

### Study on China-Central Asia Exchanges Cooperation and Prospects from the Perspective of a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind

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#### ABSTRACT

China and Central Asian countries have entered a new stage of development in cooperation and exchanges under the framework of building a community with a shared future for mankind. They have gradually formed a business and trade community, a shared culture community, a security community, and a healthy community. In the following cooperation and exchanges, China and Central Asian countries should continue to seize the opportunities of the Silk Road Economic Belt, deepen the construction of the China-Central Asian Community, and at the same time, take security and stability as the cornerstone, and flexibly respond to the changing policies of Central Asian countries. China should promote the transformation of its own economic structure, broaden the areas of cooperation, and be vigilant about cultural security while deepening exchanges in the humanities field.

**Keywords:** A community with a shared future for mankind, Central Asia, Cross-cultural exchanges, Silk Road Economic Belt.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

At present, the global situation is turbulent, the international pattern is changing, and the world is undergoing major changes unseen in a century. The international system and the international order are further adjusted, the game of big powers is surging, the world structure is undergoing adjustments and major changes, global governance is becoming more complex, and uncertain and unstable factors are gradually increasing. The rapid evolution of the COVID-19 on a global scale has accelerated changes in the international landscape. In the face of global issues, China has provided countries around the world with solutions to build a community with a shared future for mankind. In January 2017, Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech titled "Together to Build a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind" at the UN headquarters Geneva", systematically expounding why China is promoting the building of a community with a shared future for mankind, what kind of community with a shared future to

build, and how to build a community with a shared future for mankind. Xi Jinping has provided the world with a methodology for building a community with a shared future for mankind, and contributed to the current Chinese plan for global governance.

Central Asia is located in the hinterland of the Eurasian continent. The Silk Road Economic Belt is an important link connecting China and Central Asian countries. Central Asian countries composed of five countries including Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Kyrgyzstan have an important strategic position due to their unique geographical locations, making the five Central Asian countries a pivotal unit in the international political landscape. The tradition of exchanges and cooperation between China and Central Asian countries has been in existence since ancient times and continues to this day. Historically, as a bridge between Eastern and Western cultural exchanges, Central Asia played an important role in trade and cultural exchanges.

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#### 2. OVERVIEW AND CONCEPT DEFINITION OF CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES

"Central Asia" and "Central Asian countries" are a set of different concepts. Among them, the term "Central Asia" holds different views among different countries and scholars. The definition of this group of concepts and the brief introduction of the five Central Asian countries provide guidance for the following exchanges and cooperation between China and Central Asian countries and the problems they face.

#### 2.1 Definition of the Term "Central Asia"

"Central Asia" is a geographical concept, short for "Central Asia". Regarding the geographical concept of the term "Central Asia", scholars have always had different opinions in understanding. Initially, UNESCO defined "Central Asia" as "from the Caspian Sea in the west to the Daxinganling in the east; from the Altai Mountains and Himalayas in the north to the Himalayas in the south." According to this division, the countries in Central Asia include: Seven, namely northern Afghanistan, China (Xinjiang, Tibet, Qinghai, Gansu Hexi Corridor, Ningxia, Inner Mongolia), northwestern India, northern Iran, Mongolia, northern Pakistan, and Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan that belong to the former Soviet Union, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan.[1] disintegration of the Soviet Union, the concept of geographic scope of "Central Asia" aroused scholars' controversy. Soviet scholars believe that the so-called Central Asia generally refers to the "Amu Darya and Syr Darya river basins, namely Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and southern Kazakhstan. Therefore, the five Central Asian countries are often referred to as China Ya and Kazakhstan'".[2]<sup>3</sup> Some scholars believe that the scope of "Central Asia" is divided into broad and narrow concepts. In a broad sense, Central Asian countries refer to "east to the east of Mongolia and east of Inner Mongolia; south to Iran and northern Afghanistan, northwest of India and Pakistan, including Xinjiang, Gansu Hexi Corridor, northwest China; west to the Caspian Sea, including Kazakhstan, Five countries: Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan; Minusinsk and Krasnoyarsk in the south of North Siberia."

