict resolution remain essential amid rising tensions. Kazakhstan, committed to peace and nuclear disarmament by voluntarily renouncing its huge nuclear stockpiles, will continue promoting diplomacy as a tool for global security. Along with this line, we propose to consider the possibility of the establishment of an international agency on biological security. Second, economic diplomacy and sustainable development are crucial in a highly interconnected world. Notably, the Kazakh initiative to formalize the UN Regional Centre for Sustainable Development Goals for Central Asia and Afghanistan has received wide support among the international community. Strengthening trade, investment, and regional connectivity is key, with Kazakhstan serving as a bridge between East and West, with the Netherlands as a strategic partner. Third, climate change and green transformation demand global cooperation. Kazakhstan is actively pursuing carbon neutrality and sustainable energy initiatives, reinforcing the need for stronger multilateral action. Despite challenges like protectionism and certain aspects of digital transformation, diplomacy remains a driver of peace, prosperity, and sustainability. You will know this from concerted efforts made by my President, Mr. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, who is a stalwart diplomat himself, that Kazakhstan is committed to multilateralism, international



Noordeinde Palace, The Hague – November 2024 (Photo credit: Jeroen van der Meyde)





law, and inclusive global engagement, ensuring a stable and cooperative future.

The forthcoming Astana International Forum 2025 at the end of May, under the chairpersonship of the Kazakh leader, will facilitate critical dialogue on global issues and priorities, connecting minds, shaping the future.

4. In September 2024, you were appointed as Kazakhstan's Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands. What are your primary objectives in strengthening the bilateral relations between Kazakhstan and the Netherlands during your tenure?

It is an honor to serve as Kazakhstan's Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, a country with which we share a strong and dynamic partnership. My focus is on enhancing cooperation in key areas.

First, deepening economic ties is a top priority. The Netherlands is Kazakhstan's largest foreign investor, and we aim to expand trade and investment in renewable energy, agriculture, logistics, and digitalization through platforms like the Netherlands-Kazakhstan Business Council.

Second, fostering innovation and sustainability is essential. The Netherlands excels in green energy, water management, and high-tech industries, while Kazakhstan is advancing toward carbon neutrality in combination with the diversification of economic activities, creating new opportunities for bilateral collaboration.

Third, expanding cultural and educational exchanges will strengthen people-to-people ties. Enhancing academic

partnerships, student exchanges, and cultural events will deepen mutual understanding.

Moreover, reinforcing political dialogue and multilateral cooperation remains key. Kazakhstan and the Netherlands share a commitment to peace, security, and multilateralism, working together in the UN, OSCE, and other platforms on global challenges.

One more area of partnership is the exchange of best practices in diversity management. Kazakhstan hosts regular Congresses of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, and we have proven that willingness and ability to engage in dialogue and have open and constructive communication are prerequisites for the peaceful coexistence of multiethnic and multi-confessional societies.

With a strong foundation built over 30 years, I look forward to working with the Dutch government, business community, and civil society to further elevate our partnership.

5. The Netherlands is one of Kazakhstan's significant economic partners. What strategies do you propose to further enhance trade and investment between the two nations?

Kazakhstan and the Netherlands share a strong economic partnership, with the Netherlands as Kazakhstan's largest foreign investor (more than \$120 billion) and a key EU trade partner. In 2024, bilateral trade reached \$5.4 billion, with great potential for further growth.

To strengthen cooperation, we focus on diversifying investment and fostering innovation, encouraging Dutch businesses to explore renewable energy, agribusiness,



Kazakhstan delegation visiting IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, the Netherlands



logistics, and digitalization, supported by Kazakhstan's "Born Bold" initiative and the AIFC.

Expanding trade and logistics connectivity through the Middle Corridor positions Kazakhstan as a strategic hub for East-West trade, creating opportunities for Dutch expertise in smart logistics and infrastructure. Strengthening business engagement through platforms like the Netherlands-Kazakhstan Business Council and consequent visits both to Kazakhstan and the Netherlands provide a strong impetus to facilitate investment dialogue and trade expansion.

Kazakhstan remains committed to a transparent, investor-friendly environment, and by leveraging our strengths, we can drive trade, innovation, and sustainable investment for mutual benefit.

6. Looking ahead, what are the key areas where you see potential for further strengthening ties in agriculture, digitalization, and water management between Kazakhstan and the Netherlands? Are there any upcoming directions or new areas of cooperation that you believe would enhance bilateral collaboration?

Kazakhstan and the Netherlands have strong potential for collaboration in agriculture, digitalization, and water management, leveraging Dutch expertise and Kazakhstan's vast resources. In agriculture, we seek to expand cooperation in precision farming, greenhouse technologies, sustainable livestock, and irrigation innovations, where Dutch companies already play a role in modernizing Kazakhstan's agri-sector.

In digitalization, Dutch advancements in AI, fintech, and smart logistics align with Kazakhstan's drive for economic digitalization and innovation ecosystems, supported by platforms like the Astana Hub. Water management remains a critical area, with opportunities to apply Dutch expertise in efficient irrigation, flood risk management, and wastewater treatment to ensure sustainability in Kazakhstan's arid regions.

These priorities are being advanced through joint R&D initiatives, investment forums, and the Netherlands-Kazakhstan Business Council, fostering technology-driven solutions and deeper economic ties. I am confident that by expanding our strategic cooperation, we can achieve sustainable progress in these key sectors.

As a recent example, I would like to highlight the visit of the delegation from Kazakhstan, with the Vice-Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation as well as members of Aktobe region Local Parliament. The delegation engaged with several leading companies in the fields of

greenhouse technology and water management. They also actively participated in the Aquatech Amsterdam 2025 International Exhibition and took part in substantive discussions with members of the academic and expert communities at both IHE Delft and Deltares. Today, we already see positive feedback from the visit and couple of initiatives starting to implement.

I am confident that these sectors—green innovation and water sustainability—will serve as key pillars in the evolving architecture of Kazakhstan–Netherlands bilateral cooperation.

Among the emerging areas of bilateral cooperation with significant potential for development, the rare and rare



Netherlands–Kazakhstan Business Association, The Hague

earth metals sector stands out prominently. Kazakhstan has recently identified its largest deposit of rare earth elements.

To explore this promising field, a joint webinar was held on March 6 in collaboration with the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO), focusing on Kazakhstan's potential in this sector.

7. Considering the recent Dutch trade mission's exploration of port development and logistics opportunities along the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route (Middle Corridor) in Kazakhstan, how do you envision the Netherlands and Kazakhstan collaborating to enhance this corridor? What specific initiatives or projects are planned to strengthen the bilateral cooperation in this area?

