

корпоративной социальной ответственности, что, в свою очередь, обеспечит гармоничную и устойчивую основу и гарантии для экономического и торгового сотрудничества Китая и Беларуси.

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Assessment of the current state and prospects for the development of Belarusian-Chinese cooperation

Abstract. *The analysis of the results of cooperation between the Republic of Belarus and the People's Republic of China within the framework of the "One Belt, One Way" initiative is carried out. The economic, social, and political advantages of this cooperation for Belarus and China are considered. Positive changes have been established in expanding foreign trade, attracting foreign investment, strengthening cultural exchanges, and achieving sustainable economic and social development of Belarus. Directions for the development of the initiative are proposed: building transnational infrastructure, strengthening cooperation in the field of scientific and technological innovations, promoting interpersonal and cultural exchanges, strengthening political communication.*

Keywords: cooperation; investment; foreign trade; partnership; transnational infrastructure; China; Belarus.

Оценка текущего состояния и перспектив развития белорусско-китайского сотрудничества

Аннотация. В данном исследовании проводится анализ результатов сотрудничества Республики Беларусь и Китайской Народной Республики в рамках инициативы «Один пояс, один путь». Рассматриваются экономические, социальные и политические выгоды данного партнерства для Беларуси и Китая. Устанавливаются положительные изменения в расширении внешнеторговых отношений, привлечении иностранных инвестиций, укреплении культурных обменов, а также достижении устойчивого экономического и социального развития Беларуси. Предлагаются направления развития инициативы, включая создание транснациональной инфраструктуры, укрепление сотрудничества в области научно-технических инноваций, поощрение межличностных и культурных обменов, а также усиление политического взаимодействия.

Ключевые слова: сотрудничество; инвестиции; внешняя торговля; партнерство; транснациональная инфраструктура; Китай; Беларусь.

The “One Belt, One Road” initiative is an important development strategy proposed by the Chinese government. It aims to promote common development and promote global economic prosperity and stability by strengthening economic cooperation with countries along the routes. As one of the important countries along the “Belt and Road” and one of the first countries to respond to and actively participate in the “Belt and Road” initiative, Belarus has superior geographical and political advantages.

Belarus is located in the center of Europe and is an important hub country along the “Belt and Road”. It borders Russia, Ukraine and other countries, and its unique geographical location is conducive to cross-border cooperation. Belarus is rich in mineral resources, agricultural resources and energy resources, which provide strong support for economic development. Belarus has political stability and good social security, providing a good environment for economic development. Belarus has established trade relations with many countries, including China, Russia, the European Union and other important economies. This provides a broad market and opportunities for the economic development of Belarus.

The openness, inclusiveness, mutual benefit and market characteristics of the “Belt and Road” initiative are the same as the vision of Belarus.

Cooperation between China and Belarus can bring economic, technological, cultural and other benefits and advantages, and promote the common development of both parties and regional prosperity.

In terms of economic trade and financial investment, expanding foreign trade and attracting foreign investment are priority opportunities for Belarus. By participating in the “Belt and Road” construction, Belarus can expand foreign trade and promote economic growth. China is one of Belarus’s important trading partners, and the two sides have extensive space for cooperation in trade, investment, infrastructure construction and other fields. Belarus can attract more foreign investment and promote economic development. China is one of the world’s largest inflows of foreign capital, and Belarus can use the “Belt and Road” construction to attract more Chinese companies to invest.

The Belarus initiative may emphasize strengthening trade and investment cooperation, including promoting bilateral trade, investment and industrial cooperation to promote economic growth and employment. The Belarus initiative may emphasize strengthening financial cooperation, including promoting the internationalization of the RMB and establishing financial cooperation mechanisms, to promote financial stability and economic development.

According to Chinese statistics, the bilateral trade in goods between China and Belarus reached a record high of 5.08 billion US dollars in 2022, a year-on-year increase of 33 %. Among them, China’s imports from Belarus increased by 65.4 %, and its exports to Belarus also increased by 20 %. China is Belarus’ second largest trading partner, and Belarus is one of China’s important and fastest-growing trading partners in the Eurasian region. China mainly exports mechanical and electrical equipment, machinery, vehicles and parts, plastics and products, and organic chemicals to Belarus; Mainly importing potassium fertilizer, beef, poultry, wood, milk powder, etc. from Belarus [1].

