

Belarusian-Chinese partnership

In August 2024, during the official visit of Premier Li Qiang of the State Council of the People's Republic of China to Belarus, the governments of the two countries signed a weighty package of documents revealing the potential for cooperation in trade, investment, development and deepening of industrial cooperation, and scientific and technical interaction. It was also decided to declare 2024-2025 the Years of Cooperation between Belarus and China in Science, Technology and Innovation. All this suggests that the parties see the integration of Belarusian competencies and Chinese technologies as a key element in building a joint future. The implementation of a comprehensive strategy of joint industrial development and the preparation of detailed plans for the industrial policy interface will give concrete practical content to the new status of the relations between the two countries - an all-weather and all-round strategic partnership. For this reason, cooperation with China will allow Belarus to realize its ambitious plans for modernization and technical re-equipment. How will these prospects be realized in the near future? And what issues are being addressed? This is the subject of this study.



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Belarusian-Chinese partnership

in an unstable global economy

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Boris Zalessky

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Regional cooperation - to the level of all-weather and all-round strategic partnership

In March 2023 in Beijing, the Republic of Belarus and the People's Republic of China adopted at the highest level a joint statement on the basic principles of development of exemplary relations of all-weather and all-round strategic partnership between the two countries in the new era. At the same time, the parties signed the plan of the Year of Regions of Belarus and China for 2023. This document "contains more than 80 bilateral agreements and initiatives to attract at least \$150 million of direct Chinese investment by each Belarusian region and Minsk by 2026"¹. In September 2023, the third meeting of the working group on interregional trade and economic cooperation of the commission on trade and economic cooperation of the Belarusian-Chinese Intergovernmental Cooperation Committee took place in the Chinese-Belarusian Industrial Park "Great Stone", where they discussed topical issues of interaction between the regions of the two countries and prospects for its development. The parties noted that certain economic indicators of cooperation between Belarus and China have reached a fairly high level. "In the first half of 2023, mutual trade turnover exceeded \$4 billion, with Belarusian exports approaching the landmark mark of \$1 billion."².

Minsk Region is one of the active participants in deepening trade and economic, scientific and technical, and socio-cultural cooperation between the regions of the two countries. In 2022, the trade turnover of

¹ Zaleskii, B. New Realities for Partnership. Chronicle of international cooperation under conditions of economic mobilisation / B. Zaleskii. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2023. - C. 13.

² Chebotar: Belarus aims to expand trade and economic cooperation with the regions of China [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/chebotar-belarus-natselena-na-rasshirenie-torgovo-ekonomicheskogo-sotrudnichestva-s-regionami-knr-590444-2023/>

the Belarusian capital region with the Chinese side exceeded two billion dollars, with exports of the Minsk Region totalling almost one billion dollars. At the beginning of 2023, the list of items of Minsk region's products supplied to the Celestial Empire has already exceeded the mark of more than a hundred. "Products of milk processing enterprises and other municipal enterprises of the region are especially in demand. All milk processing enterprises of the holding "Minoblmyasomolprom", as well as Slutsk and Stolbtsy meat processing plants have an export licence"³. And for five months of the current year the capital region has already provided export supplies to China for more than five hundred million dollars.

Among the interesting partners of Minskshchina among Chinese regions we should mention **Guangdong province**, which is home to more than 127 million people and is attractive not only as a part of the market for products, but also as a supplier of technologies in the field of mechanical engineering and agriculture. After all, the province is one of the most developed provinces in China, with strong machinery and processing companies. In 2022, the parties celebrated the tenth anniversary of the signing of the co-operation agreement. In May 2023, the Belarusian region and the Chinese province agreed on the prospects of cooperation. And now the roadmap for the development of bilateral relations is already being supplemented and updated. It should be noted that "in the first half of 2023, trade turnover between the regions increased by 20%. Exports reached Br646.2 million. Poultry meat, beef, flax fibre are supplied from Minsk region to China. The main imports are machines for automatic information processing, textile products,

³ What production of Minsk region in the near future can appear in the market of China [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://mlvn.by/01032023/kakaya-produkcziva-minskoj-oblasti-v-blizhajshee-vremya-mozhet-poyavitsya-na-rynke-kitava/>

auto parts"⁴ . In addition, the parties are discussing the issue of attracting investments from Guangdong Province into the economy of Minsk Region, as well as options for cooperation between major companies producing household appliances and cars, including electric cars, at production sites that are located in preferential zones of Minsk Region, such as the Chinese-Belarusian Industrial Park "Great Stone", where in the first nine months of 2023 "12 new residents were added"⁵ .

As for another partner of Minsk Region in China - **Zhejiang Province**, the parties intend to expand co-operation in the field of traditional Chinese medicine. As is known, a relevant centre has been set up on the basis of Minsk Regional Clinical Hospital. In June 2023, during the talks between the delegations of the Zhejiang Provincial Health Committee and the Main Health Department of the Minsk Regional Executive Committee, they discussed the directions of development of this centre, "the supply of medicines from China, the possibility of training doctors of the capital region in new methods. The Belarusian side also proposed to consider the issue of organising joint production of biologically active additives and herbal medicines"⁶ . In addition, there is a task to expand the capabilities of the above-mentioned Centre of Traditional Chinese Medicine, where such procedures as acupuncture, manual therapy and massage are already performed on its basis.

⁴ Minsk Regional Executive Committee discussed the road map of cooperation with the Chinese province Guangdong [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/v-minskom-oblispolkome-obsudili-dorozhuju-kartu-sotrudnichestva-s-kitajskoj-provintsiej-guandun-583608-2023/>

⁵ In Minoblispolkom told what the Chinese province of Guangdong is interesting for the economy of the region [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/v-minoblispolkome-rasskazali-chem-dlja-ekonomiki-oblasti-interesna-kitajskaja-provintsija-guandun-593552-2023/>

⁶ Minsk region and Zhejiang province intend to develop cooperation in the field of traditional medicine [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/minskaja-oblast-i-provintsija-chzhetszjan-namereny-razvivat-sotrudnichestvo-v-sfere-traditsionnoj-574675-2023/>

Finally, one of the promising partners of Minsk Oblast among the Chinese regions is the **city of Chongqing** - the only municipality of central subordination in China, which is also the economic centre of the upper reaches of the Yangtze River, where more than 32 million people live. This city is the stronghold of China's development strategy in the western part of the Middle Kingdom and the hub of the Belt and Road project. Logistics hubs, ports and customs infrastructure are being built here to participate in the logistics development of the China-Europe Express. Chongqing is China's modern manufacturing base, with a full chain of electronic information industry and automobile manufacturing. Suffice it to say that in 2022, car production here totalled more than two million vehicles and 284,000 units were exported.

As for interregional ties, Chongqing and Minsk Region established twinning relations in 2017. With the launch of the regular service of the Chongqing-Minsk China Railway Express, the trade turnover between the two sides has been growing every year. "In 2022, imports and exports between Chongqing and Belarus exceeded 500 million yuan, up 54.8% year-on-year. Belarus is an important supplier of meat products and butter to Chongqing. Belarusian dairy products and confectionery products are highly popular among the city's residents"⁷. In 2023, the parties are taking new concrete steps to further deepen trade and economic co-operation, establish humanitarian and cultural contacts. In particular, within the framework of the Exhibition of Chinese Goods and Services - 2023, which took place in late June - early July this year in the industrial park "Velikiy Kamen", where about 180 Chinese companies presented their products, the thematic

⁷ More than 20 enterprises from Chongqing will take part in the Exhibition of Chinese goods and services in "Great Stone" [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/bolee-20-predpriyatij-iz-chuntsina-primut-uchastie-v-vystavke-kitajskih-tovarov-i-uslug-v-velikom-kamne-573747-2023/>

exposition of the Exhibition Pavilion of Export Goods of Chongqing was also shown. More than 20 city enterprises on an area of about 300 square metres displayed engineering products, including cars, motorbikes and components. In addition, official representatives of Minsk Region and Chongqing "discussed co-operation in mechanical engineering, supplies of food products to the Chinese region, and logistics"⁸.

Vitebsk Region is also among the active participants in the Belarusian-Chinese interregional cooperation. In 2022, it almost doubled the volume of supplies to China, which totalled over USD 55 million. But back in 2006, the basis of the Belarusian region's exports to the Celestial Empire was represented by only 12 consolidated items, of which 97 per cent was a bundle of synthetic yarns. "But at the end of 2021, the export basket of Vitebshchina expanded to 28 items, and its basis began to be formed by supplies of agricultural products (meat, milk and dairy products) - about 70 per cent"⁹. Today, these supplies also include dry confectionery, rapeseed oil, polyethylene, acrylic tourniquets, glass fabrics, flax processing and woodworking products, peat, and alcoholic beverages.

But recently the interaction between Vitebsk region and China has gone beyond buying and selling, as the parties are moving "to the next level - exchange of technologies, assistance in their refinement, in

⁸ Machine building, medicine, tourism: Minsk region and Chongqing discussed areas of cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/mashinostroenie-meditsina-turizm-minskaja-oblast-i-chuntsin-obsudili-napravlenija-sotrudnichestva-574541-2023/>

⁹ Mishin, A. What are the prospects of co-operation between Vitebsk region and the provinces of China? / A. Mishin // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: https://vitbichi.by/news/ekonomika/analitik_obyasnit_kakovy_perspektivy_sotrudnichestva_vitebskoy_oblasti_i_provintsij_kitaya/

their research, in the development of new types of products"¹⁰, to enter the plane of attracting investors, investing Vitebsk funds on the Chinese territory and mastering new technologies. Besides, the emphasis in the development is placed on educational, scientific and cultural segments. It should be reminded that Vitebsk region has signed eight bilateral documents - agreements, protocols, programmes - on cooperation, established and maintained regular contacts at the level of executive authorities, organisations and companies with four provinces and one city of China. In addition, 19 bilateral documents on co-operation between cities and districts of Vitebsk region and Chinese partners have been concluded.

The Belarusian northern region has the most intensive interaction with **Heilongjiang Province**, which is located in the north of China, where rice is grown and agriculture is generally very developed. Over the past 18 years, the parties have created a good legal framework of mutual relations: 1) Agreement on cooperation in trade, economic, scientific-technical, humanitarian-cultural and other spheres (2005); 2) Agreement on the establishment of twinning relations (2011); 3) Cooperation Development Programme for 2016-2020. "Twinning agreements with the cities of this region of the Celestial Empire were once concluded by Polotsk, Novopolotsk and Vitebsk"¹¹. In May 2023 at the XI International Economic Forum "Innovation. Investments. Prospects" in Vitebsk, enterprises from Heilongjiang Province expressed interest in partnership ties with Vitebsk producers of meat

¹⁰ Subbotin: cooperation with China goes beyond buying and selling, into the plane of investment projects [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/subbotin-sotrudnichestvo-s-kitaem-vyhodit-za-ramki-kupli-prodazhi-v-ploskost-investproektov-598640-2023/>

¹¹ Pushnyakova, A. Food products, MDF boards: Vitebsk region will present in June in Harbin the potential of the region / A. Pushnyakova // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/prodovolstvennye-tovary-mdf-plity-vitebskaja-oblast-predstavit-v-ijune-v-harbine-potencial-regiona-567209-2023/>

products, as well as "expect to establish mutually beneficial cooperation with Orsha and Dubrovensk flax processors in the near future, to share their experience and discuss the possibility of supplying modern equipment"¹². In June this year, at the international trade and economic exhibition in Harbin, the administrative centre of Heilongjiang, a memorandum of intentions on establishing friendly ties was already signed between the Vitebsk concern "Meat and Dairy Products" and an enterprise from the city of Suihua from the same province. In addition, the Belarusian side is interested in co-operation in the production of electrical equipment and instrumentation, as the Chinese partners have great competences in this area. So, new promising projects in this regional interaction may appear in the near future.

