
CENTRAL ASIAN TRADE CORRIDOR GAINS INTEREST AMID REGIONAL TENSIONS

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11.12.2023

VoA (8 December 2023)

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The emergence of a Middle Corridor – a transit network linking Asia with European markets by way of Central Asia, the Caspian Sea and the Caucasus – is rapidly gaining momentum as an alternative to Russia-controlled routes.

While the Trans-Caspian routes, also sometimes referred to as the China-Central Asia-West Asia Corridor, have come into their own over the past 30 years, Russias February 2022 invasion of Ukraine has prompted a significant increase in traffic over the routes.

Gaidar Abdikerimov, who heads the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route (TITR) association, reports that his network now comprises 25 transport and logistics companies including ports, vessels, railways and terminals. Its members also include 11 countries: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Ukraine, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Lithuania, China and Singapore.

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