



MODEL OIC - INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ACADEMY 2023

PROGRAM STARTED WITH ITS FIRST TRAINING SESSION

April 1st, 2023

The first lecture program of the “Model OIC – International Relations Academy” was organized by the Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan at Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC).

Over 100 young people, distinguished with their special talent and foreign language knowledge were selected from more than hundreds of applied students, who represent the leading universities

of Azerbaijan. The students will take part in weekly lectures for 2 months and then in the “Model OIC” Council of Foreign Ministers simulation.



At the opening ceremony, Momeena Mehdi, program coordinator, made a presentation about the goals and tasks of the

“Model OIC”, also told about the experience gained during the recent years to this regard. Aydan Baghirli, the representative of the ICYF-ERC expressed her thanks to the UNEC leadership for organizational support to these events and informed the participants about the ICYF-ERC activities, particularly, on spreading the truth about Karabakh among the world community. Narmin Ibrahimova, Director of International Cooperation department at UNEC made a speech, highly appreciating the cooperation between the UNEC and ICYF-ERC within the framework of this program. Yunus Cholak

joined the program in an online format and informed participants about the International Model OIC. Musa K Ceesay, a student from Gambia shared his experience in the conferences organized by ICYF-ERC and urged the participants to be active throughout the program.

Then, the guest lecturers of the program, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Palestine to Azerbaijan, Mr. Nassir Abdul Kareem A. Raheem and Vice Rector of ADA University, Dr. Fariz Ismailzade accordingly made a presentation on “Muslim World and Palestinian Issue” and “Public Diplomacy in Modern Times”. During the program, lecturers answered various questions of participants.



Taking this opportunity, we would like to thank our distinguished guest speakers for their time and effort to make our session enlightening and interactive for all participants.

PARTICIPANTS OF MODEL OIC – IR ACADEMY 2023 VISITED THE EMBASSY OF PALESTINE IN BAKU

April 6th, 2023

The group of youth was received by H.E. Mr. Nasser Abdul Kareem A. Raheem, Ambassador of the State of Palestine to the Republic of Azerbaijan, within the framework of “Model OIC-International Relations Academy

2023” program.

At the discussion, H.E. Ambassador spoke about the political and international situation of Palestine, then the participants asked questions related to the Palestinian case and other issues.

We would like to thank His Excellency the Ambassador for an effective and interactive discussion by answering the questions with an open heart.

The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) highly appreciates the warm welcome and hospitality of the kind office of the Embassy.



THE SECOND SESSION OF MODEL OIC – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ACADEMY 2023 WAS HELD

April 8th, 2023

The second training session of the “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023” organized by Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan was held at Azerbaijan State University of Economics.

During the program, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Morocco to Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan H.E. Mr. Mohamed Adil Embarch made a presenta-

tion on the topic of “Soft Power and Nation Branding: Morocco as a Role Model”.



Then, our next guest speaker Mr. Nijat Mammadli, Advisor to the Minister of Science and Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan made a presentation on the topic of “The New Geopolitics of the Middle East”.

During the session our honorable guest speakers answered on-topic questions of students that had a positive impact on post-session impressions.

Taking this opportunity, we would like to thank our distinguished guests for their time and effort to make our session appealing and interesting for all participants.

THE THIRD SESSION OF MODEL OIC-INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ACADEMY 2023 WAS HELD

April 15th, 2023

The third training session of the “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023” organized by Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan was held at Azerbaijan State University of Economics.

During the program, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic

of Pakistan to the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Bilal Hayee made a presentation on the “Kashmir Dispute and the Role of OIC”.



Then, Mr. Elmaddin Mehdiyev, Director of Azerbaijan International Development Agency (AIDA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs delivered a lecture on the topic of “International Development Assistance: Success of Azerbaijan as an emerging donor country”.

During the program, lecturers answered various questions of participants, and the sessions earned huge positive responses.

As part of the project, Model OIC Alumni was invited to share their experience with current participants of the Academy. Ms. Rena Nasirli, Alumna of the very first Model OIC programs (2011-2014), and Mr. Ibrahim Mammadli, Alumnus of 2017-2018, talked about the challenges and benefits of the project and the role that it played in their educational and career paths.

We do appreciate the time and effort our guest speakers put to grace our third session of “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023”.

THE SPECIAL SESSION OF MODEL OIC – IR ACADEMY 2023 WAS HELD

April 16th, 2023

On April 16, 2023, the Special Session of the "Model OIC –

International Relations Academy 2023" organized by Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan was held at Azerbaijan State University of Economics.

H.E. Mr. Elshad Iskandarov, Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, delivered a lecture on the topic of “National Identity in International Relations”. The lecture focused on National Identity as an important factor that informs the way the state formulates and implements foreign policy and international relations.



Key moments from Ambassador Elshad Iskandarov's speech to students within the framework of the “Azerbaijan National Identity” Project:

1. Only those nations that realize and protect their national identity, have real state **SOVEREIGNTY**.
2. Only those nations that take possession of their own national identity-can maintain **RELATIONS BASED ON EQUAL RIGHTS** with other states, they are **FREE FROM INFERIORITY COMPLEX!**
3. Only those nations that keep their National Identity Alive, **HAVE A FUTURE** because they can be protected from the

threat of **ASSIMILATION**.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our distinguished Guest Speaker for taking the time to make our special session educational and engaging for all participants.

ISLAMIC AND MEDIEVAL HERITAGE TOUR WAS ORGANIZED FOR PARTICIPANTS OF “MODEL OIC – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ACADEMY 2023” PROJECT

April 16th, 2023

The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) organized the “Islamic & Medieval Heritage” Tour within the framework of “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023”, in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan.



During the tour, the participants had the chance to visit Mir Movsum Aga shrine and Qala Archaeological and Ethnographic Museum Complex. Firstly, participants visited the mosque and shrine complex that is located in an area known as the “ancient cemetery” in Shuvalan village outside Baku.

After visiting Mir Movsum Aga shrine, participants had been to Qala Archaeological and Ethnographic Museum Complex, where they were demonstrated on-rock

and under-rock habitats, petroglyphs, ancient foundations, primitive wall remnants related to the Bronze Age, two underground tunnels leading to the Caspian Sea and Baku city related to the 10-14th and 10-15th centuries, Qala Fortress related to the 10-14th centuries that includes a tower and a stronghold and a tandir (tandoor) related to the 18th century.



It was one of its kind, in educating the significance of Islamic history preserved in Azerbaijan. The tour was aimed at providing the young students with an interactive approach to learn more about the heritage sites that connect cultural roots to contemporary art in modern-day Azerbaijan. Islam is recognized as an essential part of our independent national identity, so we took this opportunity to enlighten the participants about the centuries-old Islamic and cultural elements present in Azerbaijan.



After the tour, the participants of the “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023” were invited to a collective Iftar-Dinner. The main idea was to celebrate

and feel the blessings of Ramadan, by breaking the fast together.

PARTICIPANTS OF MODEL OIC – IR ACADEMY 2023 VISITED THE ICYF – ERC OFFICE

April 20th, 2023

The team representing the International Organizations and Observers, in the framework of the “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023” program, was received by Acting Director General of ICYF-ERC Mr. Vusal Gurbanov.



