



# KAZISS

KAZAKHSTAN INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC  
STUDIES UNDER THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

1993-2023

KAZAKHSTAN INSTITUTE  
FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES  
UNDER THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN





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## CONGRATULATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN



*Kassym-Jomart Tokayev,  
The President  
of the Republic of Kazakhstan*

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## DEAR EMPLOYEES OF THE INSTITUTE!

Congratulations on the 30th anniversary of the Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies!

Since its foundation, KazISS has made significant contributions to the sustainable development of our country, directly engaged in the creation of strategic documents. Over the years, the Institute has turned into an influential “think tank” and has become a real talent foundry in the fields of analytics, political consulting, and public administration.

Today, KazISS rightfully holds a leading position in the applied research market, consolidating the expert community and setting the agenda for public intellectual discussions. The Institute's comprehensive study and balanced evaluation of key processes in the country and abroad contribute to strengthening the ideological sovereignty of Kazakhstan and the establishment of a culture of critical thinking in our society. At the same time, as the leading «idea factory» KazISS actively promotes expert diplomacy, contributing to the strengthening of international trust and dialogue.

Effective expert and analytical support are of particular importance for the successful implementation of the large-scale reforms we have initiated. Therefore, KazISS will play an essential role in constructing Just Kazakhstan – a state of equal opportunities for all and for everyone.

I want to express my sincere gratitude to the staff and veterans of the Institute for many years of productive activity to the prosperity of the country.

I wish you health, prosperity and success!

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## WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE KazISS



*Yerkin Tukumov,  
the Director of the Kazakhstan  
Institute for Strategic Studies*

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## DEAR READERS!

I am honored to present you this special edition dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

This edition encourages us to look back at the achievements gained throughout the history of the KazISS. Over the years, the Institute has become the leading think tank of the country. As a result, the Institute's experts play an important role in forming the strategic decisions of Kazakhstan's leadership.

We always aspire for leadership in research, offering in-depth analysis and recommendations on global challenges and opportunities that our country faces.

Our Institute has become a platform for ideas and knowledge exchange, as well as for creating close ties with think tanks around the world, due to our high level of expertise, and our unique experience and cooperation with world's scientific and academic institutions.

We are also proud of our growing network of young and talented research fellows. Their ambitions and educational drive give us confidence in the prospects and importance of the KazISS's mission. For this reason, we consider the development of regional research a special goal and plan to open branches across the country.

Our Institute keeps growing and developing, and we reflectively improve the Institute's structure. Times are changing, challenges are becoming more complex, and strategic foresight and intellectual tools are becoming even more critical. We work, study and invest in the human capital of the country to meet the requirements of our time.

KazISS is not just an organization, it is a family united by common goals and beliefs. We believe in the power of knowledge, the importance of objectivity and experience in our work for the benefit of Kazakhstan's development.

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# KazISS

Generates ideas, meanings, as well as domestic and foreign policy concepts

Forms public opinion on state policy issues using publications in mass media and public speeches

Organizes major forums to discuss the most important issues of regional and international agenda



Grows experts in its ranks to work in government agencies

Has a network of international partners and is among the world's top leaders of "think tanks"

# KazISS VALUES

Working for the country is  
the basis of our philosophy

Team of the  
brightest  
intellectuals  
in the field  
of foreign policy,  
economics  
and state policy

