

# THE COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN VIETNAM AND THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION (2012-2030): ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROSPECTS

## QUAN HỆ ĐỐI TÁC CHIẾN LƯỢC TOÀN DIỆN VIỆT NAM – LIÊN BANG NGA (2012 – 2030): THÀNH TỰU VÀ TRIỂN VỌNG

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(Received: March 01, 2026; Revised: April 01, 2026; Accepted: April 12, 2026)

DOI: 10.31130/ud-jst.2026.24(5C).312

**Abstract** - This study examines the evolution of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between Vietnam and the Russian Federation amidst a shifting global geopolitical landscape. Given the deep-rooted historical ties and the increasing complexity of 21st-century international relations, analyzing this partnership is vital for understanding regional stability. Utilizing qualitative methods and a historical-logical approach, the study evaluates key milestones in political, economic, and defense cooperation. The study findings highlight significant achievements in energy and security while identifying emerging challenges posed by global volatility. Ultimately, the paper provides a forward-looking assessment, offering substantial prospects for sustainable cooperation. This study serves as a strategic reference for policymakers and scholars interested in Asia-Pacific diplomatic dynamics.

**Key words** - Comprehensive strategic partnership; Vietnam; Russia; Achievements; Prospects

### 1. Introduction

The diplomatic relationship between Vietnam and the Russian Federation represents one of the most enduring and resilient partnerships in modern international history. This bond, forged in the crucible of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, has transcended the shifts of the Cold War and the complexities of the post-Soviet era to become a “Comprehensive Strategic Partnership”. In the current 21st-century landscape, characterized by rapid geopolitical shifts and the rise of the Indo-Pacific region, this relationship remains a cornerstone of Vietnam’s foreign policy and a vital component of Russia’s “Pivot to the East”. The historical depth of this alliance-rooted in the Soviet Union’s critical support for Vietnam’s independence and subsequent national reconstruction-provides a unique foundation of political trust that few other bilateral ties can claim.

In the contemporary research landscape, scholars have frequently examined Vietnam-Russia ties through the lens of traditional security and energy cooperation. However, as the world enters an era of “polycrisis”, marked by economic volatility, digital transformation, and shifting power balances, there is a pressing need for a renewed academic inquiry into this partnership. Current literature emphasizes the transition from a purely ideological brotherhood to a pragmatic, interest-based alliance.

**Tóm tắt** - Bài viết nghiên cứu sự phát triển của Quan hệ Đối tác Chiến lược Toàn diện Việt Nam - Liên bang Nga trong bối cảnh địa chính trị toàn cầu biến động. Trên nền tảng quan hệ lịch sử sâu sắc giữa hai nước và sự gia tăng phức tạp của quan hệ quốc tế trong thế kỷ XXI, việc phân tích mối quan hệ này có ý nghĩa đối với ổn định khu vực. Bằng phương pháp định tính kết hợp cách tiếp cận lịch sử – logic, bài viết đánh giá các mốc hợp tác quan trọng trên các lĩnh vực chính trị, kinh tế và quốc phòng. Kết quả cho thấy, bên cạnh những thành tựu nổi bật trong năng lượng và an ninh, quan hệ song phương cũng đối mặt với một số thách thức mới nổi; từ đó, nghiên cứu đưa ra nhận định về triển vọng hợp tác bền vững. Qua đó, bài viết góp phần cung cấp cơ sở tham khảo cho các nhà hoạch định chính sách và học giả quan tâm đến động thái ngoại giao tại khu vực châu Á – Thái Bình Dương.

**Từ khóa** - Đối tác chiến lược toàn diện; Việt Nam; Nga; Thành tựu; Triển vọng

Nevertheless, there remains a gap in comprehensive analyses that integrate recent economic data with the strategic implications of Vietnam’s “Bamboo Diplomacy” - a policy of flexibility and balance - amidst the increasing pressure of international sanctions and regional territorial disputes. This research, therefore, seeks to provide a holistic overview that bridges historical legacy with modern-day strategic imperatives.

The primary objective of this research is to provide a multi-dimensional evaluation of the Vietnam-Russia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (VRCSP). It aims to meticulously analyze the milestones achieved across three key pillars: political-diplomatic synergy, energy and economic integration, and defense-security cooperation. By synthesizing recent statistical data, the study intends to demonstrate how both nations have managed to sustain growth despite external shocks. Beyond a retrospective analysis, this paper also seeks to forecast the future trajectory of the relationship, identifying potential “growth poles” such as the digital economy and high-technology cooperation, while acknowledging the structural challenges posed by the current global financial and legal environment.