Mr. Gurbanov and the youth had an engaging dialogue about the role of ICYF and ICYF-ERC for the youth of OIC member countries.

The participants asked questions and were acquainted with the organizational work, projects, and purpose of the Model OIC Conference.

PARTICIPANTS OF MODEL OIC – IR ACADEMY 2023 VISITED THE EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN IN BAKU

April 28th, 2023

The group of youth was received by H.E. Mr. Bilal Hayee, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Republic of Azerbaijan, within the framework of “Model OIC - International Relations

Academy 2023” program.



At the discussion, H.E. Ambassador spoke about the political and international situation of Pakistan, then the participants asked questions related to the Kashmir dispute and other issues.

We would like to thank His Excellency the Ambassador for making the discussion effective, interactive, and for answering the questions with an open heart.

The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) highly appreciates the warm welcome and hospitality of the kind office of the Embassy.

THE FOURTH SESSION OF MODEL OIC – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ACADEMY 2023 WAS HELD

April 29th, 2023

The fourth training session of the “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023” organized by Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan was held at Azerbaijan State University of Economics.

During the program, Chargé d’Affaires of the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq Mr. Maki Rissan Al-Mamori made a presentation on the “Azerbaijan – Iraq Relations over the Years: Religious Tourism”.



Then, Mr. Yalchin Rafiyev, Director of International Security Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, delivered a lecture on the topic of “Growing importance of multilateralism in the current international juncture”.

During the Q&A session, our honorable guest speakers answered various questions of participants that had a positive impact on post-session impressions.

Moreover, our guest Mr. Qaiser Nawab, founder of Global Strategic Institute for Sustainable Development GSISD, shared his experiences with the participants of “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023” and discussed how Belt and Road Initiative impacts global youth.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our distinguished guest speakers for taking the time to make our session educational and engaging for all participants.

PARTICIPANTS OF MODEL OIC – IR ACADEMY 2023 VISITED THE EMBASSY OF MOROCCO IN BAKU

May 3rd, 2023

Acting Director General of ICYF-ERC Mr. Vusal Gurbanov, accompanied by a group of students, was received by H.E. Mr. Mohamed Adil Embarch, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom

of Morocco to the Republic of Azerbaijan, as part of the embassy visits organized within the “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023” project.

At the discussion, H.E. Ambassador spoke about the political and international stance of Morocco and its Role in promoting development of other African Countries. The participants asked questions related to the migrant issues, Saharan Africa, and the Covid-19 policy effects.



We would like to thank His Excellency the Ambassador for making the discussion interactive, hospitable with special Moroccan Tea and for answering all questions with a friendly approach.

The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) highly appreciates the warm welcome and hospitality of the Embassy staff.

THE FINAL SESSION OF MODEL OIC INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ACADEMY 2023 WAS HELD

May 6th, 2023

The final training session of the “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023” organized by Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic

of Azerbaijan was held at Azerbaijan State University of Economics.

During the program, Prof. Dr. Adil Rajabli, Professor of International Relations Department at Baku Slavic University (BSU), made a presentation on the “Decision-making mechanism in OIC and Azerbaijan”.

Then, Ms. Shafag Mehrliyeva, Communication and Digital Media Program Director at ADA University, delivered a lecture on the topic of “Digital Diplomacy: The Role of Social Media”.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our distinguished guest speakers for taking the time to make our session educational and engaging for all participants.



The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) expresses its sincere gratitude to Azerbaijan State University of Economics for support in organization of all 5 sessions of Model OIC – IR Academy 2023.

PARTICIPANTS OF MODEL OIC – IR ACADEMY 2023 VISITED THE EMBASSY OF IRAQ IN BAKU

May 10th, 2023

Acting Director General of ICYF-ERC Mr. Vusal Gurbanov, accompanied by a group of students, was received by Mr. Maki Rissan Al-Mamori, Chargé d’Affaires of the Embassy of the

Republic of Iraq to the Republic of Azerbaijan, as part of the embassy visits organized within the “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023” project.



At the discussion, Mr. Al-Mamori spoke about the relationships of Iraq with Azerbaijan and other OIC countries, as well as the ways of further strengthening the relations between Azerbaijan and Iraq by having more business investments in the future. The participants also asked questions related to educational scholarships to Azerbaijani students for studying in Iraq.

We would like to thank the Head of Mission for making the discussion interactive, hospitable, and for answering all questions with a friendly approach.

The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) highly appreciates the warm welcome and hospitality of the kind office of the Embassy.

THE PARTICIPANTS OF MODEL OIC – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ACADEMY 2023 VISITED THE EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA IN BAKU

May 11th, 2023

The group of youth was received by Mrs. Mardiana Mohamed Rohani, Chargé d’Affaires of the Embassy of Malaysia to the Republic of Azerbaijan, as part of the embassy visits organized

within the “Model OIC – International Relations Academy 2023” project.



At the Embassy of Malaysia in Baku, Ms. Mardiana spoke about the history, culture foreign and domestic policy of Malaysia. The youth were informed about Malaysia’s role in ASEAN, OIC, and other organizations, as well as about Malaysia’s MADANI concept and Malaysia-Azerbaijan bilateral relations.

We would like to thank the Head of Mission of Malaysia to Azerbaijan for making the discussion interactive, offering delicious national cuisine and gifts, and also for answering all questions of students with an open heart.

The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) highly appreciates the warm welcome and hospitality of the kind office of the Embassy.

MODEL OIC 2023 SIMULATION CONFERENCE WAS ORGANIZED IN BAKU, AZERBAIJAN

May 13th, 2023

Model OIC Simulation Conference was organized by Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan at Grand Europe Hotel Baku, Azerbaijan. It should be noted that this conference was held after completion of a 5-week “Model OIC Academy of Interna-

tional Relations” project, which has been successfully implemented for 12 years by the ICYF-ERC.

The topic of the Conference was “The Role of OIC Countries in the Emerging New World Order”. The aim of the Conference was to bring together local and international students representing various universities of Azerbaijan to get practical skills on how to carry out diplomatic discussions, negotiations, and propose resolutions on the given topic.



During the opening ceremony, Ms. Momeena Mehdi, project coordinator of ICYF-ERC greeted the participants and delivered a speech. The ceremony proceeded with the welcoming speech by Mr. Vusal Gurbanov, Acting Director General of ICYF-ERC. Following the opening ceremony, the conference started with the recitation of the Holy Quran.

During the Model OIC Simulation Conference, three distinct committee sessions simulating an OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) session, were held:

“The Sudan Conflict: Potential



Threats for the Region and Peace Efforts”, “Solidarity and Safeguard of Muslim Integrity in Disputed Geographies”, and “Policy-making Strategies: Regional Security and Economic Development Prospects”.

At the end of the event, the delegates adopted a resolution comprising effective solutions to strengthen OIC countries’ meaningful participation in peace and security processes in the conflicted geographies with special regard to Azerbaijan, Kashmir, and Palestine.

Mr. Vusal Gurbanov congratulated the participants on their successful participation, on fruitful discussions, and negotiations regarding the conference topic in the Model OIC Simulation Conference. Based on the performance and debating skills, the jury members evaluated the participants and the most successful ones will receive awards on different nominations.

THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF MODEL OIC – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ACADEMY WAS HELD

June 14th, 2023

The closing ceremony of the “Model Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) – International Relations Academy” project, which has been successfully implemented for 12 years by the Eurasian Regional Center of the



Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC) supported by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan, was held at the Park Inn Hotel, Baku, Azerbaijan.

The representatives of government agencies, members of Parliament, as well as Ambassadors of the OIC member states, the media, and various NGOs, attended the event. A short introductory video about the activities of Model OIC was shown. The first speaker, Mr. Vusal Gurbanov, Acting Director General of ICYF-ERC, spoke about the main goals and objectives of the project and highlighted the growing interest in Model OIC in recent years.

Deputy of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Mr. Farhad Hajiyeve, Head of the Middle East and Africa Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Rashad Ismayilov, Deputy Chairman of the Small and Medium Business (SMB) Development Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Hikmat Mammadov, on behalf of the Diplomatic Corps, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco in Azerbaijan H.E. Mr. Mohammed Adil Embarch, Deputy of the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Mammadov, and Head of International Department of the Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC), Ms. Narmin Ibrahimova delivered their congratulatory speeches and emphasized the importance of this program, its role in the formation of leadership skills of youth. They also expressed their best wishes to

the students who completed the current Model OIC program.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our esteemed guests and speakers for sharing their valuable insights and time with us during the event.

During the awarding ceremony of the “Model Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) – Simulation Conference”, the representatives of government agencies and OIC embassies accredited in Azerbaijan, as well as members of Parliament, awarded the students and teams representing OIC countries, at the Council of Foreign Ministers simulation conference for their distinguished performance.



During the simulation conference, debates were held on protracted disputes in the OIC geography, and resolutions were adopted that represented the participants’ ways of solving real-world disputes.

It should be noted that, during the International Relations Academy sessions held in April-May 2023, Ambassadors of the OIC countries accredited



to Azerbaijan, experts from various governmental organizations and academicians from educational institutes delivered lectures to students from leading universities of Azerbaijan.

The award categories are as follows:

- *Best Journalist (Leyla Mustafayeva, represented Al Jazeera)*
- *Best SMMer (Bahadur Huseynov, represented Republic of the Sudan)*
- *Best Debater (Musa K. Ceesay and Rahil Isabeyli, represented Republic of the Gambia and Malaysia respectively)*
- *Best Team Leader (Aydan Hajiyeva, represented Middle East region)*
- *3rd Best Delegation (Sabuhi Dadashov & Aysel Samadova, represented Republic of Yemen)*
- *2nd Best Delegation (Emin Gurbanli & Seljan Karimli, represented Kingdom of Morocco)*
- *1st Best Delegation (Javid Rahimli & Zahra Musayeva, represented United Arab Emirates)*

We would like to congratulate all the winners and thank all participants for their inputs to the project!

In the final part of the Model OIC 2023 Closing Ceremony held on June 14 at Park Inn Hotel Baku, special entertainment was arranged for the attendees and participants of the event. The traditional Mugham was played by the trio of Yusif Jafarbayli, Javanshir Rustambayli, and Ali Rustambayli. Everyone highly appreciated the live performance and enjoyed the afternoon with Azerbaijani melodies.

KAZAN MODEL OIC WAS SUCCESSFULLY HELD

May 27th, 2023

The Kazan Model OIC, jointly organized by the Academy of Youth Diplomacy, Tatarstan Republic Youth Social Fund “SELET” and the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC), took place on 25–27 May, 2023.

There were three committees: the Islamic Organisation for Food Security (IOFS), the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ICESCO) and the Independent Permanent Human Rights Council.

The model aimed at bringing youth together, learning and sharing culture, identifying and solving existing problems in the proposed themes and forming committees on various issues.



At the opening ceremony welcoming speeches were made by Mr. Vusal Gurbanov – Acting Director General at the ICYF-ERC, Ms. Aigul Gabdrakhmanova – Director of Youth Center Selet, Ms. Dilbar Sadykova – Chairwoman of the Academy of Youth Diplomacy.

Participants later took part at the networking session. There were 50 delegates and bureau members representing countries such as Azerbaijan, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan,

Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Sudan, Tunisia, Türkiye, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and so on.

The closing ceremony and awarding ceremony was attended by guest experts including Ms. Jannat Mingazova – Modest Fashion expert, stylist and organizer of Fashion Iftar Modest Fashion Shows and Mr. Ilmur Nafikov – Associate Professor at KFU’s Graduate School of International Relations and Oriental Studies, PhD in History.



The best delegates were Ms. Luiza Karimova – Delegate of Indonesia (ICESCO), Ms. Alsu Mustafina, delegate from Palestine (Committee: Independent Permanent Human Rights Council), Ms. Anna Gasanova, delegate of Sudan (Committee: Islamic Organisation for Food Security).

ADA MODEL OIC WAS SUCCESSFULLY HELD

June 24th, 2023

On June 24, 2023, the Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) in partnership with ADA Model OIC Club organized the OIC Foreign Ministers Council Simulation Conference at ADA University.

The topic of the Conference was “Maintenance and Promotion of Peace and Security among Islamic Countries”. The Conference aimed to bring together 42 local

students representing various universities of Azerbaijan to get practical skills on how to carry out diplomatic discussions, negotiate, and propose resolutions on the given topic.



The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) expresses its sincere gratitude to ADA University for the support in hosting the conference.



Welcome on Board: Model OIC Student Cubs in Azerbaijan

Khayala Jafarli
Secretary-General

Saliha Ali
Deputy

Zahra Ismayilova
HR Manager

Sakina Hasanova
HR Manager

Chichak Garayeva
PR Manager

Fidan Mammadli
PR Manager

Madina Malikova
Project Manager

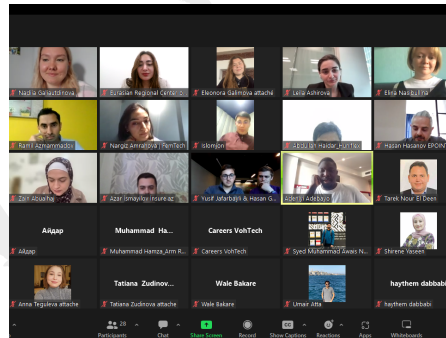
Gulgaz Huseynli
Project Manager Assistant

INTERNATIONAL OIC YOUTH EVENTS

ONLINE ACCELERATION STAGE OF THE 9TH KAZAN OIC YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM STARTED

April 5th, 2023

Introductory meeting with selected participants of the 9th Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum was held online.



The main goals of the Forum, co-organized by ICYF-ERC, Ministry of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan and “Selet” Youth Organization, is to support young entrepreneurs in developing new skills and knowledge in the fields of startup ecosystem.

The Forum received hundreds of applications from 30+ countries.

From now on, young entrepreneurs will work on developing their projects and gathering more experience to pursue their startups' goals.

9TH KAZAN OIC YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM IS OPENED

May 16th, 2023

The Forum unites participants from different countries for 9 years in a row. This year, we received more than 200 applications from different countries all over the world. 31 startups from 14 countries were selected for participation in the Forum. There are startups from Azerbaijan, Egypt, Georgia, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Russia, Tunisia, Türkiye, United States, Uzbekistan, among the participants.



