

COLUMN OF THE EAG CHAIRMAN



Dear Colleagues!

In 2025, the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) in cooperation with delegations and working groups has been developing national anti-money laundering systems and mitigating the risks of money laundering and terrorist financing in the region.

The 43rd Plenary Meeting approved priorities of the Russian chairmanship in the EAG for 2026-2027. These includes preparing countries for mutual evaluations, developing cooperation within the FATF Global Network, identifying and mitigating current regional ML/TF/PF risks, developing multilateral interagency cooperation formats in the EAG, strengthening its image and establishing coordinated approaches to develop personnel potential.

Providing targeted and timely technical assistance, including mutual support by experts from the Member States, remains important for the Group.

The cooperation of training organizations of the EAG Member States within the established International Association of Training and Methodology Centers will enable the effective allocation of resources and the development of uniform standards for the training process, professional skills, and expert certification. We would like to mention the key role of the International Training and Methodology Center for Financial Monitoring (ITMCFM) in this regard, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2025.

Significant attention will be given to the development of the EAG "ecosystem", including expansion of multilateral interagency formats.

We are convinced that only by working together will we be able to achieve our goals. We have all the resources and expertise we need to accomplish this.

**EAG Chairman
Yury Chikhanchin**

Results of the 42nd EAG Plenary Meeting

On May 26-30, 2025 the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) held the meetings of the EAG Working Groups and the 42nd Plenary Meeting in Moscow (Russian Federation). The representatives of all EAG Member States, the FATF Secretariat and FATF-style regional bodies (ESAAMLG, GIABA, MENAFATF) as well as the Observers and invited delegations of the Republic of Armenia, Islamic Republic of Iran, United Arab Emirates, African Export and Import Bank Group, BCBOP, CIS ATC, CIS CHFIU, CIS Executive Committee, CSTO, EDB, EEC, NDB, OSCE, SCO, UNODC, Arab Republic of Egypt, Kingdom of Bahrain, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Indonesia, State of Libya, State of Qatar, CIS CCPG, Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development and UNOCT participated in the meetings.

The EAG Chairman, Mr. Yury Chikhanchin (Russian Federation) and the EAG Deputy Chairman, Mr. Shamsiddin Sohbnazarov (Republic of Uzbekistan) chaired the Plenary Meeting.

The Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, Mr. Dmitry Chernyshenko, made welcoming remarks on behalf of the Russian Federation and read out the address to the Plenary participants by Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin. A welcome address to the delegates was also sent by Sergei Lavrov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

The Plenary heard and approved the Turkmenistan's 2nd Enhanced Follow-

Up Report without re-rating under the 2nd Round of EAG Mutual Evaluations.

The Plenary agreed to the IMF-led mutual evaluation of the People's Republic of China in accordance with the FATF Plenary decision in February 2025 and approved the appropriate amendments to the sequencing of the 3rd round mutual evaluations of the EAG Member States.

The Member States delegations presented the measures on improvement of the national AML/CFT/CPF systems to the Plenary and took note of the templates of questionnaires and statistical tables required for mutual evaluations in preparation for the 3rd round of EAG mutual evaluations.

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On October 8, 2025, an international seminar on strategic analysis in the field of Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) was held in Bishkek
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The Department on Combating Economic Crimes at the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan held a face-to-face meeting with representatives of the working group of supervisory authorities
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The Plenary approved the outcomes of the project on Improvement of Risk Assessment and Implementation of the Risk-based Monitoring over NPOs in the EAG Member States.

The Plenary received information on the implementation of the voluntary tax compliance program of the Kyrgyz Republic that expired on 31 December 2024, as well as information on the extension of the voluntary tax compliance program of the Republic of Tajikistan and on measures taken to prevent the program from being used for criminal purposes. The Plenary reiterated the compliance of Tajikistan's program with the four FATF Basic Principles.

The Plenary approved the results of typology projects on "The development of a document regulating the conduct of joint international financial investigations at the request of the parties" and "The development of criteria for identifying companies linked to ML or involved in predicate offences" and "Good practices for identifying money recovery lawsuits aimed at laundering the proceeds of crime". Member States will be able to strengthen their international cooperation in detecting and investigating ML/TF and predicate offences and enhance their ratings in mutual evaluations on international cooperation, ML/TF investigations and asset recovery by improving mechanisms for joint international financial investigations. The developed criteria for suspicious companies and good practices in identifying ML-related lawsuits will enable measures to be taken to minimise regional risks at the national level. The documents are open and to be published on the EAG website.

