

# NEWSLETTER

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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

## Celebrating Three Decades of Strengthening Hong Kong's Global Ties

### Reflecting on Our Journey

As we celebrate the Better Hong Kong Foundation's 30th anniversary in 2025, it is the perfect moment to reflect on the remarkable journey that has shaped us. Over the past three decades, the Foundation has undergone three significant phases, each marked by noteworthy achievements and strategic shifts.

### Phase One: Establishing Our Identity (1995-2007)

Our story began in 1995 with the establishment of the Foundation, self-initiated by prominent business leaders with no government or political affiliation. Our mission was to support Hong Kong's "One Country, Two Systems" framework, a concept that was novel both to Hong Kong and the world. Championing the formation of the city's unique identity post-Handover, we navigated uncharted waters with a "crossing the river by feeling the stones" approach. During this period, we focused on promoting the city's distinctive position under the new framework to lay the foundation for Hong Kong's future.

### Phase Two: Proving Our Success (2007-2019)

The second phase commenced in 2007, a decade after the Handover. This was a time to reflect and assess Hong Kong's progress. We took stock of the city's achievements, particularly in the evolving dynamics between Hong Kong, mainland China, and the world. During this era, Sino-US relations were notably positive. Our efforts included sending annual delegations to the United States and to countries such as Israel, Russia, and Turkey, engaging business leaders, government officials, and media to share Hong Kong's success story and the true China story.

Additionally, the Foundation conducted a US Journalism Exchange program, inviting American journalists to

explore Hong Kong and various cities in mainland China firsthand. This initiative provided them with an opportunity to witness the vitality and resilience of these places, as well as to engage in direct dialogues with Chinese journalists, government officials, business sectors, and academics, further fostering international understanding and appreciation.

A 2007 Fortune magazine online article titled "Oops! Hong Kong is Hardly Dead", in response to their cover story in 1995, highlighted Hong Kong's enduring spirit and success, affirming our efforts and the international acknowledgment of the city's tenacity.

### Phase Three: Navigating Challenges (2019-Present)

The third phase began in 2019 amidst Hong Kong's social unrest, the Covid-19 pandemic, and geopolitical challenges. This period has seen substantial challenges in Hong Kong and mainland China, including economic shifts and heightened tensions between China and the United States. Despite these distractions, we returned to basics, with a strong belief that people-to-people



The Foundation conducted a US Journalism Exchange program to foster better understanding of the latest developments in Hong Kong and mainland China



communications remain key to fostering collaboration and continue to champion Hong Kong's unique advantages under the "One Country, Two Systems" framework.

Beyond the United States, we expanded our focus to Europe and the Middle East, aiming to broaden our circle of friends and collaborate with them on a global scale. This strategic evolution reflects our adaptability and commitment to ensuring Hong Kong's continued relevance and influence on the world stage.

## Highlights of 2024

### Building Global Networks and Mainland China Ties

In 2024, we carried on our international outreach through delegations to France and Germany, while also strengthening our connections with mainland China by visiting Beijing, Shanghai, and Nansha in the Greater Bay Area.

Our annual Shanghai-Hong Kong Cooperation and Development Forum, organized with the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Shanghai Committee and the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, focused on financial services, intellectual property rights, and high value-added maritime services.

The forum concluded with the signing of two MOUs on financial services and maritime services, underscoring our commitment to collaboration in these key areas.

We hosted various delegations in Hong Kong, including Chinese diplomats and think tanks, to discuss global developments and business opportunities. Engagements with Consuls General in Hong Kong further reinforced our mission of fostering international understanding and cooperation. These interactions have been invaluable in building bridges, promoting dialogue, and ensuring that Hong Kong remains a vital player on the global stage.

### Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest

One of the highlights of 2024 was the annual Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest. Initiated in 2007, in collaboration with the Office of the Commissioner of the PRC's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the HKSAR and the Education Bureau of the HKSAR Government, our vision is to spark students' interest and understanding of international affairs and our nation's diplomacy, foster their national pride, broaden their perspectives, and encourage them to learn more about the world beyond Hong Kong. Recognized as one of China's three major public diplomacy brands, the contest offers an incredible

opportunity for winners to embark on a study tour in Beijing and other key cities, meeting officials such as the foreign affairs minister, deputy minister, and spokesperson while expanding their horizons—a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience.

