
Appendix. Chronology of defence and security-related declarations and agreements involving the countries of the Caspian region, 1991–2001

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1991

- 31 Mar.* Georgia declares its independence.
- 31 Aug.* Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan declare their independence.
- 9 Sep.* Tajikistan declares its independence.
- 23 Sep.* Armenia declares its independence.
- 18 Oct.* Azerbaijan declares its independence.
- 26 Oct.* Turkmenistan declares its independence.
- 8 Dec.* In Belavezh (USSR), the leaders of Belarus, Russia and Ukraine sign an agreement establishing the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), thereby recognizing that the USSR has ceased to exist as an international entity. The states agree to maintain a common military–strategic space under a unified command. The signatories furthermore agree that CIS membership will be available to all former Soviet republics and any other like-minded states.
- 13 Dec.* Meeting in Ashkhabad (Turkmenistan), the leaders of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan state their desire to join the CIS as equal (co-founding) members.
- 16 Dec.* Kazakhstan declares its independence.
- 21 Dec.* In Almaty (Kazakhstan), the leaders of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Ukraine sign a protocol to the agreement of 8 Dec. establishing the CIS, making the agreement valid for each state upon ratification by its national legislature. They also sign a separate declaration agreeing to the maintenance of a unified command structure for military/strategic forces and single control over nuclear weapons, as stipulated in the 8 Dec. agreement.
- 21 Dec.* Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine sign an agreement on joint measures regarding nuclear weapons. Under the agreement, Kazakhstan undertakes that by 1 July 1992 all tactical nuclear weapons stationed on its territory will be transferred to ‘central factory premises’ for dismantling under joint supervision. Kazakhstan also agrees to submit the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START I) to its Supreme Soviet for ratification.
- 30 Dec.* The CIS member states agree to recognize and adhere to international treaties concluded by the USSR and to support coordinated international

arms control policies. In a separate agreement the CIS states confirm their right to create their own national armed forces.

1992

- 30 Jan.* All member countries of the CIS are admitted to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE).
- 14 Feb.* In Minsk (Belarus), nine CIS member states sign an agreement placing all CIS conventional (non-nuclear) forces under a joint central command (the CIS Joint Force) for an interim period of at least two years. (Azerbaijan, Moldova and Ukraine opt to develop their own national armed forces.)
- 24 Mar.* The CSCE Minsk Group, composed of Belarus, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, Sweden, Turkey and the USA, is created and tasked with facilitating a return to peace in the Armenian-populated exclave of Nagorno-Karabakh in Azerbaijan.
- 20 Mar.* The CIS member states sign an agreement pledging not to use or threaten to use force against each other. An Agreement on Groups of Military Observers and Collective Peacekeeping Forces in the CIS is also signed (not including Turkmenistan). It allows for the creation of voluntary peacekeeping forces to aid in the implementation of ceasefire agreements.
- 15 May* CIS member states Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan meet in Tashkent (Uzbekistan) and sign a five-year Treaty on Collective Security (the Tashkent Treaty). (Azerbaijan, Belarus and Georgia had also signed the treaty by the spring of 1994.) The parties to the treaty agree to provide mutual military aid to fellow signatories in the event of aggression. In 1999, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Uzbekistan failed to renew their participation in the treaty. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine also agree to adhere to the limitations on personnel and conventional arms agreed in the 1990 Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty (the CFE Treaty).
- 25 May* A Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance is concluded by presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan. The two countries agree to form common military and economic zones.
- 5 June* At the Extraordinary Conference of the states parties to the CFE Treaty, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Russia join NATO member states and others in signing the Oslo Document which modifies the CFE Treaty in order to make these newly independent states of the former USSR parties to it.
- 10 June* An Agreement on Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance is signed between the Republic of Kyrgyzstan and the Russian Federation. Each recognizes the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the other and pledges to resolve disputes peacefully.
- 24 June* Presidents Eduard Shevardnadze of Georgia and Boris Yeltsin of Russia sign the Agreement on the Principles Governing the Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict in South Ossetia. Under the agreement, a Joint Monitor-

ing Commission is established composed of Russian, Georgian and North and South Ossetian members and tasked with maintaining a buffer zone between the opposing sides and overseeing the implementation of ceasefire agreements.

- 2 July* Kazakhstan ratifies the START I Treaty.
- 15 July* CIS foreign and defence ministers agree on principles for the creation of CIS peacekeeping forces to be sent to areas of ethnic conflict. All parties to a conflict must agree to the presence of any CIS peacekeeping force.
- 31 July* A Treaty on Friendship and Co-operation is signed between Russia and Turkmenistan.
- 19 Sep.* A ceasefire agreement is signed by the defence ministers of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Russia concerning the protracted conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan over Nagorno-Karabakh.
- 12 Oct.* An Azerbaijani–Russian mutual security agreement is signed in Moscow (Russia) by President Boris Yeltsin and Azerbaijani President Elcibey.
- 4 Nov.* Meeting in Almaty (Kazakhstan), the leaders of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Uzbekistan agree that the Russian 201st Motorized Rifle Division (MRD) already stationed in Tajikistan should form the nucleus of the proposed CIS peacekeeping force in Tajikistan.
- 6 Nov.* The CSCE creates a mission to be sent to Georgia to monitor the peace process in South Ossetia.

1993

- 25 May* In Moscow, Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Tajik President Imomali Rakhmonov conclude a bilateral Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance and an agreement on the status of Russian forces based in Tajikistan.
- 15 June* At a meeting of the CIS defence ministers in Moscow, the CIS High Command is abolished and replaced by a new, largely consultative body, the Staff for Co-ordination of Military Co-operation of CIS Member States.
- 27 July* The leaders of Abkhazia and Georgia sign a ceasefire agreement with the aid of Russian mediation.
- 24 Aug.* The UN Security Council adopts Resolution 858 establishing the UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG).
- 24 Sep.* The foreign and defence ministers of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan meet in Moscow and formally establish the CIS peacekeeping force for Tajikistan, to be jointly funded, with Russia contributing 50 per cent, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan 15 per cent each, and Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan 10 per cent each.
- 9 Oct.* The Russian military presence in Georgia is formally legalized with the conclusion of a Georgian–Russian military cooperation agreement. Under the agreement Russia may maintain garrisons in Tbilisi and two other cities, and rent the naval base at Poti and several airfields.

1994

- 3 Feb.* During an official visit by Russian President Boris Yeltsin to Georgia, the Georgian–Russian Treaty of Friendship, Neighbourly Relations and Cooperation is signed, along with numerous military-related agreements. Under the agreements the signatories agree to ensure their mutual security and defence and to jointly protect Georgia’s external borders.
- 23 Mar.* Georgia signs the Partnership for Peace Framework Document.
- 28 Mar.* The Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation on the Major Principles and Conditions for using the Baikonur Cosmodrome is signed at a Kazakh–Russian presidential summit meeting. Under the agreement Russia will lease Baikonur for 20 years and Russian Military Space Forces (MSF) will operate the complex. The commander of the complex will be appointed by the Russian President and approved by the President of Kazakhstan, and the legislation of the Russian Federation will prevail on the territory of the complex.
- 28 Mar.* Presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan sign a Treaty on Military Cooperation. They agree to lease military facilities to each other, coordinate their military intelligence activities and not conduct military or intelligence operations against each other. They also agree on the joint use of their Caspian Sea naval forces.
- 28 Mar.* Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and his Kazakh counterpart Viktor Tereshchenko sign the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Russian Federation on Military and Technological Co-operation which includes such provisions as increasing the scope of bilateral military and technological cooperation, expanding cooperation between national arms manufacturers, increasing bilateral trade in military products deemed necessary for national security and coordinating mobilization plans.
- 4 Apr.* Meeting in Moscow, representatives of Georgia and Abkhazia agree to an immediate ceasefire and renounce the use of force.
- 14 Apr.* Meeting in Moscow, the CIS defence ministers sign a Declaration on Collective Security aimed at the development of a new security structure operating as a defensive alliance in the Euro-Asian region.
- 15 Apr.* The CIS Council of Heads of State agrees in principle to the creation of a peacekeeping force to be stationed on the Georgian–Abkhaz border and composed of forces from interested signatories to the Tashkent Treaty.
- 4 May* Azerbaijan signs the Partnership for Peace Framework Document.
- 10 May* Turkmenistan signs the Partnership for Peace Framework Document.
- 14 May* Georgian and Abkhazian officials meet in Moscow and sign an Agreement on a Cease-fire and Separation of Forces, thereby agreeing in principle to the deployment of a CIS peacekeeping force.
- 16 May* Representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh sign a Russian-mediated ceasefire agreement.
- 27 May* Kazakhstan signs the Partnership for Peace Framework Document.
- 1 June* Kyrgyzstan signs the Partnership for Peace Framework Document.

