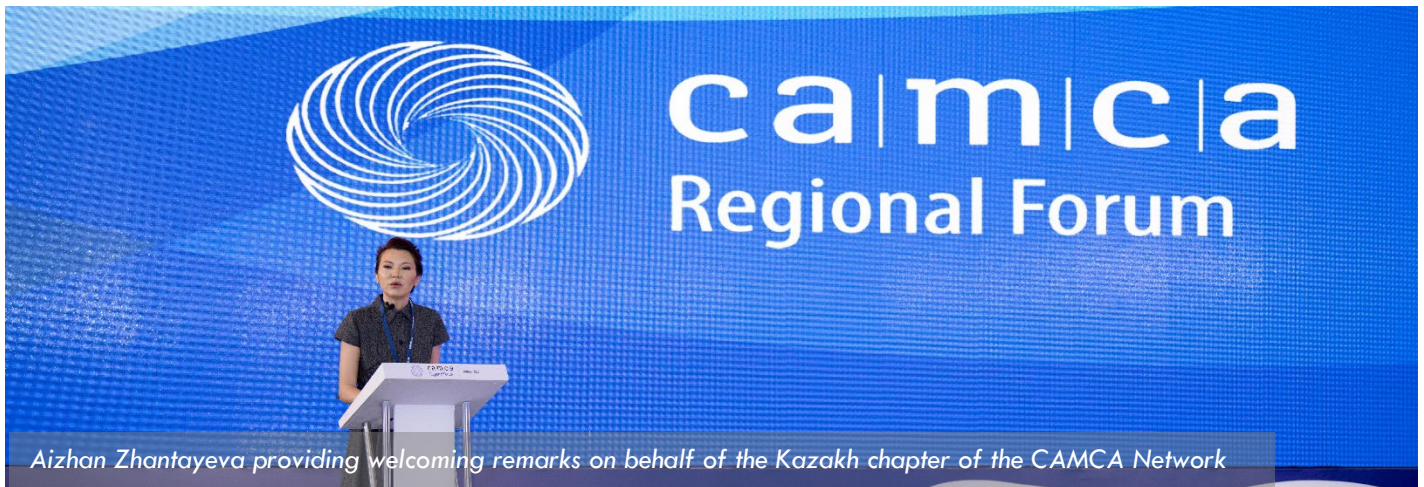


2023 CAMCA REGIONAL FORUM

CENTRAL ASIA – MONGOLIA – CAUCASUS – AFGHANISTAN

FORUM REPORT

ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN | JUNE 15-16, 2023



Aizhan Zhintayeva providing welcoming remarks on behalf of the Kazakh chapter of the CAMCA Network

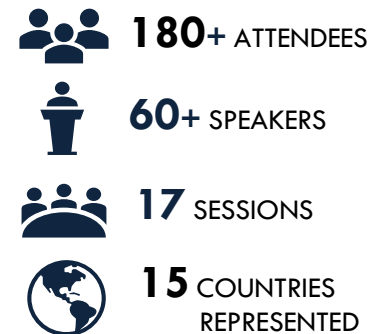
The 2023 Forum gathered participants from around the world in Almaty – Kazakhstan's largest city and an economic, commercial and cultural hub within the region.

2023 IN NUMBERS

THEME: "Uniting CAMCA: Progress and Possibilities"

SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPANTS: A diverse group of leaders and professionals including CEOs, Ambassadors, Ministers and Deputy Ministers, Chairpersons, Executive Directors, Board Members, entrepreneurs, C-suite executives, academic deans and professors, and more from the 10 CAMCA countries and across the globe

FOCUS AREAS: Regional coordination, geopolitics, entrepreneurship, digital transformation, transportation corridors, think tanks and policy analysis, education, regional media, women empowerment, investment opportunities and more



ABOUT THE CAMCA REGIONAL FORUM

The Forum is a premier annual convening of rising leaders from the **CAMCA (Central Asia – Mongolia – Caucasus – Afghanistan)** region as well as top professionals and stakeholders from the broader international community. The Forum was founded and is organized by the CAMCA Network, the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute and the Rumsfeld Foundation, with the support of regional partners and sponsors.

