

Georgia, Qatar to sign economic agreements, mainly in energy sector

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COUNTRY AGREEMENT: A Georgian delegation led by foreign minister Grigol Vashadze will visit Qatar and will sign agreements on double taxation as well as hydropower cooperation (Getty Images)

The Georgian government and Qatar plan to sign several economic agreements, mainly in the energy industry in a bid to improve relations between the two countries.

A Georgian delegation led by foreign minister Grigol Vashadze will visit Qatar on February 20-21 to meet with the Emir and his counterpart and will sign agreements on double taxation as well as hydropower cooperation, deputy foreign minister Nino Kalandadze told reporters in Tbilisi today.

Georgian president Mikheil Saakashvili turned to the Middle East in 2009 to revive foreign investment that slowed after a war with Russia in August 2008 and the global economic slump. He said that he had attracted as much as \$1bn of investment from the United Arab Emirates within the next two to three years and a promise to invest “heavily” from Qatar.

Qatar is interested in energy opportunities in Georgia, such as hydropower, and trade, Kalandadze said.