

## News Flash: World Classical Studies Academic Network Launched

世界古典学大会 [World Conference of Classics, Institute of Foreign Literature, CASS]

November 11, 2024

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At the first World Conference of Classics, the scholars on classical studies enhanced friendship and understanding after two days of intensive discussions and academic sharing. The participants not only delved into the professional issues within the field of classical studies, but also engaged in profound reflection and sincere exchange regarding the future of classics as well as the insights that classical wisdom can offer to the modern world.

The scholars on classical studies believe that classical civilizations lay the intellectual foundation of human civilization. The fundamental ideas, ways of thinking and social structures established by classical civilizations have profoundly influenced that progress of human civilizations and social evolution over thousands of years, shaping the genetic code of human civilization. To understand the modern world we live in, classical civilization is an indispensable reference point. Only by knowing where we have come from, can we better understand our present situation and the direction we are heading. The scholars on classical studies recognize the emphasis that classical studies place on the virtues of human civilization. The essence of classical civilization lies in the aspiration and pursuit of noble virtues, just principles and exceptional abilities. In the present world filled with drastic changes and multiple challenges, classical scholars need to look back to the past and draw wisdom from the enduring classics of various civilizations, safeguarding the values that human society cherishes together.



The scholars on classical studies point out that classical wisdom provides the driving force for the development of human civilization. The ancient sages of both East and West have profoundly explored the fundamental issues common to humanity. Looking to the past can strengthen our spirit as we forge ahead. Thus, classical studies must inspire a deep exploration of classical wisdom, rejuvenate classical virtues, and provide essential nourishment for the modern world. Classical studies should safeguard virtuous qualities and promote the development of contemporary civilization with noble beliefs. Classical studies should celebrate the wisdom of human civilization, cherish the spiritual wealth of all humanity, and explore the unique values of different civilizations.



The scholars on classical studies believe that classical studies in the era of economic globalization require a global perspective by breaking down barriers and connecting East and West; they require an attitude of equality by respecting differences and embracing diversity; and they should strive to cultivate beautiful souls for modern society. Classical civilization must keep pace with the times, and the future of classical studies will undoubtedly provide inexhaustible wisdom and strength for peace and development of the humanity.



Based on the consensus of the scholars attending the conference, the Center for Classical Civilizations of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), in collaboration with the Academy of Athens, the Classical Studies Association of the CASFL, the Classical Studies Committee of the Chinese Comparative Literature Association, Professor Tim Whitmarsh, fellow of the British Academy, Professor Patrick Finglass, president of the

Bristol Branch of the Classical Association of the UK, Professor François Queyrel of the École Pratique des Hautes Études, Professor Marco Mancini, deputy rector of the Sapienza University of Rome in Italy, Professor Giorgio Inglese of Sapienza University of Rome in Italy, Professor Giorgio Piras of Sapienza University of Rome in Italy, Valery Valentinovich Petroff, research fellow of the Institute of Philosophy of Russian Academy of Sciences, Professor Miyagi Tokuya of the School of Culture, Media and Society of Waseda University in Japan and Professor Emeritus Michael Trapp of King's College London have initiated the establishment of the World Classical Studies Academic Network. A corresponding website "Classical Studies" will also be launched simultaneously.



Researcher He Fangying, secretary-general of the Center for Classical Civilization of CASS, head of the Classical Studies Division of the Institute of Foreign Literature of CASS, introduced the World Classical Studies Academic Network at the closing ceremony of the first World Conference of Classics, welcoming more scholars on classical studies into the World Classical Studies Academic Network in the future. Through ongoing academic exchange and collaboration, along with the sharing of the latest academic resources and information, the initiators aim to deepen connections within the global classical studies community, together creating an environment filled with wisdom and friendship.