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Promoting Globalization and Diversity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: From the Viewpoint of Spatial Economics

In my speech, I would like to explain that for the further development of our civilization in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, it would be important to promote not only the further globalization of economic activities but also the diversity in regional cultures worldwide. For illuminating my point, first I would like to recall what the ancient Silk Road and Maritime Silk Road achieved for promoting the Eurasia-wide civilization in the 7th and 8th century. Then, I would like express my hope that the new Belt and Road Initiative would play similar roles in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.