



UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS
Faculty of Health Sciences
*Confucius Institute for
Traditional Chinese Medicine*



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th

anniversary booklet of the Confucius Institute
for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs,
Hungary

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10th anniversary booklet of the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs, Hungary



We are deeply honored to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine, a fruitful collaboration between the University of Pécs and North China University of Science and Technology.

It is a privilege for the University of Pécs to host such a vibrant and distinctive institute, which has brought numerous opportunities and memorable experiences to our academic community and the citizens of our city, forging a strong link with China.

Over the past decade, we have had the chance to explore China's rich heritage, its language, culture, and Traditional Chinese Medicine through the guidance of native experts. Children in local primary and secondary schools, university students through a wide array of credited courses, and local residents via festivals, lectures, and workshops have all benefited greatly. The following pages present a wonderful overview of the Institute's accomplishments and the diverse experiences it has offered.

Throughout these years, many of our students and colleagues visited China, experiencing firsthand the warmth of its people and immersing themselves in Chinese culture. Numerous students have taken Chinese language proficiency exams, and through their achievements, they are

becoming the new ambassadors of Hungary-China people-to-people exchanges.

The Confucius Institute has also been a vital platform for strengthening our partnership with North China University of Science and Technology. A Hungarian Research Center was founded at our partner university, and in 2018, a unique 1+3 bachelor program in Hungarian language was launched. Dialogue between our faculties has deepened, leading to joint research projects, academic cooperation, and exchange programs.

I am confident that the solid foundation we have built will continue to bear fruit, and that even greater accomplishments lie ahead. Congratulations on the outstanding success of the past decade, and best wishes for an even brighter future!

Prof. Attila Miseta, rector
University of Pécs



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Today we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the CI for TCM between University of Pécs and North China University of Science and Technology, which is an important move to respond to the initiative of ‘One Belt, One Road’ and a vivid practice to serve the construction of a Global Community of Shared Future. Here, on behalf of the 50,000 teachers and students of North China University of Science and Technology, I would like to express my warm congratulations to the success of the celebration, and my deep thanks to all colleagues and people

from all walks of life who have participated in and supported the Confucius Institute in the past ten years.

In ten years of cultivation, we have used Chinese medicine as a medium to build a bridge of mutual understanding between civilizations. We have co-organized 15 Sino-Hungarian Medical Forums, which have made a positive contribution to the promotion of China-Hungary cultural exchanges and the international dissemination of Chinese medicine.

In ten years of development, we have taken education as a pen to write a chapter of win-win co-construction. We jointly established a new Confucius Classroom, promoting Chinese language education and the

spread of Chinese culture in Hungary, and enhancing the world’s understanding of China.

As a new decade begins again, we will make endeavor as a sail to create a better tomorrow. From this new starting point, I hope that we will work together to actively develop Chinese language teaching and cultural exchanges, continuously enhance the friendship between the two peoples, and make positive contributions to the promotion of the diversity of world civilizations and the harmonious coexistence of people from all over the world.

Finally, I wish the 10th anniversary celebration of the CI for TCM at University of Pécs, a complete success.

Prof. Zhang Fucheng, president

North China University of Sciences and Technology



History

The foundation of the Confucius Institute in Pécs has its origins in the early 2000s, when Dr. Gabriella Hegyi, head of the Department of Complementary Medicine at the University of Pécs, first established contact with Hebei United University—an institution that later became part of North China University of Science and Technology. Dr. Hegyi was instrumental in strengthening this relationship through her active involvement in organizing professional conferences, delivering guest lectures, and leading workshops.

By the early 2010s, serious discussions had begun between the two universities regarding the creation of a Confucius Institute with a particular emphasis on Traditional Chinese Medicine. These discussions extended to key stakeholders including the Chinese Embassy in Budapest, China's Ministry of Education, and the Chinese Language Council (Hanban).



The initial formal step toward founding the Institute was taken on October 7, 2013, when the then rector of the University of Pécs, Prof. Dr. József Bódis, sent an official letter of intent to Xu Lin, Director of the Chinese Language Council. This was followed by the submission of supporting documents and applications.

In April 2014, representatives from both partner universities and the Hungarian Embassy in Beijing met for further negotiations at Hanban headquarters. The official cooperation agreement was signed on August 29, 2014, by Dr. Xu Lin, marking the formal establishment of the Confucius Institute in collaboration with the University of Pécs. The agreement was ceremonially reaffirmed by both rectors in Pécs on October 31, 2014, and the Confucius Institute held its inaugural ceremony at the Faculty of Health Sciences in March 2015.



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Introduction

There are approximately 500 Confucius Institutes operating globally, each dedicated to promoting Chinese language and culture. When the Confucius Institute in Pécs was established, it became the first in mainland Europe to place a special emphasis on Traditional Chinese Medicine. To this day, fewer than two dozen institutes worldwide have adopted a similar focus on Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Utilizing the structure of the Hungarian educational system, the Institute provides a wide range of Chinese language and cultural programs

for students at all levels—from primary school through university. Participants can engage in extracurricular activities, specialized courses, and cultural workshops. Students studying Chinese also benefit from opportunities such as summer camps in China, scholarships for academic study abroad, and participation in Chinese language competitions. Since 2019, the Institute has also served as an official Chinese language testing center, offering learners the chance to evaluate their proficiency and earn language certificates.

Beyond its educational offerings, one of the Institute's key missions is to organize cultural and academic events that provide the public with deeper insight into China's rich, ancient civilization. The range of these events continues to grow each year, with many becoming established traditions. A central part of the Institute's calendar includes annual celebrations of major Chinese festivals, which offer recurring opportunities to engage with traditional customs and heritage. The institute provides an excellent platform for collaboration—not only between the two universities but also between our cities and nations—fostering and strengthening ties between Hungarian and Chinese communities and institutions.





Greetings of Prof. Betlehem



Ten years is a short period of time compared to the thousands of years of Chinese history and culture, but it is still part of historical development.

The establishment of the Chinese Confucius Institute of Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs, in Hungary and its development over the past 10 years are also part of this historical process, of which we can be proud.

The fundamental goals of the institute have remained unchanged since its inception: to promote a wider understanding of Chinese culture and traditions, to spread the Chinese language, and to promote a healthy lifestyle through the use of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Over the past ten years, many colleagues have worked to ensure that the institute's operations are efficient and successful, and that it serves good relations between the two countries.

As a result of the work of the leaders and staff of the North China University of Science and Technology and the University of Pécs, not only the two universities have been enriched with new values, but also the communities of the two cities, counties and regions.

Building on the results achieved so far, our goal in the future is to support Chinese-Hungarian cooperation and strengthen the relations between the two universities in new dimensions, especially in the field of joint research.