It is heartwarming to witness the fruits of this initiative, as we have recently met some past winners who are now flourishing in both the public and private sectors, becoming our counterparts. Seeing this journey come full circle fills us with pride and joy.

## Proposal on Hong Kong's International Commodity Market

On a different note, the Foundation, driven by members from the financial services and metals industries, engaged the China Development Institute in Shenzhen in March 2024 to explore harnessing Hong Kong's strengths by developing an international commodity market. The goal was to enhance Hong Kong's status as an international financial center, develop the metals market, and create the right ecosystem for the commodity market.

The ten-month project, titled "Strategies and Recommendations for Developing Hong Kong's Commodity Market Based on Industry Needs", concluded in January 2025.

This initiative proved timely as the HKSAR Government announced in its October 2024 Policy Address plans to facilitate a commodity exchange in Hong Kong and develop the city into an international gold trading center with world-class gold storage facilities.

Riding on the research findings, we will continue our advocacy for the establishment of an international commodity exchange in Hong Kong.

## Strategic Priorities for 2025

To commemorate our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025, we will strive for excellence as we carry out our mission. We will continue strengthening our international connections by sending delegations overseas and deepening our understanding of mainland China to enhance communication and foster cooperation.

Entering our 31<sup>st</sup> year, our strategic priorities are well-defined. Highlighting Hong Kong's value to both our country and our foreign friends remains a key focus. Understanding the developments in Hong Kong and mainland China is crucial, which is why we have consistently visited Beijing and Shanghai over the past three years. These visits have provided valuable insights and strengthened our connections, allowing us to better represent Hong Kong's interests.



Nong Rong (front row, middle), Deputy Director of Hong Kong and Macao Work Office of CPC Central Committee and Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of State Council received the Foundation's delegation in Beijing



### A Message to Our Supporters

As we celebrate this milestone, we are deeply grateful for the unwavering support of our members, partners, stakeholders, and friends. Your dedication has been instrumental in our journey. Together, we will navigate the uncertainties and challenges ahead with resilience and determination, forging our path forward by “feeling the stones”. Our collective efforts will ensure Hong Kong remains a vibrant, dynamic, and influential city on the global stage.

Our 30-year journey has been one of growth, adaptation, and commitment to Hong Kong's unique position in the world. We remain dedicated to our mission to connect, engage, and collaborate with the international business community, continuing to build a better Hong Kong. Here's to the next 30 years and beyond!

### Karen Tang

Executive Director

The former Foreign Affairs Minister  
Yang Jiechi (front row, 6<sup>th</sup> right)  
received the winners of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hong  
Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge  
Contest in Beijing



# DELEGATION & CONFERENCE

The Foundation organizes and participates in delegations and conferences in mainland China and globally. This enables us to engage with leaders, exchange knowledge, explore collaborative initiatives, and contribute meaningfully to international discourse.

## France & Germany

From May 2 to 7, 2024, our delegation visited France and Germany for the second consecutive year, serving as a non-official channel to connect Hong Kong, mainland China, and the two countries. We met with senior government officials and business leaders to develop mutual understanding, pursue common interests, and explore potential collaborations. Our focus included understanding the global order, European perspectives on China-EU relations, and China's international role, while sharing business insights and discussing economic conditions in mainland China and Hong Kong.



Exchanged views with Yves Perrier (2<sup>nd</sup> left), Chairman of Bank Edmond de Rothschild



Meeting with the senior management of the LVMH Group, including its Group Managing Director, Stéphane Bianchi (center)

The Foundation's Trustee, Adriel Chan (right), and Executive Director, Karen Tang (left), thanked Maurice Gourdault-Montage, former French Ambassador to China, for meeting the delegation





The Foundation hosted a luncheon with business leaders from French capital investment firms

Meeting with Benoit Guidee (2<sup>nd</sup> right), Director for Asia and Oceania, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs



Fannie Wurtz, Deputy CEO (2<sup>nd</sup> left), and Vincent Mortier (3<sup>rd</sup> right), Global CIO of Amundi, hosted lunch for the delegation



