



From March 22 to 24, 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping paid a state visit to Russia. It was the first stop on his first foreign trip after taking office. China and Russia are each other's most important strategic partners. The heads of the two countries reached a key consensus on strengthening their all-round strategic cooperation, and signed a joint statement on deepening the bilateral comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership. Bilateral trade volume has grown 14-fold in 20 years, reaching US \$88.2 billion in 2012. It is expected to hit US \$100 billion by 2015.