

K. V. Evdokimchik,
Scientific supervisor E. A. Malashenko,
PhD in Pedagogy, Associate Professor,
Belarus State Economic University
(Minsk, Republic of Belarus)
ev.karisha@mail.ru

CULTURAL BRIDGE BETWEEN BELARUS AND CHINA: EXPERIENCE OF COOPERATION

Abstract. *The article examines the cultural cooperation between Belarus and China. It describes the key areas of collaboration, including cultural exchange days, joint festivals, exhibitions, and film projects. Special attention is paid to the importance of cultural dialogue in strengthening bilateral relations and fostering mutual understanding between nations. The article discusses successful initiatives such as the China-Belarus Industrial Park “Great Stone” and a joint film project. It also analyzes the main forms of cooperation: museum and library affairs, theatrical arts, and participation in international competitions and festivals.*

Keywords: *cooperation, culture, Belarus, China, events, cultural exchange, international relations.*

К. В. Евдокимчик,
научный руководитель Е. А. Малашенко,
кандидат педагогических наук, доцент,
Белорусский государственный экономический университет
(г. Минск, Республика Беларусь)
ev.karisha@mail.ru

КУЛЬТУРНЫЙ МОСТ МЕЖДУ БЕЛАРУСЬЮ И КИТАЕМ: ОПЫТ СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА

Аннотация. В статье рассматривается сотрудничество между Беларусью и Китаем в сфере культуры. Описаны ключевые направления взаимодействия, включая обменные дни культуры, совместные фестивали, выставки и кинопроекты. Особое внимание уделяется значимости культурного диалога для укрепления двусторонних отношений и взаимопонимания между народами. Рассматриваются примеры успешных инициатив, таких как Китайско-Белорусский индустриальный парк «Великий Камень» и совместный кинопроект. Анализируются основные формы сотрудничества: музейное и библиотечное дело, театральное искусство и участие в международных конкурсах и фестивалях.

Ключевые слова: сотрудничество, культура, Беларусь, Китай, мероприятия, культурный обмен, международные отношения.

Globalization processes and technological progress have influenced the fact that cultural ties between countries are becoming more diverse, they help to overcome barriers, strengthen friendly relations between countries and create a diverse cultural space. Due to this, there is a need for international cooperation in the field of culture [15].

In the modern world, culture occupies a central place in the development of each country. It plays a huge role in promoting mutual understanding, tolerance and generalization of experience. Cooperation between countries in the field of culture opens up new opportunities and contributes to the development of world cultural heritage. Joint initiatives demonstrate respect for traditions, cultural values, contribute to the improvement of cultural industries or the protection of cultural rights. The interaction of different cultures enriches each culture, creating new artistic forms and strengthening national identity.

Cultural interaction between Belarus and China is formed on the basis of a model of mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of culture, taking into account the peculiarities and recognition of the values of each culture. At the moment, the partnership between Belarus and China is dynamic, intensive and large-scale, and affects such spheres of life as socio-political, economic and cultural. As an example that confirms the close and fruitful partnership of the countries, we can cite the project of the industrial park of innovative technologies "Great Stone". Despite the remoteness of the borders between the countries, the differences characteristic of the mentality of the peoples and language barriers, Belarus and China can be called a model of effective multicultural dialogue [11].

Cooperation between Belarus and China in the cultural sphere is carried out in many areas, including museum affairs, library affairs, performances of creative groups, participation in competitions and festivals, and mutual partnership covers such areas as theater arts and cinematography.

A significant area of cooperation is the exchange days of culture. China and Belarus regularly hold Days of Culture on the territory of the two countries, which has become a good tradition. Joint projects help to form bridges of cooperation, mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of both countries. It can be noted that many creative groups of Belarus perform in various cities of China. More and more Chinese can easily remember the Bolshoi Theater of Belarus, as well as such famous ensembles as Pesnyary and Khoroshki – they have an excellent reputation in China and are becoming increasingly popular. In turn, Chinese delegations actively participate in large projects held in Belarus. A good example is the Minsk International Book

Fair, Slavic Bazaar and the Minsk International Film Festival Listapad. During his speech at the Belarusian State Philharmonic, Minister of Culture Ruslan Chernetsky emphasized that the huge distance between the countries did not prevent the establishment of warm and very productive cooperation [4, 8].

According to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus dated October 25, 2021, the Director of the National Art Museum Wu Weishan was solemnly awarded the Francysk Skaryna Medal for his enormous contribution to strengthening and developing international relations in the field of culture [7].