Delegations endorsed concept notes of the new typology projects on "Current methods of use of bank payment cards by non-residents in money laundering schemes" and "Profiles of financial behavior of criminals (money laundering and predicate crimes)". Delegations of the Republic of Belarus and the Russian Federation will lead the projects.

The Plenary endorsed the topic "Best cooperation between the competent authorities in the AML/CFT field in detecting and suppressing ML and predicate offences committed by organized criminal groups or criminal organizations" for the Contest for the best cooperation between the competent authorities in the field of AML/CFT which is to be held in November 2025 during the 43rd Plenary Session.

The Plenary noted the importance of strengthening the provision of technical assistance to the Kyrgyz Republic as the jurisdiction enters the period of active preparation for the 3rd round of the EAG Mutual Evaluations.

The Plenary approved the Regulation on the Journalist contest in the EAG Member States for the best story on the topic of financial security. Contest will be held annually in order to improve the interaction of the EAG Member States' FIUs with the media and to create a positive image of FIUs and the Eurasian Group and the FATF Global Network as a whole in society, and to raise awareness on the topic of financial security.

The Plenary approved the EAG Budget for 2026 and the contributions of the Member States.

The Plenary expressed their condolences in connection with terrorist attacks that had caused deaths and injuries also among civilians in Jammu & Kashmir on April 22.

The Plenary granted the EAG Observer status to the African Export and Import Bank Group. Delegations noted the importance of engagement with the African Export and Import Bank Group and expressed hope for fruitful cooperation.

The Plenary approved the concept of establishing the International Association of Training and Methodological Centres. The Association's activities will be aimed at creating conditions in the countries of the Eurasian region for the establishing a pool of national trainers, who will subsequently be independently engaged in training personnel for the needs of national AML/CFT systems, as well as the introduction of the practice of certification of international experts.

The Plenary approved the EAG Observer Policy which outlines the unified policy of the Eurasian Group on work with Observers and sets out the main goals, objectives and principles of interaction with Observers.

The Plenary took note of the ongoing results of the project on "Development of a mechanism to enhance the effectiveness of national anti-money laundering systems in asset recovery" as well as the projects of the International Training and Methodological Centre for Financial Monitoring. The role of ITMCFM as a leading donor and provider in the implementation of TA plans for EAG Member States was emphasized.

The Plenary listened to the presentations made by the Observers as well as invited countries and organisations (FATF, African Export and Import Bank Group, Arab Republic of Egypt, BCBOP, CIS ATC, CIS CHFIU, CIS Executive Committee, EEC, ESAAMLG, Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development, GIABA, Islamic Republic of Iran, MENAFATF, NDB, OSCE, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Indonesia, SCO, United Arab Emirates, UNOCT) and thanked them for the experience shared and expressed the hope for further cooperation.

The Plenary took note on TA measures for the Islamic Republic of Iran in order to remove it from the FATF high-risk jurisdictions list and assigned to develop a TA Plan for Iran. The Plenary welcomed information about Iran's ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, which is one of the steps to address strategic deficiencies in the Iran's AML/CFT system in accordance with the Action Plan developed by the FATF. Plenary called upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue taking concrete steps to complete the implementation of the Action Plan to address strategic deficiencies in the Iran's AML/CFT system, including ratification of CFT Convention.

On the sidelines of the plenary week, the joint forum of supervisory authorities and private sector under the auspices of the EAG and the MENAFATF "Risk management in the era of new technologies" was held. The event brought together leading supervisory experts and private sector specialists from the EAG and the MENAFATF member states, acting as a platform to exchange experience and ideas on the development of supervisory methodology and its effective implementation. It was noted that the outcomes of the Forum, reflected in the joint recommendations of the EAG and the MENAFATF, indicate a long-term and sustainable interest of their member states in building partnerships in the field of combating financial crime, and that the potential for such level of cooperation exists with other FSRBs.

The Plenary welcomed the outcomes of the IV Forum of Parliamentarians of the EAG Member States, where participants shared experiences on preparing for the upcoming round of mutual evaluations and legislative implementation of the revised FATF Recommendations, including in relation to the confiscation of proceeds of crime and property of equivalent value, and strengthening international cooperation on mutual legal assistance for the identification, confiscation, and recovery of criminal assets from abroad. On the outcome of the Forum, the participants approved the Declaration stating the importance of international cooperation between the competent authorities of the EAG Member States and the need to transform legislation to mitigate risks and implement the revised FATF Standards.

