

# BRLCN BRIEFING



Photo/CFP.

**The official newsletter of  
the Belt and Road  
Languages and Cultures network**

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“一带一路”语言教育文化组织联盟  
BELT AND ROAD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES NETWORK

## BRLCN BRIEFING

Issue 5, 2024

### Editorial team

Chief editor: Peng Lun

Executive editor: Han Fang

Layout designer: Guo Ziai

### Contact us

Address: Office of BRLCN, 21st Century China Daily, 15 Huixin Dongjie,

Chaoyang, Beijing P.R.China, 100029

Phone: (86) 10-64995598/5494

Email: [brlcni21st.cn](mailto:brlcni21st.cn)

### Newsletter online

The newsletter can be read online at <https://brlcni.com/>

# HIGHLIGHTS

## 2024 GLOBAL ENGLISH EDUCATION CHINA ASSEMBLY

Theme: Transforming English Education in the AI Era

July 25-28 Zhuhai, China

In the age of artificial intelligence, promoting quality global English education takes on new dimensions and challenges. AI technologies have revolutionized various aspects of education, offering personalized learning experiences, adaptive feedback mechanisms and vast repositories of educational resources.

This year's Global English Education China Assembly will focus on the connection between AI, English-language education and global perspectives. The conference offers rich opportunities for professional growth to English-language educators globally. Participants will broaden their global outlook by discussing ideas, research, and practices, while getting up to date on trends in the field and expanding their professional networks.

### Deadlines

Proposals: May 15

Early registration: May 31

Notification of acceptance: June 3

Registration and payment (strictly): July 15

### Contact the organizing committee

Website: [tesol.i21st.cn](http://tesol.i21st.cn)

Email: [tesol.21st@gmail.com](mailto:tesol.21st@gmail.com)

### Sub-themes

We welcome and invite TESOL community members worldwide in the following, but not limited to:

1. Language and intercultural communication
2. English medium instruction
3. Global competence
4. Professional development and reflective practice
5. English teaching in rural and minority areas
6. Materials writing and design
7. Teaching reading and writing
8. Language education assessment and testing
9. Research in Language Education
10. Language acquisition and pedagogy
11. International communication and cooperation in language education
12. Teaching young learners and teenagers
13. Multilingualism and language policy
14. English for academic purposes
15. AI and technology-empowered language education



# HIGHLIGHTS

## SMART SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL CHINESE EDUCATION LAUNCHED ON CHINESEPLUS

“国际中文智慧教学系统”在中文联盟平台上线发布

On April 19 the Center for Language Education and Cooperation and Beijing Language and Culture University officially launched the Smart System of International Chinese Education on ChinesePlus (<https://zhjx.chineseplus.net>). Beijing Language and Culture University developed this integrated Chinese language learning system by drawing on large language model technology and knowledge graph so that it provides a multimodal approach to the teaching, learning, practicing and evaluation of Chinese language skills.



At 2024 CSAF

## 2024 CHINA STUDY ABROAD FORUM HELD IN BEIJING

2024 中国留学论坛在京举行

On April 12 the annual China Study Abroad Forum was held in Beijing. It was organized by the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange, part of the Ministry of Education. Under the theme “Embracing challenges, creating a shared future: For a new landscape of study abroad”, this year’s forum brought together experts and scholars from around the world to discuss trends and practices in international education. The CSAF has been held in 2004.

## CHINESE LANGUAGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION’S ANNUAL CONFERENCE HELD

美国中文教师学会 2024 年会成功举办

The Chinese Language Teachers Association, USA (CLTA) held its annual conference in St. Louis, Missouri, from April 5 to 7. The three-day event brought together more than 400 Chinese language teachers from across the globe and provided a platform for them to discuss research findings and teaching insights.



A CLTA roundtable discussion.

# COUNCIL MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

2024  
4/22  
-24

NATE-RUSSIA  
NATE-Russia conference held

## 第 29 届俄罗斯全国英语教师协会年会成功举办

The 29th international NATE-Russia: Further and Beyond conference in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, became a festival dedicated to teaching building bridges with languages and cultures. The NATE family brought together about 300 participants from Russia, China, Kazakhstan and Pakistan on a remarkable and truly global holiday, International Earth Day. Over three days eight plenary talks and 18 workshops were held, and more than 50 reports were delivered.

The second working day revealed diversity within unity and proved yet again that English unites the world. On International English Language Day professor Li Qinghui delivered a talk titled "Evaluation on Teaching English Based on International Competitiveness in the Smart Classroom", the NATE Executive Director Peter Stepichev talked about new trends in ELT, and the NATE CC chairwoman Svetlana Sannikova headed a roundtable discussion titled "Experience and Inspiration on Improving Linguistic Connectivity along the Belt and Road".

