AFPC's Mamuka Tsereteli writes on the Black Sea and South Caucasus

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"The United States and the EU share a common interest in enhancing Black Sea connectivity to the Caspian region via Georgia and Azerbaijan, which would enable more strategic and commercial access to Central Asia while balancing Russian, Iranian, and Chinese influence in a strategically important region. There is a need for greater coordinated efforts between key transit countries of the region to establish higher efficiency and low-cost transportation, and to enhance the interest of long-term strategic partners who have facilitated regional energy projects over last two decades".

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