The National Library of Belarus maintains active relations with two Chinese libraries: the National Library of China and the National Central Library of Taiwan. An agreement on cooperation has been concluded between the national libraries of Belarus and China [7].

Creative groups of Belarus and China take part in competitions and festivals on a reciprocal basis. This is not the first time that Chinese films have been presented in the Listapad film festival program. In 2024, the anniversary film festival was held, which was attended by the famous Chinese actor Zhang Yi. Zhang Yi came to the festival as the main actor of the film “Endless Journey”. The film was shown out of competition in early November at the Pobeda cinema as part of the Chinese Cinema Day. It is worth noting that the work of Chinese director Zhang Zhong became the best feature film at the international film festival [5].

“Listapad” opens up new opportunities for international relations. Belarus and China will release a joint film project for the first time in history. This is confirmed by the fact that both countries signed a corresponding agreement in 2023. The film project will be launched in 2024 – during the anniversary of the establishment of Belarusian-Chinese diplomatic relations. The countries have been productively cooperating in all key areas for over thirty years. Both Belarusian and Chinese specialists are involved in the project. The filming of the film takes place in the most picturesque corners of both countries. The film will tell the story of romantic feelings that arose between young people from China and Belarus. The authors of the plot plan to reflect the historical and cultural heritage of the peoples in the film, and also introduce viewers to the youth of such different countries [1, 3, 13].

According to the established protocol of the fourth meeting of the Commission on Scientific and Technical Cooperation of the Belarusian-Chinese Intergovernmental Committee for 2024–2025, it is planned to hold a joint Belarusian-Chinese competition of scientific and technical projects in various areas, for example, mechanical engineering or chemical technologies and production [6].

A Memorandum on Bilateral Cooperation was signed between the National Academic Bolshoi Opera and Ballet Theatre of the Republic of Belarus and the National Bolshoi Theatre of China. In 2024, four performances of the ballet

“Spartacus” and a gala concert of ballet soloists took place at the XXIII Shanghai International Arts Festival [7].

With the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus and the Embassy of Belarus, including within the framework of fruitful cooperation between the National Art Museums of Belarus and China, memorable and vibrant exhibitions of painting and photography by Belarusian authors are often held in China.

The most significant and extensive project of bilateral cooperation is the China-Belarus Industrial Park “Great Stone”. Various zones can be found on the territory of the park: there are residential and industrial sites, offices and shopping and entertainment complexes, a financial and scientific research center. In fact, this park is a modern international eco-city, where special attention is paid to the production of high-tech and competitive innovations with the possibility of significant export. During the One Belt-One Road initiative, the industrial park was named the best special economic zone of 2020 by the international publication Financial Times. The Financial Times Best Special Economic Zone of the Year rating is an annual rating of free economic zones based on the level of investment, job creation and infrastructure development. This rating is based on analytical data from FDI Intelligence and is considered an authoritative source for choosing an investment location [2].

China’s main principle of “One belt – One road” promotes the expansion of partnership in the field of culture of participating countries and partner countries. This also applies to Belarus, since Belarus is one of the key partners of the Republic of China in the post-Soviet space.

As former Minister of Culture of Belarus B. Svetlov noted, the development of partnership with China is one of the most important areas of Belarus’s foreign policy, and the mobile development of Belarusian-Chinese cultural ties is explained by the fact that trusting relations have developed between the countries, the unity of principles of domestic and foreign policy [9].

The main achievements of the Chinese Cultural Center can be expressed in the high quality of the events held, openness and friendliness. The Center adheres to high professional standards, organizes and holds a wide range of events in the field of Chinese culture [9].

The center holds classes, exhibitions, and also offers lectures on Chinese culture. Master classes on Chinese painting were held on the basis of the center, where the topics are images of various flowers, birds, landscapes. Lectures are also held where you can learn about Chinese costumes, calligraphy, musical instruments of China or the culture of Chinese tea [9].

A good prospect for demonstrating Chinese culture and traditions is the celebration of the Chinese New Year. In 2024, during the festive celebrations, the Chinese Cultural Center in Minsk held the xiangqi chess tournament “Spring Festival”, a concert program of folk instrumental music

and a screening of a film about the traditions of New Year ceremonies in China [9, 14].

