

22.09.2026

Among the Top Three

Moscow and Uzbekistan are developing cooperation in all sectors, primarily in high technology

Not long ago, Russia and Uzbekistan were parts of the same nation—the USSR. Today, these two independent states are building a dialogue between equals, and by many indicators, this process is moving forward successfully.

Mutually Beneficial Ties

For instance, over the past ten years, the presidents of the two countries, Vladimir Putin and Shavkat Mirziyoyev, have met regularly—between two and four times a year—to resolve pressing state matters.

During this same period, the mutual trade turnover between Russia and Uzbekistan has increased more than threefold, and the portfolio of joint projects has surpassed 50 billion dollars. In the first half of 2026 alone, trade turnover grew by another 15.7%.

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Russia is carrying out major projects in Uzbekistan that are of critical importance to the republic's development: constructing the fourth phase of the copper concentration plant at the Almalyk Mining and Metallurgical Complex, supplying rolling stock for rail transport, the Tashkent metro, and ground public transit, and building Uzbekistan's first nuclear power plant.

By the way, this is a unique project in global nuclear energy practice, which Rosatom began implementing in mid-August 2026. The site will house two high-capacity VVER-1000 power units and two small-capacity RITM-200N units, all integrated into a single system.

The combination of different reactor types will allow Tashkent to flexibly manage energy generation and distribution within the national power grid, gain the additional electrical capacity needed for its rapidly growing economy, and achieve greater energy stability and independence.

Uzbekistan will be able to respond flexibly to power outages like the one that occurred in August 2026. At that time, the shutdown of two power units at a hydroelectric power plant in Kyrgyzstan triggered an hours-long blackout across all Central Asian states.

“Around 150 major joint investment initiatives are currently in the implementation stage,” said Mikhail Galuzin, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia. “Russian business accounts for about 7.4% of all foreign investment in Uzbekistan’s fixed capital. This ranks second among investor countries. Over 3.4 thousand enterprises with Russian capital participation operate in Uzbekistan”.

Regions Are Moving Forward

Notably, Russian regions are playing an increasingly prominent role in Russian-Uzbek cooperation. Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev highlighted this specific feature of the relationship between the two countries during his speech at the recent St. Petersburg International Economic Forum.

"Russian regions are actively participating in the cooperation between the two states," he said. "The volume of regional projects currently being implemented exceeds five billion dollars. An additional investment package of another five billion is on the way. The interaction spans all industries".

The Uzbek President named Moscow first on the list of the most active regions, for which Uzbekistan has acquired a key

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significance in recent years. The country has become one of the main trade, economic, transport, logistical, and demographic partners of the Russian capital in Central Asia.

The significance of Moscow for Uzbekistan is also highly substantial. The megapolis ranks first in Russia in terms of trade turnover with Uzbekistan, accounting for 29% of the total figure. The republic accounts for about 5% of the capital's total non-resource non-energy exports (NNEE) to friendly countries.

Capital-based enterprises mainly supply mechanical engineering products, pharmaceuticals, building materials, cosmetics, and food products to Uzbekistan. Deliveries of Moscow-manufactured instruments grew particularly significantly—by 67%.

Here are a few cases. Transmashholding (TMH), Russia’s leading rolling stock manufacturer, supplies "Moskva" model metro cars for the Tashkent Metro, as well as suburban electric trains and mainline diesel locomotives. As part of industrial cooperation, TMH is working on localizing train production at the Tashkent Passenger Railway Car Repair Plant.

Ecophysica, a capital-based developer and manufacturer of complex measuring equipment, supplies multi-channel measuring systems for Uzbekistan's industrial enterprises, aircraft manufacturing, and construction sectors.

Laser cutting and metal bending machines, along with robotic cells created by residents of the Technopolis Moscow Special Economic Zone, are operating at Uzbek automotive and metalworking plants.

Moscow-based company UVL Robotics, which develops unmanned solutions for logistics, provides Uzbek partners with drones for automated inventory management of large warehouse complexes.

Leading Moscow universities, in particular, Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) and RUDN University, including their research laboratories, are developing ties with scientific centers in Uzbekistan. They conduct joint research and implement interstate programs in the fields of innovation, medicine, exact sciences, and humanities.

Applicants from Uzbekistan consistently rank among the top three leaders in terms of the number of applications submitted for education in Moscow universities. Meanwhile, citizens of the republic lead in the number of entries into Russia, with about 1.6 million trips recorded in the first half of 2026.

High Tech in the Spotlight

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Cooperation in the field of high technologies holds a special status, demonstrating exceptionally high growth rates. Today, Moscow is the locomotive of digitalization both within the country and across the entire Eurasian continent.

The city has developed a powerful ecosystem of science, IT, and manufacturing. The primary development vectors include the application of artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, blockchain, neural interfaces, and other cutting-edge technologies to create a comfortable and secure urban environment.

The main centers of this technological breakthrough are the Moscow Innovation Cluster (MIC), the "Technopolis Moscow" Special Economic Zone, and industrial clusters that unite tens of thousands of technology companies, research institutes, and startups.

There are 47,000 information and communication technology companies registered in the city. In the first half of 2026, their turnover exceeded 42 billion dollars, which is 40% higher in comparable prices compared to the same period last year.

According to Maria Bagreeva, Deputy Mayor of Moscow and Head of the Department for Economic Policy and Development, the capital accounts for over 70% of the total revenue generated by Russian IT companies.

Over recent years, the total number of large-scale digital initiatives implemented in Moscow has exceeded 500 projects. Among them, around one hundred solutions utilize artificial intelligence.

"The capital of Russia is already a leading hub for breakthrough technologies and innovative developments today," noted Anatoly Garbuzov, Minister of the Government of Moscow and Head of the Department of Investment and Industrial Policy.

As a result, in December 2023, Moscow ranked first in technological and spatial development among cities in the BRICS+ countries and secured a spot among the top five global megacities, outperforming Tokyo, New York, Sydney, and Beijing.

Last year, the Russian capital took second place in the global smart city ranking prepared by Kept analysts, trailing Singapore by only a tenth of a point.

With Mutual Interest

Moscow's obvious achievements in high technology are of particular interest to Uzbekistan. The implementation of smart

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technologies in the transport system and housing and communal services, the exchange of experience in electronic public services and megacity management, and the modernization of urban infrastructure and the public environment are just a few areas of developing cooperation between Moscow and Uzbekistan.

Today, Uzbekistan positions itself as a global IT hub and a center for exporting digital solutions, which is why Moscow’s developments and experience are of vital importance to the republic.

IT Park Uzbekistan has become the leading center for digital technologies, where the republic's authorities have created a favorable ecosystem for foreign companies. Currently, 343 companies with Russian capital are residents of this technology park, 159 of which are export-oriented. These include companies such as EAST-GAMES, SOFTWARE WIZARDS, ROMALEX RND, and CYBREX.

Residents of this IT park work with clients worldwide: in the US, European Union countries, the MENA region, and the CIS. The export infrastructure created by the park allows Moscow entrepreneurs and their Uzbek partners to enter new markets without bureaucratic barriers and complexities.

"Moscow's relations with Uzbekistan are developing as a close partnership in a wide variety of areas," says Kirill Babaev, Director of the Institute of China and Contemporary Asia of the Russian Academy of Sciences. "Tashkent is demonstrating dynamic economic convergence. The Republic is developing a pragmatic partnership with an emphasis on industrial cooperation, preferring a bilateral format of ties".

Alexander Chertkov

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