

For a Better World (I)

为了更加美好的世界(上)

Looking at the Past Decade of Jointly Pursuing the Belt and Road Initiative
From a Human Rights Perspective

——从人权视角看共建“一带一路”这十年

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Introduction

In 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed the joint construction of the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road, known as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The BRI aims to enhance all-dimensional and multi-tiered exchanges and cooperation among relevant countries, fully tap into and leverage each country's development potential and comparative strengths, and create a community of shared interests, shared responsibility, and shared destiny. It seeks to promote development through cooperation and human rights through development to advance the joint development and prosperity of partner countries and enhance the well-being of all humanity.

Over the past decade, as a crucial practical platform for building a community with a shared future for humanity, the BRI has attracted participation from more than 150 countries and over 30 international organizations. It has driven investment of nearly one trillion dollars, generated a multitude of cooperative projects, created numerous job opportunities for partner countries, and helped lift thousands upon thousands of people out of poverty. Over the past decade, the BRI has become a highly popular international public good, a global cooperation platform, and a path to happiness, aiding partner countries in promoting human rights protection and achieving a better life.

Promoting and safeguarding human rights is a common cause for all of humanity. Today, in the 21st century, hunger, poverty, conflicts, and environmental pollution persist while the development gap continues to widen. Many countries still face practical challenges like insufficient development momentum, relatively low overall development performance, and outdated infrastructure, which challenge the development of human rights and global human rights governance. The vision of common development and actual achievements embodied in the Belt and Road's cooperative construction have contributed to China's strength in advancing the global human rights cause and offered Chinese wisdom for improving global human rights governance.

前言

2013年,中国国家主席习近平提出了共建“丝绸之路经济带”和“21世纪海上丝绸之路”,即共建“一带一路”倡议。共建“一带一路”旨在通过加强相关国家间全方位、多层面的交流合作,充分发掘、发挥各国的发展潜力和比较优势,形成互利共赢的利益共同体、责任共同体和命运共同体,实现以合作促发展,以发展促人权,促进共建国家共同发展繁荣,增进全人类福祉。

10年来,作为构建人类命运共同体的重要实践平台,共建“一带一路”已吸引了150多个国家和30多个国际组织参与,拉动近万亿美元投资规模,形成一大批合作项目,为共建国家创造众多工作岗位,帮助成千上万的民众摆脱贫困。10年来,共建“一带一路”从中国倡议走向国际实践,从理念转化为行动,从愿景转变为现实,成为当今世界深受欢迎的国际公共产品和国际合作平台,成为助力共建国家促进人权保障、实现美好生活的幸福之路。

促进和保障人权是全人类共同的事业。21世纪的今天,饥饿、贫困、战乱、环境污染等问题依旧存在,发展鸿沟不断拉大,不少国家还面临发展动能不足、总体发展水平偏低、基础设施落后等现实难题,这对人权发展与全球人权治理构成挑战。共建“一带一路”所体现的共同发展理念及所取得的实际成果,不仅为促进世界人权事业发展

Chapter 1: Initiatives Aiming to Achieve Common Development and Promote the Enjoyment of Human Rights for All

Development is the eternal pursuit of human society. Only through development can we address the root causes of conflicts, safeguard the people's fundamental rights, and meet their aspirations for a better life. Developing countries have put forth the concept of the right to development to seek equal and fair development opportunities, and the right to development has become a universally recognized fundamental human right in the international community.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights emphasizes that "everyone... has the right to enjoy the realization of all economic, social and cultural rights necessary for his dignity and the free development of his personality." In 1986, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Right to Development, clearly proclaiming that the right to development is an inalienable human right, stating that "everyone and all peoples have the right to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural, and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized." In 1993, the World Conference on Human Rights adopted the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action, reiterating that the right to development is a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights. In 2015, the UN adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, outlining a concrete pathway for implementing the right to development.

The cooperative construction of the Belt and Road Initiative proposed by China conforms to the historical trend of economic globalization, the requirements of the times for the transformation of the global governance system, and the strong desire of people of partner countries to live a better life. It is an initiative for common development and for promoting and protecting human rights.

1. Jointly pursuing the Belt and Road Initiative provides new paths and approaches to achieve the right to development

In today's era, humanity faces prominent issues of unbalanced, inadequate, and unsustainable development and many problems like hunger, poverty, war, terrorism, environmental pollution, and climate change, which pose severe challenges to realizing the right to development. How do we tackle these thorny questions? Countries worldwide and the international community have been exploring ideas to answer the question. China has put forward the concept of building a community with a shared future for humanity, using the joint pursuit of the BRI as a practical platform to promote the common development of all countries to uplift the living standard of their people. The concept demonstrates a major country's responsibility for addressing global challenges and advancing the cause of human rights worldwide.

Joint pursuit of the BRI is a development initiative that provides realistic paths and feasible plans for promoting the realization of the right to development. It takes the "hard connectivity" in infrastructure as an important direction, "soft connectivity" in rules and

进步贡献了中国力量，也为完善全球人权治理贡献了中国智慧。

第一章 倡议实现共同发展，促进人人得享人权

发展是人类社会的永恒追求。唯有发展，才能消除冲突的根源，才能保障人民的基本权利，才能满足人民对美好生活的热切向往。发展中国家为了争取平等和公平的发展机会，提出了发展权的概念，发展权成为国际社会所公认的一项基本人权。

