

# Business Central Asia

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## TURKMENISTAN

### 35th Anniversary of Independence

“Year 2026 - Independent Neutral Turkmenistan – Homeland of purposeful heavenly horses”

# The institute of Neutrality

## THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE OF THE INSTITUTE OF NEUTRALITY IN STRENGTHENING THE SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

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Turkmenistan's foreign policy strategy, based on the universally recognized international legal status of permanent neutrality, is closely aligned with the pressing international agenda of ensuring peace and security and consolidating efforts to combat threats and challenges to modern humanity.

Today, it can be confidently stated that at the beginning of the second quarter of the 21st century, the international community is witnessing a significant expansion of Turkmenistan's international activity, which encompasses a wide range of political, diplomatic, socio-economic, cultural, and humanitarian efforts. Ultimately, these efforts are aimed at ensuring such supreme human values as peace and security on Earth, preventing armed conflicts, and strengthening trust between nations.

President Serdar Berdimuhamedov emphasizes that active engagement with the United Nations and its specialized agencies is a key focus of neutral Turkmenistan's foreign policy. This was reiterated during the presentation of credentials to the President of Turkmenistan by the newly appointed United Nations Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan, Xiaojun Grace Wang, which took place on July 20, 2026.

The President of Turkmenistan noted with satisfaction the consistent and highly effective nature of cooperation between our country and the UN. It was also emphasized that Turkmenistan attaches great importance to strengthening peace and effective implementation of preventive diplomacy tools, consistently putting forward important initiatives aimed at ensuring energy security, developing transport and transit corridors, and

protecting the environment. These initiatives by our country are receiving broad support in the international arena.

The head of state emphasized the significant role of the Turkmenistan-United Nations Strategic Advisory Council in the UN cooperation agenda, which was established to align national programs with current requirements and strengthen the multifaceted partnership with the UN. The Council coordinates the preparation, selection, and approval of projects jointly with specialized

UN agencies, as well as develops relevant proposals for the Government of Turkmenistan. Strengthening the international legal framework of the UN and its institutions is a pressing issue, and Turkmenistan is therefore initiating specific areas of cooperation among member states of the Community of Nations. One of our country's new initiatives is the resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly proclaiming 2028 the Year of International Law. The resolution aims to strengthen international legitimacy, justice, and the role of legal norms in international relations. The preamble to the resolution reaffirms the central role of international law, particularly the Charter of the United Nations, in maintain-

ing peace, security, and friendly relations among nations. Furthermore, it emphasizes the importance of education, capacity-building, and technical assistance in international law, particularly for developing countries, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing states.

In today's geopolitical realities, international law



President of Turkmenistan  
Serdar Berdimuhamedov with  
UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

is not only at the center of debates about its nature, potential, and prospects, but is also considered in the broader context of its general social role as one of the regulators facilitating the formation of a multipolar world. One of the important theoretical questions troubling researchers is the problem of the new reality of international law in evolving relations between states. In this regard, the resolution aims to legally enshrine the new architecture of international law and calls on UN member states to strengthen respect for international law and enhance its authority.

To implement the provisions of the UN General Assembly resolution declaring 2028 - International Year of Law, a series of national and international activities have been planned. Specifically, it is envisaged that regional and international conferences and meetings devoted to various areas of international law, with the participation of national and international experts, will be held in Turkmenistan between 2026 and 2028, which will help prepare the substantive and expert base for a major international forum proposed for 2028.

To improve the legal literacy of the population, particularly the younger generation, it is proposed to develop an action plan to organize specialized training courses, open lectures, and meetings in higher and secondary specialized educational institutions devoted to the fundamentals of international law, the UN Charter, and the international community's efforts to strengthen the system of international law.

An international platform, "International Law," will be established at the Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. Also planned are the development of educational, scientific, methodological, and informational manuals on international law, with the participation of national and international experts, the creation of electronic educational resources, and the establishment of a regular "International Law Week" and educational conferences simulating the work of the UN.

The most important principles of Turkmenistan's foreign policy have been and remain steadfast adherence to the universally recognized status of neutrality, comprehensive support for constructive dialogue to strengthen peace, stability, and security, and the development of effective regional and interregional cooperation.

Turkmenistan will continue to consistently promote ideas and initiatives on pressing global political issues, strengthening the role of institutional capacity and effective instruments of neutrality during the 81st session of the UN General Assembly. The primary focus will be on

strengthening the legal and humanistic nature of international policy, fully considering the importance of a world without wars for future generations, and embracing traditions and best practices of mutually trusting dialogue for security and sustainable development.

In preparation for the Year of International Law, it will be proposed to hold an international forum in Turkmenistan dedicated to the relationship between international law, disarmament, neutrality, preventive diplomacy, and sustainable development.

The programmatic actions accompanying the process of institutionalizing neutrality, as exemplified by the foreign policy activities of the Turkmen state, are accompanied by the development and consistent implementation of major international initiatives. These are aimed at consolidating efforts to strengthen peace and security, enhancing the role of neutrality instruments in improving the culture of peace and trusting dialogue, ensuring the conventional and legal foundations of energy security, the stability of transcontinental transport and transit corridors, and cooperation in water and environmental security. Of fundamental importance are the concepts of the integrity and indivisibility of security developed by the National Leader of the Turkmen people, the philosophical principles of trusting dialogue for peace, a new vision of the role and purpose of preventive diplomacy, and cultural and humanitarian aspects, emphasizing the key importance of national and universal values in global politics.

In December 2021, the esteemed Hero Arkadag, by proposing a new philosophy, "Dialogue is the Guarantee of Peace," for the current era of international relations, proposed a conceptually new political and diplomatic platform for uniting the efforts of the international community to prevent conflicts. Proclaiming respect for sovereignty, neutrality, and a constructive negotiation process as the primary instruments of global security, Turkmenistan supports their implementation with concrete practical achievements.

Thus, it can be confidently stated that Turkmenistan is making a worthy contribution to the multilateral efforts of the international community within the UN and is putting forward relevant initiatives to preserve and strengthen regional peace and sustainable development on a global scale. Turkmenistan's interaction with the UN on strategic areas of peace and security, the programmatic tasks of which are entrusted to the Security Council, is determined by the alignment of the core goals of our state's permanent neutrality with the fundamental principles reflected in the UN Charter.