Glory has been created in chasing the dream for ten years, and a new chapter will be written by Pécs CI in its prime

When the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs is celebrated today, as one of the designers, founders, supporters and constructors of the Institute, I am so excited looking back at the course we have gone through in the ten years. These are the most glorious and proud ten years in my life of career, because I have personally and professionally connected closely with the Confucius Institute, having participated in the whole process of application, establishment, and step-by-step development. This is my greatest honor.

It is gratifying that after years of dedicated cooperation between North China University of Science and Technology (NCUST) and the University of Pécs (UP), we succeeded. On December 24, 2010, Prof. Liang Yinghua, Vice President of NCUST, visited UP for the first time to discuss establishing a TCM-focused Confucius Institute with Rector Prof. József Bódis, Prof. József Betlehem, and Prof. Gabriella Hegyi. Thanks to our joint efforts, the application was approved by Hanban on August 29, 2014. The long-awaited moment came finally on March 27, 2015. On that day the magnificent opening ceremony was held, and our Institute was launched.

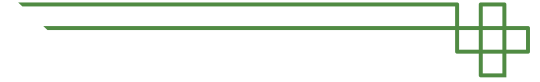
Like the famous Chinese saying goes, it takes ten years to forge a treasured sword, persistence makes success. For the past ten years, I've had

a close connection with the Confucius Institute and Hungary, visiting the University of Pécs eight times. In 2021, I was honored to become the Institute's Chinese Director. Over the decade, the two universities have deepened their collaboration, achieving many remarkable results through the Institute. The number of CI learners add up to 8962. Over 500 cultural and academic activities have been organized successfully with participants adding up to about 80,000.

On the basis of the Confucius Institute, a 1+3 dual degree program in Hungarian Language has been launched, the Centre for Hungarian Studies at NCUST was established cooperatively. The Institute has promoted the sister-city relation development between Tangshan City and Pécs, co-organized the 16th World Congress of Chinese Medicine, and Sino-Hungarian TCM Forum 8 times.



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I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the friends from all walks of life who have given great support to the development and construction of the Confucius Institute, and to all the teachers and volunteers who have made important contributions to the educational cause of the Confucius Institute. Looking back, I am extremely proud of the brilliant achievements the Confucius Institute has made in pursuing its dream for ten years. At the age of ten, the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs is in its prime of life. I sincerely wish her a vigorous growth to write a new chapter of China-Hungary friendship!

Prof. Wang Zhijiang, Chinese director

Confucius Institute for TCM at the University of Pécs



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Staff & daily operation



The Confucius Institute's team is dynamic and diverse, with members regularly rotating. It operates under the joint leadership of a Hungarian and a Chinese director. Since its founding, Prof. József Betlehem has served as the Hungarian director, while the Chinese directorship rotates periodically. The current Chinese director, Prof. Wang Zhijiang, is the third to hold this position, following the impactful tenures of Prof. Cui Jianmei and Prof. Mao Hong, who both played key roles in fostering collaboration between the partner universities and development of the Confucius Institute.

Chinese instructors are delegated by North China University of Science and Technology to teach Chinese language and Traditional Chi-

nese Medicine in Pécs, typically for one- to two-year terms. Each academic year, the Institute typically hosts two university-level Chinese language instructors, two TCM lecturers, and four volunteer language teachers. Over the years, more than 50 Chinese educators have contributed to the Institute's programs.

The Institute also engages local part-time Hungarian educators, such as Dr. Gabriella Hegyi and Dr. Krisztina Csütörtöki, who teach TCM courses in Hungarian, and Ms. Mariann Tóth, who leads classes on Chinese tea culture. Ms. Ilona Schmidt Füzesné and Mr. János Füzes manage the Chinese School project and its related summer camp.

All programs are supported by efficient administration led by Ms. Kitti Köves. The office handles educational coordination, event planning, finances, and teacher support. Over the years, staff members such as Ms. Ágnes Kerner, Ms. Klaudia Kovács, Ms. Kinga Soós, Ms. Bettina Telkes, and currently Ms. Alisa Weisz, have contributed significantly to the Institute's smooth operation.





Education – Chinese School

The Chinese School has been a vital part of the Confucius Institute since nearly its beginning and has operated continuously ever since. Designed for primary school students in Pécs, the program offers engaging weekly sessions that introduce Chinese language and culture through fun, interactive activities.

What makes the program truly unique is its inclusive approach—children from various schools across Pécs take part, and group placement is based on language ability rather than age. In addition to a native-speaking Chinese language teacher, the students also learn from a dance instructor and a kung fu coach. Through mastering traditional dance routines and kung fu techniques, students often take part in cultural performances organized by the Institute.



The Chinese School is guided and supported by the dedicated Füzes couple, who envisioned and continue to manage the program. They assist the Chinese teaching staff, care for the children during classes, and maintain strong relationships with parents—forming a close-knit community over the years.

Some students who began their journey with the Chinese School in its early days are now high school graduates. Many have already taken official Chinese language exams and even traveled to China through summer camp programs, marking a rewarding path of cultural and academic growth.





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Education – teaching at local primary & secondary schools

In collaboration with the local school district center, the Confucius Institute in Pécs regularly offers Chinese language courses and extracurricular programs at three high schools and three elementary schools. The number of students attending these classes regularly ranges from about 200 to 300 each year.

Additionally, many other schools invite the Institute to host educational cultural sessions during project days, which are tailored to suit the age group and specific interests of each school. These engaging programs often include introductory Chinese language lessons, Chinese calligraphy, and traditional crafts such as paper cutting, stamping, and

knot tying. Students also get the chance to explore Chinese movement arts like tai chi and qigong, making the sessions both fun and educational.





Education – Confucius Classrooms

Thanks to strong, long-standing partnerships with local schools, Confucius Institutes are entitled to nominate and support these schools in applying for official Confucius Classroom status. This designation opens the door to additional financial resources and professional guidance to further enhance their Chinese language education programs.

At Bánki Donát Street Primary School, Chinese language instruction began even before the Confucius Institute in Pécs was founded. Over the years, the school developed a well-established Chinese language



curriculum, eventually integrating it as a second foreign language within the regular timetable. In recognition of its consistent efforts and steady student interest, the school was granted Confucius Classroom status by the Chinese Language Education Council in late 2019.

Most recently, in February 2025, Republic Square Primary School also received approval for Confucius Classroom status. This school has been a long-time host of the Chinese School program and has actively supported the inclusion of Chinese language education in its educational mission. The school's leadership continues to play a key role in advancing and promoting Chinese language learning within the institution.