## 2.2 Overview of the Five Central Asian Countries

The five Central Asian countries refer to Kazakhstan. Uzbekistan. Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan. Geographically, it is adjacent to my country's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in the east, Iran and Afghanistan in the south, the Russian Federation in the north, and the Russian Federation and Azerbaijan in the west across the sea.[2]<sup>2</sup> Central Asia is 3,000 kilometers long from east to west, about 2,400 kilometers wide from north to south, with a total area of 4.008 million square kilometers and a total population of 60 million. Central Asia generally shows a trend of high in the southeast and low in the northwest, blocking the warm and humid air from the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, resulting in sparse precipitation and extremely dry climate conditions. Deserts and semi-deserts occupy a large area, only surrounded by mountains. In the oasis, people of Central Asia live on horseback. The arid and semi-arid geographical conditions determine that the population distribution in Central Asia presents the characteristics of low population density, uneven population distribution, concentrated distribution in oasis areas. "Central Asia has an average of only 12 people per square kilometer. The affluent Fergana Basin has as many as 300-400 people per square kilometer."[2]<sup>9</sup>

The five Central Asian countries were formerly member republics of the Soviet Union and became independent successively in 1991. China and Central Asian countries quickly established diplomatic relations. In the ethnic composition of Central Asia, "According to the 1989 demographic data of the Soviet Union, there are 130 ethnic groups living in Central Asia." At present, the main ethnic groups of the five Central Asian countries are the Russian, Kazakh, Kirgiz, Uzbek, Tajik, Tatar, German, etc. The official language is Russian, and the national system of each country is a republic and a presidential system is implemented.

## 2.3 Economic Conditions of Central Asian Countries

The disintegration of the Soviet Union caused severe damage to the economies of Central Asian countries, and the gross domestic product of the five Central Asian countries fell sharply after their independence. In 1992, "Kazakhstan's GDP fell by 22.6%, Kyrgyzstan by 13%, and Uzbekistan by



11%."[2]121 In 1995, compared with 1990, the GDP, "Kazakhstan fell 55%, Kyrgyzstan fell 50%, Tajikistan fell 50%, Uzbekistan fell 18%."[2]<sup>121</sup> After implementing a series of economic reforms, the average GDP growth rate of the five Central Asian countries in recent years was "4.3% in 2009, 6.2% in 2012, and 8.5% in 2013."[3]<sup>213</sup> From 2013 to 2015, the GDP of the five Central Asian countries all showed positive growth and the development momentum was rapid. However, the development gap between the five Central Asian countries is also expanding. Among them, Kazakhstan has become the fastest growing country in Central Asia. "In 2015, the population of Kazakhstan was 32.5% of the population of the other four Central Asian countries, and its gross national product was about twice that of the other four Central Asian countries", as shown in "Table 1".

Table 1. GDP growth rate of five Central Asian countries

	2013 / %	2014/%	2015 / %
Kazakhstan	6	5.1	1.2
Turkmenistan	10.2	10	6.5
Uzbekistan	8	7	8
Kyrgyzstan	10.5	6.5	3.5
Tajikistan	7.4	7	6

# 3. AREAS OF EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION BETWEEN CHINA AND CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES

The exchanges and cooperation between China and Central Asian countries are mainly based on Xinjiang, China. The areas of exchanges and cooperation have gradually expanded from economic and trade exports as the main area to complement the economic advantages of China and Central Asian countries. And the upgrading of trade cooperation has brought about the adjustment of the industrial structure, which has reshaped the economic structure, gradually expanding from economic cooperation to cultural exchanges. China has strengthened the bonds of affection between the people of Central Asian countries and cemented popular support for exchanges. In the face of the international counter-terrorism situation and the public health crisis sweeping the world, the field of exchanges between China and Central Asian countries also involves security cooperation and joint fight against the epidemic. In general, the

areas of cooperation and exchanges between China and Central Asian countries have shown a trend from basic to comprehensive, from material exchanges to people-to-people bonds.

