



100

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
ABOUT
THE BELT AND ROAD
INITIATIVE

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

QIN YUCAI ZHOU GUPING LUO WEIDONG



ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY PRESS
浙江大学出版社

100

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
ABOUT
THE BELT AND ROAD
INITIATIVE

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

QIN YUCAI ZHOU GUPING LUO WEIDONG



ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY PRESS

浙江大学出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

“一带一路”一百问 = 100 Questions & Answers about the Belt and Road Initiative: 英文/秦玉才,周谷平,罗卫东主编.—杭州:浙江大学出版社,2017.6

ISBN 978-7-308-16724-6

I.①一… II.①秦… ②周… ③罗… III.①区域经济合作—国际合作—中国—问题解答—英文 IV.①F125.5-44

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2017) 第 039803 号

“一带一路”一百问(英文版)

100 Questions & Answers about the Belt and Road Initiative

秦玉才 周谷平 罗卫东 主编

出品人 鲁东明

策划 罗卫东 黄宝忠

责任编辑 包灵灵 张琛

文字编辑 董唯

责任校对 仲亚萍

封面设计 十木米

出版发行 浙江大学出版社

(杭州市天目山路148号 邮政编码310007)

(网址: <http://www.zjupress.com>)

排版 杭州林智广告有限公司

印刷 虎彩印艺股份有限公司

开本 710mm×1000mm 1/16

印张 12.25

字数 268千

版印次 2017年6月第1版 2017年6月第1次印刷

书号 ISBN 978-7-308-16724-6

定价 68.00元

版权所有 翻印必究 印装差错 负责调换

浙江大学出版社发行中心联系方式 (0571) 88925591; <http://zjdxcsb.tmall.com>

Editorial Board of *100 Questions & Answers about the Belt and Road Initiative*

Editors-in-chief Qin Yucai Zhou Guping Luo Weidong

Contributors:

Chen Feng	Chen Hangyu	Chen Jian	Chen Yijie
Cheng Xinyi	Chi Ruonan	Dong Xuebing	Gao Shuqin
Hu Ming	Huang Xianhai	Kan Yue	Lai Puqing
Liu Jinbao	Ma Qingkai	Wu Zongjie	Yang Gaoju
Yu Pan	Zeng Xuda	Zhao Jun	Zhu Xihu

Foreword

In September and October 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping, while visiting Central Asia and Southeast Asia, proposed the significant initiative of jointly building the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road (hereinafter referred to as the Belt and Road), drawing great attention from the international community. Advancing the development of the Belt and Road is a significant strategic decision made by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the State Council. The decision takes into account the profound changes of the global situation and the need to strike a balance between the development of the international community and China. For China, the Belt and Road Initiative has great and far-reaching significance in building a new open economic system and forming a new pattern of all-round opening-up by benefiting from the cooperation of China's eastern, central and western regions, as well as the coordinated development both on land and at sea. It will also help China to achieve its "Two Centenary Goals" and realize the Chinese Dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

At the behest of the central government, the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Commerce organized the study and drafting of the Belt and Road Initiative's strategic plan. Using surveys and consultations, and after several drafts and revisions, the *Vision and Actions on Jointly Building Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road* (hereinafter referred to as the *Vision and Actions*) was published in March 2015. It was jointly published by the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the

Ministry of Commerce with State Council authorization. This document discusses the Initiative's background, principles, framework, cooperation priorities, cooperation mechanisms, China's regions in pursuing opening-up, calling on the international community to create a beautiful future together. Once published, the *Vision and Actions* received positive responses from the countries along the Belt and Road as well as international organizations, and various practical and cooperative projects were steadily pushed forward.