The Plenary also welcomed the outcomes of the Panel discussion on "Current Issues of Financial Security Coverage in the Eurasian Region" hosted within the 42nd Plenary Week. The implementation of this format of collaboration on a regular basis has been approved.

The Plenary was briefed on the outcomes of the Round table on "The significance of the PF risks assessment for the 3rd round of EAG mutual evaluations".

The Plenary was briefed on the implementation of the International Financial Security Movement initiative. The Plenary was also reported on the preparation for the International Financial Security Forum "Sirius-2025" and the 5th International Financial Security Olympiad, which will take place from 28 September to 3 October 2025 in Krasnoyarsk at the initiative of the Russian Federation, which provides the organisation and coordination of the participants of the Olympiad, and its financing. Delegations expressed its support for further development of the International Financial Security movement.

The Plenary expressed gratitude to the Russian Federation for hosting the events of the 42nd EAG Plenary session, as well as for the high level of organization.

Results of the 43rd EAG Plenary Meeting

On November 24-28, 2025 the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) held the meetings of the EAG Working Groups and the 43rd Plenary Meeting in Minsk (Republic of Belarus). The representatives of all EAG Member States, the FATF-style regional bodies (GABAC, ESAAMLG, MENAFATF) as well as the Observers and invited delegations of the Federal Republic of Germany, Islamic Republic of Iran, Mongolia, Republic of Serbia, United Arab Emirates, BCBOP, CIS ATC, CIS CHoFIU, CIS Executive Committee, CSTO, NDB, OSCE, SCO, UNOCT, UNODC, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Cuba, Republic of Indonesia, CIS CCPG and Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development participated in the meetings.



The EAG Chairman, Mr. Yury Chikhanchin (Russian Federation) and the EAG Deputy Chairman, Mr. Jakhongir Khatamov (Republic of Uzbekistan) chaired the Plenary Meeting.

The Chairman of the State Control Committee of the Republic of Belarus, Mr. Vasily Gerasimov made welcoming remarks on behalf of the Republic of Belarus. The welcoming address to the participants of the Plenary Meeting was also delivered by Deputy Chairman of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Mr. Nikolai Zhuravlev.

The Plenary meeting elected Mr. Yury Chikhanchin (Russian Federation) as the EAG Chairman and Mr. Dmitry Zakharov (Republic of Belarus) as the EAG Deputy Chairman for the period 2026-2027, and approved the Chairmanship Priorities for 2026-2027, including:

- ensuring the conduct of the 3rd round of mutual evaluations in accordance with the EAG Procedures;
- developing cooperation within the FATF Global Network;
- identifying and mitigating current regional ML/TF/PF risks;
- developing multilateral interagency formats for interaction within the EAG platform and strengthening its image;
- forming coordinated approaches to developing human resources in the field of AML/CFT within the EAG.

The Republic of Belarus has submitted its second Follow-up report for 2022-2025 on addressing the deficiencies in the national AML/CFT/CPF system identified in the previous round of mutual evaluations. During 2022-2025, Belarus took measures to ensure the proportionality of sanctions for money laundering offences, eliminate shortcomings related to the assessment of risks posed by new technologies, adjust requirements for electronic transfers and the transfer of information by third parties, interact with gambling participants, etc.

In preparation for the third round of mutual evaluations of the EAG, the Member States are taking measures to improve their national AML/CFT/CPF systems. The now traditional reports by delegations on legal and institutional changes aimed at implementing the revised FATF Standards are one element of the exchange of experience and best practices between the EAG Member States. In addition, a mechanism for monitoring countries' readiness for the third round of the EAG mutual evaluations (key performance indicators) has been approved, which will be of assistance for the Member States in identifying problem areas in their national AML/CFT/CPF systems in a timely manner and take measures to address them in advance of the mutual evaluation.

During the intersessional period, the EAG training events were held, including jointly with the FATF Training Center and MENAFATF, as well as with the support of the ITMCFM. This made it possible to strengthen the human resources capacity of the competent authorities of the EAG and MENAFATF Member States, as well as to increase the number of assessors for the third round of mutual evaluations.

Additional measures to increase the number of trained experts are expected to ensure the further development of national personnel in the field of AML/CFT/CPF.

