



Turkmenistan

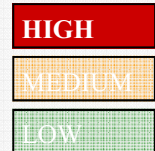


- Location: Central Asia, bordering the Caspian Sea, between Iran and Kazakhstan
- Area: Total - 488,100 sq km; land— 485,100 sq km; water-Caspian Sea Basin dispute
- Natural resources: natural gas, petroleum, salt, cotton
- Population: 5,097,028 (July 2007)
- Languages: Turkmen 85%, Uzbek 5%, Russian 4%, Other 6% (2003)
- Government Type: Republic, authoritarian presidential rule, with little power outside the executive branch
- Legal system: based on civil law system and Islamic law
- Executive branch: President and Head of Government: Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow
- Political parties: Democratic Party of Turkmenistan (DPT) formal opposition parties are outlawed.
- National elections: President election took place February 2007. Next election 2012

Challenges:

- Despite Turkmenistan’s vast natural gas deposits, the economy remains extremely poor. Domestic revenues, stemming from the natural gas industry, are frequently channeled into offshore accounts.
- Due to the isolated and closed society, no accurate official statistics of economic performance are available. The absence of civil society guarantees the freedom to manipulate figures and violate human rights without international scrutiny.
- The death of President Nigazov in December 2006 and the consequent power transition, went by fairly unnoticed. The power was transferred to the former Deputy Prime Minister Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov in a highly contested election that took place in February 2007. During the short election campaign, Berdimuhamedov called for improved socioeconomic conditions and increased political freedoms.
- Turkmenistan remains in a state of socioeconomic and humanitarian crisis following twenty years of authoritarian rule.

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.