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Education – University courses

Since the spring semester of the 2015/2016 academic year, the Confucius Institute has provided university students with the opportunity to enroll in elective credit-bearing courses on campus. These courses cover a diverse range of topics, allowing students to explore not only the Chinese language but also various aspects of Chinese culture.

Beyond language instruction, students can immerse themselves in subjects such as Chinese tea culture, calligraphy, tourism in China, and Traditional Chinese Medicine—the latter being a hallmark of the Institute's unique academic profile. All courses are available in both English and Hungarian, making them accessible to a wide student population regardless of their language background.

These electives do more than fulfill curriculum requirements; they enrich students' cultural awareness and global outlook. Many students develop a deeper interest in Chinese culture through these classes and go on to participate in other Institute programs, such as language competitions, cultural festivals, and study abroad opportunities in China.

As interest continues to grow, the Institute remains committed to expanding its academic offerings and providing meaningful intercultural experiences for students across all faculties.

PTE ETK HKO Konfuciusz Intézet
KONFUCIUSZ INTÉZETE
CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE FOR TCM
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS

2024/2025 TAVASZI FÉLÉVES
CAMPUS KREDIT KURZUSAI
2024/2025 SPRING SEMESTER
CAMPUS CREDIT COURSES

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SZABADON
VÁLASZTHATÓ
CAMPUS KREDIT
KURZUSOK!

CHINESE LANGUAGE I-I, CHINESE LANGUAGE I-2
CHINESE LANGUAGE II, III, IV, VII
CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY
QIGONG-TRADITIONAL HEALTH PROTECTION EXERCISES I
TAICHI FAN
TAICHI
HAGYOMÁNYOS KÍNAI ORVOSLÁS A XXI. SZÁZADBAN I, II.
INTEGRATÍV MEDICINA ÉS A HAGYOMÁNYOS KÍNAI ORVOSLÁS I, II.
CHINESE TUINA MASSAGE AND CLINICAL APPLICATION
MERIDIANS AND ACUPUNCTS
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CHINESE TEA CULTURE
KÍNAI TEAKULTÚRA
THE JOURNEY OF TEA
CHINESE MUSIC AND SONGS

TANULJ KÍNAIUL! E TÖBB EZER ÉVES, ÓSI NYELV-
NÉV CSAK AZ ANGOLT BESZÉLIK TÖBBEN. A 21.
SZÁZADRA FELÉRTÉKELODOTT A KÍNAI NYELV
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KÉPES TUDÁSRA TEHETSZ SZERT. KURZU-
SAINKON A KÍNAI NYELV ÉS KULTÚRA
MELLETT A HAGYOMÁNYOS KÍNAI OR-
VOSLÁS ISMERETANYAGÁBA IS BE-
TEKINTÉST NYERHETSZ!

CAMPUS KREDIT
KURZUSOKRA A
LENTKEZÉSI IDŐSZAK:
2025. FEBRUÁR 10 - 24.
KERESD KURZUSAINKAT
A NEPTUNON!



HSK Chinese language examination

As Chinese language education has grown stronger in the region, the Confucius Institute was officially accredited as a Chinese language testing center in 2019 by Chinese Testing International Co., the organization behind the world's most widely recognized Chinese language exams. This accreditation enables students to take both the YCT (Youth Chinese Test) for children and the HSK (Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi) for adults, assessing their proficiency in both oral and written Chinese.



The HSK certificate holds significant value in Hungary—it can be recognized for official purposes, is often a prerequisite or added benefit when applying for Chinese government scholarships, and can enhance job prospects in fields where Chinese language skills are in demand.





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Outstanding students

We firmly believe that recognizing students' efforts, talents, and accomplishments is one of the most powerful ways to inspire and motivate them. That's why we place great emphasis on celebrating their success—whether it's through awarding language certificates, handing out diplomas, or highlighting their achievements in public forums and events. By acknowledging their progress, we aim to foster a sense of pride and continued enthusiasm for learning.

Since 2023, the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Hungary has joined in supporting this mission by awarding scholarships to the most outstanding students. This prestigious recognition not only honors their current accomplishments but also encourages them to

pursue their Chinese language and cultural studies with even greater dedication.

In addition, the Chinese Bridge competition provides an excellent platform for students and trainees to showcase their language skills and cultural knowledge on an international stage. The competition offers not only recognition but also life-changing experiences—such as a trip to China for the global finals. We were especially proud last year when our student, Zsófia Döme, earned second place in the Hungarian round and had the opportunity to travel to China alongside the winner. Her achievement is a testament to the dedication of our students and the supportive learning environment we strive to create.

We will continue to support, celebrate, and guide our learners on their journey—because every success story brings us closer to building a stronger bridge between Hungary and China.





Cultural activities – Festivals

Over the years, the Confucius Institute has celebrated the Lunar New Year—the most significant traditional Chinese holiday—in a variety of vibrant and meaningful ways. Our team has actively taken part in Spring Festival events not only in Pécs but also in Budapest and other towns, helping to share the festive spirit more widely.

Before the pandemic, the celebrations were often enriched by large-scale performances brought directly from China, made possible through the support of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Budapest and the local Chinese community. These events were complemented by interactive craft workshops organized by the Institute, offering guests a hands-on experience with traditional Chinese arts.



For many years now, the Institute has also created its own Chinese New Year programs, featuring artistic performances by students of all ages, our Chinese instructors, and Chinese university students studying in Pécs. These celebrations have become a cherished tradition and one of the highlights of our annual calendar, bringing together students, teachers, and families in a joyful and festive environment. One particularly memorable celebration even included a communal dumpling-making session—a symbol of unity and prosperity—which added a warm, personal touch to the occasion. Through these gatherings, the Institute continues to strengthen cultural ties and provide the community with an authentic experience of Chinese heritage.





Cultural activities – Festivals

As summer approaches, the Confucius Institute also marks the Dragon Boat Festival with themed activities held during classes, year-end celebrations, or even sporting events, depending on the occasion. During these festivities, staff members introduce participants to the cultural background and traditions of the festival. A highlight of the event is sampling zongzi—a traditional pyramid-shaped sticky rice treat wrapped in lotus leaves, customarily enjoyed during the holiday. On some occasions, the celebration has even included dragon boat pad-



dling sessions on Orfű Lake, adding a dynamic and immersive touch to the experience.

Similarly, the Institute commemorates the Mid-Autumn Festival at the end of September or early October, often in conjunction with the academic year's opening ceremony. This cherished Chinese celebration wouldn't be complete without mooncakes, the traditional delicacy shared among friends and family. During the event, students and parents learn about the festival's origins—such as the legend of the immortal archer Hou-yi—and gain a deeper appreciation for its symbolism while enjoying mooncakes together in a warm, festive atmosphere.





