The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Chinese Premier to Sign Energy and Rail Deals with Russia

By The Moscow Times

October 05, 2014



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang will attend a summit of European and Asian leaders on a trip starting next week that will also include the signing of energy and high-speed rail deals with Russia, the government and state media said.

Li's Oct. 9-16 swing through the continent is the second this year, and culminates in the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) summit in the Italian city of Milan, the foreign ministry said in a statement.

It comes as the former British colony of Hong Kong has been rocked by pro-democracy demonstrations, and also as the European Union steps up sanctions on Russia over the crisis in Ukraine.

In response to the crisis, President Vladimir Putin has turned to China. In May, the two countries signed a $400 billion gas supply deal and Moscow has vowed to double bilateral

trade by 2020.

China is ready to seize any business opportunities in Russia resulting from Moscow's diplomatic showdown with Europe over Ukraine, Beijing's ambassador to Berlin told Reuters this week.

While in Russia, Li will sign more than 30 agreements on finance, energy and high-speed rail cooperation, the official Xinhua news agency said on Saturday, without providing details.

China and Russia have close economic and diplomatic links, and China has been unwilling to get involved in the Ukraine crisis aside from calling for talks and a peaceful resolution.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2014/10/05/chinese-premier-to-sign-energy-and-rail-deals-with-russia-a40073