



May 2025
Newsletter #5

SWEDISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR EURASIA





Swedish Chamber of Commerce for Eurasia

Promote trade between Sweden and Eurasia

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MEMBER INFO

Dear Members & Friends,

Most stock-listed companies have by now presented the Q1-results, and results have overall been good, but the concerns for the remainder of the year have increased. The overwhelming uncertainty coming from the erratic and unpredictable administration in the USA is like a wet blanket over the economy world-wide. This has also caused the official forecasts for the Swedish GDP 2025 and 2026 to be lowered. In this issue you can read more about the economic forecasts in the updated “Nordic Outlook” from SEB. For those interested in how expenditures and sanctions are affecting the Russian economy you can find the link to a recent report from SITE.

In this issue you also find information about some very interesting upcoming events. Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs is on May 22 arranging a seminar on Moldova. June 3 there will be a business forum focusing on Central Asia in the parliament. May 14-14 there will be the large exhibition “Stockholm Tech Show”, where the National Board of Trade Sweden (Kommerskollegium) will arrange a special stand with 15 Ukrainian and 10 Moldovan IT and Tech companies. These companies are part of an education program stretching for more than a year so take the opportunity to meet up with them already now.

And speaking of upcoming events, we of course have our traditional annual meeting seminar, held in connection with our annual meeting (!), on Friday May 16th. This year we will focus on Ukraine (again), since this is the priority no. 1 for Sweden and the EU. A lot of support programs, funding, reconstruction efforts and support initiatives are taken, but how can Swedish companies benefit from this? The Swedish government is gradually transforming Sida to be more cooperative with Swedish industry, and EKN is now also receiving new mandates to be more supportive to Swedish companies in their business with Ukraine. All this - and much more - will be covered during our seminar. There is still a small chance to register your participation.

And, although constant focus on Ukraine, there are also other markets and countries to keep in mind. Not least the large countries in Central Asia, primarily Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, are noteworthy. In this issue you also find a report about a recent visit by a Kazakh business delegation, and did you know there is a Nordic university in Tashkent?.

Heinz Sjögren, CEO



Swedish Chamber of Commerce for Eurasia

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Become a member – in our Chamber!

The *Swedish Chamber of Commerce for Eurasia* was founded 57 years ago. The aim of the Chamber is to promote trade and business cooperation between Sweden and the 12 countries in the former USSR (except for the three Baltic countries) that in 1991 became independent, as well as informing about sanctions and other trade regulations.

We do that through a variety of activities and services:

- Advisory
- Business proposals
- Networking & Experience sharing
- Information – for instance 10 Newsletters/year
- Lobbying
- Company promotion
- Offers and discounts
- Seminars & Conferences
- AW's, culture events, lectures
- Inbound and outbound business delegations



The events are our own arrangements or in cooperation with other organisations. We are also in regular contact with the foreign embassies in Sweden, as well as Swedish embassies in the region, we inform about business delegations, we transfer visit requests, we follow problem areas and hot issues. In our monthly Newsletter – distributed to more than 400 recipients - we promote our members, announce business news and also have the latest macroeconomic updates – from all 12 countries in the region. We also inform about upcoming exhibitions in the region and offer participation in interesting seminars, webinars, conferences – mostly for free. Since the unlawful full-scale Russian attack on Ukraine in February 2022, there has been a lot of focus on following and informing about sanctions as well as rules and conditions for exiting the Russian market, and direct to legal and commercial support.

We are fully owned by the members – today close to 70 companies, primarily Swedish. We do not have any external financing or contribution – and accordingly we act independently. All our activities are financed by the annual fee (membership + tax-deductible service fee) and through quite a lot of volunteer work.

To be able to represent more industries, and a larger part of Swedish business interest towards the region, we gladly welcome more members. The more members we have in our Chamber, the more weight is behind our demands and requests towards authorities in both Sweden and abroad. If this can be of interest to you – please contact us!

