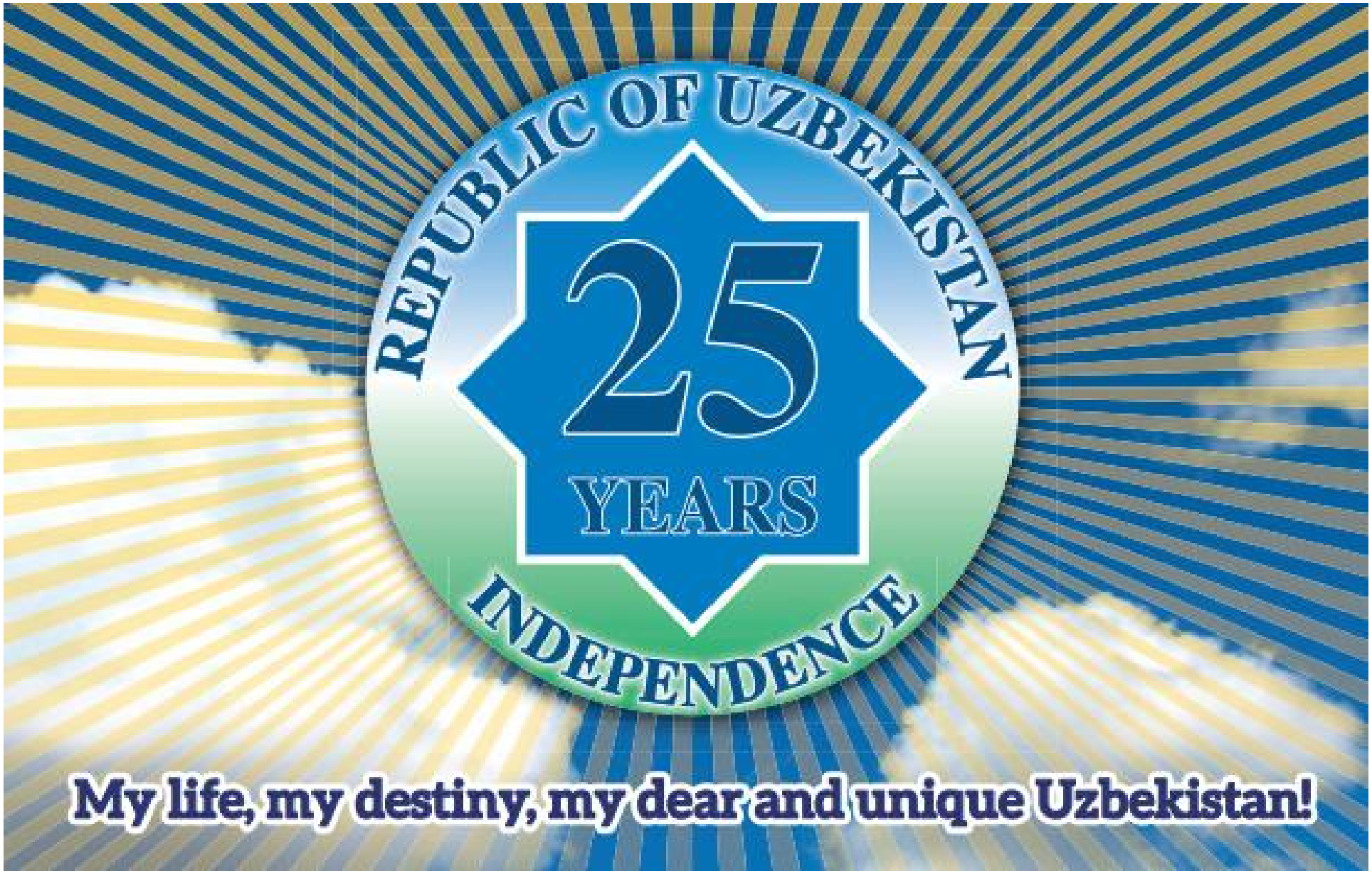

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
25
YEARS
INDEPENDENCE
My life, my destiny, my dear and unique Uzbekistan!