According to Belarusian information sources, in 2022, gross investments from China increased by 80 % and came close to the 200 million US dollars. In the first quarter of 2023, the trend of increasing the flow of capital from China continues, gross investments amounted to about 55 million US dollars.

Industry is one of the most promising areas for joint business. Recently, the industrial departments of the two countries have developed and signed a Comprehensive strategy for joint industrial development. The document is aimed at creating mechanisms to encourage Belarusian and Chinese enterprises to cooperate, as well as to activate and strengthen their technological interaction.

An integral part of the strategy is the roadmap for its implementation. It contains specific projects and initiatives to create joint ventures in China,

attract Chinese technologies and competencies for the modernization of domestic production and the implementation of investment projects in Belarus.

In the financial field, extensive cooperation has also been carried out between banks and financial institutions of China and Belarus. A cross-border RMB settlement mechanism has been established between the two countries to facilitate trade and investment.

The trade volume between China and Belarus has continued to grow in recent years. Cooperation can further expand the scale of bilateral trade and promote the circulation and exchange of goods and services from both sides. China and Belarus are economically complementary. China has a huge market and strong manufacturing capabilities, while Belarus has advantages in high technology, agriculture and heavy industry. This kind of cooperation can optimize the allocation of resources and promote the economic development of both parties. Participating in the “Belt and Road” construction can provide support for Belarus’ infrastructure construction, including the construction of roads, railways, ports, airports and other fields. This will help improve Belarus’s transportation and logistics levels and promote economic development.

In terms of infrastructure, China has cooperated with Belarus in building a number of important projects. These include the China-Belarus Industrial Park, the expansion of the Minsk Metro Phase III, and the Minsk National Olympic Stadium. The construction of these projects not only improves the level of infrastructure in Belarus, but also provides opportunities for Chinese enterprises to participate in Belarus.

As the pearl project of the “Belt and Road” and the landmark project of China Belarus practical cooperation, the China Belarus Industrial Park, relying on its advanced business philosophy, superior business environment and mature supporting facilities, has become the first choice for enterprises from all countries to invest and develop in Belarus. Located near Minsk, the capital of Belarus, it is one of the key projects of cooperation between the two countries. The industrial park covers multiple fields, including manufacturing, logistics, finance and technology.

In recent years, under the common concern and promotion of the two heads of state, the park has actively responded to the challenges brought by the COVID-19 epidemic and external complex factors, continued to maintain steady development, and achieved many gratifying results. The investment attraction work in the park has been steadily advancing, and the number of enterprises entering the park has increased against the trend. As of now, there are a total of 113 enterprises from 16 countries around the world entering the park, with a willingness to invest approximately 1.3 billion

US dollars. The industry covers multiple fields such as mechanical manufacturing, biopharmaceuticals, e-commerce, new materials, traditional Chinese medicine, artificial intelligence, and 5G network development. In 2022, the total industrial output value of resident enterprises in the park reached Br 456.1 million, a year-on-year increase of 53,3 %. The sales revenue of goods, engineering, services, etc. was Br 709,3 million, a year-on-year increase of 90.1 %. The export volume of products reached 168.4 million US dollars, a year-on-year increase of over 30 %. The overall net profit of the enterprise reached Br 34.1 million, continuing to achieve profitability. The tax payment by enterprises reached Br 80.4 million, a year-on-year increase of 123.6 %. The number of employees in the park enterprises reaches 2149, with a per capita income nearly double the average wage level in Belarus.

The China Belarus Industrial Park retains the status of an attractive site from the point of view of investment cooperation. Over \$830 million has already been invested in the park, of which more than \$320 million has been invested in the park's infrastructure. Eleven new residents were registered in 2023.

