Abstract

Twenty-Years of China-Korea Amity: Retrospects and Prospects

The establishment of diplomatic relation between Korea and China crossed ideological differences. Since the amity, both countries have made a huge progress in every aspect. China and Korea currently are reaching the second and fifteenth largest economy in the world respectively. While China is Korea’s largest trading partner, Korea is now China’s third-largest. Both nations are facing a new era which they had never experienced for more than a century as they now aim for joining the ranks of advanced countries.

Relentless efforts of the relationship has now positioned itself at first from ‘the friendly cooperative relations’ in the beginning all the way to ‘the strategic cooperative partnership’ in 2008. This kind of progress in the relationship has influenced the peace and stability of Korean peninsula as well as those of the North-East Asia. However, new conflicts have emerged during the process. The Cheonan vessel incident and Yeonpyeong island incident clearly showed the structural feature of the conflicts. Two nations now need to take the leading role and strengthen the political and the economic foundation of the strategic cooperative partnership to make it more practical and mature.

Key Words: China-Korea, Treaty of Amity, Economic Cooperation, Korean Peninsula, Geopolitics, Geoeconomics

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