Meeting with the Representative Office in France of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade and the Chamber of Commerce and Industries of China in France



Meeting with Qu Xing (5<sup>th</sup> right), Deputy Director-General of UNESCO



Captured the spirit of the Bourse de Commerce - Pinault Collection



## DELEGATION & CONFERENCE



The Foundation co-hosted a networking luncheon with the Global Solutions Institute during the Global Solutions Summit, inviting around 30 conference participants from various industries and think tanks to join



The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman, Ronnie Chan (standing), gave a welcome speech at the networking luncheon



At the networking luncheon, Zhu Min (standing), Vice Chairman of the China Centre for International Economic Exchanges and former Deputy Managing Director of the IMF, shared his insights on China's economy



At the Global Solutions Summit, the Foundation curated the session "Sustainability in China", which was co-moderated by Ronnie Chan (right) and Adriel Chan (left)



Olaf Scholz, Germany's Federal Chancellor, delivered a keynote speech at the Global Solutions Summit



The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman, Ronnie Chan (left), presented a souvenir as a token of appreciation to Minister Zeng Yingru for hosting a dinner for the delegation at the Chinese Embassy in Germany



# DELEGATION & CONFERENCE

## Beijing

Our third annual delegation to Beijing from November 4 to 6, 2024, deepened connections and facilitated information exchange between mainland China and Hong Kong. We met with Central Government officials and thought leaders to discuss how Hong Kong could better serve the country's needs while sharing views on global geopolitics, economic challenges and opportunities.



Meeting with Nong Rong, Deputy Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Work Office of CPC Central Committee and the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of State Council

Sharing by Chairman Rabbit (2<sup>nd</sup> left), a renowned political and economic commentator



Presentation by Li Wenjie, Senior Vice President of the KE Holdings Inc and Director of the Beike Research Institute



An in-depth and comprehensive discussion on global geopolitics by Vice President Liu Qing (2<sup>nd</sup> left) and other experts at the China Institute of International Studies



Chen Xiaodong (2<sup>nd</sup> left), Vice Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, received the delegation, accompanied by Yang Yirui (1<sup>st</sup> right), Director of the Department of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs



Exchanged views with Peter Ling-Vannerus (middle), Executive Committee Member of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China



Vibrant discussion with Zheng Chiping (1<sup>st</sup> right), Director of Department of Foreign Capital and Overseas Investment, and other representatives at the National Development and Reform Commission



Meeting with Wu Tianhua (right), Founder of Tiger Brokers



Li Gang (left), Distinguished Research Fellow of the National Finance and Development Laboratory (NFDL), shared his views on China's economy



A welcome dinner hosted by Amy Yuen (front row, 3<sup>rd</sup> right), Acting Director of the Office of the Government of the HKSAR in Beijing



# DELEGATION & CONFERENCE

## Nansha

On January 15, 2024, we organized our first study tour to Nansha to better understand the developments and opportunities in the Greater Bay Area. Participants experienced the “one-hour living circle”, which offers young people more options to explore and advance their career development with a quick commute between Hong Kong and Nansha.



Visited Nansha Yuexiu International Finance Center



Briefing on the Nansha Qingsheng  
TOD Project



Visited Minxin Hong Kong School



Met and exchanged views with Deputy Secretary Xie Wei (front row, middle) and Deputy Governor Ma Jiehong (front row, 2<sup>nd</sup> right)



Visited GTMC Nansha Plant Phase 4



Visited CloudWalk Technology Co Ltd



Visited Nansha Planning Exhibition Hall



# DELEGATION & CONFERENCE

## Shanghai-Hong Kong Cooperation and Development Forum

On October 14, 2024, we co-organized the 18<sup>th</sup> Shanghai-Hong Kong Cooperation and Development Forum in collaboration with the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Shanghai Committee and the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences to enhance collaboration between Shanghai and Hong Kong. This year's theme, "Shanghai-Hong Kong Cooperation to Promote the 'Bringing In and Going Out' Policy" spotlighted financial services, intellectual property rights, and high value-added maritime services. With around 200 attendees, including high-level government officials, entrepreneurs, experts, and scholars from both cities, the forum was a hub of vibrant discussions on leveraging the strengths of Shanghai and Hong Kong. The forum wrapped up on a high note with the signing of two MOUs on financial and maritime services, underscoring our commitment to these vital areas.