Another new partner of Vitebsk Region in China is **Jiangxi Province**, with which the Belarusian region signed an agreement on cooperation in trade, logistics, investment, economy, education, healthcare, sports and tourism in October 2022. "As another practical step, it was decided to establish direct interaction between FEZ Vitebsk and special economic zones of Jiangxi province and their residents in order to work out the creation of joint production facilities in Belarus and the use of cross-border trade mechanisms by Belarusian exporters to China"¹³. They also discussed the expansion of supplies of Belarusian products to China by the reverse container train Orsha-Nanchang and the exchange of practical experience in the investment

¹² Pushnyakova, A. Chinese industrialists intend to establish co-operation with the enterprises of Vitebsk region / A Pushnyakova // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/kitajskie-promyshlenniki-namereny-naladit-sotrudnichestvo-s-predpriyatijami-vitebskoj-oblasti-567149-2023/>

¹³ FEZ "Vitebsk" and special economic zones of Jiangxi province will establish direct interaction [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/sez-vitebsk-i-osobyje-ekonomicheskie-zony-provintsii-tszjansi-naladjat-prjamoe-vzaimodejstvie-566987-2023/>

sphere. After all, the city of Orsha has established cooperation with the administrative centre of this province - Nanchang - in the field of innovative and traditional medicine at the level of individual medical institutions. In December 2022, the document of intentions on cooperation was signed by the city hospital No. 2 of Orsha Central Polyclinic and the Hongdu Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine, which "provides for the exchange of practical and scientific experience, medical technologies, mutual internships and advanced training of medical workers, as well as the implementation of projects in the field of traditional Chinese medicine, including physiotherapy, reflexology, electro-acupuncture, acupuncture, qigong on the basis of Orsha Central Polyclinic"¹⁴ .

As for the third Chinese partner of Vitebsk - **Shandong Province**, back in 2005 the parties signed a memorandum of cooperation, and in October 2019 adopted an Agreement on the establishment of friendly and co-operative relations, in which they "identified as priorities for the development of partnership ties the development of an effective mechanism of interaction in the field of trade and investment, the development of co-operative ties..."¹⁵ . In February 2023, an agreement on establishing friendly ties between Novopolotsk and the city of Liaocheng in Shandong Province was signed. The parties noted the importance of developing interregional ties as one of the key elements of bilateral co-operation. They also discussed the implementation of a number of joint projects. It should be noted that in order to strengthen Belarusian-Chinese ties, Vitsebsk

¹⁴ Orsha and Chinese Nanchang agreed on the exchange of medical experience [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/orsha-i-kitajskij-nanchang-ogovorilis-ob-obmene-meditsinskim-opytom-540364-2022/>

¹⁵ Zaleski, B. From Regions to Innovations. Features of the Belarusian-Chinese strategic partnership / B. Zaleskiy. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2021. - C. 11.

voblast and Shandong province regularly hold joint events and sign bilateral documents. "Earlier agreements on the establishment of friendly relations at the municipal level were signed between the cities of Vitebsk and Jinan, Novopolotsk and Weihai, Orsha and Qingdao, Polotsk and Dezhou, Glubokoe and Jining"¹⁶. And in September 2023, three more memoranda on cooperation were signed: in innovation, education and youth policy. "Based on them and on the results of the negotiations, roadmaps for co-operation on specific projects and areas of activity will be developed"¹⁷.

Finally, in November 2023, within the framework of the 6th China International Import Expo in Shanghai, where more than 10 enterprises of the Belarusian northern region took part, including the Vitebsk Meat and Dairy Products Concern, Polotsk Dairy Plant, Verkhnedvinsk Creamery, Lepelsk MCC branch of the Vitebsk Meat Processing Plant, Vitba Confectionery Factory, Naftan Plant, The Vitebsk Regional Executive Committee signed a memorandum of co-operation with the company Zonghai Business Management (Jinan) on the creation of the Chinese Industry Park in Vitebsk and the Belarusian Industry Park in Shandong province - on the site of Qingdao, where enterprises will be able to present their products and work out the issues of their marketing in different regions of China. This will be one of the leading platforms from where Vitebsk goods will be distributed. It will be a point of export growth of Vitebsk region, which they want to "maximally utilise, and not only for the sale of goods. <...> This is

¹⁶ Novopolotsk and Chinese Liaocheng have established friendly ties [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/novopolotsk-i-kitajskij-ljaochen-ustanovili-druzhestvennye-svjazi-550863-2023/>

¹⁷ Kochetov, S. Vitebsk region and the Chinese province of Shandong intend to develop and expand partnership in innovation, education and youth policy / S. Kochetov // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.vitbichi.by/news/ekonomika/vitebskaya-oblast-i-kitajskaya-provintsija-shundun-namereny-razvivat-i-rasshiryat-partnerstvo-v-inno/>

probably one of the most fresh and promising projects"¹⁸ . All this in general suggests that in 2024 Vitebsk region intends to develop co-operation with Chinese regions even more actively in a wide range of areas, including economy, trade, science, engineering, technology, education, health care and sports.

And now let us turn once again to the 6th China International Import Expo 2023 in Shanghai, where the Day of **Brest Region** was held in November this year, where the economic, cultural, tourist, educational, medical potential of the Belarusian region was presented with a bias towards exporting goods and services to China. It should be noted that this exhibition forum was attended by "more than 150 countries representing the regions of Asia, Africa and Europe"¹⁹ and featured various thematic sections, including automotive industry, high-tech equipment and information technology, medical equipment and pharmaceuticals, consumer goods, trade in services, food and agricultural products. In this regard, the participation of Belarusian companies at the Import Fair in Shanghai is of strategic importance. After all, China is one of the largest and most dynamically developing markets in the world and "provides an opportunity for Belarusian companies to expand their horizons and establish business ties with potential partners and buyers, including Chinese state corporations"²⁰ . An important detail: if at the 5th forum China International Import

¹⁸ Subbotin: import exhibition in Shanghai helps enterprises to make themselves known and find partners in China [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/subbotin-vystavka-importa-v-shanhae-pomogaet-predpriyatijam-zajavit-o-sebe-i-najti-partnerov-v-kitae-598641-2023/>

¹⁹ What will be the national exposition of Belarus at the international import exhibition in Shanghai [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/kakoj-budet-natsionalnaja-ekspozitsija-belarusi-na-mezhdunarodnoj-vystavke-importa-v-shanhae-582374-2023/>

²⁰ International import exhibition opened in Shanghai [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mezhdunarodnaja-vystavka-importa-otkrylas-v-shanhae-597935-2023/>

Expo 2022 in Shanghai, 27 organisations from the food industry, logistics, science and education participated in the Belarusian exposition, this time more than 70 representatives from Belarus took part in the exhibition.

As for **Brest Oblast**, it is among the leaders among Belarusian regions in terms of trade and economic relations with China. Suffice it to say that "for eight months of the current [2023] year, the volume of trade turnover [with China] totalled almost \$280 million and increased almost one and a half times. Thanks to contacts with businesses, Chinese foreign direct investment has already increased by 40 per cent"²¹. At the import exhibition in Shanghai Brestchyna demonstrated a wide range of goods and services that interested consumers not only from China, but also from other countries. In particular, at the collective stand of the Brestmyasomolprom Concern, Brest Meat Processing Plant, Berezovsky Meat-Canning Plant, Kobrin Butter and Cheese Factory, Luninets Dairy Plant, and Pruzhany Dairy Plant presented their products with tasting. The educational potential of the region was presented by Brest State Technical University, and the medical potential was presented by Brest Regional Clinical Hospital.

As a result, representatives of the Belarusian region at the exhibition "signed 18 bilateral documents: seven agreements, four memoranda, six commercial contracts, and one action plan. They concern different areas, including trade and economic co-operation, co-operation in education, health care, tourism"²². For example, the Brest

²¹ Chinese partners are interested in the creation of production and logistics companies in Brest region [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/kitajskim-partneram-interesno-sozdanie-proizvodstv-i-logisticheskikh-kompanij-v-brestskoj-oblasti-598059-2023/>

²² Gorodetsky, D. In China concluded commercial contracts and new co-operation agreements / D. Gorodetsky // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/interview/view/v-kitae-zakljuchili-kommercheskie-kontrakty-i-novye-soglasheniya-o-sotrudnichestve-8970/>

Regional Executive Committee signed agreements with two corporations involved in the creation of freight forwarding centres and the development of electronic commerce; Brest State Technical University signed agreements with the Hubei Institute of International Business and Economics. As for the memorandums on cooperation development, they were concluded by: the Brest Free Economic Zone and the Brest branch of the Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and Industry with the administration of the Coastal Park of the Integrated Bond Zone in the city of Shenyang, which is the administrative centre of Liaoning Province; the Department of Sports and Tourism of the Brest Regional Executive Committee with the Belarusian-Chinese Culture and Development Centre of the People's Republic of China. Speaking about commercial contracts, they primarily concern supplies of Brest foodstuffs, mainly meat and dairy processing products, and are estimated at more than twenty million dollars.

A separate conversation is about the twinning ties between Brest region and its Chinese partners. Brestchina has four twinning partners in China - Liaoning, Shanxi, Anhui and Hubei provinces. In November 2023, in addition to the import exhibition in Shanghai, representatives of the Belarusian region held active negotiations in **Anhui province**. The agreement to establish friendly ties with it was signed back in September 2017. This time, the two sides adopted an action plan on the development of trade, economic, scientific, technical, scientific and cultural cooperation for 2023-2025. In addition, agreements on the establishment of twinning relations between the cities of Brest and Hefei, Berezovsky district and the city of Benbu were signed, while Brest Regional Clinical Hospital agreed on cooperation with Anhui Medical University. We would like to add that Brest and Hefei already intend to draw up a roadmap for co-operation. The main points to find

points of contact are "production sphere, transport and logistics, educational, medical, cultural..."²³

Speaking about the economic aspect of twinning, the Chinese partners are particularly interested in setting up production and logistics companies in the Belarusian region. In turn, the Belarusian side "is ready to offer services for the conversion of wagons from narrow European gauge to broad gauge, as well as the implementation of a project to create a transport and logistics hub in the Brest region"²⁴. The fact is that Brest is a nodal point of the Chinese "Silk Road" and an important element of the cross-border corridor to promote the project "Freight trains from China to Europe". In addition, Brest region is ready to provide the Chinese side with a site for the implementation of the project to build an educational centre. And this is only the beginning of new joint mutually beneficial projects.

All these facts suggest that Belarusian-Chinese interregional interaction is gradually reaching a new level of co-operation in an all-weather and all-round strategic partnership. So, in the near future, the parties will demonstrate even more innovative approaches to make it much easier and simpler for the regions to work on joint projects and programmes.

²³ Brest and Chinese Hefei intend to draw up a roadmap for cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/brest-i-kitajskij-hefej-namereny-sostavit-dorozhnuju-kartu-dlja-sotrudnicestva-599168-2023/>

²⁴ Brest and Bereza got twinned in the Chinese province of Anhui [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/brest-i-bereza-obzavelis-pobratimami-v-kitajskoj-provintsii-anhoj-598126-2023/>

Promote domestic exporters and assist foreign importers

Back in early March 2023, the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Republic of Belarus adopted the Joint Statement on Further Developing the Relationship of All-Weather and Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in a New Era, in which the parties agreed to promote bilateral trade and economic cooperation and steadily increase the volume of bilateral trade. One of the tools to increase and diversify Belarusian-Chinese trade today is the application of the exchange mechanism, which has been actively developing since 2019.