The Middle Corridor is a key trade route connecting Europe and Asia, with Kazakhstan as a central transit hub and the Netherlands as a global leader in logistics and port development. The recent Dutch trade mission's visit highlights growing interest in strengthening cooperation,



Y. Koshkin Wins Gold – Heerenveen World Cup,
March 2025



Kazakhstan Delegation Visits Royal Haskoning DHV
Headquarters in Utrecht – 2025

and we welcome Dutch expertise in port management, digital logistics, and green transport solutions. Kazakhstan is actively modernizing its railways, expanding seaports (Aktau and Kuryk), and enhancing multimodal connectivity to increase cargo capacity and efficiency. Dutch companies can contribute through public-private partnerships, investment in logistics infrastructure, and customs digitalization projects. Platforms like the Netherlands-Kazakhstan Business Council and

efficient, sustainable, and competitive trade route, benefiting both regions, especially Central Asia as a growing market and reliable partner for the European Union.

8. What advice or encouragement would you offer to Kazakh and Dutch entrepreneurs who are planning or currently conducting business in both countries?



Kazakhstan Delegation Participates in the Netherlands–
Kazakhstan Agricultural Working Group
Meeting – 2024

cooperation between Kazakhstan Railways (KTZ) and Dutch logistics firms are key to advancing these efforts. By combining Kazakhstan's transit potential with Dutch innovation, we can make the Middle Corridor a more

Kazakhstan and the Netherlands share a strong economic partnership; both countries offer significant business opportunities—Kazakhstan as a bridge between East and West, with vast opportunities in almost all sectors of the economy, and the Netherlands as a global leader in trade and innovation.

Entrepreneurs should leverage Kazakhstan's open and transparent policy on economic diversification, respect for the sanctity of contracts, rule of law, and large investment incentives, which support green energy, agribusiness, logistics, and digitalization. Similarly, Kazakh businesses can explore the Dutch market, benefiting from its innovation-driven economy and expertise in technology, agriculture, and water management. The Astana International Financial Centre (AIFC) could be used for the registration of businesses. The education level of the local labor force in Kazakhstan is another attractive feature supporting entrepreneurs.

Success depends on strong partnerships, adaptability, and innovation. I encourage entrepreneurs to be proactive, engage in dialogue, and seize new opportunities as our economic ties continue to grow.

CONNECTING OPPORTUNITIES: THE ROLE OF NKBA IN FOSTERING DUTCH- KAZAKH BUSINESS RELATIONS



As Chairman of the Board of the Netherlands Kazakhstan Business Association (NKBA), I am proud to represent an organization that has, for over a decade, served as a vital bridge between the Dutch and Kazakh business communities. Our mission is simple yet ambitious: to facilitate meaningful connections, promote bilateral trade, and support businesses from both countries in navigating the opportunities and challenges of cross-border collaboration.

Kazakhstan is a country of immense potential. Its strategic location, abundance of natural resources, growing infrastructure, and ambition to diversify its economy create a compelling environment for international investment and cooperation. At the same time, Dutch expertise in sectors such as water management, agriculture, logistics, energy transition, and sustainable innovation can contribute substantially to Kazakhstan's development goals.

NKBA provides a platform where business leaders, policy-makers, and experts can meet, share insights, and foster partnerships. We regularly contribute to or organise trade missions, seminars, and networking events, mainly in the Netherlands, and we work closely with government institutions, Embassies, Kazakh Invest, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency and the Benelux Chamber of Commerce in Kazakhstan, to ensure a constructive dialogue and a well-informed business climate.

Our most well-known event is the yearly 'Meet-and-greet the Ambassadors', where the Kazakh Ambassador in the Netherlands and the Netherlands Ambassador in Kazakhstan jointly present their views on developments and trends and engage with entrepreneurs and interested individuals.

For companies and individuals looking to do business in Kazakhstan—or for Kazakh firms exploring partnerships in Europe—the NKBA stands ready to support, advise, and connect. Our aim is to turn potential into progress, and shared interest into mutual benefit.

We warmly invite you to engage with us and explore the possibilities that Dutch-Kazakh cooperation can offer. Together, we can build lasting partnerships that contribute to innovation, sustainability, and economic growth in both our countries.

Henk Nieboer
Chairman of the Board
Netherlands Kazakhstan Business Association (NKBA)
www.nkba.nl





KAZAKHSTAN'S STRATEGY AND POSITIONING BEYOND OIL

RASSUL RYSMAMBETOV
is a financial and economic analyst, the head of the National analytical center (Nazarbayev University) based in Astana, Kazakhstan. He holds an MBA degree from the University of St. Gallen (HSG). He has a rich expertise in financial and operational restructuring, banking advisory, international management, and market entry strategies. He has advised on projects across Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and Ukraine. Rysmambetov is also a member of National Assembly (Kurultai) under the President of Kazakhstan.



1. How do you assess the current economic situation in Kazakhstan, and what are the key factors influencing its development?

Kazakhstan stands today at a very important moment in its economic development. As the global economic patterns shift, and the geopolitical wars and tensions reshape trade and investment flows, Kazakhstan must adapt with agility and vision. With its rich resource base, strategic geographic position, and young, dynamic society, the country holds considerable promise. However, realizing this potential requires addressing internal structural challenges while proactively positioning itself in the new global landscape.

Kazakhstan's economy has demonstrated resilience amid global uncertainty (that followed pandemic), recording steady growth driven by the energy sector, housing and road construction, agriculture, and services. However, vulnerabilities remain and sometimes posing great risks to the young economy. Key influencing factors include fluctuations in global commodity prices, especially oil and basic metals as the major export items of Kazakhstan; the evolving sanctions landscape due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, regional supply chain disruptions, and domestic issues such as inflationary pressure and limited

diversification. Effective macroeconomic management, especially monetary and fiscal discipline, has played a stabilizing role, but structural reforms remain essential to sustain long-term growth.

Table 1: GDP Growth and Sectoral Performance

Indicator	Value	Period	Source
Real GDP growth	3.9%	Q1 2024 YoY	Focus Economics
GDP growth	4.8%	Full year 2024	World Bank
Manufacturing sector growth	5.6%	Q1 2024 YoY	Astana Times
Mining sector growth	1.9%	Q1 2024 YoY	Astana Times

2. Which sectors of the economy do you believe have the greatest potential for growth in the coming years?

While the energy sector continues to be a cornerstone, it is slowly ceasing to provide growth budgets, future growth opportunities lie beyond hydrocarbons. Agriculture, particularly processing, presents immense potential



given Kazakhstan's vast arable land and proximity to major markets like China and the Middle East. Renewable energy, logistics and transport (leveraging the Middle Corridor and China's Belt and Road Initiative), digital technologies, and green industries are emerging sectors where Kazakhstan can establish a competitive advantage. The government's focus on industrial diversification and technological modernization will be critical to unlocking these sectors.

