

<b>Country/entity</b>	China Russia
<b>Region</b>	Asia and Pacific Europe and Eurasia
<b>Agreement name</b>	Joint Declaration by the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation, adopted at Beijing on 25 April 1996
<b>Date</b>	25 Apr 1996
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/conflict level</b>	Interstate/interstate conflict

### Sino-Soviet Border Conflict (1969 - 1991)

Lasting 7 months, this undeclared border war erupted at the height of the Sino-Soviet split in March 1969 in the area of Zhenbao on the Wusuli River. Ten years earlier, the two allies had stood as champions of communism. Indeed, Soviet Russia played a key role in supporting Communist rebels against the nationalist Koumintang. However, relations soured over differences in ideology and leadership and although a border treaty was drawn up in 1965, Nikita Krushchev refused to sign after allegations by Mao Zedong were leaked that Tsarist Russia had stripped China of its historical territory. Accounts of the conflict vary between Chinese and Russian historians. Nonetheless, a People's Liberation Army raid on a Soviet border outpost on March 2, 1969 left over a hundred dead. Although, the conflict brought both countries to the brink of a greater war, with troops amassing on both sides, this outcome was avoided. The conflict was formally ended in September 1991 with the first border demarcation agreement. Other agreements were signed with formerly-Soviet States included Kazakhstan.

Close  
Sino-Soviet Border Conflict (1969 - 1991)

<b>Stage</b>	Implementation/renegotiation
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Territory
<b>Peace process</b>	China-Russia border dispute peace process
<b>Parties</b>	(Signed) JIANG Zemin, President, People's Republic of China (Signed) Boris YELTSIN, President, Russian Federation
<b>Third parties</b>	-
<b>Description</b>	-

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**Agreement document** [CN\\_RU\\_960425\\_Joint Declaration by the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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## Groups

**Children/youth** No specific mention.

**Disabled persons** No specific mention.

**Elderly/age** No specific mention.

**Migrant workers** No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/national group** Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical  
Page 5, III. SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN THE REGION OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC  
... The two sides are in favour of the continued promotion of friendly exchanges among the people of various countries so as to enhance mutual understanding and confidence, and are against stirring up national, ethnic and religious conflicts.

**Religious groups** Groups→Religious groups→Rhetorical  
Page 5, III. SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN THE REGION OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC  
... The two sides are in favour of the continued promotion of friendly exchanges among the people of various countries so as to enhance mutual understanding and confidence, and are against stirring up national, ethnic and religious conflicts.

**Indigenous people** No specific mention.

**Other groups** No specific mention.

**Refugees/displaced persons** No specific mention.

**Social class** No specific mention.

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## Gender

**Women, girls and gender** No specific mention.

**Men and boys** No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

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## State definition

**Nature of state (general)** Page 1, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS  
... The People's Republic of China supports the measures and actions adopted by the Russian Federation in safeguarding its national unity and considers that the question of Chechnya is a domestic affair of the Russian Federation.

Page 1, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS  
... The Russian Federation reiterates that the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal Government representing the whole of China and that Taiwan is an inalienable part of the Chinese territory. The Russian Federation will not establish official relations nor enter into official contacts with Taiwan. The Russian Federation always recognizes Tibet as an inseparable part of China.

Page 3, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT  
... The two sides call upon all peace-loving countries and peoples throughout the world to cooperate closely and work together to establish a just and equitable international political and economic order and promote regional and global peace, stability, development and prosperity on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence, as well as of the accepted norms governing international relations.

Page 3, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT  
... The two sides agree to strengthen their cooperation in areas where they share common or similar positions, and to find ways for mutual understanding in areas where they hold different positions. The two sides reiterate that mutual respect and equality are important principles for maintaining and developing normal and healthy relations between States. All countries, big or small, whether they are developed, developing or with an economy in transition, are equal members of the international community. People of every country have the right to choose independently, in the light of their respective national conditions and free from outside interference, their social system and course and mode of development.

**State configuration** No specific mention.

**Self determination** No specific mention.

**Referendum** No specific mention.

**State symbols** No specific mention.

**Independence/  
secession** No specific mention.

**Accession/  
unification** No specific mention.

**Border delimitation** Page 1, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

... The two sides agree to continue their negotiations to resolve in a fair and equitable manner the remaining boundary issues on which the two sides are yet to reach agreement. The two sides are determined to complete, as soon as possible, the boundary survey and the erection of markers as stipulated in the two above-mentioned agreements and to hold parallel negotiations on the joint economic exploitation of the individual border areas incorporated into the other side after the boundary survey.

**Cross-border provision** Page 1, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

... The two sides believe the exchanges and cooperation between the border areas and regions of the two countries constitute an important part of the relations of good-neighbourliness, friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation between China and the Russian Federation. The two sides stand ready to make continued joint efforts to provide national support to and facilitate a healthy and orderly development of these exchanges and cooperation.