To ensure academic rigor and objectivity, this study utilizes a qualitative research methodology grounded in the “historical-logical” approach. This method allows for

the examination of the partnership's evolution in its specific historical contexts while identifying the underlying logic that drives current cooperation. Furthermore, the report employs "content analysis" of official diplomatic communiqués, joint statements, and trade data. By applying a "strategic-analytical framework", the research evaluates how bilateral cooperation serves the national interests of both Hanoi and Moscow. This comprehensive approach ensures that the findings are not only descriptive of past achievements but are also prescriptive for future policy considerations in an increasingly multipolar world.

## **2. Overview of Vietnam-the Russian Federation relations before 2012**

Relations between Vietnam and the Russian Federation have a long historical foundation rooted in the cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union during the Cold War. Overtime, the bilateral relationship has evolved from the ideological solidarity to a pragmatic partnership based on shared strategic interests in the post-Cold War international environment. This historical foundation later created favorable conditions for the two countries to upgrade their relationship to the VRCSP in 2012.

### **2.1. Historical foundation of Vietnam-Soviet Union relations**

Diplomatic relations between Vietnam and the Soviet Union were officially established on 30 January 1950, when the Soviet Union recognized the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. This event marked an important milestone in Vietnam's international relations and helped expand international support for Vietnam during its struggle for independence and national reunification [1]. During the Cold War, the Soviet Union became one of Vietnam's most important strategic partners, providing extensive support in military, economic, and technical fields, as well as training thousands of Vietnamese specialists. Soviet Union's assistance played a significant role in strengthening Vietnam's defense capacity and supporting post-war reconstruction after 1975. In addition, cooperation projects in areas such as energy, oil and gas, education, and science and technology laid a long-term foundation for bilateral cooperation [1].

### **2.2. Vietnam-Russia relations after the dissolution of the Soviet Union (1991-2001)**

Following the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, Vietnam-Russia relations entered a period of adjustment as Russia underwent major political and economic transformations. Bilateral cooperation temporarily declined, particularly in economic and defense sectors. However, the two countries maintained their traditional friendship and gradually rebuilt a new framework for cooperation suited to the post-Cold War context.

An important milestone in this period was the signing of the Treaty on the Basic Principles of Friendly Relations between Vietnam and the Russian Federation (1994), which established the legal basis for the development of bilateral relations. The treaty reaffirmed key principles

such as respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs, and mutually beneficial cooperation [2]. During the 1990s, the two countries also addressed several outstanding issues inherited from the Soviet era, including Vietnam's debt obligations and the withdrawal of Russian forces from Cam Ranh.

### **2.3. Establishment of the Strategic Partnership in 2001**

A major turning point in bilateral relations occurred in March 2001, when Vietnam and Russia signed the Vietnam-Russia Strategic Partnership Declaration (2001) during the official visit to Vietnam by Russian President-Vladimir Putin. This marked the first time Vietnam established a strategic partnership with another country, reflecting the high level of political trust between the two nations [3]. The declaration emphasized strengthening traditional friendship and expanding cooperation in politics, economics, defense, science and technology, and education. It also provided an important institutional framework for bilateral cooperation in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **2.4. Development of the cooperation during the 2001-2012 period**

Following the establishment of the strategic partnership, Vietnam-Russia relations experienced steady development. High-level visits and political consultations became more frequent, helping to consolidate strategic trust and guide the direction of bilateral cooperation. Economic cooperation also expanded, particularly in the oil and gas sector and other areas of trade and investment. Meanwhile, cooperation in education, science and technology, and cultural exchange continued to grow through academic exchanges and training programs for Vietnamese students and professionals. These developments strengthened the foundation of bilateral cooperation and prepared the ground for the two countries to elevate their relationship to a comprehensive strategic partnership in 2012, marking a new stage in Vietnam-Russia relations.

