

Xi Jinping Holds Talks with President Tomislav Nikolic of Serbia The Two Heads of State Stress to Constantly Push China-Serbia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for New Achievements

Xi Jinping Holds Talks with President Tomislav Nikolic of Serbia The Two Heads of State Stress to Constantly Push China-Serbia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for New Achievements On March 30, 2017, President Xi Jinping held talks with President Tomislav Nikolic of Serbia at the Great Hall of the People. The two heads of state agreed to constantly push China-Serbia comprehensive strategic partnership for new achievements to better benefit the two peoples.

Xi Jinping pointed out that China and Serbia enjoy broad prospects for the development of bilateral relations. I paid a successful state visit to Serbia last June, during which I signed the Joint Statement Between China and Serbia on Establishing Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with Mr. President, which unfolded a new historical chapter of bilateral relations. China is willing to, together with Serbia, consolidate the bilateral all-weather friendship, and comprehensively deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields.

We should maintain high-level exchanges momentum, enhance personnel exchanges in various aspects including the two governments, legislature institutions, political parties and local governments, and intensify coordination and cooperation in international affairs. We should advance the integration between the “Belt and Road” initiative and Serbia’s national strategy of reindustrialization, steadily carry forward Serbia-Hungary railway and other on-going major projects, actively discuss the joint construction of industrial park, realize mutual promotion of infrastructure construction, production capacity cooperation and industrial development, and strengthen cooperation in agriculture, biological medicine, renewable energy sources and other fields.

Both sides should expand exchanges in tourism and culture, and constantly enhance the friendship between the two peoples. Xi Jinping stressed that the “16+1 cooperation” between China and Central and Eastern European countries (CEEC) enjoys a comprehensive and rapid development. China expects Serbia to continuously play its role in well aligning bilateral cooperation with the “16+1 cooperation”, and jointly propel a stable development of China-CEEC cooperation at a higher level, so as to better benefit people of all countries. Tomislav Nikolic expressed that the Serbian people have sincere and friendly sentiment toward the Chinese people, admire China’s great development achievement from the bottom of

their hearts, and expect China to play a greater role in international and regional affairs. Serbia appreciates China's adherence to mutual respect and equal treatment in developing relations with other countries, and will always stick to the one-China policy.

Serbia is willing to strengthen bilateral practical cooperation in infrastructure construction, production capacity, minerals, agriculture and other fields, actively participate in the "Belt and Road" construction, deepen bilateral people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and make efforts to push forward the China-CEEC mutually beneficial cooperation. After the talks, President Xi Jinping attended the ceremony at which President Tomislav Nikolic was awarded the title of "Honorary Citizen of Beijing". Prior to the talks, Xi Jinping held a welcoming ceremony for Tomislav Nikolic at the square outside the East Gate of the Great Hall of the People.

President Xi Jinping's wife Mme. Peng Liyuan, Vice of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Eligen Imibakhi, State Councilor Yang Jiechi, Vice Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Ma Biao and others were present.