Please visit our [webpage](http://www.swedisheurasian.com) – www.swedisheurasian.com – for more information. We are also on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/swedish-chamber-of-commerce-for-eurasia). Contact us on info@swedisheurasian.com Most welcome!



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Intern at the Swedish Chamber of Commerce for Eurasia

The Swedish Chamber of Commerce for Eurasia is looking for a student who would like to engage as a trainee at the Chamber, to assist the CEO and the Board of Directors.

The Swedish Chamber of Commerce for Eurasia is an information and network organization owned by about 70 member companies, mostly Swedish exporters. The Chamber focuses on business and trade in the Eurasian region, more specifically twelve countries. As a Chamber trainee you are invited to visit several member companies as well as participate in various events organized by authorities, embassies and government institutions, like the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. You will take part in the board meetings, at least four times a year, and in the annual general meeting and other events arranged by the Chamber. You will have plenty of opportunities to meet and network with people in business or governmental positions connected to the region. Through your attendance, participation and work, you will get valuable experience from board meetings, management, business, international relations and trade.

The position includes work-related tasks such as being responsible for the Member Information section of the monthly newsletter, writing and editing content. You will write board meeting protocols, assist the CEO in various tasks, help to organize and assist on events etc., and you are encouraged to take your own initiatives.

You should be enrolled in a relevant program at University and have studied for approximately one to two years. It is important that you are interested in this region, preferably also having some knowledge or experience. You should have very good writing and communication skills in both Swedish and English.

If you are interested in this position and if you have the right profile, we very much look forward to your application! Apply by sending your CV and cover letter to leonora.podda@hotmail.com (present trainee) and heinz@heinzsjogren.se 0708-441162 (CEO) as soon as possible. We will start interviews in February. For further questions and information regarding the Chamber, our activities and the position as trainee – do not hesitate to contact us! More information about the Chamber can also be found on our [LinkedIn-page](#) as well as in our (obsolete) website www.swedisheurasian.com



Business Seminar on business opportunities in Armenia



On Wednesday April 23, 2025, the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, together with the Embassy of Armenia in Sweden, arranged a comprehensive business seminar on Armenia.

Besides general updates about the situation in the economy, investment climate and recent developments, also various business promotion institutions in both Armenia and in Sweden got the chance to present their offers and support.

Deputy Minister of High-Tech Industry, Mr. Ruben Simonyan, gave a good overview of the advantages of investing in Armenia. Ambassador of Armenia to Sweden, Ms. Anna Aghadjanian, talked warmly about the new initiative “Crossroads of Peace”, which indeed is a very good step to strengthen the notorious fragile peace in

Caucasus, especially between Armenia and Azerbajdzjan. With the ongoing investments in the very promising “Trans-Caucasian Transport Corridor”, this initiative can definitely serve as a motivation to build long-term peace - and possibly even friendship - in the region.

The Swedish Ambassador to Armenia, Mr. Patrik Svensson, with emphasis underlined the positive development going on in Armenia and also highlighted that Armenia nowadays is coming much closer to the EU. He also mentioned numerous ongoing bilateral cooperation projects going on, involving many Swedish organisations.

In photo: Minister Simonyan together with Ambassadors Aghadjanian and Svensson.





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Report from Kyiv School of Economics (KSE)