### 3.1 Upgrade of Economic and Trade Cooperation and Discussing the Economic and Trade Community

Economic and trade cooperation is the primary field and main foothold of exchanges between China and Central Asian countries. Economic and trade is one of the first areas of cooperation between China and Central Asian countries. After the disintegration of the Soviet Union, Central Asia and Xinjiang started mutual trade exchanges between border residents. When Premier Li Peng visited four Central Asian countries in 1994, he put forward six suggestions for developing economic and trade cooperation between China and Central Asian countries. The main contents include "adhere to the principle of equality and mutual benefit, and act in accordance with economic laws; the forms of cooperation should be diversified; based on actual conditions, make full use of local resources; improve transportation conditions and build a new "Silk Road"; China provides a small amount to Central Asian countries Economic assistance is an expression of friendship; developing changeable cooperation and promoting common development." Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, China has accelerated its cooperation with neighboring countries, promoted the reform of the global governance system, and built a community with a shared future for mankind. In 2013, Xi Jinping's keynote speech on "Jointly Building the "Silk Road Economic Belt"" pointed out that it is necessary to strengthen the cooperation model of policy communication, road connectivity, unimpeded trade. currency circulation, and people-to-people bonds, and strengthen the ties between Eurasian countries. Economic and trade cooperation has always been the main area of cooperation between China and Central Asian countries. "From 1992 to 2012, the volume of trade between China and Central Asian countries increased by about 100 times, and the degree of trade integration and interdependence between the two sides continued to increase,"[4]<sup>94</sup> as shown in "Table 2". In recent years, the trade cooperation between China and the five Central Asian countries has shown a steady upward trend. From 2019 to 2020, affected by the global Covid-19, the trade volume has declined, as shown in "Figure 1". Among the trading countries,



Kazakhstan, a Central Asian country, has become China's largest trading partner. The trade structure between China and Kazakhstan is mainly that China imports fertilizers and various metals from Kazakhstan, and China provides light industrial products and home appliances to Kazakhstan, Food, etc. Among the trade products, China mainly "imports primary products and natural resource-intensive products from Central Asia. The imported energy products are mainly oil and natural gas, and energy imports are mainly concentrated in Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan."

Table 2. 2014-2019 China's total import and export trade volume with five Central Asian countries (Unit/RMB)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Kazakhstan	13779252	8866572	8654164	12176450	13148475	15179151	1477858
Kyrgyzstan	3255164	2700598	3752444	3695128	3709809	4391992	2021052
Tajikistan	1546480	1151797	1159997	927138	996452	1158156	739149
Turkmenistan	6429161	5354826	3886727	4711309	5568745	6273804	4520210
Uzbekistan	2626699	2168038	2379505	2857033	4144354	4973307	4589567

a Data source: General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China http://www.customs.gov.cn/customs/302249/zfxxgk/2799825/302274/302277/3227050/index.html.

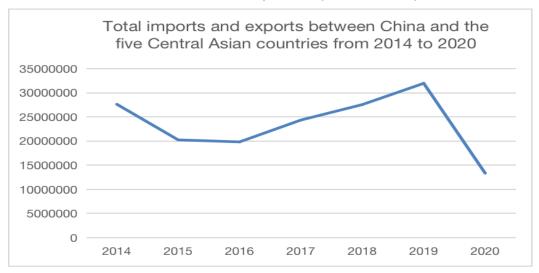


Figure 1 Line chart of total import and export trade volume between China and the five Central Asian countries from 2014 to 2019.

Xinjiang occupies an important position in cooperation and exchanges with Central Asian countries. The trade between China's Xinjiang and Central Asian countries began in 1986 as a border barter.[2]<sup>353</sup> During the "Belt and Road" construction process, Xinjiang will be regarded as the core area of the Silk Road Economic Belt. At the second Central Xinjiang Work Forum in 2014, it was pointed out that "based on regional advantages, build the core area of the Silk Road Economic Belt." The third Central Xinjiang Work

 $a \qquad Data\ source:\ General\ Administration\ of\ Customs\ of\ the\ People's\ Republic\ of\ China.\ http://www.customs.gov.cn/customs/302249/zfxxgk/2799825/302274/302277/3227050/index.html.$ 