At the end of 2022, the amount of transactions made by Chinese companies at the Belarusian Universal Commodity Exchange (BUTB) trades increased by almost 15 per cent to about \$53 million. At the beginning of 2023, the number of trading session participants from China also increased significantly, from 67 to 113, two of which had the status of stockbrokers. "Last year, sawn timber, rapeseed oil, milk powder, vet-blue leather and synthetic fibres were supplied to China through the exchange platform. In turn, Belarusian companies purchased Chinese-made ferrous metal products and soya meal on BUTB"²⁵.

The positive dynamics of the Belarusian-Chinese exchange trade volumes was achieved thanks to active efforts to attract PRC residents to the exchange trading, as well as due to the creation of favourable conditions for representatives of Chinese business. In particular, the accreditation procedure at the exchange was simplified, the possibility of settling transactions in Chinese yuan was provided, and consulting

²⁵ The amount of transactions of Chinese companies on BUTB increased by 14% [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/summa-sdelok-kitajskih-kompanij-na-butb-vozrosla-na-14-551264-2023/>

support in Chinese was organised. In addition, special export trade sessions focused on the Chinese market were held regularly during 2022, which allowed Chinese importers to buy Belarusian lumber products with delivery to convenient locations in the Middle Kingdom. In 2023, BUTB expects to further increase supplies of a number of domestic products to that country. In particular, lumber, vegetable oils, and meat and dairy products.

For example, in March 2023, the Chinese company **SUMEC International Trading**, which accounts for about three per cent of all imports of timber and sawn timber to that country, expressed interest in cooperating with the BUTB. The parties considered "two forms of interaction: the company's participation in exchange trading as a visitor with the conclusion of transactions on its own behalf and at its own expense, or obtaining the status of an exchange broker, allowing to attract new buyers from China to the Belarusian trading platform"²⁶. Now the geography of purchases by SUMEC International Trading is quite diversified. Timber products are imported from Brazil, Canada, Congo, Russia, Finland and other countries, including Belarus, where the company has recently opened a subsidiary. At the same time, the Chinese side is ready to purchase Belarusian sawn timber through BUTB on a regular basis, provided that the price offers of domestic woodworkers are competitive and the rhythm of deliveries is guaranteed. It should be recalled that in March 2023, at a special session at BUTB aimed at the Chinese market, Belarusian bidders placed bids for the sale of sawn timber in the volume of over 100 thousand cubic metres.

²⁶ BUTB has agreed on co-operation with one of the largest Chinese importers of forest products [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/butb-dogovorilas-o-sotrudnichestve-s-odnim-iz-krupnejshih-kitajskih-importerov-lesoproduksii-553935-2023/>

In April 2023, the Chinese corporation **Xiamen Xiangyu Group Corporation (XMYG)**, which is one of the Fortune 500 largest companies in the world, confirmed its readiness to increase the volume of purchases of wood products on the BUTB trading floor, as well as to develop cooperation in other promising commodity areas. Since March 2022, its subsidiary **Xiamen Xiangyu Superchain Supply Chain Development Co.** - regularly participates in lumber trading on the Belarusian exchange platform. "During this time, XMYG has purchased nearly 10,000 cubic metres of sawn timber products worth about \$2 million through BUTB"²⁷ . Thanks to the exchange, the company has already purchased four trains of sawn timber and is determined to continue co-operation in the same vein, progressively increasing the volume of purchases. XMYG is also interested in expanding the list of goods that the corporation buys on BUTB, and not only in the timber industry segment. We are talking about the possibility of bidding for agricultural products and, first of all, rapeseed oil, which is in stable demand in China and was already supplied to the PRC market through BUTB in 2022. At that time, it was sold for more than \$42 million, including within the framework of import transactions made by Chinese participants. Therefore, given the significant production capacity of Belarusian oil extraction plants, this area may become a new growth point for the Chinese corporation in Belarus.

Another partner of BUTB, which is interested in co-operation with the Belarusian exchange platform, was the Chinese company **Beijing Huibaocheng Techbology** in May 2023. This importer buys dairy products and vegetable oils, which are widely used in China's

²⁷ Chinese corporation is ready to increase purchases of Belarusian sawn timber through BUTB [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/kitajskaja-korporatsija-gotova-naraschivat-zakupki-beloruskich-pilomaterialov-cherez-butb-560768-2023>

food industry. The company plans to "buy about 10,000 tonnes of rapeseed oil on the exchange on a monthly basis with the possibility of increasing supplies in the future"²⁸. The Chinese importer is interested in Belarusian dried milk, so it will actively participate in the bidding.

In June 2023, another major Chinese importing company announced its intention to increase purchases of sawn timber products on the BUTB - it is **Taomu (Suzhou) Information Technology**. The fact is that according to the results of five months of 2023, the company has already purchased about 53 thousand cubic metres of these products through the exchange, which is almost twice as much as last year's figure for the same period. But this is far from the limit. And by the end of 2023, "it is planned to buy at least another 20 thousand cubic metres. Thus, Belarus may become one of the three main markets from where Taomu (Suzhou) Information Technology imports woodworking products"²⁹. Interestingly, in 2022, Russia, Canada and Sweden were the strategic partners of this company for the supply of sawn timber, while Belarus ranked only fourth.

We would like to remind you once again that as of the beginning of 2023, the number of participants of BUTB trading sessions from China was already 113. And as of 27 November of the same year, 152 of them had already been accredited on the Belarusian exchange floor. "At the end of 10 months [2023], China has become the largest export destination for Belarusian exchange trading participants. <...> As a result, compared to January - October last year, the volume of export

²⁸ BUTB expects to increase supplies of sawn timber, vegetable oils, meat and dairy products to China [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/butb-rasschityvaet-narastit-postavki-v-kitaj-pilomaterialov-rastitelnyh-masel-mjasa-i-molochki-567273-2023/>

²⁹ A large Chinese importer intends to increase purchases of lumber products at BUTB [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/krupnyj-kitajskij-importer-nameren-naraschivat-zakupki-piloproduktsii-na-butb-571701-2023/>

transactions increased two and a half times"³⁰ and totalled almost \$60 million.

One of the primary tasks that BUTB will address with Chinese partners in 2024 is to expand the range of goods from Belarus and China involved in mutual exchange trade. It should be noted that "Belarusian sawn timber, rapeseed oil, meat products and milk powder are exported to China through the exchange. At the same time, the exchange mechanism is becoming more and more popular with Chinese business, ensuring a high positive dynamics in terms of the amount of transactions"³¹. To further develop these processes, Belarus and China plan to focus on small and medium-sized enterprises, primarily producers of import-substituting goods. In addition, it is planned to ensure further diversification of the product mix by means of BUTB's targeted work with sectoral business associations and chambers of commerce and industry in various regions of China, which "will make it possible to establish interaction with both producers of products in demand in Belarus and potential consumers of Belarusian goods"³².

In particular, in July 2023, BUTB and the **Xinjiang Asia-Europe International Trade Centre (AEEX)**, the operator of the **Asia Europa Exchange** electronic trading platform, agreed to increase exports to China. It will focus "on the regions through which the New Silk Road passes. First of all, these are Shanghai, Taicang and

³⁰ Osmolovsky: BUTB will provide comprehensive support to Belarusian exporters [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/osmolovskij-butb-okazhet-kompleksnuju-podderzhku-belorusskim-eksporteram-599485-2023/>

³¹ BUTB and the Chinese Embassy identified priorities for co-operation in the trade and economic sphere [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/butb-i-posolstvo-kitaja-opredelili-prioritety-vzaimodejstvija-v-torgovo-ekonomicheskoi-sfere-594539-2023/>

³² Prospects for the development of exchange trade between Belarus and China discussed at the business forum in Shanghai [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/perspektivy-razvitiya-birzhevoj-torgovli-belarusi-i-kitaja-obsudili-na-biznes-forume-v-shanhae-597700-2023/>

Xinjiang"³³ , where there are AEEEX offices, which are already establishing interaction with representatives of Chinese businesses interested in working through BUTB.

In August 2023, **the China National Forestry Industry Corporation** announced its intention to expand cooperation with BUTB. It plans not only to increase purchases of Belarusian sawn timber, but also to sell Chinese-made goods through the Belarusian import substitution platform. The two sides also reached an agreement to explore the possibility of importing Belarusian rapeseed oil and milk powder to China as the most liquid commodity items. "In this context, the issue of accreditation of the corporation as an exchange broker is also being considered, which will allow it to attract economic entities from other sectors of the economy to the BUTB"³⁴ .

Another fact: in September 2023, **the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region** expressed its interest in developing cooperation with the BUTB, which "has four main features: vast territory, huge reserves of natural resources, highly developed agriculture and a powerful energy industry"³⁵ . The Chinese side believes that exchange trading can play a key role in creating favourable conditions for companies from this region of China to do business in Belarus. In this regard, the BUTB, with its extensive import and export opportunities, can facilitate the activities of companies from Inner Mongolia in the Belarusian market.

³³ Xinjiang Asia-Europe Trade Centre to help boost exports to China through BUTB [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/sintszjanskij-aziatsko-evropejskij-torgovij-tsentr-pomozhet-narastit-eksport-v-kitaj-cherez-butb-576501-2023/>

³⁴ China Forest Industry Corporation intends to expand co-operation with BUTB [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/kitajskaja-lesopromyshlennaja-korporatsija-namerena-rasshirit-sotrudnichestvo-s-butb-581070-2023/>

³⁵ Belarus and China discussed the prospects of development of exchange trade [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kitaj-obsudili-perspektivy-razvitija-birzhevoj-torgovli-590151-2023/>

Finally, in November 2023, as part of the 13th China International Wood Trade Conference, which took place in Nanning, the administrative centre of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, a memorandum of cooperation on electronic exchange trade was signed by BUTB and the **China Timber and Forest Products Trade Association (CTWPDA)** to assist Chinese companies in entering the Belarusian market. Recall that over 467 thousand cubic metres of Belarusian lumber products were "sold on the Chinese market in the first 11 months of 2023. This is almost five times more than in January-November last year. At the same time, working with domestic suppliers, Chinese importers actively use the mechanism of exchange address transactions, the volume of which has already reached 237 thousand cubic metres in just a few months"³⁶. In this regard, the establishment of partnership relations between BUTB and CTWPDA will not only help to find new buyers for sawn timber produced in Belarus, but will also provide an additional impetus to the development of Belarusian-Chinese cooperation in the exchange sphere.

A total of 162 Chinese residents have already been accredited on BUTB in January 2024, 51 more than in January 2023. "At the same time, the amount of transactions made by Chinese bidders increased 2.7 times - from \$30.4 million in 2022 to \$80.6 million in 2023"³⁷. This happened mainly due to exports of Belarusian products. These were mainly supplies of sawn timber, rapeseed oil, dried milk and petrochemical products. When it comes to imports from China,

³⁶ BUTB and China Forest Trade Association signed a memorandum of co-operation [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/butb-i-kitajskaja-assotsiatsija-torgovli-lesom-podpisali-memorandum-o-sotrudnicestve-602012-2023/>

³⁷ The new broker BUTB will be engaged in deliveries of import-substituting goods from China [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/novyj-broker-butb-zajmetsja-postavkami-importozameschajuschih-tovarov-iz-kitaja-611688-2024/>

"Belarusian traders predominantly purchased ferrous and non-ferrous metal products through BUTB"³⁸. For this reason, BUTB's plans for 2024 include not only further increasing export sales, but also expanding the range of Chinese-made goods. Moreover, in 2023, about a quarter of transactions on BUTB's industrial and consumer goods platform were for products of Chinese origin.

