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Analysis of Current Conditions and Strategic Recommendations for Cultural Partnerships to Enhance Political and Economic Development Within the SCO Framework

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Abstract: Amidst the escalating global geopolitical uncertainties, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), as a significant constructive force in international and regional matters, advocates the "Shanghai Spirit" and leverages its wealth of effective regional governance experience. This provides a localized approach to addressing challenges within the current global governance framework. While much emphasis is placed on cooperation in political and economic spheres, cultural collaboration among SCO member states receives less attention. Exploring the present state of cultural cooperation and communication among these member states, along with identifying existing challenges, can enhance mutual understanding and cultural exchanges. Strengthening cultural ties can serve as a bridge, facilitating solutions to various issues in political and economic arenas and fostering strategic trust and deep mutual recognition among SCO members. In essence, by focusing on the cultural dimension, the SCO can enrich its multifaceted cooperation, promoting a more comprehensive and resilient partnership that addresses both traditional and emerging challenges in the region. This approach underscores the importance of cultural diplomacy in reinforcing the SCO's role as a stabilizing influence in an increasingly complex global environment.

Keywords: Shanghai Cooperation Organization、Intercultural Communication、International Cooperation、Political Games、Economic and Trade Interactions.

1. Introduction

In light of the evolving international landscape, regional tensions have heightened due to conflicts such as those between Russia and Ukraine, and Israel and Palestine, thereby amplifying global geopolitical uncertainties. The competition among major powers has grown more intense, rendering the international environment increasingly intricate. As a pivotal constructive force in both international and regional affairs, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) promotes the "Shanghai Spirit" and draws upon its accumulated effective regional governance experience to offer localized solutions to the current challenges in global governance.

Most SCO member states are situated in Central Asia, at the heart of the Eurasian continent, making them a critical link in the Belt and Road Initiative. Enhancing cultural exchanges with these member states is not only vital for boosting our country's cultural soft power but also plays an indispensable role in the development and stability of the SCO. Against the backdrop of intensified strategic competition among major powers, the relationships between the United States, China, and Russia have become more strained, turning SCO member states into focal points for power contests. However, factors such as the political decision-making capabilities of SCO members, their levels of economic development, cultural development strategies, policies on external cultural communications, and other elements influence the relatively small cultural market sizes within these countries. These nations exhibit limited capacity to handle the uncertainties associated with cultural policies and demonstrate considerable flexibility in formulating and implementing such policies, often leading to frequent adjustments that increase policy uncertainty and affect enthusiasm for cultural exchanges.

Thus, examining the current state of cultural cooperation and addressing the issues present in cultural communications among SCO member states can help mitigate risks faced by these exchanges amid changing international dynamics. It can also aid SCO member states in reinforcing cultural collaboration, using culture as a bridge to address various issues in the political and economic spheres, and fostering deeper mutual understanding and strategic trust among SCO members.

2. Establishment and Developmental History of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) traces its origins to the Shanghai summit in April 1996, when the leaders of China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan established a framework aimed at fostering mutual trust and conducting disarmament talks in border regions. During the sixth "Shanghai Five" meeting held in Shanghai from June 14 to 15, 2001, Uzbekistan became a full member. On June 15, the heads of these six countries convened for their inaugural gathering and signed the Declaration on the Establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, officially marking the SCO's formation with Uzbekistan as part of the founding membership.

From 2004 to 2017, the SCO saw an expansion in its membership alongside enhancements in its operational capabilities and institutional structures. A significant milestone was reached in June 2017 when India and Pakistan were admitted into the organization. This enlargement notably boosted the SCO's influence and scope, facilitating a new era of integration and cooperation between Central Asia and South Asia.

Presently, the SCO has 10 full member states, 2 observer states, and 14 dialogue partners. The total area covered by the member states exceeds 37 million square kilometers, accounting for about 25% of the global land surface; the combined population is nearly 3.6 billion, representing half of the world's population, and the aggregate GDP of member states exceeds $23 trillion.