## **3. Implementation of Vietnam-the Russian Federation Cooperation (2012-2025)**

The year 2012 marked an important milestone in bilateral relations when Vietnam and the Russian Federation officially elevated their relationship to a VRCSP. This upgrade reflected the high level of political trust between the two countries and created a broader framework for cooperation in multiple fields. Since then, the bilateral relationship has continued to develop across political-diplomatic, economic, and defense sectors, becoming one of the key pillars in Vietnam's foreign policy with major power [4].

### **3.1. Political and diplomatic cooperation**

Political relations between Vietnam and Russia since 2012 have been characterized by a high level of strategic trust and frequent high-level exchanges. Leaders of the two countries have maintained regular visits, meetings, and consultations, thereby strengthening mutual understanding and providing strategic orientation for

bilateral cooperation. In recent years, high-level visits and joint statements have reaffirmed the commitment of both sides to deepen the comprehensive strategic partnership and to expand cooperation in engaging areas such as digital transformation, energy transition, and innovation [5].

In addition to bilateral exchanges, the two countries have actively coordinated and supported each other in multilateral forums, including the United Nations and regional platforms such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. Both sides emphasize respect for international law, the principles of the UN Charter and peaceful dispute settlement, which reflects their shared views on maintain stability and security in the international system. The political relationship is also supported by strong party-to-party and parliamentary exchanges, as well as cooperation between local authorities and people-to-people exchanges. These interactions contribute to strengthening mutual trust and sustaining the long-standing friendship between the two nations.

### 3.2. Economic cooperation

Economic cooperation remains a key pillar of Vietnam-Russia relations, particularly in energy, trade, and investment. One of the most important areas of collaboration is oil and gas cooperation, which has long served as the backbone of bilateral economic relations. Major Russian energy companies such as Gazprom, Zarubezhneft, and Rosneft have cooperated with Vietnam's state-owned enterprises in exploration and production projects on both countries' continental shelves [6].

Trade and investment relations between the two countries have also gradually expanded, especially after the implementation of the Vietnam-Eurasian Economic Union Free Trade Agreement (VN-EAEU FTA) in 2016, which created favorable conditions for market access and trade facilitation. According to official statistics, bilateral trade reached approximately US\$3.63 billion in 2023 and increased to around US\$4.58 billion in 2024, reflecting a significant recovery and growth despite global economic challenges [7]. Vietnam exports to Russia mainly include electronics, textiles and garments, agricultural products, and seafood, while Russia exports energy resources, fertilizers, wheat, and machinery to Vietnam.

Investment cooperation has also shown positive developments. As of 2024, Russia had nearly 200 investment projects in Vietnam with total registered capital of about US\$990 million, while Vietnam had more than 16 investment projects in Russia with total registered capital of approximately US\$1.6 billion [8]. Beyond traditional sectors, both sides are exploring new areas of economic cooperation such as renewable energy, nuclear energy, digital economy, and information technology. These emerging sectors are expected to create new momentum for bilateral economic relations in the coming years.

### 3.3. Defense and security cooperation

Defense and security cooperation remains one of the most important pillars of the VRCSPP. Historically, Russia has been a major supplier of military equipment and

defense technology to Vietnam, contributing significantly to the modernization of Vietnam's armed forces.

Since 2012, defense collaboration has continued to deepen through arms procurement, military training, technological transfer, and regularly exchanges between defense officials [9]. Russia has consistently remained Vietnam's largest supplier of military equipment. According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), between 1995 and 2021 Vietnam imported approximately US\$9.1 billion worth of weapons, of which US\$7.4 billion (about 81.6%) came from Russia, highlighting the dominant role of Russian defense technology in Vietnam's military modernization [10].

**Table 1.** Russian major weapon recipients in Southeast Asia 2002-2021 (volume, share)

| Country   | USD M  | %    |
|-----------|--------|------|
| Vietnam   | 6,452  | 60.5 |
| Myanmar   | 1,599  | 15   |
| Malaysia  | 1,273  | 11.9 |
| Indonesia | 1,153  | 10.8 |
| Laos      | 122    | 1.1  |
| Thailand  | 70     | 0.65 |
| Cambodia  | 5      | 0.05 |
| Total     | 10,674 | 100  |

Source: SIPRI [10]

In the period after the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership was established, defense procurement increased significantly. SIPRI data indicate that around 71.1% of all Russian military equipment delivered to Vietnam between 1995 and 2024 was purchased during the period 2011-2018, with a total value of approximately US\$5.39 billion. Vietnam's arms imports from Russia peaked in the mid-2010s. For instance, the value of Russian weapons delivered to Vietnam reached US\$1.056 billion in 2014, US\$735 million in 2015, and US\$702 million in 2016, according to SIPRI's Arms Transfers Database [10].