Speakers of the opening ceremony were Deputy Minister of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan — Aigul Sabirova, Acting Director General of the Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF — Vusal Gurbanov, Deputy Director General of the Kazan IT Park Technopark — Rustem Yunusov, Chairwoman of Academy of Youth Diplomacy — Dilbar Sadykova. Speakers welcomed participants, gave some advice and wished good luck in the upcoming Forum program.

The honorable guests of the opening ceremony were Adeniyi Adebayo – Program Director of the Forum, Sami Serdar – CEO of Young Business Hub (ICYF) –

International Incubation Center, Necmettin Gürses – Expert at Young Business Hub (ICYF) – International Incubation Center, Orian Mekhroj Rashidov – Director of Uzbekistan Youth Entrepreneurship Support Center, Ziad Barouni – Storytelling, Pitching & Critical Thinking Coach/ Mentor, International Entrepreneurship Consultant, Arzish Azam – CEO at EjadLabs, young entrepreneur, Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum alumni, Shehab Niazi Farrukh – COO at at EjadLabs, COO at FutureFest, Pakistan's largest tech conference.

PARTNER SESSION OF THE 9TH KAZAN OIC YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM HELD

May 17th, 2023

The Partners of the 9th Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum, co-organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan, Eurasian Regional Center of Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC) and Tatarstan Youth Social Fund "Selet", held a session for participants.



During the partner session, Orkhan Abbasov, Managing Director of SABAHA.lab Acceleration Center, Jamila Asgarli, Project Manager at Next Step Innovation Center, Necmettin Gürses, Expert at Young Business Hub – International Incubation Center (IIC), and Vusal Rustamov, Director of Innovations Center LLC made

presentations about their centers.

Then, educational workshop on Marketing and Sales was held by Arzish Azam and Shehab Niazi from Ejad.labs. The session was continued with peer-to-peer deck reviews and comments from the experts of the Forum for Demo-day preparations.

9TH KAZAN OIC YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM KICKED OFF

May 18th, 2023

The IX Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship International Forum jointly organized by the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC), Ministry of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan (RF), and Youth Social Fund "Selet" of Tatarstan Republic, started its work in Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan.



At the opening ceremony of the event, Damir Fattakhov, Deputy Head of the Russian Federal Agency for Youth Affairs (Rosmolodezh), Rinat Sadikov, Minister of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan, Elchin Asgarov, Chair of the Board of the ICYF-ERC, Taha Ayhan, ICYF President, and Timur Suleymanov, Assistant to the Rais (President) of the Republic of Tatarstan, made a congratulatory speech and expressed their satisfaction with the fact that the Forum has already become traditional, as well as they empha-

sized the promotion of new startup ideas for the sustainability of this format. Additionally, a positive assessment was given to the contribution of investments in some projects over the years.

Within the framework of the Forum, panel discussions, lectures, interactive seminars and project sessions were held on the topics of "Development of young entrepreneurship in Russia and OIC countries: difficulties and ways of its solving", "Youth entrepreneurship within the Islamic world" and "Implementation of innovative startup solutions in the OIC countries" with the participation of well-known investors and experts representing different countries.

Partners of the event – Sabah.lab Acceleration Center, Next Step Innovation Center, International Incubation Center and Innoland Incubation and Acceleration Center were presented within the framework of the Forum.



More than 200 applications were sent to participate in this year's Forum, and a jury of experts selected 31 startup projects representing 14 countries (Azerbaijan, Egypt, Indonesia, Pakistan, Jordan, Türkiye, USA, Kenya and etc.). Along with the OIC Member States, representatives of non-Member States such as the US, UK, Canada, Russia, Germany, and Georgia are also participating in the Forum with

a view of supporting the Muslim communities out of the OIC geography and also creating favorable conditions for exchanging experience and knowledge with the youth beyond the OIC geography.

The “OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum” initiative was launched by the ICYF-ERC and aims to eliminate unemployment among young people by creating new jobs in OIC member countries. It should be noted that more than 1000 young businessmen from 50 countries have participated in the Kazan Forum, and the investments allocated to start-up projects exceed 2 million USD.

It is worth adding that Forum, held annually in Kazan within the framework of “Russia – Islamic world: Kazan Forum 2023” and attended by 80 participants, is also intended to contribute to the implementation of startup ideas in the field of IT and the establishment of relations between young businessmen working in this field, including cooperation in the field of economy, trade and innovation between the Russian Federation and OIC countries.

MOUS SIGNED AT THE KAZAN OIC YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM

May 18th 2023

At the IX Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum, after the official Opening Ceremony, several MOUs were signed amongst: ICYF-ERC and Youth Entrepreneurship Support Center of Uzbekistan; Tatarstan Republic Youth Social Fund “Selet” and Ejad Labs; Tatarstan Republic Youth Social Fund “Selet” and Future Fest.

The Memorandum of Understanding signed by Mr. Elchin

Asgarov, Chair of the Board of the ICYF-ERC, and Mr. Rashidov Orian Mehroj, Director of the Youth Entrepreneurship Support Center of Uzbekistan, reflects actual steps to support startups from Eurasian geography and to assist the development of young entrepreneurs’ capacity building in the coming years.



One of the main activity directions of ICYF-ERC is to support youth entrepreneurship within the OIC, especially in the Eurasian region. For more than 10 years, ICYF-ERC and the Government of the Republic of Tatarstan annually co-organize the Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum.

PANEL SESSION HELD DURING THE 9TH KAZAN OIC YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM

May 18th, 2023

Within the framework of the 9th Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum, co-organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan, Eurasian Regional Center of Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC) and Tatarstan Republic Youth Organization “Selet”, Partner Session from Business Russia was held.

The topic of the panel session moderated by Alexander Larin, Member of the General Council,

Business Ambassador of Business Russia in Iraq, was “Development of young entrepreneurship in Russia and OIC countries: difficulties and ways of its solving”. The speakers of the panel were Pavel Titov, President of the All-Russian Public Organization “Business Russia”, H.E. Sheikh Suhaim Bin Ahmed Bin Sultan Bin Jassim Al Thani, Artur Abdulzyanov, Chairman of the Tatarstan regional branch of the All-Russian Public Organization “Business Russia”, Aliya Agybayeva, Managing Director of Entrepreneurship Development Fund “Damu” JSC, Aideldinov Ainur, co-owner of “INVASTA CAPITAL” LLC, member of the General Council of “Business Russia”, Noof Ibrahim Al-Abdullah, Acting Executive Director of NAMA Center for youth and entrepreneur empowerment, Aysha Al Mudahka, Qatar Business Incubation Center CEO, Al-Teneiji Mata Ahmed Rashid Al Saleh, Economic Affairs Specialist at the



the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in the Russian Federation, Al-Hussaini Sami Ibrahim, the governor of Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority (Monsha’at), Ziad Barouni, Storytelling, Pitching & Critical Thinking Coach/ Mentor, International Entrepreneurship Consultant, Arzish Azam, Founder at EjadLabs, young entrepreneur, alumni of the Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum, Anton Kovalev, Chairman of the

Board of the interregional Union “Club of Young Industrialists”, Rakisheva Assel, Strategic Development Manager with CIS countries and Russia, RAKEZ (UAE), Rakhimdzhonov Usmon, Coordinator of the Startup Initiatives Youth Support Program, Rashidov Orian Mehroj, Director of the Youth Entrepreneurship Support Center of Uzbekistan, Artem Usov, Head of Entrepreneurship Development at Innopolis University, Khabubullin Dinar, member of the General Council of Business Russia, founder of Diazan LLC.