- Early July* The leaders of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan sign a document creating the Central Asian Union (CAU) aimed at strengthening economic ties between the member states. Russia received observer status to the union in 1996 and Tajikistan joined in 1999.
- 13 July* Uzbekistan signs the Partnership for Peace Framework Document.
- 27 July* A ceasefire agreement is signed by the Armenian and Azerbaijani defence ministers and the commander of the Nagorno-Karabakh Army.
- 5 Oct.* Armenia signs the Partnership for Peace Framework Document.

1995

- 10 Feb.* At a summit meeting in Almaty (Kazakhstan), CIS member states reach agreement on the creation of a joint air defence system and approve the continued operation of the CIS peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan.
- 16 Mar.* Presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Levon Ter-Petrosian of Armenia conclude an agreement on the deployment of Russian military formations in the Armenian towns of Gyumri and Yerevan.
- 25 May* In Moscow, Russia and Tajikistan sign an Agreement on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. They agree that their relations should be based on certain principles, including mutual respect for each other's national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and the peaceful resolution of conflict.
- 15 Sep.* Russia and Georgia reach an agreement on the deployment of Russian military bases in Georgia. According to the agreement, Russia is entitled to maintain four bases in Georgia for up to 25 years. It is further agreed that no more than 25 000 Russian servicemen are permitted on Georgian soil.
- 5 Nov.* President Saparmurat Niyazov of Turkmenistan and the Ukrainian Defence Minister sign a Military Co-operation Treaty under which a wide range of military-technical cooperation is envisaged.
- 18 Dec.* A joint council of defence ministers is established by the governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan to coordinate military exercises, air defence and arms procurement.

1996

- 26 Jan.* Russian and Kazakh defence officials conclude 16 military cooperation agreements covering joint communications, joint air defence and national defence industry collaboration, among other issues. Russia also pledges to aid Kazakhstan in the establishment of a Caspian Sea navy and to train its military personnel.
- 26 Feb.* A Joint Statement on Future US-Kazakhstan Defense and Military Relations is issued, stating that Kazakhstan's armed forces would receive an unspecified amount of US financial aid.
- 26 Apr.* The leaders of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan meet in Shanghai (China) to discuss military confidence-building measures (CBMs). The participants agree to several military CBMs within a 100 km-wide zone along their common borders. They further agree to limit the number of military exercises within the 100-km zone, to

