

CHINA'S BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE

The "Belt and Road" Initiative is a development strategy proposed by President Xi Jinping that focuses on connectivity and cooperation between Eurasian countries, primarily China, the land-based "Silk Road Economic Belt" (SREB) and the ocean-going "Maritime Silk Road" (MSR). The strategy underlines China's push to take a larger role in global affairs, and the desire to coordinate manufacturing capacity with other countries in areas such as steel manufacturing. It was unveiled in announcements in September and October 2013.

Geographically, it is structured along 6 corridors, and the MSR:

- New Eurasian Land Bridge, running from Western China to Western Russia
- China–Mongolia–Russia Corridor, running from Northern China to Eastern Russia
- China–Central Asia–West Asia Corridor, running from Western China to Turkey
- China–Indochina Peninsula Corridor, running from Southern China to Singapore
- Bangladesh–China–India–Myanmar Corridor, running from Southern China to India
- China–Pakistan Corridor, running from South-Western China to Pakistan
- Maritime Silk Road, running from the Chinese Coast through Singapore to the Mediterranean

Recent Belt and Road Forum

On 14 and 15 May President Xi hosted the inaugural Belt and Road Initiative Forum. 28 Heads of State or government and Ministers from 110 countries participated, as did the heads of the UN, IMF, and World Bank. The UK Chancellor represented the UK Prime Minister.

President Xi set out his long-term vision, announcing over \$100 billion in funding and warning against protectionism.