PANEL SESSION HELD DURING THE 9TH KAZAN OIC YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM

May 18th 2023

Within the framework of the 9th Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum, co-organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan, Eurasian Regional Center of Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC) and Tatarstan Republic Youth Organization “Selet”, Partner Session from ASI and JCI was held.



The topic of the panel session moderated by Tatiana Zaripova, Professional Coach of International Coaching Federation (ICF), was “Youth entrepreneurship within the Islamic world”. The speakers of the panel were Amir Rafikovitch Idiatulin, founder of the architectural studio IND architects, Anton Kuzin, Founder of the Russian

Chess School, international referee, international master of sports in chess, Larionova Nadezhda, Deputy General Director of the Moscow Export Center, Alexander Tio, Founder at «Fuji Elevator Indonesia»; Worldwide President at «Junior Chamber International» (JCI) 2019, Michael Teoh Su Lim, Founder at «Thriving Talents», International speaker, Ziad Barouni, Storytelling, Pitching & Critical Thinking Coach/ Mentor, International Entrepreneurship Consultant, Sami Serdar, CEO of Young BusinessHub, Rashidov Orian Mehroj, Director of the Youth Entrepreneurship Support Center of Uzbekistan.

THE DEMO-DAY OF THE 9TH KAZAN OIC YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM WAS HELD

May 19th, 2023



The Demo-Day of the 9th Kazan OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum took place in Kazan, the Republic of Tatarstan (RF), within the framework of “Russia – Islamic World: Kazan Forum 2023”. The event was a resounding success, bringing together young entrepreneurs from across the Islamic world to share ideas and insights about the future of business and innovation.

30 startups from 15 countries (14 – online and 16 – offline) presented their projects at the investment session.



The honorable jury members of the investment sessions were Ziad Barouni, Storytelling, Pitching & Critical Thinking Coach/ Mentor, International Entrepreneurship Consultant, Sami Serdar – CEO of Young Business Hub (ICYF) – International Incubation Center, Necmettin Gurses – Expert at Young Business Hub (OIC Youth Forum) – International Incubation Center, Orian Mehroj Rashidov, Director of Uzbekistan Youth Entrepreneurship Support Center, Arzish Azam, CEO at Ejad Labs, Shehab Niazi, COO at at Ejad Labs, COO at FutureFest, Rustem Yunusov, Deputy Director of the IT Park Kazan Technopark.

Among online experts were Vusal Gurbanov – Acting Director General of ICYF ERC, Adeniyi Adebayo – Program Director of the Forum, Soltan Bayramov – Deputy Director of Innovations Center LLC- INNOLAND Incubation & Acceleration Center, Nazrin Asgarzada – Managing Director of NEXT STEP Innovation Center, Farhad Pashayev – Executive Board Member of SABAH.lab Acceleration Center.

THE 9TH KAZAN OIC YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM WAS FINALIZED

May 19th, 2023

The IX OIC Youth Entrepreneurship International Forum has been held in the framework of the XIV International Economic

Forum “Russia – Islamic World: KazanForum” in the city of Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan (RF). The Forum was jointly organized by the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC), the Ministry of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan, and the Youth Social Fund “Selet” of Tatarstan Republic.



More than 200 applications were submitted to participate in this year’s Forum, and 31 startup projects representing 14 countries (Azerbaijan, Egypt, Indonesia, Pakistan, Jordan, Türkiye, USA, Kenya, etc.) were selected by a jury of experts. The winners were announced by the decision of the jury represented by international experts. ICYF-ERC allocated USD 10,000 for the first-place winner, the “Evocraft” project, authored by young businessmen from Tunisia, Ali Cherif and Haytem Dabbabi. The above-mentioned project is aimed at spreading technological knowledge and obtaining scientific achievements among young people in the future. The Chair of the Board of the ICYF-ERC, Elchin Asgarov, and the Minister of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan, Rinat Sadykov, congratulated the winners of the startup projects and wished them success.

Within the framework of this year’s Forum, Memorandums of Cooperation (MoCs) were signed between the participating compa-

nies and institutions. Thus, the memorandum signed by the Chair of the Board of the ICYF-ERC, Elchin Asgarov, and the Director of the Youth Entrepreneurship Support Center of Uzbekistan, Orian-Mehroj Rashidov, reflects the provisions of supporting startup projects in Eurasia and improving the skills of young entrepreneurs in the coming years.

The “OIC Youth Entrepreneurship Forum” initiative was put forward by the ICYF-ERC and aims to eliminate youth unemployment by creating new jobs in OIC member countries. It should be noted that so far more than 1,000 young businessmen representing 50 countries have participated in Kazan forums, and investments allocated to start-up projects exceed USD 2 million.

VII OIC YOUNG DIPLOMATS FORUM WAS HELD IN KAZAN, REPUBLIC OF TATARSTAN

May 19th, 2023

The Academy of Youth Diplomacy under the Ministry of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan (RF), the Council of Young Diplomats of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC), jointly organized the VII OIC Young Diplomats Forum in Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan. 50 young diplomats representing 23 countries participated in the Forum.

The moderator of the Forum was Konstantin Kolpakov, Chairman of the Council of Young Diplo-

rats of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia.



Among the invited speakers, there were Alexander Yakovenko, Rector of the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russian Federation (online), Vladimir Kuznetsov, Director of the United Nations Information Center in Moscow (online), Steven Sigal, Special Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on humanitarian



issues and Japan (online), Elchin Asgarov, Chair of the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum, Vladimir Morozov, Vice-Rector for Human Resources of Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO), Evgeniy Mikhailov, Advisor to the Head of the Agency for Investment Promotion and Regional Development of the Voronezh Region, Rifat Fattakhov, Public Foundation for Tatar Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan Rashit Vagapov, Igor Khalevinsky, Chairman of the Association of Russian Diplomats Council, Dilbar Sadykova, Chairwoman of

the Academy of Youth Diplomacy.

The Rais (President) of the Republic of Tatarstan, Rustam Minnikhanov, received the participants and shared his views on the importance of the Forum. Speaking at the plenary session of the forum in real and virtual mode, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia Sergey Lavrov, Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and Special Representative of the Minister for Interaction with Organizations of the Muslim World Konstantin Shuvalov, Chair of the Board of the ICYF-ERC Elchin Asgarov, Minister of Youth Affairs of the Republic of Tatarstan Rinat Sadykov and representatives of other leading institutions representing Russia pointed out the recent deepening of relations between Russia and the OIC countries, the role played by Islam in the public and religious life of the Russian Federation. The honorable speakers emphasized the importance of the Forum and mentioned that such Forums played a certain role in the development of bilateral and multilateral relations.



Discussions were held on “Diplomacy of the new multipolar world” and “The role of young diplomats in the system of international relations, the role of institutions in the development of global processes” and other topics in working sessions attended by members of the State Duma, Federation Council

and other Russian state institutions, as well as, foreign experts.

