

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF  
CHINA  
AND  
THE MINISTRIES RESPONSIBLE FOR CULTURE OF CENTRAL AND  
EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES  
FOR  
ESTABLISHING THE CHINA-CEEC COORDINATION CENTRE FOR  
CULTURAL COOPERATION  
IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

The Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China and the Ministries responsible for culture of the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Bulgaria, 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, the Republic of Slovenia.

(hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

in accordance with:

- *Guidelines for the Development of Cultural Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries*, adopted in Beijing, in May 2013, the *Sofia Declaration on Cultural Cooperation (2016-2017) between China and Central and Eastern European Countries*, adopted in November 2015, and the *Hangzhou Declaration on Cultural Cooperation (2017-2018) between China and Central and Eastern European Countries*, adopted in September 2017;

for the purpose of:

- monitoring and promoting cultural cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries (hereinafter referred as "CEEC countries" or "CEEC" accordingly) and implementation of the aforementioned documents;
- deepening and strengthening cultural relations across the Parties,

**have reached the following understanding:**

1. The Parties, will support the establishing of the China-CEEC Coordination Centre for Cultural Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as “the Centre”) in the Republic of Macedonia. The Centre is not an international organization.
2. The Centre will be established on 1 January 2018 in Skopje, the capital of the Republic of Macedonia.
3. The Republic of Macedonia will provide premises and cover the maintenance expenses for the Centre and salaries of its employees.
4. The Centre will serve as an active coordinator that facilitates the functionality and productivity of the existing China-CEEC cultural cooperation mechanism under the framework of China-CEEC Cultural Cooperation Forum.
5. The functions and activities of the Centre will be focused on:
  - Communicating and networking in a timely manner with the cultural authorities of China and CEEC countries and organizing meetings of experts as required;
  - Gathering, editing, circulating and publishing information related to the promoting of China-CEEC cultural ties; encouraging the sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practice to enable direct and fruitful cooperation between the art institutions and artists from the various CEEC members;
  - Providing communication, networking and coordination services in order to implement accords, plans and projects agreed upon by the Parties at China-CEEC Cultural Cooperation Forums, in order to engage a wide public audience and achieve successful outcomes.
  - Researching and proposing additional activities for the consideration of the Parties on the basis of the outcome documents of China-CEEC Cultural Cooperation Forums. The proposed activities will mainly focus on building and strengthening the professional artistic capability and creativity of youth.

6. The Parties will encourage their cultural and artistic institutions and other relevant organizations to take an active part in and endorse the activities of the Centre on both the national and international levels.
7. The Memorandum of Understanding does not contain, and is not intended to contain, legal obligations.
8. All activities will be realized in accordance with the respective laws and regulations of the States-Parties.
9. The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding may be amended or supplemented only by a written agreement of all Parties.
10. Each Party may denounce this Memorandum of Understanding by a written notification to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia. Such denunciation shall take effect twelve months after receipt of the instrument of denunciation. Denunciation shall not mean that the denouncing Party suspends its participation in the Centre's activities initiated before the denunciation takes effect.
11. The Memorandum of Understanding is concluded for indefinite period of time and will come into effect on the day of signing.
12. Signed in Hangzhou, on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, in two original copies, in the Chinese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. The People's Republic of China and The Republic of Macedonia are designated as the Depositories of this Memorandum of Understanding, each holding one copy. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.



For the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China



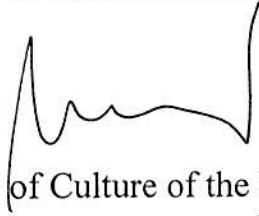
For the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Albania



For the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina



For the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria



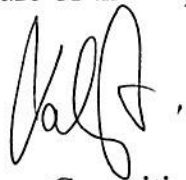
For the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia



For the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic



For the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Estonia



For the Ministry of Human Capacities of Hungary



For the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia



For the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania



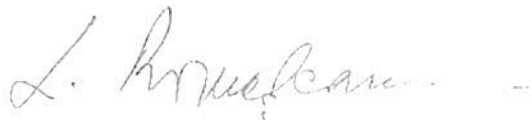
For the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Macedonia



For the Ministry of Culture of Montenegro



For the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland



For the Ministry of Culture and National Identity of Romania



For the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Serbia



For the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic



For the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia