

# **China's Strategy for RTA**

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## **I. Why China has turned to RTA?**

1. China finished its hard process for joining global system, WTO, that will not only bring about fundamental changes to China, but also make it become more confident to deal with liberalization.
2. China has found the world market is globalized, but also divided by RTAs, thus RTA is both a reflection of self-confidence and counter-strategy.
3. Due to its economic and also political interests, China firstly turned its interest to RTA in East Asia.
4. A new pattern economic relations based on China's emergence

## **II. China-ASEAN FTA initiative**

1. The background of the idea: ASEAN concern: China's WTO accession and its challenge meeting with China's new interest on regional integration
2. Join official experts view: strengthening comprehensive relations; a FTA between China and ASEAN will be beneficial to both sides.

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3. A strategic decision by leaders for long term relations
4. Progress has been made on general principles and approaches
5. Difficulties are there
6. Beyond the bilateral arrangement: encouraging the other initiatives

### **III. China's future strategy on RTA**

1. To promote East Asian RTA as a goal, pushing institutional arrangement between China, ROK and Japan
2. To consider the other possibilities: some countries are approaching China for RTA
3. China will continue to keep its commitment to WTO since global integration is and continue to be China's interest