A panel discussion was held on the topic “Heydar Aliyev 100: the Role of Personality in International Relations” dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the national leader Heydar Aliyev. Chair of the Board of the ICYF-ERC Elchin Asgarov talked about the role of personality in history as a whole, and Heydar Aliyev’s role in getting Azerbaijan out of the acute political and economic crisis in 1993, as well as in the formation of the modern Azerbaijani statehood. Advisor to the Head of the Agency for Investment Promotion and Regional Development of the Voronezh region and political expert Evgeniy Mikhailov spoke about Heydar Aliyev’s achievements in the development of Russian-Azerbaijani relations.



Chairman of the Council of Young Diplomats of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of RF Konstantin Kolpakov, emphasized Heydar Aliyev’s role in protecting common values, especially in recognizing the results of World War II in Azerbaijan, and noted that the rapid development of Azerbaijan in the post-Soviet region was the result of his activities. In all these speeches, it was especially noted that he was the founder of a balanced stance in the foreign policy of independent Azerbaijan.

The main objective of the event, which took place in Kazan within the framework of “Russia – Islamic World: Kazan Forum 2023”, is to support the development of bilateral and multilateral relations between Russia and the OIC countries, as well as, the formation of a networking environment between young diplomats and foreign policy decision-makers representing both sides.

THE BORNEO YOUTH CAMP 2023 WAS HELD IN INDONESIA

May 11th, 2023

On 11-14 May, the Borneo Youth Camp 2023, organized by OIC Youth Indonesia, DPD IMM West Kalimantan, and NYC Indonesia, with support of the Eurasian Regional Center of Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC), the Asian African Youth Government (AAYG), West Kalimantan Provincial Government, Kubu Raya Regency, DPP IMM, Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Culture of Indonesia, Plasticpay, DPP PPMI, People’s Consultative Assembly of Indonesia was held.

The event took place in Pontianak City, Indonesia. 70 students attended the camp from various regional, national, and international universities. In addition, 400 young people joined the opening ceremony from various universities in the West Kalimantan region.

At the opening ceremony, Assistant Deputy Minister of Human Development and Culture of Indonesia Ms. Linda Restanigrum, Regent of Kubu Raya H.E. Muda Mahendrawan, Vice Chairman of the Indonesian

People's Consultative Assembly (MPR RI) H.E. Ahmad Muzani, Chairman of DPD IMM West Kalimantan Mr. Fadhil Mahdi, President of OIC Youth Indonesia Ms. Astrid Nadya Rizqita, Acting Director General of ICYF-ERC Mr. Vusal Gurbanov delivered a speech.



Under the theme “Youth for Environmental Action and Sustainability,” the event aimed to provide a global platform to explore the potential of young generations who are ready to become public leaders with a focus on environmental sustainability, tolerance, and entrepreneurship.

Besides the overarching theme “Youth for Environmental Action and Sustainability,” the camp also addressed several sub-themes, including Green Economy and Entrepreneurship, Interfaith Dialogue and Leadership for the Environment, Advancing Youth in STEM for Sustainability, and Landmine Youth Action.

During the camp, participants engaged in various activities, including bringing used plastic bottles as entry tickets, panel sessions, focus group discussions (FGD) and presentations, city tours, cultural shows, declaration, and symbolic tree planting.

Fadhil Mahdi, the Chairman of the West Kalimantan Regional Board of IMM, stated that this event would inspire and foster collaboration among youth to build and

foster collaboration among youth to build and implement sustainable development concepts for the progress and future well-being of society.

Astrid Nadya Risqita, the President of OIC Youth Indonesia, emphasized that the conventional development pattern that exploits the environment extensively is outdated and needs to be replaced with sustainable development practices. Aligned with the Youth, Peace, and Security Agenda, the Borneo Youth Camp provides an opportunity for young people to engage and contribute to peacebuilding and humanitarian efforts.



The Borneo Youth Camp serves as a platform for youth to come together, exchange ideas, and collaborate in addressing environmental challenges, promoting sustainable practices, and creating a better future for themselves and their communities. By fostering cross-cultural and interfaith dialogue, the camp aims to promote mutual respect and understanding among participants from diverse backgrounds, empowering them to work together towards environmental preservation and harmonious coexistence.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH PLATFORM FOR PROTECTION OF MINE VICTIMS' RIGHTS WAS ESTABLISHED

May 12th, 2023

The International Youth Platform for Protection of Mine Victims' Rights was established at the International Symposium in the field of environmental protection held on the Indonesian island of Borneo in partnership with the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC). In this regard, a corresponding statement was adopted at the meeting held with the participation of international experts and numerous youth activists of the ASEAN region on the Symposium's “Landmine Youth Action” theme.



Speaking at the meeting, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Indonesia Mr. Jalal Mirzaev, Director of the Commission for Sustainable Development in the South Mr. Qaiser Nawab, Acting Director of the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC) Mr. Vusal Gurbanov, Representative of Federal Administration of Civil Protection Bosnia and Herzegovina Mrs. Majda Kovac spoke about the importance of the platform and its prospects against the background of the consequences caused by landmines, which are the wounding result of conflicts, for humanity. In his speech, Mr. Ramil Azizov, Chief of Risk Education, International & Public Relations Department of ANAMA noted that more than 300 Azerbaijani citizens lost

their lives in the last two years as a result of the explosion of mines buried in the territory of Karabakh amounted hundreds of thousands during the Armenian occupation, as well as mine maps covering only 25 percent of the liberated Azerbaijani lands delivered by the current Armenian government to Azerbaijan.



The statement entitled “Landmine Youth Action” based on the principles of peace and security of organizations such as the UN, OIC and ASEAN was unanimously adopted by the participants of Borneo Symposium, the newly established Platform shows that raising the issue of protecting the rights of landmine victims in international and regional organizations is the main mission. The declared main goals of the platform are provision of legal assistance to the affected civilian population, as well as the implementation of appropriate educational programs in order to increase awareness in the field of combating mines.

In the statement, it is expected that the Platform will be fully organized by the autumn of this year.

STATEMENTS OF THE BOARD

Eid Al-Fitr Mubarak

On this joyous occasion of Eid Al-Fitr, the International Board and staff of the Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF – ERC) cordially congratulate all of you, your families, and the entire Muslim world wishing you a blessed and joyous celebration. As the spiritual month of Ramadan comes to an end, May Allah the Almighty accept from all of us our humble efforts and virtuous deeds performed in this holy month. May Allah the Almighty shower His mercy, blessings and prosperity upon our nations, all Muslims, and humanity worldwide, and open the doors of happiness for you and fulfill all your dreams.

April 22nd, 2023

100th Birth Anniversary of Azerbaijan's National Leader Heydar Aliyev

On the 100th Birth Anniversary, Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) commemorates with deep respect and gratitude the dearest memory of Heydar Aliyev, National Leader and Founder of modern Azerbaijan.

National Leader Heydar Aliyev was a wise leader and genius personality who devoted all his life to the development of the statehood and prosperity of the Azerbaijani nation and foundation of modern Azerbaijan. This year is being marked as “Heydar Aliyev Year” in Azerbaijan by the relevant Decree of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev.

May Allah (SWT) bless the soul of the great son of his country and the National Leader of Azerbaijan.

