
EU, CENTRAL ASIA TOUCH BASE VIRTUALLY IN TURBULENT TIMES

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EU chief diplomat Josep Borrell and Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen held a teleconference on Tuesday (17 November) with ministers from the five former Soviet republics of Central Asia, with which the EU is trying to forge closer relations.

The Foreign Ministers of Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, as well as the first deputy foreign minister of Kyrgyzstan, participated in the conference, held online because of the restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In recent weeks the region was marked by unrest in Kyrgyzstan, following failed elections. Elections were also held in Tajikistan, where on 12 November, the strongman President Imomali Rakhmon was re-elected for a fifth term with 90.92% of the vote.

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