The Embassy
of the Republic of Uzbekistan
to the Kingdom of Belgium



The briefing dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan

26 August 2016
Brussels



Independence has become a truly great historical moment in the centuries-old history of our country and created the foundation for a new democratic state and society



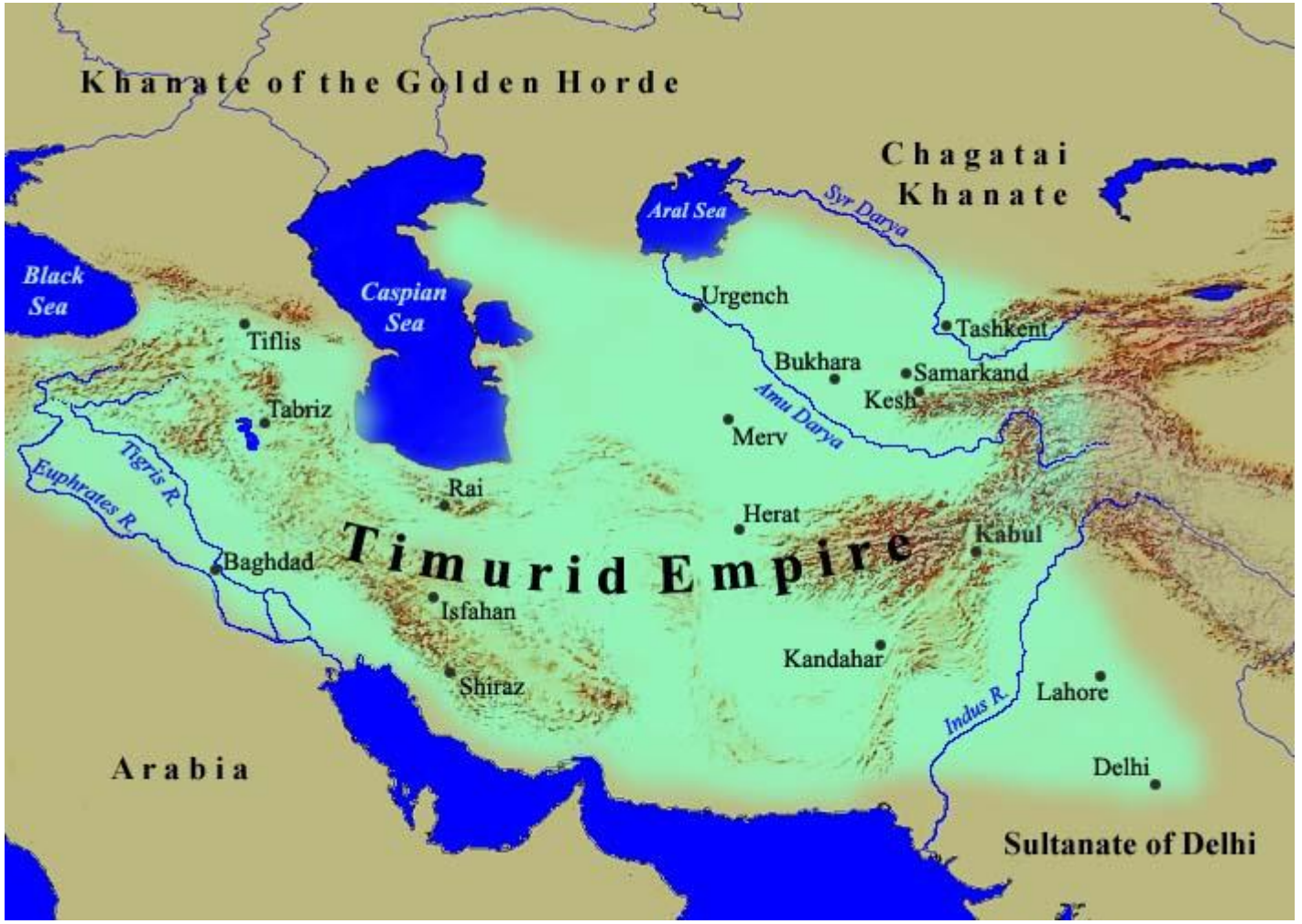








From historical point of view 25 years are very short period of time.


