

Panel: China and Russia (Cosmos & VioletRoom)

Date/Time: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 / 15:15-16:30

Talking Points for: Zhao Huirong, Institute of Russian, East European and Central Asian studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Relationship between China and Central Asian countries

Central Asian countries are either China's neighbor countries or very close to china. These countries take the important part of China's good-neighborly diplomacy in China's diplomatic strategy. Therefore, in Central Asia, China pursues the foreign policy of "being a good neighbor and partner" and "building an amicable, tranquil and prosperous neighborhood".

The relations between China and the Central Asian countries have experienced three stages: the first stage (1992-1995) is the stage of mutual knowledge and understanding, China and Central Asian countries established formal diplomatic relations and begin to develop friendly relationship; The second stages (1996-2000) is the development stage. There is a breakthrough in cooperation between China and Central Asian countries; The third stage (since 2001 up to now) is the stage of rapid increases in bilateral relations.

Why relations between China and Central Asian countries can be so smooth and continuous improvement? I think that there are five major reasons: the First is that China and Central Asian countries have a lot of same diplomatic ideas. Both China and Central Asian countries pay attention to the development of good-neighborly and friendly relations; The second is that both sides have a lot of common interests in the development cooperation; The third is that the two sides are able to handle differences and understand each other as much as possible, and try to resolve problems flexible; The fourth is that both sides attach importance to strengthening political mutual trust, to keep the communication, mutual visit frequently; The last is that both sides take advantage of the SCO platform and strengthen multilateral cooperation.

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