



EU-China High-Level People-to-People Dialogue (HPPD)

Second Round: September 2014

The second round of the EU-China High Level People-to-People Dialogue (HPPD) took place on 6 September 2014 in Beijing.

The Dialogue was co-chaired by Ms Liu Yandong, Vice-Premier of the People's Republic of China and Ms Androulla Vassiliou, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth.

Based on the HPPD Joint Declaration signed in April 2012, the two leaders reiterated their willingness to upgrade cooperation in people-to-people related areas with a view to contributing to the knowledge and common understanding between China and the EU, through the enhancement of contacts between the peoples of both sides.

The two parties agreed to continue and conclude the follow-up actions initiated in 2012. At the same time they identified a number of new actions, some joint and some unilateral, under the framework of the EU-China HPPD, ideally to be initiated before the next round of the HPPD, due to take place in the EU in 2016.

Follow-up actions

I. Education

- With a view to (i) upgrading the current sectoral policy dialogue, (ii) helping to identify themes of common interest and (iii) strengthening mutual exchange of best practice and information on latest policy developments, the two parties will continue to hold annual meetings of the "EU-China Higher Education Platform for Cooperation and Exchange".
- In order to (i) strengthen the compatibility of EU and China education systems, (ii) enhance outcome-based education, (iii) overcome obstacles to mobility, (iv) establish commonly acknowledged quality criteria and (v) develop tools for mutual recognition, the two parties will assess the results of the first phase of the EU-China "Tuning" joint study and explore the possibility to launch a second phase starting in 2014 or 2015.

- With a view to increasing the number of student and scholar exchanges over the 2012-2016 period:
 - **China** confirms its commitment to provide 30,000 scholarships, of which 20,000 will help Chinese students and scholars to study in all EU countries and 10,000 will help EU students and scholars to study in China, in which China will provide 200 man/year Chinese Government Scholarship through “Chinese Government Scholarship—EU Window” project. This means that each year the number of this scholarship holders studying in China will be up to 200.
 - The **European Commission** confirms its commitment to support the academic cooperation between EU and Chinese higher education institutions with a view to reaching the figures of 5,000 Chinese students and academics to the EU and 2,000 EU students and academics to China, under the EU mobility programmes. The new Erasmus+ programme will play a key role in the achievement of this objective. Both Parties will explore ways to collaborate with a view to providing targeted Information and setting up promotion initiatives on the new programme to Chinese stakeholders.
 - Both Parties will support the Joint Scholarship Project of the College of Europe's Master Degree Programme and sponsor 4-6 Chinese students to study 1 year Master Degree Programme in the College of Europe per year.
- The **European Commission** will continue to support the network of Chinese Jean Monnet Chairs and the activities of Chinese Jean Monnet Centres of Excellence.
- The **European Commission** will explore the possibility to extend the geographical scope of the EU Fellowship Programme to include Chinese universities. This would allow EU Institutions' staff to carry out research projects during a maximum period of 9 months in these universities.
- **China** will invite 30 EU officials per year for ‘Understanding China Project’ of the Confucius China Studies Programme for 10 days in China in 2015 and 2016.
- **China** will continue to promote the establishment of centres for European, national and regional studies and centres for Chinese studies by Chinese and European institutions, to enhance studies on and understanding of each other and to provide background information for China-EU cooperation.
- To enhance language cooperation and further promote multilingualism:
 - The **two parties** will co-organise a new (4th) conference on multilingualism in order to (i) promote the teaching and learning of EU and Chinese languages in EU member states (ii) explore ways to further foster language training and mobility for language students and teachers and (iii) highlight the role of languages as a vehicle to enhance people-to-people communication. **China** will organise the event and the **European Commission** will contribute with a session or workshop.
 - China will continue to select and send students and scholars to EU member states for learning and advanced studies of less-frequently used languages.

The European Commission will support China in contact with university of excellence in Europe.

- The **European Commission** will continue to contribute to the implementation of the Chinese Interpreter Training Programme with a view to ensure the training of top-level interpreters and scholars for the comprehensive exchange and cooperation between China and the EU.

II. Researcher mobility

To promote further the mobility of researchers:

- The **European Commission** confirms its commitment to support the participation of Chinese institutions and researchers under the new Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), notably by launching information and promotion activities.
- A dedicated contact point may be nominated to participate in the MSCA NCP meetings and activities, receive first-hand information and further promote MSCA opportunities at national level.
- **China** will encourage Chinese institutions' involvement in projects funded under the MSCA.
- The **European Commission** will explore new ways to involve Chinese partners in the European Institute of Technology (EIT).
- **China** will explore avenues and propose to the European Commission collaboration possibilities to increase mutual participation in schemes for the longer-term exchange of young researchers.

III. Culture

- Based on the Joint Declaration on EU-China cultural cooperation adopted by Commissioner Vassiliou and Minister Cai Wu in 2012, the **two parties** will upgrade policy dialogue on culture policies, in particular in the field of cultural and creative industries, including (in) the audio-visual sector.
- The **two parties** will reinforce cooperation and exchanges in the field of cultural and creative industries, notably through a close monitoring of the EUCTP (EU-China Trade Project) projects carried out over 2012-2014 in that field and the full exploitation of their results.
- Based on the recommendations of the 2012 Expert Group on China, of the Preparatory Action on 'Culture in EU External Relations' and of the Mapping of the EU-China Cultural and Creative Landscape, and with the support of Member States and of newly appointed staff at the EU Delegation in Beijing, the **European Commission** will seek to implement a more collaborative and strategic approach to cultural relations with China.
- The **two parties** may also implement follow-up activities to the EU-China mapping such as further studies or networking of stakeholders.

- Realizing the close relations and mutual promotion between culture and festivals, the two parties welcome and support the cooperation between the European Festivals Association and Chinese festival/cultural institutions, including organization of events.
- The two parties value the role of cultural heritage and creative industries in the development and urbanization of their regions, and will consider strengthening cultural exchanges and cooperation in the framework of the EU-China Urbanization Partnership.
- The EU Delegation will continue to organize (online) EU Film Festival in China in line with the existing legal framework.

IV. Youth

- The two parties will continue to offer opportunities to support the development of sustainable partnerships and networks between Chinese and European youth organizations in the context of the Erasmus + programme (notably in capacity building projects, including a mobility component for youth workers and young people) and the China-EU Youth Partnership for Friendship Programme.
- The two parties will encourage the direct exchanges and cooperation between the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF) and the European Youth Forum (EYF) and their youth organizations, e.g. in the form of Symposia on Youth Work Development.
- The two parties agree, based on the good results of the EU-China Expert Seminar on Youth Entrepreneurship, to continue the regular organization of youth dialogues in the form of policy and expert seminars on topics relevant for youth, such as employment and entrepreneurship, youth inclusion, social innovation, sustainable development, etc, to promote common development in youth policy field.
- The two parties will continue to reinforce web based cooperation between Chinese and European Portals dedicated to youth, such as ACYF website and the European Youth Portal, with the aim of giving EU-China People-to-People dialogue in the field of youth the widest possible visibility and impact.

V. Gender equality

- The two parties will regularly discuss the latest developments on specific aspects of gender equality including economic empowerment for women, women's political participation, violence against women and work life balance, and share policy experience and best practice, by co-organizing themed symposia and encouraging people-to-people exchanges between representative organizations.