High quality  
analytical  
products

Be an important  
center of gravity  
for experts

Remain a brand  
of Kazakhstan analytics

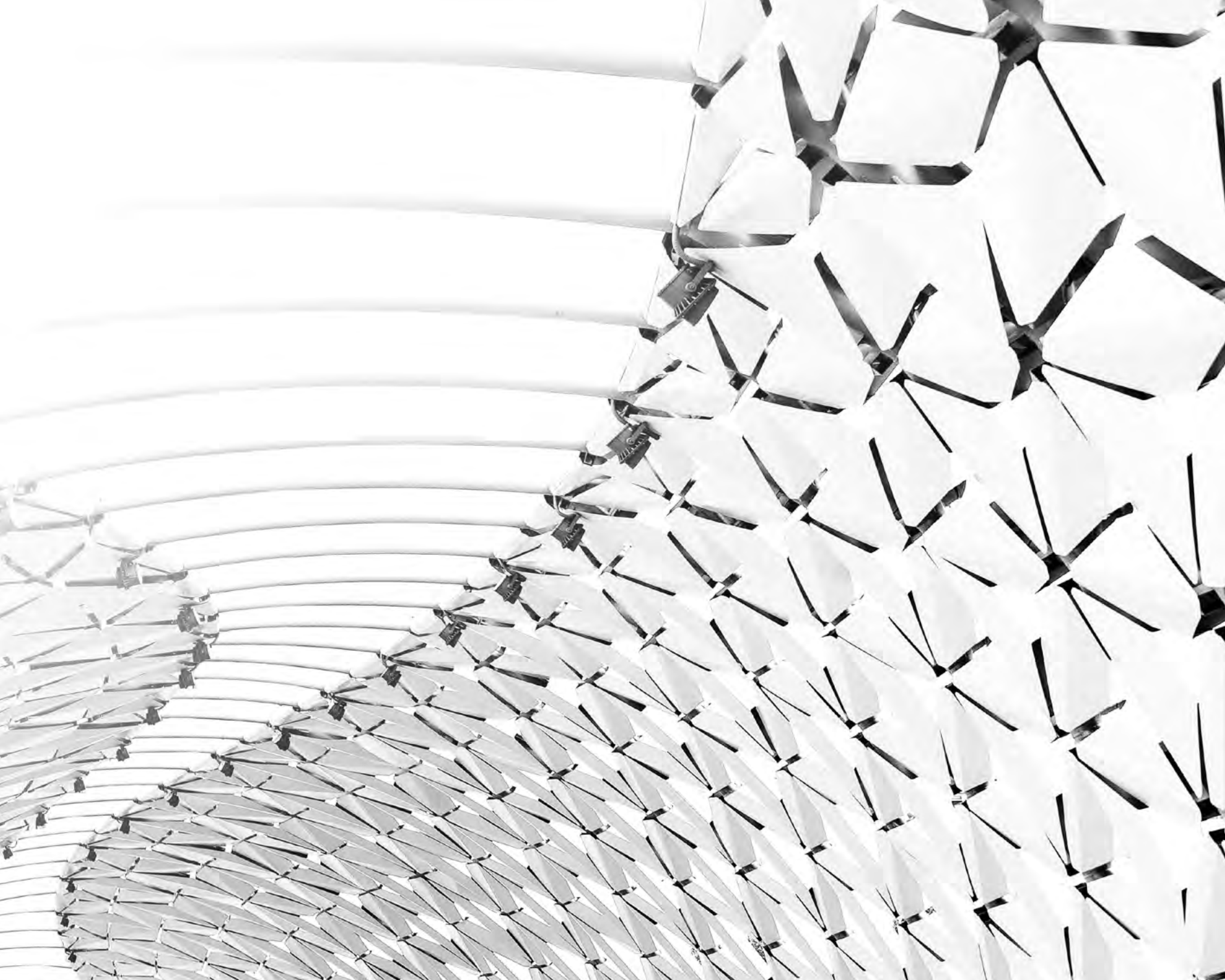


# 30 YEARS: CHRONICLE OF PERFECTION

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All the activities of KazISS are  
inextricably linked with the history  
of forming independent Kazakhstan

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On June 16, 1993, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 1235 “On establishment of the Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan” was signed.

KazISS was established on the basis of KIMEP Center for Strategic Studies, the first analytical center of Independent Kazakhstan, and went the path from a young institute with 15 employees to the main analytical center of the country.

June 24-26, 1993 – the first international conference of KazISS themed “Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Rights of Ethnic Minorities”.

October 1, 1993 Regulations of the KazISS approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

During this period, KazISS participated in development of fundamental documents for the Republic of Kazakhstan, including Draft law on fundamentals of foreign economic activity (1993), Foreign policy concept (1996), National security concept.