3. How do you evaluate the prospects for economic cooperation between Kazakhstan and the Netherlands?

Kazakhstan and the Netherlands share a robust economic relationship, with the Netherlands being a leading foreign investor. Partially, because many foreign investors choose to enter Kazakhstan's market through Netherlands supported by its clear corporate law and predictable dispute resolution. Prospects for deepening this cooperation are strong, particularly in agriculture, water management, renewable energy, and innovation ecosystems. Dutch expertise in sustainable technologies and agribusiness can complement Kazakhstan's development goals. Encouraging joint ventures, technology transfer, and knowledge-sharing initiatives will be key to enhancing bilateral economic ties. One of the most promising areas should be small scale farming – in an attempt to bring expertise from Netherlands to Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan–Netherlands Trade Overview (2024)

Metric	Value (2024)
Kazakhstan's exports to Netherlands	\$4.9 billion
Netherlands' exports to Kazakhstan	\$943.32 million
Total bilateral trade volume	\$5.84 billion

4. What measures do you think could facilitate the attraction of foreign investments into Kazakhstan?

To attract greater foreign investment, Kazakhstan must continue improving its investment climate by ensuring regulatory transparency, strengthening property rights, enhancing judicial independence, and streamlining administrative procedures. Predictable taxation should also help. Offering targeted incentives in priority sectors, establishing special economic zones with modern infrastructure, and actively promoting public-





private partnerships will further position Kazakhstan as an attractive destination for global investors.

5. What is your assessment of the current state of problem assets in Kazakhstan?

Kazakhstan has made significant progress in resolving legacy problem assets from past financial crises, notably through initiatives like the establishment of the Problem Loan Fund. However, challenges persist. The financial sector still carries non-performing loans (NPLs) in

specific segments, and vulnerabilities could resurface under economic stress. Continuous efforts are needed to strengthen risk management practices, improve asset quality, and maintain vigilant regulatory oversight.

Currently, Kazakhstan is discussing its new (first in 30 years) law on banks and banking and it should help make the financial sector more adaptable to global changes.

6. What role does data transparency and availability play in identifying and managing problem assets? Are there specific areas where improvements are needed?

Data transparency is critical for effectively identifying, managing, and resolving problem assets. Reliable, timely, and detailed financial information allows stakeholders to make informed decisions and supports systemic financial stability. Kazakhstan has taken steps toward greater transparency, but further improvements are needed, particularly in areas such as consistent disclosure of asset quality, real-time reporting of distressed assets, and enhanced corporate governance standards in the banking sector.

Being among the top countries for digitalization – Kazakhstan needs to take an extra step to maintain its leadership and make all market participants understand that data transparency is a crucial condition for better market conditions.

7. In the context of international best practices, how can Kazakhstan's financial sector improve its approach to managing and mitigating problem assets?

Drawing from global experience, Kazakhstan can enhance its approach by institutionalizing specialized asset management companies (AMCs) with clear mandates and governance structures. Utilizing market-based mechanisms for asset sales, encouraging secondary markets for distressed assets, and fostering creditor-debtor negotiations are proven methods.

Strengthening insolvency frameworks and promoting private sector involvement in asset resolution would align Kazakhstan's practices with international standards.



Recently, Kazakhstan announced the launch of an e-trading platform for distressed assets, however, market players have not been very active in using it. Moreover, the term “distressed asset” needs to be clarified for the public – whether it refers to a pre-bankrupt state or just underperforming assets created at a loan.

The largest source of distressed assets is supposed to be second tier commercial banks, however around 35% of the corporate loans are issued under the state subsidies, therefore dumping them into a dustbin carries material risks for the state-owned development institutions like Baiterek management holding and its subsidiaries.

The Covid-2019 pandemic demonstrated that distressed assets can grow within days and need to be cleared out within months, not years. Therefore, Kazakhstan still needs a proper secondary market for distressed assets – an initiative still held back by soft currency of the country and short-termism of the public sector as well as the corporates.

8. How do you assess the potential impact of the recent U.S. tariffs—such as the universal 10% import duty and higher country-specific rates—on Kazakhstan's trade relations and economic growth?

The introduction of a universal 10% U.S. import duty and higher country-specific tariffs could have indirect consequences for Kazakhstan. Although Kazakhstan is not a primary target, the tariffs could disrupt global supply chains, slow down global trade, and reduce overall demand, affecting commodity prices—a vital determinant for Kazakhstan's export revenues. Strategic diversification of export markets and greater participation in regional trade agreements can mitigate these risks.

Another proper way to approach export risks is to lengthen domestic value added chains to increase export prices and reduce risks of exporting only crude.

9. With the U.S. imposing tariffs of up to 145% on Chinese imports, how might this shift global trade patterns, and what opportunities or challenges could arise for Kazakhstan in this new landscape?

Higher U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods may reconfigure global trade flows, with potential opportunities for Kazakhstan to position itself as a logistics and manufacturing hub within Eurasia.

If Chinese companies seek alternative routes and partners, Kazakhstan could leverage its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) infrastructure to attract investment and become a transshipment center. However, competition among regional players will intensify, necessitating proactive infrastructure and regulatory improvements.

10. In light of the U.S. tariffs potentially increasing global inflation and slowing economic growth, what strategies should Kazakhstan adopt to mitigate these external economic pressures?

To counter external shocks such as rising global inflation and trade disruptions, Kazakhstan should focus on strengthening domestic resilience, increase domestic value and production. Priorities include diversifying the economy, enhancing food and energy security, expanding the non-oil export base, and maintaining prudent fiscal policies.

Building strategic reserves, promoting local manufacturing, and deepening regional economic cooperation—particularly within Central Asia—can help buffer external pressures.

11. What inspired you to pursue a career in finance? What key lessons have you learned from your professional experience that could be valuable to young specialists?

My journey into finance was driven by a passion for understanding the forces shaping economies and societies. Over the years, I have learned that resilience, adaptability, and continuous learning are crucial. Quite recently, I understood that finance as a science is not about finance, cashflows and debts. Finance can be called a bottomline of your knowledge in many spheres.

For young specialists, I would emphasize the importance of cultivating critical thinking, maintaining ethical standards, and embracing technological innovation. The world of finance is ever-evolving, and those who remain curious, committed, and courageous will find opportunities to make meaningful impacts. One can also say that the science or tradecraft of finance can be widely described as the knowledge of how to deal with resources, far wider than just finance.

And as for Kazakhstan's economic future, it is promising, but it demands thoughtful strategies, coordinated action, and a forward-looking mindset. As the world changes, so too must Kazakhstan's approach—boldly, pragmatically, and with a clear vision for sustainable prosperity.



