

Middle power's strategy and the future of the world order: a perspective from Kazakhstan

4th March 2025, 18.00h – 19:30h

Sala Jordi Maragall, CIDOB. Elisabets 12, 08001 Barcelona

Organised by: Casa Asia and CIDOB

The emergence of middle powers is taking place against the backdrop of a deepening crisis in the institutional world order, escalating global conflicts, and rising tensions among major powers. With their unique capacity and asymmetric influence in international affairs, middle powers are increasingly playing a pivotal role in global governance and world diplomacy.

As Central Asia's largest state and economy, and a rising diplomatic actor in Eurasia, Kazakhstan is capitalizing on its pivotal strategic location, close to Russia and China, neighbor to Iran and Azerbaijan and with robust ties with the West. As a critical supplier of energy and critical minerals, the country is amplifying its international influence and leveraging its position in Central Asia and the economic performance, connectivity and cooperation of the region. The aim of this event is to explore the role and strategy of middle powers like Kazakhstan at the global and regional level and explore opportunities for strengthening multilateral and bilateral cooperation.

Tuesday, 4th March 2025

18:00 – 18:15 **Welcoming and introduction**

Pol Morillas, Director, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)

Danat Mussayev, Ambassador of Kazakhstan in Spain

18:15 – 18:45 **Understanding Kazakhstan's Middle Power Strategy: The West, the East, and the Future of the World Order**

Moderator: **Pol Morillas**, Director, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)

Keynote speaker: **Miras Zhiyenbayev**, Head of Foreign Policy and International Studies at Maqsut Narikbayev University's Maqsut Narikbayev Institute for Networking and Development (MIND)

18:45 – 19:25 **Open Q&A with experts, practitioners and the audience**

19:25 – 19:30 **Closing remarks**

José Pintor, Director General, Casa Asia