Cultural activities – lectures on Chinese culture & Chinese Movie Weeks

In the early years of the institute, a long-running lecture series titled “Get to Know! Discover! Taste!” introduced attendees to the richness of Chinese culture through presentations by distinguished experts. These engaging sessions explored a wide range of topics, including

Chinese history, philosophy, traditional medicine, tai chi, herbal remedies, tea culture, religion, and everyday life. Beyond gaining knowledge, participants also had the chance to experience the tastes of authentic Chinese cuisine, making the series a truly immersive cultural experience.

Another popular tradition is the “Chinese Movie Weeks”, an annual event that has been held for nearly a decade. Each year, in the final weeks of the semester, audiences are invited to enjoy a diverse lineup of Chinese films—ranging from drama and comedy to martial arts and science fiction. These film screenings offer a unique window into Chinese society, values, and storytelling, while also serving as a valuable opportunity to hear the language in its original form, with subtitles provided for better understanding.





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Cultural activities - co-organized with the University of Pécs

For many years, the University of Pécs has hosted the International Seasons series—an initiative aimed at showcasing the diverse backgrounds and cultures of its international student community. With nearly 500 Chinese students currently enrolled at the university, the Confucius Institute plays an active role in bringing Chinese culture to the forefront of these events. In collaboration with the university's International Centre, the Institute has helped introduce participants to

China through engaging lectures, cultural exhibitions, and interactive board game workshops that highlight various aspects of Chinese heritage.

Beyond cultural programming, the Confucius Institute is also a regular and enthusiastic contributor to university-wide recruitment and orientation events, including those held by the Faculty of Health Sciences. These events offer valuable opportunities to showcase the Institute's educational offerings—such as language courses, cultural seminars, and programs in Traditional Chinese Medicine—to both prospective and current students





Cultural activities – Summer camp for children

One of the earliest and longest-running traditions of the institute is the Confucius Summer Camp, a children's day camp that first launched in 2015—the very year the institute was established. Held annually, the camp offers children aged 7 to 14 a unique opportunity to explore the Chinese language and culture in a fun, engaging environment. Organized in one or two terms each summer, the camp combines morning language lessons and hands-on cultural activities with a variety of lively afternoon programs.

Throughout the week, children participate in creative workshops, games, and cultural explorations, including visits to the Zsolnay Cultural Quarter, local eco-farm, and even beach outings. One of the highlights of the camp is the final day, when both instructors and campers

prepare traditional Chinese dumplings together, sharing the meal in a joyful atmosphere. The week concludes with a special presentation for parents, where children proudly showcase what they've learned, offering a heartwarming glimpse into their cultural journey.





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Cultural Activities – summer camp to China

The Confucius Summer Camp to China is a global initiative aimed at promoting Chinese language and culture, coordinated by Confucius Institutes worldwide with the support of the Chinese Language Education Center. Its primary goal is to provide students with immersive experiences in China that inspire a deeper interest in Chinese language and culture. Participants enjoy a diverse program that combines language instruction with hands-on cultural experiences, such as calligraphy, traditional painting, tea ceremonies, Chinese medicine, crafts, music, dance, and martial arts. The itinerary also includes opportunities to meet local students, spend a day with a Chinese family, and explore historical and cultural sites of Beijing and Tangshan.



The Confucius Institute for TCM at the University of Pécs first participated in the Confucius Summer Camp to China project in July 2017, sending a group of 18 students to China. Since then, additional groups have participated in 2018, 2019, and 2023, with preparations already underway for the 2025 edition. During these trips, students are warmly hosted by North China University of Science and Technology in Tangshan, which organizes engaging, memorable programs.

To be eligible, applicants must be enrolled at the Confucius Institute and hold a Chinese language certificate at any level. Participants are responsible only for covering their round-trip airfare to Beijing; all other expenses during the two-week stay are generously funded by the Chinese Language Education Center.





Cultural activities – Chinese Bridge

The Chinese Bridge competition is a prestigious international contest that showcases students' proficiency in the Chinese language and their understanding of Chinese culture. Organized annually, it provides a platform for young learners around the world to demonstrate their skills through speech, cultural performances, and knowledge tests. Winners of the national rounds earn the opportunity to travel to China and compete in the global finals, fostering deeper cross-cultural exchange and friendship.



In Hungary, the Chinese Bridge competition is organized in close cooperation with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Hungary and is hosted annually on a rotating basis by the country's leading Chinese language education institutions, including the Confucius Institutes and the Hungarian-Chinese Bilingual School in Budapest. The Confucius Institute at the University of Pécs had the distinguished honor of hosting the national round in both 2018 and 2024. Beyond being a valuable platform for students to demonstrate their language skills and cultural knowledge, the event also serves as a unique gathering for educators and institutional leaders, fostering professional dialogue, strengthening partnerships, and encouraging the exchange of best practices in Chinese language education.





Traditional Chinese Medicine in Hungary

The teaching and practice of Traditional Chinese Medicine are largely influenced by local conditions, including the availability of funding, trained professionals, national legislation, cultural perceptions, and the level of acceptance among healthcare practitioners. In Hungary, TCM is categorized under Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM). Across Europe, there is no unified regulation for CAM; each of the 39 countries surveyed follows its own approach. Hungary, however, has implemented a dedicated law for CAM.

Certain CAM methods in Hungary are restricted to licensed medical doctors, who must meet three main requirements: a medical degree, a



specialist qualification in a conventional field (such as internal medicine or gynecology), and a certificate in the chosen CAM discipline. Non-physician CAM practitioners are required to hold a certificate in basic medical knowledge in addition to CAM-specific certification.

In the Hungarian regulatory framework, TCM holds a unique position. Among its various practices, only acupuncture mandates a full medical qualification, including a medical degree, specialization, and successful completion of an acupuncture exam at a recognized medical university. Practitioners meeting these criteria can then apply for a license to open a practice. Other TCM therapies—such as TuiNa massage, traditional dietary therapy, and similar modalities—do not require a medical degree for practice.