The **Forum's mission** is to serve as a platform to connect top professionals across all sectors for region-wide discussions on means of advancing economic growth and social development in the CAMCA region.

- Established in 2014, there have been **8** CAMCA Regional Forums.
- Attendance for all Forums totals more than **1,400** participants.
- Attendees have represented **33** countries from around the world.
- Over **420** speakers have contributed to Forum conversations.
- The Forum location travels each year across the CAMCA region.

2023 FORUM SESSIONS

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES & INTERVIEWS:

- **Askar Shakirov**
Chairman of the Committee on International Affairs, Defence and Security of the Senate of the Parliament of Kazakhstan
- **Hernando de Soto**
President, Institute for Liberty and Democracy, Peru
- **Senator Sodyq Safoev**
First Deputy Chairman of the Senate of Oliy Majilis of the Republic of Uzbekistan
- **Renat Bekturov**
Governor, Astana International Financial Centre

FORUM SESSIONS:

- Regional Coordination: From Words to Action?
- Looking Ahead: CAMCA Perspectives on Geopolitics
- Regional Media: Will the Gap be Filled?
- Book Presentation - Religion and State: Central Asia Model
- Transportation Corridors: CAMCA's Missing Windows West and South
- Policy Makers Unite: Empowering CAMCA Through Think Tank Synergy
- Techscape: Harnessing the Power of Digital Transformation in CAMCA
- Transformative Education in CAMCA: Innovating for a Shared Tomorrow
- Dreamers and Doers: Entrepreneurship Driving CAMCA's Progress
- Empowered Women, United CAMCA: Visionaries of Change
- Investing in CAMCA: Opportunities and Impediments

SIDELINE EVENTS:

June 13th - The CAMCA Academic Consortium hosted the **2023 CAMCA Education, Science & Technology Conference (ESTEC)**, an additional opportunity for Forum attendees interested in education and technology to discuss transformative initiatives and sustainable development for the region in these sectors.

The Consortium also signed MOUs with several regional academic institutions and organizations committed to promote cooperation among its members in these vital areas. (Pictured below.)

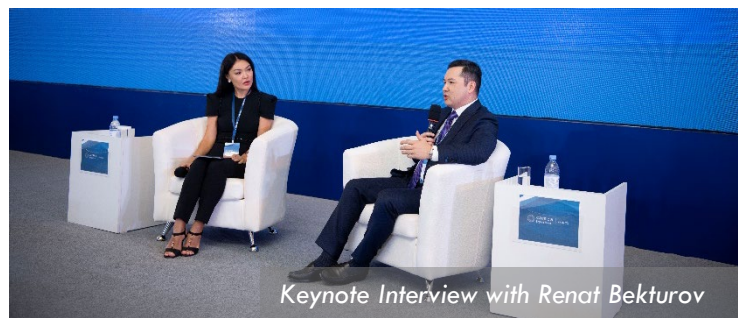
June 14th - The CAMCA Academy hosted a workshop for regional educators on, **"Interactive Teaching and Learning: A Constructivist Approach."**



"Today, we, the CAMCA organization for the development of the Central Asian region, the Caucasus, Mongolia and Afghanistan, which unites young professionals, public politicians and representatives of business circles, have gathered here to establish cooperation. In the context of globalization and the current political situation, strengthening the Central Asian region is more important than ever."

DINARA GHAPLAN

CAMCA NETWORK MEMBER, KAZAKHSTAN



Keynote Interview with Renat Bekturov

"Reinvigorating, refreshing...finding commonalities and working toward finding opportunities to strike new deals, to make new things happen. That is the magic of the CAMCA Forum."

ZAFAR HASHEMI

CAMCA NETWORK MEMBER, AFGHANISTAN

"You are meeting so many esteemed, amazing people in different spheres who push you to think about what you're going to do with your life, with your career, with your professional development. The Forum's network is particularly worth it."

AIZHAN ZHANTAYEVA

CAMCA NETWORK MEMBER, KAZAKHSTAN



Regional Media Panel

"CAMCA brings together like-minded people who are thinking about the development of the region and of their own countries... it's one of the only platforms where members of all CAMCA states can come together, discuss critical and ongoing issues...and to openly discuss solutions and propose real, working modalities."

FARUKH SULTANOV

CAMCA NETWORK MEMBER, TAJIKISTAN

"Over time, the CAMCA Network has become a living testament to how initial connections can blossom into friendships, and these friendships become the cornerstone of a new regional synergy, sparking extraordinary opportunities."

TAMAR KEKENADZE

CAMCA NETWORK MEMBER, GEORGIA

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS

Azis Abakirov, CEO, High Technology Park of the Kyrgyz Republic*

Eldar Abdrazakov, Founder and CEO, Centras Capital

Mariyash Aibassova, Founder & CEO, APEC Training Center, Kazakhstan

Ali Aslan, TV presenter and journalist

Nazira Beishenalieva, Chairperson, Board of Directors, CJSC Bank of Asia*

Andrew Beklemishev, Vice President, CIS Region, International Data Corporation

Renat Bekturov, Governor, Astana International Financial Centre

Ilan Berman, Senior Vice President, American Foreign Policy Council

Tatyana Bystrushkina, Executive Director, American Chamber of Commerce in Uzbekistan*

Zarina Chekirbaeva, Founder and CEO, BGGlobal Ltd.*

Dr. Svante Cornell, Director, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program

Hernando de Soto, President, Institute for Liberty and Democracy, Peru

Lossie Freeman, Director of Corporate Partnerships, ZIP Code Wilmington

Dinara Ghaplan, Chairman, Board of Trustees, “Bolashak” Corporate Foundation*

Zafar Hashemi, Special Adviser, SIGAR*

Sarkhan Hashimov, Chairman, Digital Transformation Board, State Tax Service of Azerbaijan*

Fidan Huseynli, Senior Marketing and Stakeholder Manager Europe, Invest in Huangpu*

Saule Imanova, IFC Transaction Advisory, Asia*

Dr. Murod Ismailov, Associate Professor, University of Tsukuba; President, CAMCA Academic Consortium & CAMCA Academy*

Dr. Fariz Ismailzade, Vice-rector for External, Government and Student Affairs, ADA University, Azerbaijan

Ambassador Said Jawad, Former Amb. of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the US, UK and Russia

Dr. Vali Kaleji, Senior Research Fellow, Iran and Eurasia Research Center (IRAS)
Zhanna Kan, CEO, Zhanna Kan Group, Kazakhstan

Gaukhar Kapparova, President, G&G Glamour

Assel Karaulova, President and CEO, Kazakhstan Press Club & CEO, PG Communications

Fuad Karimov, Co-founder and Member of the Board of Directors, Keepface/Metafluence*

Tamar Kekenadze, Chairperson, Board of Directors, CAMCA Network*

Galim Khussainov, Former Chief Executive Officer, Bank Center Credit, Kazakhstan

Nurkhat Kushimov, CEO, Astana Financial Services Authority

Jenny Jenish kyzy, Head of Experimentation of the Acceleration Lab, UNDP Kyrgyzstan*

Peter Leonard, Central Asia Editor, Eurasianet

Tatiana Magambetova, Co-Founder and Principal, High Tech Academy

Yerdos Mendybayev, Founding Partner, Academie One, Kazakhstan

Sardor Mukhamedaliev, Founder, Biz Network*

Madhav Das Nalapat, Director of Geopolitics and International Relations and UNESCO Peace Chair, Manipal University
Mikheil Nibladze, Managing Director, Cerberus Frontier

Kodirjon Norov, Founding Partner, Algorithm Capital*

Ambassador Vladimir Norov, CEO & Founder, Silk Road Advisory, Uzbekistan
Sayasat Nurbek, Minister of Education and Science of Kazakhstan

