



The **OBSERVATORY FOR CHINA (OC)**, founded on December 28, 2005, it presents the newsletter with the main initiatives between April 2018 and December 2018.



Delegation of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, October 2018



Jiangsu Congress Delegation, November 2018



Disclosure of OC Projects to Universities in the USA and China, September and October 2018



World Canal Cities Forum, October 2018



Presentation of the 3rd Phase of the Macau/China Digital Library, December 2018

World Canal Cities Forum

The China Observatory was present at the World Canal Cities Forum, which took place on October 12, 2018, in the city of Yangzhou, Jiangsu province, China.

This initiative is organized by the World Historic and Cultural Canal Cities Cooperation Organization, WCCO, which is an international and non-profit entity, with the aim of promoting the integration of all canal cities, channels from around the world as well as global economic and cultural institutions. The OC suggested inviting the city of Aveiro to join the WCCO, which will support the arrival of the Yangzhou Puppet Company to Portugal to participate in BIME – Évora International Puppet Biennial (4th to 7th June) and FIMO – Ovar International Puppet Festival (June 7th to 10th).

“Protection, heritage and culture of cities with canals around the world” was the theme proposed for debate and exchange of ideas among the participants of this event.



Disclosure of China Observatory Projects: USA

In 2018, the China Observatory was invited to give lectures at several educational institutions abroad, more specifically in the USA and China. During these visits, the OC privileged the dissemination of the Macau China Digital Library project, 20th century sources. XVI-XIX:

At the invitation of Queens College – City University of New York and Brown University – Road Island, in the Departments of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, which promote the study of Portuguese-speaking languages, literatures and cultures, Rui Lourido gave two lectures entitled: “China-Portugal and Lusophone countries: old challenges, new solutions – the 19th Century Silk Road – Rupture or Continuity?” (September 24, 2018) and “Connecting worlds: the new Chinese silk road: The Lusophone and the European worlds, from the past to the present” (October 1, 2018).



Disclosure of China Observatory Projects: Macau

- **University of Macau**

On October 19, 2018, a conference was held under the theme “Hai Lu – First Chinese Chronicle of the Silk Road Leading to Portugal and Europe”, at the Department of Portuguese Studies. The OC is preparing the publication of this chronicle together with the University of Macau and the Guangzhou Academy of Social Sciences.

- **Macau International Institute**

On October 22, 2018, the lecture was held: “China's relations with Portugal and Lusofonia, the role of Macau within the scope of the New Silk Road.”

- **Macau Polytechnic Institute**

On October 24, 2019, the lecture “Xie Qing Gao (1765-1822) in Portugal: a Chinese traveler in the West” was held.



Macau International Fair

From October 18th to 20th, 2018, the 23rd Macau International Fair (MIF) and, simultaneously, the Portuguese Speaking Countries Products and Services Exhibition (PLPEX) were held at the Venetian Macao.

This initiative is organized by the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM), and was co-organized by the Permanent Secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries and the China Business Federation and Portuguese-speaking Countries, among others.

The China Observatory was present with its own exhibitor, where it gathered materials for its dissemination and promotion.



Meeting with the Delegation of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

On October 25, 2018, the China Observatory received a delegation from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) for a meeting that contributed to deepening knowledge between both institutions, with the aim of promoting Chinese multidisciplinary studies in Portugal.

The China Observatory and CASS consider it necessary to strengthen the cooperation partnership and exchange of researchers between Portugal and China.

The Chairman of the delegation, Xie Fuzhan, highlighted that in the current globalization: “China cannot develop in isolation from the rest of the world and the world's development cannot be achieved without China.”



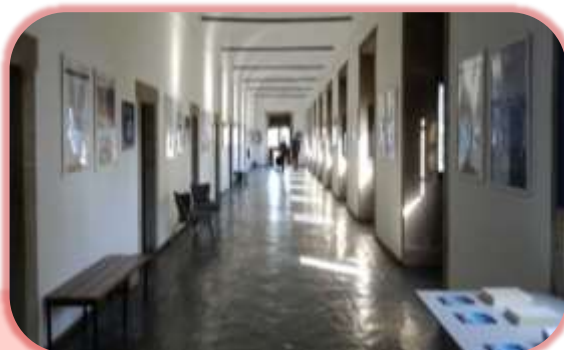
Exhibition on the New Silk Road

Invited by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, the China Observatory and the University of Évora collaborated in organizing the exhibition “One Belt and One Road – The future shared by all Humanity”. This exhibition was opened on November 1, 2018, as part of the celebration of University Day.