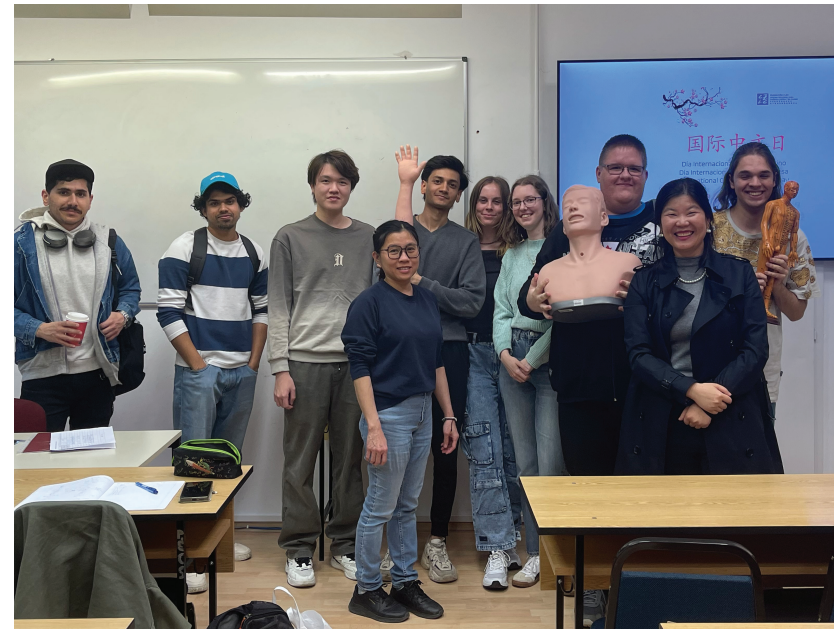




TCM campus credit courses

Since its establishment, the Confucius Institute has made Traditional Chinese Medicine a cornerstone of its educational offerings. Each semester, the Institute provides 12 TCM-related credit courses to students at the University of Pécs. Most of these are taught in English by experienced Chinese instructors, while a few are conducted in Hungarian by local professionals. Over time, a total of 18 unique TCM courses have been developed, accessible to students from any faculty within the university. These courses consistently attract around 200 participants per semester, many of whom enroll in more than one.

The TCM curriculum introduces students to the foundational principles and philosophy of Traditional Chinese Medicine, while also enhancing their appreciation of Chinese culture as a whole. Key areas of study include acupuncture, herbal medicine, TuiNa (Chinese therapeutic massage), Qigong (a form of meditative movement) and Taichi, and diagnostic techniques such as pulse and tongue reading. These courses provide students not only with theoretical insight but also practical exposure, encouraging a holistic view of health and wellness rooted in centuries-old Chinese traditions.





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TCM training for medical doctors

Since 2005, the University of Pécs has offered a two-year accredited postgraduate training program for medical doctors who wish to specialize in Traditional Chinese Medicine. The program led by dr. Gabriella Hegyi, former president of the Hungarian Medical Acupuncture Association and active TCM practitioner. Upon completion of the program and a final examination, participants receive the official qualification required to practice TCM in Hungary. The course is delivered by experienced instructors from the Hungarian Medical Acupuncture Association (HMAA), in collaboration with TCM experts from the Confucius Institute and the University's Department of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM).

Every two years, between 50 and 70 physicians enroll in the program. The curriculum spans a total of 1,700 hours, including 370 hours of

in-person instruction and 160 hours of hands-on clinical training. The course provides comprehensive theoretical and practical knowledge, equipping doctors with the skills to safely and effectively integrate TCM into their medical practice.





TCM study trips to China

The Confucius Institute regularly arranges professional study trips to China in collaboration with its partner institution, the North China University of Science and Technology. These immersive programs provide Hungarian medical professionals with a unique opportunity to deepen their knowledge of Traditional Chinese Medicine through firsthand experience.

Participants attend the Sino-Hungarian Medical Forum held in Tangshan, where they can engage in academic exchange, share clinical insights, and explore integrative approaches to healthcare. Following



the forum, attendees receive specialized training in both the theoretical foundations and clinical applications of TCM at affiliated hospitals. These study visits not only enhance professional development but also foster cross-cultural dialogue and long-term collaboration between Chinese and Hungarian healthcare communities.





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Sino-Hungarian Medical Forum

In the previous year, the University of Pécs and the North China University of Science and Technology proudly celebrated the 20th anniversary of their fruitful partnership. Over the past two decades, the two institutions have developed a strong and multifaceted academic and professional collaboration, with one of the flagship initiatives being the Sino-Hungarian Medical Forum—a conference series with a focus on Traditional Chinese Medicine.

To date, 14 such forums have been successfully held in both Hungary and China, serving as important platforms for dialogue, knowledge exchange, and joint research between Eastern and Western medical

traditions. These forums have brought together experts, scholars, and practitioners from both countries, fostering international cooperation in integrative medicine.

Key co-organizers of these events include the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs, the National of Hungarian Medical Acupuncture Association, the Oriental Medicine Group in Hungary, the Society of Integrated Traditional Chinese and Western Medicine of Hebei Province, and the hosting universities themselves. The continued success of these forums reflects the strong commitment of both institutions to advancing medical education, promoting cultural understanding, and supporting innovation in healthcare practices.





TCM conferences, lectures & workshops

Since its founding, the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pécs, has prioritized the advancement of academic dialogue on Traditional Chinese Medicine and complementary medicine, both within Hungary and internationally. In recent years, the Institute has actively taken part in numerous scientific conferences, often contributing as a co-organizer to foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing. To highlight a few of these major conferences:

- Ancient knowledge on new ways. The reformed traditional Chinese Medicine in Hungary. 29 of October, 2015. Budapest
- European Congress for Integrative Medicine (ECIM), international conference. 10-11 of September, 2016. Budapest

- „One Belt – One Road” Traditional Chinese Medicine in the International Practice, international conference. 9-10 of September, 2017. Pécs
- „TCM in Evidence-based Medicine” International TCM Congress. 28-29 of September, 2018. Budapest
- 16th World Congress of Chinese Medicine & The Belt and Road TCM Academic Communication, 8-9 of November 2019, Budapest

Equally important to its mission is public education. The Institute is committed to raising awareness among the general public by offering trustworthy, accessible information about TCM. To this end, it regularly hosts lectures and hands-on workshops focused on preventive care and health-enhancing practices rooted in Chinese medicine. These initiatives aim to make TCM techniques more approachable and beneficial for non-professionals interested in maintaining their well-being.





10th anniversary booklet of the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs, Hungary

Regular taichi practice with locals

Practicing Tai Chi and Health Qigong with local residents has become one of the most cherished community programs offered by the Confucius Institute in Pécs. Launched alongside the founding of the Institute in 2015, this wellness activity is held twice a week—every Tuesday and Friday from 5 to 6 p.m.—and, weather permitting, takes place in the scenic Szent István Square. These sessions provide an accessible and relaxing way for participants to engage with traditional Chinese health practices.

In addition to the regular community classes, instructors are frequently invited to local primary and secondary schools to introduce students

to Tai Chi and Qigong through engaging workshops. Over the years, some participants have developed a high level of proficiency through consistent practice, forming a close-knit group that not only trains together but also proudly performs at various events hosted by the Institute. The program has fostered both personal well-being and a sense of cultural connection among its members.