Humanitarian cooperation within the SCO has flourished, resulting in the signing of numerous significant documents covering areas such as education, cultural exchange, disaster relief, and healthcare. The organization has facilitated a wide array of events including art festivals, sports

competitions, winter camps, and training sessions, all of which have seen extensive participation from member states.

A key initiative in this domain is the SCO University, which is now fully operational. This institution represents a regional educational partnership aimed at enhancing educational collaboration among member states and fostering an integrated educational network within the SCO. More than 80 universities from across the member countries have become part of the SCO University project, underscoring its importance as a platform for academic and cultural exchange.

At the fifteenth meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO, President Xi Jinping advocated upholding the "Shanghai Spirit" to build a community of shared future in the region. He emphasized that it is necessary to continue to be guided by the "Shanghai Spirit," uphold international fairness and justice, advocate multilateralism and openness, respect each other's interests, not interfere in the internal affairs of others, resolve differences and disputes peacefully, and promote development and prosperity through a win-win philosophy.

3. The Cultural Connotation of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

Humanistic cooperation is gaining increasing prominence in international relations, characterized by its foundational, pioneering, and enduring nature. Through cultural exchanges among SCO member states, psychological barriers among the public can be mitigated or even eliminated, thereby laying a "soft foundation" for initiatives like the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Such cooperation helps to aggregate international consensus, shape a new paradigm of international relations, and contribute to the joint construction of a community with a shared future for mankind.

However, humanistic cooperation can be influenced by a variety of factors including political dynamics and economic conditions. Political decisions within member states, levels of economic development, and policies related to external cultural engagement all play crucial roles in determining the scope and effectiveness of such cooperation. Additionally, the flexibility and frequent adjustments in cultural policies can introduce uncertainties that impact the enthusiasm for conducting cultural exchanges.

Despite these challenges, fostering humanistic cooperation remains essential for deepening mutual understanding and trust among SCO member states. It serves as a bridge that can help address various issues in political and economic spheres, ultimately promoting a more harmonious and cooperative international environment. By addressing these influences and challenges, the SCO can enhance its role as a stabilizing force in an increasingly complex global landscape.

Yang Fan and Zhu Guangliang [1] discussed how the SCO compares to various multilateral practices that emerged after World War II, noting its uniqueness in terms of its basis of formation, organizational methods, and practical principles. For instance, the SCO is based on the heterogeneity of its member states, unlike the homogeneity of European multilateral experiences. Regarding member qualifications, although the SCO has regional characteristics, it always maintains openness, differing from the exclusivity seen in American multilateral experiences. Under the dominance of Western binary thinking, the distinction between systems and norms directly leads to a dual separation in multilateral practice, adhering to norms such as equality, inclusivity, and mutual benefit, "with sovereign equality as the basic principle, consultative cooperation as the main method, and undifferentiated adherence to international rule of law, pursuing collective interests."

Zhu Xu, Liu Shuai, and Han Wenchao [2], approach the humanistic exchanges between China and SCO member states from the perspective of a community with a shared future, promoting the principles of "exchanges and cooperation to build trust and dispel doubts." Adhering to the values of cultural leadership and dialogue, equality among civilizations, and mutual learning, they

consider the unique civilizational characteristics of Central Asia. Initiatives include a variety of cultural communication projects such as Confucius Institutes, student exchange programs, educational and training initiatives, cultural years, and thematic exhibitions. These efforts continuously strengthen mutual goodwill, recognition, and cultural identity among the peoples involved.

By embracing these principles and initiatives, the aim is to foster deeper understanding and trust, ensuring that cultural exchanges serve as a bridge for enhancing mutual respect and cooperation. This approach underscores the importance of recognizing and valuing the diverse cultural heritages within the SCO, thereby contributing to a more cohesive and harmonious regional community.