As part of the Russian Chairmanship Priorities, the current version of an Information Bulletin on the activities of terrorist groups in the Eurasian region has been approved. MENAFATF jurisdictions have joined the project as yet another sign of developing cooperation with FSRBs. It is planned that the results of the project will be put into practice both in the activities of anti-terrorist and financial intelligence units and in the mutual evaluations of the EAG Member States in terms of ensuring understanding of ML risks at the national level (Immediate Outcome 1), as well as in identifying the specific role of individuals and organizations involved in terrorist activities (Immediate Outcome 9).

Monitoring the operational situation in EAG Member States in terms of new ML/FT risks continues to be an important area of EAG activity. An analysis of its results for 2025 shows that the ML/TF threats, vulnerabilities and risks identified by the Member States in 2025 generally reflect the results of the First Round of risk assessment in the Eurasian region. At the same time, the legalization of criminal proceeds is now increasingly carried out using multi-level schemes, including with the participation of professional money launderers which use cryptocurrencies and the payment details of front men – "droppers". In the field of terrorist financing, schemes using foreign crypto exchanges, in-game currencies, and crypto wallets are gaining popularity.

Responding to the emerging risks and threats in the Eurasian region, a decision was made to carry out projects aimed at studying typologies of the use of proxy persons (mules) and virtual asset service providers in illegal schemes (lead by the Republic of Tajikistan) and the use of artificial intelligence technologies as a tool for terrorist financing activities and in the activities of competent authorities in the CFT sphere (co-leads – the Republic of India, the Russian Federation, CIS ATC and the United Arab Emirates).

A significant part of the EAG's work is devoted to studying the ML/TF risks associated with instability in Afghanistan. According to the results of the analysis of information received from the Member States, it has been established that the most popular methods of making settlements for drugs and laundering the proceeds are the use of bank accounts and front men cards, electronic money and virtual assets.

The UN Office of Counter-Terrorism and the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group have become new observers of the EAG. The expansion of the number of Observers is intended to promote cooperation between the Eurasian Group and these organizations and countries in order to share experience, knowledge, and resources and develop mechanisms for interaction to solve common problems. These tasks include strengthening national AML/CFT/CPF systems and protecting the financial systems and economies of the Member States from ML/TF/PP threats.

The creation of the International Association of Training and Methodological Centers of the EAG Member States (the Association) was approved, which comprises training organizations from the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan. Cooperation between training organizations of the EAG Member States within a single structure will allow for the effective distribution of resources among the EAG Member States, which is very important for those countries that currently do not have departmental or other training organizations within their structures but are in dire need of training for representatives of government authorities, reporting entities, and the private sector in the field of AML/CFT. One of the main tasks of the Association will be to develop standards and common approaches to training and certification.

The EAG Rules on coordination of technical assistance have been amended to reflect the Eurasian Group countries' experience of mutual technical assistance.

In order to respond in a timely manner to requests from the Member States for technical assistance, along with other existing mechanisms (direct provision of technical assistance to the Member States by donors), it has been agreed to establish the EAG Fund for the purpose of technical

assistance and development (the TA Fund). The TA Fund will be one of the sources of financing for the implementation of the Member States' TA plans to prepare countries and their national teams for the third round of mutual evaluations. Other tasks of the TA Fund include financing activities to raise awareness of AML/CFT/CPF events and the implementation of the concept of a single information space in the Eurasian region, ensuring the participation of the EAG experts in the activities of the FATF Global Network, and the implementation of the Eurasian Group's current initiatives, including those related to the improvement of the IT infrastructure for providing technical assistance.

In accordance with the Russian Chairmanship Priorities, projects of the International Training and Methodological Center for Financial Monitoring (the ITMCFM) were presented, aimed at preparing for the third round of mutual evaluations of the EAG, forming coordinated approaches to educational activities in the Eurasian region, and identifying signs and patterns of financial behavior of "droppers". The ITMCFM's role as a leading donor and provider in the implementation of project plans for the EAG Member States was emphasized.

As part of measures to assist the Islamic Republic of Iran in addressing deficiencies in its national AML/CFT/CPF system, a plan to provide technical assistance to the country by the EAG Member States was prepared and approved.

