

China-Qatar Trade achieves remarkable growth, strengthening strategic partnership



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The trade volume between China and Qatar has experienced phenomenal growth, increasing from \$10.6 billion in 2014 to \$24.5 billion in 2023—a rise of over 130%. This significant milestone reflects the deepening economic and strategic ties between the two nations, as highlighted by

Chinese Ambassador to Qatar, HE Cao Xiolin, during a press conference on Sunday.

Ambassador Xiolin emphasized that China has been Qatar's largest trading partner and export destination for the past four years. The enduring economic partnership underscores the mutual benefits derived from this collaboration and highlights the robust trade relationship that continues to evolve.

The ambassador attributed this success to strong bilateral efforts and mutual trust, which have reached unprecedented levels. "The relationship between China and Qatar serves as a model for global state-to-state relations," he noted, underscoring the partnership's role in setting a benchmark for international cooperation.

Key to the growing relationship has been the frequent engagements between the leadership of both nations. President Xi Jinping and Qatar's Amir, His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, have met six times in the past decade, fostering greater understanding and collaboration.

Their most recent meeting occurred in July 2024 during the 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Astana. This meeting yielded important agreements aimed at deepening the China-Qatar strategic partnership.

Ambassador Xiolin also highlighted Qatar's strong support for China's sovereignty, noting that HH the Amir and senior Qatari officials have consistently reaffirmed Qatar's commitment to the one-China principle and expressed opposition to foreign interference in China's internal affairs.

The ambassador described the China-Qatar relationship as a "new model of cooperation," with energy collaboration forming its cornerstone. Infrastructure development, financial investment, and emerging high-tech sectors have also become critical areas of focus, delivering substantial benefits to both nations.

"China and Qatar have formed a partnership that leverages strong complementarities and untapped potential," Ambassador Xiolin said. "This model has not only strengthened economic ties but has also brought tangible benefits to the people of both nations."

Looking ahead, the envoy pointed to promising opportunities for further cooperation in fields such as food security, renewable energy, and artificial intelligence. These sectors, he said, hold immense potential for enhancing the prosperity of both countries.

The ambassador particularly emphasized Qatar's pivotal role in China's energy security, noting the significance of long-term agreements for liquefied natural gas (LNG) supply. Additionally, he highlighted the increasing involvement of Chinese companies in Qatar's infrastructure projects,

which have contributed to Qatar's ongoing development initiatives.

The ambassador noted that the success of China-Qatar relations reflects broader shifts in global diplomacy, where mutual respect and shared goals drive meaningful partnerships. The cooperation between China and Qatar demonstrates how nations with different cultural and political systems can achieve common objectives while respecting each other's sovereignty.

Ambassador Xiolin expressed optimism about the future of the bilateral relationship. "China and Qatar will continue to deepen their strategic partnership, building on the strong foundation established over the past decade," he said.

With the world facing challenges ranging from economic uncertainty to climate change, the China-Qatar partnership stands as a beacon of effective collaboration. Through sustained efforts, both nations aim to address these challenges and create new opportunities for growth and development.

The remarkable growth in trade and the expanding areas of cooperation highlight the strength of the China-Qatar relationship. As both nations continue to explore new opportunities in energy, technology, and other key sectors, their partnership is poised to deliver even greater benefits in the years to come.

