



中国传媒大学  
COMMUNICATION UNIVERSITY OF CHINA



Institute for a Community  
with Shared Future  
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## **Celebrating the First International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations: World Toward Unity in Diversity**



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*Published on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025*



On June 10, 2025, the world witnessed the inaugural celebration of the International Day for Dialogue Among Civilizations, a landmark event spearheaded by China and adopted unanimously by the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly. This UN-designated day is not merely a ceremonial addition to the international calendar; rather, it symbolizes the materialization of China's Global Civilization Initiative (GCI) and the broader ambitions of its suite of global proposals. These include the Global Development Initiative (GDI), the Global Security Initiative (GSI), and the GCI, all underpinned by President Xi Jinping's vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind.

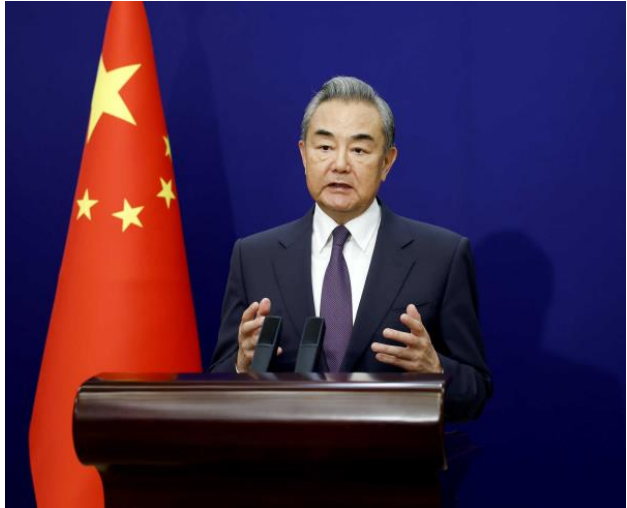


The world today is grappling with overlapping crises such as geopolitical rivalries, cultural misunderstandings, ideological polarization, and mounting global crises such as climate change, poverty, and armed conflicts. China positions itself not only as a defender of multilateralism but also as a global standard-bearer for cultural inclusiveness, peaceful coexistence, and collective development through advocating dialogue among civilizations.

### **A Platform Rooted in the Global Civilization Initiative**

The Global Civilization Initiative, proposed by President Xi Jinping in 2023, rests on four pillars: respect for the diversity of civilizations, promotion of the common values of

humanity, emphasis on the inheritance and innovation of civilizations, and enhancement of people-to-people exchanges and cooperation. The adoption of the International Day for Dialogue Among Civilizations, a direct manifestation of these values, offers a structured global platform to reject the “clash of civilizations” thesis. As Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi emphasized in a video message marking the occasion, civilizations must safeguard equity,



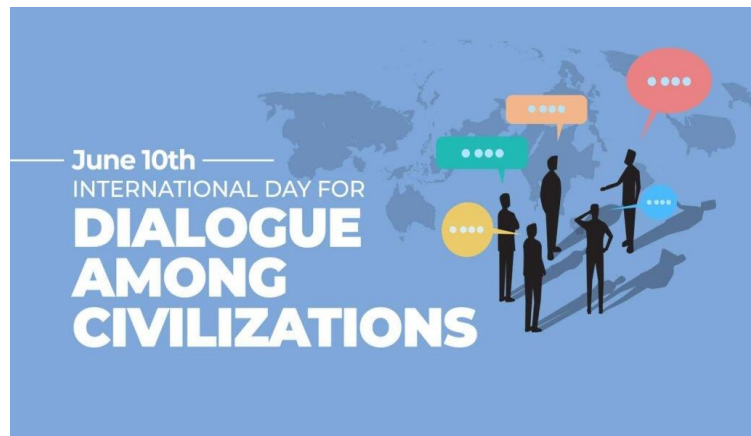
facilitate exchanges, and promote progress, underscoring China’s rejection of notions such as the clash of civilizations and the superiority of cultures, advocating instead for the dignity, sovereignty, and developmental rights of all nations. This inclusive vision seeks to bridge historical divides and create new opportunities for cooperation.

The Global Civilization Initiative not only counters these divisive ideologies but also actively promotes equity among nations, emphasizing that no single country or culture holds a monopoly on truth, values, or progress. This pluralistic stance, rooted in Confucian wisdom, recognizes the world's civilizational diversity as a source of strength rather than conflict.