**Table 2.** Vietnam's arms import from Russia

| Year | USD M | Year | USD M |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 2012 | 760   | 2017 | 465   |
| 2013 | 313   | 2018 | 333   |
| 2014 | 1,056 | 2019 | 137   |
| 2015 | 735   | 2020 | 9     |
| 2016 | 702   | 2021 | 72    |

Source: SIPRI [10]

In addition to arms transfers, defense cooperation has also involved training, maintenance, and technology assistance. Russia has provided training for Vietnamese naval personnel operating submarines and advanced weapons systems, while also supporting the maintenance and modernization of existing Soviet-era equipment. Institutional cooperation has been strengthened through regular exchanges of high-level military delegations, defense policy dialogues, and cooperation agreements between the two countries' ministries of defense. These mechanisms have helped maintain close strategic coordination and contributed to regional security discussions [9].

#### **4. Assessment of achievements and limitations in Vietnam-the Russian Federation cooperation (2012-2025)**

Since the establishment of the VRCSP in 2012, bilateral cooperation has made notable progress in political-diplomatic relations, economic cooperation, and defense collaboration, strengthening traditional friendship and strategic trust. However, the implementation process has also revealed limitations affecting the overall effectiveness and sustainability of bilateral ties.

First, in the political-diplomatic sphere, both countries have maintained strong political trust and frequent exchanges at high-level and institutional levels. Senior leaders have conducted numerous visits and meetings through bilateral channels and multilateral forums, reinforcing mutual confidence and ensuring continuity in cooperation. The two sides also coordinate closely within international organizations, particularly the United Nations and regional frameworks, reflecting converging views on international law, multilateralism, and peaceful dispute settlement. Regular political dialogue mechanisms, including intergovernmental committees and strategic consultations, have further institutionalized bilateral relations.

Nevertheless, political cooperation faces constraints from the rapidly changing international environment and intensifying major-power competition. Vietnam pursues a diversified and multilateral foreign policy, expanding ties with various major partners, while Russia has been increasingly affected by geopolitical tensions and international sanctions since 2014, especially following the Russia-Ukraine conflict. These developments have inevitably influenced the scope and pace of bilateral cooperation.

Second, economic cooperation has progressed but has yet to match bilateral potential. Energy remains the key pillar, particularly oil and gas exploration and production. Major joint ventures such as Vietsovpetro and Rusvietpetro continue to sustain long-term energy cooperation and contribute significantly to Vietnam's oil and gas industry [11]. The VN-EAEU FTA has also provided an important legal framework for expanding trade and investment. Bilateral trade has recently recovered, reaching around US\$4-4.5 billion annually. Although modest compared with Vietnam's trade with major partners, this demonstrates the resilience of economic ties amid global uncertainties. Vietnam mainly exports textiles, seafood, coffee, agricultural products, and electronics to Russia, while importing energy resources, coal, fertilizers, and industrial materials [12].

However, economic cooperation still faces several structural limitations. Despite recent growth, bilateral trade remains relatively modest compared with Vietnam's trade with other major partners such as China, the United States, or the European Union. In 2024, trade with Russia accounted for only around 0.6% of Vietnam's total foreign trade turnover, reflecting the limited scale of economic interdependence between the two countries [13]. Furthermore, logistical barriers, payment difficulties caused by international sanctions, and limited connectivity between business communities have continued to hinder

deeper economic cooperation. Investment cooperation is also relatively modest. As of early 2025, Russia has about 202 investment projects in Vietnam with a total registered capital of approximately US\$996 million, ranking only 26<sup>th</sup> among foreign investors in Vietnam [7].

Third, defense and military cooperation remain a central pillar of bilateral relations. Russia has long been a key defense partner, supplying a significant share of Vietnam's military equipment while supporting technical assistance, training, and military education. Over the past two decades, Russia has provided various modern weapons systems, significantly enhanced Vietnam's maritime defense and air combat capabilities and contributing to the modernization of the Vietnam People's Army. Beyond arms transfers, cooperation also includes officer training, technical maintenance, and institutional exchanges, reflecting strong strategic trust and the long-standing legacy of cooperation since the Soviet era [14].