May 10th, 2023



Independence Day of Azerbaijan

On the occasion of the National Holiday of the Republic of Azerbaijan – the Independence Day, the International Board and whole staff of ICYF-ERC cordially congratulate the people and Government of brotherly Azerbaijan.

28 May marks the 105th Anniversary of the establishment of the first democratic republic in the Muslim World in 1918. We heartily wish continuous development and prosperity for Azerbaijan as well as for the wellbeing, abundance and continuous progress of its brotherly people.

May 28th, 2023

Happy International Children's Day

Children are the embodiment of our hopes. In their hands we commend our future, and only with their help, we can create a humane, equitable and prosperous society.

We must, therefore, give utmost importance in the upbringing of our successors, by drawing upon lessons from the beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who has been the greatest role model for humanity throughout history, not just through his words which serves as a guidance for mankind, but also through his actions, which is a source of inspiration for many.

Children are priceless treasures from God. As Muslims, we consider human life sacred, and that every child is a unique being, worthy of respect and dignity. Children are made to be loved, cherished, and provided with the opportunity to grow up in a healthy, happy environment.

June 1st, 2023

Day of National Mourning in Kazakhstan

The international Board and staff of the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC) express deep condolences to the families and relatives of the forestry workers who lost their lives as a result of fire in Semey Ormany Nature Reserve in Abai region and to the brotherly people of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

May Allah the Almighty have mercy upon the souls of the victims and grant with patience their families!

We wish Kazakhstan peace, prosperity and security.

June 12th, 2023

National Salvation Day

On the occasion of 15 June - the National Salvation Day of the Republic of Azerbaijan, ICYF-ERC extends its cordial congratulations to the people and Government of brotherly Azerbaijan. ICYF-ERC genuinely wishes for continuous development and prosperity for Azerbaijan as well as wellbeing, abundance and continuous progress for its brotherly people.

June 15th, 2023

Eid Al-Adha Mubarak

On this auspicious occasion of Eid al-Adha, the international Board and staff of the Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF - ERC) cordially congratulate all Muslims around the world wishing a blessed and splendid celebration of the Eid.

We also do not forget and pray for our sisters and brothers in the OIC geography and the entire world affected by different types of wars, humanitarian tragedies, disasters and poverty.

May Allah the Almighty accept our sacrifices in the true spirit of Eid Al-Adha and reward us, our nations, all Muslims and humanity at large with prosperity, happiness and abundance. May the festival of sacrifice and unwavering faith in the Almighty keep us all united through love, mutual support, and compassion.

June 28th, 2023

2023

"THE YEAR OF HEYDAR ALIYEV"



On 29 September, 2022, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev signed an Order to declare 2023 as a "Year of Heydar Aliyev" in the country. 10 May 2023 will mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of Heydar Aliyev, the national leader of the Azerbaijani people, the founder of the independent state of Azerbaijan, and an outstanding politician and statesman. On this occasion, ICYF-ERC has attended and organized various events for the promotion of his legacy at the international level.

REPRESENTATIVES OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS PARTICIPATED AT THE TREE PLANTING EVENT DEDICATED TO THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL LEADER HEYDAR ALIYEV

April 29th, 2023

The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) participated in the Ecological Tree Plantation action dedicated to the 100th anniversary of National Leader Heydar Aliyev.



Within the framework of the 100th birth anniversary of the National Leader Heydar Aliyev, the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs, with the support of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, organized a tree-planting event called "Heydar Aliyev 100 – Green Future" in Baku's Mushfigabad settlement.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mr. Jeyhun Bayramov and the Minister of Ecology & Natural Resources Mr. Mukhtar Babayev, office bearers of both ministries, Heads of foreign diplomatic missions, and international organizations accredited in Azerbaijan took part in the event.

REPRESENTATIVES OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS VISITED NAKHCHIVAN CITY TO COMMEMORATE 100TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF HEYDAR ALIYEV

May 6th, 2023

Representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited in Azerbaijan with residences in Baku and Ankara, as well as military attachés, took part in the official visit to Nakhchivan city of Azerbaijan to commemorate the 100th birth anniversary of Heydar Aliyev, the National Leader of the Azerbaijani people.

The delegation first visited the national leader Heydar Aliyev's monument in the main square of Nakhchivan to lay a wreath in front of it and pay their respects to his dear memory.



After the visit to Heydar Aliyev Museum, diplomats attended a conference themed “Heydar Aliyev and Azerbaijan’s foreign policy” and the concert by the Symphonic Orchestra of the Nakhchivan State University.



During the visit, diplomats also got acquainted with tourism sites and ancient historical monuments of Nakhchivan city.

The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) expresses its gratitude to H.E. Mr. Hikmat Hajiyev and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan for the invitation to pay tribute to the legacy of national leader Heydar Aliyev.

XXI REPUBLICAN DEBATE TOURNAMENT “AMANAT CUP”

May 14th, 2023

The XXI Republican debate tournament “AMANAT CUP”, organized by the youth wing of Kazakhstan’s leading “Amanat” party “Jastar Ruh” in cooperation with the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC), within the framework of the “International Debate Championship of Eurasian



Muslim countries on the theme of Heydar Aliyev Oratory School” was held in Almaty city.



At the opening ceremony participated the secretary of the Amanat party Mr. Daulet Karibek, Chairman of the youth wing of Kazakhstan’s leading “Amanat” party “Jastar Ruh” Mr. Nurjan Jetpisbayev, rector of Turan University and President of Kazakhstan Association of Universities Mr. Rahman Alsharov, chairman of the Almaty city branch of the Amanat party Mr. Stanislav Kankurov, deputies of the city maslikhats and the representatives of youth organizations.



In his welcoming speech, Mr. Daulet Karibek noted that debates not only develop critical thinking, but also expand horizons and erudition.

In his letter to participants, Acting Director General of ICYF-ERC Mr. Vusal Gurbanov greeted the participants and noted that the debate tournament was aimed at increasing the knowledge and experience of young people in the field of debate, improving their diction and skills of self-expression,

public speaking, as well as increasing their effectiveness in teamwork.

In the Kazakh student league, the team from the Kyzylorda region “Amanatka kyanat jasama” (Abylaykhan Palmaganbet, Daulet Estanov) was awarded 1st place, the “Dulat” team from Almaty (Zhazira Zhonderbek, Nurdaulet Omirzak) achieved 2nd place, and the 3rd place was secured by the team “Ади Шарипов” from the Almaty region (Yergali Inkarov, Aset Orazgali).



In the Russian league, the 1st place was awarded to the Almaty team “not Kaganat, but also cheap” (Madina Railova, Adilbek Ramazanov), the team “Diana and Galymzhan” (Diana Zhumagulova, Galymzhan Makashev) won the 2nd place, and the 3rd place was secured by the team from the Almaty region “Carthage should have been destroyed” (Rustam Armanov, Azat Shaykenov).

It is worth noting that for the second year in a row the debate tournament is held with the support of the ICYF-ERC.

NATIONAL STAGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEBATE CHAMPIONSHIP OF EURASIAN MUSLIM COUNTRIES ON THE THEME OF HEYDAR ALIYEV ORATORY SCHOOL – KYRGYZSTAN

May 14th, 2023

The United Youth Organization, in partnership with the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC) organized “National stage of the International Debate Championship of Eurasian Muslim Countries on the theme of Heydar Aliyev Oratory School – Kyrgyzstan”, as well as with the information support of the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy, and the Youth Congress of Kyrgyzstan.