Khanate of the Golden Horde
Chagatai Khanate
Aral Sea
Syr Darya
Black Sea
Caspian Sea
Urgench
Tashkent
Tiflis
Bukhara
Samarkand
Kesh
Tabriz
Amu Darya
Merv
Tigris R.
Euphrates R.
Rai
Herat
Kabul
Timurid Empire
Baghdad
Isfahan
Kandahar
Shiraz
Lahore
Indus R.
Arabia
Delhi
Sultanate of Delhi

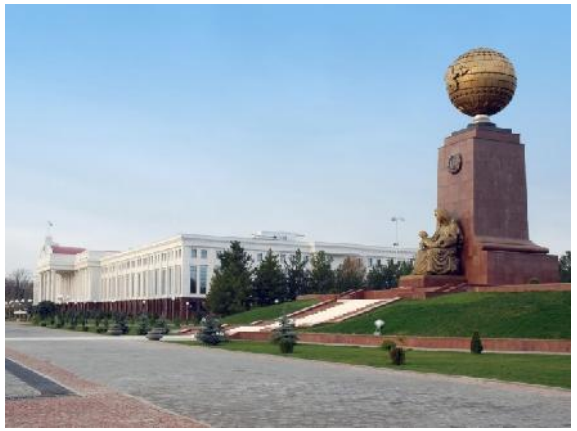






But let’s evaluate the years of independent development as what had been achieved .








The Independence period certainly has been a time of unprecedented success in evolving a democratic state, strengthening the international credibility of Uzbekistan.



The consistent implementation of so called “Uzbek model” of development under the leadership of President Islam Karimov based on the five principles:









1. De-ideologization of economy and its priority over politics







my.gov.uz
Единый портал интерактивных государственных услуг

2. Entrusting the state with the role of the main reformer





3. Ensuring the rule of law







4. Implementation of strong social policies









5. Gradual adoption of reforms







brought fundamental transformation of society, deep reforms in the economy as well as its liberalization and modernization





Increasing the capacity and strength of the country, the welfare of the people, had fundamentally changed the image of Uzbekistan

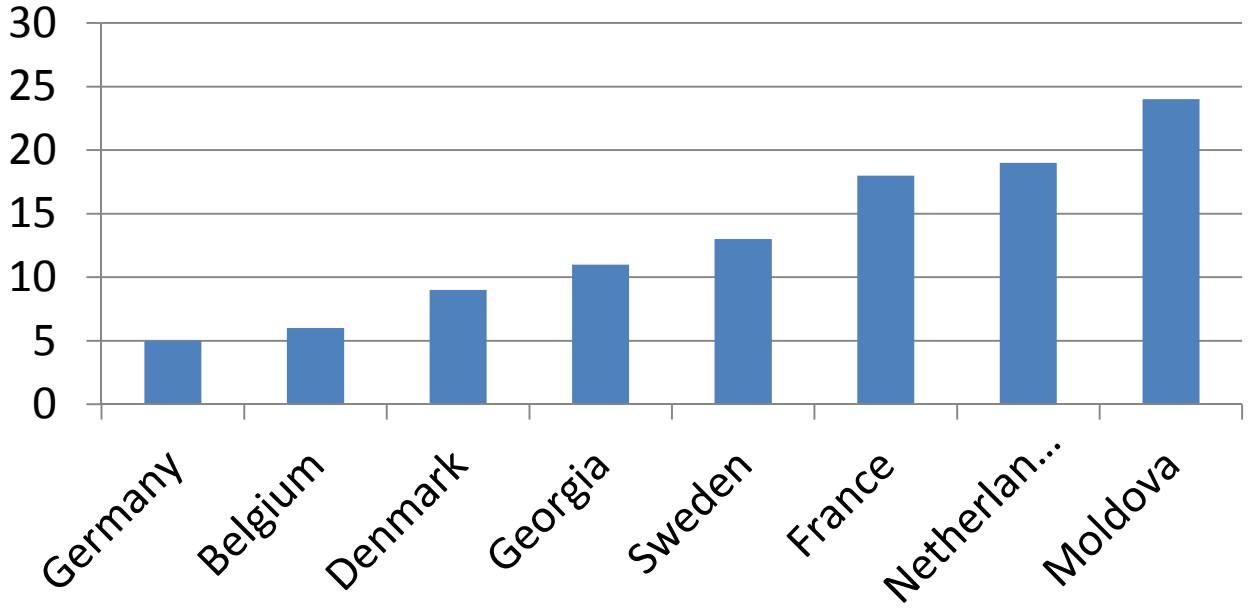
Strict following the main principle of the country's consequent reforms "**Reforms – not for the sake of reforms, but first of all for human being",** in fact, is aimed at ensuring of the rights and interests of human.





