

## **Azerbaijan - Romania relations**

### **Brief historical information on diplomatic relations:**

Romania recognized the independence of Azerbaijan on December 11, 1991. Diplomatic relations between Azerbaijan and Romania were established on June 19, 1992.

Embassy of Romania has been functioning since November 3, 1998. Currently H.E. Mr.Daniel Cristian Ciobanu is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Romania to the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan has been functioning since May 19, 2001. According to the decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated June 27, 2013 H.E. Mr.Farid Abdinbayov was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Romania.

In accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated September 25, 2012 Gabriel Valentin Comanescu, president of “Upetrom Group” was appointed an Honorary Consul of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Constanta city.

### **High-level mutual visits:**

#### **Presidents:**

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>2 July 1995</b>           | - President of Azerbaijan Mr.H.Aliyev, official visit  |
| <b>March 1996</b>            | - President of Romania Mr.I.Iliescu, official visit  |
| <b>29 June – 1 July 1998</b> | - President of Romania Mr.E.Constantinescu, official visit   |
| <b>7 – 8 September 1998</b>  | - President of Romania Mr.E.Constantinescu,<br>working visit for International Conference on<br>restoration of historical silk route |
| <b>11-12 October 2004</b>    | - President of Azerbaijan Mr.I.Aliyev, official visit  |
| <b>5 June 2006</b>           | - President of Azerbaijan Mr. I.Aliyev, working visit<br>for “Black Sea Forum”   |
| <b>11-12 October 2006</b>    | - President of Romania Mr.T.Basescu, official visit  |

- 19 June 2007** - President of Romania Mr.T.Basescu working visit for GUAM Summit
- 24-25 September 2007** - President of Azerbaijan Mr.I.Aliyev, working visit. During his visit President I.Aliyev inaugurated Tey Park – Heydar Aliyev Alley and Representation of Heydar Aliyev Foundation in Romania.
- 2-4 April 2008** - President of Azerbaijan Mr.I.Aliyev visit for NATO Bucharest Summit
- 21 August 2008** - President of Romania Mr.T.Basescu, working visit
- 28-29 September 2009** - President of Azerbaijan Mr.I.Aliyev, official visit
- 13-14 September 2010** - President of Romania Mr.T.Basescu working visit for AGRI Summit
- 18-19 April 2011** - President of Romania, Mr.T.Basescu, official visit

**Prime Ministers:**

- 26-27 June 2013 - Prime Minister of Romania, Mr.Victor Ponta, official visit

**Chairmen of Parliament:**

**18-20 December 2006** Chairman of Azerbaijani Parliament Mr.Ogtay Asadoy paid official visit to Romania. During his visit Mr.O.Asadov met President T.Basescu and other top officials of Romanian parliament.

**18-20 June 2008** a parliamentary delegation led by speaker of the senate Mr.Nicolae Vacaroiu paid visit on the occasion of 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of Parliament of Azerbaijan.

**13-16 March 2013** - Chairman of Chamber of Deputies, Mr.Valeriu Zgonea, official visit

### **Ministers:**

- 26-29 May 2003** - Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan Mr.V.Guliyev
- 13-15 March 2006** - Minister of National Defence of Romania Mr. T.Atanasiu
- 19-24 February 2007** - Minister of Defense Industry of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mr.Y. Jamalov
- 25-26 May 2007** - Head of the State Border Service of Azerbaijan, Mr.E.Guliyev
- 11-15 July 2007** - President of SOCAR Mr.R. Abdullayev
- 22-24 October 2007** - Chairman of the State Committee on State Property Management of Azerbaijan Mr.K.Hasanov
- 10-12 March 2008** - Minister of Industry and Energy of Azerbaijan Mr.N.Aliyev v
- 27-29 August 2008** - Director of the Foreign Intelligence Service of Romania Mr. M.Ungureanu
- 14-15 November 2008** - Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania Mr.L. Comanescu
- 1-3 July 2009** - Minister of Economy of Romania Mr.A.Videanu
- 18 March 2010** - Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania, Mr.T.Baconschi
- 10-14 April 2010** - Minister of Industry and Energy of Azerbaijan, Mr. N.Aliyev
- 14 February 2011** - Industry and Energy Minister of Azerbaijan
- 26 April 2013** - Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr.Titus Corlatean, official visit

### **Inter-parliamentary relations:**

**In November 2000** Azerbaijan – Romania interparliamentary working group established in the Azernaijani Parliament. Chairman of the working group is deputy Mr.Azay Guliyev.

**In February 13, 2013** new composition of Romania-Azerbaijan Friendship Group was established in Romanian Parliament. Chairman of friendship group is deputy Mr.Iulian Iancu.