TCM consultations

Traditional Chinese Medicine consultation is a key community outreach initiative provided by the Confucius Institute, and it remains one of the most sought-after services among local residents. Since its establishment, the Institute has regularly organized free, voluntary TCM consultation sessions in various locations, including Pécs, Budapest, and surrounding towns such as Kozármisleny. These programs are led by experienced TCM practitioners affiliated with the Institute, who offer a range of traditional therapies to promote health and well-being.

Local participants benefit from various techniques, including pulse and tongue diagnosis, cupping therapy, moxibustion, massage therapy (TuiNa), auricular therapy, and personalized health advice based on TCM principles. These sessions not only provide relief from common ailments and support overall wellness, but they also help raise awareness of holistic healing methods. Over the years, hundreds of Hungarian residents have taken part in these consultations, many of whom have experienced significant improvement in their physical and emotional well-being. Additionally, these events contribute to the cultural mission of the Institute by fostering greater understanding and appreciation of traditional Chinese healthcare practices.





10th anniversary booklet of the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs, Hungary

Platform for cooperation – between universities

The Confucius Institute has served as a vital bridge for academic and cultural cooperation between the University of Pécs and North China University of Science and Technology (NCUST). Acting as a dynamic platform, the Institute has supported the launch of a dual-degree undergraduate program in Hungarian Language, known as the 1+3 Joint Education Program, which has been running successfully since 2017. That same year, the Centre for Hungarian Studies was established at NCUST as part of a co-developed initiative, further strengthening bilateral educational exchange. In 2019, students from the TCM College of North China University of Science and Technology had the chance

to travel to Pécs, where they took part in a two-week professional summer camp while also experiencing Hungarian culture firsthand.

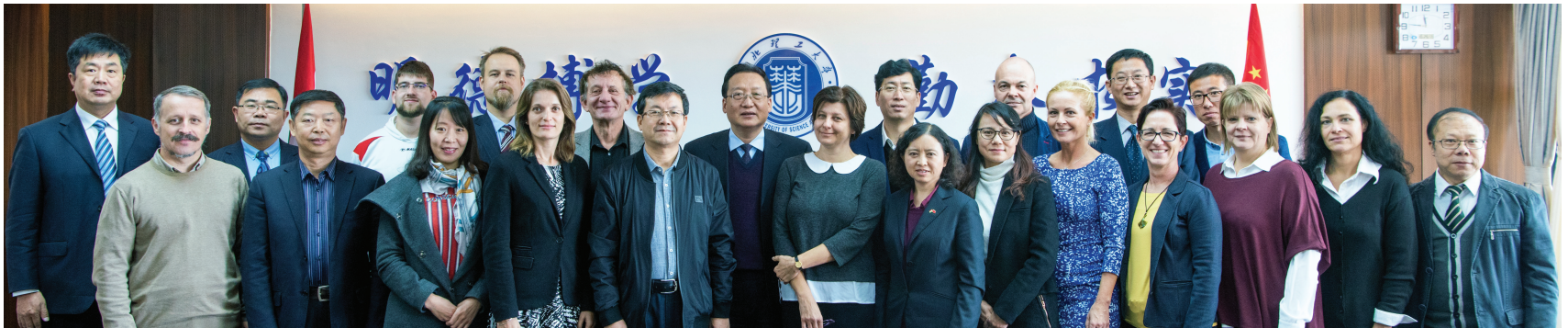
In addition to language education, the Institute has played a key role in expanding NCUST's International Chinese Language Education Program and fostering joint scientific research, particularly in the field of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). Through this partnership, collaborative research projects and knowledge-sharing events have been launched, deepening mutual understanding and innovation. The Confucius Institute has also facilitated the organization of numerous high-impact academic and cultural events, including eight Sino-Hungarian Medical Forums, five Confucius Summer Camps, and various scholarly conferences and exchange programs, significantly enriching the cooperation between the two institutions.





Educators' delegations visit to China

Since its founding, the Confucius Institute has organized three Educators Delegations to China—in 2018, 2019, and 2024—in collaboration with the Chinese Language Education Foundation and North China University of Science and Technology. These delegations included headmasters from partner institutions as well as faculty leaders and representatives from various departments of the University of Pécs. The week-long visits typically involve meetings at the partner university to explore future academic cooperation, tours of Chinese primary and secondary schools to gain insights into the local education system, and efforts to build relationships with international partner institutions. Participants also have the valuable opportunity to experience daily life in China, deepen their understanding of Chinese culture, and enjoy its diverse cuisine.

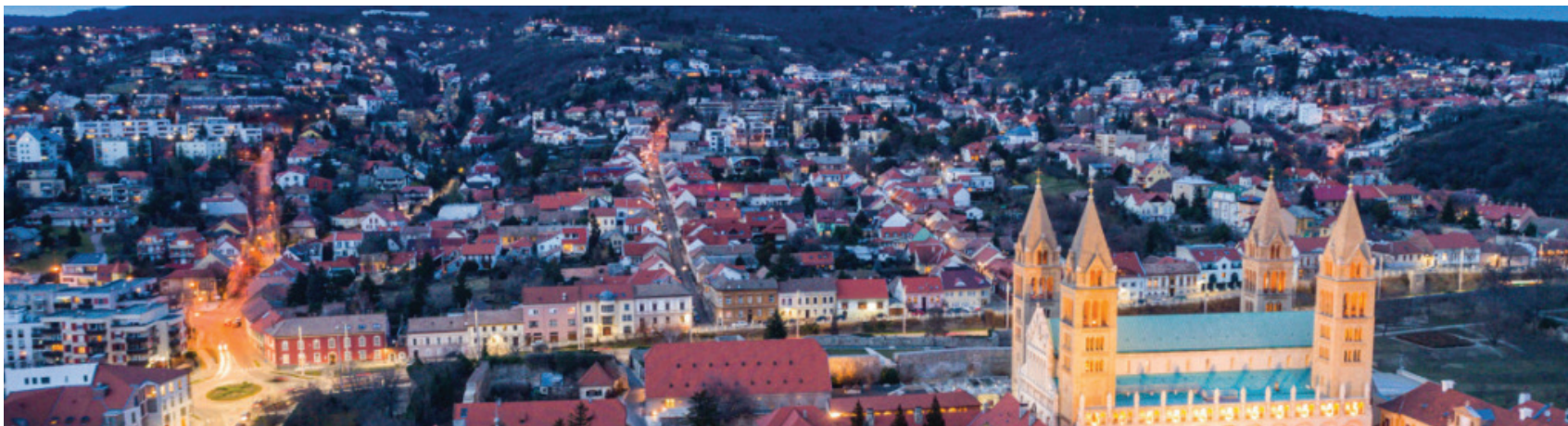




10th anniversary booklet of the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs, Hungary

Platform for cooperation – between cities

The Confucius Institute has played a pivotal role in establishing and nurturing the sister-city relationship between Tangshan, China—home of the North China University of Science and Technology—and Pécs, Hungary, where the University of Pécs is located. Acting as a cultural and academic bridge, the Institute facilitated the signing of the Letter of Intent for the Establishment of a Sister-City Relationship between the two cities, laying the foundation for long-term cooperation. Beyond its diplomatic role, the Institute has actively supported educational exchanges, fostering partnerships not only between the two universities but also among primary and secondary schools in both cities.