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Have questions?

You can contact us by email: info@khassanov.nl





Flora Expo Astana: How Kazakhstan Became a Hub for the Global Green Industry

Record international participation, new forums, and landmark agreements made Flora Expo Astana and Grow Expo Astana 2025 the region's most influential green industry events yet.

From April 8 to 10, 2025, Astana welcomed the global floriculture and greenhouse technology community to what has become Central Asia's most prominent industry gathering. Held at the capital's International Exhibition Center "EXPO," the 12th Flora Expo Astana and the inaugural Grow Expo Astana brought together 220 exhibitors from 20 countries and attracted 3,750 professional visitors — setting a new benchmark for industry engagement in the region.

Flora Expo Astana showcased the entire value chain of the flower and landscaping sectors — from potted plants, seedlings, and bulbs to garden design, floristry innovations, and countryside arrangements.

Meanwhile, the newly launched Grow Expo Astana catered to the rapidly expanding greenhouse sector, offering a dedicated stage for advanced systems in irrigation, climate control, lighting, and nutrition for controlled-environment agriculture.

Exhibitors represented a diverse lineup of countries, including the Netherlands, Belarus, Belgium, China, Ecuador, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, South Korea, Switzerland, Turkey, the USA and Uzbekistan, and Japan. High-profile participants included 3D Flowers, Art-Flowers, Jardin Design & Production, Koppert, Priva, Chrysal, Dutch Greenhouse Delta, Hanse Plant, Tessa Corp, Zion, Green Garden, Farm Direct, Black Tulip Group, Bashinkom, Prime HortiSolutions, Chrysal, Dalsem, Agrotech Didam, Meteor Systems, Copa Cogeca, Priva, Henan Yutuo, Urbinati and Royal FloraHolland — the latter making its debut with a strong presence and message.

"The exhibition exceeded all our expectations," said Jeroen Boon, International Commercial Manager at Royal FloraHolland. "We met around 50 business contacts and brought along ten Kenyan growers. The experience was incredibly rewarding."





Photo credit: www.flora-expo.kz

Netherlands Pavilion and Intergovernmental Talks

A highlight was the Netherlands’ national pavilion — the largest in the exhibition’s history. Over 40 companies presented their innovations, varieties, and technological solutions. An intergovernmental meeting was held here, featuring Secretary General of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Netherlands Jan-Kees Goet and Kazakhstan’s Vice Minister of Agriculture Azat Sultanov.

During the exhibition, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Kazakhstan’s National Center for Agricultural Science and Education and the Dutch initiative GroenPact, promoting sustainable development through business, education, and science collaboration.

Dutch Pavilion and Diplomatic Momentum

One of the standout features of this year’s edition was the Netherlands Pavilion, the largest in the exhibition’s

history. Over 40 Dutch companies showcased cutting-edge technologies and horticultural innovations, underlining the country’s leadership in sustainable agriculture.

The pavilion also hosted an intergovernmental meeting between Jan-Kees Goet, Secretary General of the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, and Azat Sultanov, Kazakhstan’s Vice Minister of Agriculture. The talks emphasized emerging cooperation in greenhouse tech, seed production, and eco-agriculture.

“Partnerships between Kazakhstan and the Netherlands in greenhouse technologies, animal health, sustainable seed production, and horticulture are in development. This collaboration is in its early stages but already shows strong mutual interest,” noted Jan-Kees Goet.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Kazakhstan’s National Center for Agricultural Science and Education and the Dutch initiative GroenPact, aimed at fostering collaboration in sustainable development through education, business, and science.

Jasyl Astana and Greenhouse Dialogue

Two new initiatives broadened the event’s impact. The first, Jasyl Astana 2025, was an international conference on public space landscaping, opened by Astana Deputy Akim Yevgeny Glotov, who underscored the city’s commitment to sustainable urban development.

The second, the inaugural Astana Greenhouse Forum, gathered key players from Kazakhstan’s Ministry of Agriculture, Energy, and greenhouse businesses. The forum addressed pressing challenges such as export barriers, local producer support, and tariff reform.

“This was a breakthrough platform for constructive dialogue,” said Nurlan Adilkhan, President of Kazakhstan’s



Photo credit: www.flora-expo.kz



Interactive Q&A formats boosted audience engagement and reinforced the event's value for hands-on knowledge sharing.

Organizers and Looking Ahead

The exhibitions were organized by Astana Expo, in partnership with GreenExpo and Kazakhstan's Greenhouse Union, with sponsorship from 3D Flowers and Florexim. Official support came from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Akimat of Astana, Visit Astana, and the "Auyil" party.

As the event closed, one message rang clear: Kazakhstan is not just participating in the global green economy — it's helping shape its future.

Greenhouse Union. "It paves the way for stronger domestic production and long-term food security."

Knowledge Sharing at Grow Talks

The Grow Talks seminar series made its debut this year, bringing together greenhouse experts, agronomists, and farmers to discuss crop diversification, gas generation, climate resilience, and innovation in southern Kazakhstan's greenhouses.

Save the Date: Flora Expo Astana and Grow Expo Astana will return April 8–10, 2026. Organizers are already planning for an even larger international presence and expanded programming.





Vlad Khassanov: Logistics and Transportation in the Netherlands

Strategic Role of the Netherlands in European Logistics

The Netherlands has long served as the “gateway to Europe” due to its favorable geographic location. Situated on the North Sea at the mouths of the Rhine and Meuse rivers, the country offers direct access to global maritime routes and proximity to key EU markets such as Germany, France, Belgium and others. Major trade flows between Europe, Asia, and the Americas pass through Dutch ports and airports, making the country a crucial node in international logistics.

Why the Netherlands Is a Leading Logistics Hub:

- **Ideal Location:** Central position in Europe ensures fast access to major markets and seamless integration into global supply chains.
- **Modern Infrastructure:** High-quality roads, railways, ports, and canals enable efficient and low-cost transport.
- **Government Support:** Favorable tax regimes and streamlined customs procedures attract global logistics players.
- **Skilled Workforce:** Educated, experienced, and multilingual professionals manage logistics at a world-class level.

Thanks to these factors, the Netherlands consistently ranks among the top five in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index. Its importance has only increased post-Brexit, as many companies have relocated their warehouses and distribution centers to the Netherlands to maintain smooth access to the EU market. This solidifies its position as a logistics superpower in Europe and globally.

Port of Rotterdam – Europe's Maritime Gateway

The Port of Rotterdam is Europe's largest seaport, handling around 435–440 million tonnes of cargo annually, including over 15 million TEU containers. Stretching 40 km along the coast, it accommodates the world's largest vessels. With over 1,000 direct maritime routes and extensive infrastructure, it connects Europe with global markets and serves over 500 million consumers.