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## **Governance**

**Political institutions (new or reformed)** No specific mention.

**Elections** No specific mention.

**Electoral commission** No specific mention.

**Political parties reform** No specific mention.

**Civil society** No specific mention.

**Traditional/  
religious leaders** No specific mention.

**Public administration** No specific mention.

**Constitution** No specific mention.

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**Power sharing**

**Political power sharing** No specific mention.

**Territorial power sharing** No specific mention.

**Economic power sharing** No specific mention.

**Military power sharing** No specific mention.

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**Human rights and equality**

**Human rights/RoL general** No specific mention.

**Bill of rights/similar** No specific mention.

**Treaty  
incorporation**

Page 2, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

... The two sides express their readiness to further develop friendly exchanges between their military forces at various levels and further strengthen their cooperation on military technology on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, bearing in mind their respective international obligations. They declare that the development of military relations between China and the Russian Federation and their cooperation in the field of military technology are not directed against any third country or country bloc. They reiterate their willingness to maintain proper transparency of their cooperation in military technology and to provide relevant information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms.

Page 4, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

... The two sides believe it necessary to further enhance the efficiency of United Nations peace-keeping operations and are ready to cooperate towards this end. The two sides are of the view that the peace-keeping operations should, based on the Charter of the United Nations, strictly abide by the important principles of: agreement among all parties concerned, impartiality, neutrality, non-interference in each other's internal affairs and non-use of force except self-defence. In carrying out peace-keeping operations, there should be no "double standards" and these operations should under no circumstances lead to expansion or escalation of conflicts. The imposition of sanctions must be handled with prudence and the negative consequences arising from sanctions in international practice must be given due attention.

Page 4, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

...The two sides consider that in preserving the main responsibility of the Security Council of safeguarding world peace and security, and in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter, efforts should be made to promote cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations in preventing and mediating peacefully disputes and conflicts, and to promote more constructive and healthy coordination between the non-governmental organizations engaged in economic and social development, humanitarian assistance and other areas, and the United Nations and its specialized agencies in the above areas.

**Civil and political rights** No specific mention.

**Socio-economic rights** No specific mention.

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**Rights related issues**

**Citizenship** No specific mention.

**Democracy** No specific mention.

**Detention procedures** No specific mention.

<b>Media and communication</b>	Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media logistics Page 1, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS ... The two sides agree to maintain regular dialogue at various levels and through various channels, believing that high- and top-level contacts and consultations between the leaders of the two countries are of particular importance. It has been decided that a telephone hot-line between the Chinese Government in Beijing and the Russian Government in Moscow shall be set up for this purpose.
<b>Mobility/access</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Protection measures</b>	Rights related issues→Protection measures→Other Page 4, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT  The two sides resolve to enhance bilateral and multilateral cooperation in environmental protection, which, they believe, has become a matter of global significance.
<b>Other</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Rights institutions**

<b>NHRI</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Regional or international human rights institutions</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Justice sector reform**

<b>Criminal justice and emergency law</b>	No specific mention.
<b>State of emergency provisions</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Judiciary and courts</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Prisons and detention</b>	No specific mention.
<b>Traditional Laws</b>	No specific mention.

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## **Socio-economic reconstruction**

**Development or socio-economic reconstruction** Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development  
Page 1, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

... The two sides are ready to exchange experience and information regularly on the social and economic development of their respective countries.

Page 2, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

... The two sides will pay greater attention to their cooperation on the major projects in manufacturing and scientific and technological development, regarding them as important vehicles for upgrading their bilateral cooperation. They hold that such fields as energy, machine building, aviation, space, agriculture, communications and high technology should be made priorities in bilateral cooperation on major projects. The two sides will engage in further cooperation with each other in developing new techniques which will ensure breakthroughs in scientific and technological progress in various fields in line with their respective potentials for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries and the international community at large.

**National economic plan** No specific mention.

**Natural resources** No specific mention.

**International funds** No specific mention.



**Business**

Page 2, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

... The two sides are satisfied with the gradual increase of bilateral trade after overcoming a drop in the volume of the two-way trade in 1994, and will take strong measures to further expand and develop their economic cooperation and trade by taking advantage of their unique geographical proximity and economic complementarity.

Page 2, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

... With the deepening of reforms in the two countries' economic structures and foreign trade systems, both sides will continue to develop, on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and conformity with international trade practices, their multiform trade, economic and technological cooperation with cash transactions as the mainstay. The two Governments will provide favourable conditions and necessary support for the cooperation between the main bodies of the bilateral economic cooperation and trade, primarily their large and medium-sized enterprises and corporations which possess a good business reputation and strong economic capacity.

Page 2, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

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**Taxation**

No specific mention.

**Banks**

No specific mention.

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**Land, property and environment**

**Land reform/rights** No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/  
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

**Cultural heritage** No specific mention.

**Environment**

Page 4, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

... The two sides agree to enhance coordination and cooperation in ensuring safe navigation passage and fighting piracy, smuggling and illegal drug trafficking and to collaborate with each other in the fields of oceanography, meteorology, seismology, disaster reduction and marine rescue operations.

Page 4, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

... The two sides resolve to enhance bilateral and multilateral cooperation in environmental protection, which, they believe, has become a matter of global significance.