The day became a celebration of professional communication in a workshop led by Chen Fengqiang and titled "Innovative Approaches in Teaching Young Learners and Teenagers". Participants learned about Chinese culture, including Peking Opera, the writer Li Bai and the symbolism of colors in Chinese culture. Through Chen's engaging exercises participants were able to unite Russian and Chinese cultures through the English language. Participants each created mask ornaments according to their spiritual inclination and mood.

The topic of the digital age featured heavily in the third online day of the event. Zakia Sarwar, professor, Patron-in Chief, Society of Pakistan English Language, conducted the plenary session titled "Teacher as Researcher", and eight workshops on various topics were held.



2024  
4/21  
-23

SHANDONG NORMAL UNIVERSITY  
University and Woosuk University of South Korea reach agreement

## 山东师范大学与韩国又石大学签署合作协议

A delegation led by Dr. Chang Young Dal, President of Woosuk University in South Korea, visited Shandong Normal University. Feng Jikang, secretary of the CPC Shandong Normal University Committee, and Zhang Jian, President of Shandong Normal University, held separate meetings with the delegation. Discussions during the visit resulted in shared visions for faculty exchanges, joint international education programs, research collaboration, and other areas of mutual interest. Zhang and Chang signed a faculty exchange agreement on behalf of their universities.



Zhang, sixth from right, and Chang after they signed a faculty exchange agreement on behalf of their universities.

# COUNCIL MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

**2024**  
**4/19** **BELJING YOUTH POLITICS COLLEGE**  
Memorandum of understanding on educational collaboration with Paisii Hilendarski University, Bulgaria, signed

北京青年政治学院与保加利亚普罗夫迪夫大学签署教育合作备忘录

Yang Zhicheng, secretary of the CPC Beijing Youth Politics College Committee, and Qiao Dongliang, President of Beijing Youth Politics College, met a delegation led by Boryan Yanev, Vice Rector of Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Discussions centered on the prospects of enhancing international educational collaboration, cultivating future-oriented, globally minded talent, and advancing the Belt and Road Initiative. Vice President Ye Xianghong, on behalf of Beijing Youth Politics College, signed a memorandum of understanding on educational collaboration with the Bulgarian institution.



Ye Xianghong, third from left, of Beijing Youth Politics College, and Boryan Yanev of Paisii Hilendarski University after they signed an agreement on collaboration.

**2024**  
**4/19** **FUDAN UNIVERSITY, SHANGHAI**  
PhD training agreement with Macquarie University of Australia renewed

复旦大学与澳大利亚麦考瑞大学续签博士生联合培养协议

Qiu Xin, secretary of the CPC Fudan University Committee, met a delegation led by Bruce Downton, President of Macquarie University, New South Wales, Australia. The two sides renewed a joint PhD training agreement, paving the way for deeper collaboration in academic research, curriculum development, faculty and student exchanges and other areas of common interest. The agreement facilitates joint supervision of students' dissertations by professors from both universities. Students meeting the criteria of both universities will be awarded a joint doctoral degree. Furthermore, eligible students can apply for the Fudan University-Macquarie University Key Partnerships Scholarship.

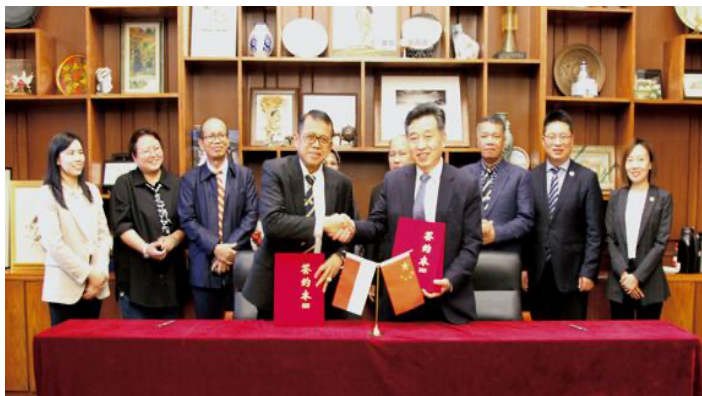


Qiu Xin and Bruce Downton after renewing the joint PhD agreement.

**2024**  
**4/19** **TIANJIN FOREIGN STUDIES UNIVERSITY**  
Plan for joint application to host Confucius Institute agreed on with State University of Padang, Indonesia

天津外国语大学与印度尼西亚巴东国立大学签署孔子学院申办计划书

A delegation led by Prof. Ganefri, President of the State University of Padang, Indonesia, visiting Tianjin Foreign Studies University was met by President Chen Fachun, President of the Tianjin institution. The two universities agreed to work together to expedite the establishment of a Confucius Institute at the State University of Padang. The partnership includes a faculty exchange program sending Chinese language teachers to Indonesia and Indonesian language teachers to China, student exchange programs offering both short-term and long-term options for international students, and the establishment of a joint research fund. During the visit the two universities agreed on a plan outlining the application process for the State University of Padang to host a Confucius Institute.