The 18<sup>th</sup> Shanghai-Hong Kong Cooperation and Development Forum was successfully held in Shanghai



At the forum luncheon, the Foundation's Trustee, David Chiu (2<sup>nd</sup> right), thanked all the speakers and guests for their support of the forum



Leung Chun-ying, Vice Chairman of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, delivered the keynote speech in the morning session and gave concluding remarks in the afternoon



The Foundation's Trustee, Adriel Chan, gave an opening remark



The Foundation's Corporate Sponsor, Dario Pong, gave an opening remark



The forum featured three parallel sessions in the afternoon, one of which focused on “Development of High Value-added International Maritime Services Through Shanghai-Hong Kong Cooperation”. At this session, Shanghai Maritime University, Hong Kong Chamber of Shipping, and Shenzhen Equator Fund Management Co Ltd signed a strategic cooperation agreement



The forum featured three parallel sessions in the afternoon, one of which focused on “Intellectual Property Rights to Promote Market Transformation and Scientific and Technological Achievements Through Shanghai-Hong Kong Cooperation”

The forum featured three parallel sessions in the afternoon, one of which focused on “Boosting and Enhancing Financial Services in Shanghai and Hong Kong Through Collaboration”. At this session, the Financial Services Development Council in Hong Kong and the Shanghai Research Center for Financial Stability and Development signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)



The Foundation's members thanked Leung Chun-ying (front row, middle), Vice Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, for his support to the forum



The Foundation's Executive Director, Karen Tang, chaired the final discussion and concluding session of the forum



# DELEGATION & CONFERENCE

## Global Solutions Summit

At our second participation in the Global Solutions Summit in Berlin on May 7, the Foundation curated a session on "Sustainability in China", featuring mainland Chinese speakers Zhu Min and Susan Zhu. This session spotlighted China's crucial role in global sustainability, focusing on electric vehicles, batteries, and renewable energy. Experts discussed China's strides in its "Green Revolution", the need for global cooperation, and how China and Europe could pioneer multilateral collaborations to tackle climate challenges and promote sustainable development. To top it off, we hosted a networking luncheon for invited guests from various industries and think tanks who participated in the summit.

Bill Gates attended the summit and delivered a keynote speech



Invited by the Foundation, Zhu Min (middle), Vice Chairman of the China Centre for International Economic Exchanges and former Deputy Managing Director of the IMF, and Susan Zhu (right), Chairman and CEO of Shanghai Treasure Carbon New Energy Environmental Protection Technology Co Ltd, attended the special session and shared their insights on sustainable development in China



Members of the Foundation attended other sessions of the summit



At the Global Solutions Summit, the Foundation curated a special session on “Sustainability in China”, co-moderated by Trustees Ronnie Chan (right) and Adriel Chan (left)



To enlarge our circle of friends, the Foundation co-hosted a networking luncheon attended by nearly 30 conference participants



Exchanged views on China development with a conference participant



# DIALOGUE WITH LEADER

The Foundation builds robust networks with leaders in politics, academia, media, and business across Hong Kong, mainland China, and globally. Through meaningful dialogue, we keep our counterparts informed on developments in Hong Kong and mainland China while staying updated on their advancements.

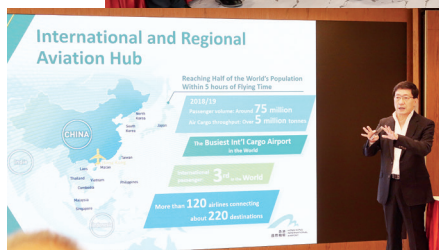
We are committed to the local community in Hong Kong. Through engagement with government officials and leaders in various industries, we gain valuable insights into issues impacting the community.