Its economic impact is substantial: the port accounts for up to 8% of Dutch GDP and provides over 560,000 jobs. It includes petrochemical clusters and fully automated container terminals in the Maasvlakte area. By 2027, capacity is expected to expand by another 7 million TEU. The port is highly multimodal: approximately 50% of cargo is transported via inland waterways, and another 15% by rail. This allows goods to reach most European



regions within 24 hours, making Rotterdam a pivotal logistics hub.

Schiphol Airport – A Global Air Cargo Hub

Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport is one of Europe's major aviation hubs. In 2024, it handled around 1.5 million tonnes of air freight, ranking fourth in Europe. With direct connections to over 100 countries, Schiphol plays a vital role in shipping perishable and high-value goods—from pharmaceuticals to electronics and Dutch flowers.

Schiphol is the home base of KLM and a SkyTeam alliance hub. About 57% of cargo is transported on dedicated freighters, with the remainder in passenger aircraft, enhancing logistics flexibility.

The airport features six runways and operates 24/7 with a "one terminal" concept. Automated processes under Schiphol Cargo support efficient handling. Its nearby logistics park enables fast consolidation and redistribution.

Schiphol complements Rotterdam by facilitating fast global deliveries and faces environmental challenges. Green technologies, from electric tugs to carbon neutrality programs, are actively implemented. Despite capacity pressures, Schiphol remains vital to Europe's logistics infrastructure.

Inland Waterways and Regional Ports

The Netherlands leads Europe in inland waterway transport, supported by an extensive network of rivers and canals, including the Rhine, Meuse, and Scheldt. These connect seaports with domestic regions and the broader EU. South Holland is the EU leader in inland shipping, handling over 172 million tonnes in 2022.

Nearly half of Rotterdam's cargo is moved via water. The



Rhine links directly to Germany's industrial zones and further to Southeast Europe. Canals allow large vessels to access cities like Brussels and Paris, easing road traffic and reducing CO₂ emissions.

Beyond Rotterdam, key regional ports include Amsterdam (handling up to 100 million tonnes annually), Zeeland's ports, and inland terminals such as Venlo and Cuijk, which support multimodal "water-rail-road" logistics.

The government continues to invest in waterway infrastructure—upgrading locks, strengthening banks, and enforcing ecological standards—to enhance sustainable logistics.

Rail Network and Transit Corridors

The Netherlands maintains a dense, electrified railway system (~3,000 km) integrated with the European rail network. It forms part of major EU corridors, including the Rhine-Alpine Corridor linking Rotterdam and Amsterdam to southern Europe's industrial regions.

A standout feature is the 160 km Betuweroute, Europe's first freight-dedicated rail line connecting Rotterdam to Germany. It handles up to 70% of Dutch-German rail freight, with up to 60 trains daily. The line is being upgraded to increase capacity.

Intermodal rail links with China are growing, connecting Rotterdam to Asia via the New Silk Road.

The country is also part of the high-speed passenger rail network (Thalys, Eurostar, ICE), further enhancing its transport hub status.

Rail transport, alongside inland waterways, strengthens the Netherlands' multimodal logistics and gives it a competitive edge.

Motorways and Road Transport

Road transport plays a key role in both domestic and international logistics. The Netherlands has one of Europe's densest and most advanced motorway





networks—around 3,000 km—connecting major cities and neighboring countries. Important routes such as A15, A16, and A2 are part of the EU TEN-T corridors. These allow trucks to deliver goods across Western and Central Europe within a day, making the country attractive for distribution centers.

The government invests heavily in infrastructure—expanding highways, reinforcing bridges, and introducing truck tolls to encourage greener transport. Major logistics firms (DHL, DB Schenker, DSV, etc.) operate here, offering advanced delivery and warehousing services.

The road network is adapting to e-commerce growth with urban hubs and enhanced last-mile delivery. From 2025, only zero-emission trucks will be allowed in city centers. Thus, Dutch road logistics combine high capacity with sustainability and innovation.

Logistics Hubs and Distribution Centers

Despite its small size, the Netherlands is a key logistics hub in Europe. It attracts global companies as a base for European Distribution Centers (EDCs) due to its location, infrastructure, and favorable tax policies.

Main logistics regions include:

- Venlo (Limburg): A major logistics center near the German border, home to retail and automotive warehouses.
- South Holland & Brabant: The area between Rotterdam and Belgium, housing major consumer goods DCs.
- Schiphol: A logistics cluster near the airport, specializing in air cargo and perishables.
- Rotterdam & Amsterdam Ports: Industrial zones with Distriparks for fast packing and shipping.

E-commerce growth and supply chain restructuring have led to a boom in warehouse development, reinforcing the Netherlands as “Europe’s warehouse.” The government supports

this via access infrastructure and investment promotion (through NFIA and HIDC).

These hubs are tightly integrated with rail, road, and waterways. Many DCs are multimodal, enhancing supply chain flexibility and resilience. As a result, the Netherlands is considered one of Europe’s most efficient logistics hubs.

Sustainable Logistics and Multimodal Solutions

The Netherlands is a leader in sustainable logistics. The focus is on reducing CO₂ emissions, adopting multimodal routes, and introducing clean technologies.

Climate goals: The country aims to cut emissions under the Paris Agreement. Projects like Betuweroute and green corridors help shift freight from road to rail and water.

Synchromodality: This concept enables flexible switching between transport modes in real-time, optimizing delivery based on conditions. It enhances resilience and minimizes environmental impact.

Clean transport: The shift to electric and hydrogen trucks is underway. By 2025, city centers will become zero-emission zones. Charging infrastructure is expanding, and hydrogen trucks are being tested.

Green energy: Ports and railways use wind power. Rotterdam is developing green hydrogen production and shore power for ships. Freight trains already run on green electricity.

Eco-efficiency: Warehouses adopt solar energy, smart climate control, and reusable packaging to reduce environmental impact.

Competitive edge: Sustainability is a growing factor in logistics partnerships. Dutch infrastructure and innovation offer one of Europe’s best ecosystems for low-carbon supply chains.

In conclusion, the Netherlands presents a model of integrated logistics development: world-class infrastructure, technological leadership, sustainability, and government support. Every link—from ports and airports to rail, roads, and warehouses—works in synergy, reinforcing the country’s role as Europe’s premier logistics hub.





