Digital Transformation and Regulation Training for the CIS Region

14–15 December 2026, Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

1. Venue

Hotel **Hilton Baku**, 1B Azadlig Avenue, Baku, AZ1000, Republic of Azerbaijan.

The programme runs from 09:30 to 17:30 on both 14 and 15 December, including breaks. All programme times are Baku local time.

2. Participant registration

Participation is free of charge and based on official nominations. Nominated participants will receive further instructions on accessing the course in a separate communication.

ITU Academy course page

Recommended preparation: Before attending, nominated participants are strongly encouraged to complete the self-paced ITU Academy courses:

Data governance basics (English);

AI governance: fundamentals (English and Russian).

3. Working languages

The training will be conducted in English and Russian with interpretation.

4. Recommended hotels

The following hotels are placed in the close vicinity to the event venue:

- **Hilton Baku:** 1B Azadlig Avenue, Baku, AZ1000. Hotel website
- **Radisson Hotel Baku:** 1 Azadlig Avenue, Baku, AZ1000. Hotel website
- **Holiday Inn Baku:** 5 Keykab Khanim Safaraliyeva Street, Baku, AZ1010. Hotel website.

Participants should check availability and rates directly with each hotel and are invited to make their own reservation.

Participants may book any other hotels upon their own convenience.

Fellowship recipients should follow the accommodation arrangements specified in their fellowship instructions.

5. Transport

Baku is served by Heydar Aliyev International Airport (GYD). Official airport taxis can be ordered at the designated pick-up area outside Terminal 1. Confirm the fare and destination before departure.

The H1 Aero Express bus operates 24 hours a day between Airport Terminals 1 and 2 and Baku Railway Station (28 May metro), via Koroglu metro. Departures are approximately every 20 minutes from 06:00 to 23:15 and every 45 minutes overnight. The published fare is 1.30 AZN with a reusable BakıKart (card purchase: 2 AZN). The journey takes approximately 30 minutes, depending on traffic. Check current fares and schedules before travel.

For road transfers, official Baku Taxi can be booked at the Terminal 1 desk; the airport also lists Uber, Bolt and Yango among app-based ride services. Confirm the pick-up location, payment method and quoted fare before travelling. For food delivery in Baku, the Wolt app is available.

Airport transport information

Organized airport transfers will not be provided. Participants are responsible for arranging their own transportation between the airport, their accommodation and the training venue.

6. Contacts

Information Communication Technologies Agency (ICTA)	**International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**
Vugar Samadov Head of International Cooperation Mobile: +994 51 722 23 29 Email: vugar.samadov@icta.az Website: https://www.icta.az/	**Natalia Mochu** Regional Director for the CIS Region Email: natalia.mochu@itu.int **Maksim Burianov** Consultant Email: maksim.burianov@itu.int

ITU course coordinators: Natalia Mochu (natalia.mochu@itu.int) and Maksim Burianov (maksim.burianov@itu.int). For organizational matters, Daria Kursa (daria.kursa@itu.int) may also be contacted; please copy itu-ro-cis@itu.int.

7. Currency

The national currency is the Azerbaijani manat (AZN). Current official exchange rates are published on the website of the Central Bank of Azerbaijan. Retail exchange rates and charges may differ.

Current official exchange rates

Check card acceptance and international-use restrictions with your bank before travel. Visa and Mastercard cards issued by Russian banks cannot be used abroad. Carry some local currency for small payments.

8. Climate

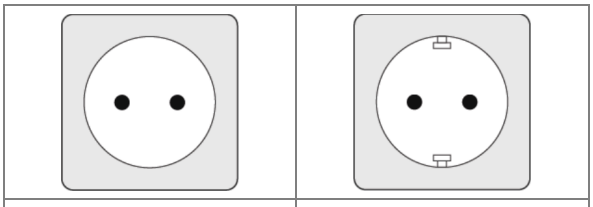
December is a winter month in Baku. Bring warm clothing, a wind-resistant jacket and comfortable footwear. Check the weather forecast shortly before departure.

9. Time zone

Baku uses Azerbaijan Time, UTC+04:00.

10. Electricity

The electricity supply is 220 V, 50 Hz. Type C and Type F sockets are used. Bring a suitable adapter if required.



Type C	Type F

11. Communications

The country calling code is +994 (Baku landlines: +994 12). Mobile operators include Azercell, Bakcell and Nar. Check roaming charges or local SIM options before travel. Confirm internet access with your hotel. Wi-Fi will be provided at the training venue.

12. Visa

Visa requirements depend on nationality and travel document. Check the current visa-free arrangements or visa requirements with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan or the relevant Azerbaijani embassy or consulate before travelling. If travelling by land, check current border-entry restrictions separately, as they differ from air-travel arrangements.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs visa information

Eligible travelers may apply through the official ASAN Visa portal. Standard e-visas are processed within three working days and urgent e-visas within three hours. Apply sufficiently early and check the list of eligible countries on the portal.

ASAN Visa conditions and applications

For e-visa applicants, the passport or travel document must remain valid for at least three months beyond the expiry date of the e-visa. Use the same travel document for the application and the journey, and carry a printed copy of the e-visa.

Contact the organizers in advance if an invitation or supporting letter is needed. Carry your participation confirmation, accommodation address and return or onward travel details.

Foreign nationals and stateless persons staying in Azerbaijan for more than 15 days must register at their place of stay within 15 days of arrival. For citizens of Kazakhstan staying for more than 30 days, registration is required within 30 days of arrival. If applicable, coordinate registration with your hotel or accommodation provider. Registration is free of charge.

State Migration Service registration rules

13. General information

The training is organized by ITU in collaboration with the Digital Regulatory Academy (DRA) of the Communications, Space and Technology Commission (CST) of Saudi Arabia, and hosted by the Information Communication Technologies Agency (ICTA) of Azerbaijan.

Baku is the capital of Azerbaijan, located on the Caspian Sea. Azerbaijani is the official language. Russian and English are also used in many tourist and business settings.

Emergency telephone numbers: 112 for general emergencies, 102 for police and 103 for ambulance services. Keep your travel and medical insurance details and the organizers' confirmed onsite contact available.

Bring a laptop and charger for the practical training exercises. Inform the organizers in advance of any accessibility or dietary requirements. Plan your travel to attend both training days in full.

Before departure, confirm the venue, accommodation, visa arrangements and your own transportation plans. Entry requirements and local transport information should be checked again close to travel.