The Harmony of Civilizations and Prosperity for All
— Mutual Trust, Cooperation, Sharing
About the forum

History

The Beijing Forum, initiated in 2004, is an annual event placed under the auspices of the Beijing Municipal Government. It is endorsed by the State Council and the Ministry of Education of the People’s Republic of China, and co-sponsored by Peking University, the Beijing Municipal Commission of Education, and the Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies.

On May of 2016, the first chapter of Beijing Forum Overseas Series was successfully concluded in Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan.

The November 2016 edition will mark its thirteenth successful session.

Objectives

The Beijing Forum, organized by Peking University, encourages the study of the humanities and social sciences in the Asia-Pacific region. It aims to facilitate international academic exchanges and trans-cultural discussions in order to foster social development, harmony between civilizations, and greater prosperity for mankind.

Focus

Held annually in Beijing, a city with a deep cultural tradition, the forum is an international academic event that advocates civilizational harmony. It brings together the world’s most eminent thinkers in order to stimulate the academic and cultural exchanges that are crucial for world peace and social progress. During the past years, the Beijing Forum has gathered a wealth of invaluable suggestions and insights that has helped generate outstanding academic advancement in the Asia Pacific region and around the world. The 2016 annual conference will uphold the Beijing Forum’s reputation, developed over the last decade, as one of the leading academic forums in the world.
About Beijing Forum 2016

Dates

November 4th – 6th, 2016 (Friday to Sunday)
(Registration on Thursday, November 3rd, followed by the three-day conference)

Location

Beijing

Attendance

Approximately 300 world-renowned scholars

Theme

The Harmony of Civilizations and Prosperity for All
— Mutual Trust, Cooperation, Sharing

Panel sessions

Panel Session I  Unearthed Documents and Chinese Ancient Civilizations: An International Perspective

Panel Session II  World Civilization, Global Megacities and Regional Coordinated Development

Panel Session III  Building World-class Universities: An Institutional Perspective

Panel Session IV  China and Global Governance: The Role of International Organization and International Norms

Panel Session V  Ecological Security and Ecological Urbanism: International Experience and the China Experiment

Panel Session VI  China’s Growing Role in Economic Globalization

Student Panel  Global Governance in an Era of Change - a Youth Perspective

(Please refer to Appendix I for details on Beijing Forum 2016’s panel sessions.)
## Schedule

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<td>Thursday, November 3rd</td>
<td>13.00 – 23.00</td>
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<td>Buffet dinner</td>
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<td>09.30 – 12.00</td>
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<td>14.00 – 17.30</td>
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<td>Saturday, November 5th</td>
<td>09.00 – 17.30</td>
<td>Panel sessions</td>
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<td>Sunday, November 6th</td>
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<td>Panel sessions</td>
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<td>11.20 – 12.30</td>
<td>Closing ceremony</td>
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Important information

Working languages  Chinese and English

Accommodation and transportation subsidy

**Overseas participants**

The Beijing Forum will provide overseas participants (including Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan residents) with accommodation during the conference (November 3-6), and with a standard international transportation subsidy (precise amount will be specified in the invitation letter).

Please note that in accordance with the Beijing Forum’s financial regulations, participants will receive their travel subsidy upon registration only.

**Domestic participants**

The Beijing Forum will provide participants who are not Beijing residents with accommodation during the conference (November 3-6), and with the full reimbursement of their round-trip travel expenses by train or air (economy class only).

Please note that in accordance with the Beijing Forum’s financial regulations, participants will receive their travel subsidy upon registration only.

The Beijing Forum will not provide accommodation for participants who reside in Beijing, but will provide a standard transportation subsidy
to facilitate their participation.

Please note that in accordance with the Beijing Forum’s financial regulations, participants from Beijing will receive the above-mentioned inner-city subsidy upon registration only.

Papers and presentations

Forum participants are requested to submit their paper’s abstract (in digital version, about 500 words) no later than July 31, 2016, and their paper’s full text (also in digital version) no later than September 15, 2016. The abstract should be in English. The paper itself can be in either English or Chinese.

The Beijing Forum Organizing Committee will determine the function of each participant, as well as the time at which the presentation will be given, according to the submitted paper.

Each year the Beijing Forum Organizing Committee publishes the Selected Papers of the Beijing Forum. If your paper is chosen for publication, we have your authorization to publish it. If you do not wish your paper to be published, kindly inform us so in an attachment to your confirmation form, or by letter, fax or email.