On May 25, Secretary for Justice Paul Lam (front row, middle) shared his views on the legislation of Article 23 of the Basic Law and how Hong Kong maintains and safeguards the rule of law



On February 1, Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Alice Mak (middle) met with the Foundation's young members and shared with them the work of her bureau as well as her own career development





On August 6, Fred Lam, Chairman of the Airport Authority Hong Kong, shared his vision of Hong Kong as an international and regional aviation hub. At the luncheon, he showcased the latest and future developments of the Hong Kong International Airport



On August 22, Bonnie Chan (front row, middle), CEO of the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd (HKEX), shared her views on the strategic initiatives and internationalization of the HKEX. At the luncheon, she provided updates on the IPO market in Hong Kong



# DIALOGUE WITH LEADER

Through meetings with mainland China's government officials and ambassadors, academics and media experts, we stay informed about the latest happenings and perspectives in mainland China and globally. These interactions promote mutual understanding and strengthen our collaborative efforts.

On June 17, Commissioner of the China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the HKSAR Cui Jianchun hosted a dinner and shared his views on the country's foreign policy and the international environment. Commissioner Cui also moderated a thorough discussion with our members



On Mar 19, Editor-in-Chief of the South China Morning Post Tammy Tam gave a talk on her findings after attending the "Two Sessions" in Beijing as well as an overview on the government structure and governance in mainland China



On August 12, a sharing session on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Session of the 20<sup>th</sup> CPC Central Committee was organized, where Joe Fang, Research Director of the One Country Two Systems Research Institute and Tammy Tam, Editor-in-Chief of the South China Morning Post spoke



Luncheon with China's Special Representative of the Chinese Government on European Affairs Ambassador Wu Hongbo (2<sup>nd</sup> right) on December 12



Meeting with Chinese Ambassador to ASEAN Hou Yanqi (left) on January 16



Breakfast meeting with Chinese Ambassador to the Netherlands Tan Jian (front row, 3<sup>rd</sup> left) on April 25



Exchange with Chinese Ambassador to Slovenia Wang Shunqing (middle) on May 23



Luncheon with Zheng Liqiao (front row, 3<sup>rd</sup> left), Deputy Director-General of the Department of North American and Oceanian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs on January 11



Sharing by Zhang Jianmin (middle), Consul General of the PRC in San Francisco, USA on January 8



# DIALOGUE WITH LEADER

Luncheon with Mao Ning (middle), Spokesperson and Deputy Director General of Department of Press, Communication and Public Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs on December 17



Luncheon with Wang Chunfa (front row, middle), Director of the National Museum of China and his team on March 27



Exchange with Yang Xin (2<sup>nd</sup> left), Deputy Director General of the Department of West Asian and North African Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs on September 24



Luncheon with Li Zijun (front row, 2<sup>nd</sup> left), Deputy Commissioner of National Public Complaints and Proposals Administration on December 4



Luncheon with Liang Nan (middle), Deputy Administrator of Civil Aviation Administration of China and her team on November 27



Luncheon with Fan Gang (front row, 4<sup>th</sup> left), President of China Development Institute on January 26



Meeting with Wang Shiting (3<sup>rd</sup> right), Vice President of China Foreign Affairs University on October 28



On June 12, luncheon with Chairman of Taipei Forum Su Chi (3<sup>rd</sup> right) where views on various topics such as cross-strait relations, Sino-US relations, etc were discussed and exchanged



Meeting with research team (right) from China Institute of International Studies on August 14

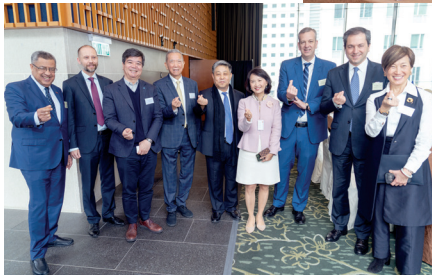


# DIALOGUE WITH LEADER

Over convivial luncheons and dinners with Consuls General, Chambers of Commerce representatives, ambassadors, and dignitaries, we remain cognizant of global issues. These connections allow us to continue building valuable relationships.

