China Hosts SCO Summit to Contribute to Regional Security and Trade

By Mohammad Gul Sandahbizada

The 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit has been attended by world leaders on Sunday in Chinese city of Qingdao. The two-day summit, June 9-10, is of great significance for the state members and the region as the SCO has played a key role in maintaining regional peace and counterterrorism since its establishment in 2001.

With the emergence of border disputes and security threat following the collapse of the former Soviet Union in 1990s, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, the founders of the “Shanghai Five” plus Russia reaching to six members. It has been expanded with inclusion of India and Pakistan as full members in the 17th SCO summit held in Astana last year. The SCO observers are comprised of Iran, Afghanistan, Mongolia and Belarus and the dialogue partners consist of Turkey, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Cambodia.

The SCO makes up 42 percent of the world’s population and covers a quart of its surface area. The SCO also works with many international organizations such as the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Proceding from the “Shanghai Spirit”, the SCO pursues its internal policy based on the principles of “mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, mutual consultation”, respect for cultural diversity and a desire for common development which is stated in the SCO Charter. Its external policy is conducted in accordance with the principles of “non-aggression, non-interference in internal affairs, renunciation of force” and “non-seeking “unilateral military superiority in any adjacent area”. Shanghai Spirit is believed to be the linchpin of the SCO based on which the role for mutual trust, friendship and good-neighbor relations will be extended and the states will strengthen their economic, political and diplomatic ties.

The SCO, in the name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Kind

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Why “America First” Means “Europe United”

By Guy Verhofstadt

Owing to the lingering effects of the 2008 financial crisis and the subsequent European crisis, the EU has failed to implement necessary reforms. But now it has a window of opportunity to act, because the truth about Europe’s dangerous new geopolitical reality is finally becoming apparent.

Although the US is now facing a number of pressing issues such as mass shootings, the threat of terrorism and climate change, the true crisis that Europe faces is that the US is now known as a power for good. And a Europe that is团结