In order to interpret for readers relevant information about the Belt and Road Initiative and widely spread the Initiative's rich meanings and far-reaching significance, the Collaborative Innovation Center for the Belt and Road Initiative (CBRI), Zhejiang University, under the guidance of relevant departments of the State Council, has edited *Interpreting the Belt and Road Initiative* and *100 Questions & Answers about the Belt and Road Initiative*. *Interpreting the Belt and Road Initiative* offers comprehensive, systematic and easy-to-understand analysis and interpretation of the *Vision and Actions* while integrating history and culture, news and events and professional analysis. It also provides an in-depth analysis of the far-reaching influence of the Belt and Road Initiative on China's future development and the international community from a macro perspective, and from the ancient times to the present, including China and other places in the world. This allows readers to have more accurate knowledge and deeper understanding of the Belt and Road Initiative. Using a Q & A format, *100 Questions & Answers about the Belt and Road Initiative* addresses topics of public concern as well as today's hot political and economic issues. It provides background information related to the Belt and Road Initiative, such as information about domestic and international cooperation organizations and relevant industries and analysis of the opportunities that the Initiative will bring to those industries, the Initiative's effects on the daily life of the general public, and answers to the practical questions of common readers.

In writing the book, the editorial team, composed of experts from various areas, gave full play to the advantages of the CBRI of Zhejiang University in

interdisciplinary research and integration. They have presented this work, which is a product of internal and external coordination, myriad useful opinions and the results contributed by all sides through their solid research and continuously improved writing and editing.

The Belt and Road Initiative is a long-term systematic project and a great national strategy for the coming decades or an even longer period. So it is certain that this Initiative will have far-reaching significance. Taking this book as an introduction, the Belt and Road Initiative, with the vision jointly held by friends all over the world, will help to realize the dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and will thus make new contributions to the peace, stability and prosperity of the world!

Ou Xiaoli

May 2017

Contents

Introduction

- 1 What is the concept of the Belt and Road? / 1
- 2 When was the concept of the Silk Road first proposed, and by whom? / 2
- 3 What is the spirit of the Silk Road? / 2
- 4 What are the epochal meanings of the Silk Road Spirit? / 3
- 5 How shall we understand the spirit of “peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit”? / 3
- 6 Why is it important to accelerate the Belt and Road’s development? / 4
- 7 What principles should be followed in building the Belt and Road, since it is a systematic project? / 5

1 Strategic Conception

- 8 When was the Silk Road Economic Belt proposed? / 7
- 9 When was the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road proposed? / 7
- 10 When was the Belt and Road Initiative elevated to a major state strategy? / 8
- 11 Against what background was the Belt and Road Initiative proposed? / 8
- 12 When was the *Vision and Actions on Jointly Building Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road* published? / 9

- 13 How many stages are there in formulating the *Vision and Actions*? / 10
- 14 How many parts does the *Vision and Actions* cover? / 11

2 Silk Road: A Brief History

- 15 What is the Silk Road? / 13
- 16 When did China's silk come into being? / 15
- 17 When was China's silk brought to the West? / 18
- 18 Why did Zhang Qian go on diplomatic missions to the Western Regions? / 20
- 19 What are the connotations and scope of the Western Regions? / 23
- 20 What contributions did Pei Ju make to the Silk Road? / 25
- 21 What contributions did Faxian, Xuanzang and Yijing, among other Buddhist pilgrims, make to the Silk Road? / 28
- 22 What is the relationship between the Battle of Talas and the Silk Road? / 31
- 23 How did the Three Foreign Religions spread to China? / 33
- 24 What influence did the Mongolian western expeditions have on the Silk Road? / 35
- 25 Against what background did Richthofen propose the idea of the "Silk Road"? / 38

3 Competition Between Great Powers

- 26 What are the strategies or initiatives of other countries that are similar to the Belt and Road Initiative? / 41
- 27 What is the New Silk Road Initiative? / 42
- 28 What is the Eurasian Economic Union? / 44
- 29 What is the European Union's Partnership with Central Asia? / 47

- 30 What is the motivation for Japan to launch the “Silk Road Diplomacy”? / 48
- 31 What is the development progress of India’s “Look West” Strategy? / 49
- 32 Why did Turkey change its strategy of “Departure from Asia for Europe” to “Departure from Europe for Asia”? / 50
- 33 What are the differences and similarities between the UN’s Silk Road Initiative and the Belt and Road Initiative? / 52
- 34 How does the Belt and Road Initiative differ from the existing cooperation mechanisms of the regions along the Belt and Road? / 53

