



The first transit train carrying a container of sulfur from Kazakhstan to Turkey, after passing through Turkmenistan, moves through Iran on June 19, 2022.

mid-term strategic priority that invites intense competition given its huge transportation potential. Some rival routes are already active and entrenched within the framework of this corridor. Three years ago, when the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was inaugurated and the first Turkish freight train made its way to China without passing through Iran, there emerged a feeling that Iran was

abandoned in this megaproject. Actions of the past governments made Iran the big absentee in this significant project despite being aware of the geopolitical importance of the BRI. This approach was changed under president Raisi's government as the latter focused on taking advantage of the country's regional capacities. Under his government, a new approach was

put high on agenda that exploited the country's transit capacity in bilateral or multilateral trade exchanges with the allies. Inaugurating the Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan-Iran-Turkey corridor in May 2022 to boost the East-West Corridor was among the fruits of this policy that managed to restore Iran to the BRI.

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Martyr President