EU-KAZAKHSTAN PARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS

WHO REPRESENTS THE EU?

The European Parliament has one delegation to strengthen relations with elected representatives from Mongolia and Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan), abbreviated as DCAS.

The DCAS Delegation counts 19 full members, supported by a strong cohort of substitute members. All members are drawn from the European Parliament’s political groups, with the political makeup of the delegation mirroring that of Parliament as a whole.

The Chair of the delegation is Iveta Grigule-Pēterse, a Latvian member of the Parliament’s Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe. She is supported by two Vice-Chairs: MEPs Latvia Laima Andrikienė and Miroslavs Mitrofanovs.

WHO REPRESENTS KAZAKHSTAN?

The delegation of Kazakhstan consists of 18 MPs, led by Mukhtar Yerman. The next in terms of seniority are Nurlan Abdirov and Gulzhana Karagusova.

WHAT ARE THE ISSUES DCAS HAS PARTICULARLY FOCUSED ON?

The Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCAs) forms a contractual basis for the relations between a third country and the EU. The PCA with Kazakhstan was signed in 1999. The PCA was replaced by the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (EPCA), the first of its kind, signed between the EU and Kazakhstan in December 2015. It was ratified by the Kazakh parliament in March 2016 and by the European Parliament in December 2017. It is provisionally applied since 1 May 2016.

The political dialogue is led through the Cooperation Council (CC), a ministerial body.

The parliamentary dialogue is led through the Parliamentary Cooperation Committee (PCC), in which members of the European Parliament and of the third country parliament meet on a regular basis, usually once a year.

WHAT IS THE FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS?

The DCAS was constituted in 1994. PCCs have taken place on a regular basis with Kazakhstan since 2000. The 15th EU-Kazakhstan PCC was held on 10-11 2018 in Astana.

WHAT IS LEGAL BASE OF THE COOPERATION?

The development of democracy, the rule of law and human rights.

Environment and energy.

Customs and border monitoring (common threats and challenges include drug trafficking, terrorism and money laundering).

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