**Water or riparian rights or access**

No specific mention.

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## Security sector

### Security Guarantees

Page 2, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

... The two sides reiterate their observance of the Joint Statement signed by the Presidents of the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation on 3 September 1994 pertaining to the non-targeting of their strategic nuclear weapons at and non-first-use of nuclear weapons against each other.

Page 3, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

The two sides are of the view that today's world is in the process of undergoing profound and complicated changes. The trend towards a multipolar world is developing, and the desire for peace, stability, cooperation and development has constituted the mainstream of present international life. However, the world is far from being tranquil. Hegemonism, power politics and the repeated imposition of pressure on other countries have continued to occur. Bloc politics has assumed new guises. World peace and development still face serious challenges.

Page 3, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

... The two sides express their readiness to conduct an active dialogue on questions pertaining to strategic stability and to promote and expedite, through their concrete actions, the processes of arms reduction and disarmament - nuclear disarmament first and foremost. The two sides welcome the indefinite extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, commit themselves to active cooperation for strengthening the non-proliferation regime and appeal to non-signatories to the Treaty to accede to it. Both sides will make efforts and cooperate with other countries for an early conclusion of a comprehensive test-ban treaty, value the speedy coming into effect of the Chemical Weapons Convention and call for accelerated progress in further improving the effectiveness of the Biological Weapons Convention. The two sides are ready to step up bilateral and multilateral cooperation on effective and responsible oversight of transfers of conventional weapons, particularly to regions of conflict.

Page 5, III. SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN THE REGION OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

... The two sides are in favour of the nations of Asia and the Pacific conducting bilateral and regional dialogues on security matters in various forms, at various levels and through various channels to strengthen security and cooperation in the region in the light of the diversity of the region and pursuant to the principles of reaching consensus through consultations and gradualism. China and the Russian Federation are committed to developing dialogue and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region on a bilateral and a multilateral basis. The two sides agree that the Agreement on Confidence Building in the Military Field in the Border Areas between China and the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the Agreement between the Chinese and the Russian Governments on the Prevention of Dangerous Military Activities as well as the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) regional forum are all of great significance.

### Ceasefire

No specific mention.

### Police

No specific mention.

**Armed forces**

Page 2, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

... The two sides consider that the signing of the Agreement on Confidence Building in the Military Field along Border Areas is of great significance and are resolved to take concrete and effective measures for its implementation so as to turn their common border into one of peace, tranquillity, friendship and good-neighbourliness. They agree to continue efforts for the speedy conclusion of an agreement on the mutual reduction of military forces in the border areas. The troops remaining after the reduction will only be of a defensive nature.

Page 2, I. BILATERAL RELATIONS

... The two sides express their readiness to further develop friendly exchanges between their military forces at various levels and further strengthen their cooperation on military technology on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, bearing in mind their respective international obligations. They declare that the development of military relations between China and the Russian Federation and their cooperation in the field of military technology are not directed against any third country or country bloc. They reiterate their willingness to maintain proper transparency of their cooperation in military technology and to provide relevant information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms.

**DDR**

No specific mention.

**Intelligence services**

No specific mention.

**Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces**

No specific mention.

**Withdrawal of foreign forces**

No specific mention.

**Corruption**

No specific mention.

**Crime/organised crime**

Page 4, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

... The two sides declare that they will strike resolutely against acts of terror or organized transnational crimes of any sort and shall exchange experience and strengthen cooperation regularly on a bilateral and a multilateral basis.

Page 4, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

... The two sides agree to enhance coordination and cooperation in ensuring safe navigation passage and fighting piracy, smuggling and illegal drug trafficking and to collaborate with each other in the fields of oceanography, meteorology, seismology, disaster reduction and marine rescue operations.

**Drugs** Page 4, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT  
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**Terrorism** Page 4, II. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT  
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**Transitional justice**

**Transitional justice general** No specific mention.

**Amnesty/pardon** No specific mention.

**Courts** No specific mention.

**Mechanism** No specific mention.

**Prisoner release** No specific mention.

**Vetting** No specific mention.

**Victims** No specific mention.

**Missing persons** No specific mention.

**Reparations** No specific mention.

**Reconciliation** No specific mention.

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## **Implementation**

**UN signatory** No specific mention.

**Other international signatory** No specific mention.

**Referendum for agreement** No specific mention.

**International mission/force/similar** No specific mention.

**Enforcement mechanism** No specific mention.

**Related cases** No specific mention.

**Source** Disarmament Library UN; [https://disarmament-library.un.org/UNODA/Library.nsf/e1d33a296245fd6585257631004efced/3a4524fe5d3f99de8525766b00725660/\\$FILE/A-51-127\\_china%20joint%20decl%20china%20&%20russia.pdf](https://disarmament-library.un.org/UNODA/Library.nsf/e1d33a296245fd6585257631004efced/3a4524fe5d3f99de8525766b00725660/$FILE/A-51-127_china%20joint%20decl%20china%20&%20russia.pdf)

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