The two sides after the plan was agreed to.

**2024**  
**4/18** **CHINA DAILY, BEIJING**  
Framework environmental agreement signed

中国日报社与“一带一路”绿色发展国际联盟签署合作框架协议

The Department of International Cooperation of China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment said a framework agreement between China Daily and the BRI Green Development Coalition signed in Beijing was a new chapter in their collaboration to strengthen communication capabilities in environmental issues. It would showcase China's role in global environmental governance and highlight the positive contributions of the Belt and Road Initiative to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as its role in promoting international collaboration in green and low-carbon development, the department said.



The signing ceremony of the collaboration framework agreement between China Daily and the BRI Green Development Coalition.

# COUNCIL MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

2024  
4/17  
-26

## CENTRAL SOUTH UNIVERSITY, CHANGSHA

Agreements with universities in Barbados, Bahamas and elsewhere reached

中南大学与巴巴多斯、巴哈马等国高校签署合作备忘录

Chen Xiang, Executive Vice President of Central South University and Dean of Xiangya School of Medicine, led a Central South University delegation visiting universities and organizations in the Bahamas, Barbados, the United States and other countries. The purpose of the visit was to sign cooperation agreements, connect with overseas alumni and promote international collaboration and communication. During the visit, Xiangya Hospital of Central South University signed a memorandum of understanding with the American Biomedical Group on collaboration jointly to establish a medical innovation center. It also signed memorandums of understanding on collaboration with the University of the West Indies, Barbados, and the University of the Bahamas.



Representatives of Central South University and the University of the Bahamas.

2024  
4/17  
-27

## BEIJING JIAOTONG UNIVERSITY

Agreement with University of the Western Cape, South Africa, signed

北京交通大学与西开普大学签署合作备忘录

Wang Jiaqiong, secretary of the CPC Beijing Jiaotong University Committee, led a delegation on visits to Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa. During a visit to the University of the Western Cape the delegation signed a memorandum of understanding focusing on collaboration on research, talent training and short-term technical training in transportation engineering and logistics management.



Representatives of Beijing Jiaotong University and the University of the Western Cape sign their agreement.

2024  
4/17  
-20

## DALIAN UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Agreements with Russian universities signed

大连外国语大学与俄罗斯多所高校签署合作协议

In a visit to Russia a delegation from the Dalian University of Foreign Languages led by its President Liu Hong visited St. Petersburg State University, HSE University, and St. Petersburg State University of Economics, and signed agreements with them to facilitate collaboration in fields such as talent training, teacher and student exchanges, curriculum development and international Chinese-language education.



Liu Hong and Nikolay Kropachev after signing a cooperation agreement.

2024  
4/14  
-18

## HUNAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, XIANGTAN

Agreement with INTI International University signed

湖南科技大学与英迪国际大学签订合作协议

A delegation from the Hunan University of Science and Technology led by its Vice President Zhao Qiancheng visited universities and colleges in Malaysia, and during a visit to INTI International University the two universities signed agreements on collaboration in fields such as academic exchanges, faculty and student exchanges, and international Chinese language education.

# COUNCIL MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

2024  
4/12

NINGXIA UNIVERSITY, YINCHUAN  
Agreements on joint master's degree programs reached with US university

宁夏大学与密苏里州立大学签署硕士联合培养项目协议

A delegation from Missouri State University led by its Vice President Brad Bodenhausen visited Ningxia University and was met by the Vice President of the Ningxia institution, Zhao Xiaojia. Bodenhausen expressed hope for deeper collaboration and communication, building upon the successes of past collaboration. Focus areas of collaboration include student training and improving emergency response capabilities. Zhao and Bodenhausen signed agreements on a new round of joint master's degree programs on behalf of their universities.



Zhao Xiaojia and Brad Bodenhausen sign an agreement on joint master's degree programs.

2024  
4/10  
-11

INNER MONGOLIA UNIVERSITY, HOHHOT  
Collaboration agreement with German university signed

内蒙古大学与德国杜伊斯堡-埃森大学签署合作协议

In a visit to Inner Mongolia University a delegation led by Dieter Schramm, Dean of the School of Engineering of the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany, discussed with the hosts future collaboration and exchange programs and signed an agreement for a summer research collaboration program between their engineering schools. An opening ceremony was also held for the University of Duisburg-Essen Mercator examination center at Inner Mongolia University.



Warm applause at the the opening of the University of Duisburg-Essen Mercator examination center.

2024  
4/10  
-12

JILIN UNIVERSITY, CHANGCHUN  
Collaboration with University of Queensland renewed

吉林大学与澳大利亚昆士兰大学续签合作协议

A delegation from Jilin University led by its President Zhang Xi visited the University of Queensland and the University of Southern Queensland in Australia, and attended the fifth UQ-JLU Research Symposium and the deans' roundtable held at the University of Queensland. During the visit, Zhang Xi and the President of the University of Queensland, Deborah Terry, renewed a collaboration agreement on behalf of their respective universities.



Zhang Xi and Deborah Terry renew the collaboration agreement between Jilin University and the University of Queensland.



# COMING EVENTS

**Jan 26-27**

43rd Thailand TESOL International Conference, Chiang Mai, Thailand

**Jan 31-Feb 2**

20th TELLSI International Conference and Allameh Tabataba'i ELT Conference, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran

**Feb 17-19**

28th NELTA International Conference, Lalitpur, Nepal

**Mar 11-13**

58th RELC International Conference, Singapore

**Apr 22-24**

NATE Russia Conference, Russia

**May 30-Jun 1**

Africa ELTA 8th International Conference, Cairo, Egypt

**Jun 6-8**

International KazTEA & ARELTA Conference 2024, Kokshetay, Kazakhstan

**Jul 17-20**

BRAZ-TESOL International Conference, Goiânia,, Brazil

**Jul 25-28**

Global English Education China Assembly, Macao and Zhuhai, Guangdong, China

**Sep 8-20**

IAICS International Conference, University of Opole, Poland

**Oct 23-25**

70th TEFLIN – 17th CONAPLIN International Conference, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, West Java, Indonesia

**The 70<sup>th</sup> TEFLIN**  
**The 17<sup>th</sup> CONAPLIN**  
**International Conference**

**DIVERSE VOICES:**  
Navigating World Englishes in  
Language Pedagogy and  
Language Policy

23-25 Oct 2024  
Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia  
Bandung, West Java, Indonesia

**MEET OUR SPEAKERS**

**SUB THEMES**

- EFL Pedagogy
- Linguistic Development
- Online Learning Environments
- Emerging Technologies
- Global Communication Platforms
- Language Policy and Planning
- Assessment and Testing
- Teacher Training and Professional Development
- Sociolinguistics
- Materials Development

**CONFERENCE FEE**

	Early Bird	Regular
Member Presenter/ Participant	Rp. 1,500,000	Rp. 1,500,000
Non-Member Presenter/ Participant	Rp. 1,500,000	Rp. 1,650,000
One-Day Pass	Rp. 750,000	Rp. 750,000

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

Date	Event
1 Jan	Call for abstract
30 Apr	Abstract Submission Deadline
15 May	Abstract Acceptance Announcement
16 June	Full Paper Submission Deadline
16 June	Early Bird Payment Deadline
15 July	Regular Payment Deadline

**CONTACT US**

@conaplin  
@teflin\_association  
@englishedu\_upi

CS Balai Bahasa UPI  
+62 877-7756-5176  
(No Calls - Text Only)

teflin.conaplin@upi.edu

**32nd MELTA**  
International Conference

**MALACHI EDWIN VETHAMANI**  
*Creative Educator Showcase*

21 September 2024

**SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACTS TODAY**

Join us at the 32nd MELTA International Conference.  
<https://bit.ly/32MELTAConf>

**MELTA**

**KazTEA**

**ARELTA**  
English Language Teachers Association

**INTEGRATING MEDIA LITERACY INTO EFL/STEAM CURRICIULUM**

JUNE 5, 2024

SCHOOL-GYMNASIUM #1 (SHCHUCHINSK), AKMOLA OBLAST

<https://kaz-tea.kz>

**MELTA**

**CALL FOR SUBMISSION**

**TEACHERS' VOICES: STORIES FROM THE CLASSROOM VOLUME 4 (2024)**

If you are an English language teacher with a story to share, we would like to hear from you. The call for publication is now open to all pre-service and in-service teachers with heartwarming classroom stories. The Malaysian English Language Teaching Association (MELTA) would like to invite you to share your inspiring, engaging and exciting stories based on your personal experiences on any one of the following themes:

1. Challenges and success stories on teaching.
2. Tales of resilience from the English language classroom.
3. Stories of creative and innovative efforts by the teacher to engage and motivate students.
4. Stories highlighting techniques and teaching tips that could be regarded as 'magic formulae'.

Please scan the QR Code for submission guidelines and submit your article to [publication.director@melta.my](mailto:publication.director@melta.my).

**Deadline: 31st May 2024**