4 Background

- 35 What are the major challenges that China’s open economy faces in economic globalization? / 55
- 36 What impact will the new trade protectionism cause to China’s export trade? How should China cope with it? / 57
- 37 How can emerging economies strive for a stronger voice in formulating international rules? / 59
- 38 How can China’s economy in the “new normal” add impetus to the recovery of the world economy? / 60
- 39 What effects have TTIP and TPP caused to the global economy? / 62
- 40 What impact and effects do TPP rules have on China? / 64
- 41 What challenges does the change in global energy structure impose on China’s energy security? / 66

5 Framework

- 42 What is the basic connotation of the Belt and Road Initiative? / 68

- 43 What is the basic concept of the Belt and Road Initiative? / 68
- 44 How shall we understand the Belt and Road Initiative's three levels of community? / 68
- 45 How are the "five goals" elaborated in the *Vision and Actions*? / 71
- 46 What are the principles for jointly building the Belt and Road? / 73
- 47 What is the overall layout of the Belt and Road Initiative? / 74
- 48 What are the basic routes of the Silk Road Economic Belt? / 74
- 49 What are the basic routes of the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road? / 75
- 50 How shall we understand the relationship between the Silk Road Economic Belt and international transport routes, core cities, and economic industrial parks? / 75
- 51 What are the six economic corridors along the Belt and Road? / 75
- 52 How shall we understand the special strategic position of the China-Pakistan and Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar economic corridors? / 76
- 53 How shall we understand the relationship between the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road and the construction of key port cities? / 77

6 Cooperation Areas

- 54 What are the connections between the "five goals" of cooperation areas? / 78
- 55 What is the focus for carrying out policy coordination? / 79
- 56 What are the priorities for "facilities connectivity"? / 81
- 57 How shall we understand the connotation of "unimpeded trade"? / 83
- 58 How shall we promote "unimpeded trade" through trade liberalization? / 85

- 59 How shall we promote “unimpeded trade” through investment facilitation?
/ 86
- 60 How shall we understand the connotation of “financial integration”?
/ 88
- 61 How shall we establish a sound investment and financing system? / 90
- 62 Why is it necessary to establish a currency stability system in Asia? / 91
- 63 How can we let the countries along the Belt and Road have a deeper
understanding of Chinese culture, and let the Chinese people have a deeper
understanding of the cultures of the countries along the Belt and Road?
/ 94
- 64 How can we realize cultural communication between Chinese people and
the people from countries along the Belt and Road? / 95
- 65 What can the government do to build people-to-people bonds? / 97

7 Mechanisms and Platforms

- 66 Should we focus more on the role of major powers in the process of
advancing the Belt and Road Initiative? / 99
- 67 What influence and new thinking does the Belt and Road Initiative bring to
the international order? / 101
- 68 How should China deal with the relations with the United States and
Russia in promoting the Belt and Road Initiative? / 103
- 69 In the process of advancing the Belt and Road Initiative, what can the
media of the countries along the Belt and Road do? What can non-
governmental organizations do? And how? / 106
- 70 In the process of advancing the Belt and Road Initiative, what can
universities and think tanks do? And how? / 108

- 71 The Belt and Road Initiative was proposed on the basis of historical memories of the ancient Silk Road. What can the cultural heritage circle and the tourist circle do in building the Belt and Road? And how? / 109
- 72 The Belt and Road covers many countries in Asia, Europe and Africa. How can those countries form cooperation? / 111
- 73 What are the existing multilateral cooperation mechanisms? What are their functions? / 113
- 74 In the process of developing the Belt and Road, what principles and concepts should the mechanisms for cooperation between China and neighboring countries and regions be based on? What are the sensitive core issues? How can we bring about innovation in them? / 115
- 75 Why should we build platforms for advancing the Belt and Road Initiative? What are the platforms at present? / 116

8 Advantages of Various Regions in China

- 76 How should the central and northwestern regions position themselves in the Belt and Road Initiative? / 119
- 77 How will inland regions participate in the development of the Belt and Road? / 120
- 78 How will the northeastern region participate in the development of the Belt and Road? / 121
- 79 How will the southwestern region participate in the development of the Belt and Road? / 122
- 80 How will the coastal regions participate in the development of the Belt and Road? / 123
- 81 What opportunities will Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan have in the development of the Belt and Road? / 124

- 82 How can we leverage the unique functions of overseas Chinese in the development of the Belt and Road? / 125

