

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, SPORTS AND TOURISM OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA,
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE, SPORTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF
JAPAN
AND
THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA
ON THE YEAR OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE IN 2025-2026**

The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter jointly referred to as the “three participants”),

RECOGNIZING the forward-looking vision on promoting future-oriented practical cooperation concurred on in May 2024 by President of the Republic of Korea, Yoon Suk Yeol, Prime Minister of Japan, Kishida Fumio, and Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Li Qiang, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the trilateral cooperation between the three countries,

HAVING REGARD to the decision made by the leaders of the three countries to designate the years 2025 and 2026 as the “Year of Cultural Exchange” with a view to further strengthening exchange and cooperation in the fields of culture, the arts and cultural content industries.

ACKNOWLEDGING that culture acts as a bridge connecting the peoples of the three countries,

ASPIRING to deepen the friendly relationship between the three countries through sustained, strategic and meaningful interactions,

DESIRING to strengthen cooperation between the three countries, as well as to promote substantive and advanced cooperation in diverse fields including culture and the arts,

WITH A VIEW to successfully carrying out projects under the “Year of Cultural Exchange, in 2025-2026”,

HAVE REACHED the following recognition:

PARAGRAPH 1

SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE

1. This Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) seeks to establish a framework for the three participants to cooperate to ensure a successful Year of Cultural Exchange in the years 2025 and 2026 between the Republic of Korea, Japan and the People's Republic of China.
2. The objective of this MOC is to strengthen ties between the three countries with regard to culture and exchange between future generations, as well as to foster dialogue on subjects of common interest, including culture and the arts.
3. This MOC will be implemented based on the principles of mutual trust, respect, equality and mutual benefits.

PARAGRAPH 2

AREAS OF COOPERATION

1. The three participants will cooperate in the following areas:
 - (a) culture and the arts, including visual arts and performing arts, as well as exchanges between cultural institutions, including art galleries, libraries and museums;
 - (b) cultural content industries, including audiovisual content, music and books;
 - (c) the "Culture City of East Asia" program; and
 - (d) any other areas of cooperation as jointly decided upon by the three participants.
2. A significant emphasis will be put on enhancing goodwill and friendship through exchanges between future generations across all areas of cooperation.

PARAGRAPH 3

FORMS OF COOPERATION

In order to facilitate the implementation of this MOC, the three participants will establish a Working Level Committee for the exchange of information and best practices, as well as boost collaboration through multilateral forums, videoconferences, phone calls, email exchanges and mutual consultations.

PARAGRAPH 4

FINANCING

Unless they jointly decide otherwise, the three participants will each bear the costs they respectively incur in the implementation of this MOC, within the availability of their respective resources. However, in the case of initiatives jointly carried out by the three participants, the costs will be equally shared.

PARAGRAPH 5

RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES

Any differences arising from the interpretation or implementation of this MOC will be settled amicably through direct consultations and negotiations between the three participants.

PARAGRAPH 6

STATUS

This MOC does not constitute an international agreement which may lead to binding rights and obligations under international law.

PARAGRAPH 7

FINAL ITEMS

1. This MOC commences on the date of signature by the representatives of the three participants, and will continue until the 31st day of December 2026.
2. This MOC may be modified or continued in writing by mutual consent of the three participants.
3. The discontinuation of this MOC will not affect the implementation of any ongoing projects or cooperative activities, unless otherwise jointly decided by the three participants.

Signed in triplicate at Kyoto, on the 12th day of September, 2024, in the Korean, Japanese, Chinese and English languages, all texts having equal value. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text will prevail.

The 1st Vice Minister of
Culture, Sports and Tourism
Republic of Korea

Minister of Education,
Culture, Sports,
Science and Technology
Japan

Vice Minister of Culture and
Tourism
People's Republic of China