THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT OFFICE
環球事務處

Belt and Road Initiatives

Sub-Committee on Belt and Road Development
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University



Advancing Belt and Road Partnerships and Collaboration

Empowering Higher Education Along the Belt and Road

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) advances higher education collaboration across the Belt and Road through strategic partnerships, talent development, applied research and intercultural exchange. Guided by its motto, "To learn and to apply, for the benefit of mankind", PolyU leverages its global engagement and strong links with industry and society to support Hong Kong's role as an international higher education hub and a super-connector between the Chinese Mainland and the world. To achieve these strategic development goals, PolyU established the Sub-Committee on Belt and Road Development under its Global Engagement Committee in 2022 to foster partnerships and broaden opportunities for academic exchange and joint initiatives. By collaborating with universities, governments, industries and communities, PolyU nurtures future-ready talent, drives impactful research, and contributes to sustainable development and shared prosperity.



Strategic Engagement and Key Achievements

Expanding PolyU's Partnership Footprints

PolyU continues to strengthen its presence and partnerships in emerging Belt and Road regions. From 31 May to 5 June 2026, Prof. Wing-tak Wong, Deputy President and Provost of PolyU, led a delegation to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan to expand the University's networks in the Belt and Road.

Witnessed by Mr John Lee, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, PolyU exchanged Memorandums of Understanding with Nazarbayev University, New Uzbekistan University and the El-Yurt Umidi Foundation. These partnerships mark an important step in deepening PolyU's engagement with Central Asia and expanding academic connectivity along the Belt and Road.

Driving University–Industry Collaboration in Strategic Sectors

PolyU places strong emphasis on applied knowledge and industry-relevant education. Since 2018, PolyU's Faculty of Engineering has been co-organising the Belt and Road Advanced Programme in Power and Energy with Xi'an Jiaotong University, the State Grid Corporation of China and The Hongkong Electric to foster regional collaboration in the electric power industry and provide a high-level platform for professional training, knowledge exchange and industry networking. The Programme has attracted over 900 industry professionals from 44 Belt and Road countries and regions, facilitating more than 10,000 hours of knowledge exchange.



The latest edition, held from 7 to 17 April 2026, focused on AI and modern power systems, reflecting PolyU's commitment to supporting technological advancement and sustainable energy development across the region.



Creating Discipline-Specific Synergies

PolyU promotes impactful collaboration through discipline-based networks and sub-alliances. These platforms connect academic experts, researchers and practitioners to address sector-specific challenges and generate innovations with regional relevance.

PolyU has established and led specialised sub-alliances under the University Alliance of the Silk Road (UASR), including:

- Tourism Sub-Alliance
- Sub-Alliance of Engineering Medicine Facilitated Technology Innovation
- Sub-Alliance in Construction and Urban Sustainability
- Heritage Alliance of the New Silk Road

These sub-alliances demonstrate PolyU's strengths in interdisciplinary collaboration and applied innovation. The latest UASR Tourism Sub-Alliance Meeting was held at the Central Asian University in Uzbekistan from 24 to 27 June 2025.

Supporting Academic Exchange and Regional Dialogue

PolyU actively supports high-impact academic exchange events to nurture research and educational collaborations across the Belt and Road. In 2025, we established the **PolyU Belt and Road Network Initiative Scheme**, providing targeted funding to support international conferences, seminars and academic activities related to Belt and Road collaboration.

With support from the Scheme, the Faculty of Science and the Department of Applied Physics organised the Symposium of Advanced Dielectric Materials cum Dielectric Committee Meeting of the Chinese Physical Society from 15 to 18 May 2026, bringing together over 100 renowned scholars from the Chinese Mainland, Russia, Australia, Thailand and Hong Kong to exchange cutting-edge research findings and explore future collaboration.





Fostering Talent Mobility and Scholarly Collaboration

Talent mobility is central to PolyU's Belt and Road engagement. With the generous support of the K.C. Wong Education Foundation, PolyU established the **K.C. Wong Belt and Road Visiting Fellowship Scheme** to support our scholars in undertaking research and educational activities at institutions across the Belt and Road.

Since 2018, the Scheme has supported 52 scholarly visits to 23 Belt and Road countries, with total funding exceeding HK$2 million. These visits have helped expand research networks, initiate academic partnerships and deepen understanding of diverse regional contexts.

Strengthening Leadership in Belt and Road Alliances

PolyU continues to play an active leadership role in regional and international academic alliances to promote higher education cooperation across the Belt and Road. Through these platforms, we work with partner institutions to address common challenges in higher education, drive innovation and advance academic development across the region.

To commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative, PolyU hosted the Forum of the Belt and Road Alliance Founding Institutions on 7 July 2023. The event brought together representatives from the founding institutions of seven Belt and Road academic alliances to share insights on fostering talent development, knowledge transfer, and research collaboration for the sustainable advancement of the Belt and Road region.



Building Robust Belt and Road Networks

Since 2015, PolyU has founded or joined seven Belt and Road academic alliances to strengthen global partnerships and connect higher education communities worldwide. Through these networks, PolyU contributes to multilateral collaboration in research, education, innovation, professional training and cultural exchange.

University Alliance of the Silk Road (UASR)

Co-founded by PolyU and Xi'an Jiaotong University in 2015, the UASR is a non-governmental and non-profit organisation aimed at cultivating openness and international cooperation in higher education. The alliance currently comprises more than 150 member universities from 37 countries or regions. PolyU is the current Vice President of the UASR.

Association of Sino-Russian Technical Universities (ASRTU)

Established by the Harbin Institute of Technology and the Moscow Bauman National Technical University in 2011, the ASRTU was formed by leading universities in China and Russia to promote collaboration in talent cultivation, scientific research, social services, cultural heritage and innovation. The ASRTU currently comprises 75 member universities.

Alliance of International Science Organizations for the Belt and Road Regions (ANSO)

Established in 2018 by the Chinese Academy of Sciences and international research institutions, the ANSO supports sustainable development in social, economic and environmental domains through scientific and technological collaboration. The ANSO currently consists of 96 member institutions from 59 countries.

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Consortium of Universities

Established in 2017, the CPEC brings together universities in China and Pakistan in support of the Belt and Road Initiative and the development of the China-Pakistan economic corridor. The Consortium comprises more than 100 institutions from China and Pakistan.

University Consortium of the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road (UCMSR)

Established by Xiamen University in 2018, the UCMSR upholds the Silk Road spirit of "peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit". It consists of 73 universities and research institutes across the Maritime Silk Road.

ASEAN-China Network for Cooperation and Exchanges among Engineering and Technology Universities (ACNET-EngTech)

Established in 2014 by Tianjin University and Mahidol University, the ACNET-EngTech serves as an international exchange platform for engineering education and collaboration. It consists of 26 top engineering universities across eight countries in the China-ASEAN region.

Belt and Road Aerospace Innovation Alliance (BRAIA)

Established by the Northwestern Polytechnical University and the Chinese Society of Astronautics in 2017, the BRAIA promotes international cooperation in aerospace technology and its application. The alliance currently has 69 members from 22 Belt and Road countries and regions.

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