A series of reforms has been carried out in Uzbekistan aimed at improving the judicial system, turning it into the main guarantee of the effective protection of human rights and ensuring a genuine independence of the judiciary. In this direction concrete measures have been adopted and implemented.

The most important step in this direction was the abolition of the death penalty from 1 January 2008. In addition**, the capital punishment - "life imprisonment" applies only with regard to 2 types of crimes -** for terrorism and premeditated murder under aggravating circumstances and does not apply to men over 60 years old, women and minors.



For comparison, in countries like Germany life imprisonment may be imposed for 5 crimes, in Belgium – 6, in Denmark - 9, in Georgia - 11, in Sweden - 13, France - 18, in the Netherlands - 19, in Moldova – 24.



The Concept of further deepening democratic reforms and formation of civil society in the country was adopted in 2010 and opened a new stage in the process of the development of Uzbekistan.



The principle set at the dawn of independence of establishing a democratic state with a social oriented market economy based on the slogan “**do not destroy the old house unless you have constructed a new one**” allows to gradually strengthen the parliament's role in society without any social upheaval, which is very important for countries in transition.



Elections to the Legislative Chamber of Oliy Majlis (Parliament) and local councils, on 21 December 2014, reaffirmed the irreversibility of democratic transformations in our country and also have demonstrated achievements in ensuring freedom of expression of the citizens, the formation of a strong civil society.





Out of 150 elected Members of the Lower House of the Parliament 110 deputies or 73 percent are elected for the first time. 24 deputies or 16 percent out of the newly elected deputies are women.





The essence of reforms in the sphere of democratization was a significant increase of the role of the Oliy Majlis (Parliament) and at the same time the government's and other executive authorities responsibility for the unconditional implementation and further strengthening the effectiveness of the adopted laws.

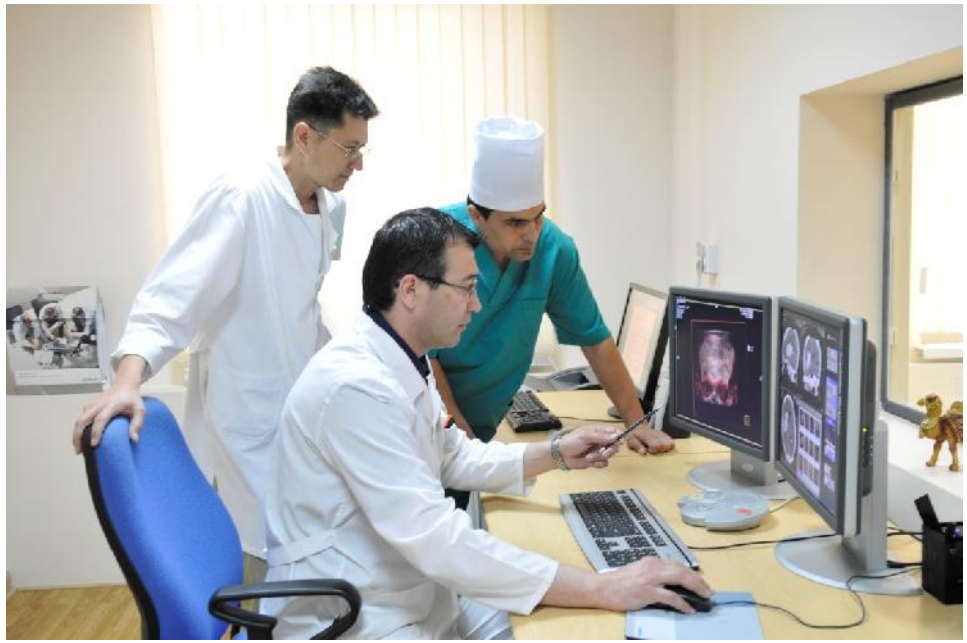


The basis of Uzbek model of reform also include issues related to development of social sphere, further increase in level and quality of life. Social regulation not only provides protection of vulnerable segments of population, but also mitigates income differentiation and process of property separation between social groups





Current year 59.1% of total State budget expenditure will be allocated for social sphere, including for education – 33.7%, for healthcare – 14%. At the same time the costs of current maintenance and development of education sector will be increased against the previous year by 16.3%, healthcare - at 16%.





In 1990 only 31% of spending was directed to finance the social sphere, in 2015 this figure totaled 59.2%.