However, defense ties have recently encountered challenges. International sanctions on Russia and global supply chain disruptions following the Russia-Ukraine conflict have complicated defense transactions and technology transfers. Consequently, Vietnam has gradually diversified defense procurement sources to reduce dependence on a single supplier while maintaining traditional defense ties with Russia, a trend that may affect the future scale of military cooperation.

Overall, from 2012 to 2025, the bilateral partnership has achieved significant results in strengthening political trust, sustaining defense cooperation, and promoting economic exchange. Nonetheless, limitations persist, particularly the modest scale of economic cooperation and emerging geopolitical challenges. Addressing these issues will be essential to enhance the effectiveness and long-term sustainability of bilateral relations.

#### **5. Prospects and Policy Implications for Vietnam-the Russian Federation cooperation toward 2030**

##### **5.1. Prospects toward 2030**

###### **• Opportunities of bilateral cooperation**

Looking ahead to 2030, prospects for cooperation between Vietnam and the Russian Federation remain promising due to key structural and strategic factors. Despite geopolitical tensions and global economic uncertainties, bilateral relations continue to benefit from a strong historical foundation, complementary economic interests, and evolving regional dynamics that create opportunities in both traditional and emerging sectors.

First, long-standing friendship and strong political trust provide a solid basis for sustainable relations. Since diplomatic ties were established in 1950, both countries have maintained mutual political and strategic support, ensuring stable cooperation despite international fluctuations. The upgrading of ties under the VRCSP has further institutionalized dialogue mechanisms and strengthened coordination. Regular high-level exchanges, ministerial consultations, and multilateral cooperation help maintain continuity in bilateral engagement. Moreover,

Vietnam and Russia share converging strategic interests in the evolving international system, including commitments to multilateralism, respect for international law, regional stability, and a more multipolar world order. This alignment facilitates diplomatic coordination, particularly within the United Nations and regional frameworks. For Vietnam, strong ties with Russia support its diversified and independent foreign policy, while for Russia, cooperation with Vietnam strengthens its presence in Southeast Asia and broader Asia-Pacific engagement.

Second, economic cooperation retains significant expansion potential, especially in sectors aligned with both countries' development priorities. While oil and gas remain central, emerging areas such as the digital economy, information technology, high technology, and innovation-driven industries are becoming increasingly important. Russia's strengths in cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, nuclear energy, and advanced engineering complement Vietnam's rapid growth and demand for digital transformation, creating favorable conditions for technology transfer and research collaboration. Cooperation in energy transition and sustainable development is also promising, particularly in nuclear energy technology, renewable energy research, and energy infrastructure. Expanding collaboration in education, science, and innovation would further enhance human resources and technological capacity in both countries.

Third, Russia's "Pivot to Asia" strategy creates additional opportunities to strengthen ties with Vietnam. As Russia expands partnerships with Asian economies, Southeast Asia has gained strategic importance, with Vietnam standing out due to its dynamic economy, political stability, and strategic location. Vietnam's deeper regional integration, participation in major trade agreements, and role as an emerging manufacturing hub increase its attractiveness as a partner. Stronger economic ties allow Russia to enhance regional connectivity and diversify partnerships, while Vietnam benefits from greater access to Russian energy resources, technology, and scientific expertise. Cooperation may also expand through regional and multilateral mechanisms linking Southeast Asia with Eurasia. The VN-EAEU FTA provides an institutional framework for promoting trade liberalization, investment flows, and economic connectivity, potentially facilitating deeper integration and greater business participation.

Overall, prospects for bilateral cooperation toward 2030 remain favorable thanks to historical ties, strategic convergence, and emerging economic opportunities. Although structural challenges remain, expanding collaboration in technology, digital transformation, and energy can create new momentum for bilateral relations in the coming decade.

#### • *Challenges facing bilateral cooperation*

Despite favorable prospects, Vietnam-Russia relations face structural and external challenges that may affect the depth and effectiveness of the VRCSP in the coming years. These constraints stem from geopolitical shifts and internal economic limitations, requiring careful assessment to

evaluate cooperation sustainability toward 2030.