## Annual Speaking Luncheon for Consuls General & Chairpersons of International Chambers of Commerce in Hong Kong

The Foundation's Executive Committee Chairman, Ronnie Chan, gave a speech entitled "One Man's View of Hong Kong in a Brave New World" at the luncheon on March 13



(L to R) CG Eduardo Pelagio Alvarez Hernandez, CG Michał Kolodziejski, Chairman Henry Cheung, Y K Chan, Chairman Shin Sung Cheul, Karen Tang, CG Gregory May, CG Alexandre Leitao and Alice Au



The Foundation's Council Members: (L to R) Allen Shi, Ronald Chan, Nathan Lee, Bryant Lu, Oscar Chow, and Anson Chan



(L to R) Karen Tang, CG Pablo Macedo Riba, CG Enrique Carlos Cardenas Arestegui, CG Miguel Aguirre de Cárcer, Dario Pong, and Joseph Yu



Nearly 70 guests attended the luncheon



(L to R) Andrew Yu, Juliana Lam, Dario Pong, Vice President Ivan Sze, and Allen Shi



(L to R) Ronnie Chan, CG Kerim Sercan Evcin, Ambassador Thomas Gnocchi, and Y K Chan



(L to R) Deputy CG Marc Lamy, Ronnie Chan, and Sebastian Man



Representatives of the international chambers of commerce: (L to R) Chairman Raj Sital, Chairman David Whitwam, President Eden Y Woon, Chairman Wilhelm Brauner, and President Benjamin Sigg



# DIALOGUE WITH LEADER



On April 23, Consul General of France in Hong Kong and Macau, Christile Drulhe (front row, 4<sup>th</sup> left) shared her insights on the latest developments in China-France/China-Europe relations, especially in light of celebrating the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two nations





On November 17, a dinner was hosted for European thought leaders, including former French Ambassador to China Maurice Gourdault-Montagne, former President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso, and Dean of the Paris School of International Affairs at Sciences Po and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Spain Arancha González



Luncheon with Sopheap Sok (front row, middle), Secretary of State, Ministry of Commerce of Cambodia, on March 20



# YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest

Since 2007, we have jointly organized the Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest with the Office of the Commissioner of the PRC's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the HKSAR and the HKSAR Government's Education Bureau. It has successfully raised students' interest in international affairs and knowledge of the nation's foreign policy. The 16<sup>th</sup> edition, under the theme "Rising to the Call of Our Time and Our World", set a new record with nearly 70,000 students from 263 primary and secondary schools participating. The final was successfully held on May 18.

The Foundation is committed to shaping future leaders and informed youngsters. Through the Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest and Study Tour, students gain valuable insights into diplomatic practices and mainland China's development. We also sponsor the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cup English Speaking Competition and the National Conditions Knowledge Contest, helping students showcase public-speaking skills and deepen their understanding of Hong Kong and mainland China.



The Final was successfully held on May 18



The Chief Executive John Lee (3<sup>rd</sup> right) together with Commissioner Cui Jianchun (4<sup>th</sup> left), presented the Gold Award of the Elite Group to Yan Chai Hospital Wong Wha San Secondary School



The Foundation's Executive Director, Karen Tang, encouraged students to strive for excellence



The competition was intense, with everyone giving their best efforts to claim victory

The Foundation's Trustee, David Chiu (5<sup>th</sup> left), together with the Secretary for Education, Choi Yuk-lin (middle), presented the Bronze Awards of the Elite Group



Approximately 600 audience attended and showed their support for the contestants



The Best Performance Award went to Miss Tang Pak-man from Diocesan Girls' School



The Foundation's Executive Director, Karen Tang (left), joined by the Director-General of the Department of Media and Public Relations of the Commissioner's Office, Huang Jingrui, visited St Paul's Secondary School to observe the first-round online competition in March



Representatives of the organizers visited Aldrich Bay Government Primary School to observe the online competition



# YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest Study Tour

From July 20 to 29, 2024, winners of the 16<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Cup Diplomatic Knowledge Contest embarked on an enriching study tour to Beijing and Gansu Province. In Beijing, they observed a press conference at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, met Spokesperson Mao Ning and young diplomats, and explored landmarks like the Palace Museum. In Gansu, they marveled at natural wonders like Mingsha Mountain and Zhangye Danxia Landform Geological Park, visited historic sites such as the Mogao Caves and Jiayu Pass, and learned about technological advancements at the Dunhuang Solar Park and the China National Nuclear Corporation's Gansu Science Base.