Uzbekistan’s leadership has been placing significant emphasis on issues of consolidating social security, providing the rights of women, children and other categories of population, ensuring civil freedoms.



Broad international attention has been drawn to initiatives of President Islam Karimov on this front, including the declaration of 2015 as the Year of Attention and Care for the Senior Generation







2016 - the Year of Healthy Mother and Child, with the implementation of respective government programs envisaging the allocation of considerable financial funds and technical capacities.





During the independence we managed to reduce infant and maternal mortality more than 3 times, and increase the life expectancy of the population in 7 years from 66 to 73.5 years.





A system of state institutions has been established to prevent forced labor, including the worst forms of child labor. The monitoring held along with ILO had revealed the absence of the systematic use of forced child labor in the cotton harvest in 2013-2015. Cases of child labor occurred during the cotton harvest in very limited quantities. People responsible in attracting child labor were brought to administrative liability.





Given the progress made by Uzbekistan in implementing the provisions of the Conventions №182 (Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour) and №105 (Abolition of Forced Labour), and taking into account the development of constructive dialogue and recently intensified cooperation of Uzbekistan with the ILO,





105th Session of the International Labour Conference

Building a future with decent work

Uzbekistan was not included into the list of countries having significant problems with the implementation of certain provisions of the Conventions both at the 103rd session of the International Labour Conference in 2014 and the 104th Session of the ILC in June 2015.



Third-Party Monitoring of the use of child and forced labour during the 2015 cotton harvest in Uzbekistan was conducted by the ILO for the World Bank last autumn and it made clear conclusion that monitors found no systematic use of child and forced labour, and knowledge of its prohibition is widespread.





From the first days of the independence a lot of work is being carried out at improving the role and status of women in the political and socio-economic life, ensuring their legal rights and interests.









Today in Uzbekistan more than 62% of women of working age are active in various sectors of the economy, in the management and production.









Women are active in all leading industries such as light industry, agriculture, transportation, construction, communication, education, health, culture and sport.



There is active participation of women in governance. In particular, today they account for 17% of the members of the Senate and 16% of the deputies of the Legislative Chamber. At the same time in recent years the indicators of women's representation in the executive bodies and the local authorities increased nearly 5-fold - from 3.4% to 16%.



Thus, the post of one of the Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan always held by a woman, and vice khokims (Governors) of regions, cities and districts are also active local women.









As a bright example of women empowerment, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that at the Olympic games in Atlanta (USA) in 1996 Uzbekistan was represented by 71 athletes and only 8 out of them were women.







	Ülke				
1	Özbekistan	3	2	2	7
2	Küba	3	0	3	6
3	Fransa	1	2	2	5
3	Kazakistan	1	2	2	5
4	Rusya	1	1	3	5
5	ABD	1	1	1	3
6	Büyük Britanya	1	0	1	2
7	Brezilya	1	0	0	1
8	Çin	0	1	3	4
9	Azerbaycan	0	1		
-	Türkiye	0	0	0	0



On Rio 2016 Olympics Uzbekistan had 70 athletes with 23 women, so the number of women had grown up by almost 3 times.


Rio2016
Награды Узбекистана на Олимпиаде-2016
70 спортсменов / 15 видов спорта
13 медалей
Атланта-1996 – 2
Сидней-2000 – 4
Афины-2004 – 5
Пекин-2008 – 6
Лондон-2012 – 3
21 место среди 207 стран
Золото
4
Бокс:
Тяжелая атлетика:
Серебро
2
Бокс:
Бронза
7
Бокс:
Вольная борьба:
Греко-римская борьба:
Дзюдо:
1 место в Центральной Азии
2 место в СНГ
4 место в Азии
Впервые в своей истории Узбекистан выиграл медальный зачет в боксе. 7 из 10 боксеров Узбекистана завоевали награды.
Олимпийский рекорд: Руслан Нурудинов, тяжелая атлетика (105 кг)
431 кг
=
рывок 194 кг
+
толчок 237 кг
1. Узбекистан
2. Куба
3. Франция
4. Казахстан
5. Россия




BIZ SIZ BILAN FAXRLANAMIZ!