## **Multilateral Momentum**

China's global leadership in initiating this international day reinforces its long-standing commitment to multilateral diplomacy. Co-sponsored by over 80 countries, the resolution to designate June 10 as the International Day for Dialogue Among Civilizations garnered overwhelming support at the UN, reflecting the shared global aspiration to bridge cultural divides. Over the past decade, China has played a proactive role in advancing multilateralism through various UN initiatives. For instance, it spearheaded the resolution to establish World



Cities Day (October 31) in 2014 and co-founded the “Group of Friends on the Safety and Security of UN Peacekeepers” in 2021. China has also initiated platforms such as the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations and the CPC in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-Level Meeting, fostering international people-to-people exchanges and mutual learning. Such efforts have enhanced understanding between nations and cultivated an environment conducive to dialogue and shared development.

The ASEAN-China-GCC Summit and the China-Central Asia Summit have similarly emphasized regional cooperation, underscoring the importance of cultural diplomacy in achieving geopolitical stability and economic integration. At the policy level, governments and international organizations are being urged to create frameworks that actively support



intercultural dialogue. This includes crafting educational curriculums that promote cultural literacy, legislating against cultural discrimination, and funding programs that bring together people from different backgrounds. At the institutional level, China calls for establishing national and international mechanisms such as ministerial-level departments and intergovernmental forums to implement and monitor dialogue initiatives. The proposal to host the 2028 United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) Global Forum in China is a strategic step in institutionalizing this agenda on a global scale.

### **Addressing Challenges through Cultural Exchange**

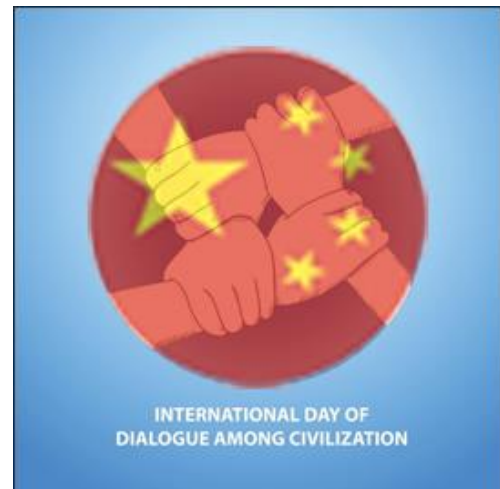
UN Secretary-General António Guterres echoed this sentiment in a video message, stating that “dialogue is the path to peace.” He urged the global community to deepen mutual understanding and global solidarity through intercultural dialogue, particularly in a time when conflicts, inequality, and climate challenges loom large over humanity. The dialogue among civilizations goes beyond diplomacy and enters the realm of everyday life. In an age where digital platforms can both unite and divide, dialogue becomes essential for nurturing empathy, dismantling stereotypes, and fostering intercultural trust.

This year's celebration was not limited to speeches and symbolism. At the UN headquarters in New York and other venues around the world, diplomats, scholars, civil society leaders, and artists gathered to promote inter-civilizational understanding. Topics ranged from youth exchange and education to climate action and digital cooperation. As the UN highlighted on its website, the International Day for Dialogue Among Civilizations

“provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the value of the diversity of civilizations and promote dialogue, mutual respect, and global solidarity, fostering a more harmonious and interconnected world. China’s promotion of the International Day for Dialogue Among Civilizations also enhances its soft power. While Western powers often assert dominance through military alliances and economic sanctions, China emphasizes cooperation, mutual benefit, and cultural respect. This alternative narrative resonates particularly well with countries in the Global South, many of whom see in China a partner that acknowledges their history, respects their sovereignty, and values their traditions.

### **Toward a Shared Future for Mankind**

Ultimately, the establishment of the International Day for Dialogue Among Civilizations marks a critical milestone in realizing China’s vision of a shared future for humanity. The day is more than a diplomatic achievement; it is a reflection of China’s philosophical worldview, rooted in harmony, cooperation, and coexistence. China is not only redefining global priorities but also reshaping the international discourse around peace, development, and culture and also offering an inclusive model that appeals to a world exhausted by conflict and eager for new solutions.



The International Day for Dialogue Among Civilizations serves as a timely and necessary global platform for cultivating peace, inclusivity, and mutual respect.



In conclusion, the China-led International Day for Dialogue Among Civilizations is a strategic, ideological, and diplomatic triumph. As China continues to promote the Global Civilization Initiative, it invites all countries to join hands in writing a new chapter of peaceful coexistence and shared development. The world may be diverse in culture and belief, but through sincere dialogue and mutual learning, it can become united in its aspirations for peace and progress.