

Educational Co-operation.

Educational cooperation between China and Belarus has also made remarkable progress: Agreements on exchanges between universities and colleges: Universities and educational institutions in China and Belarus have signed more than 350 co-operation agreements, providing more opportunities for mutual visits and exchanges between students and teachers. These agreements cover a wide range of areas of cooperation, including academic research, student exchanges and joint research projects. Belarusian students have the opportunity to study at Chinese universities and colleges, which provides them with an international educational experience.

Joint academic programme: China and Belarus have planned more than 30 joint academic programme and signed more than 540 cooperation agreements [3]. These projects include undergraduate and postgraduate programme covering a wide range of subject areas such as engineering, medicine, literature and business. For example, the Joint College of Belarusian State University at Dalian University of Technology is the first Chinese and Belarusian international co-operation institution established at the undergraduate level, which is committed to building "double first-class" and promoting exchanges between the two countries in the field of higher education.

Looking to the future.

In the future, the youth of China and Belarus should continue to work together to make greater contributions to building a community of human destiny. Through more cultural exchanges and educational co-operation, the two countries can further deepen their co-operation and promote the healthy and stable development of their relationship, while contributing to global peace and prosperity. This deepening cooperation will not only bring China and Belarus closer, but will also provide a successful model for global friendship and cooperation.

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A WIN-WIN PARTNERSHIP: THE ECONOMIC SYNERGY BETWEEN CHINA AND BELARUS

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Summary. *China-Belarus relations have been steadily growing over the past decade, with economic cooperation forming the cornerstone of this partnership. The combination of China's booming economy and Belarus' strategic location in Europe has created a win-win situation for both countries. Through various trade and investment deals, the economic synergy between China and Belarus has flourished, resulting in increased bilateral trade, job creation, and infrastructural development.*

Bilateral Trade:

China and Belarus have seen a significant increase in their bilateral trade over the years. According to data from the General Administration of Customs of China, the total trade volume between the two countries reached 3.72 billion U.S. dollars in 2020, a growth of 26.7 % compared to the previous year. The export of goods from Belarus to China accounted for 2.18 billion U.S. dollars, while imports from China amounted to 1.54 billion U.S. dollars. This demonstrates a healthy trade balance between the two nations.

The key sectors driving this bilateral trade include machinery, chemicals, textiles, and electronics. China is a major importer of Belarusian machinery, particularly heavy machinery used in infrastructure and construction projects. In return, China exports a wide range of consumer goods and electronic products to Belarus. The diversification of trade has led to mutual benefits, as both countries gain access to new markets and products.

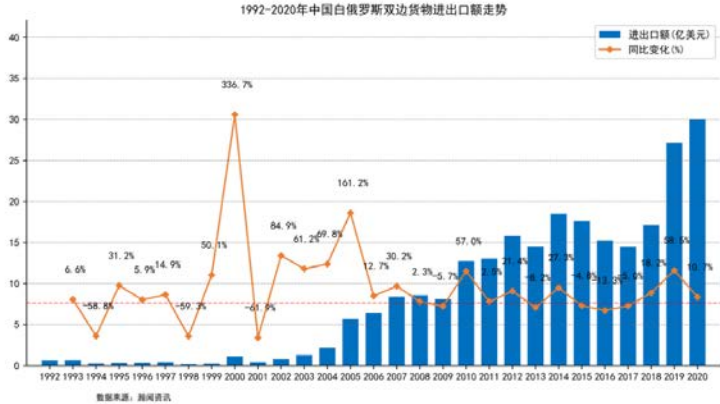


Figure 1 – Trends in China-Belarus bilateral goods import and export volume from 1992 to 2020

Investment and Job Creation:

Foreign direct investment (FDI) from China has played a significant role in Belarus' economic development. Chinese investment in Belarus has primarily focused on infrastructure, manufacturing, and technology sectors. One notable example is the China-Belarus Industrial Park, located near Minsk. It serves as a hub for Chinese businesses looking to access the European market, while also providing job opportunities for the local population.

The China-Belarus Industrial Park has attracted over 40 Chinese companies, resulting in the creation of more than 2,000 jobs for Belarusians. This investment

has not only generated employment opportunities but has also stimulated economic growth by increasing production capacities and exports. These investments showcase the confidence China has in Belarus' strategic potential and its commitment to long-term economic cooperation.

Infrastructure Development:

The collaboration between China and Belarus has resulted in significant infrastructural development in the country. One prominent project is the China-Belarus Railway, which connects China's Zhengzhou city with the Belarusian capital, Minsk. This railway provides a faster and more cost-effective means of transporting goods between Asia and Europe.

The China-Belarus Railway has witnessed remarkable growth since its inception in 2011. In 2020, the railway transported around 65,000 TEU (twenty-foot equivalent units) of cargo, an increase of 75 % compared to the previous year. This not only saves transportation time but also lowers trade costs, making Belarus an attractive destination for international businesses.

The economic synergy between China and Belarus has proven to be a win-win partnership. Bilateral trade has steadily increased, with both countries benefiting from the exchange of goods and services. Chinese investment has helped Belarus develop its economy and create jobs for its citizens. The infrastructure projects undertaken by both nations have further strengthened their economic ties and improved connectivity between Asia and Europe.

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PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE OF COORDINATED DEVELOPMENT IN THE GREATER BAY AREA

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Summary. *This article delves into the practical experience of coordinated development in the Greater Bay Area, focusing on the economic growth and integration of this region. It explores the factors contributing to its success, including infrastructure development, innovation, and policy support. The article also outlines the challenges faced by the Greater Bay Area and suggests ways to further enhance its development.*