In the first quarter of 2023, the quality indicators of the park's enterprises improved. Revenue from the sale of goods increased by 1.8 times, tax deductions of residents – by 3.5 times, production volume – by 1.3 times, exports of goods – by 1.2 times. Investments in fixed assets amounted to about Br 14 million [2].

In addition to the China Belarus Industrial Park, China and Belarus are cooperating to modernize the Belarusian Railway to improve transportation efficiency and the ability to connect the Eurasian continent. Belarus is located at the intersection of several main railway roads in Eurasia. It is an important transportation hub on the “Belt and Road” and an important link of China Europe regular trains. Since the beginning of this year, the total number of China Europe trains passing through Belarus has reached 10000. The cumulative shipment of goods exceeded 1 million US dollars, a year-on-year increase of 27 %, maintaining a good operating scale and stable operating quality.

China and Belarus cooperate to improve transportation infrastructure, including roads, bridges and ports. The two countries also jointly implemented joint projects such as Belarusian Geely Automobile, Belarusian National Biotechnology Company, and Guangming City Pulp Mill under the framework of the “Belt and Road”. Among them, Belarusian Geely Automobile is produced by a joint venture between China and Belarus, which not only fulfills Belarus' dream of domestic sedans, but also sells to CIS countries such as Russia, becoming a shining business card for Belarusian passenger cars.

Energy cooperation is another key area of China-Belarus investment cooperation. Chinese companies have invested in a number of energy projects in Belarus, such as the construction of combined-cycle gas plants at Lukomlskaya GRES and Berezovskaya GRES. These projects contribute to the enhancement of energy supply and energy security in Belarus. China and Belarus have cooperation projects in the energy field, including cooperation in natural gas development, electric power and petrochemical fields.

In addition, agricultural cooperation is also one of the important directions of China-Belarus investment cooperation. Chinese enterprises have invested in the construction of modern farms in Belarus and introduced China's agricultural technology and management experience, which has promoted the process of agricultural modernization in Belarus. China has made tremendous progress in the field of science and technology, and Belarus has some cutting-edge technologies and R&D capabilities. The two countries can cooperate in science and technology, jointly develop new technologies and products, and improve the innovation capabilities and competitiveness of both parties.

The Belarusian Biotechnology Company's full cycle high-tech agricultural and industrial complex project, constructed by a Chinese enterprise using preferential loans from China, is not only the first amino acid production enterprise in Belarus and the first export foreign exchange earnings and import substitution project in the grain deep processing industry, but also the first large-scale full cycle agricultural and industrial production enterprise in the CIS region that integrates grain warehousing, various feed production, and amino acid production, becoming another model of practical cooperation between both sides.

By participating in the "Belt and Road" construction, Belarus can strengthen cultural exchanges and personnel exchanges with countries along the route. This will help promote understanding and friendship between the two countries and lay the foundation for long-term cooperation. The Belarus initiative may emphasize strengthening cultural exchanges, including promoting education, tourism, cultural exchanges, etc., to enhance friendship and understanding between the two peoples. Cooperation can promote exchanges and understanding between the two peoples, and promote cooperation in tourism, education, culture and other fields. This helps enhance friendship and mutual trust between the two peoples.

The social security housing project assisted by the Chinese government has built a total of 38 buildings and 3 286 sets of social security housing in 6 regions across the country, with a total area of nearly 200 000 square meters. It has improved housing conditions for more than 10 000 people from 3 286 households in Belarus. Local cooperation between China and Belarus

is a new growth point in bilateral cooperation, with 45 pairs of friendly provinces, states, and sister cities between the two countries. Six states and the capital city of Minsk in Belarus have established friendly province state or city relations with at least two provinces in China. In 2021, 2022, and 2023, more than 200 colorful local cooperation and exchange activities were held within the framework of the “Local Cooperation Year” between China and Belarus, driving the vigorous development of local economic and trade cooperation between the two countries. The China Shanghai Cooperation Organization Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Zone located in Qingdao has established friendly cooperation relationships with economic parks such as the China White Industrial Park, Vitebsk Free Economic Zone, and Brest Free Economic Zone, and continuously explores new models of mutually beneficial cooperation [3].