Platform for cooperations – with local Chinese organizations

The Confucius Institute has developed strong ties with the Chinese Embassy in Hungary and several local Chinese organizations, which have consistently supported its initiatives. Guided by the Embassy, the Institute hosted the “Chinese Bridge” Language Proficiency Competition in 2018 and 2024, and in 2023, the first China Study Center in Hungary was launched at its Confucius Classroom in Bánki Donát Primary School, Pécs. In recent years, five students from the Institute received the prestigious Ambassador Scholarship, while ten others earned encouragement awards.

The Institute has also worked closely with the Oriental Medicine Group, co-hosting TCM events such as the 16th World TCM Conference in 2019, offering consultations, and organizing educational and cultural programs. The Group has provided long-standing support, including donations of equipment and traditional medicines—especially vital during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, the Institute has partnered with the CEE-China Association for Science and Technology Exchange to host cultural celebrations like Spring Festival events. The Association generously contributed 300 Chinese books and 15 sets of traditional Han clothing to mark the Institute’s 10th anniversary. The Institute also maintains collaborative relationships with institutions such as the China Cultur-

al Centre in Budapest, Xin Dao Bao, Economic Daily, Xinhua News Agency, China-CEE Academy, and the Chinese Students Union at the University of Pécs.





10th anniversary booklet of the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs, Hungary

Platform for cooperation – between Hungarian Confucius Institutes

Confucius Institutes around the world operate based on shared principles, objectives, and often encounter similar challenges. In Hungary, the number of these institutes has steadily grown over the years, creating a network of institutions dedicated to promoting Chinese language and culture. The first Confucius Institute in Hungary was founded at Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest in 2006, followed by new centers at the University of Szeged in 2012, the University of Miskolc in 2013, the University of Pécs—specialized in Traditional Chinese Medicine—in 2015, and the University of Debrecen in 2019. As this network expanded, institute leaders recognized the value of fostering collaboration and open dialogue to exchange ideas, share best practices, and address common challenges.

Over the past decade, these institutes have held regular coordination meetings in cities such as Szeged, Budapest, Pécs, and Mád. These gatherings serve as vital forums to discuss strategic planning, joint initiatives, logistical concerns, and pedagogical issues. Recurring programs like the Chinese Bridge language competition, HSK proficiency exams, and teacher training workshops have become essential platforms for professional exchange and mutual support.

The network continues to grow: in 2024, the Hungarian-Chinese Bilingual School in Budapest was officially recognized as an independ-

ent Confucius Classroom. Additionally, Széchenyi István University in Győr has submitted a formal application to establish its own Confucius Institute, signaling ongoing interest and demand for Chinese language and cultural education across Hungary. This collaborative spirit and shared vision help strengthen the role of Confucius Institutes as cultural and educational bridges between Hungary and China.





Platform for cooperation – between Confucius Institutes specialized in TCM – GACICM

While regional collaboration among Confucius Institutes has proven valuable, the growing number of institutes focusing on Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) highlighted the need for a broader, global platform. This vision led to the creation of an international alliance dedicated specifically to TCM education and promotion. The initiative was spearheaded by the Confucius Institute of Chinese & Regenerative Medicine at the University of Galway, culminating in the establishment of the Global Alliance of Confucius Institutes for Chinese Medicine (GACICM) in 2019. The alliance brings together experts, researchers, and educators from 19 Confucius Institutes across 13 countries, uniting their efforts to advance the academic and practical application of Chinese medicine worldwide.



Following a period of limited in-person interaction due to the COVID-19 pandemic, GACICM could start its face-to-face collaboration with its first post-pandemic international conference held in Beijing in 2023. This was followed by the second global conference in Cape Town, South Africa, in 2024. It is now a significant honor for the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs to host the third GACICM conference in 2025.

These international gatherings offer a vital platform for exchanging knowledge on integrating TCM into healthcare systems and academic programs around the world. As each participating country operates under different healthcare regulations and educational frameworks, the recognition, acceptance, and practice of TCM varies significantly. This diversity presents an incredible opportunity for mutual learning, collaborative research, and the development of new strategies to promote the benefits of Traditional Chinese Medicine globally.





10th anniversary booklet of the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs, Hungary

Awards

Over the years, our institute and its students have proudly earned numerous recognitions and awards. A significant highlight came in 2018, when Prof. József Betlehem, the Hungarian director of our institute, was honored with the Confucius Institutes Excellent Individual Award at the 13th Confucius Institutes Conference in Chengdu, presented by Vice Premier Liu Yandong.

Our students have consistently participated with enthusiasm in a variety of contests organized by the Chinese Language Teaching Centre and other cultural institutions, achieving excellent results. They have received prizes in diverse competitions such as singing, photography, and art, including notable events like the Sing & Learn Chinese competitions in 2022 and 2023, and the 2024 Autumn Festival Photo Contest, in which our Chinese director, Prof. Wang Zhijiang, was recog-



nized with the Photography Talent Award 2023.

In 2024, the Chinese Language Education Foundation acknowledged our institute's dynamic media presence by awarding us the Excellent Confucius Institute in Media Engagement title.

Each year, our students take part in the prestigious Chinese Bridge competition, representing both school-age and university levels. One of the most esteemed recognitions among our students remains the Chinese Embassy Award, which is granted to our institute's top-performing learners.



