

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GEOPOLITICS IN THE CASPIAN REGION

16th-18th SEPTEMBER 2004
Judge Institute of Management
University of Cambridge

The Eurasia Programme at the Judge Institute of Management, Cambridge's Business School, is pleased to host this policy-oriented, annual conference on Caspian energy and politics.

This international conference will explore the strategically significant dimensions of political and economic developments in the region, with particular focus on energy, security, the environment and inter-regional relations.

In view of recent global developments, there is an increasing sense that a new approach to Caspian energy policy is emerging. Continued oil exploration, potential reserves of energy resources, pipeline projects, integration of gas supplies, growing US and European Union interest in energy imports from the region, Russian interests and transport

and prospects of future investments will be explored at the conference.

What are the key drivers of economic development and political changes in the Caspian region? What are the internal and external processes shaping the region? What are the interests and policy choices of external actors? How does the development of energy resources impact the environment? What are the risks and policy choices? What are the main factors of stability, growth and regional co-operation?

As in previous years, the conference will attract high level government officials, corporate and business leaders, academics and experts from Russia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Iran, Ukraine, Georgia, the European Union, the United States, Asia and other countries.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GEOPOLITICS IN THE CASPIAN REGION

Political and Economic Developments in the Caspian Region

Overview and update on key political and economic factors and developments in Russia, Central Asia, the Caucasus and the wider region.

Current and potential energy resources, export options to the East and to the West

An overview of current energy reserves and update on potential oil and gas reserves. Export routes, options, financing and politics. The key elements of transport routes going East and West.

The Caspian and Europe

EU's expectations in the region and diversification of energy supplies, transport routes, pipeline projects, economic and political outlook, policy choices in the region.

The Caspian and Asia

There is growing interest and increasingly significant investments coming from Asia to the Caspian region. An overview and discussion of key Asian states interested in the region, especially, China, India and Japan.

The Caspian and US-Russian Dialogue

The influence and impact of US-Russian relations on the Caspian region, political and economic interests and divergences, policy choices in Moscow and Washington.

Prospects for sustainable economic development: Non-energy sectors

The problems of over reliance on energy sector and its impact on overall economic development, what are the key non-energy sectors in the region, how partnerships could help the development of potential sectors and industries.

The Caspian at the centre of Eurasian geopolitics

What are the key security issues facing the Caspian region; unresolved interstate and regional conflicts and their impact on economic development, state actors and regional players, the role of multinational organisations (UN, NATO, OSCE, etc); nuclear non-proliferation in the region and international relations.

Environmental Risks and Policy Choices

What are the real environmental risks in the Caspian region; what are the economic and political consequences; the policy making processes on state, industry and NGO levels. What solutions are there?

PARTICIPANTS

High level ministers, government official, leading corporate leaders, businesspeople, academics and experts from Russia, US, UK, EU, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, China, India, Pakistan and other countries.

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