In process of development, KazISS gradually gained experience, its reputation was growing, backbone of highly professional experts and main structure was formed, which remains relevant at the present time.



Well-known world experts and politicians – American analyst Zbigniew Brzezinski (1993), former US Secretary of State James Baker (1996) – made speeches at KazISS venues. Both meetings were held with the participation of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev.



The foreign policy agenda was dominated by a topic that became a “business card” of KazISS – problems of nuclear non-proliferation and Kazakhstan’s participation in START-1 treaty. The main priorities of Kazakhstan’s foreign policy, laid down at that time, are being actively continued now.



In 1997, “Kazakhstan-Spectrum” magazine was created, which became a sequel of “Kazakhstan and the World Community” magazine (published since 1994).

1993.....

1997

The focus of KazISS's research work continues to remain on such areas as domestic policy, socio-economic development, foreign policy, international relations and security.

Foreign policy studies were dominated by topics on Caspian oil, interests of world powers, and integration projects in Central Asia. Since 2001, the topic of combating terrorism and regional security has become relevant. KazISS prepares analytical materials, publishes books, holds conferences on situation in Afghanistan, religious extremism, role of Islam in Kazakhstan and Central Asia.



*International Round Table "Security Factors in Kazakhstan and Central Asia: External and internal challenges and threats",*

**June 9, 2001**

During this period, dominant areas of research in domestic policy were analysis of prospects for democratic reforms, social and economic reforms in Kazakhstan; assessment of scope and effectiveness of foreign capital in the country's economy; development of strategy for economic reforms and assessment of trends in socio-economic reforms.

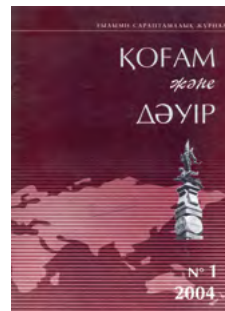
1998.....

2002

During this period, the Institute continued its formation as a driver of country's analytical community. The Institute co-organized the first joint dialogue formats with leading analytical centers of Kazakhstan's key foreign policy partners. The first Kazakh-Russian, Kazakh-China, Kazakh-Indian, Kazakh-Polish round tables and expert dialogues were held, agreements were signed with leading analytical centers.

**On June 17, 2003**, the First Annual Almaty Conference on Security and Regional Cooperation was held in honor of the 10th anniversary of KazISS - Institute's flagship conference for the next 15 years.

At the same time, the Institute is increasingly involved in information support for activities of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as well as in developing main strategic documents of the country, being one of developers of the Draft National Security Strategy of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2006-2010.



*In the jubilee year of 2003, the first issue of the quarterly magazine "Central Asia's Affairs" was published in English. Since 2004, Kazakh-language periodical of the KazISS "Kogam zhane Davir" was published.*

KazISS made an active contribution to domestic political research, focusing on the development of parliamentarism related to the results of constitutional reform of 2007. KazISS actively participated in highlighting 2007 Parliamentary elections, initiating creation of "discussion platform" on the basis of KazISS for dialogue between political parties, expert community and journalists.

2003

2007

As part of developing external cooperation of KazISS, meetings were held with expert communities of Western, Asian and CIS countries.

Issues of Asian and European security have always been the priority topics of analytical developments and ongoing KazISS activities, including Kazakhstan's participation in international organizations such as the SCO, CICA, OSCE, OIC, etc.

On the eve of Kazakhstan's chairmanship in the OSCE in 2009, KazISS became one of the organizers of events dedicated to international security issues, as well as sharing experience between Kazakh and foreign experts, implemented the project "2010: Republic of Kazakhstan – Chairman of the OSCE".



*VIII Annual Almaty Conference "Chairmanship of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the OSCE: preliminary results and prospects", Almaty, KazISS, May 28, 2010*

"Arab Spring" in 2011 was an urgent topic on the international agenda, KazISS took an active part in discussions and analysis, expert platforms were held in order to understand causes and consequences of the Arab crisis.

In 2011, Kazakh-Russian Expert Council was established on the basis of KazISS.

The issues of social development and the state of interethnic relations were one of the main areas of KazISS research. In 2009 KazISS has become a venue for meetings of the special working commission for developing National Unity Doctrine of Kazakhstan. In 2010-2011 KazISS also conducted presentations on results of sociological research.

2008

2012



- One of the important events in the history of the Institute was signature by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan on **April 11, 2014** of Decree No. 793 “On relocation of the Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan to Astana city”.



- In the period 2014-2017, expert meetings were held with representatives of well-known overseas analytical centers (China, Great Britain, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan), as well as courses for young experts within the framework of the KazISS Summer School on Security.

In 2015, analytical report “Central Asia 2020: Four Strategic Concepts” was published.

In 2017, review, titled “Ten most important events in Central Asia in 2017” was presented.

Inclusion of KazISS at the end of 2016 into the list of top 150 world’s “think tanks” according to the rating of University of Pennsylvania research program “Analytical Centers and Civil Society” was a significant event for the Institute, being a recognition of Institute’s great achievements in research activities.

- In 2016, the Institute participated in information support of measures within the framework of implementing Five institutional reforms, as well as Kazakhstan’s identity and unity.

In 2017 - expert discussion of the draft constitutional reform on redistribution of powers between branches of government, announced by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan in a special address to the people of Kazakhstan.

KazISS held international scientific and practical conference “EXPO-2017: modernization breakthrough of Kazakhstan”, took part in discussion of the program article of Nursultan Nazarbayev on modernization of public consciousness “Bolashakka bagdar: rukhani zhangyru”.

2013.....2017

On June 15, 2018, international conference “National Modernization Strategies: Achievements and Prospects” was held, dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Since 2019 KazISS conducts comprehensive sociological research, themed “Level and quality of life of Kazakhstanis. Socio-political situation” (2019-2020), “Hearing State: socio-political mood and social well-being of Kazakhstanis” (2021-2023). Analytical reports have been prepared based on the results of sociological research.



2018.....2023



*In 2019 KazISS held the Second Central Asian Expert Forum, themed: "Dialogue on Water Issues in Central Asia: from national to region-wide issues" jointly with the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia and Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Central Asia.*

2019-2023 KazISS continues active participation in information and expert sociological support of electoral processes, ongoing political reforms in Kazakhstan, all initiatives and activities of the Head of State.

KazISS has strengthened international cooperation with the world's leading analytical centers by initiating dialogue formats with key regional partners.

**April 20, 2022** new Regulation on the Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan was approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The basis for adoption of new version of the Regulation was the need to further improve KazISS activities and improve

quality of expert, research and information and analytical work.

Since 2022, KazISS has been initiating institutional formats with the main regional partners.

### Meetings of Directors of Strategic Research Institutes under the Presidents of Central Asian Countries

*International Conference "The Cooperation of Central Asia in the New Geopolitical Environment: Challenges and Opportunities", June 30, 2022*



2018.....2023



Expert meeting “Central Asia-2030: Visions of the Future”, January 20, 2023

*In 2022, KazISS initiated a Program to support young experts, under which a new generation of Kazakhstani analysts get the opportunity to strengthen their professional competencies and skills, as well as to prepare high-quality analytical materials.*



- **July 13-14, 2023** KazISS is hosting the first Central Asian Security and Cooperation Forum - new flagship initiative of the Institute, designed to become a permanent discussion platform generating new ideas at the intersection of diplomacy, public administration, economics, culture and business.

2018.....2023



**5,313**  
analytical and  
informational  
materials

**664**  
scientific  
events

# KazISS IN NUMBERS (1993-2023)

**3,384**  
scientific  
articles

**3,384**  
scientific  
articles

**2,819**  
presentations  
in scientific  
events

in Kazakhstan  
**2,107**

**712**  
in foreign  
conferences

in Kazakhstani  
publications  
**2,630**

**754**  
in foreign  
publications

**6,164**  
speeches in media,  
including printed media,  
on television and radio,  
in electronic media

# RATING



According to the results of the World Index-rating of analytical centers for 2016, the Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the first time was included into the list of world's 150 best "think tanks" among 6 thousand analytical institutes and centers. Previously, the Institute was included in the global rating only within certain categories and directions.

