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QS Higher Ed Pre-Summit: Asia Pacific 2024, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Opening Panel - A Bridge to the World: Higher Education in Central Asia

November 1, 2024

Dear Colleagues,

I am heading tonight to Almaty, Kazakhstan, to attend the QS Higher Ed Pre-Summit: Asia Pacific 2024 (Host: [Al-Farabi Kazakh National University](#)) and to participate in the opening panel, "A Bridge to the World: Higher Education in Central Asia." Central Asia occupies a unique position as a bridge between the Asia Pacific, the Middle East, and the rest of the world. To capitalize on this geographical advantage, universities in the region must prepare students for the work of tomorrow and forge international partnerships to learn from past achievements.

This opening panel will consider the current state of higher education in the region and explore how institutions can meet its present and future needs. How can students be upskilled to boost regional economies? What types of partnerships succeed in fostering international collaboration? What are the differences among stakeholders in the region?

The panel will be moderated by my esteemed colleague [Nilly C Castaño](#), Senior Consultant at QS Quacquarelli Symonds. The panelists include my esteemed colleagues [Gulnara Kurenkeyeva](#), Rector of [Almaty Management University \(AlmaU\)](#); [Ulkar Sattarova](#), Director of the State Agency for Science and Higher Education, Republic of Azerbaijan; and [Nigel Healey](#), Vice President for Global and Community Engagement at the [University of Limerick](#)

Looking forward to an exciting pre-summit and many thanks to [Sergei Khristoliubov](#), QS Regional Director, for the kind invitation

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Host



I'm speaking at
**QS Higher Ed
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1 November | Al-Farabi
Kazakh National University,
Almaty, Kazakhstan



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