



Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit 2025

Staying True to SCO Founding Mission and Ushering In a Better Future

First, we should seek common ground while putting aside differences. Shared aspirations are the source of strength and advantage, and the will to seek commonality while shelving differences reflects vision and wisdom. SCO member states are all friends and partners. We should respect our differences, maintain strategic communication, build up consensus, and strengthen solidarity and collaboration. We should make the pie of cooperation bigger, and fully utilize the endowment of every country, so that we can fulfill our responsibility for peace, stability, development and prosperity in the region.

Second, we should pursue mutual benefit and win-win results. We need to better align our development strategies and promote the high-quality implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative, so that in planning and building relevant projects together and benefiting from them together we can strengthen the momentum of regional development and improve the well-being of the people. We should leverage the strengths of our mega-sized markets and

economic complementarity between member states, and improve trade and investment facilitation. We should enhance cooperation in such areas as energy, infrastructure, green industry, the digital economy, scientific and technological innovation, and artificial intelligence. We should march toward modernization hand in hand by bringing out the best in one another and working together for a shared future.

Third, we should champion openness and inclusiveness. The vast land of Asia and Europe, a cradle of ancient civilizations where the earliest exchanges between the East and the West took place, has been a driving force behind human progress. Since ancient times, people of different countries have bartered and traded for mutual benefit and learned from each other. SCO member states need to enhance mutual understanding and friendship through people-to-people exchanges, firmly support one another in economic cooperation, and jointly cultivate a garden of civilizations in which all cultures flourish in prosperity and harmony through mutual enlightenment.

Fourth, we should uphold fairness and justice. We must promote a correct historical perspective on World War II, and oppose the Cold War mentality, bloc confrontation and bullying practices. We should safeguard the UN-centered international system, and support the multilateral trading system with the WTO at its core. We should advocate an equal and orderly multipolar world and a universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization, and make the global governance system more just and equitable.

Fifth, we should strive for real results and high efficiency. We should continuously promote SCO reform, increase resources input and enhance capacity building to improve its institutional structure and make its decision-making more scientific and its actions more efficient. We should put into use the SCO Universal Center for Countering Security Challenges and Threats and the SCO Anti-drug Center and set up an SCO development bank as soon as possible to provide stronger underpinnings for security and economic cooperation among member states.

— From Chinese President Xi Jinping's speech at the 25th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in north China's port city Tianjin, September 1

Pooling the Strength of SCO to Improve Global Governance

First, we should adhere to sovereign equality. We should maintain that all countries, regardless of size, strength and wealth, are equal participants, decision-makers and beneficiaries in global governance. We should promote greater democracy in international relations and increase the representation and voice of developing countries.

Second, we should abide by international rule of law. The purposes and principles of the UN Charter and other universally recognized basic norms of international relations must be observed comprehensively, fully and in their entirety. International law and rules should be applied equally and uniformly. There should be no double standards, and the house rules of a few countries must not be imposed upon others.

Third, we should practice multilateralism. We should uphold the vision of global governance featuring extensive consultation and joint

contribution for shared benefit, strengthen solidarity and coordination, and oppose unilateralism. We should firmly safeguard the status and authority of the UN, and ensure its irreplaceable, key role in global governance.

Fourth, we should advocate the people-centered approach. We should reform and improve the global governance system to ensure that the people of every nation are the actors in and beneficiaries of global governance, so as to better tackle the common challenges for mankind, better narrow the North-South gap, and better safeguard the common interests of all countries.

Fifth, we should focus on taking real actions. We should adopt a systematic and holistic approach, coordinate global actions, fully mobilize various resources, and strive for more visible outcomes. We should enhance practical cooperation to prevent the governance system from lagging behind or being fragmented.

— From Chinese President Xi Jinping's speech at the "Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Plus" Meeting in north China's port city Tianjin, September 1

SCO Statements

As part of the outcomes of the SCO Tianjin Summit, the Council of Heads of State of the SCO issued a series of statements, including statements on:

- Sustainable energy development
- Cooperation in green industry
- Strengthening scientific, technical and innovative cooperation
- Strengthening cooperation in the digital economy
- Further deepening international cooperation in artificial intelligence
- Effectively addressing and combating the global drug problem



The Meijiang Convention and Exhibition Center, the main venue of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit 2025 in north China's Tianjin. (PHOTO: XINHUA)



A robot demonstrates its calligraphy skills at the media center for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit 2025 in Tianjin, August 30, 2025. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

Shanghai Spirit in Action

By LONG Yun & CHEN Xi

The member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) have brought about groundbreaking and historic achievements in the organization's development and cooperation, Chinese President Xi Jinping said on Monday, while addressing the 25th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO in Tianjin city in north China.

"We were the first to conclude a treaty on long-term good-neighborliness, friendship and cooperation, proclaiming our commitment to forge lasting friendship and refrain from hostilities," he said.

Twenty-four years ago, the SCO began with six members: China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Today, it comprises 10 member states, along with 17 SCO partners across Asia, Europe and Africa, forming a 27-nation family. It now stands as the world's largest regional organization in terms of both geographic coverage and population.

This remarkable growth is rooted in the Shanghai Spirit, a set of principles centered on mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diversity of civilizations and pursuit of common development. These principles resonate deeply with global observers and are a central theme of the SCO summits.

Unity in diversity

"SCO member states are all friends and partners," Xi said, calling on the member states to respect their differences,

maintain strategic communication, build up consensus, and strengthen solidarity and collaboration.

