

International Geological Forum

GEOSCIENCE & EXPLORATION OF CENTRAL ASIA

Astana, April 2–3, 2026

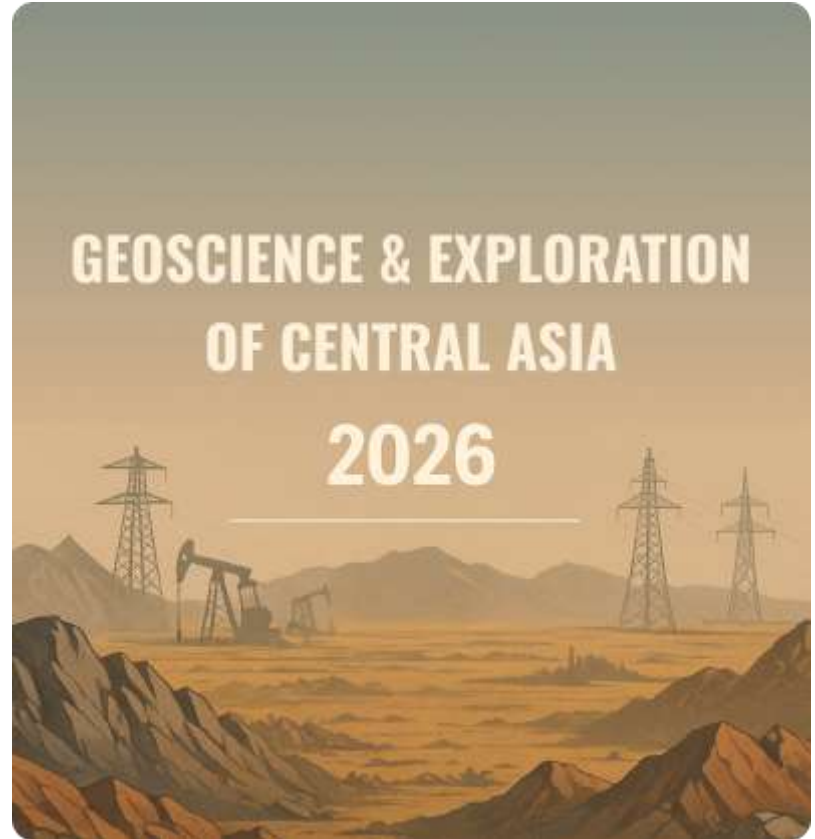
INTRODUCTION

Geology is not just the study of rocks and minerals.

It is a profound understanding of the Earth itself—its history, processes, and resources.

It unites people of different countries, professions, and generations in the pursuit of carefully exploring, utilizing, and preserving our planet.

In his Address to the People of Kazakhstan, Head of State Kassym-Jomart Tokayev ***identified the development of geological exploration as a key priority, to be achieved through the study of Kazakhstan's subsoil using new technologies and scientific approaches.*** This goal cannot be reached without the introduction of international expertise, technology transfer, and investment.



FORMAT AND CONTENT

The event is dedicated to Geologist's Day and will take place on April 2–3, 2026, in Astana.

The Forum includes:

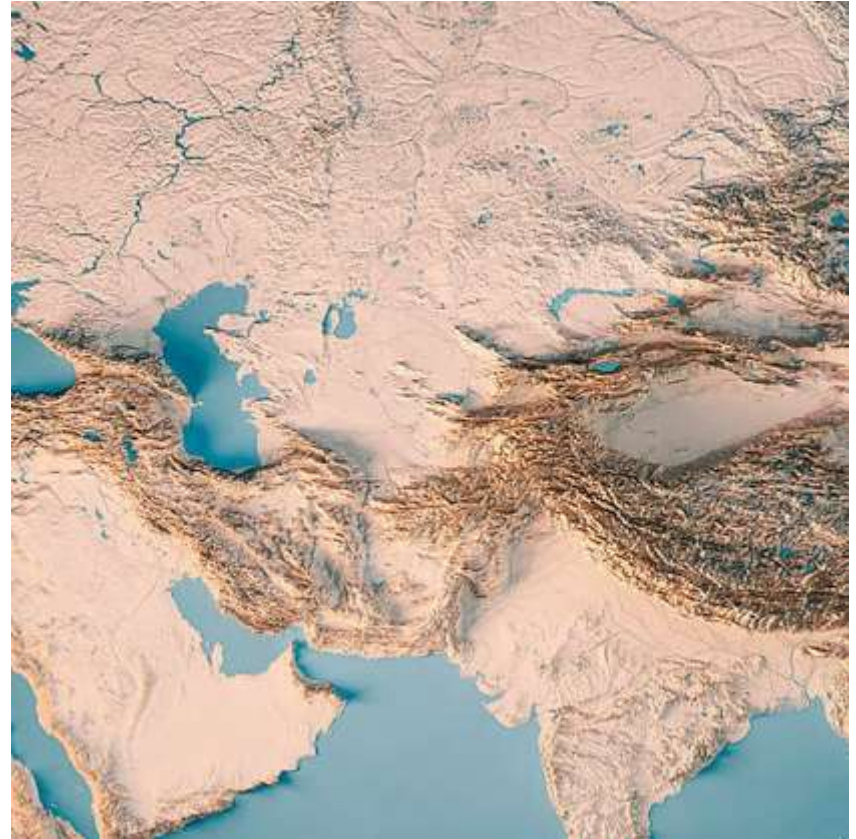
- Two-day business program with panel sessions, industry discussions, and thematic sections
- Review of the Legislation of Central Asian Countries
- Junior Session
- Competition & exhibition of innovative projects among young geologists
- Award ceremony honoring outstanding industry professionals
- Signing of strategic agreements and memoranda