- increase bilateral cooperation between their armed forces and to resolve mutual conflicts peacefully.
- 5 May* The presidents of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan agree to create a 500-strong Central Asian Battalion (CentrasBat) to be trained under the NATO Partnership for Peace (PFP) programme. It is envisaged that the force will perform peacekeeping duties on the territory of the participating states and even under UN auspices abroad.
- 10 June* The Azerbaijani and Turkish defence ministers sign a bilateral Agreement on Co-operation in the Military Field.
- 5 July* A Joint Declaration is signed by Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev. In the declaration, Kazakhstan recognizes Taiwan as an inalienable part of China, China reiterates security guarantees for Kazakhstan and supports Kazakhstan's right to protect its independence, territorial integrity and national sovereignty, and both sides state the importance of enhancing bilateral cooperation in the fight against international terrorism, organized crime, drug trafficking, smuggling and other criminal activities.
- 31 Oct.* The deputy chief of the Turkish Armed Forces General Headquarters and Azerbaijan's Defence Minister meet in Baku (Azerbaijan) and sign two protocols, one on cooperation between their respective defence ministries and the other on cooperation on military health issues.
- 27 Nov.* Presidents Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan and Saparmurat Niyazov of Turkmenistan sign several bilateral agreements, including one on military-technical cooperation.

1997

- 10 Jan.* Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan sign a trilateral Treaty on Eternal Friendship, thereby agreeing not to allow their territories to be used as staging points for armed aggression against each other.
- 27 Feb.* During a visit to Baku (Azerbaijan) by President Eduard Shevardnadze of Georgia, Azerbaijan and Georgia conclude bilateral agreements calling for a closer strategic partnership and cooperation between the two countries.
- 28 Feb.* The heads of state of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan issue the Almaty Declaration, effectively calling for the establishment of a nuclear weapon-free zone open to all Central Asian states.
- 8 Apr.* Presidents Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan and Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan sign an eternal friendship agreement and a military cooperation agreement.
- 24 Apr.* Building on the agreement signed on 26 Apr. 1996 on military CBMs in border areas, a Treaty on Mutual Reduction of Military Forces in Border Areas is signed by the presidents of the 'Shanghai Five' states—China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan. They agree to observe armament and personnel limitations in a 100 km-wide zone on each side of their common borders.

- 16 May* A military cooperation agreement is reached between Georgia and Italy and signed by President Eduard Shevardnadze in Rome (Italy). This is the first such agreement between Georgia and a NATO member country.
- 27 May* Georgia and Ukraine sign six military cooperation agreements on issues such as cooperation in air defence and military training.
- 27 June* A Peace and Reconciliation Accord is signed in Moscow by Tajik President Imomali Rakhmonov, the United Tajik Opposition leader Said Abdullo Nuri and the UN special envoy to Tajikistan. The agreement marks an official end to the country's civil war.
- 3 July* Meeting in Moscow, Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Azerbaijani President Heidar Aliyev sign a Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Security. The parties to the treaty jointly denounce all forms of separatism and agree to abstain from military or economic actions aimed against each other. They also agree to recognize and respect the right of each to independently defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity. The Russian State Duma ratified this agreement on 23 Jan. 1998.
- 17 July* Presidents Eduard Shevardnadze of Georgia and Suleyman Demirel of Turkey sign several agreements, including an agreement on sea borders and on cooperation in training military personnel.
- 29 Aug.* A Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance is signed in Moscow by presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Levon Ter-Petrosian of Armenia. According to the treaty, the parties agree to interact closely in their mutual defence against external aggression and expand interaction between their respective armed forces. The Armenian National Assembly ratified this agreement on 2 Feb. 1998. The Russian State Duma ratified the agreement on 23 Jan. 1998.
- 10 Oct.* Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine sign a treaty creating the informal GUAM association with the goal of increasing economic, political and military cooperation among the signatories. Uzbekistan joined the association in Apr. 1999.
- 10 Oct.* The defence ministers of Russia and Kyrgyzstan sign an agreement on the lease of four Kyrgyz military installations to Russia. Under the same agreement, Russia is to provide military training and spare weapons parts to the Kyrgyz Army.
- 17–18 Nov.* President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan visits the United States and concludes numerous military cooperation agreements.

