

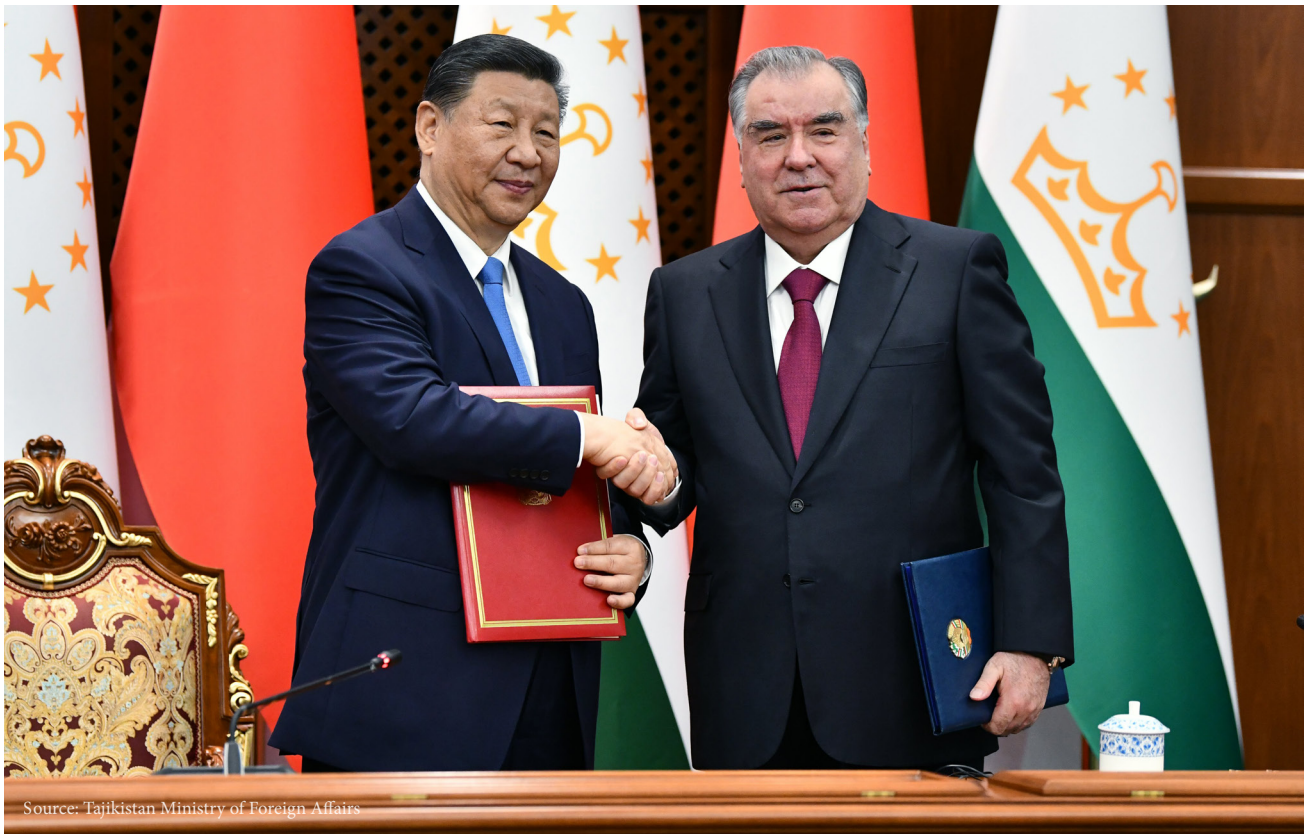


2024 COUNTRY REPORT TAJIKISTAN

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Source: Tajikistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs

In 2024, Tajikistan, the poorest country in Central Asia, sought to attract outside investment and move forward with infrastructure projects. Concerns grew surrounding extremist recruitment of Tajiks. This, in turn, led to intense discrimination for the large number of Tajik labor migrants in Russia.

Key Points:

- Tajikistan saw increased investment in building out core infrastructure projects, including the CASA 1000 electrical grid as well as domestic energy infrastructure. Tajikistan, like its neighbors, has long suffered from an unstable energy grid and energy shortages.
- Tajik nationals are seemingly playing an increased role in terrorist attacks carried out abroad. The Crocus City Hall concert shooting in Russia appears to have involved Tajik nationals. This in turn has caused a spike in anti-Central Asian harassment and xenophobia in Russia, targeting Tajik and other Central Asian migrants.

Concern Around Tajik Nationals Involvement in IS-K

Iranian intelligence claimed that the individual responsible for planning and manufacturing bombs used in the January 3 Islamic State-Khorasan attack near the grave of former IRGC commander Qassem Soleimani was a Tajik national who crossed illegally into Iran. Taliban-affiliated media claimed both attackers responsible for the bombing were Tajik nationals. Tajik citizens who have become members of extremist groups have previously been reported to have committed terrorist attacks or been arrested on suspicion of plans to commit acts of terror in Europe, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran.