**11-14 June 2000**, chairman of foreign policy committee of Romanian senate Mr.G.Presecaru paid visit to Azerbaijan.

**22-25 April 2012**, Mr.Azay Guliyev, chairman of Azerbaijan-Romania interparliamentary working group and deputies Mr.Musa Guliyev and Mr.Elton Mammadov paid visit to Romania

**13-16 March 2013**, parliamentary delegation led by chairman of Romanian Chamber of Deputies Mr.Valeriu Zgonea and chairman of Romania – Azerbaijan friendship group Mr.Iulian Iancu pays official visit to Azerbaijan.

### **Cooperation in different fields:**

#### **Political sphere:**

**3-4 February 2005** - representatives from relevant ministries met in Baku for interministerial consultations. Parties discussed the opportunities of harmonization of bilateral documents to EU standards.

**4 February 2005** – director-general of legal department of MFA Romania Mr.C.Dinescu met Deputy Minister K.Khalafov. Interlocutors exchanged their views on legal status of Caspian Sea.

**10-11 March 2008** – Deputy Minister K.Khalafov paid a visit to Bucharest for political consultations. K.Khalafov meets his Romanian colleague State Secretary Raduta Dana Matake.

**15-16 June 2009** – State Secretary B.Aurescu paid a visit to Baku for political consultations.

**7 July 2010** – Director-General of the Regional Cooperation Division of Romanian MFA Irina Zidaru paid a visit to Baku for political consultations. During her visit I.Zidaru was received at the international relations department of Presidential Administration and Ministry of Energy.

**19 July 2010** – Minister Elmar Mammadyarov held discussions with his Romanian colleague Teodor Baconschi at VIP hall of Heydar Aliyev International Airport on his transit flight.

**27-29 February 2012** – Presidential adviser on national security issues Iulian Fota paid a visit to Azerbaijan. During his visit I.Fota was received by President H.E. Ilham Aliyev and other top officials of Ministries of National Security and Defence.

**09 – 10 October 2012** – Deputy Foreign Minister Araz Azimov paid visit to Romania for bilateral political consultations. A.Azimov met Presidential Advisors I.Fota and

I.Chifu, State Secretaryat MFA B.Aurescu, chairman of foreign policy committee of senate M.Geona.

**6-9 June 2013** – Presidential aide on defence issues Vahid Aliyev paid a visit to Romania and was received by President H.E. Traian Basescu, Presidential Advisor Iulian Fota, as well as, met top officials at the Government of Romania, Ministry of National Defence.

***Signed documents;***

1. Protocol on cooperation between Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania
2. Memorandum of Intent between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Romania
3. Declaration on establishment of friendship relations and partnership between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Romania
4. Agreement on friendhsipr relations and cooperation between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Romania
5. Declaration on development of friendship relations and partnership between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Romania
6. Declaration on partnership between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Romania
7. Joint Declaration of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and President of Romania (both in 2004 and 2006)
8. Declaration on Agreement of establishing strategic partnership between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Romania, Bucharest, 28 September 2009
9. Joint Action Plan on the realization of strategic partnership between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Romania, Baku,18 April 2011
10. Protocol of Cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania

**Economic field:**

**In 2012** export to Romania was reported 59,60 million USD (0,25% of whole export) whereas import from Romania was registered 23,99 million USD (0,25% of total import volume). Trade balance reached 35,61 million USD in favor of Azerbaijan.

Currently 16 fuel stations of SOCAR brand are operating in Romania.

**7-8 October 2004** – 1st session of Joint Commission on economic-trade and technical-scientific cooperation between Government of Romania and Government of Azerbaijan was held.

**5-8 October 2004** – group of Romanian businessmen paid a visit to Baku under the initiative of Entrepreneurs Confederation of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

**10 October 2006** – 2<sup>nd</sup> session of Joint Commission on economic-trade and technical-scientific cooperation between Government of Romania and Government of Azerbaijan was held.

**11-15 July 2007** – Rovnag Abdullayev, president of SOCAR paid a visit to Romania. During his visit R.Abdullayev met with top official at Ministry of Economy and Finance, as well as, CEO of “Petrom”. SOCAR President inaugurated SOCAR Romania Representation.

**22-24 October 2007** – Karam Hasanov, Chairman of State Committee on Management of State Property paid a visit to Romania under the invitation of his Romanian colleague T.Atanasiu.

**26 October 2007** – SOCAR president Rovnag Abdullayev recieved by President H.E. Traian Basescu.

**10-12 December 2007** – Romanian delegation led by State Secretary Viorel Palasca paid a visit to Baku. Parties discussed the prospects of energy cooperation.

**10-12 March 2008** – Minister of Energy and Industry Natig Aliyev paid a visit to Romania. During the visit an Agreement on cooperation between line Ministries was signed.

**21 April 2008** – 3<sup>rd</sup> session of Joint Commission on economic-trade and technical-scientific cooperation between Government of Romania and Government of Azerbaijan was held.