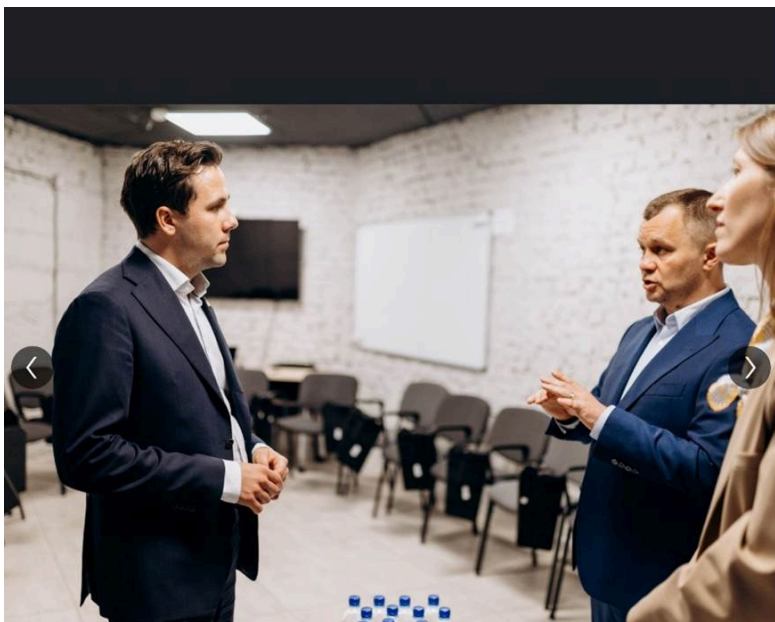
Since the outbreak of the full-scale war in Ukraine in 2022, foreign companies have suffered over \$167 billion in direct losses due to their exit from Russia, including write-offs, unfair court decisions, and business seizures, according to a report from KSE Institute in Ukraine..

Russian countermeasures such as forced nationalization, asset seizures, and sales restrictions have intensified financial losses.

In this report the researchers at the KSE Institute look deeper into the processes and consequences of this exodus from Russia, and which industry sectors that are mostly affected.

The full report is available here [Assessing Foreign Companies' Direct Losses in Russia: Financial Impact, Market Consequences, and Strategic Adjustments by Andrii Onopriienko, Nataliia Shapoval, Oleksii Hrybanovskyi, Nataliia Rybalko :: SSRN](#)

KSE to receive funding from Sweden - will finance new research center



Benjamin Dousa • 1st
Bistands- och utrikeshandelsminister
1w • 🌐

Nytt svenskt stöd till [Kyiv School of Economics](#) SEUA

Sverige har i många år stöttat KSE och när jag i förra veckan besökte skolan går det inte än att bli annat än imponerad. Två veckor efter den fullskaliga invasionen återupptogs undervisningen. Inga lektioner ställs in, utan man går ner till skyddsrummen under beskjutning där skolledningen har inrett flera lektionsrum. Undervisningen sker i treskift eftersom de vuxit ur sina lokaler. Och många studenter går efter examen vidare till statens tjänst och gör skillnad i det ukrainska finansdepartementet, centralbanken m.fl.

Därför har regeringen nu presenterat ett nytt stöd till KSE på 23,6 mkr. Stödet kommer att finansiera ett nytt center "Swedish Center for European Future" för att främja forskning, utbildning och policyutveckling kopplat till EU-närmandet. Stödet kommer bland annat finansiera 12 professurer från Ukraina, 30 undervisningsstipendier och 2 konferenser med fokus på EU-anslutning.

Slava Ukraini!UA

Show translation

Very recent information that will be followed upon in the near future.



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Nordic International University in Tashkent



Did you know that In Tashkent in Uzbekistan there is a Nordic International University? It has been operating since 2023.

Recently a delegation with parliamentarians from all five Nordic countries visited the university and had the opportunity to get more acquainted with Uzbek culture and traditions.

The university is interested in more contacts with Swedish companies having an interest in Uzbekistan and Central Asia. The University has several directions of education that could be of interest for companies - economics, industrial management, digital technologies, foreign languages etc. Contact us in the Chamber for more details, personal introduction etc. Please also see [Xalqaro Nordik Universiteti](#)



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Swedish-Kazakh Business Roundtable in Stockholm, May 6th, 2025



Tuesday May 6, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, together with the Embassy of Kazakhstan in Sweden, arranged an efficient and comprehensive roundtable event with participation of representatives of both Swedish and Kazakh companies, as well as business promotion agencies from both countries.

The visiting Kazakh business delegation was headed by Mr.

