

In 2025, the friendly, fraternal, and strategic partnership between Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan significantly developed, further strengthening and expanding based on the principles of mutual trust and friendship. In accordance with the spirit of the "Declaration on Strategic Partnership" signed in 2017, further deepening strategic cooperation between the two countries and implementing mutually beneficial initiatives in new areas are of particular importance. Azerbaijani Ambassador to Turkmenistan Gismet Gozalov stated this in an interview with AZERTAC.

He noted that the high-level reciprocal visits, meetings, and events held in 2025 created a solid foundation for the further expansion of cooperation in all areas, including economic, energy, transport, transit, cultural, humanitarian, and social spheres. In July of this year, Turkmen leader and Chairman of the People's Council Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov visited Baku and Karabakh, where significant steps were taken to strengthen strategic cooperation and deepen the friendship between our fraternal peoples.

The diplomat emphasized that during the visit, a number of initiatives in the economic, energy, cultural, humanitarian, and social spheres were discussed, and new prospects for cooperation were identified: "In August, President Ilham Aliyev, during his visit to the city of Avaza in Turkmenistan, participated in a high-level trilateral meeting with the heads of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, creating an important opportunity to expand cooperation in the region and achieve the signing of a number of important documents on mutually beneficial cooperation in transport and transit."

G.Gozalov stated that the events held in Gabala in October as part of the 12th summit of the Organization of Turkic States further strengthened the relationship between the leaders of the two countries. At the meeting between President Ilham Aliyev and Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, strengthening bilateral relations, future areas of cooperation, and regional initiatives were discussed in detail.

"The groundbreaking ceremony for a mosque being built in the Azerbaijani city of Fuzuli, a sister city of Arkadag in Turkmenistan, at the initiative of Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov during the summit held in Gabala, further enhanced the strategic importance of cultural and humanitarian cooperation. Azerbaijan's admission as a full member of the Consultative Format of the Heads of State of Central Asia at the summit held in Tashkent in November 2025 added a new element to the architecture of cooperation in the region. The invitation by the national leader of the Turkmen people, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, to the head of the Azerbaijani state to participate in the next summit, which will be held in Turkmenistan in 2026, demonstrates Turkmenistan's open support for our country," the ambassador

## The strategic partnership between Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan further strengthened in 2025

emphasized. He also recalled that President of Turkmenistan Sardar Berdimuhamedov congratulated President Ilham Aliyev at the summit.

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