
BORDER ISSUE TOPS AGENDA IN KYRGYZ STATE VISIT TO UZBEKISTAN

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Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov visited Uzbekistan for his first state visit to the country from March 11-12. The leaders of both countries focused on the decades-old border delimitation issue. The matter again proved its complexity when the Kyrgyz government had to issue a correction to a statement it had made two days prior related to the delimitation process. Two other issues, using transboundary water resources and the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railroad, are dominant topics in relations between the countries, but the sides preferred to focus on the border issue during the latest negotiations. This focus is most likely driven by Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyevs resolve to finalize the border with his Kyrgyzstan colleague before tackling other issues.

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