



## The Fifth High-Level Think Tanks Symposium of China and Central & Eastern European Countries

30 – 31 October 2018

Skopje, Republic of Macedonia

*Supporters: MFA of Macedonia, MASA, CASS, Secretariat of 16+1 Cooperation, CFIS*

*Organizers: Institute of Geopolitical Research and Foreign Policy (IGRFP), 16+1 Think Tanks Network, Institute of European Studies of CASS*

**Day One: Tuesday, 30 October**

**9:30-10:20 Official opening**

*Venue: Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts*

**Chairman:**

**Ambassador Abdulkadar Memedi**, Director of the Institute for Geostrategic Research and Foreign Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia

**Opening remarks:**

**H.E. Mr. Zoran Zaev**, President of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia

**Wang Jingqing**, Minister-level Vice President of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

**Acad. Taki Fiti**, President of the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts

**H.E. Mrs. Huo Yuzhen**, Special Representative for Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries

**10:20-11:10 Keynote Address  
Perspectives of 16+1 Process**

**Ambassador Viktor Dimovski**, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia and National Coordinator of the Process of Cooperation (16+1) CEE Countries and China

**Mr. Huang Ping**, Director-General of the Institute of European Studies, CASS, Secretary-General of 16+1 Think Tanks Network

**Ambassador Xu Jian**, Vice President of China Foundation for International Studies, Former Ambassador to Romania and Poland

**Ceremony of signing MoU between Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts and Chinese Academy of Social Sciences**

*Venue: Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts*

**Acad. Taki Fiti**, President of the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Art

**Wang Jingqing**, Minister-level Vice President of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences



11:10-11:30 Coffee break

Venue: Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts

11:30 – 13:30 Panel 1:  
**Strengthening the communication of policies and development strategies between China and CEEC**

Venue: Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts

**Moderator:** Mr. Krum Efremov, Deputy National Coordinator and main expert of the Process of Cooperation (16+1) CEE Countries and China

**Panelists:**

- **Emilian Kavalski**, Li Dak Sum Chair Professor in China-Eurasia Relations and International Studies, the University of Nottingham Ningbo China  
*Title: 'Win-win-win'? Can the '16+1' Assist the EU Accession of the Western Balkans*
- **Kong Tianping**, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of European Studies, CASS
- **Vladimir Petkovski and Ljubomir Drakulevski**, Professors, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius", Faculty of Economics  
*Title: Raising Awareness among the University Students about the "16+1 Cooperation" within the One Belt One Road (OBOR) Strategic Platform as a Prerequisite for Enhancing and further Deepening the China – CEEC Cooperation*
- **Liu Zuokui**, Research Fellow of the Institute of European Studies, CASS, Director of the Department of Central and Eastern European Studies, Director of 16+1 Think Tanks Network
- **Valentin Katrandzhiev**, Bulgarian Diplomatic Institute, Head of Research Division on B&RI and 16+1 Cooperation Platform, Bulgaria  
*Title: Geopolitical Implications of 16+1 China-CEEC Cooperation Platform for EU-China Relations*
- **Milos Solaja**, Professor, Banja Luka University Faculty of Political Sciences  
*Title: Chinese impact to regional political and security stability in South East Europe*
- **Dr. Huang Mengmeng**, Researcher of the Institute of European Studies, CASS, Visiting, Scholar of Humboldt Foundation, Germany

*As an important platform of cooperation and communication between China and CEEC, "16+1 Cooperation" expanded the scale of China-CEEC cooperation, and strengthened the interconnection among those 17 countries. This panel session will mainly concern about how to consolidate this platform and innovatively develop its mechanism of exchange and cooperation in order to promote the China-CEEC Cooperation to be more practical, efficient and stable in the future development of "16+1 Cooperation". "16+1 Cooperation" is as well an important platform of the "Belt and Road" Initiative and of China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership. Meanwhile, the CEEC brought up with a number of policies and development strategies in responding to "16+1 Cooperation". This panel session will also shed some lights on the topics of how China and CEEC will cooperate under the framework of the "Belt and Road" Initiative, and how "16+1 Cooperation" could synergize with the "Belt and Road" Initiative and the development strategies of CEEC.*



### 13:30 – 14:30 Buffet Lunch

Venue: Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts

### 14:30-16:30 Panel 2: Expanding the scale of trade, investment and financial cooperation between China and CEEC

Venue: Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts

**Moderator:** **Zhao Rui**, Professor, Deputy Secretary General, Presidium of Academic Divisions, CASS, Deputy Director of Bureau of Scientific Research Management

**Panelists:**

- **Katarina Brockova**, Associate Professor, School of International Relations, University of Economics, Slovakia  
*Title:* The newly emerging legal framework for China-EU trade and investment Cooperation- the role and impact on CEEC
- **Chen Xin**, Research Fellow, Director of the Department of Economic Studies of IES, CASS/ Executive Vice President and Managing Director of the China-CEE Institute (Budapest)  
*Title:* Connectivity and economic scale: political economics for local development
- **Andrei Radulescu**, Director of Macroeconomic Research, Banca Transilvania; Scientific Researcher, Institute for World Economy, Romania  
*Title:* *China: From the opening-up to the Belt & Road Initiative – A macroeconomic assessment*
- **Péter Goreczky**, Senior analyst, Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary  
*Title:* *Land of promise? - China as an export market for Hungarian companies*
- **Zhang Xiyang**, Professor and Vice Dean, Hebei University of Economics and Business, HUEB  
*Title:* Cooperation with Central and Eastern European Countries---A New Path for the Development of Foreign Exchange-oriented Agriculture in Hebei Province
- **Anto Domazet**, Professor, School of Economics and Business, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
*Title:* *Bosnia Herzegovina and the Belt and Road Initiative*
- **Yunzhe CHEN**, Head of Belt and Road Research Center in the Central School of Chinese Communist Youth League, PhD of University of New South Wales  
*Title:* *Research of Higher Education Cooperation Between China and the“Belt and Road” Country*

