

MONITORING OF RUSSIA'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

trends and challenges
of socio-economic development

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FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS IN EAEU MEMBER STATES IN 2025

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In 2025, a trend toward the recovery of inward and outward foreign direct investment (FDI) flows in the Eurasian region became apparent following a significant decline since 2022 (primarily due to the imposition of Western sanctions). Starting in 2022, the geography of outbound FDI from EAEU countries changed substantially. In particular, FDI flows expanded considerably to the UAE, Serbia, China, Uzbekistan, India, and Turkey. At the same time, a pattern of country-specific specialization has emerged for Eurasian outbound FDI: the UAE and Turkey have become major trade and financial hubs, while China and India have become manufacturing and energy partners. The share of mutual investment among EAEU countries remains at around 4% of total FDI.

The year 2025 saw a trend toward increased investment activity in the EAEU following a decline since 2022 driven by growth in both inward and outward foreign direct investment (FDI), primarily in Russia (Fig. 1).

Inbound FDI

2025 recorded the largest inflow of FDI in Russia (\$22.93 bn). Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, and Armenia received \$5.4 bn, \$0.95 bn, and \$0.61 bn, respectively, in 2025.¹ Kazakhstan recorded an outflow of FDI amounting to -\$861.12 mn in 2025.²

The largest donors in the Eurasian region are Asian countries (China, India, Iran, Turkey, and the Gulf states), whose cumulative investments in 2025 amounted to \$119.8 bn, which is 20% higher than the 2023 level.³ Russia, together with its EAEU partners, continues to liberalize economic cooperation with these countries. In particular, the parties are in the process of finalizing an agreement on trade in services and investment between Russia and the UAE,

1 Akra News Agency (2026). Minister: Total investments in Armenia rose by 88% over the past year, while direct investments increased 3.6-fold. URL: <https://arka.am/news/economy/ministr-obshchie-investitsii-v-armenii-za-god-vyrosli-na-88-pryamyie-investitsii-v-3-6-raza/>

2 National Bank of Kazakhstan (2026). Direct Investments by Investment Sector. URL: <https://nationalbank.kz/ru/news/pryamyie-investicii-po-napravleniyu-vlozheniya>

3 EDB (2026). The Eurasian Region and Partner Countries in Asia: Analysis of Investment Flows Based on the EDB's Mutual Investment Monitor. URL: <https://eabr.org/analytics/special-reports/eurasian-region-and-asian-countries-analysis-of-investment-flows/>

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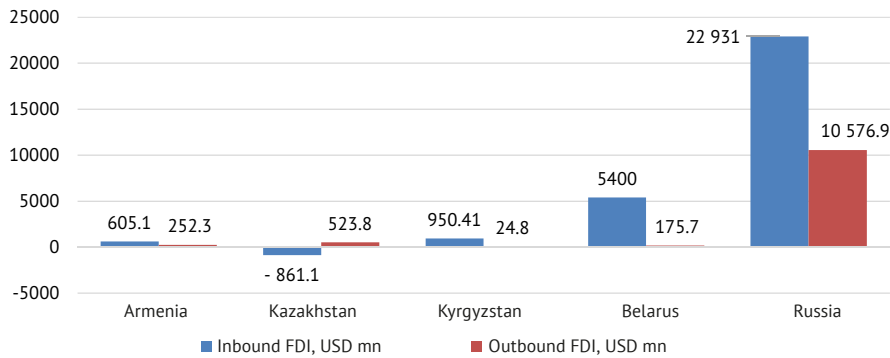


Fig. 1. Inbound and outbound FDI in EAEU member states in 2025 (flow), USD mn

Source: Own compilation according to the data released by the national banks of the EAEU countries.

as well as an economic partnership agreement between the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) and the UAE.¹

European countries such as France, the Netherlands, Germany, Luxembourg, and Switzerland are among the largest investors in Kazakhstan and Armenia. Specifically, in 2025, Germany invested \$698.01 mn in the Kazakh economy, Luxembourg invested \$661.21 mn, Switzerland – \$1.09 bn. France remains the largest traditional investor from the EU in the Armenian economy. In May 2026, during his visit to Yerevan, French President Emanuel Macron pledged to continue investment cooperation.² In particular, plans call for the establishment of representative offices in Armenia for the French Development Agency (AFD) and PROPARCO.³

In Russia, as previously noted, the geography of investment cooperation changed. The volume of investment from “unfriendly” jurisdictions declined by nearly 50% between 2022 and 2025. At the same time, the volume of FDI from “friendly” countries increased by more than 50%.⁴ Companies from “unfriendly”

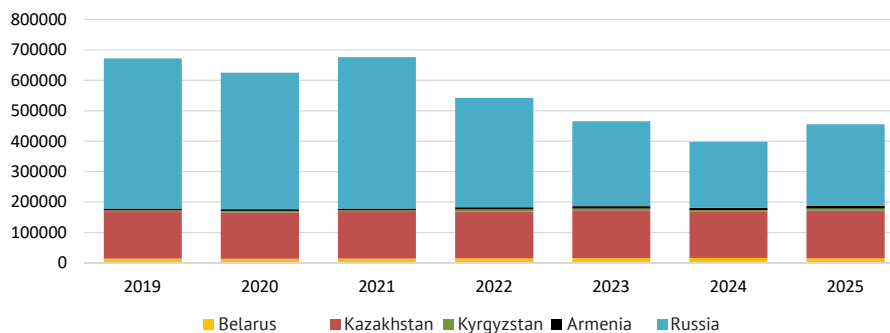


Fig. 2. Inbound FDI (stock) in 2019–2025, USD mn

Source: Own compilation according to the data released by the national banks of the EAEU countries.

