



**Center for Global & Strategic Studies
Islamabad**

Dr. Vladimir Imamovich Norov

The New Secretary General of SCO

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Published on 11th February, 2019



Dr. Vladimir Imamovich Norov is a former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Uzbekistan. On 1st January, 2019 he was appointed as the Secretary-General of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. He is the first Uzbek official to head an international organization. Being a distinguished diplomat he was served at several key positions in Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Director of the Institute of

Strategic and Regional Studies from year 2017-18, Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Benelux countries, head of the mission of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the EU and NATO from 2013-17. He was awarded the rank of the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

Dr. Norov graduated in law from Bukhara State Pedagogical Institute in 1976, then remained an apprentice at Academy of the Interior Ministry of the USSR in 1985. He completed his postgraduate studies at the Academy of the Interior Ministry of the USSR in 1990 and then consummated his academic career by achieving a doctorate degree in Jurisprudence. It was his strong educational training which honed his ambassadorial aptitude. His proficiency in multiple languages such as English, German, Russian and Tajik also complimented his career as a diplomat of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

During the tenure of Dr. Vladimir as director of ISRS, an amplification in Uzbek foreign policy was noticeably observed and the country hosted numerous momentous foreign delegations from USA, Germany, Belgium, China, Turkey, and E.U and Vise-grad group. He is regarded as the one who created an atmosphere of trust, mutual understanding, and cooperation between Uzbekistan and other countries. In addition, Dr. Norov was recognized as a visionary and a reformer in the domain of foreign policy of his country.

Dr. Norov' s pragmatic approach resulted in prospects of regional connectivity of his landlocked country and discharged his duties as an advocate of peace and

stability in the region. His extraterritorial endeavors led him to a key position of Secretary General at a prestigious forum of SCO.

Dr. Norov was born in the scenic southern part of the country, the city of Bukhara, on 31st August 1955. After completion of his education, he commenced his early



career as a soldier in the Soviet Army in 1976-77 and then joined the department of internal affairs at Directorate of Bukhara in the Republic of Uzbekistan. He performed several different duties while being part of interior ministry from 1978 to 1990. Later on, he was promoted to Head of the Criminal Investigations Department at the Internal Affairs Directorate of the Bukhara Region. Then in 1992, he was designated at the position of Consultant and an expert on administrative and legal issues at the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan till 1995. Soon after, he was appointed as the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and then shortly promoted as State Councilor of the country.

From 1998-2003 Dr. Norov performed the duties of an Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Germany, Switzerland, and Poland. Afterward, he served in Belgium, EU, and NATO in a similar capacity till 2006. Dr. Vladimir Norov was later appointed as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan.

Dr. Vladimir represented his country at the 61st session of the United Nations General Assembly and delivered a speech on the agenda of reformation of the organization of UN. He was of the view that the organization must reflect the principles of sovereign equality and non-interference of this apex body in internal matters of a country. He also advocated the post-conflict recovery and fight against terrorism along unprejudiced evaluation of human rights-related issues.

Dr. Vladimir Norov is married with three beautiful children and has been awarded Uzbek national award Mekhnat Shukhrati for his extraordinary contribution in instituting cordial relations with other international actors.

In this milieu of redoubled diplomacy where the discourse of regionalization and regional connectivity is at its highpoint, due to Mr. Norov's exceptional contribution to his country. He was regarded as an ideal candidate from the Government of Uzbekistan to lead the supra-organization of SCO. Dr. Norov highlighted the economic potential in the framework of SCO along with cooperation in politics, security, cultural and humanitarian domain since he joined as the Secretary-General of SCO. He was appointed to his current position on June 10, 2018, at the 2018 SCO Qingdao Summit and took office on New Year's Day in 2019.

Dr. Norov is a great friend of Pakistan. He visited the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in December 2017, on the invitation of Center for Global and Strategic Studies, Islamabad. During his visit to Pakistan, he also addressed the International Conference "National Security Policy - Vision for Pakistan". During his speech he

emphasized on the need of regional connectivity and peaceful co-existence of the regional countries. He also stated that:

“A new level of political confidence in the region gave a powerful impetus to the development of institutions of public diplomacy, cultural ties, and expanded contacts between bordering provinces, parliamentarians, public organizations and citizens. It should be noted that intensifying cooperation with Pakistan, and the consolidation of efforts in ensuring regional security and fighting against terrorism are the most important direction of the foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan. We are in favor of continuing cooperation with Pakistan within the framework of international organizations -the UN, the SCO, OIC and others.”



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