Olzhas Saparbekov, Vice Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Construction. The delegation was welcomed by Ms. Diana Janse, State Secretary of the Ministry for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade of Sweden, who set the positive tone for the whole day by her opening remarks. After general presentation of the investment and industrial potential of Kazakhstan specific interest were devoted to the machinery building, incl. mining sector, agriculture and sustainable food production, green transition and renewable energy systems, incl. transportation. The roundtable discussions were followed by B2B meetings.

The CEO of our Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Heinz Sjögren, had the honour of moderating the event.





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Stockholm Tech Show 2025



Don't miss the opportunity to get your **free ticket** to the leading meeting place and event for companies in the IT sector and the digital industry. Two days filled with exhibitions, lectures and panel discussions with representatives from the leading companies and organisations in this industry. For all information as well as registration for free admission, please visit: [14-15 MAY 2025](#)



The National Board of Trade Sweden (Kommerskollegium) will continue their program *TechStep Sweden*, arranging a special stand at the expo, where you can meet the 15 Ukrainian and the 10 Moldovan IT companies, participating in this 15 months program. Some of these companies will also be available at the cyber security seminar May 12, arranged by Kommerskollegium.



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Art Exhibition WIREN/LUNDBERG/WINTER at Galleri Carl, Stockholm

WLW

WIREN LUNDBERG WINTER

carl
ART GALLERY
www.gallericarl.com

SKEPPARGATAN 7, STOCKHOLM
10 MAY - 17 MAY 2025

OPENING SAT. 10 MAY
16:00 - 20:00



SEB – Nordic Outlook: Tariffs and uncertainty are slowing down the world



Economic growth prospects were relatively good when 2025 began, but the new US administration has radically changed the situation. Above all, the US president's aggressive trade policy is leading to slower growth, volatile markets and a weaker dollar. Sweden and Europe will perform relatively better than other parts of the world, according to SEB's macroeconomic report Nordic Outlook.

Annual global GDP growth will be less than 3 per cent in 2025 and 2026, according to SEB's latest Nordic Outlook, issued May 6th. The United States and China will be hardest hit, but growth-related and financial spillover effects will reach the entire world economy. Thanks to fiscal stimulus, Europe will do better, and central banks will continue to cut key interest rates. We are lowering our forecasts for the Swedish economy, but large increases in household income still suggest that Sweden will grow faster than that of the euro area in the next couple of years. A stronger krona and depressed international prices will cause core inflation to fall below 2 per cent in 2026. The Riksbank will cut its policy rate again in June 2025.

"The confusion surrounding tariffs, trade and global relations is having a major impact on the economic outlook. Uncertainty is making investment decisions more difficult and both businesses and households more cautious. In the longer term, serious questions are also being asked about what the financial and economic world order should look like. Declining international confidence in American policies has led to doubts about the role of both the US dollar as the world's reserve currency and US Treasury bonds as the safest asset in the financial system," says **Jens Magnusson**, Chief Economist at SEB.

To read the full SEB report and view the key figures visit this [link](#).



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New report on economy in Russia



Stockholm Institute of Transition Economics (SITE) has in April 2025 published a new report on the economic situation in Russia. The report provides updated insights into the growing imbalances in the Russian war economy and the financial challenges the government faces in sustaining its current level of military spending.

The full report can be read [here](#).

Upcoming event: Central Asia seminar in Stockholm June 3



The countries in Central Asia are raising increased interest among European countries, and this was further enhanced after the EU - Central Asia Summit held April 4th in Tashkent (please see our previous Newsletter, April 2025, and also report [here](#)).

The embassies of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan in Sweden, together with the Group for Central Asia in the Swedish Parliament, is planning a seminar in Swedish Riksdag Tuesday June 3. This will be a follow-up of the first such event last year. Participation will be possible only upon invitation. If any of the members of our Chamber is interested in attending, please contact our secretariat. More information will be posted on our LinkedIn-page soon.