*China and CEEC enjoy strong economic complementarities and great potential for cooperation and wide space for expanding bilateral trade and mutual investment. The trade and investment cooperation have long been a focal point of “16+1 Cooperation”, and achieved obvious progress and remarkable success. The financial cooperation has been promoted steadily and orderly since the launch of “16+1 Cooperation”, offering strong financial support for China-CEECEC Cooperation. This panel session will focus on how China and CEEC could further promote infrastructure, agriculture, trade and investment facilitation, stimulate the potentiality of both markets, and develop bilateral trade and investment by using financial instruments.*



**19:00-21:00 Cultural Event**

*Venue: China – CEEC Coordination Centre for Cultural Cooperation, National University Library St. Clement of Ohrid*

**Hosted by:** H.E. Mr. Asaf Ademi, Minister of culture

- Music performance and exhibition
- Cocktail

**Day Two: Wednesday, 31 October**

**10:00-12:00 Panel 3:  
Enhancing China-EU cooperation on the platform of "16 + 1 cooperation"**

*Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs / Amphitheater*

**Moderator:** Kong Tianping, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of European Studies, CASS

**Panelists:**

- **Tian Changchun**, Senior Research Fellow of China Foundation for International Studies, Former Ambassador of China to Armenia
- **Aleksandar Mitić**, PhD, President, Center for Strategic Alternatives, Belgrade, Serbia  
*Title: (De) Constructing the Negative BRI Strategic Narrative*
- **Patrycja Pendrakowska**, President of Board, Poland Asia Research Centre, Poland  
*Title: Understanding the idea of institutionalization*
- **Lucie Qian Xia**, Doctoral Student, Department of International Development University of Oxford  
*Title: Enhancing Sino-European relations: China, the EU and the '16+1'*
- **Martin Sebens**, Research fellow at the Institute of Asian Studies in Bratislava, Slovakia  
*Title: Slovakia and the Internationalization of RMB: Specific path of euro zone members towards accommodation of Chinese currency*
- **Sławomir Majman**, Advisor to the President on Foreign Affairs, Employers of the Republic of Poland and fellow of Jagiellonian University  
*Title: Is China posing a threat to global order? East European view*
- **Gao Xiaochuan**, Research fellow at the Center for CEE studies, East China Normal University Shanghai  
**Title: The Seventh China-CEEC summit and the prospect of "16+1 cooperation"**

*"16+1 Cooperation" is a beneficial part of China-EU Cooperation. In the past five years, China and CEEC actively explored the ways to improve China-EU Cooperation, and reached a number of consensus. This panel session is devoted to the topics of how to establish the "16+1 Cooperation" as an open and shared platform, create more and better development opportunities for China-EU Cooperation, and help the EU to make a balanced and sustainable development.*





12:00 – 13:30 Lunch

Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs / 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

13:30-15:30 Panel 4:  
Deepening sub-regional cooperation between China and CEEC

Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs / Amphitheater

**Moderator:** **Anastas Vangeli**, Doctoral Researcher, Graduate School for Social Research at the Polish Academy of Sciences

**Panelists:**

- **Una Aleksandra Bērziņa-Čerenkova**, Head of the New Silk Road Program, Latvian Institute of International Affairs, Latvia  
*Title: The implications of the China's civilization discourse during the 16 + 1 Riga Su*
- **Liu Haiyun**, Professor and Vice Dean, He Bei University of Foreign Economics and Trade  
**Title:** The Status Quo and Countermeasures of Cooperation between Hebei Province and Central and Eastern Europe
- **Ana Blazheska and Marija Risteska**, Center for Research and Policy Making, Macedonia  
*Title: the creation of a Regional Investment Reform Agenda in the Western Balkans and its implications for Chinese investments: case study on the Republic of Macedonia*
- **Marsela Musabelliu**, (Albania), PhD Candidate, Xiamen University  
*Title: The Polymorphic Western Balkans into the '16+1' Cooperation Mechanism: Torn between compliance and denial.*
- **Long Jing**, Deputy Director of the Center for European Studies, Shanghai Institutes for International Studies  
**Title:** Sub-regional Cooperation in the Framework of "16+1 Cooperation"
- **Csaba Moldicz**, Associate Professor, Vice-Dean for Research and International Issues, Budapest Business School, Hungary  
*Title: The Geopolitical and Historical Embeddedness of 16+1 Cooperation. The Case of the Visegrad Four Countries*
- **Frosina Vitkovska**, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow at Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan, China  
*Title: The "16+1" Silk Road Echoes of the Imperial Bells of China: the Confucius Metaphor of Bianzhong Sounds*

*"16+1 Cooperation" has achieved remarkable progress in several sub-regional cooperation in CEE. Local cooperation became one of the main highlight points of "16+1 Cooperation". In recent years, the cooperation between China and Visegrád Group, China and the Baltic countries, China and the western Balkan countries raised public concern. This panel session will pay attention to analyze how "16+1 Cooperation" will deepen and enrich sub-regional cooperation, and achieve innovations and developments of regional cooperation in diplomatic practices.*



15:30-16:00 Closing session

*Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs / Amphitheater*

**Closing remarks:**

- **Ambassador Abdulkadar Memedi**, Director of the Institute for Geostrategic Research and Foreign Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia
- **H.E. Mrs. Huo Yuzhen**, Special Representative for Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries