

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Ministerial Forum on Cultural Cooperation between China  
and Central and Eastern European Countries**

**Hangzhou, China**

**September 21-25, 2017**

**Hangzhou Declaration  
on Cultural Cooperation (2018-2019)**

**between**

**China and Central and Eastern European Countries**

We, the Ministers responsible for Culture and our representatives from the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Bulgaria, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Croatia, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, Hungary, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Serbia, the Slovak Republic, and the Republic of Slovenia, gathered in Hangzhou, China on the occasion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ministerial Forum on Cultural Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries on September 22, 2017,

- Acknowledging Hangzhou's commitment, as a modern city with a rich cultural heritage, to hosting a successful Forum drawing on its recent experience with the G20 Summit in 2016;
- Welcoming the significant advances and cooperation at bilateral and multilateral levels in China-CEEC cultural

exchange since the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ministerial Forum on Cultural Cooperation, owing to the commitment and support of all participating countries and underpinned by the regional advantages of CEEC in advancing Belt and Road initiative as well as the compatibility between the Belt and Road initiative and national development strategies of CEEC;

- Recognising that mechanism for cultural exchange plays a fundamental role in strengthening China-CEEC cooperation, helping to realise the aspirations of the Belt and Road initiative and providing the foundation for people-to-people bonds and a shared vision of the future among Belt and Road countries;
- Taking into account the need to further expand China-CEEC cultural cooperation and establish its central role in intercultural dialogue, mutual knowledge and understanding , and the development of cultural industries in accordance with the 2013 *Guidelines for the Development of Cultural Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries*, 2015 *Sofia Declaration on China-CEEC Cultural Cooperation (2016-2017)*, and the 2016 *Riga Guidelines for Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries*;

Recognise and declare our consent to the the following priorities based on which to expand the cultural cooperation between China and CEEC:

1. To adhere to a people-centered approach to cultural exchange by creating cultural programmes focused on personal experience,

development and growth, designed to inspire mutual understanding and knowledge transfer.

2. To encourage mutual learning and working together to organise field trips/on-site surveys, co-produce artistic works and host training programmes, workshops, forums, presentations and showcases with a focus on sharing expertise and best practices in contemporary interpretations and expressions of cultural identity.

3. To help create cultural exchange platforms and promote information exchange in cultural fields. The China-CEEC Cultural Cooperation Coordination Centre in Macedonia will act as a hub to collect, sort, summarize, analyze, exchange and disseminate cultural information. Cooperation networks between institutions, such as the China-CEEC Dance Culture Union, the China-CEEC Music Academies Union, the China-CEEC Arts Creation and Research Centre and the China-CEEC Libraries Union will be encouraged to operate to full capacity. Establishing of Cultural Centres or Cultural Institutes in participating countries is considered an effective means of facilitating regular and sustainable China-CEEC cultural dialogue.

4. To encourage and foster intercultural dialogue between young people, as they are not only the natural heirs of their respective national cultures, but also they are in the formative years and able to come up with new thinking and innovative ideas. By paying particular attention to the interests, needs and expectations of the younger generation, it is hoped that young artists will come together to inject new ideas and growth

into cultural exchange. The China-CEEC Summer Dance Camp will continue as part of this approach.

5. To assist in promoting China-CEEC cultural exchange further at a local level, making use of existing platforms such as twinned cities and cultural cities to encourage intercultural dialogues, mutual visits of personnel, and mutual knowledge and exchange.

6. To foster long-term cooperation mechanism endorsed by our national governments in the area of cultural industry for policy and information exchange, and create platforms between cultural entrepreneurs for mutually beneficial exchange.

Therefore, we the Ministers responsible for Culture from China and CEEC and our representatives, adopt the Two-year Collaboration Programme 2018-2019 (Annex) and commit ourselves to its joint implementation. Its implementation will conform with their respective laws and regulations. In case of European Union member states, the implementation will comply with EU regulations, directives, other legislative acts and policies consequent upon membership of the European Union.

Annex : Cultural Cooperation Plan between China and Central and East European Countries for the Years 2018-2019

**Cultural Cooperation Plan between China and Central and Eastern European Countries for the Years 2018-2019  
(Counterproposal of the Chinese side)**

China-CEEC cultural cooperation is an important means for engaging Europe in the Belt and Road Initiative, for expanding China-EU intercultural dialogue and developing synergies in conformity with European Union policies and laws, for increasing mutual understanding between our peoples, for establishing sound connections between our countries, as well as fostering opportunities for use of the potential of culture for sustainable social and economic development ;

Based on the principles of the *Hangzhou Declaration*, we approve this *Cultural Cooperation Plan between China and Central and Eastern European Countries for the period 2018-2019* ;

**I. Cooperation Platforms**

1. Participating countries will welcome the establishment of the China-CEEC Cultural Cooperation Coordination Centre in Macedonia and make full use of this Centre to communicate with each other, exchange information and coordinate programmes.

2. Participating countries will encourage in depth exchange and collaboration among the members of the institution-to-institution networks, such as the China-CEEC

Dance Culture Union, China-CEEC Music Academies Union, and China-CEEC Arts Creation and Research Centre, and facilitate the establishment of the China-CEEC Libraries Union.

3. China attaches high priority to the mutual establishment of cultural centres with CEEC. To this end it will open China Cultural Centres in Latvia, Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia and Hungary. China also welcomes the opening of Cultural Centres of any CEEC within the territory of China.

4. The 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Forum on Cultural Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries will be held in Macedonia in 2019.

## **II. Personnel Exchange**

1. China will invite directors of CEEC international opera and puppet festivals to visit China in 2018 and 2019 respectively.

2. Participating countries agree to assist where possible cultural and personnel exchanges between Chinese cities and CEEC cities.

3. China will send cultural institutions' managers and art experts to visit high-profile international arts festivals in CEEC to explore business contact, exchange and learning opportunities.

## **III. Professional Forums**

1. The 2<sup>nd</sup> China-CEEC Arts Cooperation Forum will take place in Chengdu, China in 2018. The principal organiser of this Forum will be the Bureau for Cultural, TV and Broadcasting Affairs of Chengdu Municipal Government.

2. The 2<sup>nd</sup> China-CEEC Experts' Forum on Intangible Cultural Heritage will take place in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province in China in 2018. The principal organiser of this Forum will be the Cultural Department of Zhejiang Provincial Government.

3. The 1<sup>st</sup> China-CEEC Libraries Union Library Directors' Forum will be held in Hangzhou, China in 2018. The principal organiser of the Forum will be Hangzhou Public Library.

4. The 2<sup>nd</sup> China-CEEC Literature Forum will be held in China in 2018 with China Writers' Association as its principal organiser.

5. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> China-CEEC Cultural and Creative Industry Forum will take place in Poland in 2018 and in Hungary in 2019 respectively.

6. The 2<sup>nd</sup> China-CEEC Cultural Heritage Forum will be held in China in 2019 with State Administration of Cultural Heritage of China as its principal organiser.

#### **IV. Youth Exchange**

1. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> China-CEEC Summer Dance Camp will be held respectively from July to August, 2018 and 2019 in China or any CEEC. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> China-CEEC Winter Dance Camp will be held respectively from January to February, 2018 and 2019 in Shenzhen, China.

2. The 2<sup>nd</sup> China-CEEC Summer Music Camp will be held from July to August, 2019 in CEEC. The 1<sup>st</sup> China-CEEC Summer Jazz Camp will be held from July to August, 2018 in China.

#### **V. Mobility and Artistic Creation**

1. China will invite outstanding young composers to visit China for field trips in 2018 and present a concert of the outcomes of their visit in China in 2019.

2. China will send renowned Chinese painters in 2018 to CEEC for field trip and hold an exhibition of their works created in CEEC.

## **VI. Presentation of accomplishments**

China will send performing art troupes to CEEC to celebrate Happy Chinese New Year, as well as participate in CEEC international festivals, European Capital of Culture and other festive events to advocate cultural cooperation between China and CEEC.

## **VII. TV, Film and Research**

1. The CEEC agrees to provide information to the Chinese side on their practices in safeguarding intangible cultural heritage which will form the basis of a bilingual work in both Chinese and English to be published by the Chinese side with the title of *Research on Intangible Cultural Heritage in China and CEEC*.

2. China will welcome documentary crews from CEEC's Public Service Televisions to visit China and produce documentaries on topics including the Chinese New Year and China's intangible cultural heritage.

## **VIII. Final Provisions**

The implementation of this collaboration programme will be dependent on financial resources available in the participating countries.



Additional initiatives and actions might be proposed and considered as part of this programme arising from specific cultural events, strategies or policies taking place in the above mentioned period.

The dispatch and receiving of individuals and art groups will be dealt with on an individual case-by-case basis. In principle, the organising party will inform the participating party of the date and nature of the proposed exchange by the end of September in the preceding year.