Developing the topic of import substitution, we note that in January 2024, **Shanghai Duxia Industry and Trade Co., Ltd** became the first stock broker from China, which will specialise in the supply of import-substituting products to the BUTB and attract manufacturers of goods in demand in Belarus - industrial and consumer goods - to the stock exchange. It should be noted that this company from Shanghai traditionally produces printing machines and equipment for the production and processing of plastic packaging, which are sold not only in the Celestial Empire, but also exported abroad, mainly to the Commonwealth of Independent States and Europe. As a broker, the Chinese partner of BUTB intends to attract manufacturers of import-substituting goods, which are in high demand in the Belarusian market, to the exchange trading. These are, first of all, electrical equipment, household appliances, video and sound recording equipment, measuring devices, industrial tools, as well as components and spare parts for machines and mechanisms. As a result, the procurement opportunities of Belarusian bidders will be significantly expanded, and the appearance of Chinese manufacturing plants on the Belarusian electronic platform will make it possible to ensure more favourable conditions for concluding transactions. One more fact in this regard: the

³⁸ BUTB and the Chinese Shenyang administration agreed to co-operate in exchange trading [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/butb-i-administratsija-kitajskogo-shenjiana-dogovorilis-o-sotrudnichestve-v-sfere-birzhevoj-torgovli-606169-2023/>

new broker was accredited on the BUTB with the assistance of the Exchange's representative office in Shanghai, which was opened in 2023 to expand the pool of Chinese users of the exchange platform, promote Belarusian goods in the Chinese market and organise supplies of import-substituting products in demand in the Belarusian market. And 19 new Chinese residents have already been accredited at the BUTB with the participation of the representative office.

By the way, in the new year 2024, BUTB has already established partnership relations with the Chinese holding **Osell Group**, which unites a number of electronic trading platforms for manufacturers from China and facilitates their entry into foreign markets. The fact is that "the Osell Grop digital ecosystem is used by thousands of companies from various industries and agriculture, and the purpose of cooperation with BUTB is to involve Chinese business representatives in cross-border trading on the Belarusian exchange platform"³⁹. And already in January this year, BUTB and Osell Grop organised a round table for the business community of this region in the city of Wuxi in Jiangsu province, given the high level of economic development and significant export potential of this province. It is expected that the results of this event will be available in the near future.

Returning to the topic of Belarusian exports to China via BUTB, it should be noted that this trend will continue to dominate in 2024. Especially in terms of successful deliveries of Belarusian woodworking products to the Celestial Empire market. This is evidenced by the figures, which show that "in 2023, Chinese companies purchased 501 thousand cubic metres of sawn wood products on the exchange, which is 4 times more than in 2022. Over 53% of the total sales volume was

³⁹ BUTB has started co-operation with a major Chinese trading platform [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/butb-nachala-sotrudnichat-s-krupnoj-kitajskoj-torgovoj-platformoj-612305-2024/>

provided by exchange address transactions. At the same time, about 30 buyers from China regularly participated in the auction"⁴⁰ . This year, BUTB will further expand the range of buyers of these supplies in China.

For example, on the eve of 2024, as part of its efforts to diversify markets and increase exports of the Belarusian timber industry, BUTB agreed on accreditation with **BNBM Group Forest Products**, which is a subsidiary of one of the largest construction holdings in this country - **China National Building Materials Group**, which is among the leading importers of roundwood and sawn timber. In the near future, after the first trial purchase, BNBM Group Forest Products plans to gradually increase volumes in line with the demand dynamics in China and deliver to warehouses in Changxing (Zhejiang Province) and Chengdu (Sichuan Province), and then ship to end consumers.

Taomu (Suzhou) Information Technology, already mentioned above, which became the largest foreign buyer of sawn timber on the BUTB in 2023, plans to scale its business in Belarus. Last year, the firm bought more than 140,000 cubic metres of sawn timber on the exchange, almost four times more than in 2022. The company will continue to increase its purchases in 2024. "At the same time, we are talking not only about increasing imports of sawn timber products through BUTB, but also about purchases of other Belarusian goods popular in China"⁴¹ . These are milk powder, rapeseed oil, sugar. In order to further deepen cooperation in the sphere of exchange trade, the

⁴⁰ . BUTB expands the range of lumber buyers from China [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/butb-rasshirjaet-krug-pokupatelej-pilomaterialov-iz-kitaja-607633-2023/>

⁴¹ The largest foreign buyer of sawn timber at BUTB is ready to scale up business in Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/krupnejshij-inostrannyj-pokupatel-pilomaterialov-na-butb-gotov-masshtabirovat-biznes-v-belarusi-610932-2024/>

parties also agreed to work on the integration of BUTB and the Taomu (Suzhou) Information Technology electronic marketplace, where banking and logistics services are already connected, which will allow Belarusian exporters accredited at BUTB to better and more effectively promote their products in the Chinese market, interacting with their end consumers.

All these facts indicate that in 2024, the application of the exchange mechanism will reach a qualitatively new level of expansion and diversification of Belarusian-Chinese trade and will give a powerful impetus to the relations of all-weather and all-round partnership of the two countries in the new era.

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University Rectors' Forum as a joint platform for innovative approaches

In November 2023, at the First Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of the Republic of Belarus and the People's Republic of China in Minsk, the Agreement on the Establishment of the Sino-Belarusian Association of Universities was signed, which included more than 80 higher education institutions of Belarus and China. At that time there were more than 560 direct university agreements between the two countries. And a plan for the implementation of flagship projects between the universities was being prepared for signing. In July 2023, this plan had 35 positions, and now there are more than 70. They are constantly being added and expanded. This fact suggests that the new association is really a new qualitative level of Belarusian-Chinese relations in education and research. After all, as a result, the parties come "to the creation of joint associations of universities with high-tech enterprises of our countries, on whose orders scientific research, experimental and design work and commercialisation of our university scientists for the economy will be carried out"⁴².

Speaking in general about humanitarian cooperation between Belarus and China, this association has already become a hallmark in such areas as inter-university cooperation, joint training of specialists, and joint scientific work. Besides, "such an association is of great importance for training even more Chinese and Belarusian scholars who know well the languages of our two countries, who understand

⁴² Belarus and China signed an agreement on the establishment of the association of universities [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-kitaj-podpisali-soglashenie-o-sozdanii-assotsiatsii-universitetov-600861-2023/>

Chinese and Belarusian culture"⁴³ and opens up many opportunities for further development of cooperation between Belarus and China in the sphere of education. Many Belarusian universities that promote joint educational structures with Chinese partners became active participants of the new association. In particular, at that time "seven joint projects were already functioning: three laboratories, two centres and two institutes. 40 joint educational programmes of the first and second levels of higher education are being implemented, 10 of which have been developed over the last two years"⁴⁴. In this context, we should mention three Belarusian universities: Belarusian State University (BSU), Yanka Kupala Grodno State University (YKSU), Brest State Technical University (BrSTU).

Let's start with BSU: as of November 2023 there were "more than 80 cooperation agreements signed with 55 Chinese educational institutions, 72% of the total number of foreign students at BSU are Chinese citizens"⁴⁵. Since 2007, Dalian Polytechnic University (DPU) has become a strategic partner of the Belarusian university. The most significant project recently was the opening of joint institutes DPU-BSU and BSU-DPU. In June 2023, the parties considered the prospects of holding mirror summer schools on the basis of the two universities and opening a new speciality "Photonics" on the basis of DPU-BPU in 2024/2025 academic year.

⁴³ Xie Xiaoyun: Chinese-Belarusian association of universities will become a hallmark of humanitarian cooperation between the two countries [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/se-sjaojun-kitajsko-belorusskaja-assotsiatsija-vuzov-stanet-vizitnoj-kartochkoj-gumanitarnogo-600900-2023/>

⁴⁴ Zaleskii, B. Hope for a positive future. Dynamics of partnerships under conditions of economic realism / B. Zaleskii. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2023. - C. 103.

⁴⁵ "Photonics" and summer schools. BSU and Dalian Polytechnic University develop cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/fotonika-i-letnie-shkoly-bgu-i-daljanskij-politehnicheskij-universitet-razvivajut-sotrudnichestvo-571808-2023/>

Xi'an University of Foreign Languages became BSU's new partner in China in April 2023. The Memorandum of Understanding considers cooperation "in the field of regional and country studies of the Eurasian continent, history and ethnic issues of the peoples of Central Asia, Russian-Soviet oriental studies"⁴⁶. The Chinese university began operating in 1952 as the Northwest College of Russian Language, which was one of the first to teach foreign languages. Now it consists of 23 faculties and educational institutes, where about 20,000 undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate students from 37 countries study and where 20 foreign languages, including Belarusian, are taught.

In November 2023, BSU signed two more new documents with Chinese partners. First, it is a memorandum of understanding with the Sichuan University of Foreign Languages, which envisages prospects for cooperation in regional studies, linguistics, and Belarusian studies. After all, the Centre for Belarusian Studies has been operating in this Chinese university since 2019. Secondly, it is an agreement on exchange of students with the Chinese University of Political Science and Law, which develops "partnership within the framework of the memorandum of understanding between the universities, which has been in force since March 2023, and concerns the training in legal specialties of graduates of the Chinese university in the master's degree programme of BSU, provision of grant support for the implementation of academic mobility programmes"⁴⁷. At the same time, the issue of the Chinese university joining the activities of the Centre for Shanghai

⁴⁶ BSU and Xi'an University of Foreign Languages signed a memorandum of understanding [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/bgu-i-sianskij-universitet-inostrannyh-jazykov-podpisali-memorandum-o-vzaimoponimanii-563650-2023/>

⁴⁷ BSU expands partnerships with China, two new agreements signed [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/bgu-rasshirjaet-partnerskie-svjazi-s-kitaem-podpisany-dva-novyh-soglashenija-598631-2023/>

Cooperation Organisation Studies, established by BSU together with Qingdao University, was also considered.

Interaction with China in the field of education is one of the strategic areas of international cooperation of another Belarusian university, GrSU, which signed its first agreement with Chinese partners back in 2001 - with the South Central University of Economics and Law. Today the Grodno university has 14 partners from different provinces of China. The cooperation is carried out in a wide range of areas: joint educational programmes, academic exchanges, joint scientific projects. In October 2023 GrSU signed an agreement on international cooperation with Shijiazhuang Engineering Professional College, which implies long-term cooperation in the field of introduction of scientific developments in the educational process, development of scientific potential and ensuring high quality of professional training of specialists in the field of academic mobility, development of training in the network form. It only remains to add that for five years more than 500 Chinese citizens have received bachelor's and master's degrees at GrSU, and two postgraduate students from China have successfully defended their PhD theses. Today there are more than 100 students from China studying at Yanka Kupala Grodno State University⁴⁸. Also, GrSU is the first of the Belarusian regional universities, where Chinese language courses with a three-year training programme were started. And in five years, more than 600 people have been trained.

As for Brest State Technical University, in November 2023, it signed a co-operation agreement with Anhui Wenda Institute of Information Engineering. This university, located in the Chinese city of

⁴⁸ SDSU and Shijiazhuang Engineering College agreed on cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/grgu-i-shitszjachzhuanskij-inzhenernyj-kolledzh-dogovorilis-o-sotrudnichestve-595101-2023/>

Hefei, became the 15th Chinese educational institution to sign a co-operation document with BrSTU. The partners have outlined initial priorities for profitable interaction. In particular, graduates of the Chinese institute will be able to continue their studies at the master's programme of Brest University. In addition, Belarusian and Chinese teachers will conduct joint scientific research and develop teaching materials. A more distant prospect is the creation of joint educational programmes. It should be reminded that BrSTU has already signed 170 cooperation agreements with universities of 35 countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America. The Chinese vector of co-operation is one of the priorities. For example, "for more than 15 years joint training of specialists in the field of motorway construction, accounting and automation has been carried out with Huh-Khoto Vocational Institute. Last year, a pilot training programme for mechanical engineers with Xinxiang University was launched"⁴⁹. And Hebei Institute of International Business and Economics is planning to create a joint programme with BrSTU to train students in the field of e-business. In addition, Brest university has taken up scientific work in the field of information technologies, which is financed by the Belarusian Republican Fund for Fundamental Research and the National Natural Science Foundation of the People's Republic of China. All these facts have shown that the establishment of the China-Belarus Association of Universities has become an important stage in the development of inter-university co-operation, and also serves for the benefit of the economies of the two countries and the development of the two peoples - Belarus and China.