The opening ceremony of this exhibition featured speeches by the Rector of the University of Évora, Ana Costa Freitas, the President of the China Observatory, Rui Lourido and the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Cai Run, who began a guided tour of the exhibition.

The information presented by the 33 panels aims to make the academic community and the general public aware of the Chinese initiative - One Belt, One Road - on land and sea, assuming an important pedagogical role. The open, consented and shared construction of the New Silk Road creates better conditions for multilateral and international cooperation, deepening connectivity between the various continents and sustainable governance at a global level.

From this perspective, the civilizational repercussions of the Silk Roads of the past and their innovation and intensification in the present are important for Humanity. They will be a contribution to the multicultural, multiethnic and multipolar world, which will preserve peace and sustainable development in the world.



Visit of the Jiangsu Congress Delegation to Portugal

For three days, a Congress delegation from Jiangsu (江蘇), a Chinese province located on the coast of China, visited some Portuguese cities, namely Lisbon and Cascais.

On November 8, 2018, UCCLA received a Chinese delegation of six representatives from the Advisory Committee of the Jiangsu Provincial People's Congress, who met with the Secretary General of UCCLA, Vítor Ramalho and the Cultural Coordinator of the same institution, Rui Lourido who, in turn, presented the China Observatory – Multidisciplinary Association in Chinese Studies.

This meeting made it possible to inform the delegation of the role of the China Observatory. Rui Lourido stated that both UCCLA and the China Observatory form a dynamic partnership in cooperation between the two countries, contributing to the construction of a bridge between Portugal and Jiangsu province, particularly at institutional, cultural and university levels.



Presentation by the Portuguese Association of Friends of Chinese Culture (ZWY)

Invited by Professor Wang Suoying, President of the Portuguese Association of Friends of Chinese Culture, the China Observatory was present at the presentation ceremony of the most recent Portuguese association that will promote China in Portugal.

On November 6, 2018, President Wang Suoying announced her association and the objectives behind its creation. During this ceremony, we witnessed the launch of the book *Obras Corais em Mandarin*, by Carlos Santos Silva, the performance of the Molihua Choir and the recital of “Guzheng”, by the 10-year-old Humag Lirong.

This event took place at the Molihua Cultural Exchange Center and was attended by the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China in Portugal, Cai Run.



Technical meeting with the Chinese delegation from Suzhou

On October 22, 2018, the OC was present at the technical meeting between experts from the Lisbon and Sintra municipal councils with a delegation from the Suzhou Municipal Government, which took place at UCCLA, with the purpose of establishing exchanges and partnerships in the area of urban planning.

At the meeting, the following topics were addressed: the city management system, its equipment, the construction and management of local plumbing, the public lighting system, cities with heritage and their conservation.

Technicians from the Lisbon and Sintra municipalities spoke about the urban projects already carried out, their aspects and technicalities, as well as the projects underway in the respective cities.



Xi Jinping's book launch seminar in Lisbon

At the invitation of the Chinese Embassy in Portugal, the China Observatory was present at the seminar launching the book Xi Jinping: the Governance of China, held on November 26, 2018, days before the official state visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping to Portugal.

The work disseminates Xi Jinping's thoughts on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in the new era and the Chinese Communist Party and China in today's world.

President Xi's book highlights Chinese policies for China's social, economic, cultural and diplomatic development.



Lecture on the New Silk Road at the University of Évora

Following the exhibition “A Belt and a Road – The future shared by all Humanity” held at the University of Évora, the China Observatory organized an open class on “The New Chinese Silk Road: continuity or rupture?”, promoting his reflection in the context of the Portuguese-speaking space, on November 28, 2018.

As part of the Degree in International Relations, the students present watched a presentation about this Chinese project and also an approach to the rise of China in the context of globalization. In this sense, China is seen as the largest investor worldwide, highlighting its trade relations with Africa.

Finally, the China Observatory presented the Macau/China Digital Library project, through which students can freely consult all historical sources from the 16th to the 19th century relating to Macau, essential for understanding the relationship between the West and the China.



Meeting with the Chinese delegation of the Oral History Project

On December 6, 2018, the China Observatory received at its facilities the Chinese delegation of academics and researchers who are developing an Oral History project, within the scope of Chinese Studies worldwide.