At the opening ceremony of the tournament Mr. Askar Toktorbekovich Shaikidinov, Chairman of the Youth Congress of Kyrgyzstan, delivered a welcome speech and read a greeting letter on behalf of the Acting Director General of ICYF-ERC Mr. Vusal Gurbanov.

36 teams (72 participants) from all universities of Kyrgyzstan took an active part in the debate tournament. The tournament was held in three qualifying rounds, semifinals and finals.



The closing ceremony was attended by Mr. Tagaev Marat Tolomushevich the Deputy Minister of Culture, Information, Sports and

Youth Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Chairman of the Youth Congress of Kyrgyzstan Mr. Shaikidinov Askar Toktorbekovich. The winners were awarded cups, diplomas, incentive prizes in cash and books. The participants also received a prize in the nomination “The Best Debater” and “The Best Judge”.



Winner:

1st place: Alim Samsaliev, Toktosunov Adilet

2nd place: Abay Almenbaev, Mark Shvidko

3rd place: Erdan Oskonbaev, Maksat Ormonov.

A DEBATE CHAMPIONSHIP WAS HELD ON “MULTICULTURAL VALUES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ISLAMOPHOBIA” IN AZERBAIJAN

May 30th, 2023

The next national stage of the International Debate Championship of Eurasian Muslim Countries was held at the Azerbaijan State University of Economics with the participation of 60 students from different universities of Azerbaijan, organized by the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC) and the “Debates in Civil Society” Public Union.

As is known, the debate championships have been held in Azerbaijan and a number of other Eurasian countries for two years on the initiative of the ICYF-ERC. This year’s debate championships are dedicated to the 100th anniversary of Azerbaijan’s national leader Heydar Aliyev, and the main purpose is to contribute to the improvement of public speaking, communication and leadership skills of young people, as well as to achieve the recognition of Heydar Aliyev’s personality in a wider audience.

At the opening ceremony, Vusal Gurbanov, Acting Director General of the ICYF-ERC, welcomed the participants and spoke about the importance of the topic to be discussed at the debate championship. He also noted that the championship dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the national leader Heydar Aliyev had already been held in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, where Heydar Aliyev’s oratory skills and leadership abilities were studied. At the end of his speech, Vusal Gurbanov gave brief information about the activities of the institution he represents, especially about the fight against Islamophobia.



In her congratulatory speech, Ulviya Akhundova, Chairman of the “Debate in Civil Society” Public Union, expressed her gratitude for the cooperation with the Eurasian Regional Center of

ICYF in the framework of the debate championship held since last year, and called on the participants to be active in the debate.



The main topic of the two-day debate championship, held in Azerbaijani and English languages, was “The presence of multicultural values in society is the main factor preventing Islamophobia”.

The main goals of the debate championships are to develop the debating culture and skills of young people living in the Eurasian space, to increase their leadership and representation abilities, and to contribute to the activities of young people in the social and political sphere.

Among the talented 22 teams participating in this competition, 16 were Azerbaijani and the rest 6 were English speaking teams. Young debaters actively participated in the rounds, exchanging opinions and information, broadened their horizons and developed their worldview.

Exclusively, the championship will create a chance for the best debaters to represent Azerbaijan in the International Debate Championship, which will be held in one of the Central Asian countries.

The closing ceremony of the national stage of the International Debate Championship of Eurasian Muslim Countries, co-organized by the Eurasian Regional Center of the Youth Forum of Islamic

Cooperation (ICYF-ERC) and the “Debate in Civil Society” Public Union, was held at ADA University.

First, the final round was held between the teams representing the students of Azerbaijan Technical University and Azerbaijan University of Architecture and Construction on the topic “The presence of multicultural values in the society is the main factor preventing Islamophobia”.

Afterwards, Vusal Gurbanov, Acting Director General of the ICYF-ERC, Ulviyya Akhundova, Chairperson of the “Debate in Civil Society” Public Union, Gadir Khalilov, Deputy Executive Director of the Youth Foundation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Rustam Abdullayev, representative of the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Azerbaijan Republic, Azer Aliyev, Chairperson of the National Assembly of Youth Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan (NAYORA), Novruz Mammadov, Vice-Rector for Scientific Affairs and Innovations at the Azerbaijan University of Languages made congratulatory speeches and spoke about the importance of this event. The distinguished guests emphasized the importance of studying Heydar Aliyev’s heritage among young people, as well as the special role of this program, which is currently held in different countries of Eurasia, in the development of youth, in increasing leadership



skills, in their representative functions, in the establishment of communication among young people.

The main goal of the program implemented this year is to contribute to the improvement of speaking, communication and leadership skills of young people, as well as to achieve recognition of the personality of Heydar Aliyev in a wider audience.

The Eurasian Regional Center of ICYF (ICYF-ERC) plans to hold this project in a number of Eurasian countries in 2023.



The winners of the debate championship are:

- *Heç bir ehtimal yoxdur* (Azerbaijani speaking team)
- *Powerpuff Girls* (English speaking team)

Teams and students distinguished by their talent and capability were awarded with medals and special prizes.

ICYF-ERC IN MEDIA

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OIC International Debate Championships dedicated to Heydar Aliyev Year


03.05.2023 | 18:40

ICYF-ERC
REGIONAL CENTER OF THE ISLAMIC COOPERATION YOUTH FORUM

Heydər Əliyev Nətiqlik Məktəbi mövzusunda
Avrasiya müsəlman ölkələrinin Beynəlxalq
Debat Çempionatı

International Debate Championship of
Eurasian Muslim countries on the
theme of Heydar Aliyev Oratory School

2023



Baku, May 3, AZERTAC

"OIC International Debate Championship" will start in the Eurasian countries that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) under the initiative and co-organization of the Eurasian Regional Center of the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF-ERC).

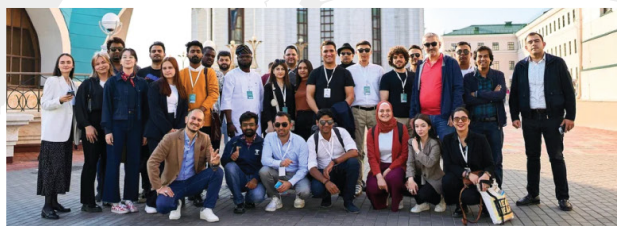
Other news in this section

19.07.2023 | 13:52
Azerbaijan International Defense Exhibition "ADEX" to celebrate its jubilee

11.07.2023 | 20:53
Azerbaijan Army's serviceman wounded

The national stages of this year's debate championships are planned to be held in Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and other countries. It was decided to devote the this year's debate championships to the 100th birth anniversary of Azerbaijan's National Leader Heydar Aliyev, which will be hold in the mentioned countries co-organizing ICYF-ERC, "Debate in Civil Society" Public Union (Azerbaijan), the Youth Union of Uzbekistan, the youth wing of Kazakhstan's leading "Amanat" party "Jastar Ruhy" (Spirit of Youth), as well as the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy (Kyrgyzstan) and United Youth Organization of Kyrgyzstan.

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