



## Regional efforts to support the development of a reliable, sustainable and comprehensive Security Culture in Aviation in Central Asia

### Introduction:

*Building a positive security culture gives the impetus for timely corrective and necessary actions for our own security and for the security of the overall civil aviation industry.*

The **Global Aviation Security Plan**<sup>1</sup> (GASeP) provides guidance for setting priorities at the international, regional, and national levels. It provides a framework where ICAO, States and stakeholders can work together to achieve common goals. In addition, the GASeP supports ICAO's 'No Country Left Behind' initiative to address common challenges and directs efforts to jointly improve aviation security. One of the GASeP five priority actions is the development of security culture and human capability, stating:

***"The promotion of effective security culture is critical to achieve good security outcomes. A strong security culture must be developed from the top management across and within every organization. The existence of a well-trained, motivated and professional workforce is a critical prerequisite for effective aviation security."***

### The ICAO Year of Security Culture 2021

Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic supported the ICAO Year of Security Culture 2021<sup>2</sup> (YOSC) by implementing practical security culture activities and initiatives to promote security awareness in aviation. This included roundtables and workshops with the civil aviation industry, to promote security culture in each State's aviation community.

### Kazakhstan Events

Kazakhstan held a roundtable dedicated to the YOSC with representatives of the Kazakhstan civil aviation industry. The conference was hosted at the ICAO Aviation Security Training Center in Almaty. It welcomed representatives of the Civil Aviation Committee of the Ministry of Industry and

<sup>1</sup> [www.icao.int/Security/Pages/Global-Aviation-Security-Plan.aspx](http://www.icao.int/Security/Pages/Global-Aviation-Security-Plan.aspx)

<sup>2</sup> [www.icao.int/Security/Security-Culture/Pages/YOSC-2021.aspx](http://www.icao.int/Security/Security-Culture/Pages/YOSC-2021.aspx)

Infrastructure Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Academy of Civil Aviation, Aviation Security Training Centers, Airports and Airlines Security Deputies, and Aviation Security Officers.

The conference aimed to explain and support the GASeP and achieve a high level of aviation security through the implementation and development of a strong and effective security culture in civil aviation.

The event was designed to assist industry in raising security awareness in aviation and to encourage all personnel, including service providers and members of the broader aviation community, to act with security in mind.

The awards ASS Long Service Employee, ASS Honored Employee, and ASS Professional were given to the selected individuals among Kazakhstan civil aviation security personnel at the closing event.

The representatives of the State Civil Aviation Agency under the Ministry of Transport and Roads of the Kyrgyz Republic and Manas International Airport visited the Republic of Kazakhstan from October 17 to 20, 2021, to expand and strengthen cooperation between the two republics in aviation security.

During the visit, the two countries considered further close cooperation and interaction on aviation security and the development and implementation of a positive security culture in civil aviation organizations.



Discussions included proposals for embedding and promoting security culture in training programs for aviation professionals. And the development of a common methodology for the implementation of security culture in civil aviation.

The intention to create an expert advisory group on aviation security for the countries in the region was also confirmed. It was proposed to prioritize the tasks for the group and include: the development and implementation of activities to promote a strong and effective security culture in aviation in the region; development of requirements and procedures to ensure robust cybersecurity; aviation threats identification and risk management; and quality control principles in aviation security (surveillance during the pandemic).

The delegation of the Kyrgyz Republic also visited the Nursultan Nazarbayev International Airport, where they observed the airport perimeter security system, access control, in-flight catering security, and cargo and mail security.

A video advocating an efficient security culture in the civil aviation industry was filmed. The video emphasizes the quality of training and the development of tools to raise awareness of security culture among aviation personnel. It aims to foster discipline, responsibility and increase vigilance in airport operations.

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## Kyrgyz Republic Events

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Kazakhstan experts made a working visit to the Republic of Uzbekistan in June 2021 to strengthen regional cooperation and interaction, as well as to raise awareness of security culture in aviation.

Meeting discussions included quality control, advanced training of inspectors of civil aviation authorities, and an exchange of experience on access control procedures at airports. Proposals were also developed for active participation in ICAO programs and activities.

From September 21 to 25, 2021, the delegation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, composed of the Aviation Administration of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev International Airport, Air Astana, visited the Kyrgyz Republic.



The purpose of this visit was to exchange experience and to improve cooperation and coordination on aviation security. It was also to participate in the international seminar on security culture, organized by Manas International Airport with support and assistance of the State Civil Aviation Agency of the Kyrgyz Republic.



The seminar was held from September 21 to 22, 2021. Invitations were sent to the aviation administrations in the region. The representatives of the State Civil Aviation Agency under the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic, Aviation Administration of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev International Airport, Air Astana, Manas International Airport, Kyrgyz Aeronavigation SE, operators of passenger and cargo aircrafts of the Kyrgyz Republic, Kyrgyz Aviation Institute (named after I. Abdraimov),

fueling companies, and in-flight catering units attended the seminar.

The seminar aimed to implement activities planned as part of the YOSC. The seminar addressed the development and implementation of a strong and effective security culture in civil aviation organizations; discussed proposals for embedding security culture in training programs for aviation professionals, and the development of a common methodology for introducing security culture in civil aviation. The seminar also hosted lectures about the development of corporate culture in aviation security.



The delegation visited the Kyrgyz Aviation Institute to address the issues of improving the qualifications and training of security-related personnel. It was agreed with the leadership of the institute to have further joint consultations on the process of training personnel in aviation security and the publication of articles in their specialized industry journal on the topic.

The delegation also visited Manas International Airport, where they were acquainted with the measures used to ensure aviation security.



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## Working Relationship

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The ICAO Security Culture Platform<sup>3</sup> gave new impetus to the cooperation between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Working meetings among the Kyrgyz Republic and Republic of Kazakhstan aviation authorities, along with representatives of the civil aviation industry of the two states, were organized to share security culture best practices.

At the working meeting to exchange experiences, the two countries' aviation security regulations were examined for compliance with ICAO standards and recommended practices to help improve the qualifications of the inspection staff.



Together they discussed the measures taken in the two countries to protect civil aviation from acts of unlawful interference, including the implementation of access control measures in guarded areas; improving inspection procedures; the quality of screening equipment, training and retraining of security personnel; and personnel exercising control and supervision functions in the field of aviation security.

One of the decisions taken during this meeting was to establish an expert advisory group for the countries of the region, for further close cooperation and information exchange on aviation security measures and procedures for the implementation of ICAO standards. There would also be multi-dimensional active work in the practical implementation of security culture principles, considering regional specifics.

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<sup>3</sup> [www.icao.int/Security/Security-Culture/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.icao.int/Security/Security-Culture/Pages/default.aspx)

The option of creating the above-mentioned advisory and expert group on the platform (basis) of the Academy of Civil Aviation of the Republic of Kazakhstan was proposed.



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## Conclusion

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ICAO has developed a Security Culture Workshop<sup>4</sup> that includes best practices for developing, implementing, and maintaining a positive security culture. A strong security culture increases the effectiveness of aviation interventions and complements aviation security training.

The plan is to continue to ramp up the implementation of security culture at the regional level. The plan is to also increase and strengthen cooperation with border and regional countries in the framework of the advisory and expert group on aviation security for the countries of the region. This will be based on the example of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic to cooperate and exchange information, undertake multidimensional active work in aviation security, develop, and strengthen an effective culture of aviation security.

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<sup>4</sup> [www.icao.int/Security/Security-Culture/Pages/Training.aspx](http://www.icao.int/Security/Security-Culture/Pages/Training.aspx)