**1-3 July 2009** – Minister of Economy, Commerce and Business Environment Adrian Videanu pays visit to Baku to co-chair 4th session of Joint Commission on economic-trade and technical-scientific cooperation between Government of Romania and Government of Azerbaijan. A.Videanu was received by President H.E Ilham Aliyev, Prime Minister Artur Rasi-zade, also met with his colleague Natig Aliyev and president of SOCAR Rovnag Abdullayev.

**1-4 February 2010** – State Secretary at the Ministry of Economy, Commerce and Business environment Tudor Serban paid visit to Azerbaijan. During his visit “Memorandum of Understanding in the field of energy cooperation between the Ministry of Economy, Commerce and Business environment of Romania and Ministry of Industry and Energy of the Republic of Azerbaijan” was signed.

**10-14 April 2010** – Minister of Energy and Industry Natig Aliyev and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Khalaf Khalafov paid a visit to Romania. During the visit a trilateral “Memorandum of Understanding on LNG and its transportation” was signed.

**14 February 2011** – Minister of Energy and Industry Natig Aliyev participates at Ministerial meeting in Bucharest on development of AGRI Project.

**16 May 2011** - Minister of Energy and Industry Natig Aliyev participates at Azerbaijan – Georgia – Romania – Hungary Ministerial meeting in Bucharest on development of AGRI Project.

**31 October 2011** – SOCAR president Rovnag Abdullayev Rovnag Abdullayev participates in inauguration ceremony of SOCAR fuel stations in Romania.

**23-26 November 2011** – Minister of Communication Valerian Vreme participates at Bakutel-2011 international exhibition and conference.

**17-20 October 2012** – head of the department of Agrarian issues at the Presidential Administration Azer Amiraslanov paid a visit to Romania. During his visit Azerbaijani official met Minister and State Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

**14 March 2013** – Romania-Azerbaijan Business Forum was held in Baku.

**2-8 June 2013** – Minister of Agriculture Ismat Abasov participated at the General Assembly of International Organization of Wine and Vine. During his visit Minister I.Abasov held a meeting with his Romanian colleague Dan Constantin.

***Signed documents:***

1. Agreement on Cooperation in the field of economic-trade relations and scientific-technical cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Romania
2. Agreement on trade shipping between between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Romania
3. Agreement on international automobile transportation between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Romania
4. Agreement on international intermodal transportation between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Romania
5. Agreement on promotion and mutual protection of investment between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Romania

6. Agreement on double tax avoidance and prevention of tax evasion in respect to income and capital between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Romania
7. Agreement on the cooperation and mutual support in the customs field between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Romania

### **Cooperation in the humanitarian field:**

60 books covering the literary works of eminent writers and dramatists from both nations have been translated to both Romanian and Azerbaijani languages under the initiative of Romania-Azerbaijan Friendship Association and support of Embassy.

A bust of National Leader Heydar Aliyev was erected in Bucharest and a statue of great Romanian composer George Enescu was erected in Baku.

10 May 2000 – Romania-Azerbaijan Cultural relations Union was established in Baku. Azerbaijan – Romania Culture Association named after Fuzuli was established in Constanta.

3 students from Ploiest Oil-Gas University are awarded Heydar Aliyev scholarship in every academic year since 2004. Later on in 2007 Heydar Aliyev scholarship was also established for 4 students of Bucharest Technical-Construction University of each academic year.

In October 2009 under the initiative of the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan Institute of Turkic and Central Asian Studies was inaugurated in Cluj-Napoca city of Romania.

In November 2009 the Romanian representation of Heydar Aliyev Foundation realized “Cultural exchange between youth” project with support of 2<sup>nd</sup> sector Municipality of Bucharest.

In June 17-18, 2010 with the support of Heydar Aliyev Foundation and Institute of Oriental Studies named after Ziya Bunyadov a conference entitled “East-west dialogue” was held in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Azerbaijani parliamentarians Govhar Bakhshaliyeva, Gultakin Hadjibeyli and Fazil Mustafa took part at the conference.

H.E. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan was the winner of the “Man of the Year in Romania” in 2010. The award was presented by the Romanian delegation composed of the chief-editor and founder of “Balkans and Europe” journal Carol Roman, president of NIRO investment group Nicolae Dumitru during their visit in 26 February – 1 March 2011.



In October 13-27, 2011, winners of Heydar Aliyev scholarship of Ploiesti Oil-Gas University and Bucharest Technical-Construction University visited Azerbaijan on the occasion of 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the restoration of state independence of Azerbaijan.

***Signed documents:***

1. Agreement on cooperation in the field of science, education, culture and sport between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Romania.
2. Agreement on scientific-technical cooperation between the State Committee of Science and Technics of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Ministry of Research and Technology of Romania.
3. Protocol of cooperation between the Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences and Romanian Academy.

**Contractual-legal basis:**

So far 56 bilateral documents were signed between Azerbaijan and Romania.

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