Liu Jun [3] elaborates from the perspective of sustainable development and regional cooperation mechanisms, explaining how the SCO promotes exchanges and cooperation among Eurasian countries through a series of institutional arrangements and project implementations, enhancing the resilience of regional sustainable development, improving the coordination of regional cooperation mechanisms, and providing significant impetus for the Eurasian region to address geopolitical risks and challenges.

Zeng Xianghong and Luo Jin [4] propose that the institutional framework established by the SCO fully respects the civilizational differences and institutional choices of its member states. Despite the varied cultural differences among member states, the SCO does not treat them differently based on size or strength but instead promotes common development in cultural communications. Instead of being hindered by civilizational differences, the SCO has fostered closer ties among peoples through mutual learning, imparting dynamism to the construction of a humanistic community within the SCO. This positive advocacy and joint participation have ensured mutual recognition of identity and interests between the SCO and its member states, thus forming a virtuous cycle.

In the fields of culture and education, the SCO consistently treats cultural differences with an open and inclusive attitude, encouraging and deepening official and unofficial regional cooperation in science and technology, education, health, culture, sports, and tourism, promoting cultural communication and mutual learning among member states, and fostering closer ties among peoples. Examples include signing agreements on scientific and technological cooperation and health cooperation, issuing guidelines for tourism development cooperation, establishing the SCO University and Confucius Institutes, hosting cultural and arts festivals and industrial forums of member states, setting up "SCO Open Days," organizing SCO marathons, conducting think tank exchanges and civil society cooperation, etc. Through cooperation in the cultural and educational sectors, the SCO aligns with new development concepts and the development strategies of member states and regional cooperation initiatives, expanding and deepening multi-field regional cooperation, contributing to the continuous expansion of the SCO's essence, from initially enhancing mutual trust among countries and strengthening cooperation against terrorism and separatism to effective cooperation in political, economic, trade, scientific and technological, cultural, educational, energy, transportation, tourism, environmental protection, and other fields. Together, they are committed to maintaining and safeguarding peace, security, and stability in the region and promoting the establishment of a democratic, fair, and reasonable new international political and economic order, creating an open spillover effect. [4]

4. Challenges Faced by SCO Member States in Cultural Cooperation

4.1 Political Identification and Ideological Differences

After gaining independence, the Central Asian countries implemented a series of measures to shape new national identities, enhance their cultural recognition, and reduce the influence of the Soviet era. Their primary task post-independence was to seek genuine sovereignty, breaking away from the inertia of dependence on the superpower that was the Soviet Union, thereby gaining popular support and legitimacy to govern. These measures encompassed language, education, religion, national history, urban cultural landscapes, personnel appointments, and migration, aiming to strengthen the position of the dominant ethnic groups and promote cultural renaissance. These policies effectively promoted social "de-Russification." [5]

However, this approach also had negative effects. As the movements for tracing the roots of the dominant ethnic histories and promoting their cultural heritage gained momentum, nationalist sentiments began to emerge among the ethnic groups in Central Asia. This affected the social rights of the Russian minority, who were once the second-largest ethnic group in the region, and brought changes to inter-ethnic relationships. [6] In various countries, political parties and organizations with chauvinistic tendencies have become increasingly active, adopting strong and explicit nationalist stances. These groups oppose increased Russian influence in domestic politics and openly organize activities that undermine ethnic unity and social harmony.

In a multi-ethnic country, social stability, cohesion, national unity, and independence are built on a consensus that recognizes the importance of fostering a common bond in a society where multiculturalism and diverse ethnicities intersect and sometimes clash. It is essential to establish a unifying ethos that brings people together. On this foundation, an inclusive mainstream culture and collective identity should be cultivated, promoting mutual respect and cooperation among different ethnic groups. [7]

Currently, the SCO should not be perceived exclusively through the lenses of China and Central Asian countries, Russia and Central Asian countries, or the United States. Rather, it should be regarded as an international organization where Central Asian countries are equal and active participants. These nations independently drive development in the economic and cultural education sectors within the region, free from external interference. This perspective fosters a more accurate understanding and broader societal recognition of the SCO's role and contributions within Central Asian countries.

By viewing the SCO in this manner, it should be acknowledged the autonomy and agency of Central Asian member states in shaping regional cooperation and progress. Such an approach promotes a balanced and inclusive narrative that enhances mutual respect and collaboration among all SCO members. [8]

4.2 Impact of Geopolitical Tensions on Cultural Cooperation

In the current context of geopolitical tensions resulting from the Russia-Ukraine conflict, a vacuum has emerged, and Central Asia is in greater need of a strong national and regional cultural identity to enhance national cohesion and cultural recognition, thereby responding to diplomatic pressures exerted by China, Russia, the United States, and Western countries. The conflict has caused severe disruption to international scientific cooperation and cultural communications. It has led to the displacement of many scientists, interrupted long-term collaborative projects, and threatened academic freedom. The use of emerging technologies such as cyber warfare and electronic warfare has significantly impacted the course and outcome of the conflict. The spread of misinformation can easily mislead young people. Such misinformation often carries biases and prejudices, potentially leading young people to form incorrect worldviews and values. For example, certain online rumors can incite prejudice against specific social groups, fostering negative values. This could further fuel populist and extremist ideologies. [8]

4.3 Differences in Internal Political Stability and Levels of Economic Development Among

Member States

Although there were some inter-state coordination mechanisms among Central Asian countries in the early years following the dissolution of the Soviet Union, their effectiveness was very limited. The true trajectory towards regional cooperation in Central Asia began around 1994. At the start of the year, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan signed a treaty to create a unified economic space between them, initiating a common market from February 1st. This agreement aimed to eliminate tariff barriers and facilitate the free movement of labor, goods, and capital. Two months later, Kyrgyzstan joined the initiative, and in July 1994, the three countries signed key documents on trilateral economic integration and established coordinating bodies. They also decided to set up the Central Asian Bank for Cooperation and Development.

More than three decades since gaining independence, regional cooperation in Central Asia has faced significant challenges, yielding limited tangible outcomes. Consequently, efforts towards regional cooperation in Central Asia are largely driven by the subjective aspirations of the countries involved, which are often constrained by practical realities.

According to Li Zhipeng and Li Qi [9], individual Central Asian countries have experienced political instability and social unrest, exacerbated by the spread of "color revolutions" and "populist" ideologies, which have affected the security and stable development of the region's economy. The parliamentary elections in 2020 triggered a new round of political instability, and the inherent structural contradictions within the political systems have not been resolved. In contrast, Kazakhstan has remained relatively stable. Since Tokayev came to power in 2019, a series of political and economic reforms have been implemented. In Uzbekistan, President Mirziyoyev was re-elected in 2021, and he pledged to continue building a "New Uzbekistan," with the government's focus on poverty alleviation, developing a green economy, reducing taxes, and enhancing housing construction, aiming to achieve a per capita GDP of $4,000 by 2030.

Following the pandemic, the economic development policies of Central Asian countries have undergone frequent adjustments. Kazakhstan has introduced an economic recovery plan focused on supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The government's emphasis on agriculture is reflected in subsequent agricultural reforms and amendments to the Law on Land Relations. To attract foreign investment, the Ministry of Agriculture proposed new investment models. In his 2023 State of the Nation Address, President Tokayev emphasized the importance of manufacturing, ensuring economic self-sufficiency, and establishing a solid industrial framework for the country.

Uzbekistan's economic development policies have focused on agriculture and energy sectors. The government's strategy for transitioning to a green economy demonstrates a commitment to sustainability. In response to economic downturns, the government has taken measures to restore economic growth and plans to liberalize the natural gas and energy sectors as outlined in the New Uzbekistan Development Strategy (2022–2026).

