



Young Fabians Tackling Common Challenges: Young Fabian Delegation to China

DATE Monday 12th October – Friday 16th October
Beijing, China

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in attending the Young Fabians delegation to China!

Over the past year the Young Fabians have been running a programme focussed on building greater understanding of the UK-China relationship. We have undertaken a number of events and published a [pamphlet](#) to further this objective. A key strand of this work has been 'tackling common challenges.' The UK and China face a number of common challenges which both will have to tackle to remain successful in the decades ahead.

The next phase of this programme will be a delegation of Young Fabians members to Beijing. This delegation will be hosted under the auspices of the Young Fabians International Network and is open to all members.

The objectives of this delegation will be to:

- Explore common challenges the UK and China both face across a number of areas
- Discuss policy solutions to common challenges which take into account changing global context faced by UK and China
- Build relationships and foster inter-cultural learning and dialogue between young people and futures leaders from the UK and China

Background to the Young Fabians

The Young Fabians are the under-31 section of Britain's oldest political think tank, the Fabian Society. We are a voluntary body led by an elected executive committee. We are affiliated to, but distinct from, the Labour Party and have formal representation on the Young Labour National Committee.

The Fabian Society was founded in 1884 and played a crucial role in the founding of the Labour Party, the Young Fabians stand in this tradition. Founded in 1960, the Young Fabians are Britain's only think tank run by young people for young people.

The Young Fabians are distinct from other youth movements in our focus on ideas and policy. Like our Fabian forbears we promote the discussion and dissemination of ideas to help shape Labour policy. We contribute to the latest, cutting-edge thinking within the centre-left in the UK and encourage young people to engage in policy debate and contribute their skills and expertise to policy development in the UK.

Our membership encompasses the Broad Church of the Labour Movement, we take no formal positions and value our commitment to working with all strands of Labour thought. As a democratic socialist organisation, our members shape what we do. We have a proud past but work tirelessly to provide ideas for the present and the future.

The Young Fabians International Network is a new to the Young Fabian Community of Networks. It was set up in 2015 to provide a community for young professionals and those with interest in international affairs. The network provides the Young Fabians international outreach including delegations and building relationships with sister parties abroad.

Proposed Itinerary

The visit will take place to China will take place in Beijing and include:

- A 2-day Conference (Tues 13th – Weds 14th October) hosted by the China Youth University of Political Sciences exploring youth development and perspectives on issues including education for employment; working with marginalised communities; youth participation; Gen Y culture; and foreign relations. This will include lectures by CYU professors, roundtable discussions with CYU students and opportunities for YF members to present on the UK perspective and policy solutions
- An introductory meeting with the China Development Research Foundation (CDRF) to provide background on the social and economic development issues facing China today.
- We would also like to arrange additional meetings to explore health and social care; environment; security and foreign affairs; and economic policy. We are exploring the possibility of meetings with British Embassy, British Council, UN Development Programme (UNDP), All China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU) and business representatives

- Daily debrief and reflection periods
- Cultural activities

This is an indicative schedule and subject to change based on availability of individuals and organisations to meet. Currently our schedule is flexible on Thursday 15th October and Friday 16th October

Time	Activity
Sunday 11th October 2015	
All day	Arrive Beijing
Monday 12th October 2015 – Introduction Day – China Social Policy	
AM	FREE MORNING
PM	Meeting with China Development Research Foundation (CDRF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographic changes • Education and Health policy • Urbanisation • Youth Development Programme
Evening	Dinner and activity
Tuesday 13th October – China Youth University Conference Day 1	
AM 10:00-12:30	Foreign Relations / UK-China Relations Lecture and interactive seminar
Lunch	Lunch on Campus
PM 14:00-16:30	Employment Guidance – China job situation Lecture and interactive seminar
Evening	Dinner and activity
Wednesday 14th October - China Youth University Conference Day r	
AM 10:00-12:30	Social Work – working with marginalized communities Lecture and interactive seminar
Lunch	Lunch on Campus
PM 14:00-16:30	Youth Development – political recognition and Gen Y Culture Lecture and Interactive seminar
Evening	Dinner and activity
Thursday 15th October	
AM	UK-China Relationship Meeting with British Council and British Embassy (tbc) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK-China Relationship
PM	International Policy Meeting with UNDP (tbc) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China's Development Challenges Meeting with UK DfID (tbc) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To discuss UK role in helping China to develop its overseas engagement and international development strategy
Evening	Dinner and activity
Friday 16th October	
AM	Economic Policy Meeting with ACFTU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts of foreign investment and China economic development • Skills, wages, workers' rights Meeting with Business representatives (tbc)

PM	Environmental Policy (tbc) or Cultural Activity - possible trip to Great Wall or other meetings
Evening	Dinner and activity
Saturday 17th October	
Free time and/or depart Beijing	

You are also welcome to organise your own travel around these dates.

Outputs and Other Activities

We are intending to build a programme around this delegation which will include pre-delegation events and collaborations and a series of post-delegation thought leadership. It is the aspiration to produce the follow items after the trip, the content of which will be guided by the delegates participating in the trip:

- A blog summarising the key learnings from trip
- Digital collection of essay on impressions of the visit and insights gained by members
- Debrief event for all YF members and members of partner organisations exploring some of the issues covered on the visit

We will also endeavour to publicise these activities amongst partner organisations and seek media opportunities.

Your Role as a Delegate

This is an exciting opportunity to build relationships with fellow Fabian Members and counterpart young leaders and political thinkers in China. We would be delighted if you should decide to join us on the delegation.

We are expecting that approximately 10-12 people will form the delegation. In order to attend you must be a member of the Young Fabians and have an interest in innovative policy development, solving complex social and economic problems and interested in developing a positive relationship with Chinese counterparts.

We are also intending that deciding the content of the delegation be as collaborative a process as possible. Therefore, as a delegate please suggest/share any:

- Policy areas you would like to explore that aren't currently covered
- Potentially interesting meetings or contact you have that would enliven the trip
- Cultural sites or activities you would like to see
- Possible themes for pre-events
- Possible partners or sponsors for the delegation
- Possible fundraising activities over the summer
- Possible themes for pamphlets or events post-event

During the trip we will have the opportunity to work together to determine the final output.

****In order to secure a letter of invitation from our host the CYU, required to obtain visas, a final decision on whether you will be attending the delegation will be required by LATEST Sunday 28th June 2015 ****

Budget

At present this is a self-funding trip.

We will endeavour to keep costs as low and have as many in-country costs covered as possible and would welcome suggestions on sponsorship and partnership opportunities. An indicative budget for the trip is included below:

Expenditure	Amount
Pre-trip Expenditure	
Flights	£400-£500 (at 29/05/15)
Single Entry Visa	£70
During Trip Expenditure	
Accommodation	£100-150
Transport (likely to use taxis and metro)	£50-£100
Food & Beverage	£15-£20pd

Next Steps

If you have any questions about the delegation, your role as a delegate or feel any basic background information has been omitted from this pack which was covered in the information session, please feel free to contact Jessica Toale.

A final decision on your attendance on the delegation must be communicated to Jessica by **Sunday 28th June 2015** in order to secure a letter of invitation required for a visa. After this date a more detailed delegates pack will be produced.

Thank you again for considering participating in this delegation. It will be a really valuable experience, and we really hope that you can make it!

For more information, please contact:

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