The Plenary Meeting gave a positive assessment of the results of the EAG Forum on AML/CFT, which was held in Turkmenistan (Ashgabat) on October 14-15, 2025. The information obtained as a result of the Forum will be used in the course of the EAG typological projects, including the project to develop a mechanism to improve the effectiveness of national AML/CFT/CPF systems in asset recovery. The next forum will be held in the second half of 2026 in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

On the sidelines of the Plenary Meeting, the law enforcement and judicial authorities conference "The use of high technologies to improve the effectiveness of national AML/CFT/CPF systems in the detection, investigation, and prosecution of activities related to the obtaining and/or laundering of criminal proceeds or the financing of terrorism" was held. During the conference, representatives from Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, the UAE and Iran presented best practices in the use of modern technologies for detecting, investigating and prosecuting predicate offences, ML and TF, as well as for effective AML/CFT/CPF activities. The information obtained is also planned to be used in EAG typology projects. The results of the conference were positively assessed by the delegations. It has been recommended to hold such events on a regular basis.

The EAG also gave a positive assessment of the results of the workshop for supervisory authorities and the private sector on "Application

of contemporary technologies in internal control and supervisory activities in AML/CFT", during which participants exchanged experiences on the use of new technologies both in the supervision of the private sector and in the implementation of preventive measures by supervised entities.

The annual Contest for the best cooperation between competent authorities in the field of AML/CFT was held as part of the Plenary Meeting. The 12th Contest's winner was the delegation from the Republic of Belarus and its laureates were People's Republic of China and Russian Federation.

As part of the Plenary Meeting, the winners of the 4th annual Contest among compliance officers of financial institutions from EAG Member States for the best AML/CFT financial analysis were awarded. This year, for the first time, Observers from the EAG and MENAFATF Member States were invited to participate in the Contest. The winner of the Contest was the National Bank of Egypt, while Pochta Bank (Russian Federation) and Bank Eskhata (Republic of Tajikistan) were laureates. The case study by the National Bank of Egypt also received the audience award.

In addition, the winners of the first Journalist contest in the EAG Member States for the best story on the topic of financial security were awarded. The contest is held with the aim of improving cooperation between the financial intelligence units of the EAG Member States and the media; forming a positive image of financial intelligence units, the EAG and the FATF Global Network as a whole in society; and promoting the topic of financial security. The contest entries were considered in the categories "Video of television stories", "Publications in the print media and on the Internet", and "Audio of radio stories". The winners of the contest were E. Aktanov (Kyrgyz Republic), V. Ankudinova (Russian Federation), S. Arykbaeva (Republic of Kazakhstan), and Y. Shevchuk (Republic of Belarus).

The Plenary Meeting heard reports on the results of the International Financial Security Movement Forum – "Financial Security in the Era of New Technologies: Threats and Solutions" and the 5th International Financial Security Olympiad, which was held from September 29 to October 3, 2025, in Krasnoyarsk at the initiative of the Russian Federation. The delegations expressed their support for further development of the International Financial Security Movement.

As is traditional, special attention was paid to the speeches of Observers, as well as invited countries and organizations (CIS ATC, CIS CCGP, CIS CHoFIU, CIS Executive Committee, ESAAMLG, Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development, GABAC, Islamic Republic of Iran, MENAFATF, NDB, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Indonesia, Republic of Serbia, United Arab Emirates). They were expressed deep gratitude for sharing their experience and hope for further cooperation.

The Plenary expressed gratitude to the Republic of Belarus for hosting the events of the 43rd EAG Plenary Session, as well as for the high level of organization.

India hosts inaugural Capacity Building Programme for Central Asian Republics on combating terrorism financing

The Department of Revenue (DoR), in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS), successfully organised the first-ever Capacity Building Programme for Central Asian Republics (CARs) on 'Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) through Cryptocurrencies, Crowdfunding, and Non-Profit Organisations'. The two-day programme was held on 21st-22nd April, 2025.



Bringing together senior experts from five Central Asian countries — Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan — the programme served as a platform for knowledge exchange and regional cooperation in tackling terrorism financing. Participants benefited from

a series of sessions led by Indian authorities, including representatives from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Cell of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Home Affairs, the National Investigation Agency (NIA), and the Financial Intelligence Unit – India (FIU-IND). Additionally,

an expert from the Eurasian Group (EAG), a FATF-style regional body (FSRB), contributed valuable insights on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) standards, with a focus on the non-profit and virtual asset sectors.

Customised to the specific needs of the Central Asian region, the programme aimed to build technical capacity and deepen understanding of emerging terrorism financing risks. Through interactive discussions, case studies, and the sharing of operational best practices, the initiative fostered a collaborative approach to addressing key challenges.