Tajikistan's economic policy since 2020 has shifted towards actively attracting foreign investment. However, frequent policy changes, rising unemployment, and a tight monetary policy that reduced the allocation of bank credit resources have made financing difficult for investing enterprises, increasing investment costs and reducing investment levels. The worsening fiscal situation has led to a decline in government credibility. Several new projects, as well as mergers and acquisitions that were in the early stages of negotiation, have experienced temporary standstills. Short-term stagnation has been caused by adjustments in investment strategies, leading to some investments being temporarily halted. The economic impact has undermined confidence in cultural communications. [10] [11] [12]

4.4 Lack of Long-Term Cultural Cooperation Strategies

The mechanisms for communication and cooperation need further refinement, and the synergy of efforts needs enhancement. In Central Asia, geo-economic measures empowered by geocultural dynamics have been adopted to counterbalance the pressure exerted by Russia; the previously mentioned "Turkic Council" is a significant initiative that promotes geoeconomic development through geocultural ties (common Turkic linguistic heritage). Meanwhile, the development of Central Asian civilizations lags behind those that once conquered the region, meaning that foreign cultures have rarely been influenced by Central Asian indigenous cultures, while the latter have continually been conquered and assimilated by foreign cultures. This makes it difficult for Central Asia to form a geopolitical unit based on indigenous culture and has prevented the emergence of a geopolitically significant unit. [13]

Currently, more visible examples of successful cultural communications between China and the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) include diverse cultural activities organized through cultural festivals and art exhibitions, encouraging youth cultural communications and cooperation, cultural communications and art exhibitions, educational and academic cooperation (such as student exchange programs), film and media cooperation, tourism, and cultural heritage protection cooperation. However, these efforts are largely government-led with insufficient unofficial engagement. The cultural communication institutions among member states are not sufficiently developed, and the differences in national conditions and cultures lead to inadequate cultural communication among member states. Different habits in cultural fields also result in insufficient understanding and recognition of each other's cultures, thus leading to a lack of trust.

Compared to political stability and economic development, member states tend to give less priority to cultural exchanges. Without guidance and leadership from national governments, fostering interactions among member states becomes significantly more challenging. This highlights the need for a multi-layered, broad-spectrum, and comprehensive cooperation mechanism to effectively promote cultural communications.

5. Recommendations for Cultural Communications Among Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States

5.1 In the Context of Deglobalization, SCO member states Must Still Adhere to Peaceful Development and International Cooperation

It is suggested that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) expand the spillover effects of its cooperation platforms on the political, economic, and cultural spheres of non-SCO countries, thereby increasing their recognition of SCO mechanisms. This should assist new members in understanding the political and cultural connotations of the SCO, including the essence of the "Shanghai Spirit." The SCO should make full use of various levels of meeting mechanisms and platforms to enhance policy dialogues and communication coordination, strengthening the political awareness of unity, trust, reciprocal understanding, and accommodation within the organization.

Furthermore, it is recommended that regularly holding bilateral or multilateral meetings at the head-of-state, ministerial, and other levels is an indispensable part of maintaining and developing good relations. Through these platforms, not only can disputes and controversies be resolved in a timely manner, but they also open up new spaces for deepening cooperation. In addition, establishing more flexible and efficient communication channels is equally important, such as utilizing modern information technology to achieve instant information sharing, ensuring all parties can quickly respond to changing situations and make the best decisions that align with collective interests.

In addition to high-level official contacts, direct connections between local governments are also crucial. This can be achieved by signing friendship city agreements, which promote practical

cooperation in various fields including economy and trade, tourism, and environmental protection. Such point-to-point interaction models not only help to enhance mutual understanding among the people but also provide more direct and effective approaches to addressing certain specific issues. In the long term, such initiatives will greatly enrich the content of cooperation under the SCO framework, making it a comprehensive platform that covers a wide range and multiple layers.