Upcoming event: Business seminar on Moldova, May 22



On Thursday May 22, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden is arranging a seminar about business opportunities in Moldova.

Moldova has maintained a high pace of reforms in recent years, and in June 2024 Moldova started accession negotiations on EU membership. In March 2025, the EU adopted a Reform and Growth Facility for Moldova, comprising around €1.9 billion over three years to support Moldova's reform efforts. In the coming years, multilaterally funded procurements are expected in a number of Swedish areas of strength, such as energy efficiency, district heating, hydro and wind power, waste management and upgrading of the road network. The country also has a rapidly growing IT sector. All in all, this creates good investment opportunities for Swedish companies in Moldova.

Participants at the seminar include:

1. Benjamin Dousa, Swedish Minister for Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade
2. Doina Nistor, Minister of Digital and Economic Development of Moldova
3. Katarina Fried, Ambassador of Sweden to Moldova
4. Representatives from the National Board of Trade, Swedfund, the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise and the Swedish Export Credit Agency.
5. Representatives from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and Invest Moldova

Place: The meeting will take place at the International Press Centre, Fredsgatan 6, 111 52, Stockholm. The event will be held in English without translation.

Date and time: Thursday 22 May at 08:30 – 15:00. A detailed program will be shared in the near future. Lunch is included. Do not forget to bring valid identification for entry.

Registration no later than Thursday 15 May by email to ud.konferens-ec@gov.se. Enter your name, company and any food restrictions.



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Reminder: Upcoming AGM seminar of the Chamber, May 16th

In cooperation with SITE/Stockholm School of Economics, on Friday May 16, 2025 in the KAW-hall at Stockholm School of Economics 10.00 - 12.00, followed by lunch mingle.

For last minute registration or cancellations, please send e-mail to info@swedisheurasian.com

SUPPORT TO UKRAINE

Grants, guarantees, projects, tenders, financing, aid, etc.

- 10.00** **Welcome – Heinz Sjögren, CEO SCCE**
- 10.05** **Torbjörn Becker, Director SITE at Stockholm School of Economics**
- 10.15** **Ulrik Tideström, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (tbc)**
- 10.25** **Niklas Sandwall, 2024 Chamber's Thesis Award**
- 10.40** **Johan Dahl, EKN**
- 11.00** **Sophie Fyrk, Sida**
- 11.20** **Andreas Giallourakis, Business Sweden Kyiv**
- 11.40** **Sten Ahlin, Operation Aid**
- 11.55** **Q & A**
- 12.00** **Light lunch and mingle**



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Calendar

- May 1** - Opening concert European Festival: Ukrainian Spring 2025 (Stockholm)
- May 9-25** - Ice Hockey World Championship (Stockholm and Herning)
- May 12** - Exclusive seminar on cybersecurity (Stockholm)
- May 14-15** - Stockholm Tech Show 2025, Expo at Kistamässan
- May 16** - **Annual Meeting in the Chamber, followed by the traditional AGM seminar 10.00 - 12.00, at the Stockholm School of Economics (KAW Hall)**
- May 22** - Business seminar on business opportunities in Moldova (MFA)
- June 3** - Central Asia seminar in Sveriges Riksdag
- Continuously** - Follow our [LinkedIn-page](#) "Swedish Chamber of Commerce for Eurasia", including Ukraine, for updates and webinar invitations.



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Russia

IKEA charged of environmental fee

Rosprirodnadzor has filed a lawsuit in the Arbitration Court of the Moscow Region demanding that Torg LLC (the former structure of the Swedish furniture retailer IKEA) pay over RUB 110mln (approx. USD 1mln) as an environmental fee. The environmental fee imposes responsibility on producers and importers for the recycling of waste from goods produced or imported by them. (Ria.ru, 17.04)

KIA returns to Russian market

The Korean automotive manufacturer KIA has updated its sales plan and is now planning to sell 50,000 cars in the Russian market, in 2025. The return to the Russian market aims to increase the company's diversification in the backdrop of growing global uncertainty. (Iz.ru, 04.14)

Bosch unable to sell Russian assets

Bosch says in its annual report that due to the transfer of its Russian household appliances subsidiary to the management of a Gazprom structure, the deal to sell the plant in St. Petersburg has not taken place. Due to the loss of control over the enterprise, Bosch decided to deconsolidate this asset. (Rbc.ru, 08.05)

Swiss giant exit Russian investment

Swiss commodities giant Glencore has quietly sold its long-held stake in the Russian oil company RussNeft, ending more than 20 years of investment. OCN International, a company registered in the United Arab Emirates, has acquired the stakes. (Rbc.ru, 23.04)

US-investor plans buying Russian pipelines

The US-based investment company, Elliott Investment Management, is negotiating to buy a stake in a package of infrastructure assets, including the pipeline through which Russian natural gas is supplied to the EU. (Wsj.com, 09.05)

Ukraine

EBRD in risk sharing with local bank

EBRD will cover 50% of the risk on new loans issued by the Ukrainian bank Kredobank, with the financing aimed at key sectors of the economy: agriculture, food processing, transportation, logistics, retail, and pharmaceuticals. Kredobank has already issued over EUR 185mln in loans under its partnership with the EBRD. (Inventure.com.ua, 12.05)

French supplies electricity substations

French company GE Vernova has signed a EUR 13mln order to manufacture and supply two mobile substations to the network operator, PJSC Zaporizhzhyaoblenergo. (Open4business.com.ua, 08.05)

Koreans invest in two float glass plants

The Korean investment company, ITOXI Corp., will invest in the construction of two float glass manufacturing plants. The facilities will be located in the Kyiv region, and Ivano-Frankivsk region. The plants will be commissioned in 2028-2029. (Inventure.com.ua, 29.04)

World Bank invests in solar energy

The World Bank will invest USD 70mln in Ukrhydroenergo. The project involves the installation of battery energy storage systems at four of the company's generation sites. The initiative aims to improve operational performance and expand the range of ancillary services provided to the electricity market. The planned capacity includes 35.9 MW of solar power and 197 MW of battery storage. (Inventure.com.ua, 29.04)

Irish invests in building materials plant

The Ireland-based company, Kingspan Property, will put up a building materials plant in the Lviv region. The new plant has attracted EUR 280mln in investment and will produce metal profiles, components, mineral wool panels, and purlins, along with recreation areas for employees and additional production facilities. (Irishtimes.com, 03.04)



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Azerbaijan

Poland allocates EUR 58mln for local businesses

The Polish Ministry of Economy has launched a state program offering preferential loans to support the country's participation in Ukraine's reconstruction, allocating at least EUR 58.25mln for Polish companies. The maximum loan amount for a single Polish company is EUR 2.33mln, with an annual interest rate of 2% and a repayment term of up to 12 years. (Inventure.com.ua, 25.04)

New Chinese solar investment

The Government of Azerbaijan and the China-based Universal Energy have signed an investment agreement on the project of the Gobustan solar power plant (south of Baku) with a capacity of 100 MW. The plant, which is scheduled to be commissioned in 2026, is expected to generate about 180 million kWh of electricity per year. (Ceenergynews.com, 23.04)

Koreans invest in Waste-to-energy plant

The Korean steel group Posco International will invest USD 106mln to build a 12 MW electricity and 40 MW thermal RDF-fueled CHP plant in Odessa. The Odessa city authorities have allocated a 4-hectare land plot for the facility. The project's estimated payback period is 6.5 years. (Inventure.com.ua, 23.04)

Uzbekistan

Burger King enters local market

Burger King is preparing to enter the Uzbek market. The first restaurants will open this summer in Tashkent, says Uzbekfoodtech on its Telegram-channel (19.04). International Beverages Tashkent, known for producing popular beverages under the Pepsi, 7UP, Mirinda and Lipton brands, has received an exclusive license to develop the Burger King franchise in both Uzbekistan and Central Asia. (Retail.ru, 20.04)