1998

- 5 Feb.* Tajikistan and Uzbekistan conclude several cooperation agreements, including one between the Tajik Ministry of Security and Uzbekistan's National Security Service, one between the interior ministries of the two countries, and one between their interior ministry bodies in border regions.
- 15 Apr.* A memorandum of mutual understanding in the sphere of military cooperation is signed between the Georgian Defence Ministry and the General Staff of the Turkish Armed Forces. Joint military exercises are held within the framework of this memorandum in Apr. 1998.

- 6 May* An agreement is signed in Moscow by presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan acknowledging their shared interest in resisting the advance of Islamic fundamentalism. The agreement is aimed primarily against Afghanistan as a source of regional instability. Tajikistan signed the agreement a short time thereafter.
- 3 July* The leaders of the 'Shanghai Five' countries agree to implement troop reductions along their common borders according to the agreement of 24 Apr. 1997. They issue a joint statement calling for increased bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the name of regional security and stability, and further support calls for the creation of a nuclear weapon-free zone in Central Asia.
- 7 July* Presidents Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan sign a declaration of 'eternal friendship and alliance' and in doing so agree to aid each other militarily in the event of aggression from a third state.
- 2 Nov.* Presidents Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan and Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan sign a treaty of eternal friendship and a treaty of economic cooperation for the period 1998–2005.
- 18 Nov.* The defence ministers of Greece and Uzbekistan sign a military cooperation agreement.
- 19 Dec.* The Georgian Defence Ministry and US Department of Defense sign an agreement on military cooperation for 1999. US Secretary of Defense William Cohen also pledges continued US support in the development of Georgia's armed forces.

1999

- 21 Jan.* Within the framework of the GUAM grouping, the defence ministers of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine sign a communiqué on enhancing military cooperation.
- 4 Mar.* Turkey and Georgia sign a five-year military cooperation agreement under which Georgian officers may receive training in Turkish schools and Turkey offers financial support to efforts to modernize Georgia's armed forces.
- 16 Apr.* On an official visit to Russia by Tajik President Imomali Rakhmonov, several documents are signed, including the Treaty of Alliance and Co-operation between the Republic of Tajikistan and the Russian Federation, and the Treaty on the Status and Conditions of Presence of the Russian Military Base on the Territory of Tajikistan. The Russian Federation Council (the upper house of the Russian Parliament) ratified this agreement on 14 Mar. 2001.
- 20 May* The defence ministers of Armenia and Belarus sign an intergovernmental agreement on bilateral military and military–technical cooperation in Yerevan. The agreement envisages that when one party to the agreement is threatened the other will provide military aid. It is valid for five years and may be extended for an additional five years.
- 21 May* The US Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for the New Independent States, Stephen Sestanovich, signs a series of documents on military–technical cooperation with Uzbekistan. A cooperation plan for

the defence ministries of the two countries for 1999–2000 is also signed, which includes bilateral cooperation in the prevention of chemical weapons proliferation.

