

Inter-Civilization Communication and Global Development Forum

China-Europe Dialogue

Draft Agenda

(Beijing Time) 14: 00-17: 40 7th November, 2023

Concept Note:

Civilizations communicate due to their diversity, learn from each other through communication, and progress through mutual learning. Great civilizations continuously rejuvenate themselves through communications with diverse cultures, demonstrating their tenacious vitality and creativity.

The Chinese civilization gradually coalesced from different cultures on this land into the common culture we have today. This unique path is shaped by the exchange of ideas. For instance, bronze smelting technology may have originated in Central Asia and the Middle East, but the Central Plains civilization refined it to brilliance. Thanks to the Buddhism culture it absorbed, Chinese civilization underwent significant development with the rise of Neo-Confucianism during the Song

and Ming Dynasties. Since the 19th Century, it embraced European civilization, embarking on a distinctly Chinese modernization journey. Importantly, it retained its own cultural essence while embracing foreign influences, reflecting its capacity for continuous self-renewal.

European civilization also evolved through interactions with other cultures, particularly during the Renaissance and the Age of Exploration. The development of European nations was intertwined with communication, competition, and even globalization. Ancient China's four great inventions once influenced the European Renaissance, while the dissemination of Chinese classics in Europe during the 17th and 18th centuries played a positive role in the European Enlightenment.

The civilizations of China and Europe in the Axis Age have pursued common values such as community, virtue, harmony, justice, and friendship. Since modern times, China and Europe have maintained close cultural exchanges and mutual learning. As the German philosopher Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz aptly noted, "China and Europe represent two pinnacles of human culture. If China and the West and East strengthen cooperation and cultural exchanges, a perfect and harmonious world can be achieved."

Today, the world is undergoing great development, transformation and profound changes, marked by multipolarity, economic globalization, digitalization of society, and cultural diversity. This evolution has reshaped the global civilization landscape. Deep engagement, communication, dialogue, and tolerance among different civilizations play a pivotal role in promoting modernization and enriching the global cultural tapestry. Both China and Europe are pivotal participants and influencers in this multipolar world and the era of economic globalization. They share substantial common interests in preserving global peace, promoting prosperity, sustainable development, and advancing human civilization. They are also indispensable partners in their respective reform and development journeys.

We need to further understand the pluralistic modernity and development path from the historical dimension of cultural communication between China and Europe, and further discuss how these two ancient civilizations, with open-mindedness, should exchange and learn from each other to remain vibrant.

Unit 1: The Historical Dimension of Civilization Exchanges between China and Europe

Host: Qin Lu (Deputy Director of the Cultural and Historical Department of Party School of the Central Committee of C.P.C(China National Academy of Governance), Deputy Director of the International Communication Research Center

Keynote Speech (10 minutes each):

1. He Fangying (Researcher at the Institute of Foreign Literature, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)
2. Benoit Vermander (French sinologist, professor of religious studies at the School of Philosophy, Fudan University, and academic director of the "Xu Guangqi Lima Dou Civilization Dialogue Research Center" at the School of Philosophy, online 2:00-3:00)
3. Feng Jun (former member of the Academic Committee of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China's Party History and Literature Research Institute)
4. Sven Biscop (Professor at Ghent University in Belgium, Senior Researcher at the Egmont Institute in Belgium, 1:30-3:30)

online)

5. Hans Feger (Professor for Philosophy and Literature at the Free University of Berlin, Germany, founder of the Yearbook of Eastern and Western Philosophy, online)

6. Li Wentang (Vice President of Party School of the Central Committee of C.P.C(China National Academy of Governance)

Responses (5 minutes each):

1. Chen Xinyu (Associate Professor of Philosophy and Culture Teaching and Research Department of Beijing Municipal Party School)

2. Alexis Y. Lavis (Associate Professor, School of Philosophy, Renmin University of China)

3. Liu Fei (Director and Associate Professor of the World History Teaching and Research Office of the Cultural and Historical Department of Party School of the Central Committee of C.P.C(China National Academy of Governance)

Free communication (15 minutes, each person's longest question and speech communication should not exceed 3 minutes)

Tea break (15:30-15:40)

Unit 2: Realistic Dimensions of China

Europe Civilization Exchanges

(15:40–17:30)

Host: Xie Dikun (Outstanding Scholar and Distinguished Professor of Humanities at Renmin University of China, Former Director of the Institute of Philosophy at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Founder of the "Yearbook of Eastern and Western Philosophy")

Keynote Speech (10 minutes each):

1. Giovanni Tria (former Minister of Economy and Finance of Italy, former President of Italian National School of Administration)
2. Xu Lirong (Chairman of China Shipowners Mutual Insurance Association, Vice Chairman of China International Cultural Exchange Center, and Former Chairman of China Shipping (Group) Corporation)
3. Hervé Machenaud (President of Hongma Consulting Services (Beijing) Co., Ltd., member of the French Foreign Trade Advisors (CCE), former Group Senior Executive Vice President

and CEO of Asia-Pacific Division of EDF)

4. Luo Hongbo (Researcher and Doctoral Supervisor at the European Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)

5. Guillaume Bernard (Chairman of the China Committee of the French Foreign Trade Advisors Association (CCE), CEO of Bernard Controls)

6. Silvio Pons (Professor at the Second University of Rome, Italy, and Chairman of the Gramsci Foundation Research Institute)

Responses (5 minutes each):

1. Jan Turowski (Chief Representative, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation Beijing)

2. Julio Herráiz España (Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Spain to China)

3. Zhao Ke (Associate Professor, Institute of International Strategy, Party School of the Central Committee of C.P.C (China National Academy of Governance))

Free communication (15 minutes, each person's longest question and speech communication should not exceed 3 minutes)

Wrap up (17:30-17:40)

Li Wentang (Vice President of Party School of the Central
Committee of C.P.C(China National Academy of Governance)