



# AZERBAIJAN

DIGITAL BRIDGE BETWEEN EUROPE AND ASIA

CANDIDATURE FOR ITU COUNCIL  
2027-2030 YEARS (REGION C)

## **AZERBAIJAN NOMINATED ITS CANDIDATURE TO THE ITU COUNCIL 5 TIMES SINCE 2006 AND WAS CONSECUTIVELY ELECTED TO THE COUNCIL FROM C REGION AT THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCES HELD IN DUBAI IN 2018 AND BUCHAREST IN 2022.**

As an **active ITU member and host of WTDC-25**, Azerbaijan remains committed to advancing universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity, contributing to an inclusive, sustainable digital future and to the effective work of the Union.

In line with this commitment, the country aligns its digital transformation efforts with the ITU's missions and priorities and the SDGs, promoting inclusive, accessible, and resilient information and communication technologies.

Under the "Online Azerbaijan" Project, Azerbaijan modernized its broadband infrastructure by **replacing ADSL with GPON technology, upgrading copper networks to fiber-optic cables**, and building a nationwide optical distribution network. As a result, **infrastructure now covers 100% of the country's 3 million households**, enabling high-speed Internet access and innovative digital services, including in the most remote areas.

The Republic of Azerbaijan, strategically located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, **plays a pivotal role in enhancing regional connectivity**. In line with its vision for digital transformation and sustainable development, Azerbaijan has launched initiatives to strengthen digital infrastructure across the region.

One such initiative is the **Digital Silk Way project**, which aims to develop a world-class regional digital ecosystem, **reduce reliance on foreign internet providers, and expand access to digital services for 1.8 billion people across Central and South Asia**. The project aims to position the region as a key hub.

Azerbaijan has adopted forward-looking digital strategies, including the **Digital Development Concept**. This Concept promotes digital government, a digital economy, and a digital society to modernize public services, boost economic growth, and enhance citizens' quality of life. Its core goal is to **improve well-being and accelerate nationwide digital transformation**.

## **STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS**

INTERNET USERS, MOBILE USERS, E-GOV, E-PARTICIPATION, ETC

**91 percent of the population are internet users**, while 90 percent of households have permanent internet connection.

Over the past few years, Azerbaijan has been dynamically developing mobile communications and the number of **mobile subscribers increased to 11 323 000**. Mobile services currently include 3G and 4G, and steps are underway to introduce 5G technology.

The Government places high priority on modernizing communication infrastructure, and thanks to intensive efforts, nearly all telephone networks have already been digitalized. Azerbaijan is the **first country in the region to launch digital radio broadcasting**.

UN's Global E-Government Survey 2024 ranked Azerbaijan 74<sup>th</sup> for E-Government Development Index and 88<sup>th</sup> for E-Participation Index. Azerbaijan's ranking in the **ICT Development Index (IDI) improved from 91<sup>st</sup> in 2024 to 76<sup>th</sup> in 2025**, marking a 15-place rise and positioning the country among the top five fastest-improving nations in the index. Azerbaijan also ranked 75<sup>th</sup> in the Networked Readiness Index 2024.