《世界人权宣言》强调“每个人……有权享受他的个人尊严和人格的自由发展所必需的经济、社会和文化方面各种权利的实现”。1986年，联合国大会通过《发展权利宣言》，明确宣告发展权是不可剥夺的人权，“每个人和所有各国人民均有权参与、促进并享受经济、社会文化和政治发展，在这种发展中，所有人权和基本自由都能获得充分实现”。1993年，世界人权大会通过《维也纳宣言和行动纲领》，再次强调发展权是一项普遍的和不可剥夺的权利，是基本人权的组成部分。2015年，联合国通过了《2030年可持续发展议程》，提出了贯彻落实发展权具体路径。

中国提出的共建“一带一路”倡议，顺应经济全球化的历史潮流，顺应全球治理体系变革的时代要求，顺应共建国家人民过上更美好生活的愿望期待，是共同发展的倡议，也是促进和保障人权的倡议。

1.1 共建“一带一路”：发展权实现的新路径新方案

当今时代，人类社会面临发展不平衡、不充分、不可持续等突出矛盾，以及饥饿、贫困、战乱、恐怖主义、环境污染、气候变化等诸多问题，给发展权的实现带来严峻挑战。如何破解这些难题？世界各国和国际社会都在进行深入思考和探讨。中国提出构建人类命运共同体理念，将共建“一带一路”作为推动实现各国共同发展和人民美好生活的实践平台，展现了共同面对全球性挑战，促进世界人权事业的大国责任和担当。

standards as an essential support, and “heart connectivity” with the people of the partner countries as a vital foundation. We will continue consolidating the political foundation of cooperative construction of the BRI to promote coordinated development among partner countries by creating synergy for policy communication and planning connectivity through policy coordination. Guided by major projects and critical undertakings, we will continue improving the jointly built BRI’s infrastructure network through facility connectivity. We will continue unleashing the vitality of mutually beneficial cooperation by promoting trade and investment liberalization and facilitation through unimpeded multilateral trade. We will continue enhancing the jointly built BRI’s diversified investment and financing system to further collaborate in the financial sector through financial connectivity. We will make the BRI’s cooperative construction better benefit the people of all countries and achieve people-to-people connectivity by building friendly bridges among nations worldwide.

The joint pursuit of the BRI is a global public good offered by China to the international community, characterized by Eastern wisdom and conducive to achieving common development. This initiative advocates the principles of consultation, cooperation, and shared benefits, aiming to achieve complementarity and mutual benefit. It has opened up new opportunities for global economic growth, established new platforms for international trade and investment, expanded new practices for improving global economic governance, and made new contributions to enhancing the well-being of people in all countries, thus becoming a path of prosperity for the common development of all nations.

2. Jointly pursuing the Belt and Road Initiative provides a practical model for promoting development through cooperation and advancing human rights through development

The joint pursuit of the BRI embodies people’s aspirations for peace and tranquility, their pursuit of common development, their longing for a better life, and their desire for cultural exchange. It is committed to ensuring that people from partner countries can live a life free from deprivation, enjoy development, and have dignity. In essence, this aligns perfectly with the unwavering pursuit of respecting and protecting human rights by people worldwide.

The cooperative construction of the BRI aims to promote development through cooperation. It aligns with the development and cooperation plans of international and regional organizations such as the United Nations, ASEAN, the African Union, the European Union, the Eurasian Economic Union, and various countries’ development strategies. It fosters extensive finance, trade, and investment cooperation by building upon infrastructure connectivity, effectively promoting common development. According to a World Bank research report, participation in the BRI is expected to increase trade among partner countries by 2.8% to 9.7%. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres believes that the cooperative construction of the BRI contributes to more balanced, inclusive, and harmonious development in economic globalization. It holds significant importance for addressing the many challenges facing the world today through international cooperation.

共建“一带一路”倡议是发展的倡议，为促进发展权的实现提供了现实路径和可行方案。共建“一带一路”把基础设施“硬联通”作为重要方向，把规则标准“软联通”作为重要支撑，把同共建国家人民“心联通”作为重要基础。通过政策沟通，形成政策协调、规划对接的合力，促进相关国家协同联动发展，不断夯实共建“一带一路”的政治基础；通过设施联通，以一系列重大项目和重点工作为引领，不断完善共建“一带一路”的基础设施网络；通过贸易畅通，促进贸易和投资自由化便利化，不断释放互利合作的活力；通过资金融通，深化金融领域合作，不断健全共建“一带一路”的多元化投融资体系；通过民心相通，搭建世界各国的友好桥梁，让共建“一带一路”更好造福世界各国人民。

共建“一带一路”倡议是中国为国际社会提供的一项充满东方智慧、有利于实现共同发展的全球公共产品。这一倡议倡导各方秉持共商、共建、共享原则，实现优势互补、互利共赢，为世界经济的增长开辟了新空间，为国际贸易和投资搭建了新平台，为完善全球经济治理拓展了新实践，为增进各国民生福祉作出了新贡献，成为各国共同发展的机遇之路和繁荣之路。

1.2 共建“一带一路”：以合作促发展、以发展促人权的实践范本

共建“一带一路”，承载着人们对和平安宁的期盼、对共同发展的追求、对美好生活的向往、对文明交流的渴望，致力于让共建国家人民过上免于匮乏、获得发展、享有尊严的生活，这实质上与世界各国人民对于尊重和保障人权的不懈追求是完全一致的。

共建“一带一路”旨在以合作促发展，同联合国、东盟、非盟、欧盟、欧亚经济联盟等国际和地区组织的发展和合作规划对接，同各国发展战略对接，在基础设施实现互联互通基础上开展金融、贸易、投资等各方面广泛合作，有效促进共同发展。世界银行研究报告显示，共建“一带一路”将使参与国贸易增长2.8%–9.7%、全球贸易增长1.7%–6.2%、全球收入增加0.7%–2.9%。联合国秘书长古特雷斯认为，共建“一带一路”倡议有助于推