One of the highlights was the festival “Merry Spring Festival in Belarus 2024”, dedicated to the Chinese New Year. Before the start, the director of the Chinese Cultural Center in Minsk Xia Guangyuan gave a welcoming speech. He congratulated everyone present on the New Year and spoke about the significance of the Spring Festival for the people of China. The assembled spectators were treated to an interesting documentary film “Chinese New Year. The Biggest Holiday in the World”, which told in detail about all the stages, traditional customs and traditions of the Chinese New Year. After watching, the spectators were treated to a short quiz of five questions, for the correct answers to which pleasant prizes were awarded. Many of those present actively raised their hands and showed great interest in Chinese culture and language [10].

On May 27, 2023 and June 1, 2024, the events “Tea for World Harmony” were held, which are dedicated to the Chinese province of Yunnan and the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. One of the main objectives of these events was to promote the intangible cultural heritage of various regions of China, support intercultural exchange, and emphasize the concept of harmonious coexistence of man and nature in Chinese culture. The cooperation also covers publishing activities. Thus, at the initiative of the center, Belarus and China printed many Chinese books in the Belarusian language. The Chinese Cultural Center in Minsk, together with representatives of two publishing houses, took part in the international seminar “Time and Writers”, which was held as part of the exhibition. The seminar addressed issues related to how to use literature to show friendship and cooperation between the peoples of countries located along the “One belt – One road”, with the involvement of writers and editors from different countries of the world.

In 2023, the National Art Museum hosted the exhibition project “Belarus – China. Cooperation and Friendship”. The exhibition showcased various types and techniques of fine and decorative arts of China from the 17th to early 21st centuries: porcelain, ceramics, art metal, carved and painted lacquers, stone and wood carving; folk art, guohua. The exhibition also includes items that are rarely displayed. They were donated to the museum by famous Chinese artists or acquired from collectors over the years. In total, there are about 70 unique exhibits, the authorship of many of which is unknown. The project is entirely dedicated to China, and the authors whose works are presented in the exhibition reflect their vision of the country and themselves as belonging to the nation [12].

Thus, it can be emphasized that cooperation between Belarus and China plays an important role in strengthening bilateral relations. Cultural exchanges contribute to a better understanding of the traditions and values of both

countries. China is interested in Belarusian culture, and Belarus is interested in ancient Chinese traditions. Joint efforts help preserve and popularize unique elements of both cultures. Cooperation between the countries includes the exchange of artists, the organization of exhibitions and events, which not only enriches the cultural heritage, but also promotes integration at the global level. Through music, art, painting, each person can more easily feel, understand and immerse themselves in the atmosphere of the country that presents its experience and traditions, since the conversation is conducted in an understandable and simple language.

Music and painting are universal language tools, they convey emotional experience that does not require translation, and become a connecting link for people regardless of their nationality and culture. Art forms express emotions and ideas that are easily perceived. Music can evoke feelings of joy or sorrow, and painting can convey the depth of experiences, open a window to another world, show beauty and compassion, help evoke emotions that will connect people of different nationalities. They help us realize that, despite the differences in mentality, language, we are all people who can empathize, support, sympathize and love, since the essence of art is to correct people's hearts.

Every year, cooperation is successfully strengthened, opening up new and new areas of interaction. It is strengthened thanks to mutual interest and cultural exchange, joint events that create platforms for dialogue and exchange of experience. Youth initiatives, student exchanges stimulate cultural cooperation. Students participate in joint projects, study on an exchange basis, organize exhibitions and festivals, demonstrating their traditions. This stimulates interest in the languages and history of both countries. Joint events strengthen friendship and develop intercultural understanding. Such meetings enrich the experience of students, creating communities of like-minded people, helping to understand each other through music, art, dance, this even allows to reduce the language barrier between participants. A different language environment improves language skills, promotes teamwork, exchange of experience and knowledge, inspiring new ideas and achievements, helping to build international ties.

Both countries strive to preserve the uniqueness of their traditions, while learning from each other. Such exchanges help to form a positive image of the countries, making cooperation an important tool in strengthening diplomatic relations.

It is culture that is the bridge between the hearts of people of different nationalities, and today this bridge is becoming even stronger.

References

1. A producer from China told what the joint Belarusian-Chinese film will be about // Belta news. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/culture/view/prodjuser-iz-kitaja-rasskazal-o-chem-budet-sovmestnyj-belorussko->

kitajskij-film-600168-2023/?ysclid=m728911xbo785490321 (date of access: 16.02.2025).