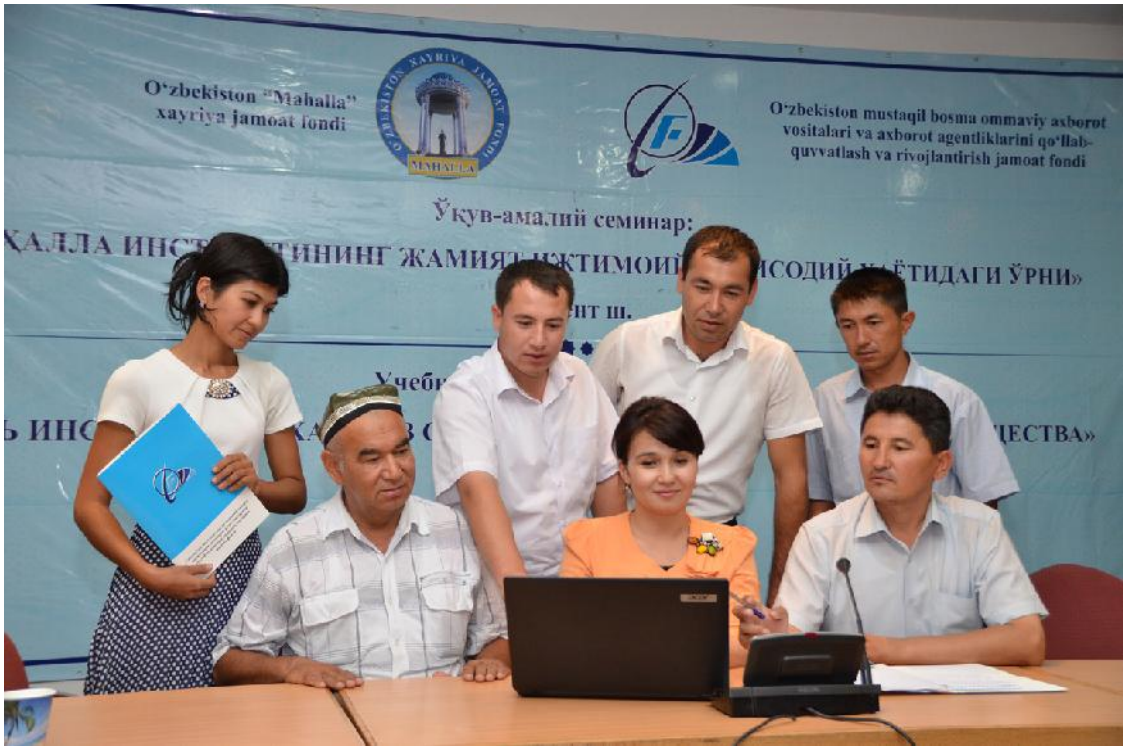




Thanks to the policy of reforms and modernization undertaken by the leadership of Uzbekistan over the years of independence, not only the state, but also the advanced system of NNOs and citizens' self-government bodies have been active in tackling urgent issues in securing environmental stability, public healthcare, education, physical culture and sports, settling household and economic disputes and conflicts, providing social services and legal support for citizens.



Uzbekistan's leadership has been applying in practice the principle "**From strong state to strong civil society**" and providing the rule of law and solid social support in accordance with Uzbek development model. Back in 1991 there were only 95 NNOs operating in Uzbekistan, but by the end of 2015, the number of such organizations in the country reached 8.300.



The unique system of self-government in our country – Mahalla has been created, based on ancient traditions of our people.



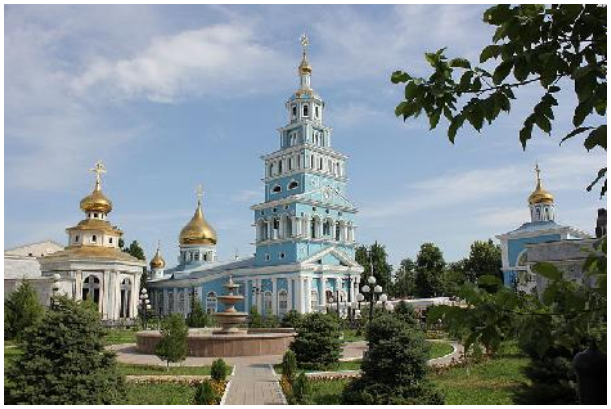






Mahalla committees maintain cooperation and collaboration with local authorities, women's and youth associations, therefore contributing to the solution of social problems, providing support and assistance to families in need.