- 26 May The foreign ministers of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan meet in Khojand (Tajikistan) and sign an agreement on bilateral cooperation against international terrorism, political and religious extremism, and drug trafficking.
- 19 July The ‘Six Plus Two’ group on Afghanistan meet in Tashkent where the deputy foreign ministers of China, Iran, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and the USA, together with the UN Secretary-General’s special envoy on Afghanistan, sign the Tashkent Declaration on the Fundamental Principles of a Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict in Afghanistan. The signatories agree not to provide military aid to the conflicting parties and call on the international community to take measures to prevent weapon deliveries to Afghanistan. They also support UN-directed negotiations between the conflicting Afghan parties.
- 25 Aug. In Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), two agreements are signed between Kyrgyzstan and Russia—on military–technical cooperation, and on the procedures for the use of Russian military facilities in Kyrgyzstan and the status of Russian armed forces personnel in Kyrgyzstan.
- 28 Sep. Azerbaijan and the USA sign an agreement on cooperation in the counterproliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and related materials.
- 2 Oct. Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev and the Secretary General of the Collective Security Council of the Tashkent Treaty, Vladimir Zemskiy, sign an agreement on military assistance to Kyrgyzstan for its armed forces engaged in combat against Islamic forces.
- 18 Oct. The Armenian and Greek defence ministers sign a defence cooperation pact. The agreement deals mainly with enhancing bilateral cooperation in military training, research, information exchange and cooperation between the national defence industries.
- 18–19 Nov. During the Nov. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Summit Meeting in Istanbul (Turkey), Georgia and Russia agree on the gradual withdrawal of Russian military forces in Georgia. Russia agrees to reduce its military equipment in Georgia by 31 Dec. 2000 and to close its bases at Vaziani and Gudauta by 1 July 2001.
- 1 Dec. US Secretary of State’s envoy Anthony Zinni signs a programme for military cooperation with Kazakhstan in Almaty (Kazakhstan). Under the programme, the USA will help Kazakhstan reorganize its military forces and provide training for its servicemen in the USA.
- 11 Dec. During a visit to Tashkent (Uzbekistan) by Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, a Treaty on the Further Deepening of All-Round Cooperation in the Military and Military–Technical spheres between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Uzbekistan is signed. It calls for enhanced cooperation between the two countries’ defence ministries against international terrorism, cooperation in the production and development of weapons, and joint training of military personnel. The Russian Federation Council ratified the agreement on 14 Mar. 2001.

- 17 Dec.* US Secretary of Defense William Cohen and his Kazakh counterpart sign the US–Kazakh Defense Co-operation Plan for 2000. It envisages greater cooperation towards the development of a modern and effective military force in Kazakhstan. It also covers Kazakhstan’s continued participation in the US Individual Military Education and Training (IMET) programme and NATO’s PFP programme.

2000

- 10–13 Mar.* Tajikistan and Uzbekistan agree to join the CIS Integrated Air Defence System (IADS). They thus join Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Russia as members of the joint air defence system.
- 16 Mar.* CIS defence ministers sign 10 cooperation agreements, including several on peacekeeping and anti-terrorist issues.
- 16 Mar.* Presidents Heidar Aliyev of Azerbaijan and Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine sign a treaty on friendship, cooperation and partnership which describes their relationship as a ‘strategic partnership’.
- 30 Mar.* The defence ministers of the ‘Shanghai Five’ member states sign the Astana Communiqué, reinforcing their commitment to cooperative relations and CBMs in the military sphere. The defence ministers also state their wish to consolidate cooperation between their national border forces and structures, particularly against international terrorism and separatism.
- 3 Apr.* Georgian and Greek defence ministry officials sign a military cooperation plan for 2000 within the PFP and agree to allow members of each other’s armed forces to observe military exercises.
- 8 Apr.* Secretary of the Russian Security Council Sergey Ivanov and his Tajik counterpart sign a protocol on bilateral cooperation against international terrorism, drug smuggling and illegal immigration.
- 15 Apr.* US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright meets President Nursultan Nazarbayev in Astana (Kazakhstan) to discuss regional security issues. She offers \$3 million to support Kazakhstan’s armed forces. Also in April, Albright makes similar offers during meetings with the presidents of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.
- 21 Apr.* The presidents of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan sign a 10-year agreement in Tashkent on joint efforts against the spread of Islamic militancy in Central Asia, as well as against the drug trade, organized crime, and other threats to regional stability and security. The security pact aims to coordinate the intelligence and security services of the signatories, who furthermore pledge joint military action if one party comes under attack.
- 19 May* The heads of the security and special services of the CIS states meet in Astana (Kazakhstan) to discuss the joint fight against organized crime, drug trafficking and terrorism.
- 24 May* In Minsk (Belarus), the leaders of the signatories of the 1992 Tashkent Treaty—Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan—adopt nine documents dealing mainly with the growing threat to regional security posed by international terrorism and extremism.

