BULGARIAN DIPLOMATIC, ECONOMIC, ACADEMIC, CULTURAL DAYS (DEAC)

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25th April 2018 (Wednesday) Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

PROGRAMME

08.30 – 09:00 **Registration** (Sofia University, Rectorate's building, Aula Magna) 09:00 **Opening session** (Sofia University, Rectorate's building, Aula Magna) (Address: Sofia, 15 Tsar Osvoboditel Blvd.)

Chair:

- Baron Ernest de Laminne de BEX, President of CIDIC

Welcome notes by

- Prof. Anastas GERDJIKOV, Rector of Sofia University
- **Prof. Statty STATTEV,** Rector of the University of National & World Economy
- Mr. Petar NIKOLOV, PhD, Deputy Minister of Education and Science
- Mrs Kris DEJONCKHEERE, Secretary General of UNICA

Introduction of the Discussion Panels

- **Prof. Jan CORNELIS,** Academic Attaché CIDIC

09:40 End of the Opening session

09:40 – 09:50 **Time for group photo**

16+1 in EU-China relations

(Conference Hall, Rectorate's building, North wing, 2^{nd} fl.)

Chairs:

- Prof. Xinning SONG, Director of Cl at VUB, Jean Monnet Chair ad personam
- Assoc. Prof. Antonya TSANKOVA, Sofia University, Chinese Studies Department

09:50 - 10:00

Introduction by Ambassador of the P.R. China in Bulgaria: Zhang HAIZHOU

Start-ups, motors for new economic and societal activity

(Aula Magna, Rectorate's building)

Chairs:

- **Prof. Nikolay DENCHEV,** VUB
- **Prof. Nikolai DENKOV,** Sofia University

09:50 - 10:00

Introduction by Tihomira PALOVA, Ministry of Economy, State expert

Policies of support of the start-ups and entrepreneurship from the Ministry of economy

10:00 - 11:00

Panel 1.1 EU - China relations

Panel participants:

 Alexandra MIRCHEVSKA, Center for China Economy and Politics, Sofia University

Balkan Short Cuts of Modern Silk Road

- **Prof. Nako STEFANOV,** Sofia University The "New Normality" of the PRC economy Problems and Challenges on the path of building a post-industrial paradigm of development
 - Prof. Chunrong LIU, Fudan Center of China Studies at Copenhagen University

The Politics of China-CEEC Cooperation: How Domestic Contexts Matter

Prof. Chun DING, Jean Monnet Chair,
 Fudan University, Director of Centre for
 European studies,

China - EU economic relationship: status quo, problems and perspective

11:00 - 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 - 12:30

Panel 1.2 The 16+1 Programme

Panel participants:

 Prof. Dinko DINKOV, UNWE - Director of the research centre on Balkan studies

The Balkan Crossroad: opportunities for enhancing the EU - Chinese relations

Assoc. prof. Evgeniy KANDILAROV,
 Sofia University

Opportunities, chances and challenges of the "One belt, one road" initiative and 16+1" formula for Bulgaria

Prof. Weiping HUANG, Jean Monnet
 Chair ad personam, member Academic
 Board of BACES, former Dean of School of Economics of RUC

Comparative Advantage Basis for the Cooperation between China and Eastern European Countries

Prof. Maria STOICHEVA, Jean Monnet

10:00 - 11:00

Panel 1.1 Start-up ecosystems

Panel participants:

- **Prof. Nikolay DENCHEV,** VUB **Let us build sustainable (social) entrepreneurship systems**
 - Ivan TODOROV, Invest Bulgaria
 Agency, Head expert

Policies for foreign investments in Bulgaria

- **Dobromir IVANOV,** Bulgarian Startup Association, Vice-Chairman

Overview of the Bulgarian Startup Ecosystem

 Todor MLADENOV, Sofia Tech Park, Head of Innovation and Projects Department

Sofia Tech Park - Mission Possible! (short video story)

11:00 - 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 - 12:30

Panel 1.2 Start-ups and the role of Universities

Panel participants:

 Assoc. prof. Milanka SLAVOVA, UNWE, Vice Rector

Can the knowledge transfer from the Bulgarian universities repeat the Bulgarian startups success?

- **Prof. Abdellah TOUHAFI,** VUB **Ecosystems for start-up creation and growth: the Lumency case**
 - Assoc. prof. Desislava YORDANOVA,
 Sofia University, Faculty of Economics
 and Business Administration
 Transformation of Bulgarian universities
 into entrepreneurial universities:
 barriers, facilitators and best practices
 - Assoc. Prof. Todor YALAMOV, Sofia University, Faculty of Economic and Business Administration

Academic entrepreneurship

and

Chair, Sofia University, Vice-rector European Studies Across Asian Universities. Cooperation in capacity building	commercialisation of hobbies could produce world-level enterprises: What could universities and governments learn from those successes
 Prof. Xiang DENG, Jean Monnet Chair – associate Dean of the School of Economics in Sichuan University The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China- EU Cargo Railway 	 Prof. Maria NICULESCU, Directeur de l'ESFAM Ecole Supérieure de la Francophonie pour l'Administration et le Management ESFAM – The hub of innovative opportunities
12:30 – 13:00 Conclusions on both panels - Prof. Xinning SONG, Director of CI at VUB 13:00	12:30 – 13:00 Conclusions on both panels - Prof. Jan CORNELIS, Academic Attaché CIDIC
Lunch at Sofia University (Alma Mater restaurant)	