- 1 Gasymov, N. (2026). Russia and the EAEU to Liberalize Trade with the UAE. April 7, 2026. URL: <https://www.vedomosti.ru/economics/articles/2026/04/08/1188388-rossiya-i-eaes-liberalizuyut-torgovlyu-s-oea>
- 2 Vedomosti (2026). Pashinyan and Macron signed a declaration on strategic partnership. May 5, 2026. URL: <https://www.vedomosti.ru/politics/news/2026/05/05/1195272-pashinyan-makron-podpisali>
- 3 Avanesov, A. (2026). France intends to participate more actively in investment programs in Armenia. URL: https://finport.am/full_news.php?id=56273
- 4 Kosenok, A., Sokolov, A. (2026). Vedomosti calculations: Offshore control over business in the Russian Federation has been halved. URL: <https://www.vedomosti.ru/economics/>

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jurisdictions that left or scaled back their operations lost out on over \$610 bn in revenue and at least \$16 bn in net profit in Russia from 2022 to 2025.¹

Outbound FDI

Starting in 2022, FDI flows expanded significantly in markets such as the UAE, Serbia, China, Uzbekistan, India, and Turkey.

In 2025, Russian corporate entities continued to register their businesses in the UAE in response to Western sanctions, which intensified after 2022. Other EAEU countries are also registering trading companies in the UAE to establish new supply chains for petroleum products, grains, and metals.²

In 2025, China became the main industrial and investment partner for the EAEU countries. The Russia-China “Power of Siberia” energy project remains a key infrastructure initiative; in 2025, the Russian side invested approximately \$1 bn in its development.³

High investment activity by EAEU countries can also be observed in other CIS countries. In particular, Uzbekistan, and Georgia are the largest destinations for Kazakhstani capital. In 2025, a port terminal in Poti (Georgia) was commissioned with the participation of the Kazakhstani investment group PTC Holding. The project is estimated to be worth \$32 mn.⁴ Armenia is also an important investment partner for Georgia among the EAEU countries. Grand Holding expanded its participation in a joint cigarette production venture in Georgia, increasing its investment to \$147 mn in 2025.⁵

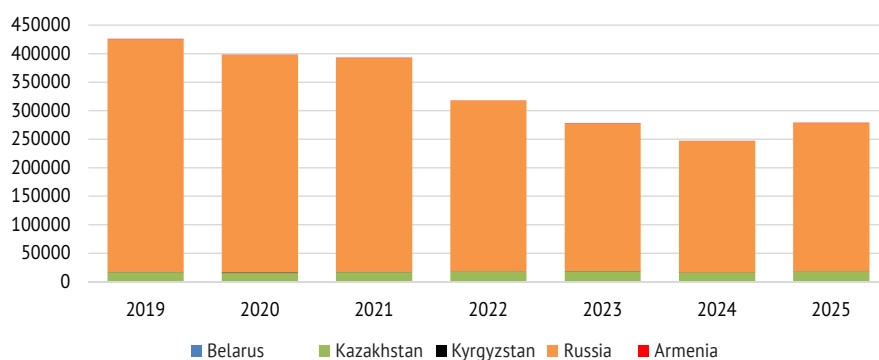


Fig. 3. Outbound FDI (stock) from the EAEU in 2019–2025, USD mn

Source: Own compilation according to the data released by the national banks of the EAEU countries.

articles/2026/04/08/1188681-podscheti-vedomostei-ofshornii-kontrol-nad-rossiiskim-biznesom-sokratilsya

- 1 Kosenok, A., Sokolov, A. (2026). Vedomosti estimates: Unfriendly countries have lost \$600 billion in revenue in Russia. URL: https://www.vedomosti.ru/economics/articles/2026/03/25/1185272-nedruzhestvennie-strani-lishilis-dohodov?from=copy_text
- 2 EAEU (2025). Main Directions of EAEU International Activities for 2025 approved. URL: <https://eec.eaeunion.org/en/news/utverzhdenny-osnovnye-napravleniya-mezhdunarodnoy-deyatelnosti-eaes-na-2025-god>
- 3 URL: https://tsargrad.tv/news/investprogramma-2025-vyrosla-na-94-mlrd-finansirovanie-jamala-sila-sibiri_1421034m
- 4 RTS Holding (2025). The Kazakhstani terminal at the Port of Poti will be launched in 2025. February 7, 2025. URL: <https://ptc-holding.kz/smi-about-us/kazahstanskij-terminal-v-portu-poti-zapustyat-v-2025-godu/>
- 5 EDB (2025). Investment Cooperation in the Eurasian Region Based on the EDB’s Mutual Investment Monitoring. URL: https://eabr.org/upload/iblock/f31/EDB_2025_MMI_Eurasian-Region_Report_RU.pdf

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Thus, investments in the UAE enable EAEU countries to develop their financial infrastructure and trade. Investments in China are aimed at developing cooperation in the manufacturing and energy sectors, primarily between Russia and China.