Gaukhar Nurgalieva, Senior Advisor, FMA*

Gerel Orgil, Founder and CEO, EMPR*

Javier Piedra, Correspondent, Asia Times

Tengiz Pkhaladze, Senior Fellow, ECIPE*

Eric Purington, Real Assets/Infrastructure Investment Director and Portfolio Manager, abrdn (“Aberdeen”)

Dr. Bakhrom Radjabov, Head of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation Office, Uzbekistan*

Senator Sodyq Safoev, First Deputy Chairman, Senate of Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Badral Sanlig, Founder and CEO, Chimege Systems, Mongolia

Dosym Satpayev, Director, Kazakhstan Risk Assessment Group

Caroline Savage, U.S. Consul General, Almaty

Askar Shakirov, Chairman, Committee on International Affairs, Defence and Security of the Senate of the Parliament of Kazakhstan

Dr. S. Frederick Starr, Chairman, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute

Aslan Sultanov, Managing Partner, White Hill Capital, Kazakhstan

Abakhon Sultonazarov, Central Asia Regional Director, Institute for War & Peace Reporting (IWPR)

Farukh Sultonov, Country Officer, IFC Tajikistan*

Sarah Tonucci, Executive Director, Rumsfeld Foundation

Dr. Mamuka Tsereteli, Senior Fellow, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute

Yerkin Tukumov, Director, Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of Kazakhstan

Dr. Roman Vakulchuk, Senior Research Fellow, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs*

Asset Yerali, Former Chairman of the Board, Aktau Marine North Terminal*

Aizhan Zhanbayeva, CAMCA Network National Coordinator for Kazakhstan*

Zabihullah Ziarmal, Founder & Chairman, World Trade Centre Afghanistan*

*CAMCA Network Member

MEDIA MENTIONS & COVERAGE

“REWARDING TO SHARE THE PODIUM AND FLOOR WITH THE WORLDS MOST PROMINENT ECONOMIST HERNANDO DE SOTO, CENTRAL ASIA STUDIES GURU DR FRED STARR & GLOBAL EXPERTS TO DEBATE THE GEOPOLITICS & GEOECONOMICS OF CENTRAL ASIA, MONGOLIA, CAUCASUS & AFGHANISTAN @CAMCAFORUM IN ALMATY.”
- AMB. SAID JAWAD, FORUM SPEAKER

“CG SAVAGE WAS HONORED TO WELCOME PARTICIPANTS FROM ACROSS THE CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA TO THE CENTRAL ASIA-MONGOLIA-CAUCUS-AFGHANISTAN @CAMCAFORUM IN ALMATY JUNE 14. A NON-POLITICAL, NON-PARTISAN EFFORT, CAMCA PROMOTES REGION-WIDE COLLABORATION AMONG EMERGING YOUNG LEADERS.” - U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL ALMATY IN KAZAKHSTAN

“TOMORROW I’LL BE SPEAKING ABOUT AIFC AT THE CAMCA FORUM AND HOW WE CAN HELP THE REGION GROW.” - RENAT BEKTUROV, FORUM SPEAKER

“BRINGING CAMCAFORUM TO THE DIGITAL REALM! OUR CFO @MRFUADKARIMOV1 HOSTED A PART OF THE EVENT FROM #METAFLUENCECITY’S CAMCA METAHUT.”
- METAHUT, REPRESENTED BY FUAD KARIMOV, FORUM SPEAKER & CAMCA NETWORK

“YESTERDAY I TOOK PART IN THE @CAMCA2023ALMATY FORUM AS A SPEAKER AT THE PANEL DISCUSSION, ‘WHO DRIVES THE WORLD? DREAMERS & DOERS!’ REPRESENTING OUR HOLDING. GRATIFYING THAT FOR 20 YEARS OUR COMPANY HAS ALWAYS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF GOOD DEEDS - FROM CHARITY, VISIONARY PROJECTS THAT AFFECT THE PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY.” - ZHANNA KAN, FORUM SPEAKER

