

# South-South Cooperation in the Context of New International Relations

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**Abstract:** To promote the harmonious development of economic globalization, China has put forward the initiative of new international relations, giving full attention to China's role as a big country and developing new international relations. In the context of new international relations, South-South cooperation is facing new opportunities and challenges. The rise and development of South-South cooperation in developing countries is a new era experience and a global resource development plan. Not only does South-South cooperation emphasize respect for national internal affairs and mutual benefit in global development, but it also maintains the development of globalization in the context of new international relations. This paper analyzes the trend and factors of South-South cooperation in the context of new international relations.

**Keywords:** New international relations; South-South cooperation

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## 1. Introduction

South-South cooperation is the cooperation among developing countries in the south, which is based on the win-win cooperation and common development. Progress was slow in the early stages of South-South cooperation, which was influenced by western developed countries. With the rising of the southern developing countries represented by China, South-South cooperation has progressed to a certain extent. The southern countries led by China continue to provide resources for global development, and the economy and trade between the southern countries have been assisted and developed based on the context of new international relations. We should adhere to win-win cooperation in the new era and actively implement the concept in political, economic, cultural, and other fields. South-South cooperation has gained new thriving factors for development.

## 2. Significance of New International Relations

In today's international situation, countries around the world need to establish a new international concern. The new type of international relations has far-reaching significance, which are expressed in the following aspects.

### 2.1. New international relations contain the content of Marxism

Marxism thinks that the world is generally connected. There are certain connections between all things in the world, and there are also connections between different parts of the same thing. They influence and restrict each other, which is also the representation of cooperation among countries in the world.

## **2.2. Mutual respect is the representation of new international relations**

There are many countries in the world, and each has its own distinctive characteristics of traditional beliefs. In international cooperation, we should not politically interfere in their internal affairs, thus we must respect the cultural differences of each country, and realize the equal coexistence of each country. In today's economic development, countries should respect each other, minimize friction, understand and care for each other, whereby they can develop together.

## **2.3. Fairness is the basic guarantee**

In international cooperation, all countries should co-exist peacefully on the basis of equality, treat each other's political culture equally, reach cooperation and consensus between each other, establish a community of common interest for mankind, and protect the rights of all countries on the basis of fairness and justice, this is to ensure the sustainable development of economic globalization. Before, in traditional international relations, some developed countries were always in an advantageous position in all aspects, whereas many developing countries were constantly in a disadvantageous position in the international arena for various reasons, which severely limiting their development. Therefore, in international exchanges and cooperation, it is necessary to ensure fairness and justice among countries, putting an end to the unfair phenomenon of relatively backward countries, creating a harmonious cooperation environment for the development of countries, and promoting the rapid progress of developing countries.

## **2.4 Win-win Cooperation is the foundation**

In international cooperation, win-win cooperation among countries can provide new development opportunities for developing countries and achieve common development through cooperation with other countries. The significance of international relations is cooperation and competition among countries. In the past, due to the different growth between developed countries and developing countries, priority was given to developed countries in the allocation of resources, resulting in uneven distribution. This situation will inevitably lead to an increasing gap in development among countries. In the new international relations, countries with a higher level of development can help countries with a lower level development accordingly, promote the development of relatively backward countries, and make full use of various resources of different countries to achieve development together.

## **3. Significance of South-South Cooperation in the Context of New International Relations**

In the context of new international relations, South-South cooperation is of great significance, which is mainly reflected in the following three aspects. First, it can promote the economic development of developing countries. Second, countries can achieve free trade through economic and trade cooperation, while maintaining political and diplomatic unity. Third, the unity and cooperation of the developing countries in the South can enhance their economic strength and allow them have more discourse power in international exchanges. It is of great significance to establish a new international economic order.

## **4. Impetus and Opportunity of South-South Cooperation in the Context of New International Relations**

Economic cooperation has become a very important power source in the new era of South-South cooperation. Currently, the content of South-South cooperation is constantly being enriched in many aspects and angles, increasing the depth of cooperation.

