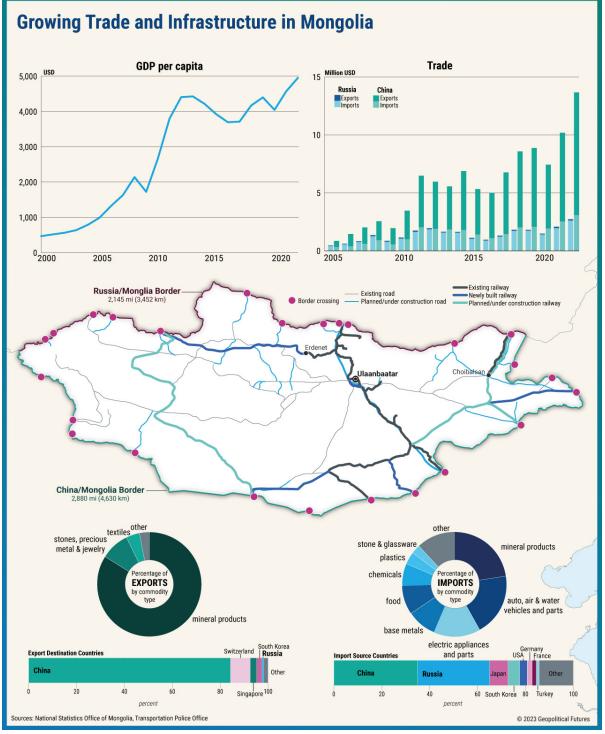


Russia and China Unite Over Mongolia

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(click to enlarge)



The periphery commands growing attention. Amid ongoing Western pressure on Russia and the complexities confronting the Chinese economy, both nations seek to cultivate alternative transit routes and foster trade ties. Mongolia, strategically wedged between them, is garnering mounting interest as a transit hub. The three nations have signaled a shared commitment to bolster trilateral cooperation, with the construction of the China-Russia-Mongolia economic corridor ranking high on their agenda.

In September, diplomatic interactions and gatherings surged. A noteworthy assembly convened, featuring luminaries such as Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev and Mongolia's National Security Council secretary. Ambitious blueprints emerged for the creation of five road and three railway corridors in Mongolia. This trajectory sets the stage for enhanced cooperation, yet it also harbors potential pitfalls, including competition for influence in Mongolia not only among global and regional powers but also between China and Russia.

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