The successful advancement of civil society in Uzbekistan – the central state of the Central Asian region – exemplifies the implementation of democratic reforms, achieving interethnic and interreligious tolerance.





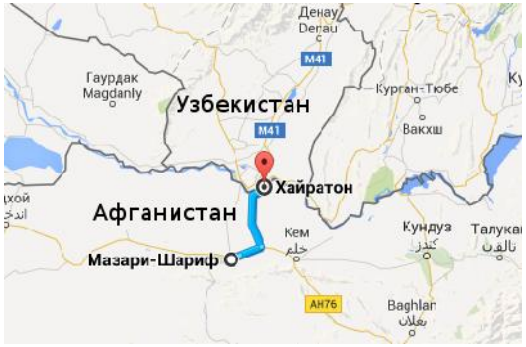
The processes of modernization and consolidation of the rule of law, combating crime and ensuring the stability exert a long-term stabilizing impact on the entire Central Asia.



The persisting instability in Afghanistan which exhibits a tendency to further escalate, poses a serious threat to stability and security of Central Asia and greater region. Uzbekistan adheres to the policy of non-interference in internal affairs of Afghanistan. Uzbekistan builds and will develop the stable and friendly relations with Afghanistan proceeding from the national interests of both countries and exclusively on bilateral basis.

Today, Kabul and its suburbs are fully provided with electricity from Uzbekistan. We have built dozens of bridges, roads and social facilities. Uzbek specialists constructed the first in the history of Afghanistan railway from Hairatan to Mazar-e-Sharif.













Uzbekistan actively contributes to UN efforts to ensure global and regional security. An important input in this direction was the initiative by President Islam Karimov to establish Central Asia as a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (CANWFZ).



According to the Concept Paper on the Foreign Policy Activity of Uzbekistan, Uzbekistan is a non-bloc country which is pursuing a peaceful policy and will not participate in any military-political bloc, it also shall not allow deployment of foreign military bases and facilities on its own territory and will not attend peacemaking operations abroad.



The main priority of Uzbekistan’s foreign policy activity is the region of Central Asia, with which the vital interests of the country are linked. Uzbekistan had also proclaimed the cooperation with the European Union as one of the priorities of its foreign policy.





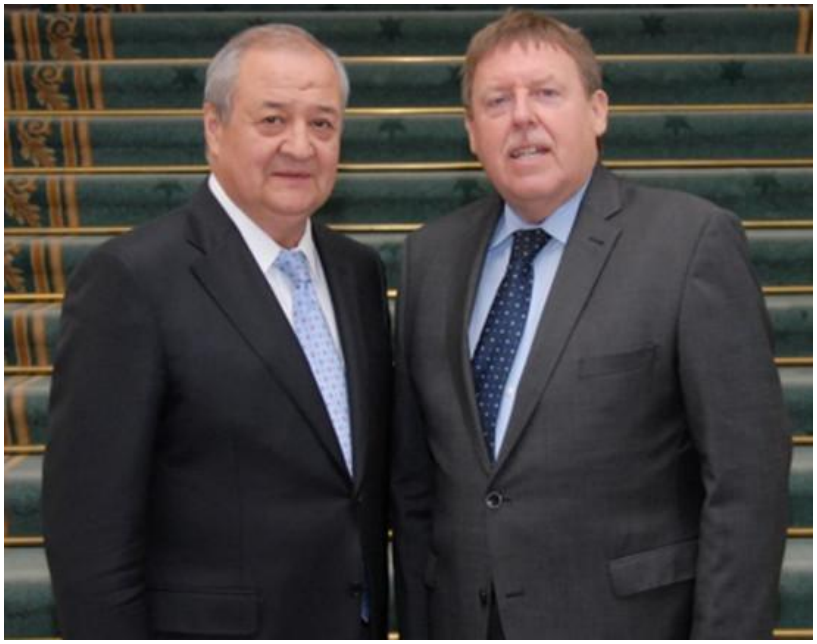
This year we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of the signing of the in Florence the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between Uzbekistan and the EU, which laid the legal framework for the development of bilateral relations.



