
SOUTH KOREA'S SURPRISINGLY SUCCESSFUL CHINA POLICY

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Despite talking tough on Beijing, President Yoon Suk-yeol has helped stabilize the two nations relationship.

When South Korea's president, Yoon Suk-yeol, entered office last year, the odds rose that a frostier bilateral relationship with China might take hold. After all, Yoon on the campaign trail talked tough on China, and conservative South Korean politicians typically deepen the US alliance and are suspicious of Chinese support to the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea (DPRK, or North Korea). Even despite the growing closeness of DPRK-China ties, Yoon has been able to effectively manage his government's relationship with Beijing, potentially setting a template for how other small and medium-sized nations might do the same.

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