The Netherlands: Public holidays in 2025

- New Year's Day: Wednesday 1 January 2025
- Good Friday: Friday 18 April 2025
- Easter Sunday and Easter Monday: Sunday 20 April and Monday 21 April 2025
- King's Day: Saturday 26 April 2025 (In 2025, King's Day will be celebrated a day earlier on 26 April, because 27 April falls on a Sunday.)
- Liberation Day: Monday 5 May 2025
- Ascension Day: Thursday 29 May 2025
- Whit Sunday and Whit Monday: Sunday 8 and Monday 9 June 2025
- Christmas Day and Boxing Day: Thursday 25 and Friday 26 December 2025



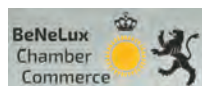
Kazakhstan: Public holidays in 2025

- New Year's Day: 1-2 January. The day off for Sunday, January 5, is moved to Friday, January 3.
- Orthodox Christmas: January 7.
- International Women's Day: March 8. The day off for Saturday, March 8, is moved to Monday, March 10.
- Nauryz Meiramy: March 21-23. The days off for Saturday and Sunday, March 22 and 23, are moved to Monday and Tuesday, March 24 and 25).
- Day of Unity of the People of Kazakhstan: May 1.
- Defender of the Fatherland Day: May 7.
- Victory Day: May 9.
- Kurban Ait (Eid al-Adha): June 6.
- Capital City Day: July 6. The day off for Sunday, July 6, is moved to Monday, July 7.
- Constitution Day of the Republic of Kazakhstan: August 30. The day off for Saturday, August 30, is moved to Monday, September 1.
- Republic Day: October 25. The day off for Saturday, October 25, is moved to Monday, October 27.
- Independence Day: December 16.

Reference Information:

According to paragraph 3 of Article 85 of the Labor Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Government has the right to transfer days off to other working days in order to ensure the rational use of working time during public holidays.

Upcoming Events: Kazakhstan



BENELUX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN KZ AND KHAASSANOV B.V.
15 MAY 2025 • WEBINAR
BUSINESS IN THE NETHERLANDS: OPPORTUNITIES AND PRACTICAL TIPS
[HTTPS://BENELUX.KZ/](https://benelux.kz/), [HTTPS://WWW.KHAASSANOV.NL/](https://www.khaassanov.nl/)



KIHE 2025
21 - 23 MAY 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
30TH KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL HEALTHCARE EXHIBITION
[WWW.KIHE.KZ](http://www.kihe.kz)



PHARMATECH KAZAKHSTAN 2025
21 - 23 MAY 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
2ND KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL EQUIPMENT, INGREDIENTS
& TECHNOLOGIES FOR PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY EXHIBITION
[WWW.PHARMATECHEXPO.KZ/EN/](http://www.pharmatechexpo.kz/en/)



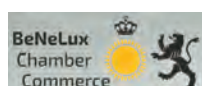
ASTANABUILD 2025
28 - 30 MAY 2025 • ASTANA, KAZAKHSTAN
25TH KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL BUILDING & INTERIORS EXHIBITION
[WWW.ASTANABUILD.KZ](http://www.astanabuild.kz)



INTERFOOD ASTANA 2025
28 - 30 MAY 2025 • ASTANA, KAZAKHSTAN
25TH KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION FOODSTUFFS, DRINKS,
PACKAGING AND EQUIPMENT FOR FOOD INDUSTRY
[WWW.INTERFOODASTANA.KZ](http://www.interfoodastana.kz)



KIOSH 2025
28 - 30 MAY 2025 • ASTANA, KAZAKHSTAN
13TH KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH
CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION
[WWW.KIOSH.KZ](http://www.kiosh.kz)



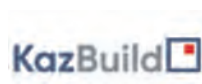
THE BENELUX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
4 - 5 JUNE 2025 • ASTANA, KAZAKHSTAN
MISSION TO BELGIUM (JUNE 4-5, 2025) AND LUXEMBOURG (JUNE 6, 2025).
[WWW.BENELUX.KZ](http://www.benelux.kz)



ASTANA MINING & METALLURGY 2025
4 - 5 JUNE 2025 • ASTANA, KAZAKHSTAN
XV INTERNATIONAL MINING AND METALLURGY CONGRESS
«ASTANA MINING & METALLURGY»
[WWW.AMM.KZ](http://www.amm.kz)



AQUATHERM ALMATY 2025
3 - 5 SEPTEMBER 2025 • ASTANA, KAZAKHSTAN
17TH INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION FOR DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL
HEATING, WATER SUPPLY, SANITARY, AIR-CONDITIONING, VENTILATION
[WWW.AQUATHERM-ALMATY.KZ](http://www.aquatherm-almaty.kz)



KAZBUILD 2025
3 - 5 SEPTEMBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
31ST KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL BUILDING & INTERIORS EXHIBITION
[WWW.KAZBUILD.KZ](http://www.kazbuild.kz)





MINING AND METALS CENTRAL ASIA 2025
17 - 19 SEPTEMBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
30TH CENTRAL ASIAN INTERNATIONAL MINING EXPLORATION & MINING
EQUIPMENT EXHIBITION
WWW.MINING-METALS.KZ



KAZCOMAK 2025
17 - 19 SEPTEMBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
21ST KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL ROAD AND HEAVY CONSTRUCTION,
COMMUNAL MACHINERY EXHIBITION
WWW.KAZCOMAK.KZ



TRANSLOGISTICA KAZAKHSTAN 2025
30 SEPTEMBER - 30 OCTOBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
28TH KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS EXHIBITION»
WWW.TRANSLOGISTICA.KZ



POWEREXPO ALMATY 2025
21 OCTOBER - 23 OCTOBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
23TH KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL ENERGY, ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT AND
MACHINE BUILDING EXHIBITION
WWW.POWEREXPO.KZ



AGROWORLD QAZAQSTAN 2025
29 - 31 OCTOBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
19TH CENTRAL ASIAN INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE EXHIBITION
WWW.AGROWORLD.KZ



COLDCHAIN QAZAQSTAN 2025
29 - 31 OCTOBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
9TH CENTRAL ASIAN INTERNATIONAL COLD STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION
AND COLD CHAIN SERVICES EXHIBITION
WWW.COLDCHAIN.KZ



FOODEXPO QAZAQSTAN 2025
12 - 14 NOVEMBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
27TH CENTRAL ASIAN INTERNATIONAL FOOD INDUSTRY EXHIBITION
WWW.FOODEXPO.KZ



HOREX QAZAQSTAN 2025
12 - 14 NOVEMBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
20TH CENTRAL-ASIAN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION
«EVERYTHING FOR HOTELS, RESTAURANTS, SUPERMARKETS»
[HTTPS://HOREXEXPO.KZ/EN/](https://HOREXEXPO.KZ/EN/)



PLASTEX QAZAQSTAN 2025
12 - 14 NOVEMBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION FOR PLASTICS AND CHEMICAL
INDUSTRY
WWW.PLASTEX.KZ