Finns to invest in construction materials plant

The Finnish company, Peikko Group Corporation, is constructing a plant that will produce concrete compounds and composite structures, located in the Kyiv region. In addition, they will also construct a warehouse. The total investment will amount to EUR 3mln over two years. The plant will create approximately 50 new job opportunities. Peikko was established in Ukraine in 2023. (Peikko.com; Ubn.news, 24.04)

Americans open café chain in Tashkent

The American chain of Krispy Kreme donut shops will start operating in the Uzbek market in mid-July 2025 in Tashkent. The exclusive franchise rights in Uzbekistan are held by Food Town Logistics-Group. Krispy Kreme was founded in 1937. (Retail.ru, 07.05)

EBRD issues guarantee to Raiffeisen Bank

EBRD will issue EUR 100mln in a portfolio risk-sharing guarantee to Raiffeisen Bank for energy security investments in Ukraine. The loans will be issued to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, and household clients for the implementation of decentralised energy generation, energy storage and energy efficiency measures. (Inventure.com.ua, 15.04)

Tajikistan

Finns helps to improve road safety

The Ministry of Transport of Tajikistan (MoT) has signed a contract with two Finnish companies -- Finnish Overseas Consultants Ltd and SirWay oy. The project, worth USD 1.1mln, will be implemented within the next 14 months and aims to improve the condition of roads in Tajikistan, enhance road safety, and optimize maintenance costs. (Asiaplustj.info/en, 01.05)

Kazakhstan

French Total invests in wind energy project

French Total Eren plans to invest in a 1GW wind project that will be located in the Moiynkum district, in south-eastern Kazakhstan. Total plans to invest USD 1.9bln in this project. Commissioning is scheduled for 2028. (Astanatimes.com, 30.04)



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ECONOMY & POLITICS

Russia

Foreign brands register trademarks in Russia

Since the beginning of the year, brands such as IKEA, Rolex, Chanel, Louis Vuitton, KIA, and Hyundai have registered trademarks with Rospatent in Russia. However, it's still not clear whether they are preparing to return to the Russian market. (Ria.ru, 05.06)

US-companies' buyback option expire

About one-third of U.S. companies that left Russia after the full-scale invasion of Ukraine have seen their buyback options expire, according to the American Chamber of Commerce in Russia (AmCham). The AmCham has previously estimated that around 150 U.S. companies had left Russia, with a similar number continuing operations in the country. (Expert.ru, 14.04)

Increase in delinquencies on private loans

Sberbank and VTB have reported a sharp increase in delinquencies on mortgage and unsecured consumer loans in the first quarter of 2025. Sberbank's share of troubled mortgages has doubled to 2.6%, and overdue consumer loans rose 22.5%. The issue is a result of both high interest rates and a reduction in opportunities for borrowers to refinance. (Themoscwotimes.com, 29.04)

Ukraine

Ukraine needs USD 300bln in investments

After the war ends, Ukraine needs to attract USD 300bln in investment over a 10 year period to ensure sustainable economic growth, according to a new report from Kyiv School of Economics. The economic recovery assumes that foreign investors are returning to the domestic public debt market as well as Ukraine can issue new Eurobonds. (Kse.ua, 31.04)

NBU eases currency restrictions to attract capital

The National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) has launched a "stimulating currency liberalization", in order to attract foreign capital to Ukraine. Its essence is to create a mechanism that will encourage foreign investors to invest in Ukrainian enterprises in exchange for permission to conduct currency transactions that were previously prohibited. (Bank.gov.ua, 09.05)

Moldova

EU-Moldova sign record investment package

EU and Moldova have signed the agreement for the Growth Plan for Moldova, part of a EUR 1.9bln Reform and Growth Facility support package. It is the largest financial support ever offered by the EU to the Republic of Moldova. The package includes two components: EUR 400mln in non-repayable grants and EUR 1.5bln in loans. (Seenews.com, 09.05)

