





25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Azerbaijan

CONFERENCE

"Bulgaria – Azerbaijan: 25 years of diplomatic relations.

Prospects for bilateral partnership and multilateral cooperation"

Monday, 15 May 2017 Conference Hall, House of Europe, Georgi S. Rakovski str. 124, 1000 Sofia

PROGRAMME

09:30 Registration

10:00-10:30 Opening addresses:

- Dr. Nargiz Gurbanova, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Republic of Bulgaria
- Dr. Solomon Passy, President of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria
- Ms. Tanya Mihaylova, Director of the Bulgarian Diplomatic Institute

10:30-11:30 First panel: Strategic outlook of Bulgaria-Azerbaijan partnership

Moderator: Ms. Tanya Mihaylova, Director of the Bulgarian Diplomatic Institute

Keynote speaker: Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria

Panelists: Mr. Rauf Aliyev, Member of the Milli Majlis (Parliament) of the

Republic of Azerbaijan, Head of Azerbaijan-Bulgaria

Interparliamentary Friendship Group

Mr. Gancho Ganev, Director of Eastern Europe and Central Asia Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria Ms. Diana Naydenova, Director for Foreign Economic Policy,

Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Bulgaria

- Bilateral political relations
- Bilateral economic and trade relations
- People-to-people relations (cultural, educational, humanitarian dimension of bilateral relations)

Q&A

11:30-11:45 Coffee break

11:45-12:55 Second panel: EU-Azerbaijan at 25: the way ahead for equal partnership

Moderator: **Mr. Lyubomir Kyuchukov**, Director, Economics and International Relatons Institute

Keynote speaker: Mr. Mahmud Mammad-Guliyev, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Chief Negotiator with the European Union and World Trade Organisation

Panelists: Mr. Ognian Zlatev, Head of European Commission

Representation in Bulgaria

Mr. Murad Heydarov, Head of SOCAR Balkan Representative of Bulgarian Energy Holding

Ms. Nadezhda Buhova, Director, European Coordination and International Cooperation Directorate, Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications

- Future of contractual relations between the EU and Azerbaijan
- Diversification of supply routes and sources for European energy security: the Southern Gas Corridor in focus
- Azerbaijan and Bulgaria in the context of transport transit corridors between Europe and Asia

Q&A

12:55 Closing remarks: Ms. Tanya Mihaylova, Director of the Bulgarian Diplomatic Institute

13:00 Buffet lunch

13:45 Close

Working languages: English/Bulgarian