Technical sessions explored a broad range of issues, including the use of financial intelligence in terrorism-related investigations, the growing threat posed by the misuse of Virtual Asset Service Providers (VASPs), and the exploitation of crowdfunding platforms. Additional discussions covered the financing of radicalization and the abuse of Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) for terrorist purposes.

This initiative marks a significant step forward in strengthening regional cooperation and resilience against terrorism financing, reflecting India's commitment to global counterterrorism efforts.

EAG Chairman meets the representatives of the Secretariats of EAG, ESAAMLG, GABAC and MENAFATF

On November 28, 2025, in Minsk (Republic of Belarus) during the 43rd Plenary Session of the Eurasian Group, a meeting was held between the EAG Chairman Mr. Yury Chikhanchin and representatives of the Secretariats of the FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs) – EAG, ESAAMLG, GABAC, and MENAFATF.



A thorough exchange of views took place on current issues of developing cooperation among FSRBs. The need to enhance the role and voice of FSRBs within the FATF, as well as the responsibility of FSRBs for ensuring regional financial security, was noted. In particular, special emphasis was given on holding the next Global Network Secretariats Retreat in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2026.

The Chairman highlighted the initiatives aimed at further developing the EAG "ecosystem" – the Forum of Parliamentarians, the Supervisory Forum and the International Compliance Council, EAG AML/CFT Forum, the Forum for Prosecutors, the International Association of Training and Methodology Centers, the Association of Press Services of Competent Authorities, and the International Financial Security Movement. The Chairman stressed that the EAG "ecosystem" is open to the participation of other FSRBs and their members.

The 5th EAG Forum on AML/CFT was held in Ashgabat (Turkmenistan)

The 5th EAG Forum on AML/CFT (hereinafter referred to as the Forum) was held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, on 14-15 October 2025.



Traditionally, the Forum is held to discuss issues and exchange practices on ongoing EAG typology projects, as well as new (emerging) money laundering schemes and methods of terrorist financing. The Forum aims to obtain more detailed information on the mechanisms used to commit specific predicate offences, launder criminal proceeds and finance terrorism. The results of the Forum, together with other data obtained during the typology projects, are used to conduct a regional assessment of ML/TF risk and to develop measures to counter specific types of predicate offences or forms of ML/TF at the national and regional levels.

Taking into account the start of the third round of mutual evaluations of the compliance of EAG countries' legislation with the International Standards on AML/CFT/CPF (FATF Recommendations) and the effectiveness of national AML/CFT/ CPF systems, this year's Forum focused on issues related to the confiscation of criminal assets, including virtual

assets, the practice of implementing extended confiscation and non-conviction-based confiscation, as well as property of equivalent value, into the legislation of EAG countries. This topic is directly related to the project currently being carried out by the Working Group on Typologies and Countering Crime and Terrorism Financing to develop a "Mechanism for Improving National Anti-Money Laundering Systems in Asset Recovery".

The second half of the Forum was devoted to exchanging views and experiences on improving parallel financial investigations in the AML/CFT/ CPF sphere, as well as enhancing the effectiveness of detecting, investigating, and prosecuting money laundering.

The Forum was attended by more than 50 delegates from EAG Member States, representing law enforcement and judicial authorities, as well as financial intelligence units.

Over the course of two days, Forum delegates presented national experiences and examples of combating the use of virtual assets for predicate offences and ML/TF, the application of special confiscation and the seizure of property under anti-corruption legislation, financial investigations into cases of money laundering and fraud in the credit and financial sector and construction, embezzlement of budget funds, drug trafficking, smuggling of medicines, etc.

The EAG Secretariat staff made presentations on amendments to the FATF Recommendations regarding confiscation, as well as proposals for improving financial investigations and implementing extended confiscation into national legislation.

The EAG Secretariat would like to express its gratitude to the Government of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan and the Financial Monitoring Service under the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan for organising and hosting the Forum, as well as the International Training and Methodological Centre for Financial Monitoring (ITMCFM) for its technical assistance in conducting the event.

The next Forum is planned to be held in the second half of 2026.



NEWS FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF PRESS SERVICES OF FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNITS OF THE EAG MEMBER STATES

Training Manual Developed by Rosfinmonitoring Experts Receives the “Compliance – 2025” Professional Award

The International Training and Methodology Centre for Financial Monitoring (ITMCFM) has been named the winner of the annual Compliance – 2025 award in the category “For the development of the training and methodological base and educational technologies in the AML/CFT sphere.”