Paper format:

- Prepared in MS-Word
- Size A4
- Double-spaced text; all notes as endnotes (1.5 spaced)
- 12-point font for the paper’s body and 14-point for the paper’s title
- Times New Roman font or similar
- The front cover will include the presenter’s name, institution, contact information, and paper’s title.
We invite you to log in the BEIJING FORUM ONLINE SERVICE (http://login.beijingforum.org/) as soon as possible to confirm your participation, and to provide us with the information we need to make further arrangements. This link will also allow you to keep abreast of program updates, and logistic arrangements. You may also use the service system to get in touch with other participants or with the Beijing Forum secretariat. Your user ID and initial password will be specified in your invitation letter. If you have difficulty accessing the system, please fill in the attached confirmation form, and fax or mail it to the Beijing Forum secretariat. The confirmation form can also be downloaded from the Beijing Forum’s official website: www.beijingforum.org. Upon receipt of your confirmation form, we will provide you with more detailed information about the program.
Beijing Forum contact information

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Please note:
This document is for reference only. An invitation letter sent by the Beijing Forum will formalize your invitation to the event.
In 2016, the world is still at the crossroad of development and reform. The sluggish recovery and cloudy prospects of the global economy have stirred up competition among international economic powers. The prolonged instability of politically sensitive areas has made it rather difficult to restore order. The challenges of globalization continue to rise, the solution to end terrorism is yet to be found, security cyberspace security draws wide concern, and the upgrading of a global governance system has a long way to go. The fact that many elections are held this year further adds uncertainties.

History has seen no shortage of friction, as different actors in the international community may have conflicting ideologies, interests and strategies, and each power rebalancing may spring the Thucydides Trap. Even close neighbors are likely to be torn apart by the violent divider that are prejudice and discrimination, suspicion and misunderstanding. It is only through trust can we avoid the spiraling of problems and clashes, and create an environment where all feel comfortable and safe.

In this Information Age symbolized by the Internet, the extent to which human activities are linked to one another is unprecedented. Neither is the law of the jungle politically correct, nor can muscle flexing shape the future. Turning confrontation into cooperation and swords into ploughshares is the only way for the future, and what the public overwhelmingly calls for.

As our society is morphing into a “community of common destiny”, the quintessence of civilizations, economic development benefits, and new technical achievements should be shared with the world. The onus is on all countries to maintain a peaceful international atmosphere, an healthy world economy and a beautiful planet through the global sharing of resources and wisdom. The future is empty without sharing; sharing is short-lived without cooperation; and cooperation is barren without trust.

China is a rising star on the international stage. By proposing its initiative of “community of common destiny”, China has reiterated its commitment to responsibility to the world. Trust, cooperation and sharing are the very basis of this initiative. Under the banner of “the Harmony of Civilizations and Prosperity for All”, Beijing Forum 2016 will continue to explore new modes of cooperation and exchange, learning and sharing between civilizations, and open new trails towards growth and synergy for all.
Appendix I  Brief introduction to the panel sessions

Panel sessions

Panel Session I  Unearthed Documents and Chinese Ancient Civilizations: An International Perspective

Panel Session II  World Civilization, Global Megacities and Regional Coordinated Development

Panel Session III  Building World-class Universities: An Institutional Perspective

Panel Session IV  China and Global Governance: The Role of International Organization and International Norms

Panel Session V  Ecological Security and Ecological Urbanism: International Experience and the China Experiment

Panel Session VI  China’s Growing Role in Economic Globalization

Student Panel  Global Governance in an Era of Change - a Youth Perspective
Panel Session I

Unearthed Documents and Chinese Ancient Civilizations: An International Perspective

Research on unearthed documents has highly important position amongst other fields of humanities and social sciences in China, encompassing and engaging with multiple humanistic disciplines.