2. About the China-Belarus Industrial Park “Great Stone” // Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in the People’s Republic of China. – URL: <https://china.mfa.gov.by/ru/invest/greatstone> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

3. Belarus and China launch first ever joint film project // STV news. – 2023. – URL: <https://ctv.by/news/obshestvo/belarus-i-kitaj-zapuskayut-per-vyj-v-istorii-sovmestnyj-kinoproekt> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

4. Belarus and China to exchange cultural days // Belta news. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-kitaj-obmenjajutsja-dnjami-kulturny-654304-2024/?ysclid=m724xu77gx11137464> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

5. Burbut, E. A famous Chinese actor has arrived in Belarus / E. Burbut // Information agency “Minskaya Pravda”. – 2024. – URL: <https://mlyn.by/02112024/v-belarus-priehal-izvestnyj-kitajskij-akter> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

6. Competition of joint Belarusian-Chinese scientific and technical projects for 2024–2025 // State Committee for Science and Technology. – URL: <https://www.gknt.gov.by/deyatelnost/belorusko-kitajskikh-nauchno-tekhnicheskikh-proektov-na-2024--2025-gody.php> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

7. Cooperation in the field of culture // Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in the People’s Republic of China. – URL: <https://china.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral/humanitarian> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

8. Days of Chinese Culture in Belarus kicked off at the Belarusian State Philharmonic with a concert of artists // Belta news. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/culture/view/dni-kulturny-kitaja-v-belarusi-startovali-v-belgosfilarmonii-kontsertom-masterov-iskusstv-6845162024/?ysclid=m724zgnu2n6-8011-0349> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

9. Jinjun, Shuai. Chinese Cultural Center in Minsk and its Role in Cultural Cooperation between China and Belarus / Shuai Jinjun // Scientific and publishing center “Aspect”. – 2024. – URL: <https://na-journal.ru/9-2024-kultura-iskusstvo/14919-kitaiskii-kulturnyi-centr-v-minske-i-ego-rol-v-kulturnom-sotrudnichestve-mejdu-kitaem-i-belarusyu?ysclid=m732yr-l0y2399964379> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

10. Minsk hosts the festival “Merry Spring Festival in Belarus 2024” // Chinese Cultural Center in Minsk. – URL: <https://cccminsk.by/v-minske-prohodit-festival-veselyj-prazdnik-vesny-v-belarusi-2024> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

11. Rongyan, Tang. Belarusian-chinese cultural interaction and its coverage in the mass media / Tang Rongyan // Belarusian State University. – 2024. – URL: <https://elib.bsu.by/bitstream/123456789/276722/1/239-244.pdf> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

12. Shitsko, Ya. Harmony in all its manifestations. Exhibition “Belarus – China. Cooperation and Friendship” / Ya. Shitsko // Publishing house

“Zvyazda”. – 2023, Minsk. – URL: <https://zviazda.by/ru/news/20230204/16-75505282-garmoniya-vo-vseh-ee-proyavleniyah-vystavka-belarus-kitay-sotrudniche-stvo-i> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

13. The Listapad Grand Prix was awarded to a film about a romance between a Chinese man and a Kazakh woman. – 2024. – URL: <https://sputnik.by/20241108/gran-pri-listapada-prisudili-filmu-o-romane-mezhdu-kitaytsem-i-kazashkoy-1090985068.html> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

14. Tour in Shanghai. – URL: https://bolshoi.ru/season/tour/Shanghai2024?ysclid=m726o8wx7c397368548&utm_referrer=https%3A-%2F%2Fyandex.by%2F (date of access: 16.02.2025).

15. Zaikina, V. International cooperation in culture / V. Zaikina // Institute for the Development of Socio-Economic Projects and Initiatives. – 2024. – URL: <https://irsepi.ru/mezhdunarodnoe-sotrudnichestvo-v-kulture/?ysclid=m7239k0k9q211182743> (date of access: 16.02.2025).

A. L. Evsiuk,

*Scientific supervisor E. A. Malashenko,
PhD in Pedagogy, Associate Professor,
Belarus State Economic University
(Minsk, Republic of Belarus)
annay201449@gmail.com*

EDUCATION AND CULTURE AS THE BASIS OF BELARUSIAN-CHINESE ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE COMMUNITY OF SHARED FUTURE FOR MANKIND

Abstract. *Globalization requires social cohesion, in the formation of which education and culture play a key role. The article analyzes the concept of the “Community of Shared Destiny for Mankind” as a model of international cooperation, emphasizes the influence of education on the development of civic responsibility and critical thinking, and reveals the role of intercultural interaction and the protection of society from disinformation in achieving effective economic cooperation between countries.*

Keywords: *Belarus-China cooperation, culture, education, technological innovation, future prospects, economy.*