The submitted training manual, “Theory and Practice of Control Measures, Prevention of Offenses, and Administrative Proceedings in the AML/CFT Sphere,” was developed by experts from the central office and regional supervisory units of Rosfinmonitoring.

The results were announced at the annual conference “Compliance in the Age of Innovation: Technologies, Risks, People” held at the HSE University in Moscow. One of the authors of the manual, Alexander Kuryanov, Head of the Executive Office of the Director, took part in the event. He spoke at the panel discussion “Smart compliance instead of strict regulation: is it possible?”

As noted by the representative of the agency, the practice of recent years confirms the proactive approach of financial institutions within the anti-



money laundering framework. Russian banks are implementing flagship IT solutions to detect suspicious client activity, profile criminal behavior, and build predictive models.

“Our banks confidently handle the most complex cases involving illegal financial operations, including cryptocurrency transactions. Banks’ information on corruption risks, financial fraud, drug trafficking, and other offenses is in

high demand in Rosfinmonitoring’s analytical work. Such proactivity is also the result of trusting and partnership-based relations that have formed within the AML system,” said Alexander Kuryanov.

He also emphasized that banks and the professional community are carrying out their own educational projects in the field of financial security, including presenting them at the International Olympiad on Financial Security.

The conference additionally addressed current issues of application of the law, key areas of compliance development in the era of new technologies, cooperation between business and the state in advancing “smart” regulation, trends in compliance education and professional communities, and other topics.

Astana hosted Kazakhstan-Russian Forum on Financial Security Education for Schoolchildren and Students

On March 27, Astana, Kazakhstan hosted the Kazakhstan-Russian Forum on Financial Security Education for Schoolchildren and Students. The Russian delegation, headed by Yury Chikhanchin, Director of the Federal Financial Monitoring Service, included Ivan Uvarov, Director of the ITMCFM.

Also representing the Russian side were Natalya Parshikova, Deputy Head of the Secretariat of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation D.N. Chernyshenko, rectors of leading Russian member universities affiliated with the International Network AML/CFT Institute, and officials of the Federal Financial Monitoring Service.

Representing Kazakhstan were Zhanat Elimanov, Chairman of the Financial Monitoring Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Sayasat Nurbek, Minister of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, university rectors, and other experts.

Mr. Chikhanchin highlighted the long-standing and productive partnership between the two countries in countering common security threats, as well as cooperation on a number of projects, including the International Olympiad on Financial Security. He emphasized that in just five years, the Olympiad’s international reach expanded from 7 to nearly 40 countries.

“What explains the tremendous interest in the Olympiad and the events held on its sidelines? The first and foremost reason is the rapid integration of

advanced information technologies into everyday life, governance, and business operations. The world is confronting a growing deficit in essential knowledge, including in the financial sphere. The second reason is profound transformations in the political and economic landscape that are reshaping intergovernmental relations. Financial systems are evolving - new institutions, payment systems, and flows are emerging,” the Head of the Service explained.

The Olympiad is intended to address a range of objectives, including the enrichment of knowledge in the field of financial security, cultivate a new generation of AML professionals, and more.

Zhanat Elimanov emphasized that the meeting would serve as an additional driver for forming an effective “Financial Security Zone” in the region:

“Our primary goal is to protect citizens, especially young people, from becoming involved in illicit financial activities. We must systematically improve their knowledge of the financial security and digital hygiene fundamentals. This forum plays a key role. It will not only serve as a platform for sharing best practices but will also allow us to jointly identify effective solutions.”

Forum discussions covered topics such as comprehensive AML/CFT personnel training, youth education in financial security and literacy, the digital transformation of financial security and AML/CFT, the role of artificial intelligence in financial data processing, initiatives of the International Movement on Financial Security, and other topics.

Ivan Uvarov, Director General of the ITMCFM, elaborated on several key areas of the International Movement on Financial Security, e.g. promoting the moral, cultural, and historical heritage of partner countries and developing a unified digital platform for the members (the Sodruzhestvo Platform).

Mr. Uvarov also presented recent progress on the development under the International Network AML/CFT Institute (INI) and recognized the significant contribution made by INI members to fostering a society free from modern financial risks and threats.

The Russian delegation concluded its visit with a stop at Astana IT University, which formally joined the INI through a signed cooperation agreement.