Building a harmonious and stable regional environment requires the joint efforts of all member states. To achieve this, it is essential to foster a culture based on mutual trust and support, encouraging all parties to first consider how to find solutions through consultation when encountering difficulties rather than taking unilateral actions. In the long run, such a positive attitude is conducive to forming closer cooperative relationships, allowing the SCO to demonstrate greater cohesion when facing external pressures.

5.2 Promoting Cultural Communication Through Economic and Trade Cooperation

It is recommended that the SCO strengthen the alignment of the "Belt and Road Initiative" with national revitalization strategies such as those of Russia, India's "Act East" policy, and Kazakhstan's "Bright Path." This will lay a solid policy foundation for economic and trade cooperation within the SCO at the national level. Such efforts can further promote economic development within the SCO, providing financial, technical, and human resource support for cultural communications among SCO countries, significantly enriching SCO cultural interaction.

In addition, once the economies of SCO countries develop, leading to more prosperous lives for their peoples and a continuous narrowing of income level gaps, political frictions and security threats will also decrease substantially. It is advisable to increase infrastructure construction and expand the level of trade liberalization and facilitation. By utilizing the unique geographical and resource advantages of member states, the SCO can enhance cultural cooperation and foster an environment conducive to mutual growth and stability.

The development of logistics and transportation, especially the China-Europe Railway Express (CERX), has become one of the key trade cooperation monuments of the SCO. The China-Europe Railway Express refers to the railway freight service that departs from China, crosses Central Asia and Russia, and reaches Europe directly. This route not only connects the two major markets of China and Europe but also passes through several SCO member countries and regions. The development of the CERX is significant for promoting trade among these countries and enhancing regional economic integration. An efficient logistics and transportation system can reduce cargo transportation costs, shorten transit times, and thus promote trade growth between member states and with China and Europe.

By jointly building logistics corridors, member states must continuously strengthen cooperation and exchanges in infrastructure construction and policy coordination, further consolidating and developing regional cooperation.

5.3 Promoting Unofficial Cultural Communications

It is recommended that governments organize cultural communication festivals, promoting unofficial cultural interaction through government guidance. Governments should implement relevant policies to support unofficial organizations in conducting various forms of cultural communication activities, encouraging public participation in these cultural communication events. At the same time, governments should enhance their service functions, providing high-quality services to unofficial organizations and individuals participating in international cultural communications, ensuring that all cultural communication activities can proceed smoothly and effectively. [14]

This form of diplomacy, known as "people-to-people diplomacy," promotes understanding, friendship, and cooperation between countries through unofficial channels such as exchanges and

collaborations among civil groups and individuals. Such diplomatic activities can include cultural exchanges, educational exchanges, sports events, tourism, and cooperative projects by non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Through these activities, people from different countries can interact directly, enhancing mutual understanding, which in turn lays a more solid foundation for official diplomatic relations. This approach helps to build stronger and more enduring international relationships. In some cases, it can also serve as a supplementary means to resolve international disputes or ease tensions. Ultimately, it is necessary for unofficial organizations and individuals to shift their mindset from believing that humanitarian and cultural communications are primarily government-led. They should actively explore new formats and ideas for cultural communications, broadening channels for humanitarian cooperation. Only in this way can a healthy, diverse cultural communication mechanism be built.

5.4 Promoting Cultural Communications in the Field of Education

Cultural and educational exchanges are effective ways to deepen friendships between peoples. By jointly organizing cultural festivals, academic seminars, and other events, more people can appreciate the unique charm of different countries, thereby stimulating curiosity about exploring the unknown world. Additionally, advancing cooperation projects between higher education institutions, such as student exchange programs and dual-degree programs, is beneficial for nurturing a new generation of youth leaders with international perspectives, laying a solid foundation for future deepened multilateral cooperation.