⁴⁹ Brest Technical University will co-operate with the institute of the Chinese province of Anhui [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/brestskij-tehnicheskij-universitet-budet-sotrudnichat-s-institutom-kitajskoj-provintsii-anhoj-602188-2023>

In June 2024, Minsk hosted the second Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Belarus and China, which was attended by more than 40 heads of universities of the two countries, 18 of whom were rectors of Chinese universities. They discussed the prospects of inter-university co-operation, first of all, inter-university ties. This includes not only training of personnel in innovative specialities, but also a wide range of scientific and technical cooperation and youth exchanges.

For reference, we would like to point out that there are currently more than 700 bilateral agreements between the universities of Belarus and China. More than 200 of them were signed in the last two years alone. Currently, "40 joint educational programmes of higher education are being implemented, 12 of which have been launched in the current academic year. Another 20 joint educational programmes are under development, including training of personnel of higher scientific qualification"⁵⁰. Also, 13 joint educational and scientific structures - six laboratories, five biological centres and two institutes - are already functioning on the basis of higher education institutions of the two countries.

Speaking about the Second Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Belarus and China, it should be noted that the discussion of topical issues in the field of conducting promising scientific research and introducing innovative teaching methods to train competitive and professional specialists in the current globalisation environment took place within the framework of two sections - "Innovative Models of Cooperation between Universities of China and Belarus" and "Sino-Belarusian Cooperation in Basic Sciences". Eight

⁵⁰ International Innovation Youth Forum will be held in Minsk in 2025 [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/mezhdunarodnyj-innovatsionnyj-molodezhnyj-forum-projdet-v-minske-v-2025-godu-643825-2024/>

documents were also signed at the forum, which "provide for assistance in organizing the exchange of scientific information and students, work on joint educational and research projects, as well as informing about study programmes and holding scientific and educational events..."⁵¹ . These include: agreements on academic and scientific co-operation between the Belarusian State Medical University and Peking University, on co-operation between the Minsk State Linguistic University and Shanghai Foreign Languages University; memoranda of understanding between the Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics and Chongqing Polytechnic University, the Belarusian State Technological University and Liaoning University, the Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics and Chongqing Polytechnic University, the Belarusian State University of Technology and Liaoning University, the Belarusian State University of Science and Technology and the Belarusian State University of Economics and Technology.

New opportunities for co-operation have also been reached between the Belarusian State University (BSU) and Peking University (PKU). By the way, this Chinese university was founded in 1898 and is a leader among universities in the Celestial Empire. It ranks 12th in the world according to the international QS rating. "The structure of PKU includes faculties - Natural Sciences, Information and Engineering, Humanities, Social Sciences, Economics and Management, as well as the Centre for Medical Sciences, Interdisciplinary Units and Shenzhen

⁵¹ Eight documents on cooperation between universities of Belarus and China signed at the Rectors' Forum [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/vosem-dokumentov-o-sotrudnichestve-mezhdu-zuzami-belarusi-i-kitaja-podpisano-na-forume-rektorov-643857-2024/>

Graduate School"⁵² . A memorandum of understanding was signed between BSU and PKU in 2019 and a cooperation agreement on a joint education programme was signed in May 2022.

As for BSU, it is already implementing 112 contracts and agreements with 73 Chinese partners - universities and research centres. More than three and a half thousand students, undergraduates and postgraduates from China are currently studying at BSU. This is about 70 per cent of all BSU foreigners. Over the last year and a half, the Belarusian university has done a lot in terms of strengthening partnership ties with this country. Several interesting examples can be cited. First, in 2023, the BSU Faculty of International Relations opened the Research Centre of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation - a platform for research in the field of international activities, history, law, trade, economics, culture. Secondly, in November last year within the framework of the first International Congress on Scientific and Technical Exchanges "One Belt, One Road" BSU became one of the founders of the new University Network for Research Cooperation (iUNRC). Thirdly, a joint training programme in biotechnology is being successfully implemented with PKU.

Fourth, in March 2024, BSU signed an agreement with the Hainan Centre of Excellence in International Education on the implementation of the Belarusian-Chinese project "Institute of Innovative Education" under the auspices of BSU in Sanya. There on its basis it is planned to train citizens of the countries close to China and states-participants of the project "One Belt, One Road". "This is a kind of ecosystem that involves not only the education of students and training of specialists, but also the development of business initiatives

⁵² Interuniversity holiday established in Belarusian and Chinese universities [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/mezhuniversitetskij-prazdnik-uchrezhden-v-belorusskom-i-kitajskom-vuzah-643681-2024/>

within the framework of Belarusian-Chinese economic and industrial relations through the creation of high-tech products"⁵³. This initiative has already received the support of 14 leading universities in China. The new project will be developed in several areas: development of educational and methodological documentation, preparation of Chinese citizens for admission to BSU, career guidance activities, organisation of joint teaching of Russian as a foreign language and English using information and communication technologies. At the same time in Sanya BSU signed a memorandum of international co-operation with SanyaYazhou Bei Scientific and Technical City of Development and Construction Ltd. This agreement was one of the first in the implementation of the project "Institute of Innovative Education" under the auspices of BSU and involves scientific and scientific-technical interaction between the parties in modern areas, including space.

Fifthly, in March this year BSU expanded its cooperation with China in the field of language training of students by signing two agreements with the Second Beijing Institute of Foreign Languages. The first one regulates the opening of joint educational programmes, implementation of joint research and educational projects, exchange of information, teaching materials, organisation of conferences, seminars, workshops, courses and preparation of joint publications. The second agreement provides for academic exchange of undergraduate, master's and postgraduate students. It is clear that these agreements will contribute to the development of partnerships in education and science, deepening and expanding existing co-operation. Especially since the Second Beijing Foreign Studies University has a vast potential for

⁵³ Innovations, high-tech co-operation and export of services. BSU on new projects with China [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/innovatsii-vysokotekhnologichnoe-sotrudnichestvo-i-eksport-uslug-bgu-o-novyh-proektah-s-kitaem-622125-2024/>

international co-operation. Suffice it to say that this university offers 14 faculties with 48 undergraduate specialities. There is also a master's programme, postgraduate studies and 15 scientific institutes"⁵⁴ . So BSU approached the 2nd Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Belarus and China in full readiness to develop new multi-format ties with Chinese partners.

And already at this forum BSU and PKU established a joint initiative - "Days of Friendship and Unity", which will be celebrated annually on 25 and 26 June and "will be a demonstration of effective and reliable cooperation in various vectors, including the involvement of students and teachers in various scientific, educational, cultural exchange processes"⁵⁵ . One of the central events of these "Days" will be the International Innovation Youth Forum, which will be held in 2025. Also within the framework of this forum, the universities of Belarus and China put forward an initiative to establish the Belarusian-Chinese Centre for Fundamental Research, which is a fundamentally new step in scientific cooperation, as it is fundamental research in the field of transformation of production that will allow Belarus and China to reach a qualitatively new level.

Summarising the results of this forum, it should be noted that the new stage of technological innovation development, based on the in-depth development of industrial transformation, development and technology of artificial intelligence, requires the implementation of specific measures to strengthen scientific and technological cooperation

⁵⁴ BSU will expand cooperation with China in language training of students [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/bgu-rasshirit-sotrudnichestvo-s-kitajem-v-jazykovej-podgotovke-studentov-622894-2024/>

⁵⁵ The Forum of Rectors of Leading Universities of Belarus and China started its work in Minsk [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/rukovoditelej-bolee-40-vuzov-belarusi-i-kitaja-objednil-forum-rektorov-veduschih-universitetov-643761-2024/>

between Belarus and China. In this respect, the Rectors' Forum of the two countries is becoming an effective platform for multilateral and bilateral interaction in order to direct efforts towards further development of joint Belarusian-Chinese platforms for the creation of innovative developments, search for new opportunities to increase the efficiency of educational and scientific-technical approaches.

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From in-depth plans to project implementation

In August 2024, Li Qiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China (PRC), paid an official visit to Belarus, during which a number of documents were signed, revealing the potential of Sino-Belarusian cooperation in trade, investment, development and deepening of industrial cooperation, scientific and technical cooperation, as well as in-depth plans for the joint development of the provinces of China and the regions of Belarus.

Among the participants in this interregional co-operation are, first of all, **Minsk Oblast** and the **city of Chongqing**. This city is one of the four largest Chinese centralised cities with more than thirty million people. The in-depth plan includes such projects as "production of reagents and diagnostic equipment, unmanned aerial vehicles, car seats, traditional Chinese medicine products, assembly of industrial robots, and integrated logistics"⁵⁶.

It should be recalled that the capital region of Belarus signed a co-operation agreement with this Chinese city back in 2002. In March 2017, twinning relations were established between the regions. In June last year, during the opening of the exhibition of Chinese goods and services at the site of the Chinese-Belarusian Industrial Park "Great Stone", where the thematic exposition of the Chongqing Export Goods Exhibition Pavilion was shown and where "more than 20 city enterprises on an area of about 300 square metres placed the products of mechanical engineering, including cars, motorbikes and

⁵⁶ From trade and investment to science and cinema. Belarus and China signed a weighty package of documents on co-operation [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/ot-torgovli-i-investitsij-do-nauki-i-kino-belarus-i-kitaj-podpisali-vesomyj-paket-dokumentov-o-656104-2024>

components"⁵⁷ , the parties reached an agreement to intensify cooperation in various areas.

A month later, Minsk Region and the city of Chongqing signed a roadmap for 2023-2024 to develop co-operation in the production of reagents, education, tourism, and logistics. "Another promising direction is the creation of a JV for the production of electric cars with any degree of localisation"⁵⁸ . Especially since Chongqing's powerful industrial base in the field of mechanical engineering is of interest to Belarusian companies in the context of modernisation of production facilities using modern Chinese technologies, creation of new joint automotive assembly plants, import of components and auto parts. "As an equally promising direction, the parties identified cooperation in the field of healthcare development, including the elaboration of the establishment of a research centre and production facilities in the field of traditional Chinese medicine on the site of the Great Stone Industrial Park"⁵⁹ , interaction at the level of medical institutions.

The development of twinning contacts between the Belarusian capital region and the Chinese city continued in May 2024 in Chongqing, where several important events took place:

- 1) VI West China International Trade and Investment Fair;
- 2) Chongqing Twin Cities Economic Co-operation Forum;
- 3) Belarus-Chongqing Business Forum.

⁵⁷ Zalessky, B. Potential for realising the agreements reached / Boris Zalessky. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2023. - C. 36.

