



## Regional media briefing for Eastern Europe and Central Asia on the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13)

**Baku, 5 March 2026** – The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) will host a media briefing for Eastern Europe and Central Asia as part of preparations for the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13), to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 17 to 22 May 2026 under the theme “Housing the world: Safe and resilient cities and communities.” The briefing will take place on the margins of the Global Baku Forum, convened by the Nizami Ganjavi International Center.

Bringing together senior leaders, policymakers and local, regional and international media, the briefing will introduce WUF13 priorities, programme and highlight its relevance to urban challenges across Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

The briefing will be conducted in English. Media can join the briefing online.

**WHAT:** WUF13 media briefing for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

**WHEN:** 09:00–10:00 (local time), 14 March 2026

**WHERE:** Four Seasons Hotel, Baku, Azerbaijan

**ACCESS:** Media can join the briefing [online](#)

### **SPEAKERS:**

- **Anacláudia Rossbach**, Executive Director, UN-Habitat
- **Anar Guliyev**, Chairman of the State Committee for Urban Planning and Architecture (SCUPA) and WUF13 National Coordinator, Republic of Azerbaijan (TBC)
- **Erfan Ali**, Regional Director for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, UN-Habitat
- **Igor Garafulic**, UN Resident Coordinator ad interim in Azerbaijan
- **Maria Fernanda Espinosa**, President of the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly; Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador 2017–2018, Board Member of NGIC

**MEDIA  
ADVISORY**

**Contact information:**

Katerina Bezgachina  
Chief of Communications, UN-  
Habitat  
[ekaterina.bezgachina@un.org](mailto:ekaterina.bezgachina@un.org)

[www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)

Jessica Jones-Langley  
Communications and events, UN-  
Habitat  
Email:  
[jessica.joneslangley@un.org](mailto:jessica.joneslangley@un.org)