On April 6, the Second Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan was held in Almaty.

Prior to the official opening of the forum, a meeting was held between Emin Amrullayev, Minister of Science and Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and Sayasat Nurbek, Minister of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, with the participation of university leaders and representatives of relevant agencies. The parties discussed current issues regarding the development of intergovernmental cooperation in higher education, including academic mobility, joint educational programs, and expanding partnership relations.

Sayasat Nurbek, Minister of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, emphasized the strategic importance of strengthening academic ties between our countries in his opening remarks at the forum's opening ceremony. It was noted that the initiatives undertaken have given new impetus to mutual academic cooperation and strengthened the countries' mutual interest in educational opportunities. As part of the forum, 63 new memorandums of understanding are scheduled to be signed between 18 universities in Azerbaijan and 29 universities in Kazakhstan.

Sayasat Nurbek highlighted the growth in academic mobility and student exchange, stating that by the end of 2025, 333 Azerbaijani citizens were studying at 58 Kazakh universities, while 164 Kazakh citizens were studying at Azerbaijani universities.

Emin Amrullayev, Minister of Science and Education, addressed the forum, noting that the Second Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan serves as an important platform for developing academic cooperation between our countries. According to the minister, the expansion of ties between universities, the increase in joint programs, and academic mobility in recent years demonstrate the tangible results of this cooperation.

In his speech, the minister expressed confidence that the new agreements to be signed during the forum will further strengthen the partnership and create new opportunities for students and faculty.

Following the official opening ceremony of the forum, a signing ceremony was held for Memoranda of Understanding aimed at fostering academic exchange, scientific

cooperation, and joint educational programs.