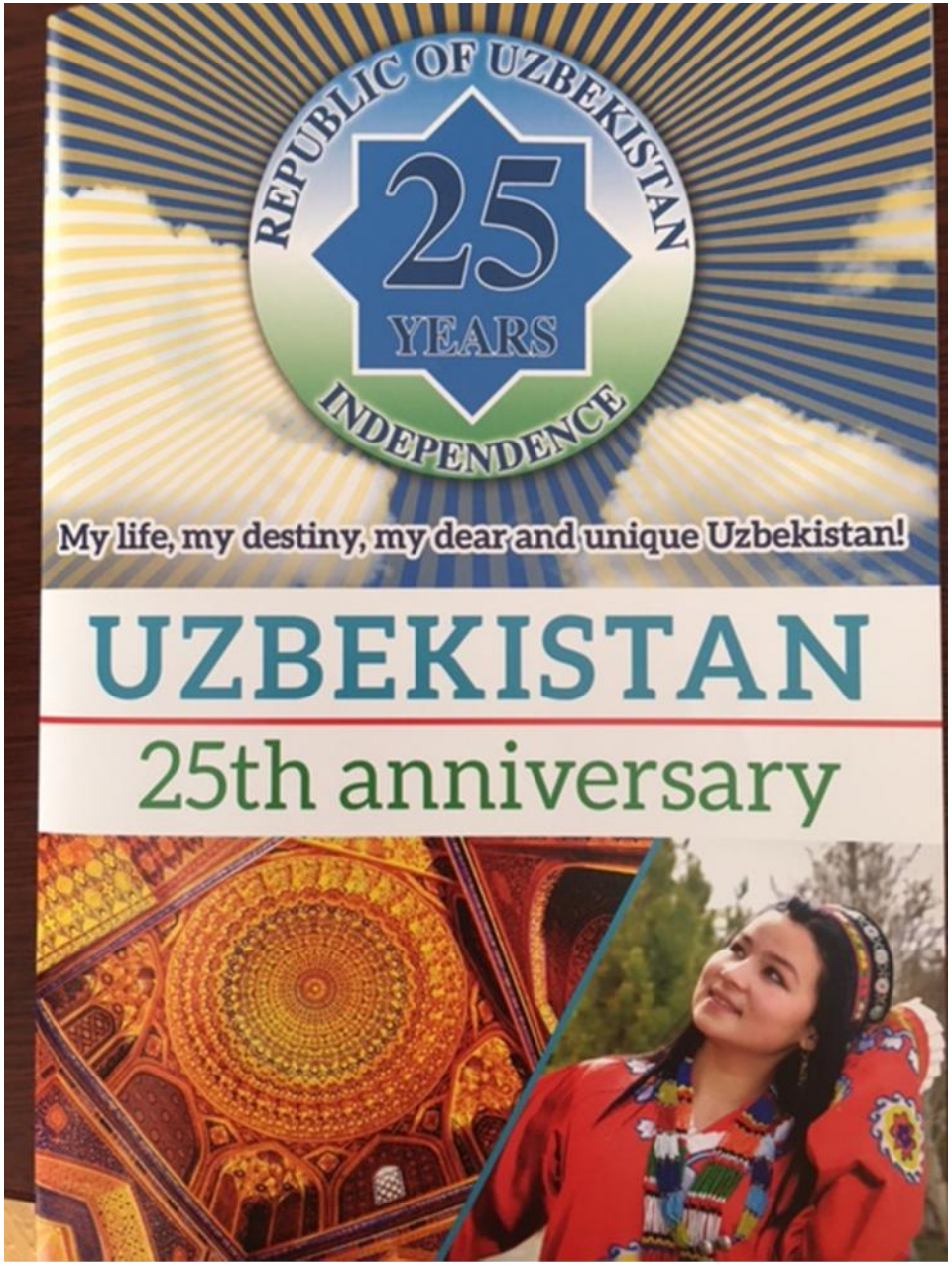


Uzbekistan supports the development of mutually respectful, beneficial and fruitful cooperation with Europe. Relations with the EU and its Member States are enshrined in the Foreign Policy Concept of Uzbekistan as one of the main foreign policy priorities. The Concept of further deepening democratic reforms and establishing of civil society adopted in our country has a main goal - joining of Uzbekistan to the developed democracies of the world.





Therefore Uzbekistan attaches great importance to the further development of political, economic and parliamentary relations with EU in implementing of this Concept using the best experiences of European countries. For the last years Uzbek-Belgian cooperation has intensively developed.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UZBEKISTAN
25th anniversary



Thank you