Outcomes of the 1st Journalist contest in the EAG Member States for the best story on the topic of financial security is getting launched

On November 28, 2025, in Minsk, during the 43rd EAG Plenary Meeting, the winners of the first Journalist contest in the EAG Member States for the best story on the topic of financial security were awarded.

The winners of the contest were:

- in the categorie “Video of television stories” - [S. Arykbaeva](#) (Republic of Kazakhstan) and [Y. Shevchuk](#) (Republic of Belarus);
- in the categorie “Publications in the print media and on the Internet” - [V. Ankudinova](#) (Russian Federation);
- in the categorie “Audio of radio stories” - [E. Aktanov](#) (Kyrgyz Republic).

Financial intelligence delegation of the Republic of Belarus visited Financial Monitoring Agency of Kazakhstan

The delegation of financial intelligence of the Republic of Belarus headed by Director of the Financial Monitoring Department of the State Control Committee Dzmitry Zakharau visited the Financial Monitoring Agency of Kazakhstan.

Participants discussed the experience of monitoring and analysis of cryptocurrency operations, current risks and measures to minimize them, as well as issues of regulation of this sector.

The key role of international cooperation among financial intelligence was noted, including the rapid exchange of information, joint analysis and coordination of efforts.

These measures help to identify and block criminal assets, enhance financial security and increase transparency in international flows.

Following the meeting, the parties confirmed their mutual interest in strengthening bilateral cooperation and expressed their readiness for further cooperation at both the national and regional levels.

On October 8, 2025, an international seminar on strategic analysis in the field of Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) was held in Bishkek

The State Financial Intelligence Service under the Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic (SFIS), as part of its preparations for the third round of mutual evaluations of the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG), hosted an international seminar featuring the International Training and Methodology Centre for Financial Monitoring (ITMCFM) on the topic: "Strategic Analysis: National and International Experience in Preparation for the 3rd Round of EAG Mutual Evaluation.". The seminar was organized for representatives of financial intelligence units and competent authorities of the Kyrgyz Republic.

During the seminar, participants discussed modern approaches and best practices in strategic analysis, the role of interagency cooperation in mitigating risks of money laundering and terrorist financing, and exchanged experiences in preparing countries for the EAG mutual evaluation. The program included thematic sessions, panel discussions, experience sharing, and analysis of specific case studies in strategic analysis. Special attention was paid to the application of analytical approaches, working with Big Data, and the specifics of national risk assessment in the field of AML/CFT and Countering Proliferation Financing (CPF).

Reports at the seminar were presented by international and national experts, including Ilya Pegasov, Expert Specialist of the Risk Assessment Department of the Federal Financial

Monitoring Service of the Russian Federation (Rosfinmonitoring); Shukhrat Khomidov, Lecturer at the Law Enforcement Academy of the Republic of Uzbekistan; as well as representatives from the International Training and Methodology Centre for Financial Monitoring (ITMCFM) and the State Financial Intelligence Service of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The outcome of the seminar was the comprehensive formulation of concrete proposals and recommendations aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the national strategic analysis system in the Kyrgyz Republic. Particular attention was paid to improving risk



assessment methods, optimizing interagency cooperation procedures, and implementing advanced analytical approaches applied at the international level.

The Department on Combating Economic Crimes at the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan held a face-to-face meeting with representatives of the working group of supervisory authorities

The Department on Combating Economic Crimes at the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan held a face-to-face meeting with representatives of the working group of supervisory authorities, including the Central Bank and the Ministry of Justice.



The purpose of the meeting was to discuss measures to prepare for the third round of mutual evaluation of the national system for anti-money laundering, combating terrorist financing and the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (AML/CFT/CPF).

During the meeting, the main areas of work were identified:

- Implementation of the updated FATF Standards into legislation;
- Improvement of inter-agency cooperation;
- Strengthening of supervisory mechanisms for Financial Institutions and Designated non-financial Businesses and Professions;
- Preparation of materials and reports reflecting the effectiveness of the system.

Current issues of technical and practical cooperation on the development of the national AML/CFT/CPF system were also discussed.

Following the meeting, relevant decisions were taken aimed at timely and high-quality preparation for the upcoming mutual evaluation.

We welcome you to take part in the development of the EAG Bulletin. If you would like to place news, articles and other publications in the following issues of the Bulletin, please feel free to send an e-mail entitled "EAG Bulletin" to: info@eurasiangroup.org

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