Forum in 2020 continued to point out that "to promote the construction of the core area of the Silk Road Economic Belt as the driving force, Xinjiang's own regional opening strategy should be incorporated into the overall layout of the country's westward opening up." <sup>2</sup> The economic and trade exchanges between Xinjiang and Central Asian countries have increased rapidly. In 2019, the total import and export volume of Xinjiang's foreign

<sup>1.</sup> Xi Jinping delivered an important speech at the second Central Xinjiang Work Symposium [OL]. [2014-05-30]

 $<sup>\</sup>begin{array}{ll} (20212\text{-}03\text{-}06) & \text{http://pic.people.com.cn/n/} \\ 25084060.\text{html.} & \end{array}$ 

<sup>2.</sup> Xi Jinping attended the third Central Xinjiang Work Symposium and delivered an important speech [N]. People's Daily,2020-09-26(01)



trade reached 164.09 billion yuan, and the total foreign trade import and export volume in 2020 was 148.43 billion yuan. 3 Among the modes of trade and transportation, the trade between Xinjiang and Central Asian countries is dominated by railway transportation. "In 2020, there have been more than 3,400 China-Europe trains." In 2020, "Xinjiang's foreign trade import and export by rail transportation was 51.39 billion yuan, an increase of 53.5%, accounting for 34.6% of Xinjiang's total foreign trade import and export value in the same period." 5 Among the trade cooperation countries, Kazakhstan is an important trading country. In 2020, Xinjiang's imports and exports to Kazakhstan are 75.83 billion yuan, an increase of 0.5%. Among the traded commodities, imports are still dominated by energy-based commodities, and exports of mechanical and electrical products have shown an increase. In 2020, imported natural gas will be 9.47 billion yuan, metal ores and ore will be 6.16 billion yuan, and unwrought copper and copper materials will be 4.72 billion yuan. It exported 35 billion yuan in machinery and electronics, 24.67 billion yuan in clothing and clothing accessories, 8.18 billion yuan in shoes and boots, and 6 billion yuan in agricultural products. In terms of the total trade volume between Alashankou and Horgos Customs in Xinjiang between China and Central Asian countries, the overall trade has shown an upward trend from 2016 to 2020. In 2019, it has been affected by the global Covid-19 and economic and trade cooperation has slowed down. In 2020, Xinjiang will continue to increase its opening to the west, and "one port, two districts, five centers, and port economic belt" have become an important starting point for economic and trade cooperation with Central Asian countries. As shown in "Table 3".

Table 3. 2016-2020 major customs trade volume between China and Central Asian countries (Unit/RMB)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Alashankou Comprehensive Bonded Zone	198940	219677	192833	598690	764294
China- Kazakhstan Horgos International Border Cooperation Center	366524	124797	487857	81242	102697

Data source: General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China. http://www.customs.gov.cn/customs/302249/zfxxgk/2799825/302274/302277 /3227050/index.html.

## 3.2 Deepening Security Cooperation and Building a Security Community

The increasingly close economic and trade cooperation and cultural exchanges between China and Central Asian countries continue to promote security cooperation between Central Asia and other countries. Security cooperation between China and Central Asian countries is based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Peace, cooperation, development, exchanges, trust, mutual understanding, common prosperity and common progress have become the mainstream and main theme of relations between China and Central Asian countries. After the disintegration of the Soviet Union, there were many internal crises in the Commonwealth of Independent States. Against this background, the Chinese government made a security commitment to Kazakhstan. On February 8, 1995, the Chinese government issued a statement on providing security guarantees to Kazakhstan. The statement stated that "China abides by the spirit of the Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Relations Diplomatic between China Kazakhstan in January 1992, the **Joint** Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between China and Kazakhstan in February 1992, and the Joint Statement on the Foundation of China-Kazakhstan Relations in October 1993, and is willing to build on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Further develop friendly relations between China and Kazakhstan." On September 8, 1992, Russia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan formed a joint delegation in Minsdaq to negotiate borders with China. This negotiation was conducted on the basis of equal consultation, mutual consultation and mutual understanding

<sup>3.</sup> Data source: Urumqi Customs of the People's Republic of China [OL]. (2021-03-06) http://www.customs.gov.cn/urumqi\_customs/556675/556651/556655/cae7e225-3.html.