⁵⁸ From medicine to economy and twinning ties. Minsk region and Chongqing signed a road map of cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/ot-meditsiny-do-ekonomiki-i-pobratimskih-svjazej-minskaja-oblast-i-chuntsin-podpisali-dorozhnyu-kartu-581301-2023/>

⁵⁹ Brantsevich stated about the positive dynamics in trade and economic cooperation between Belarus and Chongqing [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/special/economics/view/brantsevich-zajavila-o-pozitivnoj-dinamike-v-torgovo-ekonomicheskoy-sotrudnichestve-belarusi-i-581186-2023/>

As for the trade and investment fair, the central platform was given to the guests of honour - Minsk Region and the China-Belarus Industrial Park "Great Stone", which is located in the Belarusian capital region. Minsk Region enterprises producing meat and dairy products, bakery, confectionery, alcoholic beverages and cosmetics were invited to participate in the fair. In addition, this pavilion was set up to reveal the multifaceted tourist potential and modern educational opportunities of Minsk region and the Republic of Belarus as a whole.

Speaking about the Chongqing Sister Cities Economic Cooperation Forum, it was attended by representatives of 48 cities from 31 countries with which this Chinese city has established sister city relations. The motto of this year's forum was "Deepening regional co-operation and promoting common development". Its participants discussed investment opportunities and new points of contact for economic and technological interregional co-operation, as well as green policy.

Finally, at the business forum "Belarus - Chongqing" 13 agreements on cooperation and commercial contracts for the supply of meat and dairy products, confectionery products totalling about \$31 million were "signed"⁶⁰, and mutual projects on investment cooperation in the spheres of production of robotics, auto components and medical equipment were outlined.

If we talk more specifically about these investment projects, we can name, for example, the company Chongqing Qiteng Robot, which produces wheeled and suspended inspection robots, machines for working in extreme conditions - at high temperatures, in toxic and

⁶⁰ Belarus and Chongqing signed contracts for the supply of meat and dairy products worth about \$31 million [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-chuntsin-podpisali-kontrakty-na-postavku-mjasno-molochnoj-produktsii-na-summu-okolo-31-mln-637082-2024/>

flammable industries, and in underground mining. It was founded in 2010 by students from Chongqing Engineering University, and now it has become a leader in emergency safety in China. And today the company "is ready to invest in opening its own subsidiary in Belarus in Velikiy Kamen with local assembly and creation of an electronic data storage server for specific projects. The company is also ready to establish a joint production with a Belarusian partner"⁶¹ .

Another example: Chengju Chenghua Seating, which produces car seats. This Chinese factory "is considering the establishment of a joint production in Belarus to meet the requirements of our country [Belarus]"⁶² . It is possible that this manufacturer will enter into cooperation with the BELJI plant. In May 2024, in Chongqing, the Belarusian side got acquainted with medical equipment from another Chinese manufacturer, Zybio, which "specialises in research and development of reagents and equipment for in vitro diagnostics, immunoanalysis and molecular diagnostics, haematology and microbiology"⁶³ . As a result, Minsk region will send specialists to Chongqing to thoroughly study the Zybio technique and its operation in hospital conditions. And if the results are positive, new Chinese medical equipment will appear in Minsk Region hospitals.

Returning to the plan of in-depth cooperation between Minsk Region and Chongqing, it should be noted that the Belarusian region

⁶¹ In the "Great Stone" may appear the enterprise for the production of robots [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/v-velikom-kamne-mozhet-pojavitsja-predprijatje-po-proizvodstvu-robotov-636330-2024/>

⁶² Turchin familiarised himself with the production of automotive components in Chongqing [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/special/society/view/turchin-poznakomilsja-s-proizvodstvom-avtokomponentov-v-chuntsine-636362-2024/>

⁶³ Minsk region medics are planned to be sent to Chongqing to study new equipment [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/medikov-minskoj-oblasti-planirujut-napravit-v-chuntsin-dlja-izuchenija-novogo-oborudovanija-636079-2024/>

has been actively increasing trade turnover with China in recent years. In particular, at the end of the first half of 2023, the parties' trade turnover exceeded \$1.25 billion. "Minsk region exports to China poultry meat, dairy products, frozen beef, wood products, flax fibre <...>. Automatic information processing machines and their units, auto parts, telephone sets, television receivers"⁶⁴. With the emergence of the new plan, it seems that interregional cooperation between Minsk Region and Chongqing will soon be filled with new concrete projects to develop production cooperation and attract high-tech competences for the implementation of investment projects at the enterprises of Minsk Region, establishing direct interaction with Chinese partners.

This summer, Minsk Region took a new step in co-operation with another region of China - **Guangdong Province** - by signing a roadmap of co-operation, which marks a new period in the relations between the two regions. The parties, which have been closely co-operating for more than ten years, believe that "the signing of the roadmap is an important signal for the business of our two countries"⁶⁵. After all, today it is necessary to look for new points of contact. In particular, in the fields of agriculture, car manufacturing, and medicine.

For example, interesting projects in this regard may be implemented in the Belarusian capital region with the Chinese agricultural holding Guangdong Agribusiness Group Corporation, which is engaged in large-scale trade, rubber and sugar cane production. The holding's enterprises also specialise in meat and dairy cattle breeding, grain cultivation, and oil production. "The corporation

⁶⁴ Minsk region and Chinese Chongqing will determine the road map of cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/minskaja-oblast-i-kitajskij-chuntsin-opredeljat-dorozhnuju-kartu-sotrudnichestva-580980-2023/>

⁶⁵ Turchin and the governor of the Chinese province of Guangdong signed a road map [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/turchin-i-gubernator-kitajskoj-provintsii-guandun-podpisali-dorozhnuju-kartu-651136-2024/>

has a vocational college where students are trained in construction specialities, technologies. Also, the agricultural holding has 38 hospitals, where, among others, the company's employees are served"⁶⁶. So all these areas can become promising in terms of co-operation with Belarusian partners.

Among the possible partners of Minshchina enterprises from Guangdong Province are also the GAC Aion electric car manufacturing plant and Guangzhou Baiyunshan Zhongyi Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. In the first case, production is carried out on a full cycle and includes research and development, as well as the sale of products and after-sales service. In the second case, this manufacturer produces drugs to improve eyesight, diabetes drugs, and recovery pills for brain ischaemia and the consequences of this disease. Representatives of Minsk Oblast have already discussed the prospects and options of co-operation with these Chinese partners. So let's hope that these negotiations will soon be followed by concrete actions.

The People's Republic of China is a strategic partner of another Belarusian region - **Mogilev**, with which the development of cooperation, thanks to systematic work, continues to only deepen, reaching a new level of interaction. Suffice it to say that over the past ten years, exports of goods from this Belarusian region to China have grown 18 times. "Beef and poultry meat, dairy products, woodworking products, carbon black, flax, chocolate, various waters, strong alcoholic beverages remain the main export items from Mogilev region to

⁶⁶ From electric cars to endocrine raw materials: the delegation of Minsk region visits Guangdong province [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/ot-elektrokarov-do-endokrinnogo-syrja-delegatsija-minskoi-oblasti-poseschaet-provintsiju-guandun-651244-2024/>

China"⁶⁷ . In addition, today three enterprises of Mogilev region have permission to supply products to the Celestial Empire: open joint-stock companies "Babushkina Krynka", Mogilev and Bobruisk meat processing plants. The bulk of Chinese imports this year are acrylic polymers, complex synthetic yarns, glue and adhesives, opoks and pallets for metal foundry production, electrical transformers, household appliances, and passenger cars. "In January - April 2024, trade turnover between the Mogilev region and China totalled \$57.4 million - a growth rate of 102.2% compared to the same period of 2023. Export of services in January - April 2024 amounted to \$867.5 thousand (growth rate of over 193%) The basis of export was education services, the specific weight of which is almost 81%"⁶⁸ .

At the interregional level, the Belarusian eastern region is currently actively co-operating with such Chinese provinces as Henan, Jiangsu, Hunan, Shaanxi and the city of Tianjin. Besides, at the level of cities and districts of the Mogilev region more than ten documents of international character have been concluded with the regions of China. The youngest partner of Mogilev region in the Celestial Empire was **Tianjin** - one of the four cities of central subordination in 2019. It is a major port hub in the north of China, which has established communication and transport routes with more than 500 ports of other countries. It is a city with an integrated production chain in many industries and extensive educational and scientific resources, with more than 50 universities.

⁶⁷ Export of goods from Mogilev region to China has grown 18 times in the last ten years [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/eksport-tovarov-iz-mogilevskoj-oblasti-v-kitaj-za-poslednie-desjat-let-vyros-v-18-raz-575841-2023>

⁶⁸ Platform for the implementation of common projects: Belarusian-Chinese business forum was held in Mogilev [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/ploschadka-dlja-vyhoda-na-realizatsiju-obschih-proektov-belorusko-kitajskij-biznes-forum-proshel-v-643622-2024/>

In March 2023, the parties signed an Action Plan for the development of co-operation for 2023-2025. And in May last year Tianjin hosted the Mogilev Region Week. Then, participating in the forum "Tianjin - Gateway to China", more than twenty enterprises of Mogilev region showed their export potential. As a result of these negotiations, agreements were reached for the supply of dairy and meat products, commercial offers were received for the export of Belarusian sawn timber, and contacts were established for further co-operation in importing goods from China to the trade networks of the Mogilev region. At the same time the documents on co-operation between Mogilev and the new Binhai district of Tianjin, FEZ "Mogilev" and TEDA economic zone, the Mogilev branch of the BelCCI and the Chinese Council for the Promotion of International Trade of Tianjin were signed. Agreements were also reached on the establishment of a joint production facility for milk powder processing in Tianjin"⁶⁹ .

A year and a bit later, in June 2024, a response action - Tianjin City Week in the Mogilev region - took place:

- 1) Exhibition of Chinese products of organisations in this city;
- 2) Regional Belarusian-Chinese Business Forum "Mogilev Region and the City of Tianjin: 5 Years of Co-operation";
- 3) Mogilev-Tianjin Education Cooperation Forum.

In addition, the parties signed a "roadmap for the development of cooperation between Mogilev and the new Binhai district in the fields of economy, trade, culture, education, tourism for 2024-2025; an agreement between the administrative committee of the port free trade zone Tianjin PRC and the administration of the free economic zone

⁶⁹ Mogilev region will present construction and industrial investment projects at the exhibition in Shanghai [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/mogilevskaja-oblast-predstavit-stroitelnye-i-promyshlennye-investproekty-na-vystavke-v-shanhae-595292-2023/>

"Mogilev"; an agreement on cooperation between the Tianjin Museum and the Mogilev Regional Art Museum named after P.V. Maslennikov. P.V. Maslennikov"⁷⁰ .

During these events, the parties outlined their proposals for joint co-operation in various sectors. For example, Mogilev Region believes that at this stage of relations it is advisable to move from simple trade to deeper co-operation and the creation of joint projects. If we take livestock breeding, Chinese partners can create new complexes of meat direction in Mogilev region for further processing of beef and supply to the Chinese market. "The second direction is minerals: The [Mogilev] region is rich in deposits of peat, sapropel, and trepel, the use of which in combination with mineral and organic fertilisers is an effective means of stimulating plant development and increasing crop yields"⁷¹ . After all, this natural mineral supplement is used to enrich the ration of cattle to replenish the missing macro- and microelements in feed. Given this potential, Mogilev residents are ready to propose a project for the production of fodder additives, organic soils and fertilisers.

