

## **Iran and China; In Search of a Better Tomorrow**

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The Islamic Republic of Iran and China, realizing the circumstances prevailing in the international system, have decided to develop their bilateral cooperation in a 25-year horizon. This subject started during visit of H.E. Xi Jinping, the president of the Peoples Republic of China to Tehran in 2016 and during this period generalities have been discussed and exchanged in numerous interactive sessions and meetings. This issue, which has been widely reflected in recent weeks and in political circles, can be examined from the following aspects.

- The Islamic Republic of Iran and the People's Republic of China are consulting on the generalities of the comprehensive document on strategic cooperation at various levels, and the dimensions of this document for cooperation have not so far reached the final conclusion. This document is a comprehensive framework of long-term and strategic cooperation in all political and economic fields and in an equal and fair approach.

- There are numerous rumors about the dimensions of long-term cooperation between Iran and China. Given that no modalities have been agreed on the details of the cooperation so far, these rumors are baseless and mere political and media speculations. Some of these rumors are the result of Western media propaganda that has never happy over promotion of political and economic relations of independent nations. It is to mention, in paragraph 6 of the joint statement issued during the Chinese president's 2016 visit to Iran, it was made clear the parties' willingness to conclude a comprehensive document for 25 years of cooperation.

- Considering that at present the People's Republic of China is one of the top political and economic powers and the role of the Islamic Republic of Iran in regional equations is also highly valued, the development of bilateral cooperation between Beijing and Tehran can draw a clear horizon for the nations of the two countries and the region.

-The Islamic Republic of Iran, in accordance with its constitution, welcomes the promotion of cooperation with all countries in an equal, fair and rational framework

and is ready to extend the dimensions of this cooperation to other friendly countries in the region in a regional mechanism.

- The decision of Iran and China to develop cooperation in a strategic mechanism shows the foresight of the leaders of the two countries to strengthen convergence in Asia. From this perspective, long-term cooperation between Iran and China is not only an alternative but also a smart choice in the new world. This is happening at a time when the US regime, in disregard of all international rules and regulations, is creating fundamental challenges for all the independent nations of the world; The reality that encourages these nations to achieve greater socio-economic independence and to counter totalitarian unilateralism and strengthen international multilateralism.

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