- 15 June* Secretary of the Russian Security Council Sergey Ivanov and his Georgian counterpart sign a joint statement on security issues, including expanding bilateral political, economic and military ties, and cooperation against international terrorism, organized crime, and arms and drug trafficking.
- 15 June* Presidents Imomali Rakhmonov of Tajikistan and Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan sign a treaty of eternal friendship in Dushanbe (Tajikistan). They also sign a memorandum delimiting their common border.
- 20 June* The CIS Council of Foreign Ministers decides not to renew the mandate of the CIS Peacekeeping Force in Tajikistan.
- 20 June* CIS prime ministers, meeting in Moscow, approve plans for the establishment of an international anti-terrorist centre to be based in Moscow.
- 24 June* The Russian and Uzbek defence ministers sign bilateral agreements on military cooperation and draft further agreements on the training of Uzbek servicemen in Russian academies, the repairing of Uzbek weapons in Russian facilities and the joint manufacture of explosives.
- 5 July* The heads of member states of the Shanghai Forum—China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan, formerly the ‘Shanghai Five’—issue a joint declaration following a meeting in Dushanbe (Tajikistan). The declaration stresses the growing importance of the Shanghai Forum in ensuring regional stability and security, and expresses the need to jointly fight religious extremism, international terrorism and national separatism. The participants support the Kyrgyz proposal for the creation of a ‘regional anti-terrorist structure’. For the first time, Uzbekistan participates as an observer. The Shanghai Five become the Shanghai Forum with the granting of observer status to Uzbekistan at this meeting.
- 27 July* In Moscow, Presidents Vladimir Putin of Russia and Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan sign a declaration on eternal friendship and a 10-year economic cooperation plan.
- Late July* Armenian Defence Minister Serzh Sarkisian and US Defense Secretary William Cohen sign an agreement on cooperation in preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.
- 24 Aug.* The defence ministers of China and Uzbekistan sign a defence cooperation agreement.
- 20 Sep.* The defence ministers of Azerbaijan and Turkey sign a military–industrial cooperation agreement in Baku (Azerbaijan).
- 27 Sep.* The Armenian and Russian defence ministers sign three agreements, including one on the joint planning of armed forces activities. Other documents signed include a protocol on amendments to a 26 Sep. 1996 agreement regulating the Russian military presence in Armenia and an agreement on the joint use of Armenian and Russian airspace.
- 1 Oct.* The Armenian, Azerbaijani, Georgian and Russian interior ministers sign three documents aimed at enhancing cooperation in the fight against terrorism and in maintaining regional stability. The documents call for the exchange of information on individual terrorists and terrorist organizations active in the region, and on the illegal trade in arms and drugs.
- 9 Oct.* Presidents Vladimir Putin of Russia and Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan sign a joint communiqué stressing the importance of multi-

lateral cooperation under existing CIS agreements and the Tashkent Treaty, particularly for ensuring the security of the southern borders of the CIS.

- 11 Oct.* The presidents of the six Tashkent Treaty countries sign the Bishkek Agreement on the Status of Forces and Means of Collective Security Systems, thus allowing for the dispatch of troops to the territory of parties to the agreement, cooperation in repelling external aggression, and joint anti-terrorist operations and military exercises.
- 16 Oct.* Presidents Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan and Ahmet Sezer of Turkey pledge to cooperate in fighting terrorism, drug trafficking and organized crime. The Uzbek Defence Minister and a representative of the Turkish General Staff sign a military cooperation agreement.
- 18 Oct.* Presidents Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan and Ahmet Sezer of Turkey sign a joint declaration on cooperation against terrorism.
- 19 Oct.* Presidents Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan and Ahmet Sezer of Turkey sign a joint declaration on cooperation against terrorism.
- 31 Oct.* Armenian Prime Minister Andranik Markaryan and Belarussian Prime Minister Uladzimir Yarmoshyn sign a treaty on friendship and cooperation. The document addresses many aspects of bilateral cooperation, including military–technical cooperation.
- 1 Dec.* During a CIS summit meeting in Minsk (Belarus), CIS leaders approve the statute for the proposed CIS anti-terrorist centre and extend the mandate of the Russian peacekeeping force in the Georgian–Abkhazian conflict.
- 13 Dec.* A military cooperation agreement is signed in Yerevan between the US Armed Forces in Europe and the Armenian Ministry of Defence. The agreement addresses several forms of cooperation including military training and bilateral interaction in cases of emergency.