Another interesting proposal was voiced at the business forum "Mogilev Region and the City of Tianjin: 5 Years of Co-operation". The Belarusian Universal Commodity Exchange (BUTB) will assist the enterprises of the parties in organising interregional trade in industrial and agricultural goods. "To this end, it is planned to use the relevant elements of the electronic ecosystem of the BUTB, which will allow Belarusian and Chinese companies, taking into account the peculiarities

⁷⁰ Business forum, exhibitions and competitions. Tianjin City Week starts in Mogilev region [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/biznes-forum-vystavki-i-sorevnovanija-nedelja-goroda-tjantszin-startuet-v-mogilevskoj-oblasti-643224-2024/>

⁷¹ "To find ways of interaction". Tianjin City Week takes place in Mogilev [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/najti-puti-vzaimodejstviya-v-mogileve-prohodit-nedelja-goroda-tjantszin-643563-2024/>

of their sales and procurement policies, to conclude transactions either in the course of classical in-session trading or to use the exchange's B2B platform operating on the principle of a marketplace with an integrated exchange mechanism"⁷² . Based on the profile of Chinese partners, priority will be given to the export of Belarusian meat and dairy products and vegetable oils to Tianjin and, in the future, to other cities within the Bohai Economic Zone. The Belarusian market will be supplied with polymer packaging materials, diesel generators, industrial paints, sheet metal, veterinary drugs and other products in demand in the industrial and agricultural sectors of the country. To all appearances, co-operation in these areas will be very fruitful.

Another of the main regions of Belarus in terms of developing co-operation with China, both in the economic and social spheres, is **Gomel Region**. Suffice it to say that over the past five years, the trade turnover of this south-eastern Belarusian region with China has almost quadrupled. "The basis of exports to the Celestial Empire is wood pulp, timber, meat, dairy and confectionery products. Transport, educational and tourist services are developing. According to the results of the past [2023] year, 44 enterprises of Gomel region supplied their products to China"⁷³ . In the future there are good prospects for cooperation in industrial production, transport and logistics, agriculture. For example, twenty enterprises of Gomel region have already been accredited to supply food products to the Chinese market, "including 9 milk processing, 7 meat processing enterprises and 4 food processing

⁷² BUTB will help to simplify trade between Mogilev region and Chinese Tianjin [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/butb-pomozhet-uprostit-torgovlju-mezhdu-mogilevskoj-oblastju-i-kitajskim-tjanzsinem-643724-2024/>

⁷³ For five years the trade turnover of the Gomel region with China has grown four times [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/za-pjat-let-tovarooborot-gomelskoj-oblasti-s-kitaem-vyros-v-chetyre-raza-640488-2024/>

enterprises"⁷⁴ . And they are ready to increase supplies of beef, meat and edible by-products of poultry, whole-milk products, condensed milk and cream, whey powder.

In addition, Homiel enterprises are ready to supply lumber and finished woodworking products to China. Other areas of co-operation are also opening up. In particular, on complex mineral fertilisers, as well as on other projects for possible joint implementation. They include a logistics hub on the basis of Gomel airport, production of plywood furniture and other products on the basis of Gomeldrev, creation of new production facilities on the premises of the free economic zone (FEZ) Gomel-Raton. Moreover, there is an interesting example in the FEZ - the production unitary enterprise "Alkopak", which produces medical products and which "has been co-operating with Chinese manufacturers of equipment, spare parts, technological equipment for more than 20 years. At the moment 80-90% of injection moulding machines are Chinese-made. <...> The number of contacts, orders, purchased equipment is increasing. We have built up friendly relations with Chinese manufacturing companies"⁷⁵ . So it is time for the first residents from the Celestial Empire to appear in the FEZ, for whom attractive conditions have already been created.

The south-eastern region of Belarus is actively building relations with Chinese partners in the humanitarian sphere. For example, "more than 500 Chinese students study at universities in Homiel Region. They choose different specialities for themselves here and have already

⁷⁴ Accreditation for the supply of food products to China has 20 enterprises of Gomel region [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/akkreditatsiju-na-postavki-piscevoej-produksii-v-kitaj-imejut-20-predpriyatij-gomelskoj-oblasti-640508-2024/>

⁷⁵ Xie Xiaoyun: FEZ "Gomel-Raton" has created attractive conditions for residents [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/se-sjajun-v-sez-gomel-raton-sozdany-privlekatelnye-uslovija-dlja-rezidentov-640651-2024/>

gained a lot"⁷⁶. Gomel State University named after F. Skaryna (GSU) co-operates with 17 Chinese universities. In addition, the Confucius Institute has been established and is successfully functioning at GSU and joint educational programmes are being implemented. In general, 332 students from China are currently studying at Gomel State University. An experimental project has also been implemented - students from China study in English in four specialities"⁷⁷.

As for the cooperation of Gomel region with specific partners from the Celestial Empire, at the beginning of 2024 it "signed documents on bilateral cooperation with four Chinese regions - the autonomous regions of Inner Mongolia (2011) and Xinjiang Uygur (2016), Sichuan (2015) and Jiangsu (2016) provinces"⁷⁸, and ten agreements were adopted - at the level of cities.

In June 2024, another new partner of the Belarusian **southeastern** region was identified - **Hebei Province**. During the visit of the official delegation of Gomel Region to this province, contracts, memoranda and agreements with Chinese partners were signed, including the plan of events and exchanges for 2024-2025 between the region and the province. The Belarusian side, interested in the development of this interaction, outlined three steps towards increasing trade, economic and investment co-operation. "These are deliveries to Hebei of quality food products of Homel producers, implementation of

⁷⁶ Trade, education, tourism. Xie Xiaoyun on the potential of cooperation between Gomel region and regions of China [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/torgovlja-obrazovanie-turizm-se-sjaojun-o-potentsiale-sotrudnichestva-gomelskoj-oblasti-i-regionov-640506-2024/>

⁷⁷ Xie Xiaoyun on cooperation between Belarus and China in education: it is an intellectual base for all spheres [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/se-sjaojun-o-sotrudnicestve-belarusi-i-knr-v-obrazovanii-eto-intellektualnaja-baza-dlja-vseh-sfer-640698-2024/>

⁷⁸ Zalessky, B. Belarus - China: New Opportunities. Strategic interaction in the era of exemplary partnership relations / Boris Zalessky. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2023. - C. 12.

joint industrial projects with the preferences of the free economic zone "Homel-Raton", as well as joint investment projects in agriculture"⁷⁹ . In turn, the Chinese region is interested to cooperate in machine building, logistics, supply of raw materials of traditional Chinese medicine, as well as to purchase Homiel agricultural products, chemical fertilisers, goods of meat and dairy industry.

Within the framework of the Langfang International Trade and Economic Fair, which was held in Hebei Province in these June days, a number of enterprises of Homiel Region were represented at the Belarusian stand. As a result of meetings and negotiations at this forum in Langfang, domestic exporters - Comintern, Gomel Chemical Plant, Rogachev Milk Canning Plant (MKK) - added to their portfolios of deals. In particular, Rogachev MCC signed a memorandum for product supplies worth about RM1m and an agreement for more than RM7m. Gomel Chemical Plant's memorandum was concluded for nearly RMB 12.5 million and Comintern's deal for RMB 14.7 million."⁸⁰ . In addition, the headquarters of Great Wall Haval, a factory producing Haval brand cars, discussed the possibility of assembling these cars on the premises of FEZ Gomel-Raton.

Continuing the theme of participation of Gomel region representatives at exhibitions in the Celestial Empire, we would like to remind that in November 2023 at the 6th China International Import Expo in Shanghai during the Day of Gomel region, documents on export supplies worth \$85 million were signed. In addition, an

⁷⁹ Trade, joint industrial projects, agro-industrial complex. Krupko on co-operation between Gomel region and Hebei province [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/torgovlja-sovmestnye-promproekty-apk-krupko-o-sotrudnichestve-gomelskoj-oblasti-i-provintsii-hebej-641393-2024/>

⁸⁰ Gomel enterprises signed new contracts and agreements with Chinese partners [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/gomelskie-predprijatija-podpisali-novye-dogovory-i-soglashenija-s-kitajskimi-partnerami-641709-2024/>

agreement on cooperation to attract investments between the FEZ "Homiel-Raton" and the Sichuan Association for Promotion of Economic and Trade Cooperation "One Belt - One Road" was adopted at that time, as well as "a document of intent was signed to establish twinning ties between Zhlobin District of Homiel Region and Baotou City of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region"⁸¹.

All these facts show that the variety of partnership and twinning ties of Minsk, Mogilev and Gomel regions in China is only gaining momentum, developing intensively and fruitfully, emphasising huge prospects for the whole Belarusian-Chinese interregional all-weather strategic partnership.

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⁸¹ Documents for \$85 million signed by representatives of the Homiel region at the import exhibition in Shanghai [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/dokumenty-na-85-mln-podpisali-predstaviteli-gomelskoj-oblasti-na-vystavke-importa-v-shanhae-598283-2023/>

Cooperation in science, technology and innovation reaches a new level

In August 2024, during the official visit of Premier Li Qiang of the State Council of the People's Republic of China (PRC) to Belarus, the two governments decided to declare 2024-2025 the Years of Cooperation between Belarus and China in Science, Technology and Innovation. On this occasion, a plan of events was signed in Minsk that covers a wide range of areas of bilateral cooperation and provides for joint scientific and technical events, the creation and development of Belarusian-Chinese cooperation platforms, and the implementation of joint scientific and scientific-technical projects, which will make it possible to strengthen sectoral ties in the field of industrial cooperation and become an additional incentive for innovative development.

This plan contains 89 activities that will involve 140 organisations - 59 Belarusian and 81 Chinese. These include leading scientific centres of the two countries, sectoral agencies and their subordinate organisations, and major technology corporations. In particular, in the field of information and communication technologies, the plan envisages the development of cooperation between the Ministry of Communications and Informatisation of Belarus and the Chinese corporations Huawei Technologies, ZTE and PhotonSpeak on software development, expansion of cooperation in the field of information and communication technologies, including the use of 5G/6G technologies. On the Belarusian side, the High Technology Park, the Velikiy Kamen industrial park, Beltelecom and Promsvyaz will be involved in this work. In addition, in August 2024, a memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation in the field of information and communication technologies was signed by the

Ministry of Communications and Informatisation of Belarus and the Ministry of Industry and Informatisation of China, which "provides for the promotion of cooperation in digital transformation, cloud technologies, artificial intelligence, digital medicine, and ICT training"⁸². There are also plans to cooperate on the development of smart cities, the creation of joint production facilities for high-tech products, and a Chinese-Belarusian platform for cooperation in the field of information and communication technologies.

The Ministry of Industry of Belarus together with the Centre for International Economic and Technical Cooperation of the Ministry of Industry and Informatisation of the People's Republic of China envisages the creation of a joint platform for the implementation of Sino-Belarusian industrial cooperation to find partners, transfer technologies, and develop cooperation with Chinese companies on the supply of technological equipment. Recall that "in March 2023, Belarus and China signed a comprehensive strategy of joint industrial development, and in November 2023 - a detailed plan to interface the industrial policies of the two countries"⁸³, to develop industrial cooperation, including through joint production facilities in Belarus and China, attracting high-tech competences for the implementation of investment projects at Belarusian enterprises and establishing direct interaction between the parties. This programme already consists of 30 specific projects in machine-tool construction, automotive, petrochemicals and wood processing. In particular, already "the entire

⁸² Belarus and China signed a memorandum of understanding in the field of ICT [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-kitaj-podpisali-memorandum-o-vzaimoponimanii-v-oblasti-ikt-656109-2024/>

⁸³ Ministries of Industry of Belarus and China: the plan for cooperation can be updated, detailed and expanded [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/minpromy-belarusi-i-kitaja-plan-po-sotrudnichestvu-mozhet-byt-aktualizirovan-detalizirovan-i-rasshiren-644949-2024/>

cluster of domestic machine-tool enterprises - from the Gomel Machine-Tool Plant to Krasniy Borets in Orsha - is involved in the implementation of joint industrial development projects with China"⁸⁴ . Also, the decisions taken will help to reformat the textile industry, as viscose together with flax and chemical fibres will create a fabric for Belarusians that will become the foundation of the country's textile and clothing industry.

