



### Uzbekistan

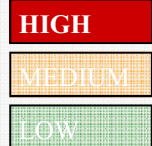


- Location: Central Asia, north of Afghanistan
- Area: Total - 447,400 sq km; land- 425,400 sq km; water-22,000 sq km
- Natural resources: natural gas, petroleum, coal, gold, uranium, silver, copper, lead and zinc
- Population: 27,780,059 (July 2007)
- Languages: Uzbek 74.3%, Russian 14.2%, Tajik 4.4%, other 7.1%
- Government Type: Republic, authoritarian president rule, little power outside the executive branch
- Legal system: Based on civil law system
- Executive branch: President Islam Karimov, Prime Minister Shavkat Mirziyoyev
- Political parties: Social Democratic Party, Democratic National Rebirth Party, Fidokarlar National Democratic Party, etc.
- National elections: President Election held 23 December 2007

### Challenges:

- Uzbekistan is likely to remain highly authoritarian following the highly contested December 2007 re-election of Islam Karimov. Karimov secured another 7 year in office in an election that did not fulfill democratic commitments according to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).
- Economic stagnation is likely to continue under the rule of Karimov, who previously has been reluctant to legislate and implement market reforms. Yet, recent remarks by Karimov suggest an interest in closer and renewed international cooperation.
- Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan remain the most closed and isolated states in the Central Asian region, with troubled relations with the European Union and the United States. Severe violations of human rights is the main reason for deteriorated diplomatic relations.
- A poor economic climate and a repressive and corrupt government are creating conditions in which religious extremists and terrorists can thrive, recruit and undermine the rule of Karimov.

Challenges: High



### Opportunities:

- Tenders (open and invited) and government procurement opportunities are available upon request.

### Actions:

- CIN provides customized political intelligence services, including monitoring, analysis, and recommendations of any course of action in terms of investments.