For over a century, unearthed documents, and the new source of information they provide on every historical period in China, have attracted the undivided attention of both Eastern and Western academic circles. The outstanding achievement of Chinese scholars have been joined by those of many accomplished Western scholars who, through dialogue and scholarly disputes with their Chinese counterparts, have devoted themselves to the study of these documents, which they perceive as the shared heritage of all mankind. They have significantly contributed to the development of this field of study. The documents include scores of written material dating from the times of the pre-Qin to the Tang, and comprise inscriptions on oracle-bones or bronze, and bamboo and silk manuscripts. They originate from Dunhuang, and Turpan, and from various ancient nations from Xinjiang and other regions. This invaluable material has greatly contributed to refine our understanding of one of the world’s cradles of civilization – the ancient Chinese one. Studies of inscriptions on oracle-bones and bronzes, together with data yielded by archaeological excavations, have shed light on previously obscure aspects of the Shang and Western Zhou states, as well as on the roots of traditional Chinese thinking. They have enriched our knowledge on early civilizations’ patterns of developments. Numerous wood and bamboo manuscripts from the Warring States, Qin and Han periods reveal a great number of early versions of Chinese canonical writings, most of which were previously unknown. Apart from confirming the existence of these writings, they also play a crucial role in supplementing historical information, and especially in understanding this important stage of development in the Chinese intellectual culture. Documents discovered in the Western Regions,
and written at the time of the Han and Tang dynasties in a variety of languages, are a vivid testimony to the spectacular cultural exchanges that existed between China and the West following the opening-up of the Silk Road.

Today, with the ever-growing pace of development of the Internet and multimedia, the international collaboration on the study of unearthed documents and ancient Chinese civilization studies plays an increasing role as a platform for academic exchanges between East and West.

The panel will focus on the following topics:

- Results in the research of unearthed documents with a focus on the most recent discoveries
- Review of researches on Chinese unearthed documents in recent years. This can include work done on just one document or a comprehensive research on multiple documents
- Introduction of results from recent research on foreign unearthed documents and discussion of their impact on the development of world ancient civilizations studies
- The study of unearthed documents and its links with other scientific disciplines (history, philosophy, literature, archaeology and historical literature study)
The progress of urbanization revolutionized mankind’s ways of life and modes of production during the early stage of civilization. In recent decades, economic globalization and the rapid development of high technology, information and cutting-edge industries have not only contributed to attract and concentrate populations and economic activities to the city, but have also led to the creation of megacities around the world. A megacity is often defined as a metropolitan area with a total population in excess of ten million people. All megacities around the globe pull in vast information, capital, wealth and human resources. Megacities are often the place where new knowledge, products, and industries are born, and thus can become the cradles of new civilizations. This is why megacities are among the world’s most competitive and politically important areas, radiating their influences to nearby regions.

Yet, megacities also face complications created by the enormous size of their population and their economy: traffic congestion, pollution, crime, segregation and gentrification, destruction of the ecosystem, depletion of natural resources, to name but a few. This in turn creates significant hurdles for the development, planning, design, management, and control of megacities. This is why regional coordinated development has become an urgent issue for the sustainable development of megacities and their surroundings.

Although megacities around the world face similar predicaments, they are also the product of unique historic, cultural, and institutional backgrounds. To face and solve urban problems and challenges, different cities may encounter different kinds of thinking processes, growth strategies and management. As Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou and other cities are entering the world league of megacities, China is relying on them to reinforce the metropolitan areas that will serve as the
backbone of the state’s land development. China will have more megacities that will facilitate socioeconomic progress, create knowledge and encourage technological advances, in order to perpetuate China’s civilization and heritage, and to become a world-class competitor.

The Central Government has added megacities and regional coordinated development to the list of its top priorities, and this includes the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Regional Coordinated Development, which has become part of the national strategy. The Central Government convened the Central Urban Work Conference in 2015, and the Beijing Municipal Government will soon hold a similar event. This is why it is our great pleasure to open a forum, cohosted by Peking University, Toronto University, and University College London, and invite leading Chinese and international experts to debate and discuss the following topics:

■ Socioeconomic patterns of growth in megacities and megacity planning
■ Megacity management and fiscal administration
■ The unique problems and challenges faced by megacities and potential solutions
■ Megacities’ future direction, and regional coordinated development
■ Comparative studies on the world’s megacities: Beijing, London, and Toronto
Building world-class Universities has ranked high on the agenda of both developed and developing countries since the early 19th century. Much hope has been placed in this effort to encourage cutting-edge research, drive national innovation and economic development, and nurture the next generation of leaders. Yet little is understood on how the emergence and operation of elite universities have been shaped by institutional contexts, including economic, political, cultural and legal systems. What has been the impact of government regulatory frameworks and widely held social norms, values and belief systems? Why do leading research universities in Europe and the United States display fundamental differences in governance, structure, and operation? What models will best serve the needs of the 21st century?

The panel hopes to discuss how to build a world-class university from the perspective of institutional theory. It will be divided into the following sections:

- The differentiation of higher education systems and the emergence of world-class universities in different institutional environments
Institutional contexts and organizational structures of world-class universities. This section will also focus on the impact of institutional environment on world-class universities and on their organizational traits.