## GLOBAL GO TO THINK TANK INDEX REPORT

2016

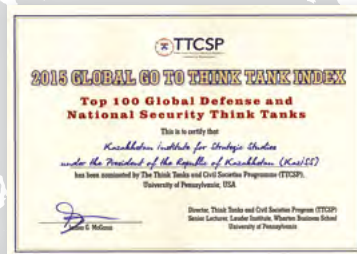
**147<sup>th</sup>** position  
in the whole world excluding USA

2017

**140<sup>th</sup>** position

2018

**142<sup>nd</sup>** position



## CENTRAL ASIA

2015-2018

2<sup>nd</sup>  
place

2019

1<sup>st</sup>  
place

KazISS became the only structure from Kazakhstan and Central Asian countries in the new nomination: "The best policy and institutional response to COVID-19 in 2020"

## DEFENSE AND NATIONAL SECURITY

2016

95<sup>th</sup>  
place in the world

2017

91<sup>st</sup>  
place in the world

2020

97<sup>th</sup>  
place in the world



# KazISS TODAY



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In 2023,  
there was a structural transformation  
of the KazISS adjusted to strategic objectives  
of Kazakhstan's development.

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# KazISS PERSONNEL

Staff number of KazISS

**66** persons

**40** years

average age of employees

**4**

doctors of science

**7**

Ph.D candidates

**8**

Ph.D

**30**

masters

men **30**

women **33**

management and employees  
of scientific departments

**43** persons

employees of auxiliary departments

**20** persons

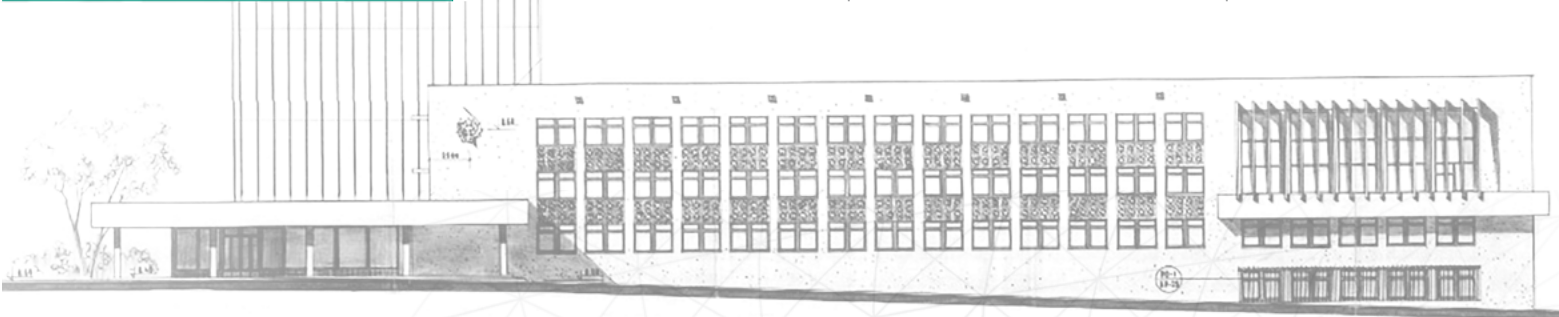
# KazISS STRUCTURE



**3**  
CENTERS

**8**  
ANALYTICS  
DEPARTMENTS

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER	INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER	ECONOMIC RESEARCH CENTER
Department of strategic analysis	Department of Asian research	Department of economic policy analysis
Department of public opinion monitoring	Department of European and American research	Department of global economy and sustainable development
Department of electoral processes research	Department of international security	



# STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER



## DEPARTMENT OF STRATEGIC ANALYSIS

explores issues of public policy  
and public administration

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC OPINION MONITORING

studies the needs of the  
population to improve public  
policy

## DEPARTMENT OF ELECTORAL PROCESSES RESEARCH

analyzes electoral sentiments  
and preferences of citizens



identifies potential risks and challenges of domestic political processes	forms recommendations and draft decisions for adjustment and improvement of public administration	being guided by strategic analysis methodology, results of sociological research, as well as analysis of open data
identifies trends in the development of regional and national level	conducts diagnostics and forecasting of social changes	develops practical recommendations for improving communication between the government and citizens
carries out comparative studies of electoral technologies in different countries of the world	conducts research in the field of party and political space	participates in the development of regulatory documents in the field of electoral legislation

# INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER



## DEPARTMENT OF ASIAN RESEARCH

analyzes and forms forecasts on issues of Kazakhstan's foreign policy in the Asian direction

## DEPARTMENT OF EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN RESEARCH

analyzes and forms forecasts on issues of Kazakhstan's foreign policy in relation to the European countries, the USA and the Eastern Europe

## DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

identifies main threats and challenges to Kazakhstan's security as a sovereign state

<p>develops conceptual foundations and practical recommendations on the issues of Kazakhstan's foreign policy in the Asian direction</p>	<p>prepares applied expert-analytical research on issues of Kazakhstan's foreign policy in the Asian direction</p>	<p>conducts regular analysis of trends in international system, trends in the development of states, as well as current international situation on the Asian continent</p>
<p>develops conceptual foundations and practical recommendations on foreign policy and national security of the Republic of Kazakhstan in relation to the countries of the studied region</p>	<p>prepares applied expert-analytical studies on issues of Kazakhstan's foreign policy in relation to the European countries, the USA and the Eastern Europe</p>	<p>conducts regular analysis of trends in the development of the European countries and the United States, as well as the current international situation</p>
<p>develops recommendations on neutralizing threats and challenges to the country's security</p>	<p>conducts research in the field of international security</p>	<p>ensures country's leadership with up-to-date information and sound recommendations regarding modern security challenges and threats</p>



# ECONOMIC RESEARCH CENTER



## DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC POLICY ANALYSIS

builds an economic development strategy that should meet needs of citizens and be resistant to external and internal challenges

## DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

conducts research on processes in the global economy and ways to create a sustainable society in Kazakhstan



explores and analyzes economic problems that Kazakhstan is facing in the short and long term

offers alternative approaches to solving the issues of Kazakhstan's economic growth and searching for new sources of country's development

analyzes transformation of economy for improving quality of life and well-being of the population

studies issues on improving the effectiveness of economic policy in a changing external environment

develops recommendations for improving public policy that meet modern challenges

conducts regular analysis of trends in the system of international economic relations and directions of development of the global and regional economic growth's poles

# OUR PARTNERS

Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan



International Institute for Central Asia



National Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Kyrgyz Republic



Center for Strategic Research under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan



Institute of World Economy and International Relations



Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences



Center of Analysis of International Relations of Azerbaijan



China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations



Belarusian Institute for Strategic Research



Friedrich Ebert Foundation



The Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute



Center for Central Asia Research, Corvinus University of Budapest



Royal United Services Institute



Russian Institute for Strategic Studies



Shanghai Institute for International Studies



# 1,083

working meetings in KazISS with representatives of foreign embassies, international organizations, foreign research and analytical centers

# 65

memoranda of understanding and cooperation with Kazakh and foreign research structures



Institute for Political and International Studies of Iran



Shanghai Cooperation Organization



OSCE Programme Office in Astana



International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Kazakhstan



United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia



The Valdai Discussion Club



Center for Global & Strategic Studies (Pakistan)



The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences



# KazISS PUBLICATIONS



98

issues of scientific magazine "Kazakhstan-Spectrum" (1994-2022)

76

issues of "Central Asia's Affairs" magazine in English (2003-2022)

72

issues of scientific and analytical magazine "Kogam zhane Daur" (2004-2022)

52

issues of scientific and analytical magazine "Analytic" (1999-2012)

376

books and reference publications

230

individual and collective monographs