In general, "15 new strategic-level investment projects worth up to three billion dollars are under active consideration with Chinese partners"⁸⁵ . The most important ones include: the third stage of the project on deep grain processing of the Belarusian National Biotechnology Corporation, construction of plants for the production of bleached sulphate pulp and chipboard, organisation of modern automated casting, production of engines, polypropylene, carbide, sodium chlorate, hydrogen peroxide, soda ash.

As for existing Belarusian enterprises, for example, Minsk Tractor Plant (MTZ) is interested in setting up joint production facilities in China. In September 2024, a roadmap was signed to develop a 350-horsepower tractor with permanent magnet electric drive. MTZ is ready to implement this project with the China-Belarus High-Tech Aerospace Research and Development Centre. Another joint production facility may also be set up in China - for the assembly of

⁸⁴ Machine tools, pulp, car. What significant projects Belarus and China are implementing [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/stanki-tselljuloza-avtomobil-kakie-znakovye-proekty-realizujut-belarus-i-kitaj-671355-2024/>

⁸⁵ Snopkov: strategic projects with China for \$3bn are designed for the medium term [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/snopkov-strategicheskie-proekty-s-kitaem-na-3-mlrd-rasschitany-na-srednesrochnuju-perspektivu-655954-2024/>

BELARUS caterpillar tractors"⁸⁶ . In addition, the Belarusian company will buy equipment in China for more than 840 million Belarusian rubles to modernise the melting system for the first foundry shop, an automatic continuous sandblasting chamber with rotary tables. "MTZ workshops will be replenished with 15 lathes, 7 horizontal, 4 milling-centre and 3 horizontal CNC milling machining centres. Over the past year and a half, the company has received eight CNC machines [from China]."⁸⁷ .

Other machine-building enterprises of the republic are also open to production co-operation with Chinese companies. In particular, to organise "joint production of engines for trucks and cars in Belarus"⁸⁸ . In this respect, mutually beneficial cooperation options are already being worked out with Guangxi Yuchai Machinery Group Co., Ltd. in order to reach a strategic bilateral project providing for deep localisation.

Another interesting example is Belshina, which together with the Belarusian State Technological University (BSTU) is strengthening its partnership with leading Chinese tyre companies and scientific organisations in that country. Back in April this year, Belshina and BSTU signed a memorandum of co-operation with Qingdao University of Science and Technology and the Chinese company MESNAC - the leading manufacturer of rubber equipment in the Celestial Empire with a global geography of supply. In this document, the parties envisage

⁸⁶ MTZ is interested in the creation of joint production facilities in China [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/mtz-zainteresevan-v-sozdanii-sovmestnyh-proizvodstv-v-kitae-662915-2024/>

⁸⁷ MTZ will purchase more than 30 units of equipment from China [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/mtz-zakupit-bolee-30-edinit-oborudovanija-iz-kitaja-662946-2024/>

⁸⁸ Naumovich: Belarusian machine-building enterprises are open to co-operation with Chinese companies [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/naumovich-belorusskie-predprijatija-mashinostroenija-otkryty-k-kooperatsii-s-kitajskimi-kompanijami-665797-2024/>

cooperation in education, as well as research and development on improving the properties of elastomeric composites for tyres and rubber products. It means that the Belarusian tyre manufacturer and one of the best universities in Belarus for training engineering personnel, including for the chemical industry, are working together to improve the quality of rubber compounds, produce new sizes of agricultural tyres, as well as improve the performance characteristics of oversized tyres for effective import substitution. By signing the memorandum, the parties plan to carry out joint projects related to "improving the performance of all-metal cord extra-large tyres of 57-inch diameter radial design, using original technologies and equipment of the leading Chinese manufacturer"⁸⁹. The memorandum is expected to bring the parties to a new level of co-operation. Given the prospective participation of Qingdao University of Science and Technology and Belarusian State Technological University in the projects, emphasis will also be placed on scientific research in the tyre industry and the training of highly qualified personnel for production.

The adopted plans also "provide for the establishment in Minsk of a project office of the China Technology Transfer Centre of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation member states, the activities of which are supervised by the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China"⁹⁰. This will facilitate both the attraction of advanced foreign technologies to Belarus and the commercialisation of the results of Belarusian scientific and innovation organisations'

⁸⁹ "Belshina" together with BSTU strengthens partnership with leading Chinese tyre companies [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belshina-sovmestno-s-bgtu-ukrepljaet-partnerstvo-s-veduschimi-kitajskimi-shinnymi-kompanijami-627709-2024/>

⁹⁰ Start of the Years of Cooperation between Belarus and China in Science, Technology and Innovation [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/dan-start-godam-sotrudnichestva-belarusi-i-knr-v-oblasti-nauki-tehnologij-i-innovatsij-656188-2024/>

activities abroad. In the field of medicine, the Ministry of Health of Belarus and the Centre for International Exchange and Cooperation of the State Health Committee of China will cooperate on the exchange of innovations and technologies. And the Belneftekhim Concern together with the Oil and Gas Resources Research Centre of the Chinese Geological Survey will cooperate in exchanging technologies for geological research, exploration and development of oil and gas resources.

In addition, the parties will continue to develop the Great Stone Park as an international industrial and logistics cluster with a focus on investment, technology, and the development of traditional and innovative Chinese medicine. "Today, the park has 134 residents from 13 countries with an investment volume of \$1.5bn. More than half of the residents are companies with Chinese capital"⁹¹. In the first seven months of 2024, 18 new companies have already come to the park. It should be noted that in July of this year a meeting of the working group on the industrial park was held, which outlined the priority areas for the further growth of Velikiy Kamen. Among the main prospects is the attraction of new residents from China with their advanced experience and anchor projects that will be able to gather their partners around them. The second direction is to continue building the Great Stone infrastructure to prepare sites for new production facilities. Especially since "the construction of the infrastructure of the first stage of the central part of the park is to begin, as well as the creation of a multimodal railway terminal"⁹². Thirdly, it is the development of a

⁹¹ Roman Golovchenko: In the conditions of instability in the world Belarus and China continue to build mutually beneficial cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <http://pda.government.gov.by/ru/content/10994>

⁹² Chebotar: "Great Stone" is one of the key priorities for the development of Belarusian-Chinese cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

medical cluster in the industrial park. Suffice it to say that in the first half of 2024, five companies have already joined the medical cluster of Veliky Kamen, and new Chinese companies are on their way.

Finally, in order to increase the economic efficiency of joint activities, the Belarusian State Committee for Science and Technology and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China will hold a competition of flagship scientific and technological projects. For this purpose, "20 projects for joint implementation in 2024-2026 in the fields of ICT, biotechnology and medicine, mechanical engineering, and new materials" have been approved⁹³. As a result of this competition, it is planned to select three large-scale joint projects, the results of which should be the creation of advanced technologies and the establishment of joint ventures or industrial technology centres. Based on the results of joint research and development, Belarus and China will "work on the creation of joint legal entities, which will be used to manufacture products to enter the Belarusian, Chinese, and maybe even third markets"⁹⁴.

In line with this theme, a branch of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus (NAS) will be established in China, which will become a Sino-Belarusian co-operation platform to promote interaction between universities, research institutes and enterprises of the two countries in the field of education, scientific research and implementation of achievements. "The main areas of cooperation

<https://belta.by/economics/view/chebotar-velikij-kamen-odin-iz-ključevyh-prioritetov-razvitija-belorussko-kitajskogo-sotrudnichestva-649217-2024/>

⁹³ Belarus and China approved 20 joint scientific and technical projects for 2024-2026 [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-kitaj-utverdili-20-sovmestnyh-naučno-tehnicheskikh-proektov-na-2024-2026-gody-656073-2024/>

⁹⁴ Belarus and China will create legal entities for production of goods on the basis of joint developments [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-kitaj-budut-sozdavat-jurlitsa-dlja-proizvodstva-produktsii-na-osnove-sovmestnyh-razrabotok-656197-2024/>

within the branch are aerospace engineering and space sciences, materials science and composite materials, optics and optoelectronics, production of high-tech equipment and advanced devices, microelectronics and digital intelligence, biotechnology and pharmacology"⁹⁵ . In this regard, such cooperation mechanisms as exchange of highly qualified Chinese and Belarusian experts, training of highly qualified researchers, joint training of master's and doctoral students, internships and training, initiation of joint research and development by the parties' organisations, promotion of mutual introduction of technologies and achievements, establishment of joint laboratories within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative will be envisaged. For this purpose, in August this year a framework agreement on strategic cooperation was signed between the NAS of Belarus and the State Administration of the People's Republic of China for Foreign Experts, which is aimed at attracting exports by organising technical internships for Chinese researchers in the Great Stone Industrial Park and relevant research organisations of the NAS of Belarus on a contractual basis. The main areas for internships are: space utilisation and exploration, new energy sources and advanced energy, optoelectronics and high-tech equipment, intelligent manufacturing, new materials, digitalisation and artificial intelligence.

All these documents and the launch of several new industrial projects show that the parties see the integration of Belarusian competences and Chinese technologies as a key element in building a joint future. It is clear that "the implementation of a comprehensive strategy for joint industrial development and the preparation of detailed plans for industrial policy interface <...> will give concrete practical

⁹⁵ A branch of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus will be created in China [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/filial-nan-belarusi-sozdadut-v-kitae-656108-2024/>

content to the new status of the relationship between the two countries - an all-weather and comprehensive strategic partnership"⁹⁶ . For this reason, cooperation with China will allow Belarus to implement its ambitious modernisation and technical re-equipment plans.

Returning to the results of the official visit of Premier Li Qiang of the State Council of the People's Republic of China to Belarus, it should be noted that in addition to the documents revealing the potential for developing and deepening industrial cooperation, scientific, technical and innovation interaction, agreements, memorandums and plans were signed in Minsk in other areas as well. For example, this is an intergovernmental agreement on trade in services and investment, which envisages the creation of a free trade zone in services between the two countries, a transparent, liberal and favourable investment regime to attract investment. Also, the Belarusian Ministry of Economy and the Chinese State Committee for Development and Reform signed a "practice-oriented cooperation plan to strengthen the interface between the Belt and Road Initiative and the National Strategy for Sustainable Socio-Economic Development of Belarus". The document contains about 60 measures and projects to be implemented between the competent agencies of the two countries..." .

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As for the Belarusian-Chinese regional dimension, "in-depth plans for the joint development of the provinces of China and the

⁹⁶ Roman Golovchenko: Trade turnover between Belarus and China has grown 140 times in 30 years [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/10993>

⁹⁷ BNBK and "Great Stone": Belarus and China agreed on new major investment projects [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/bnbk-i-velikij-kamen-belarus-i-kitaj-dogovorilis-o-novyh-krupnyh-investproektah-656105-2024/>

regions of Belarus" were signed in Minsk⁹⁸. Firstly, between Minsk Region and the city of Chongqing, where the following projects will be implemented: production of reagents and equipment for diagnostics, unmanned aerial vehicles, car seats, preparations of traditional Chinese medicine, and assembly of industrial robots. Secondly, between Mogilev region and Shaanxi province, where the main directions of development in trade and economic and investment spheres, education and culture are defined. Seven more similar in-depth plans for the joint development of Belarusian and Chinese regions were also supported in this context.

So Belarus and China, continuing to build mutually beneficial cooperation, in these August days of 2024, identified further specific tasks, plans and future directions, showing the exemplary nature of all-weather and all-round strategic partnership in the new era, despite the overall unstable situation in the global economy.

⁹⁸ Zalessky, B. Dynamics of successful partnership. Internal and external reserves of progressive movement of the Belarusian economy / Boris Zalessky. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2024. - C. 43.

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