QAZPACK 2025
12 NOVEMBER - 14 NOVEMBER 2025 • ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN
THE 22ND KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION
WWW.QAZPACK.KZ





Upcoming Event: The Netherlands



WORLD HYDROGEN 2025 SUMMIT & EXHIBITION
20 - 22 MAY 2025 • ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
THE WORLD'S LARGEST DEDICATED HYDROGEN EVENT
[HTTPS://WWW.WORLD-HYDROGEN-SUMMIT.COM/](https://www.world-hydrogen-summit.com/)



MARITIME INDUSTRY 2025
20 - 22 MAY 2025 • GORINCHEM, THE NETHERLANDS
MARITIME INDUSTRY EVENT FEATURING KNOWLEDGE PROGRAM,
CAREER EVENT, EXHIBITORS SHOWCASING DIGITIZATION,
EMISSION REQUIREMENTS, MODAL SHIFT.
[HTTPS://WWW.MARITIME-INDUSTRY.NL/](https://www.maritime-industry.nl/)



WORLD DATA SUMMIT 2025
21 - 23 MAY 2025 • SCHIPOL, THE NETHERLANDS
THE WORLD DATA SUMMIT, HELD ANNUALLY SINCE 2018, BRINGS TOGETHER
TOP DATA & ANALYTICS PROFESSIONALS FROM AROUND THE WORLD
[HTTPS://WORLDDATASUMMIT.COM/EUROPE/](https://worlddatasummit.com/europe/)



BUREN LAW FIRM AND KHASSANOV B.V.
22 MAY 2025 • THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS
ESSENTIAL LEGAL & BUSINESS INSIGHTS FOR KAZAKH COMPANIES
IN THE NETHERLANDS
[HTTPS://WWW.BURENLEGAL.COM](https://www.burenlegal.com)



GREENTECH AMSTERDAM 2025
10 - 12 JUNE 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
THE #1 HORTICULTURE TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM IN THE NETHERLANDS
[HTTPS://WWW.GREENTECH.NL/AMSTERDAM](https://www.greentech.nl/amsterdam)



IDENTITY WEEK EUROPE 2025
17 - 18 JUNE 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
IDENTITY WEEK EUROPE 2025 IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST AND MOST
IMPORTANT IDENTITY EVENT.
[HTTPS://IDENTITYWEEK.NET/EVENTS/](https://identityweek.net/events/)



TOC EUROPE 2025
17 - 19 JUNE 2025 • ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
THE LARGEST ANNUAL TRADE FAIRS AND CONFERENCES WORLDWIDE FOR
PORT, SHIP, AND TERMINAL TECHNOLOGY
[HTTPS://WWW.TOCEVENTS-EUROPE.COM/EN/HOME.HTML](https://www.tocevents-europe.com/en/home.html)



PROVADA 2025
17 - 19 JUNE 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
THE LARGEST REAL ESTATE FAIR IN THE NETHERLANDS
[HTTPS://WWW.PROVADA.NL/EN/ABOUT-US/](https://www.provada.nl/en/about-us/)



IOT TECH EXPO EUROPE 2025
24 25 SEPTEMBER 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
THE WORLDS LEADING INTERNET OF THINGS EVENT
[HTTPS://WWW.IOTTECHEXPO.COM/EUROPE/](https://www.iottechexpo.com/europe/)



ELECTRIC & HYBRID MARINE EXPO 2025
24 - 26 JUNE 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
THE WORLD'S LEADING EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE FOR MARITIME
ELECTRIFICATION, DECARBONIZATION AND GHG REDUCTION SOLUTIONS
[HTMLHTTPS://WWW.ELECTRICANDHYBRIDMARINEWORLDEXPO.COM/EN/](https://www.electricandhybridmarineworldexpo.com/en/)



EUROPEAN WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY 2025
25 - 26 JUNE 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
EUROPE'S LARGEST TECH EVENT FOR WOMEN
[HTTPS://WWW.EUROPEANWOMENINTECH.COM/](https://www.europeanwomenintech.com/)



POTATOEUROPE
3 - 4 SEPTEMBER • LELYSTAD, THE NETHERLANDS
POTATOEUROPE IS A PREMIER INTERNATIONAL EVENT DEDICATED TO THE POTATO INDUSTRY, OFFERING A COMPREHENSIVE PLATFORM FOR PROFESSIONALS TO EXPLORE INNOVATIONS ACROSS THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN
[HTTPS://POTATOEUROPE.NL/POTATOEUROPE-ENG/](https://potatoeurope.nl/potatoeurope-eng/)



AMSTERDAM TEXTILE SHOW 2025
29 SEPTEMBER - 01 OCTOBER 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
3RD INTERNATIONAL AMSTERDAM TEXTILE SHOW,
ONE OF THE LARGEST TEXTILE EVENTS GLOBALLY
[HTTPS://AMSTERDAMTEXTILESHOW.COM/](https://amsterdamtextileshow.com/)



WORLD DRUG SAFETY EU 2025
7 - 8 OCTOBER 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
WORLD DRUG SAFETY CONGRESS IS EUROPE'S LEADING DRUG SAFETY & PV EVENT!
[HTTPS://WWW.TERRAPINN.COM/CONFERENCE/WORLD-DRUG-SAFETY-CONGRESS-EUROPE/INDEX.STM](https://www.terrapinn.com/conference/world-drug-safety-congress-europe/index.stm)



GLOBAL LEGAL FORUM
9 - 10 OCTOBER 2025 • THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS
THE GLOBAL LEGAL FORUM (GLF) IS A PRESTIGIOUS GATHERING FOR THE LEGAL INDUSTRY, RENOWNED FOR ITS ROLE IN BRINGING TOGETHER THE WORLD'S LEADING LEGAL MINDS.
[HTTPS://GLOBALLEGALFORUM.COM/](https://globallegalforum.com/)



MARATHON EXPO AMSTERDAM - TCS AMSTERDAM MARATHON
16 - 18 OCTOBER 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
THE MARATHON EXPO, PART OF THE TCS AMSTERDAM MARATHON. PARTNERS AND SPORTS BRANDS PRESENT THE LATEST INNOVATIONS IN RUNNING, HEALTH, NUTRITION, SPORTSWEAR, AND LIFESTYLE.
[HTTPS://WWW.TCSAMSTERDAMMARATHON.EU/](https://www.tcsamsterdammarathon.eu/)



DUTCH DESIGN WEEK 2025
18 - 26 OCTOBER 2025 • EINDHOVEN, THE NETHERLANDS
DUTCH DESIGN WEEK (DDW) SHOWCASES FUTURE DESIGN CONCEPTS, EMPHASIZING SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATIVE IDEAS.
[HTTPS://DDW.NL/](https://ddw.nl/)