Letter of congratulation - Center for Language Education and Cooperation



贺 信

值此匈牙利佩奇大学中医孔子学院成立 10 周年之际，我谨代表中国教育部中外语言交流合作中心，向匈牙利佩奇大学、中国华北理工大学和孔子学院表示最热烈的祝贺，向支持孔子学院建设和国际中文教育在匈发展的各界同仁致以最衷心的感谢！

10 年来，在佩奇大学、华北理工大学和中匈各方大力支持下，孔子学院始终坚持传播中文与中医文化，根植大学校园，服务社会需求，开展中医技能培训，参与举办中医药领域高端国际会议，培养复合型人才；积极推动匈牙利语专业、匈牙利研究中心在华建设发展，为中匈教育人文交流搭建桥梁，为增进两国人民友谊发挥重要作用。

当前，中匈关系已融入“黄金航道”，希望孔子学院以 10 周年为新起点，落实两国关于建立新时代全天候全面战略合作关系的联合声明，积极发挥孔子学院平台作用，继续支持两国青年学习对方国家语言，深化语言教学合作，为服务中国“一带一路”倡议和匈牙利“向东开放”战略对接，促进两国民心相通作出更大贡献。

语合中心愿继续与中匈各界一道，支持佩奇大学中医孔子学院高质量发展，搭建语言互通之桥、理解互信之桥、文明互鉴之桥。

祝愿匈牙利佩奇大学中医孔子学院再创辉煌！

郁云峰

中国教育部中外语言交流合作中心 主任
2025 年 4 月 25 日



Köszöntőlevél

A Pécsi Tudományegyetem Hagyományos Kínai Orvosi Konfuciusz Intézete megalapításának 10. évfordulója alkalmából a Kínai Oktatási Minisztérium Nyelvi Képzésekért és Nemzetközi Együttműködésekért felelős Központja nevében szívóbb gratulálók a Pécsi Tudományegyetemnek, az Észak-Kínai Műszaki Egyetemnek, valamint a Konfuciusz Intézetnek, és őszinte köszönetemet fejezem ki mindazoknak, akik hozzájárultak az Intézet létrejöttéhez, fejlődéséhez és a kínai nyelv-oktatás magyarországi előmozdításához!

Az elmúlt tíz év során a Pécsi Tudományegyetem, az Észak-Kínai Műszaki Egyetem, valamint a kínai és magyar partnerek közös támogatásának köszönhetően a Konfuciusz Intézet, szervesen kapcsolódva az egyetemi élethez, elkötelezett munkát végzett a kínai nyelv és a hagyományos kínai orvoslás kultúrájának minél szélesebb körű terjesztésében, orvos továbbképzések szervezésével társadalmi igényeket is kiszolgált, képviseltette magát a hagyományos kínai orvoslással foglalkozó nemzetközi konferenciákon, és sokoldalúan képzett szakembereket is szép számmal kerültek ki ebből a műhelyből. Emellett aktívan segítette a magyar szakok és a magyar kutatóközpontok létrehozását és fejlesztését Kínában, fontos hídát építve a kínai-magyar oktatási és kulturális kapcsolatuk erősítése érdekében, jelentős mértékben hozzájárulva a két nép közötti barátság elmélyítéséhez.

Napjainkban a kínai-magyar kapcsolatok „aranykorát” éljük. Bízom benne, hogy a Konfuciusz Intézet a 10. évfordulóra új kiindulópontként tekint, és a két ország között, az új korszak minden körülmények közötti stratégiai partnerségről szóló nyilatkozatában megfogalmazott célok szellemében továbbra is tevékenyen hasznosítja majd a Konfuciusz Intézetek hálózata által biztosított lehetőségeket. Remélem, hogy az Intézet továbbra is támogatja a két ország fiataljait egymás nyelvének elsajátításában, kivesszi részüket a nyelvoktatás terén megvalósuló együttműködések bővítésében, és még nagyobb szerepet vállal az „Egy Övezet, Egy Út” kezdeményezés és a „Jelenti nyitni” stratégia összekapcsolásában, elősegítve, hogy a két nép közötti lelki-szellemi kapcsolatok még szorosabbá váljanak.

A Nyelvi Képzésekért és Nemzetközi Együttműködésekért felelős Központ kész továbbra is együttműködni a kínai és magyar partnerekkel a Pécsi Tudományegyetem Hagyományos Kínai Orvosi Konfuciusz Intézetének magas színvonalú fejlődése érdekében, és hogy közösen építsük tovább a nyelvi megértés, a kölcsönös bizalom és a civilizációk közötti párbeszéd hidját.

Végezetül sok szeretettel kívánok a Pécsi Tudományegyetem Hagyományos Kínai Orvosi Konfuciusz Intézetének további szép sikereket és figyelemre méltó eredményeket a jövőben is!

Peking, 2025. április 25.

YU Yunfeng
Főigazgató

Kínai Oktatási Minisztérium
Nyelvi Képzésekért és Nemzetközi Együttműködésekért felelős
Központ



10th anniversary booklet of the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs, Hungary

Letter of congratulation - Chinese International Education Foundation



贺信

值此匈牙利佩奇大学中医孔子学院成立十周年之际，我谨代表中国国际中文教育基金会，向双方合作机构华北理工大学和佩奇大学致以热烈祝贺！

十年来，佩奇大学中医孔子学院在各方精诚合作下，取得丰硕成果，为两国教育和人文交流做出了重要贡献。孔子学院用中文教学水平助力佩奇大学开设语言专业，与中方共建国别研究中心，开展双学位联合培养项目；用中医文化推介活动突出特色，定期举办中医药宣传活动，组织中医技能培训，为当地民众提供中医义诊服务；用两校在当地影响力促成所在城市建立国际友好城市关系，带动城市间多层次合作。

佩奇大学中医孔子学院体现着中匈合作共赢的精神，凝结着两所合作学校共同的心血，坚信她下一个十年会更好！

祝佩奇大学中医孔子学院十周岁生日快乐！

祝中匈友谊天长地久！

中国国际中文教育基金会副理事长、秘书长
2025年5月6日



May 6th, 2025

CONGRATULATORY LETTER

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at University of Pécs in Hungary, I would like to extend my warm congratulations on behalf of the Chinese International Education Foundation to the host institutions, North China University of Science and Technology (NCUST) and the University of Pécs (UP)!

Over the past decade, the Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at University of Pécs has achieved fruitful results through sincere cooperation among all parties, making important contributions to educational and cultural exchanges between the two countries. It has supported UP in developing language programs, assisted in the co-building of the Center for Hungarian Studies with NCUST, and facilitated the joint degree program between the two universities. It has highlighted its uniqueness of Traditional Chinese Medicine through cultural promotion activities, organized training sessions for TCM skills, and provided free medical consultations for local residents. Additionally, leveraging the host universities' local recognition, it has facilitated the establishment of international sister-city relations between their cities, promoting multi-level cooperation between the cities.

Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at University of Pécs embodies the spirit of win-win cooperation between China and Hungary, representing the collective efforts of both host universities. I firmly believe that the next decade will be even more prosperous!

Happy 10th Anniversary to Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine at University of Pécs! Wishing for the everlasting friendship between China and Hungary!

Vice President and Secretary-General,
Chinese International Education Foundation

10th anniversary booklet of the Confucius Institute for
Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Pécs, Hungary



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