



## PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION

### Ambassadorial-Level Meeting on the Peaceful Settlement of Border Disputes in Central Asia

15 December 2025, 3p.m. – 6p.m., Trusteeship Council Chamber

#### Concept Note

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### I. Context

The peaceful settlement of border disputes constitutes a fundamental principle of the Charter of the United Nations and remains a cornerstone of the international peace and security architecture. At a time of heightened geopolitical tension and renewed focus on territorial and border issues, reaffirming the primacy of dialogue, negotiation, and peaceful dispute resolution retains global relevance.

In this regard, the Central Asian region offers a compelling example of how States can address and resolve complex and longstanding border challenges through peaceful means. The Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan have demonstrated strong political will, diplomatic maturity, and a sustained commitment to constructive engagement and regional cooperation. Their achievements underscore a proactive, preventive, and principled approach to managing sensitive and historical issues related to borders.

In this spirit, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Uzbekistan successfully completed the process of border delimitation and, in November 2022, signed the corresponding **Treaty on the Delimitation of the State Border**, thereby concluding a long and complex process of defining the boundary between the two States. This achievement was made possible through goodwill, genuine commitment, and the firm determination of the leaders of the two brotherly nations to resolve their border issues exclusively through respectful political and diplomatic dialogue and mutually acceptable compromise.

In pursuit of regional stability, peace, and security, the leadership of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan undertook concerted efforts to reach agreement on border delimitation within a short timeframe. In March 2025, through negotiations based on universally recognized principles of territorial integrity and the inviolability of existing borders, the two countries signed the **Treaty on the State Border between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan**.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations commended these “historic achievements, as well as the leadership, determination, and political will that have brought a long-standing negotiation process to a successful conclusion,” and encouraged continued constructive engagement to strengthen mutual trust and good-neighbourly relations.

Building on these bilateral accomplishments, the Presidents of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan held, on 31 March 2025, a landmark **Trilateral Summit**, the first of its kind, dedicated to reinforcing regional cooperation and

promoting peaceful relations. On that occasion, the three States signed, in the city of Khujand, the **Treaty between the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan on the Point of Junction of the State Borders of the Three States**, thereby determining the exact location of the tripoint.

At the summit, the strong regional ties among the three countries were reaffirmed through the adoption of the **Khujand Declaration on Eternal Friendship**. The leaders emphasized the importance of further strengthening political, economic, and cultural-humanitarian cooperation to consolidate peace and mutual understanding in the region.

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## II. Objective of the Meeting

The Ambassadorial-level meeting on the peaceful settlement of border disputes among the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan seeks to:

- **Acknowledge and celebrate** the historic achievements of the three countries in peacefully resolving longstanding border disputes;
- **Highlight and share** best practices, lessons learned, and approaches that have contributed to the successful outcome of these processes; and
- **Draw broader lessons** on how sustained dialogue, mutual respect, and regional cooperation can foster long-term peace, stability, and development.

The meeting will also provide a **platform for mutual learning and regional reflection**, exploring how the experiences of Central Asia can inspire and inform other regions facing similar border-related challenges.

Furthermore, participants will consider how the **Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)** and the wider United Nations system can continue to provide political accompaniment and programmatic support to national and regional initiatives promoting the peaceful settlement of disputes. The discussion will reaffirm the PBC's role as a key platform for advancing proactive, preventive, and principled approaches to peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

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## III. Guiding Questions

1. What key political, institutional, and diplomatic factors enabled the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan to peacefully resolve their longstanding border disputes?
2. How have bilateral and trilateral mechanisms, such as joint border commissions and high-level dialogues, helped build trust and ensure effective implementation of agreements?
3. In what ways have regional cooperation, mediation, and preventive diplomacy contributed to maintaining momentum and addressing sensitive issues?
4. What lessons can be drawn from this experience, and how might they inform efforts in other regions facing border-related challenges?
5. How are the interests and concerns of local populations living in border areas reflected in negotiation and implementation processes? How were local communities engaged?
6. How can the PBC further support Member States in promoting dialogue, cooperation, and peaceful approaches to addressing border issues?

7. How can the United Nations, together with bilateral and multilateral partners, including international financial institutions, assist countries in sustaining peace and delivering tangible peace dividends for populations living on both sides of the border?
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#### **IV. Provisional Agenda**

- **Opening remarks** by H.E. Ms. Julia Monar, Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission
  - **Statements by:**
    - H.E. Mr. Asein Isaev, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic (*to be confirmed*)
    - H.E. Mr. Bakhromjon Aloyev, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan (*to be confirmed*)
    - H.E. Mr. Jonibek Ismoil Hikmat, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan to the United Nations (*to be confirmed*)
    - Statement by a representative of the UN Secretary-General (*to be confirmed*)
    - Briefing by a civil society organization and/or academic institution (*to be confirmed*)
  - **Interventions by Member States**
  - **Remarks by Ms. Elizabeth Spehar**, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support
  - **Closing remarks** by H.E. Ms. Julia Monar, Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission
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#### **V. Expected Outcomes**

The meeting is expected to:

- Reaffirm the commitment of the three countries to the principles of peaceful dispute resolution and regional cooperation;
- Identify lessons learned and good practices that may inform the PBC's future engagements in preventive diplomacy and regional peacebuilding;
- Enhance international understanding of Central Asia's experience as a model for constructive, dialogue-based approaches to border issues; and
- Strengthen coordination between the PBC, relevant UN entities, and regional partners in supporting sustained peace and stability in Central Asia.

