

**Speech of H.E. Mr. Nikolay Zhumakanov  
Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan  
at the occasion of the presentation of his credentials  
to His Excellency Mr. Nikos Christodoulides, President of the Republic of Cyprus  
Friday, 21 February 2025**

Your Excellency, Mr. President,

It is a great honor and privilege for me to present to you the Letters of Credence appointing me as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Republic of Cyprus. I also take this opportunity to convey to you, Mr. President, and to the people of Cyprus, the warmest greetings and best wishes from the President of Kazakhstan, His Excellency Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, and the people of Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan and Cyprus share a long-standing friendship based on mutual respect, trust, and shared values. Our countries are united in their commitment to international peace and stability, and we closely cooperate on a number of global and regional issues within the framework of international organizations such as the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and other multilateral platforms. We highly appreciate Cyprus's commitment to upholding the principles of international law, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, which are fundamental to global security and cooperation.

Last year marked an important milestone in our bilateral relations with the official opening of the Embassy of Kazakhstan in Nicosia and the Embassy of Cyprus in Astana. This historic development is a testament to the growing ties between our nations and reflects our shared commitment to strengthening diplomatic, economic, and cultural cooperation. I am confident that these embassies will serve as important platforms for enhancing mutual understanding and advancing practical collaboration in various spheres.

Kazakhstan attaches great importance to its partnership with Cyprus and views your country as a key partner in the European Union and the broader Mediterranean region. In this regard, we see great potential for expanding our trade and economic ties. While bilateral trade between our countries remains at a relatively modest level, we believe there are significant opportunities to increase cooperation in areas such as energy, infrastructure, digital technologies, tourism, education, and finance. Kazakhstan's strategic location as a transit hub between Europe and Asia offers many advantages for Cypriot businesses interested in engaging with the Central Asian region.

Moreover, people-to-people ties play a crucial role in strengthening our relations. Expanding academic and cultural exchanges will contribute to a deeper understanding between our peoples and foster long-term friendships.

Kazakhstan also acknowledges Cyprus's valuable experience in tourism and hospitality and sees great potential in sharing expertise and best practices in this field. Given Kazakhstan's rich natural and cultural heritage, we are eager to explore joint initiatives in tourism development, sustainable travel, and investment in the hospitality sector.

Your Excellency,

Kazakhstan firmly supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus within its internationally recognized borders. We believe that all disputes must be resolved through peaceful dialogue and diplomatic means, in accordance with international law. We commend Cyprus for its consistent efforts in promoting peace, stability, and cooperation in the region.

It is a special privilege for me to be the first Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Cyprus with a permanent residence in your beautiful country. This is a great responsibility and I will dedicate my efforts to strengthening the bonds between our nations. I look forward to engaging actively with the leadership of Cyprus, government institutions, the private sector, and civil society to expand our partnership and explore new areas of cooperation. I am fully committed to further strengthening our friendship and deepening the ties between our governments, business communities, and people.

Mr. President, allow me to once again express my sincere gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to me. I am confident that the relations between Kazakhstan and Cyprus will continue to flourish for the benefit of our two peoples.

Please accept, Your Excellency, my highest consideration and deep respect.