These projects not only create a large number of jobs and economic benefits for Belarus, fill the gaps in relevant industries in Belarus, enable the Belarusian people to enjoy the fruits of China Belarus cooperation in jointly building the “Belt and Road”, and fully demonstrate the friendship between China and Belarus for mutually beneficial cooperation. I believe that with the joint efforts of both sides, China Belarus cooperation in jointly building the “Belt and Road” will be more in-depth and fruitful, and will also create more benefits for the two peoples.

China and Belarus are both located in Eurasia, and cooperation can promote stability and security in the region. Cooperation between the two countries in international affairs also helps safeguard their common interests and regional stability.

As pointed out by the two heads of state in the joint statement, this decision is based on the common willingness to enhance the level of bilateral relations, reflect the exemplary role of China Belarus relations, and further promote cooperation in various fields between the two countries, taking into account the profound changes in the current international and regional situation [4].

The new expression of China Belarus relations accurately summarizes the essence of the relationship between the two countries, fully in line with the fundamental interests of both countries and the common expectations of the two peoples. China and Belarus maintain a high level of mutual trust and are able to firmly support each other and work together to address various challenges and risks, no matter how the international and regional situation changes. Comprehensive means extensive and in-depth cooperation between the two countries in various fields such as politics, economy and trade, science and technology, education, culture, etc., covering bilateral, regional, and multilateral levels, forming a multi-level, multi-domain, and multi-channel cooperation pattern.

“Strategy” means that both sides have a high degree of consensus on major international and regional issues, respect and support each other’s development paths and domestic and foreign policies based on their own national conditions, oppose any form of interference in the internal affairs of other countries, and firmly oppose all forms of hegemonic and power politics.

Partnership means friendly exchanges between the two countries on the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit, without alliance, confrontation, or targeting third parties, jointly committed to building a new type of international relations, deepening and expanding the global partnership of equality, openness, and cooperation, and working together to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

To jointly promote the high-quality development of the “Belt and Road”, the following measures and suggestions will bring progress:

1. Strengthen bilateral cooperation: Strengthen economic cooperation between China and Belarus and promote in-depth cooperation between the two parties in the fields of trade, investment, infrastructure construction and other fields.

2. Promote transnational infrastructure construction: Jointly promote transnational infrastructure construction, including the construction of roads, railways, ports, airports and other fields. This will help improve Belarus’s transportation and logistics levels and promote economic development.

3. Strengthen cooperation in scientific and technological innovation: jointly promote cooperation in scientific and technological innovation, promote in-depth cooperation between the two parties in the fields of information technology, artificial intelligence, new energy, etc., and achieve common development.

4. Promote people-to-people and cultural exchanges: strengthen exchanges and cooperation between the two sides in the fields of culture, education, tourism and other fields, and enhance understanding and friendship between the two countries.

5. Strengthen policy communication: strengthen policy communication between the two sides, promote cooperation between the two sides in trade, investment, finance and other fields, and provide strong support for the economic development of both sides.

The “Belt and Road” initiative provides Belarus with important opportunities and broad development space. By actively participating in the “Belt and Road” construction, Belarus can achieve positive results in expanding foreign trade, attracting foreign investment, promoting infrastructure construction, strengthening people-to-people exchanges, and achieving sustainable economic and social development.

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Анализ путей сотрудничества в области развития цифровой экономики между Китаем и Беларусью на фоне инициативы «Один пояс и один путь»

Аннотация. *С развитием стратегии «Пояс и путь» сотрудничество между Китаем и Беларусью становится все более тесным. В нынешних условиях углубленного развития цифровой экономики сотрудничество Китая и Беларуси также должно постепенно развиваться в направлении цифровой экономики. В данной статье основное внимание уделяется исследованию пути развития цифровой экономики Китая и Беларуси на фоне цифровой экономики в сочетании с анализом проблем, с которыми Китай и Беларусь сталкиваются в процессе сотрудничества, с целью*