Mutual FDI between EAEU countries

The Russian Federation remains the largest investor in the EAEU. Its share has averaged about 80% since 2020.¹ However, during 2024–2025, the growth rate of Russian investment in the EAEU stood at 2.2%, which is lower than the Eurasian regional average of 6.2%. The largest recipients of Russian FDI in the Eurasian region are Kazakhstan (24.78%), Uzbekistan (28.36%), and Belarus (14.31%).

The second-largest investor in the EAEU is Kazakhstan, which accounts for about 8% of intra-EAEU FDI. Meanwhile, the state also remains a significant recipient of FDI, accounting for 39% of the total FDI attracted by all EAEU countries.²

Armenia stands out among the countries demonstrating the fastest growth in investment activity. Balchug Capital's acquisition of a Russian subsidiary of Goldman Sachs was Armenia's most significant investment project in 2025.³ In 2025, Balchug Capital also received approval to acquire Goldman Sachs' stakes in several top-tier Russian companies: Gazprom, Rosneft, Lukoil, Novatek, Rostelecom, and other metallurgical and energy companies. The acquisition of the subsidiary capped off a series of deals that began earlier – Balchug Capital's 2023 purchase of the "Metropolis" trading house and the Pulkovo Sky complex in Moscow for over \$750 mn.⁴ Among the new ventures, it is worth noting Revery Group's acquisition of the Burger King franchise in Kazakhstan, with an estimated value of \$110 mn.⁵ Mutual FDI within the EAEU countries remains concentrated primarily in three key sectors: the raw materials sector, the manufacturing industry, and transportation and logistics (*Table 1*). It is also worth noting the higher growth rates in investment flows into the region from countries such as Georgia and Uzbekistan.⁶

The analysis showed that in 2025 the trend toward a reorientation of investment flows in the EAEU countries, which began in 2022 became more pronounced. This applies primarily to Russia. Meanwhile, the UAE and Turkey have become Russia's largest trade and financial hubs, while China and India have become its most important manufacturing and energy partners.

1 EDB (2025). Investment Cooperation in the Eurasian Region Based on the EDB's Monitoring of Mutual Investments. URL: https://eabr.org/upload/iblock/f31/EDB_2025_MMI_Eurasian-Region_Report_RU.pdf ИЛИ ИВИДЕМ

2 Ibidem.

3 Vedomosti (2025). "Balchug Capital" Closed the Deal to Acquire Goldman Sachs' Subsidiary in Russia. URL: <https://www.vedomosti.ru/finance/news/2025/04/24/1106409-balchug-kapital-zakrila>

4 EDB (2025). Investment Cooperation in the Eurasian Region Based on the EDB's Mutual Investment Monitor. URL: https://eabr.org/upload/iblock/f31/EDB_2025_MMI_Eurasian-Region_Report_RU.pdf

5 Revery Group (2025). Revery Food and Beverages Completes Acquisition of the Burger King® Kazakhstan Franchise Business. March, 2025. URL: <https://reverygroup.com/news/revery-food-and-beverages-completes-acquisition-of-the-burger-king-kazakhstan-franchise-business>

6 EDB (2025). Investment Cooperation in the Eurasian Region Based on the EDB's Mutual Investment Monitoring. URL: https://eabr.org/upload/iblock/f31/EDB_2025_MMI_Eurasian-Region_Report_RU.pdf

Foreign direct investments in EAEU member states in 2025

Table 1

Major mutual investment projects in the EAEU countries

| Country | Project | Industry | Investor | Project period, years | Investments, USD mn |
|------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Kazakhstan | 3 Mineral fertilizer plant (Zhambyl region) | Chemical | Eurokhim (Russia) | 2023–2027 | 300 |
| Kazakhstan | Butadiene production plant (Atyrau) | Petrochemicals | Tatneft (Russia) | 2023–2027 | 300 |
| Kirgizia | Solar power plant (Issyk-Kul Region) | Energy | Unigreen Energy (Russia) | 2024–2026 | – |
| Russia | Acquisition of the “Metropolis” shopping center and the Pulkovo Sky complex (Moscow) | Commercial real estate | Balchug Capital (Armenia) | 2023 | 750 |
| Kazakhstan | Expansion of the Burger King chain in Kazakhstan | Retail / food service | Revery Group (Armenia) | 2023–2025 | 110 |
| Russia | Modernization of the Lipetsk tractor plant | Machine building | Amkodor holding (Belorus) | 2021–2025 | 246 |

Source: Own compilation on the basis of mass media open data. ▲