Students had an invaluable opportunity to observe a regular press conference hosted by the Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning at the Blue Hall in Beijing



Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning (3<sup>rd</sup> left) met with the group after the regular press conference



Sharing session with young diplomats at the Foreign Ministry in Beijing



Experienced a fascinating educational visit to the China Nuclear Industry Science and Technology Museum in Beijing



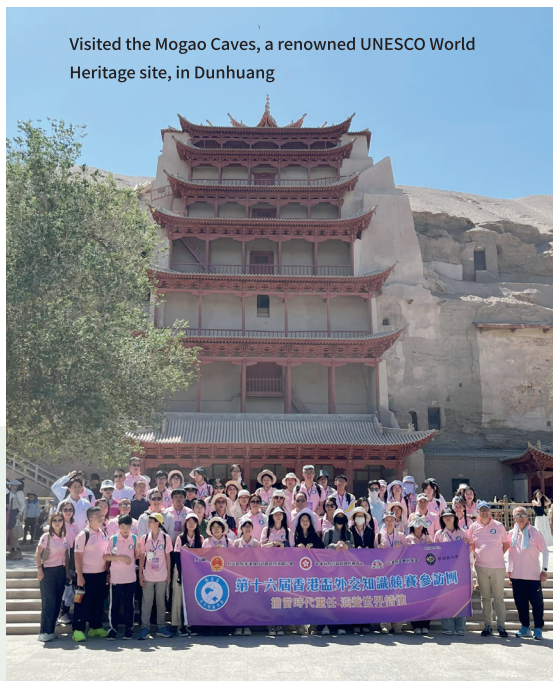
Interacted with students in Beijing



Visited the Beijing High-level Autonomous Driving Demonstration Area and experienced an autonomous ride



Visit to the Museum of the Chinese Communist Party in Beijing



Visited the Mogao Caves, a renowned UNESCO World Heritage site, in Dunhuang



# YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Learned about state-of-the-art solar energy technology at Dunhuang Solar Park (Super Mirror Power Plant)



First camel ride of a lifetime at Jiayu Pass



After visiting Jiayu Pass, students expressed their appreciation for our ancestors' effort in guarding the nation



Paid tribute to fallen soldiers at the China's Workers and Peasants Red Army Western Route Memorial Hall in Zhangye



On behalf of the Foundation, Corporate Sponsor Roy Chung (4<sup>th</sup> left) presented awards to winners of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cup National English Speaking Competition



The Foundation sponsored the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cup National English Speaking Competition, providing a platform for students ranging from kindergarten to tertiary education to showcase their English public-speaking skills. The ultimate goal is to share authentic and positive stories of Hong Kong and China with the world



The Foundation sponsored China's National Conditions Knowledge Contest for consecutive years, aiming to encourage students from primary schools to tertiary institutions to deepen their understanding of our nation



# LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

The Foundation actively fosters community engagement through various local initiatives. Highlights of the year included a luncheon with media heads, and a visit to The Henderson - the new skyscraper in Central designed by world-renowned Zaha Hadid Architects, and the Asia Pacific headquarters of Christie's. A spring lunch was organized for our members to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Our website is revamped. Do visit us at [www.betterhongkong.org](http://www.betterhongkong.org) if you want to learn more about the Foundation.



On February 21, the Foundation hosted its annual luncheon with local senior media friends to strengthen mutual understanding and communication



The Foundation's members visited The Henderson and Christie's on October 4





To better share the Foundation's story and mission, we unveiled a refreshed website and corporate brochure with a new design and content in September



On February 2, the Foundation's members gathered to celebrate Chinese New Year, sending their best wishes to the people of Hong Kong and our friends overseas



At the spring luncheon, the Foundation's Executive Director, Karen Tang (1<sup>st</sup> left), reviewed the previous year's achievements and outlined the future working plan with members



The Better Hong Kong Foundation is a privately funded, non-profit organization and has no political affiliations. It was formed by influential Hong Kong business and community leaders in 1995 to build greater international understanding by facilitating communications between Hong Kong, mainland China and the global community. The Foundation's principal objective is to help build a better Hong Kong.



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