“PARTICIPATING IN THE CAMCA FORUM IS AN ENGAGING AND VALUABLE EXPERIENCE. FORUM PARTICIPANTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT THE LATEST TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN THEIR FIELD, AS WELL AS WITNESS LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES CONTRIBUTING TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT. OVERALL, PARTICIPATION IN SUCH A FORUM ENRICHES KNOWLEDGE, EXPANDS HORIZONS, AND INSPIRES NEW ACHIEVEMENTS.” - NAZIRA BEISHENALIEVA, FORUM SPEAKER & CAMCA NETWORK

“AS I REFLECT ON THE EXPERIENCE, I’M CONVINCED MORE THAN EVER OF THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF REGIONAL COLLABORATION AND THE VALUE OF KNOWLEDGE SHARING AMONG THE CAMCA NETWORK...THE COLLECTIVE EXPERTISE, PERSPECTIVES, AND IDEAS SHARED AMONG PARTICIPANTS HAVE UNDOUBTEDLY PAVED THE WAY FOR MEANINGFUL CHANGE AND PROGRESS IN OUR REGION...ONE OF THE KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE REGIONAL FORUM IS THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE OF OUR REGIONAL NETWORKING. BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS AND FOSTERING CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATIONS ARE PARAMOUNT IN AN INTERCONNECTED WORLD. BY ENGAGING WITH INDIVIDUALS FROM VARIOUS BACKGROUNDS, INDUSTRIES, AND COUNTRIES WITHIN THE CAMCA REGION, WE CAN TAP INTO A WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCES, AND BEST PRACTICES. THIS NETWORK OF PROFESSIONALS BECOMES A POWERFUL SUPPORT SYSTEM, DRIVING INNOVATION, EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES AND ENHANCING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.” - ULUK KYDYRBAEV, CAMCA NETWORK



Attendees with keynote speaker, Hernando de Soto



FORUM EXPO

Representatives of regionally-focused companies and organizations participated in our 2023 Forum Expo, showcasing some of their unique products and initiatives across the CAMCA region.

“THIS YEAR OUR COMPANY, BGLOBAL, PARTICIPATED IN THE BUSINESS EXPO. IT WAS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO MEET PARTNERS ON THE INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM AND PRESENT OUR UNIQUE SERVICES FOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION.”

Learn more about our participants: [Palani Hotel](#), [CAMCA Academic Consortium](#), [BizNetwork](#), [CIPE](#), [BGlobal](#), [Viterra](#) and [APEC Training Centre](#)

MEDIA CONTACTS

Tamuna Kekenadze
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CAMCA Network Board Member
director@camcaforum.org

Sarah Tonucci
Rumsfeld Foundation
sarah@rumfeldfoundation.org

David Soumbadze
Central Asia-Caucasus Institute
soumbadze@afpc.org

To learn more about the 2024 Forum hosted in the Kyrgyz Republic contact: info@camcaforum.org.

MISSED THE FORUM?

Video session coverage will be made available on the Forum [YouTube Channel](#).

The Forum was covered by regional media including [Khabar 24](#), [KazInform](#), [ORDA](#), [Almaty Aqshamy](#) and [The Steppe](#).

All media mentions can be [found here](#).

Review [#CAMCA2023Almaty](#) conversations on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

View [photo coverage](#) on [Flickr](#).



Forum Participants

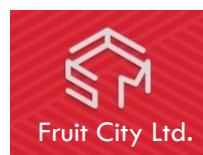
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The Forum organizers are grateful to our Sponsors and Partners for their part in making the Forum a success!

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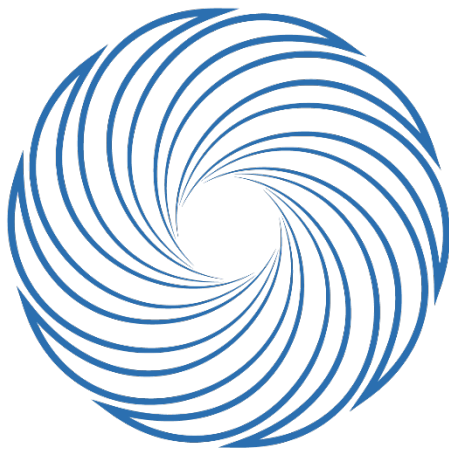


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