

Polar Silk Road

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- As parts of the ice-covered Arctic Ocean melt due to climate change, China has shown interest in building the 'Polar Silk Route', raising the possibility of the emergence of a new sea route. China plans to integrate it with its 'Belt and Road Initiative' (BRI).
- This 'Transpolar Sea Route-TSR' will connect the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, passing close to the North Pole in the center of the Arctic Ocean. At the same time, it will create the Blue Economic Route between China and Europe, which will be an important alternative route for China to ensure the availability of crude oil and gas.
- Although it can significantly reduce the distance for global trade, it will be more difficult than the two currently available Arctic shipping routes 'North Sea Route' and 'Northwest Passage' due to snow freeze throughout the year. It is important to note that China is the only country, which has led the TSR. Including the official expedition of all three Arctic shipping routes.



