

## The United Nations Secretary General Visits Turkmenistan



The United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon visited Turkmenistan on June 12-14, 2015 in the framework of his working tour around Central Asia. This is his second time to Visit Turkmenistan. His last visit was in 2010.

The UN Secretary - General met with the President of Turkmenistan, H.E Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov at the “Oguzkhan” Presidential Palace complex. After the official greeting and photo, they had a meeting

(<http://mfa.gov.tm/en/news-en/3237-official-visit-of-the-un-secretary-general-mr-ban-ki-moon-to-turkmenistan>)

The President of Turkmenistan noted the importance of the visit of UN Secretary - General to the country and shared recent developments in the country. (<http://www.un.org/sg/offthecuff/index.asp?nid=3987>)

The UN Secretary-General expressed gratitude for the warm reception and hospitality and noted the strong cooperation with the Government and the UN agencies. (<http://mfa.gov.tm/en/news-en/3237-official-visit-of-the-un-secretary-general-mr-ban-ki-moon-to-turkmenistan>)

The president of Turkmenistan and the Secretary General agreed to continue to enhance the cooperation, and reaffirmed the mutual commitment to address internal and international problems by peaceful means, through political dialogue.

([http://turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_eng/?id=4889](http://turkmenistan.gov.tm/_eng/?id=4889))

After the meeting with the President the UN Secretary-General proceeded to the International University for the Humanities and Development. The Rector of the University E. Aydogdyev



welcomed the UN Secretary-General and stressed the historical significance of his visit to the university.

(<http://mfa.gov.tm/en/news-en/3237-official-visit-of-the-un-secretary-general-mr-ban-ki-moon-to-turkmenistan>) Ban Ki-moon was awarded with the title of “Honorary Doctor of the university”.

UN Secretary-General congratulated the International University for the Humanities and Development for becoming a member of to the global initiative of the “United Nations Academic Impact” (UNAI) and presented a certificate to mark the event.

Speaking at the International University for the Humanities and Development, Ban Ki-moon noted the importance of the unique status of Turkmenistan as a neutral state recognized by the UN General Assembly.

(<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51146>)

<http://www.un.org/sg/statements/index.asp?nid=8723>)



During his visit Mr Ban Ki-moon met with staff members and representatives of the UN agencies as well as representatives of public organizations. He also visited the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia. Here, the UN Secretary-General met with local and international journalists and underlined the importance of establishing of the Centre in 2007 that focuses on strengthening trust and mutual respect in addressing the pressing issues of the region.

<http://mfa.gov.tm/en/news-en/3237-official-visit-of-the-un-secretary-general-mr-ban-ki-moon-to-turkmenistan>), (<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51146>)

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In honor of the distinguished guest, President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov gave an official dinner during which the Turkmen leader and the Secretary-General of the United Nations exchanged speeches. (<http://mfa.gov.tm/en/news-en/3237-official-visit-of-the-un-secretary-general-mr-ban-ki-moon-to-turkmenistan>).

“The UN Secretary-General’s visit to the country provided an opportunity for the government, civil society, students and UN agencies staff to hear for themselves the current priorities of the UN Secretary-General and a call for all people to renew their commitments to the purposes and principles of the charter of the United Nations,” said Ms Jacinta Barrins, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan.