The Potential and Model of Youth Exchange between CJK Generation Z

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Generation Z is currently the most populous generation – according to data released by the United Nations in 2020, the global population of Generation Z (born between 1995 and 2009) reached 2.4 billion in 2019, accounting for 32% of the world's total population. The population of Chinese Mainland born in 1995-2009, that is, the total population between the ages of 14-28 is about 260 million, accounting for 19% of the total population in 2018. There are approximately 18 million people in Japan, accounting for approximately 14% of the total population. The population of Generation Z in South Korea is approximately 6 million, accounting for 12% of the total population. Even though the proportion of Generation Z in the three countries is far below the world average, Generation Z is still a large group of young people, as well as the most promising and dynamic group, which will play an irreplaceable role in the future. It is not only the driving force for the future development of China, Japan, and ROK, but also the main force for promoting generations of friendly cooperation between China, Japan, and ROK.

The Internet has not only changed time and space, but also profoundly influenced the worldview of Generation Z. Generation Z grew up in an era when the internet was mature and was able to freely use social media for two-way communication. They will reconstruct the entire world landscape they observe based on their own values. The emergence of new things on the Internet and the fact that making friends no borders make Generation Z more inclusive and tolerant of differences. They can make friends with like-minded people and also fully understand the views of dissidents to comprehensively examine their own views. Generally, Generation Z not only has a distinct personality and broad vision, but also is rational, pragmatic, independent and inclusive.

Generation Z youth communication should fully consider and respect their own characteristics and advantages, and design more attractive and sustainable communication modes and paths. The TCS has done a lot of work in this area and achieved good results. In the future, we can further explore and optimize the themes, scales and participants of youth exchanges to make them more sustainable and better serve the friendship and cooperation among the three countries.

In terms of themes, we can collect the topics and fields that young people are most interested in, and design communication projects on this basis. In terms of participants, due to the large age span of Generation Z, different types of communication projects can be designed for different age groups, striving to achieve full coverage of communication among different age groups. In terms of scale, the scale of high-quality projects can be appropriately expanded, allowing more young people to have the opportunity to participate in exchanges, enhancing mutual understanding among the youth of the three countries, and allowing more young generations to invest in the cause of friendly cooperation among CJK.