PHILOSOPHY OF THE FORUM

Central Asia has long been a region of advanced geological knowledge and unique technologies. Here, in the heart of the continent, ore was mined and processed since ancient times, laying the foundation of metallurgy. In the 20th century, the region became a significant part of the world oil map, experiencing the hydrocarbon boom. Today, in the 21st century, humanity is entering a new geological era — the era of water and sustainability, where the focus shifts to water resources, climate change, and careful management of natural potential.

The Forum builds a bridge between the past, present, and future of geological science, emphasizing continuity of knowledge and the importance of integrating traditional experience with modern technologies for the sake of a sustainable future of the entire Eurasian region.



FUTURE OF THE FORUM

The Forum is planned as a regular biennial event, rotating across key geological regions of Kazakhstan.

This model will allow to:

- Stimulate the development of geotourism & geoparks
- Increase youth interest in geological professions
- Strengthen Kazakhstan's integration into the global geoscience community

Countries involved:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Kazakhstan | 10. Turkiye |
| 2. Kyrgyzstan | 11. EU countries |
| 3. Uzbekistan | 12. Canada |
| 4. Tajikistan | 13. Australia |
| 5. Turkmenistan | 14. UK |
| 6. Mongolia | 15. USA |
| 7. Russia | 16. Saudi Arabia |
| 8. China | 17. Qatar |
| 9. Azerbaijan | 18. UAE |

OBJECTIVES OF THE FORUM

- 1 Showcasing the geological potential of the region and current directions of exploration.
- 2 Building an expert and partnership community in the field of subsoil use and geosciences.
- 3 Facilitating the development of geoanalytics and the digitalization of subsoil use.
- 4 Strengthening human resources and educational potential of the industry.
- 5 Creating a foundation for cross-border initiatives, memoranda, and joint scientific programs.



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TOPICAL DIRECTIONS OF THE FORUM

1 Ore deposit geology

2 Oil and gas geology

3 Hydrogeology and geoecology

4 Geoscience and education

5 Dangerous geological processes

6 Resource geopolitics and legal regulation

7 Innovative methods of prospecting for solid minerals and hydrocarbons

8 Digitalization and geoinformation platforms

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE FORUM PROGRAM

1. Two-day business program

Over 10 thematic sessions in parallel and sequential formats, covering a wide range of topics: mineral resources, digital geology, sustainable subsoil use, critical raw materials, cross-border studies, ESG, and more.

2. Plenary session

- On the second day, the main plenary session will take place with the participation of the leadership of the Republic of Kazakhstan, ministers of participating countries, as well as representatives of international geological organizations and investors.
- The main focus will be on the strategic vision for the development of the geological sector in the region.

3. Award ceremony

A ceremonial event dedicated to Geologist's Day, featuring the awarding of top industry specialists, young scientists, and teams who have contributed to the advancement of geological science and practice in Central Asia.

4. Exhibition of geotechnologies and equipment (2 days)

Showcasing advanced solutions in:

- Geophysics and cartography
- Drilling and analytical technologies
- Digitalization of exploration processes
- Environmental and geological systems

5. Competition of scientific and technological projects among young geologists

Presentation of stands and project pitching

6. Geological exhibition

Reflecting the philosophy of the Forum — from minerals and ores to technologies for underground water detection

ORGANIZATION AND FINANCING

JSC National Geological Survey — coordinator and organizer of the event.

The Forum is supported by the Government Apparatus of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Ministry of Industry and Construction of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Akimat of the city of Astana, Committee of Geology of the Ministry of Industry and Construction of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Non-commercial JSC "National Hydrogeological Survey", companies of subsoil users and national geological surveys of the Central Asian region.



МИНИСТЕРСТВО ПРОМЫШЛЕННОСТИ
И СТРОИТЕЛЬСТВА РК



Expected outcomes:

- Promoting geology as the foundation of subsoil use
- Strengthening high-level initiatives for international cooperation in the field of geology
- Unveiling the potential of Central Asian countries to attract strategic investors

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