Source: [Al Jazeera](#), [BNE Intellinews](#)

EBRD Invests in Tajik Energy Grid

In late February, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), one of the banks involved in the Global Gateway investments, announced €1 million in investments into Tajikistan's energy grid aimed at improving sustainability and integrating 700 megawatts of electricity generated by renewable sources into the grid. This announcement dovetailed with larger

EBRD investments made in September 2023, a \$50 million investment made with the Green Climate Fund aiming to improve sustainability within energy, agricultural, and small business sectors.

Source: [ASIA-Plus](#)

Türkiye Cancels Free-Visa Regime for Tajik Nationals

Tajik citizens now have to apply for visas to travel to Türkiye, according to a decree signed by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The decision came after the attack on the Crocus City Concert Hall in Moscow on March 22, even though Erdogan did not provide a reason for the elimination of the visa-free regime.

Source: [Times of Central Asia](#)

Tajik Foreign Minister Criticizes Russia's Response to Crocus City Attacks

At an April 12 meeting of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Tajik Foreign Minister Sirojiddin Muhridin spoke out against Russia's treatment of the Crocus City attack suspects, 10 out of 11 of whom are Tajik citizens. Muhridin cast doubt over the veracity of their confessions, saying, "The value of confessing guilt under torture is known to everyone." Furthermore, he commented on an increasingly hostile atmosphere for Tajiks in Russia, saying, "As a result of a campaign launched in the media, a negative impression is created against the citizens of Tajikistan and Tajiks, which is unacceptable."

Source: [RFE/RL](#)

Tajikistan Issues "Temporary Advisory" Asking Citizens to Refrain from Travel to Russia

On April 27, the Tajik Foreign Ministry warned citizens to temporarily cease travel to Russia. The announcement came after the government raised concerns over the treatment of Central Asians in Russia since the Crocus City Hall attack and Russia's subsequent crackdown on Tajiks entering the country. The Ministry added that nearly 1,000 Tajiks were stranded at Russian airports at the time.

Source: [RFE/RL](#)

Tajikistan and the United States Ink Cooperation Agreement on Combatting Terrorism

Following a meeting between the Prosecutor General of Tajikistan and the U.S. Ambassador to Tajikistan on May 8, it was announced that Tajikistan and the United States signed a memorandum of intent agreement for cooperation on the implementation of the Personal Information Comparison and Evaluation System (PISCES). The PISCES system assists law enforcement agencies in the capture and detention of suspected terrorists by using technological surveillance.

Source: [Daryo.uz](#)

Tajikistan Hosts Japan Central Asia Business Dialogue

Japan's Association for Trade with Russia & NIS (ROTOBO) held the 2nd Japan-Central Asia Business Dialogue in Tajikistan on July 4. The dialogue was attended by representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan in addition to business representatives.

Source: [Embassy of Republic of Tajikistan in Germany](#)

Tajikistan Hosts First International Mining and Metallurgical Investment Forum

The Ministry of Industry and New Technologies of Tajikistan (MoINT) hosted the first International Investment Mining and Metallurgical Forum and Exhibition on October 29–30 in Dushanbe. The

event was organized by the Tajik government, industry partners, and the British company, Vostok Capital UK. In the lead up to the event, over 20 foreign ministers and more than 60 transnational companies announced they would participate

Source: [Daryo](#)

Chinese National in Tajikistan Killed in a Cross-Border Attack Originating in Afghanistan

A Chinese national was killed and five others were injured, including four more Chinese nationals, in a cross-border attack in Tajikistan originating from Afghanistan on November 18. The attack occurred in Tajikistan's Zarbuzi Gorge and marks the first incident of its kind resulting in the death of a Chinese national in the region. It remains unclear whether the attackers were drug traffickers, who frequently operate in the area, or members of a militant group.

Source: [RFE/RL](#)

Tajikistan Official Announces Rare Earth Mineral Deposits

On December 10, the Tajik news agency, Avesta, quoted Mukhtar Fazilzoda, the head of the Tajikistan's state geological service, announcing that Tajikistan had discovered 15 major deposits of rare earth minerals. Reportedly, the deposits are in the mountainous eastern portion of the country, with natural conditions that will make extraction difficult. Fazilzoda also stated that additional studies were needed to determine the precise quantity of minerals and to attract investment.

Source: [Eurasianet](#)

Tajikistan and South Korea to Partner on Solar Plants

On December 9, Tajikistan and South Korea officials signed a protocol on the construction of solar power facilities in Tajikistan. The plants will seek to meet the dire energy needs within Tajikistan's Sughd region and the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region (GBAO). Per the protocol, two 3 mega-watt solar plants will be constructed, one in each of the aforementioned regions. The plants will be the first mega-watt scale solar facilities in Tajikistan.

Source: [Daryo](#)

IMF Increases Prediction for Tajikistan GDP Growth

The International Monetary Fund has revised its prediction for Tajikistan's 2025 GDP growth from 4.5% to 6.7%. The projected growth for 2024 is 6.8%. The announcement was made in a December 12 press release that noted reliable growth in recent years and advised that Tajikistan should "aim to strengthen resilience against external shocks and address structural constraints to attaining more sustainable and inclusive growth. Improving revenue mobilization and spending efficiency are critical to increasing space for development priorities."

Source: [Interfax](#)

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