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## SCO SET GROW IN ASTANA WITH ADDITION OF BELARUS

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02.07.2024

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The Diplomat (2 June 2024)

Catherine Putz

On July 3-4, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) will gather in Astan the capital of Kazakhstan, for its annual leaders summit. After a virtual affair 2023, the in-person summit will be closely watched as Belarus makes it a 10- member organization. This expansion moves the SCO further away from its original regional mission, as Eva Seiwert, an analyst and project coordinator at the Mercator Institute for China Studies (MERICS), wrote in this month's Diplomat Magazine.

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