METSTRADE SHOW 2025
18 - 20 NOVEMBER 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
METSTRADE IS A ONE-STOP-SHOP FOR MARINE INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS.
[HTTPS://WWW.METSTRADE.COM/](https://www.metstrade.com/)



OFFSHORE ENERGY CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION (OEEC)
25 - 26 NOVEMBER 2025 • AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
OEEC IS A LEADING INTERNATIONAL EVENT IN THE OFFSHORE ENERGY INDUSTRY HELD EACH YEAR IN AMSTERDAM.
[HTTPS://OEEC.BIZ/OEEC2025/](https://oeec.biz/oeec2025/)



Useful links: Kazakhstan



EMBASSY, ASSOCIATIONS AND AGENCIES

- EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF NETHERLANDS IN KAZAKHSTAN AND CENTRAL ASIA - [HTTPS://WWW.NETHERLANDSANDYOU.NL/WEB/KAZAKHSTAN](https://www.netherlandsandyou.nl/web/kazakhstan)
- JSC NC KAZAKH INVEST - [HTTPS://INVEST.GOV.KZ/](https://invest.gov.kz/)
- ASTANA INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE - [HTTPS://AIFC.KZ/](https://aifc.kz/)
- THE BENELUX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ASSOCIATION - [HTTPS://BENELUX.KZ/](https://benelux.kz/)
- PORTAL ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN - [HTTPS://EGOV.KZ/CMS/EN](https://egov.kz/cms/en)
- JSC SAMRUK-KAZYNA - [HTTPS://SK.KZ/?LANG=EN](https://sk.kz/?lang=en)
- KAZAKHSTAN INTERNATIONAL "OIL & GAS" EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE - [HTTPS://KIOGE.KZ/EN](https://kioeg.kz/en)
- EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT - [HTTPS://WWW.EBRD.COM/KAZAKHSTAN.HTML](https://www.ebrd.com/kazakhstan.html)
- ATAMEKEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF KAZAKHSTAN - [HTTPS://ATAMEKEN.KZ/](https://atameken.kz/)
- CHAMBER OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE OF KAZAKHSTAN - [HTTPS://KAZCIC.KZ](https://kazcic.kz)
- DAMU" ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND - [HTTPS://DAMU.KZ/EN/](https://damu.kz/en/)

MINISTRIES

- FOREIGN AFFAIRS - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/MFA](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/mfa)
- INTERNAL AFFAIRS - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/QRIIM](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/qriim)
- DEFENSE - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/MOD](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/mod)
- CULTURE AND INFORMATION - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/QOGAM](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/qogam)
- MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/MOAR](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/moar)
- MINISTRY OF JUSTICE - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/ADILET](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/adilet)
- MINISTRY OF EDUCATION - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/EDU](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/edu)
- MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/SCI/ABOUT?LANG=KK](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/sci/about?lang=kk)
- MINISTRY OF HEALTHCARE - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/DSM](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/dsm)
- MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION OF POPULATION - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/ENBEK](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/enbek)
- MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/MPs](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/mps)
- MINISTRY OF FINANCE - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/MINFIN](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/minfin)
- MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND SPORTS - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/MCS](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/mcs)
- MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/ECONOMY](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/economy)
- MINISTRY OF DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT, INNOVATIONS AND AEROSPACE INDUSTRY - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/MDAI/ABOUT](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/mdai/about)
- MINISTRY OF ENERGY - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/ENERGO](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/energo)
- MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INTEGRATION - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/MTI](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/mti)
- MINISTRY OF ECOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/ECOGEO](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/ecogeo)
- MINISTRY FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/EMER](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/emergency)
- MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/TRANSPORT](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/transport)
- MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND IRRIGATION - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/WATER](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/water)



Useful links: The Netherlands



EMBASSY, ASSOCIATIONS AND AGENCIES

- EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN IN THE KINGDOM OF NETHERLANDS - [HTTPS://WWW.GOV.KZ/MEMLEKET/ENTITIES/MFA-HAGUE](https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/mfa-hague)
- THE NETHERLANDS KAZAKH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (NKBA) - [HTTPS://NKBA.NL/](https://nkba.nl/)
- DOING BUSINESS IN THE NETHERLANDS - [HTTPS://BUSINESS.GOV.NL/](https://business.gov.nl/)
- NETHERLANDS FOREIGN INVESTMENT AGENCY (NFIA) - [HTTPS://INVESTINHOLLAND.COM/](https://investinholland.com/)
- NETHERLANDS ENTERPRISE AGENCY (RVO.NL) - [HTTPS://ENGLISH.RVO.NL/](https://english.rvo.nl/)
- TAX AND CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION - [HTTPS://WWW.BELASTINGDIENST.NL](https://www.belastingdienst.nl)
- IMMIGRATION AND NATURALISATION SERVICE (IND) - [HTTPS://IND.NL/EN](https://ind.nl/en)

MINISTRIES

- AGRICULTURE, NATURE AND FOOD QUALITY - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-AGRICULTURE-FISHERIES-FOOD-SECURITY-AND-NATURE](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-agriculture-fisheries-food-security-and-nature)
- DEFENCE - [HTTPS://ENGLISH.DEFENSIE.NL/](https://english.defensie.nl/)
- ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND CLIMATE POLICY - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-ECONOMIC-AFFAIRS](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-economic-affairs)
- EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SCIENCE - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-EDUCATION-CULTURE-AND-SCIENCE](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-education-culture-and-science)
- FINANCE - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-FINANCE](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-finance)
- FOREIGN AFFAIRS - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-FOREIGN-AFFAIRS](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-foreign-affairs)
- GENERAL AFFAIRS - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-GENERAL-AFFAIRS](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-general-affairs)
- HEALTH, WELFARE AND SPORT - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-HEALTH-WELFARE-AND-SPORT](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-health-welfare-and-sport)
- INFRASTRUCTURE AND WATER MANAGEMENT - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-INFRASTRUCTURE-AND-WATER-MANAGEMENT](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-infrastructure-and-water-management)
- INTERIOR AND KINGDOM RELATIONS - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-THE-INTERIOR-AND-KINGDOM-RELATIONS](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-the-interior-and-kingdom-relations)
- JUSTICE AND SECURITY - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-JUSTICE-AND-SECURITY](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-justice-and-security)
- SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT - [HTTPS://WWW.GOVERNMENT.NL/MINISTRIES/MINISTRY-OF-SOCIAL-AFFAIRS-AND-EMPLOYMENT](https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-social-affairs-and-employment)

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