The Belt and Road Initiative Leads to Enhanced Euro-Asia Connectivity

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The Belt and Road Initiative

The Silk Road Economic Belt
September 2013, in Central Asia

the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road
October 2013, in Southeast Asia

4 years on, over 100 countries and international organizations have supported
In May 2017, China hosted the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, attracting over 1600 delegates from more than 140 countries and 80 international organizations, including 29 heads of state and government.
The Belt and Road Initiative

• Focus on **Asian**, **European** and **African** continents but is open to all **countries** for regional economic cooperation and common prosperity

• Work towards connectivity of **policy, infrastructure, trade, finance** and **people-to-people**
The Silk Road Economic Belt

Bringing together China, Central Asia, Russia and Europe

Linking China with the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean Sea through Central Asia and West Asia

Connecting China with Southeast Asia, South Asia and the Indian Ocean
The 21st Century Maritime Silk Road

From China's coast to **Europe** through the **South China Sea** and the **Indian Ocean**

From China's coast through the **South China Sea** to the **South Pacific**

Source: xinhuanet.com, and Barclays Research
Wings of a soaring Euro-Asia Continent

Connectivity

Arteries and Veins
Better Transport Infrastructure Network

- China-Pakistan Economic Corridor
- China-Mongolia-Russia Economic Corridor
- the New Eurasian Continental Bridge

- Economic corridors
- Land-sea-air transportation routes
- Major projects

A Multi-dimensional Infrastructure Network
Greater Facilitation in Cross-border Transport

350 road routes open for international passenger and freight transport.

4000 Railway Express trains to 29 cities in 11 European countries.

Collaborative engagement in GMS and SCO transport facilitation committees and the implementation of TIR Convention.
Closer Sea and Air Transport Cooperation

• A secretariat set up specially to coordinate **China-CEEQ** maritime issues.

• **Maritime transport cooperation** between China and countries along the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road is becoming closer and closer.

• **4500** flights fly along direct routes connecting China and other **43** countries every week.
Transport Connectivity under the Belt and Road Initiative

Present new opportunities for the Asian and European countries to **improve people’s wellbeing**

Offer new platforms and means for the countries to **step up international cooperation** and **meet the global economic challenges**

Inter-state in Asia and Euro-Asia intercontinental **transport infrastructure** is still **in short supply**
Transport Connectivity under the Belt and Road Initiative

- **Connectivity** - the priority area of international cooperation in pursuing the Belt and Road Initiative.

- Connectivity is deemed to **break the bottleneck** impeding economic development and unlock development potential of various countries.
Transport Connectivity under the Belt and Road Initiative

• International transport infrastructure network is *important public goods* and needs joint efforts among *governments* for development and improvement

• Further enhance *communication and cooperation*

• Improve the *hardware* connection of transport infrastructure

• Strengthen *software* connectivity in policies, rules and standards
Enhance Policy Coordination and Communication

- Develop **multi-tiered intergovernmental mechanisms on transport connectivity.**

- Align **transport strategies.**

- Take **CAREC Transport** and **Trade Facilitation Strategy 2020** and **GMS Transport Sector Strategy** as important means to strengthen Euro-Asia transport connectivity and continue their effective implementation.
Enhance Transport Infrastructure Connectivity

- **Strengthen** land, sea, air and cyberspace connectivity

- Concentrate efforts on **key passageways and projects to** develop a **multi-dimensional transport infrastructure network** along Asia and Europe

- Explore innovative **financing mechanisms** for infrastructure projects
Promote Harmonization of International Transport Rules and Standards

- Improve border-crossing efficiency, reduce costs and promote facilitation of international transport.

- Work for better sharing and cooperation in logistics information and further develop trans-regional logistics network.

- Work toward better harmonization of technical standards to improve connectivity.
UNECE’s 70th Anniversary

UNECE is committed to advancing Euro-Asian transport links and connectivity.

The Belt and Road Initiative has summoned up the enthusiasm of the countries along the route for transport connectivity, boosting inter-state and regional cooperation.

We hope that UNECE will play a bigger role and work in stronger partnership with relevant countries, organizations and institutions to

- build platforms
- create opportunities for Eurasian countries to engage in connectivity cooperation in more areas.
The swan geese can fly long and safe through wind and storm because they move in flocks and help each other as a team.

- President Xi Jinping

China stands ready to work in partnership with other Eurasian countries in developing transport infrastructure corridors along Asia and Europe.
THANK YOU