<sup>4.</sup> Xinjiang promotes the construction of "One Belt One Road" with high quality [N]. Xinjiang Daily, 2020-05-27.

<sup>5.</sup> A Brief Analysis of Xinjiang's Foreign Trade Development Situation in 2020 [OL]. Urumqi Customs of the People's Republic of China [OL]. (2021-03-06) http://www.customs.gov.cn/urumqi\_customs/556675/556651/556655/cae7e225-3.html.



accordance with the universally recognized norms of international law. On September 2, 2013, Xi **Jinping** visited Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan and pointed out that "China supports Central Asian countries in choosing development paths based on their national conditions, and the various measures they have taken to maintain stability, develop the economy, and improve people's livelihoods. At the same time, the Central Asian countries also firmly support China's position and actions in safeguarding national unity and combating the "three forces." China and Central Asian countries have signed bilateral treaties dedicated to combating the "three forces", and have cooperated in the United Nations counter-terrorism, joint anti-drug, and joint law enforcement. In addition, in terms of military cooperation, the 1993 Joint Statement on the basis of Sino-Kazakh friendly relations stated that "The two sides will promote the establishment of contacts and development ties between the military departments of the two countries, and conduct military exchanges in accordance with the usual international practice to strengthen mutual military cooperation." On April 26, 1996, Russia, China, Kazakhstan, and the Kyrgyz Republic signed the Agreement on Strengthening Confidence in the Military Field in the Border Area in Shanghai. In 1997, China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan signed in Moscow "Agreement on Mutual Reduction of Military Forces in Border Areas." In recent years, China has also provided Central Asian countries with a lot of assistance in the security field, mainly providing military supplies to Central Asian countries. It also organizes officer training programs, so that officers from Central Asian countries can conduct training in China and expand exchanges in the military field. In 2020, "China + Five Central Asian Countries" held the first foreign ministers meeting. The statement pointed out that "we must uphold the comprehensive, cooperative, common, sustainable security concept, give full play to the role of bilateral security cooperation mechanisms and multilateral platforms such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and deepen Combating the "East-Iranian Movement" and other "three forces" cooperate to jointly respond to security threats such as drug trafficking, illegal immigration, and transnational organized crime."

## 3.3 Fighting the Epidemic Together and Building a Healthy Community

In 2019, the new crown epidemic raged around the world, causing a serious public health crisis. Facing the world crisis, China is actively planning to build a healthy community. "The new crown pneumonia has spread to more than 210 countries and regions, affecting more than 7 billion people and claiming more than 300,000 lives. We will join hands to protect the lives and health of people of all countries, and to protect the common home earth of mankind. Build a community of human health." China actively helps Central Asian countries to fight the epidemic together and build a China-Central Asia health community. While preventing and controlling the epidemic, Xinjiang, China, actively provides aid to surrounding areas with antiepidemic materials and shares anti-epidemic experience. "In 2019, China-Europe trains opened 1,102 trains, and as of May 2020, there have been more than 3,400 trains." In February 2020, Yang Jiechi was invited to visit Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan to discuss cooperation between China and the three Central Asian countries during and after the epidemic. In addition, China has sent a group of medical teams with rich anti-epidemic experience to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to exchange anti-epidemic experience.

## 4. PROSPECTS FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN CHINA AND CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES

The exchanges and cooperation between China and Central Asian countries have lasted for nearly 30 years. Under the premise of political friendship, China and Central Asian countries have carried out all-round cooperation in economy, culture, security, and health, achieving bilateral mutual benefit and win-win results. In particular, Xi Jinping's "One Belt, One Road" initiative and the establishment of a community with a shared future for mankind have deepened China and Central Asian countries and deepened friendly exchanges, and continued to build a "China-Central Asian community with a shared future". However, we should also see the instability and non-traditional threats in the cooperation and exchanges between China and Central Asian countries. Central Asian countries' internal border issues, regional ethnic relations, and the deterioration of the ecological environment have become factors that threaten regional security and stability and hinder cooperation and exchanges.