#### **4.1. The main factor behind South-South cooperation is emerging countries' growing development needs**

Emerging countries are an important part of the southern countries. Their economic development is based on money, technology, and other factors, and they are a major force in South-South cooperation. Countries can complement each other in South-South cooperation if their economies start from similar points. Emerging countries can develop and grow in cooperation, therefore South-South cooperation will certainly develop with it. Some emerging countries are gaining a larger share of the international community as a result of South-South cooperation, and their voice is gradually being recognized. Even in today's international economic order, developed countries are the rule-makers, but they can no longer represent the economic strength and development of countries. This is hegemonic behavior, which has caused dissatisfaction and exclusion of emerging countries. The economy of various countries in the world cooperates and depend on each other. Only by creating a harmonious international environment can we meet the current needs of development. In the context of increasing globalization, a many developing countries in the South occupy a very important position in the global economic market. All countries need to find their own way of development in the international market. Each country has different needs and has formed complementary advantages in the market.

#### **4.2. This form of cooperation can obtain the development aspects and the internal factor of South-South cooperation**

In the context of new international relations, great changes have taken place in the world pattern. Through South-South cooperation, countries in the South can obtain development aspects such as money and trade. China and other developing countries have learned advanced technology and management experience from developed countries in their cooperation, also provided important technical support for their internal development, as well as achieved great economic and technological development, and greatly improved their economic capacity. At the same time, in the process of external development and internal reform, emerging countries complement the requirements of other countries, forming the internal driving force of South-South cooperation. In recent years, increasing investment in some under developed countries was a manifestation of this momentum. In cooperation with other southern countries, emerging countries have achieved a relatively complete industrial chain through the acquisition of resources, raw materials and labor, also achieved good results in the process of industrial upgrading and transformation. Other southern countries, through South-South cooperation, have gained advanced science and technology, improved the driving force of enterprise development, and achieved industrial prosperity. South-South cooperation enables countries in the South to find their own direction and mode of development and achieve better development.

#### **4.3. Facing and solving problems together is the external thriving factor of South-South cooperation**

In the process of modernization, the trend of internationalization is becoming stronger. As a result, many existing problems have become the common problems of any country, which need to be faced and solved by all countries in the world. Facing and solving together is the external thriving factor of South-South cooperation. For example, the current problems of global warming and energy security can't be solved by any country alone. No matter emerging countries, developing countries or developed countries, they need to cooperate when facing international problems. The western developed countries are gradually unable to solve the global problems and urgently need the participation of the southern countries. However, the southern countries still need to be vigilant against the unfavorable conditions in the international pattern. Therefore, in this case, the southern countries must unite, strengthen international communication and cooperation, and together face global problems. In response to global problems, southern countries should

actively participate in the process of solving problems, make decisions on relevant issues by continuously improving their discourse power, and face global problems together. In a word, South-South cooperation is the inevitable demand of internationalization, and the solution of global problems is the external thriving factor of South-South cooperation.

#### **4.4. The Belt and Road Initiative proposed by China is an important innovation in South-South cooperation.**

China's Belt and Road Initiative was put forward by President Xi in 2013. Based on the perspective of South-South cooperation, there are many emerging countries involved in the Belt and Road Initiative. When different development trends of each country are combined, there will be many opportunities for cooperation, providing a new development platform for South-South cooperation and promoting the common development of developing countries and emerging countries. The Belt and Road Initiative is an important innovation in this cooperation. This way it can bring more than 60 countries to participate, which is an important embodiment of win-win cooperation in South-South cooperation. In the past international cooperation, most developing countries had to rely on the financial support of developed countries because of financial problems, and they were also restricted by developed countries. Driven by Belt and Road Initiative, the financing mechanism in South-South cooperation enables developing countries to develop continuously and stably through financial cooperation.

#### **5. Conclusion**

To sum up, in the new international context, South-South cooperation has achieved equality and mutual assistance in the economic development of southern developing countries, and enhanced the status of developing countries in the international economic pattern, which is of great significance currently. The growing development needs of emerging countries are the main thriving factor of South-South cooperation. This form of cooperation can produce development aspects, as well as the internal and exterior thriving factors of South-South cooperation, which are the ability to face and solve challenges together. Southern countries must continue to strengthen cooperation and promote the development of all countries in the future.

#### **Disclosure statement**

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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