First, a major challenge comes from geopolitical tensions and international sanctions on Russia since the Ukraine crisis in 2014 and the escalation of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Western sanctions restrict Russia's access to global financial systems, technology, and markets, indirectly complicating economic relations with Vietnam. Restrictions on payment systems, banking transactions, and insurance mechanisms hinder trade settlements and investment, while businesses face obstacles in cross-border payments, logistics, and project financing, reducing cooperation efficiency. These tensions also affect defense and technological cooperation, particularly supply chains and access to advanced components. Although Russia remains a key defense partner, international restrictions may disrupt equipment delivery, maintenance, and new projects. Vietnam has therefore diversified defense procurement sources to reduce dependence while maintaining traditional ties, a trend that may gradually reshape bilateral defense cooperation.

Second, bilateral economic relations remain modest compared with potential. Although the VN-EAEU FTA provides a legal framework for expanding exchanges, trade and investment flows are still limited. Bilateral trade averages US\$4-4.5 billion annually, accounting for a small share of Vietnam's total trade [12]. Structural constraints include limited export complementarity, geographical distance, and weak transport connectivity. Vietnam mainly exports agricultural products, seafood, textiles, and consumer goods, while Russia exports energy resources and industrial materials. These sectors maintain trade but generate limited interdependence. Logistical barriers, inefficient financial settlement mechanisms, and limited business awareness further restrict deeper engagement.

Third, intensifying major-power competition in the Indo-Pacific adds complexity to bilateral ties. Vietnam pursues a diversified and multilateral foreign policy to maintain balanced partnerships and safeguard strategic autonomy. It therefore balances traditional ties with Russia alongside expanding relations with major partners such as the United States, the European Union, Japan, India, and South Korea. While diversification strengthens Vietnam's global position, it reduces Russia's relative importance in trade, investment, and technology cooperation.

Finally, broader structural shifts in the global economy and regional security environment also influence bilateral cooperation. Rapid technological development, supply chain restructuring, and the rise of digital economies require adaptive cooperation frameworks, while political uncertainties may affect long-term investment and strategic planning.

In summary, despite strong historical ties and converging strategic interests, Vietnam-Russia cooperation faces major challenges, including sanctions on Russia, modest economic scale, structural trade constraints, and complex great-power competition in the Indo-Pacific. Addressing these issues is essential to ensure the partnership remains resilient and adaptable to evolving regional and global conditions.

## 5.2. Policy implications

To further strengthen the VRCSP, several policy orientations should be pursued to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of bilateral cooperation.

First, both countries should maintain regular high-level dialogues and strategic consultations to consolidate political trust, ensure consistent policy coordination, provide strategic direction, and address emerging issues in a timely manner.

Second, economic cooperation should be diversified beyond traditional sectors by promoting collaboration in emerging fields such as the digital economy, renewable energy, high technology, innovation-driven industries, and digital transformation. Improving transport connectivity, logistics systems, and financial settlement mechanisms, as well as strengthening cooperation under the VN-EAEU FTA, would facilitate trade and increase business participation.

Third, greater emphasis should be placed on education, science and technology, and academic exchanges through expanded scholarships, joint research, university partnerships, and technology transfer, thereby supporting high-quality human resources, innovation capacity, long-term institutional linkages, and mutual understanding among younger generations.

Finally, both sides should enhance coordination in multilateral institutions and regional forums to address shared global challenges. Stronger cooperation in climate change response, cybersecurity governance, sustainable development, and other non-traditional security issues would contribute to regional stability and elevate the international roles of both countries.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, Vietnam-Russia relations have evolved from a traditional friendship into the VRCSP, founded on long-standing political trust and shared strategic interests. This historical foundation has ensured stable and resilient bilateral ties amid a changing international environment. Since 2012, both countries have made notable progress in political-diplomatic exchanges, economic cooperation, and defense collaboration, reinforcing strategic trust and sustaining bilateral engagement. Nevertheless, the partnership faces limitations, including the modest scale of economic relations, structural trade and investment barriers, and the impact of geopolitical tensions on international cooperation. Despite these challenges, prospects for bilateral cooperation toward 2030 remain positive. Expanding collaboration in emerging areas such as technology, digital transformation, energy transition, and education can generate new momentum for relations. By strengthening existing mechanisms and adopting flexible, pragmatic policies, both countries can further deepen cooperation and enhance partnership effectiveness in the evolving regional and global context.

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