In the face of these unstable factors, we must be alert to the risks brought by these factors and continue to deepen them. The construction of a China-Central Asian community with a shared future will deepen exchanges and cooperation between China and Central Asian countries.

## 4.1 Correctly Treating the Internal Border Issues of Central Asian Countries

A safe regional environment is the cornerstone of cooperation and exchanges, and insecure factors have always been the key to undermining regional stability and friendly cooperation. The long-term border problems within Central Asian countries have become an important factor that plagues the relations between Central Asian countries. This not only affects the internal cohesion of Central Asian countries, but also causes continuous border disputes in the region, affecting the security and stability of the Central Asian region. The division of administrative regions in the Soviet period still has a deep imprint on the Central Asian countries today. The sense of nationality and cohesion of the Central Asian countries was formed in the Soviet era, but under the new administrative territory, the sense of national identity formed when joining the republic must be discarded. The historical memory formed by this imprint has a structural conflict with the administrative boundaries of Central Asian countries in reality. As scholars pointed out in Central Asia, "no country can truly shape a national space with a coherent history and a single ethnic space on a realistic level."[5]16 This structural conflict has led to tensions and even worsening of internal relations among Central Asian countries. The border dispute between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan around the Fergana region has always affected the relations between the two countries. From 1998 to 2016, the two countries caused various disputes and border conflicts around the border issue. "As of 2017, there are still more than 250 kilometers of borders between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan that have not yet been demarcated. There are deep-seated contradictions regarding the ownership of Samarkand and Bukhara. There are more than 60 between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Among the disputed areas, one-fifth of the border areas between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan have not been clearly demarcated, especially the ownership of Osh Oblast." The internal border disputes of Central Asian countries have become a key factor affecting regional trade and cooperation. To a certain extent, such border conflicts provide opportunities for the "three forces" in Central Asia.

From the perspective of a community with a shared future for mankind, how to understand the internal border disputes of Central Asian countries, resolve structural conflicts, and deal with border issues, and avoid providing a breeding ground for the "three forces", requires both Central Asian countries to urgently need to think, but also in the framework of a community with a shared future for mankind. Next, think about how to resolve conflicts and provide a safe environment for stable and friendly exchanges between China and Central Asia.

## 4.2 Flexible Response to Policy Changes in Central Asian Countries

The variability of the Central Asian policy has its historical legacy, and it is the result of the Central Asian countries' continuous adjustments in accordance with the international situation. The changing policies of Central Asian countries not only affect the investment confidence of Chinese companies, but also hinder economic and trade exchanges and cultural exchanges between China and Central Asian countries. Changes in the policies of Central Asian countries in different periods require us to keep abreast of the policy changes of Central Asian countries, update policy changes in a timely manner, and conduct necessary risk assessments. In the early days of independence, Central Asian countries "will not refuse foreign investment."[6]<sup>5</sup> Later, Chinese companies began to develop energy and resources, and Central Asian countries also welcomed them. However, in recent years, Central Asian countries have generally requested cooperation in non-resource fields. In addition, Central Asian countries have different requirements for China's cooperation. "Kazakhstan hopes that China and Kazakhstan will cooperate closely on the rational use of water resources in transboundary rivers. Uzbekistan hopes that China will support Uzbekistan's position in the water disputes in Central Asia. Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan hope that China will give more to the two countries. The investment and assistance of the two countries have participated in the rich hydropower development of the two countries. Turkmenistan hopes that China will play an important role in realizing the strategy of diversifying energy exports."[7]<sup>45</sup> Under the ever-changing policy environment, China must correctly respond to the reasonable demands of various countries at the national level, properly handle relations with Central Asian countries, and make cooperation and exchanges between China and Central Asian countries develop in a stable direction. On the



corporate side, it is necessary to pay attention to the policy information of Central Asian countries in a timely manner, accurately assess corporate investment risks, and avoid investment failures caused by ignorance of policies and blind follow-up, which will compromise cooperation.

## 4.3 Promoting the Transformation of the Economic Structure and Broadening the Areas of Cooperation

Along with the policy shift of Central Asian countries to non-energy exchanges, the cooperation between China and Central Asian countries should also broaden the areas of exchanges, from a single energy-based cooperation to multi-field cooperation in production capacity, agriculture, and science and technology. As the main link between China's Xinjiang and Central Asian countries, it must promote the transformation of its own economic structure and carry out a dual cycle of internal economic cycles and external economic cooperation. First of all, Xinjiang region should continue to strengthen agricultural exchanges and cooperation with Central Asian countries by using its own regional advantages, and expand the trade and export of agricultural products, especially focusing on the cultivation and export of Xinjiang's high-quality agricultural products, and broadening the export channels of Xinjiang's tomato, cotton and other agricultural products. In addition, with the aid of the arid and semi-arid natural environment in Xinjiang and Central Asia, the training and exchanges of agricultural technology should be increased. The Xinjiang region should accelerate the pace of economic transformation to green agriculture, promote the construction of agricultural science and technology personnel, conduct in-depth agricultural cooperation with Central Asian countries, build more agricultural exchange platforms, and build a new model of agricultural cooperation. Second, China's Xinjiang region should promote scientific and technological with exchanges Central Asia, especially cooperation in modern communication technology, agricultural technology, and livestock breeding technology, and expand the scale of scientific and technological cooperation.

# 4.4 Deepening People-to-People Exchanges and Cooperation, and Being Alert to the Penetration of Ideology in the Cultural Field

Historically, the cultural exchanges between China and Central Asia have continued to this day. General Secretary Xi Jinping proposed that the "Belt and Road Initiative" will push the cultural exchanges between China and Central Asia to another climax. The construction of the Silk Economic Belt provides a richer platform for cultural exchanges between China and Central Asian countries, and cultural exchanges have achieved remarkable results. However, these cultural exchanges are still at the level of government-led cultural exchanges. The depth and breadth of cultural exchanges need to be improved, spontaneous non-governmental cultural exchanges are rare. The coverage and depth of influence of Chinese culture going global is not enough. In particular, Xinjiang is limited by its own development level, and it is not enough to explain the profound connotation of Chinese excellent traditional culture and the culture of various ethnic groups. The level of using modern information technology to spread culture is limited, and cultural exchanges remain at a shallow level. On the other hand, while conducting cultural exchanges with Central Asian countries, we must be alert to the penetration of ideology in the cultural field. In recent years, the "three forces" have made more use of ethnicity, religion, and culture to infiltrate ideologies, and use network information technology to spread extreme ideas and undermine national security and stability. In addition, Western hostile forces promote cultural hegemonism and have been trying to "Westernize" and "differentiate" socialist countries. Therefore, in the process of cultural exchanges between my country and Central Asian countries, on the one hand, we must promote Chinese culture to go out, broaden the depth and breadth of cultural exchanges, and deepen humanities exchanges and cooperation with the help of modern science and technology and digital media. On the other hand, we must grasp the potential threats of cultural exchanges, and be wary of the "three forces" using culture, ethnicity, and religion to cause damage to the ideological field of our country, so as to achieve a degree of relaxation.

#### 5. CONCLUSION

Building a community with a shared future for mankind provided support for further exchanges



between China and Central Asian countries. Under this framework, China and Central Asian countries have intensified cooperation and exchanges, broadened my country's economic and trade cooperation channels, and formed strategic cooperation. In the new stage of historical development, on the one hand, we must have a deeper understanding of the essential connotation of building a community with a shared future for mankind, seize the opportunity of the "Belt and Road" construction, and continue to expand exchanges and cooperation with Central Asian countries. On the other hand, we must also be alert to the existence of instability factors and nontraditional threats, and provide an implementation path for the effective promotion of the reform of the global governance system.

#### **AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS**

This paper is independently completed by Yizheng Han.

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