

The Generation Z Youth Dialogue: Searching for Our Common Ground

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Meet the team

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- ★ AU—Joslyn Fowler
- ★ GWU—Owen Baum
- ★ 清华大学 —Wang Zixin (Harry)
- ★ GWU—Yihang Lu
- ★ GWU—Sofia Piro
- ★ 清华大学 —Wang Xingyi
- ★ 清华大学 —Zhang Yuanshinan (Steve)
- ★ 清华大学 —Yang Jiayi (Kitty)

Team Mentor:
Senior Colonel Zhou Bo,
China Forum expert
Senior Fellow of CISS,
Tsinghua University

Project Outline

- Bring American and Chinese students together
- Explore an area where US-China cooperation is urgently needed
- Highlight the importance of dialogue in fostering mutual understanding
- Remain practical, timely, and relevant to our respective campus/community

Our goal

Discuss areas where U.S. and China could cooperate and engage in meaningful collaboration to advance efforts towards ending the Russia–Ukraine war.

Project Development

Successes, challenges, and more

Step-by-step:

1. Brainstormed ideas and areas of interest + deliverable format
 - a. Decided on a topic everyone agreed on through majority votes
2. Delegated tasks for three stages: planning, interviewing, + creating
3. Decided on sample population
4. Recorded + transcribed all interviews
5. Edited video + wrote report

Successes:

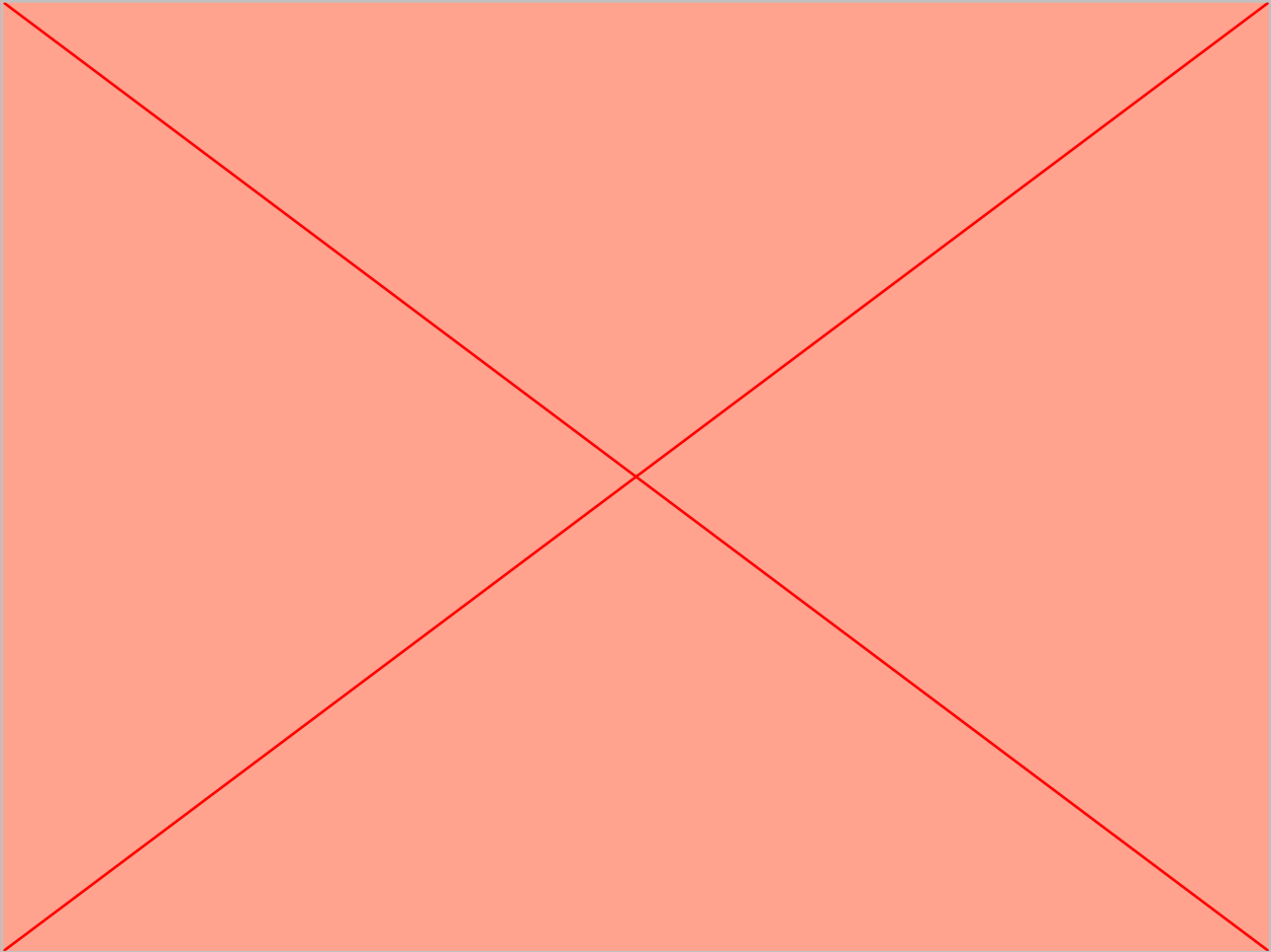
- Creating meaningful dialogue between our communities
- Finding student-centered pathways for collaboration

Challenges:

- Finding scholars/experts to interview
- Synthesizing participant responses

Our method

- **Sample population:** (undergraduate + graduate) Students at DC campuses and Tsinghua University knowledgeable in international relations and global affairs
- **Data collection method:** Conduct on-campus student-to-student interviews to survey opinions and perspectives



**Clip from
our final
deliverable**

Why this matters

Findings & their Importance

China's Perspective:

- Economic Interdependence as a Stabilizing Force
- Collaboration on Humanitarian Assistance
- Joint Management of Nuclear Risks

Shared Values

Core logic of ***interdependence***, ***cooperation***, and ***negotiation*** is mutually acknowledged.

US's Perspective:

- Economic Interdependence as a Stabilizing Force
- Necessity of Cooperation for Global Stability
- Economic and Political Bargaining

Lessons Learned

Dialogue is difficult but necessary

Even when values differ, meaningful conversation can reveal shared hopes for peace and mutual respect.

Youth perspectives are powerful and often underrepresented

Students from both countries consistently expressed a desire for peaceful cooperation in areas like STEM, education, and humanitarian aid.

Words don't always mean the same thing.

Sensitivity is key to mutual understanding.

Cooperation begins with trust, and trust begins with small steps

Our team's collaboration—across languages, time zones, and backgrounds—showed how consistent communication builds real partnerships.

THANK YOU
FOR LISTENING!

— Peace and Conflict Resolution Team