The role of institutional factors in shaping the managerial characteristics of world-class universities, with a review on their internal governance, and their relationship with governments.

World-class universities and social development. This section will analyze world-class universities in a broader social context. Students, industry and other social factors will be reviewed to analyze the interaction between world-class universities and society.

World’s leading experts in the fields of sociology, higher education research and organization studies will be invited to the panel.
The acceleration and expansion of globalization have created an increasing number of serious problems and challenges as well as many benefits for the international community who hopes and demands a greater international cooperation to address these issues. Given the differences in cultural background, history, levels of economic development, and political systems, is international cooperation a realistic possibility or just wishful thinking? Sustainable cooperation demands that countries abide by rules. In the absence of a world government that would enforce rules, will countries follow international laws and norms? What role may international organizations and mechanisms play to promote international cooperation? In this age of globalization, what are the opportunities and challenges faced by the international community when engaged in a process of cooperation? What is the prospect of international cooperation? What role should China play in promoting international cooperation? These are some of the issues that the international relations part of the Beijing Forum will address. It will therefore focus on the following points:

- The logic of international cooperation
- International laws and norms: the power of restraint
- International organizations and mechanisms: nature, roles and challenges
- Case I: international humanitarian intervention
- Case II: developmental assistance
Panel Session V

Ecological Security and Ecological Urbanism: International Experience and the China Experiment

The Integrated Reform Plan for Promoting Ecological Progress issued by the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and the State Council on September 11, 2015 put forward “a system based on spatial planning for the development and protection of territorial space, drawing on regulation of its uses as the main approach”. It also stated that: “A spatial planning system will be designed to strengthen spatial governance and improve its structure”. The same month, China and the US signed the U.S.-China Joint Announcement on Climate Change, reasserting the importance of implementing and promoting domestic climate policy, improving bilateral cooperation on climate change to generate a green, low-carbon and climate-resilient economy”. On February 6, 2016, the central government issued Advices on Enhancing Urban Planning, Construction and Management, a document that stresses the importance of addressing problems linked with the environment and resources in Chinese cities, and the building of cities where citizens can enjoy a better quality of life. Conserving ecological security, upgrading regional and urban planning, and building ecological cities are not only the aims of China’s urbanization, but also an essential component of an ecological civilization.

The sub-forum will give the opportunity to Chinese and foreign specialists in the fields of ecological security, regional planning, national spatial protection, ecological infrastructure and ecological city to share ideas, learn about the research carried out at PKU in those areas in the last two decades, and examine issues related to the construction of
ecological cities in China, strategies for ecological security building, and the design of a blueprint for international cooperation in these areas.

The sub-forum will focus on the following issues:

- Significance and implications of ecological security at each stage of urbanization
- Significance and practical consequences of ecological cities
- Experiences in ecological governance around the world
- Significance of urbanization and ecological progress in China for the international community
- Construction of ecological cities in China according to the Integrated Reform Plan for Promoting Ecological Progress
In the past four decades, China has become the world’s largest trading country and second-largest country in terms of economic size. At the same time the increase in economic globalization and global fragmentation have turned regional production and global trade into the world’s economy two most important features. China’s future economic development will undoubtedly play an important and growing role in shaping world economics. Similarly, economic performance in the rest of the world will reversely affect China’s future growth. Therefore, understanding China’s economic development, and especially its growing role in world economy, has become a tropic research topic for both academia and policy makers.

It is worthwhile to stress that the widely accepted current economic development theory is still incapable of providing a convincing interpretation of the many new phenomena present in emerging countries, and especially in China. Therefore, it is necessary to study China’s practice and to combine the results of this study with the latest phenomenon in order to define new theoretical developments.

There is no doubt that China has become the most important engine that drives the world economy today. Yet, China also faces serious challenges in its economic transition and structural upgrading. Therefore, it is crucial to look at China’s role in the economic globalization and at its impact on the whole world from different perspectives such as trade, finance, fiscal and industrial development, health and even welfare improvement. We hope that the in-depth discussions during the forum will not only help academics and entrepreneurs better understand the current state of the Chinese and global economy, but will also provide useful suggestions to policy makers throughout the world.
Appendix II

Beijing Forum 2016 Confirmation Form

If you have difficulty in accessing the "Beijing Forum Online Service System", please fill in this confirmation form, and email or fax it to the Beijing Forum secretariat. Please complete each box of the confirmation form and send it back to us. Thank you for your cooperation.

You accept the invitation: □ Yes □ No

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Notes: Please attach electronic copies of your resume and a recent photograph

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