



#### KAAS

Ref.No: Note-2024-1217

The Secretariat of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS) presents its compliments to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Member States and Observers and has the honor to inform the following:

The Turkic Academy in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Organization of Turkic States, is planning to organize the "Forum of Academies of Justice of the Turkic World" in Baku in two days of the week covering 3-9 June 2024.

The primary objective of the Forum is to engage in scientific discussions regarding the opportunities associated with legislative harmonization, in line with the trade and investment facilitation objectives of the "Turkic World Vision - 2040". Additionally, the Forum seeks to establish a base for scientific cooperation within the legal field.

The Heads of the Academies of Justice of the Turkic countries and the representatives from law faculties and other research structures specializing in jurisprudence within the Turkic countries will be invited to the Forum.

The Secretariat also requests to transmit the Concept Note of the Forum to the relevant authorities and kindly asks to provide information on the participants of the Forum.

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministries the assurances of its highest consideration.

Encl.: as stated

Istanbul, 9 February 2024

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

CC: Turkic Academy





# Concept Note of the FORUM OF ACADEMIES OF JUSTICE OF THE TURKIC WORLD Baku, June 2024

#### Introduction

In recent years, cooperation between Turkic countries has grown into constructive and comprehensive collaboration, which takes place at various levels and in multiple fields. Moreover, adopting the Turkic World Vision – 2040 in 2021 has introduced a new period of Turkic cooperation. Technically, collaboration became more targeted and focused on areas with the greatest potential for joint action. Strategically, this document established the ground for Turkic countries' gradual integration and for promoting collective interests of a safe and prosperous Turkic World.

The integration process will undoubtedly be long and challenging. Turkic countries should continue pursuing their integration agenda and prepare to respond to the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The decisions and actions Turkic countries make today will determine for many years whether Turkic World remains on the path of its integration.

One of the urgent issues that Turkic integration efforts need to address is taking measures to harmonize operational and legislative frameworks and standardize practices and procedures in different sectors.

Various ministerial meetings of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS), including ministers in charge of the economy, agriculture, transport, tourism, energy, ICT, culture, education, media, youth and sports, and health, have already intensified their work in this direction. Many Coordination Committees and Working Groups affiliated with line ministries also significantly contribute to this process.

Other Turkic Cooperation Organizations (TURKSOY, TURKPA, the Turkic Academy, and the Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation) are also contributing to the integration efforts of Turkic countries in their respective mandated areas. Moreover, the decisions to establish the Turkic Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Turkic Investment Fund also promise to boost economic cooperation.

In 2021, the OTS initiated cooperation in the justice field. The First Meeting of the Judicial Academies of the Organization of Turkic States was convened in Ankara on 5 October 2021 to discuss the possibilities of determining common strategies and cooperation areas in judicial training. Representatives of the Member States agreed in principle on establishing the "Union of Turkic Judicial Academies" under the umbrella of the Organization of Turkic

States to carry forward the cooperation opportunities among the Member States in the legal sphere.

Furthermore, the First Meeting of the Prosecutors General of the OTS convened in Baku on 1-2 November 2021 and discussed possible cooperation in the fight against trans-border threats. On 12 December 2022, the Heads of the Justice Academies and the Judiciary Training Institutions of OTS countries came together in Ankara, Türkiye, and signed the Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of the Turkic Judicial Training Network.

Steps taken to develop Turkic cooperation in the justice area are encouraging. Still, the Turkic cooperation's existing scope and future integration targets necessitate bringing lawyers under a dedicated platform to provide the academic basis for the Turkic countries' forthcoming harmonization of the operational and legislative frameworks, particularly in economic and administrative legislation.

## Purpose of the Forum

The Forum shall bring together the Heads of the Academies of Justice of the Turkic countries, representatives of lawyers' associations, scholars from law faculties, and other scientific structures in the field of jurisprudence to discuss the priorities for harmonizing the national legislations of the Turkic countries in line with the goals of Turkic World Vision – 2040 while focusing on Commercial Law.

The specific objectives of the Forum are to:

- 1. Raise participants' awareness about the need to harmonize operational and legislative frameworks and standardize practices and procedures in different sectors in line with the objectives of the Turkic World Vision-2040.
- 2. Strengthen participants' cooperation by establishing a base for scientific cooperation within the legal field.
- 3. Encourage joint research, including on issues related to Commercial Law.

The Forum will consist of two parts:

- a) Immediate priorities for harmonizing the laws of the Turkic countries: This part aims to give impetus to discussing and exchanging opinions and knowledge between the participants on the priorities for harmonizing the laws, with a focus on Commercial Law. After the presentations, the moderator and speakers are expected to interact with the participants to discuss the issues raised, including ways to harmonize the national legislation with regional commitments agreed in the context of the Turkic World Vision-2040.
- b) Cooperation between Academies of Justice, law faculties of universities, and other research structures in the field of jurisprudence: This part of the Forum aims to establish direct collaboration between the participants by reaching an agreement on creating a "Turkic Network for Legislative Studies and Harmonization of the Legal Frameworks" that brings together participating institutions.

### **Expected results:**

- Initiation of the exchange of academic knowledge among the participants on the issues
  presented and expanding practitioners' understanding of the needs in legal cooperation
  of Turkic countries.
- Reaching an agreement for scientific collaboration within the legal field.
- Starting the process of preparing a list of experts (individuals and/or institutions) dealing with jurisprudence in Turkic countries.

#### **Participants**

Heads of the Academies of Justice of the Turkic countries, representatives of the law faculties and other research structures in the field of the jurisprudence of the Turkic countries, the Turkic Academy, the Secretariat of the Organization of Turkic States, and the embassies of the Turkic countries.

## Working languages

The working languages of the Forum will be Azerbaijani, Turkish, English, and Russian. Simultaneous translation will be provided for these three languages.