It is recommended that governments establish Confucius Institutes abroad to attract more international students, promoting mutual understanding through cultural communications across different nations, and fostering political respect and comprehension of different ethnic and religious cultures. While there are numerous official-level cultural communications among SCO member states, unofficial-level exchanges remain largely informal and unstructured, with limited capacity for cultural enterprises to engage internationally. The enthusiasm of the general public for participation in such exchanges has not been adequately mobilized, keeping them in a secondary role.

To enhance exchanges and cooperation in education among the youth, governments should increase funding for university infrastructure and technological development, elevating the level of educational cooperation, reducing disparities in educational philosophies, management systems, and quality standards. [15] Additionally, establishing think tanks at both governmental and civil society levels is advised to strengthen academic exchanges and foster deeper understanding and collaboration among SCO member states.

5.5 Leveraging Emerging Economic Industries Such as Tourism to Promote Cultural Communication

It is suggested that governments and cultural institutions offer the public opportunities to experience the rich cultures of SCO member states through museums and tourism initiatives. Combining the development of tourism with the preservation of cultural heritage, traditional handicrafts, and indigenous culinary arts can deepen cultural understanding. Efforts should be made to increase public participation and engagement, utilizing advancements in digital and new technologies.

Virtual classrooms, online museums, and new media platforms like TikTok can be utilized, inviting influencers from member states to promote cultural heritage, thus increasing traffic and exposure. As for virtual classrooms and remote education, it is suggested that develop specialized cultural exchange courses covering language learning, historical background introductions, and art appreciation for SCO members, utilize video conferencing software (such as Zoom or Microsoft Teams) to organize real-time interactive lectures or workshops, allowing participants from SCO members the opportunity to directly engage with experts and provide students from SCO members

with virtual field trip opportunities, such as visiting historical sites or natural landscapes in other countries. As for online museums and exhibitions, it is suggested that create high-quality 3D virtual exhibition spaces that allow users from SCO members to explore artworks and artifacts as if they were there in person, offer multilingual commentary services to ensure that viewers from different countries can enjoy the cultural experience without barriers. Applying digital platforms to organize online cultural activities and share resources can further enhance the reach and impact of these initiatives, making cultural exchange more accessible to a broader audience.

The SCO member states are home to a rich array of diverse cultural landscapes and numerous UNESCO World Heritage sites, such as The Forbidden City、The Great Wall and Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor in China, Kremlin and Red Square、Historic Centre of Saint Petersburg and Related Groups of Monuments in Russia, Historic Sites of Taraz in Kazakhstan, Sulaiman-Too Sacred Mountain in Kyrgyzstan, Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro in Pakistan, Samarkand the Crossroads of Cultures on the Silk Road and Historic Centre of Bukhara in Uzbekistan, Pamir National Park and Sarazm Archaeological Site in Tajikistan, Nesvizh Castle Complex in Belarus. These heritage sites not only reflect the rich history, culture, and natural diversity of each member state but also represent a shared cultural treasure for humanity. World Heritage sites from the member states can be developed and exploited to online museum and exhibition or to be designed to tourism routes and tourism destination.

Through these cultural heritages, SCO member states not only showcase their long histories and rich cultural traditions but also provide valuable platforms for global cultural exchange and mutual understanding. Additionally, these heritage sites are important resources for promoting tourism development and economic cooperation.

6. Conclusion

The "Shanghai Spirit" is the shared cooperative concept and guiding principle that was gradually formed during the evolution and development of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and its predecessor, the "Shanghai Five" mechanism. Member states should implement the consensus reached by the heads of state at the Astana Summit, fostering a deep understanding of the Shanghai Spirit across all member countries. Moving forward, they should continue to uphold and develop this spirit, enriching its significance through tangible examples of cultural cooperation. In an era marked by deglobalization trends, SCO member states must remain committed to peaceful development and international cooperation. They should enhance collaboration and exchanges in infrastructure development and trade coordination, utilizing diverse methods to promote cultural interactions. This approach will broaden the prospects for SCO development and bolster both political and economic progress.

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