2001

- 5 Jan.* The leaders of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, and the Russian Deputy Foreign Minister meet in Almaty (Kazakhstan) to discuss regional security issues, including drug trafficking and cross-border terrorism.
- 9 Jan.* Presidents Vladimir Putin of Russia and Heidar Aliyev of Azerbaijan sign a joint declaration on the principles of cooperation on Caspian Sea issues and the Baku Declaration on the principles of ensuring security and developing cooperation in the Caucasus. The latter document contains provisions for the development of military cooperation between Azerbaijan and Russia not aimed against any third country.
- 28 Feb.* Azerbaijani and Turkish defence and military officials sign two inter-governmental agreements—an Agreement on Free Military Assistance and a Protocol on Financial Assistance between the Azerbaijani Defence Ministry and the General Staff of the Turkish Armed Forces.
- 1 Mar.* A military cooperation agreement is signed by the defence ministers of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The Kazakh Defence Minister, Sat Tokpakbayev, states that if Islamic extremists invade Kyrgyzstan in the future Kazakhstan will provide the ‘necessary’ assistance.

- 11 Mar.* The Special Representative of the Russian President for the Caspian Sea region, Viktor Kalyuzhny, and the US Caspian Envoy Ambassador Elizabeth Jones agree that the Russian Foreign Ministry and the US Department of State will continue a dialogue promoting bilateral interaction in the Caspian region.
- 12 Mar.* Presidents Vladimir Putin of Russia and Mohammad Khatami of Iran sign a 10-year Treaty on the Foundations of Relations and Principles of Cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Under the treaty, both sides agree to enhance bilateral cooperation in the fields of industry, science and technology, agriculture and nuclear energy, as well as in the fight against international terrorism.
- 13 Mar.* A Russian Defence ministry delegation visits Tajikistan to discuss future Russian–Tajik military–technical cooperation.
- 16 Mar.* Georgian Defence Minister David Tevzadze and US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld meet in Washington, DC (USA) to discuss bilateral military cooperation.
- 22 Mar.* During the visit of the head of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Louis Freeh, to Georgia, an agreement is reached on opening a permanent FBI office in Tbilisi (Georgia). Under the agreement the office will contribute to the protection of energy pipelines crossing Georgian territory.
- 22 Mar.* A protocol on military cooperation is signed in Baku (Azerbaijan) between the Azerbaijani Defence Ministry and Turkey’s General Staff.
- 14 Apr.* Russia and Armenia agree to create a joint military contingent for the purpose of ensuring regional security.
- 28 Apr.* The foreign ministers of the Shanghai Forum countries meet in Moscow and release a communiqué expressing their shared concern over growing international terrorism, religious and political extremism, and drug trafficking in the region.
- 28 Apr.* Azerbaijani and Turkish defence officials sign a protocol on cooperation in the sphere of military–technical supply between the Azerbaijani Defence Ministry and the Turkish General Staff.
- 4 May* During a state visit by President Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan to Russia the two sides sign numerous agreements, including a protocol on exchanging instruments of ratification of the Dec. 1999 Treaty on the Further Deepening of All-Round Cooperation in the Military and Military–Technical Spheres between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Uzbekistan and agree to create working groups within their national security systems to implement and regulate the military–technical cooperation called for in the agreement.
- 14 June* Uzbekistan is admitted as a full member of the Shanghai Forum at the summit meeting of the organization in Shanghai. The participants at the meeting decide to change the name of the forum to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.