Belarusian journalist Igor Tur was deeply impressed by Xi's call for "strengthening solidarity and collaboration."

"His words play a crucial guiding role in the SCO's cooperative process," Tur said, adding that this wisdom, respecting differences while focusing on shared interests, provides a clear direction for member states to deepen mutual trust and collaboration in an increasingly complex international environment.

He noted that China has consistently advocated the global governance philosophy of "extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits," and has never imposed its will on other countries, demonstrating the vision and responsibility of a major country.

Andrei Chevelev, former head of the Asia-Pacific unit at UNESCO's Sector for Priority Africa and External Relations, told *Science and Technology Daily*, "China is standing at the forefront of upholding world peace and global prosperity. China actively engages in global relations while promoting intercultural understanding and cooperation." He highlighted the SCO as a vivid example of China's growing influence in promoting effective global governance: "It's encouraging to see its constructive role expanding, particularly through multilateral platforms that prioritize dialogue over confrontation."

This sentiment was echoed by Manish Chand, editor-in-chief of the India Writes Network, who said the SCO

Summit 2025 sent a strong signal of unity and mutual respect and the pursuit of common development.

Cooperation for growth

Pakistani journalist Syed Hassan Mehdi highlighted practical cooperation in trade, technology and infrastructure and agriculture under the framework of the SCO, hailing the Belt and Road Initiative and its flagship project, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, as exemplary models of high-level cooperation.

"I believe the member states will strengthen consensus and cooperation. When we meet again next year, we will see concrete progress and measurable improvements in people's lives in this region and the world," he said.

At the summit, China vowed to establish new cooperation platforms and centers on energy, green industry, digital economy, and scientific and technological innovation, as well as higher education, and vocational and technical education. Action plans were also developed to promote high-quality development, covering fields including energy, green industry, digital economy, AI and tech innovation.

Iranian TV journalist Irfan Ashraf said SCO members can adapt China's cooperative mechanisms and development experience to their own contexts. "We must collectively focus on improving living standards," he said. "China, with its vast industrial base, advanced production capabilities, and skilled workforce, can play an important role by helping other member states build local industries and strengthen self-reliant manufacturing."

"The world already has a powerful development model, the Chinese model," he said, adding that its combination of development, peace and collaborative spirit offers a unique and successful experience with global relevance.

SCO Builds Futures Together

By LONG Yun

No mountain or ocean can distance people with shared aspirations. People-to-people exchanges are the quiet engine of international cooperation, which is enduring and powerful.

As the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit 2025 was held in port city Tianjin in north China, stories of scientists, doctors, students and entrepreneurs from across Eurasia revealed how the Shanghai Spirit, a set of principles centered on mutual trust, equality, respect for diverse civilizations, and shared development, is not just a diplomatic ideal, but a living reality.

In Changzhou, Jiangsu province in east China, Russian professor Igor Alexandrov reflected on 33 years of scientific partnership with China. He first arrived in China in 1991 for joint research and has since co-developed advanced applications in nanomaterials. A recipient of the Chinese Government's Friendship Award, he became a guest professor at Changzhou University in 2017, marking a new phase of deep integration between research and industry.

"The innovation environment here is vibrant," he told *Science and Technology Daily*. "But more importantly, (my) Chinese partners treat me as an equal and there's real trust."

That trust has grown beyond the lab. Student exchanges, joint conferences and research internships have nurtured a new generation of young scientists who now see each other not as foreigners, but as colleagues and friends.

The bond has also become deeply personal. His wife is passionate about traditional Chinese culture and his 13-year-old granddaughter speaks fluent Chinese and won a Chinese language competition. "She wants to come to China more than I do," he said. Science brought him here, but the human connection keeps him here.

That same spirit of mutual benefit and deep integration can be seen in the work of Kazakh ophthalmologist Saulebek Kabybekov, who has spent 25 years healing patients in Daqing, Heilongjiang province in northeast China.

Arriving in 1998 on a technical exchange, he never left. "I found real opportunities here — room to grow, and a workplace where I could thrive," he said.

With nearly 40 years of clinical experience, he has treated over 200,000 patients, earning deep respect for his skill and compassion. Now fluent in the local dialect and fond of sour cabbage dumplings, a local specialty, he calls China "more than a destination for my work. It's my home."

His life embodies the SCO's vision of cooperation that is not transactional, but transformational, where individuals

don't just contribute, but belong.

Young people who come to China in search of opportunities are also won over by this sense of belonging. Twenty-four-year-old Temurzoda Amirhamza from Dangara, Tajikistan, was inspired by the Chinese-funded industrial park in his hometown, which created jobs and boosted the local economy.

He began importing smartphones via the Chinese online shopping behemoth Alibaba and selling them online. His small business grew into Azon.tj, a full-fledged e-commerce brand with a team and warehouse. But he realized language and deeper business knowledge were key and came to China first for an MBA, then for intensive Chinese at Tianjin University.

"China has opened a world of opportunities," he said. "I want to be a bridge between our countries."

Education is also building bridges between China and other countries. Pakistani student Mohammad Mohsin arrived in Tianjin as a 19-year-old, thanks to the Pakistan Luban Workshop launched in 2018. Today, he operates industrial robots with confidence. "It feels like magic," he said. His journey mirrors that of 15 trainees from Kazakhstan now studying AI in Tianjin. Since 2023, the Kazakhstan Luban Workshop has trained over 700 students and professionals.

The SCO's true strength lies in personal stories of mutual trust, sharing skills, and building futures together. They are quiet, daily acts of connection. And in them, the Shanghai Spirit lives.