Kazakhstan

Government supports crypto banks

Kazakhstan is considering the establishment of crypto banks, which can play a key role in the formation of a sustainable ecosystem, according to the Prime Minister Olzhas Bektenov. The government has drafted legislative amendments aimed at liberalizing the circulation of digital assets and expanding the platforms available for their exchange. (Astanatimes.com, 30.04)

EBRD invest in women-led enterprises

The EBRD will provide up to USD 25mln to support women-led micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises in Kazakhstan through a new term loan to the local microlender KMF. The financing aims to promote women's entrepreneurship and business activity by assisting with access to finance, knowledge sharing, and technical advice. (Astanatimes.com 28.04)

Tajikistan

Germany supports trade with Tajikistan

The Federal Association of Small and Medium-Sized Businesses of Germany (BVMW) has opened a representative office in Dushanbe. The BVMW office will operate at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tajikistan. BVMW represents the interests of over 3.3 million small and medium-sized enterprises in Germany and will be a platform for expanding trade and economic relations between the countries. (Asiaplustj.info/en, 08.05)



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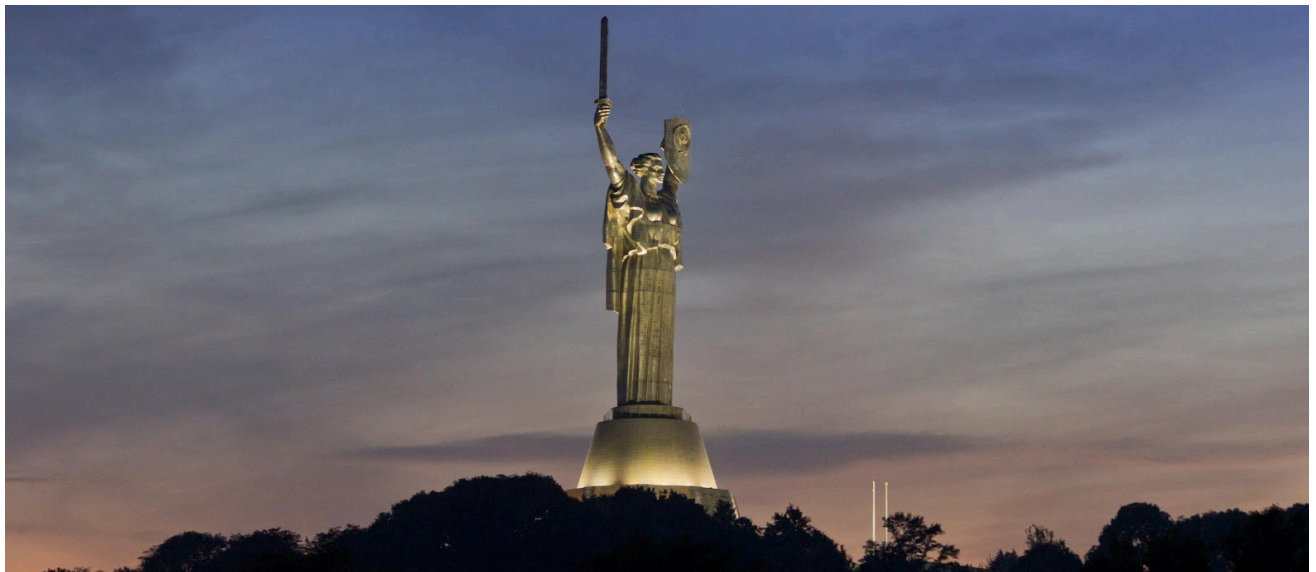
Promote trade between Sweden and Eurasia

Swedish Chamber of Commerce for Eurasia

The Swedish Chamber of Commerce for Eurasia is an information, contact and service organisation. The mission of the Chamber is to promote trade between Sweden and Eurasia, as well as to work as a forum for new ideas and exchanging of experiences.

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