9 Cooperation Results

- 83 It is mentioned in the *Vision and Actions* that President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Keqiang and other state leaders have visited over 20 countries. Which countries did they visit? / 127
- 84 What is the profound significance of President Xi Jinping's speech delivered at the Dialogue on Strengthening Connectivity Partnership to jointly building the Belt and Road Initiative? / 128
- 85 What consensus was reached at the sixth ministerial conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum in regard to jointly building the Belt and Road? / 130
- 86 It is mentioned in the *Vision and Actions* that China has signed MOUs of cooperation on the joint development of the Belt and Road with some countries, and on regional cooperation and border cooperation with some neighboring countries. What is the nature of these MOUs? / 131
- 87 It is mentioned in the *Vision and Actions* that we should strengthen communication and consultation with the countries along the Belt and Road in eight key fields. What are these eight key fields? / 133
- 88 What are the concerns for China in proposing the establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank? / 134
- 89 What challenges is the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank faced with? / 135
- 90 What is the relationship between the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and other international economic organizations? / 137
- 91 Why was the first project supported by the Silk Road Fund initiated in Pakistan? / 138

- 92 How can we make good use of the 40-billion-US-dollar Silk Road Fund?
/ 140
- 93 What effect does Renminbi internationalization bring to the implementation of
the Belt and Road Initiative? / 141

10 Vision and Outlook

- 94 Why is the Belt and Road Initiative a common wish of China and the
countries along the Belt and Road? / 143
- 95 Can other countries and international organizations participate in the Belt
and Road Initiative? / 144
- 96 Why is the Belt and Road Initiative a pluralistic and open process of
cooperation? / 144
- 97 How will China coordinate with the countries along the Belt and Road in
planning development and regional cooperation? / 145
- 98 How can the Initiative gain more recognition from the countries along the
Belt and Road? / 145
- 99 How can we obtain substantive results out of the Belt and Road Initiative? / 146
- 100 Why does the Belt and Road Initiative promote mutual respect and trust, win-
win cooperation and mutual learning between different civilizations? / 146

References / 148

Appendix / 151

*Vision and Actions on Jointly Building Silk Road Economic Belt and
21st-Century Maritime Silk Road*

Postscript / 178

Introduction

1 What is the concept of the Belt and Road?

In September and October 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping, while visiting Central and Southeast Asia, proposed the significant initiative of jointly building the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road (hereinafter referred to as the Belt and Road), drawing great attention from the international community. Advancing the development of the Belt and Road is a significant strategic decision made by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the State Council. It takes into account the profound changes in the global situation and the need to strike a balance between the development of the international community and China. In essence, the Belt and Road Initiative, by taking the historical symbol of the ancient Silk Road, proclaiming the epochal theme of peaceful development and win-win cooperation and energetically developing economic partnerships with the countries along the Belt and Road, aims to build a community of shared interests, destiny and responsibility, which features mutual political trust, economic integration and cultural inclusiveness. The Initiative has epoch-making significance in forming a new pattern of all-round opening-up, advancing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and promoting peace and development of the world.

2 When was the concept of the Silk Road first proposed, and by whom?

The term “Silk Road” was first proposed in the 1870s by the German geographer and geologist Ferdinand von Richthofen in his book *China: The Results of My Travels and the Studies Based Thereon*. It was popularized in 1936 by Sven Hedin, a Swedish explorer, in his book *The Silk Road*.

3 What is the spirit of the Silk Road?

The Silk Road is the road for friendship, communication and common prosperity. In history, the development of the Silk Road and its evolution throughout more than one thousand years have never ended, despite ups and downs. The Silk Road has made a tremendous historic contribution to China and the West. First, thanks to the Silk Road, trade and commercial activities between China and the West boomed, which greatly promoted the prosperity of China and the West during the exchanges, as well as the mobility of wealth, resources and personnel. Second, the Silk Road has promoted stable relations between the nations along it. There were no large-scale conflicts or wars between the nations, but rather integration and mutual development by virtue of frequent economic and trade exchanges, and mutual understanding generated by cultural communication. Last, the Silk Road is not only a road of trade, but a road of culture. It is an open and inclusive road where different cultures meet, which makes world cultures more diversified and builds a platform for cultural communication and exchanges throughout the world.