In a presentation by the Director of the Center for Chinese Studies, Shih Chih-yu, he introduced us to the Oral History Project, which aims to bring together a set of interviews with personalities who stand out in the promotion and dissemination of Chinese Studies in the country. In this sense, the remaining members of the delegation also presented their research work on the vision of Chinese Studies in Japan, Indonesia, Egypt and Kuwait.

Invited to join this research network, the China Observatory was attended by professors - António Graça de Abreu (University of Aveiro) and Cátia Miriam Costa (ISCTE-UL) - and Catarina Severino (Instituto do Oriente, ISCSP) who expressed interest in participating in this initiative and interviewing a group of Portuguese personalities linked to Chinese Studies in Portugal.



Presentation session on the completion of the 3rd Phase of the Macau/China Digital Library

On December 13, 2018, the presentation ceremony for the completion of the 3rd Phase of the Macau/China Digital Library was held in the Council room of the National Library of Portugal, organized by the China Observatory in partnership with the National Library from Portugal. This project has the support of the Union of Portuguese Speaking Capital Cities and the sponsorship of the Macau Foundation.

This project was presented by Helena Patrício, director of Special Collections Services at the National Library of Portugal, to everyone present, in an interactive and direct way through the digital portal, explaining all the features and search options for a detailed investigation. The website can be consulted in three different languages – Portuguese, Mandarin, English – and the fourth phase is being prepared to be developed in 2019, with the introduction of the French language.

At the moment, the Digital Library offers more than 170 thousand pages, accessible free of charge via internet connection, of complete manuscripts, periodical publications, cartography and, recently, critical editions, accompanying cultural and historical heritage from the 16th to the 20th century. In 2019, this project will proceed to a 4th Phase with the introduction of documents from the Évora Municipal Library and the Ajuda Library.



Musical show “Fado without Borders”

The China Observatory supported the promotion of Cao Bei's concert, which took place on October 30, 2018, at the Tivoli Theater.

A multicultural concert “Fado sem Fronteiras”, with the participation of several special guest artists, on a musical journey between Portugal and China.

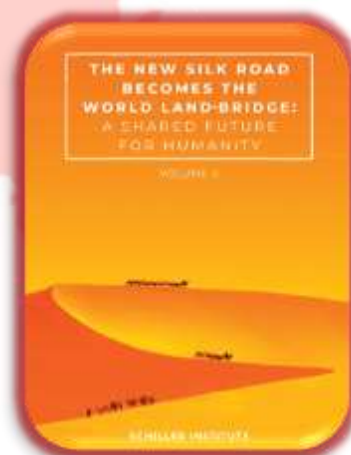


Meeting with Dennis Small EIR and Schiller Institute

At the request of the Schiller International Institute, the President of the China Observatory met with researcher Dennis Small, editor of the EIR, on November 13, 2018.

The meeting's central theme was the Maritime Silk Road, as part of the launch of the book “The New Silk Road Becomes the World Land Bridge a Shared Future for Humanity”.

And, finally, the relationship between the United States of America and China was discussed, as well as the role of Portugal and Spain in the Maritime Silk Road.



II Luso-Chinese Youth Forum

On November 21, 2018, the China Observatory was present at the seminar of the II Luso-Chinese Youth Forum on the theme: “Portugal/China Business Cooperation: Economy of the Sea”. This event was sponsored by the Portugal-China Multisecular Friendship League (LMAPC) and in partnership with the General Directorate of Maritime Policy/Ministry of the Sea.



Curricular Internships

In 2018, the China Observatory continued to establish protocols with Portuguese universities for the implementation and guidance of curricular internships. We highlight the students, courses and respective educational institutions that carried out internships at OC:

- Minglei Zheng, final year student of the Masters in Political Science and International Relations at the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences, at Universidade Nova de Lisboa;
- Sandra Moreira, final year student of the Degree in Culture and Communication Studies, at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Lisbon;
- Alexandra Marisa Mendes Parente, final year student of the Degree in Leisure Management and Tourist Entertainment, at the Escola Superior de Hotelaria e Turismo do Estoril;
- João Carvalho, final year student of the Degree in Languages for International Relations, at the School of Education, at the Polytechnic Institute of Bragança;
- Shaowei Cai, final year student of the Degree in Portuguese/Chinese Intercultural Studies, at the Institute of Letters and Human Sciences, at the University of Minho;
- Liliana Sousa, final year student of the Masters in Chinese Studies, at the University of Aveiro.

Social Bodies elected in 2017

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