

Declaration
**of the International Cultural Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of
World Civilizations”**

We, the participants of the International Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of Civilizations”:

- 1) Confirm that the holding of the International Cultural Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations”, carried out at the initiative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev under the patronage of UNESCO, within the arduous context of various challenges to the global community, is an important and timely step in the process of consolidation of the cultural and humanitarian forces of the countries of the region, which are of great importance for the preservation of peace, stability and development of the peoples of Central Asia;
- 2) Recognize that from the antique period to our contemporary era, the region of Central Asia has been one of the unique regions of the world, distinguished by a unique system of environmental management, religious and cultural tolerance, exceptional scientific achievements and artistic culture, a variety of ethno-cultural relationships and mutual influences;
- 3) Believe that the holding of the International Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of Civilizations” is a demonstration of new thinking and a new strategy for long-term development at the national, regional and international levels;
- 4) Believe that holding the International Cultural Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations” in a globalized, interconnected and interdependent world is of great importance not only for the countries of the Central Asia region but for the entire global community;
- 5) Support the efforts of the Central Asian states aimed at achieving a new stage of cooperation in the cultural and humanitarian sphere, distinguished by a spirit of active partnership, the advancement of innovative policy solutions, the consolidation of Central Asian states’ scientific and cultural resources to realize the region’s potential, and the potential of future generations;
- 6) Believe that holding the International Cultural Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations” contributes to the maximum attraction of

spiritual potential in ensuring interethnic harmony, and strengthens the education of future generations across the region;

7) Believe that UNESCO's support of the protection and promotion of Central Asia's shared heritage and human and social capital is essential for the region's peace and sustainable development;

8) Recognize the necessity of a Policy Dialogue in the region that, with the support of UNESCO, would address the major issues facing Central Asia, including the impact of COVID-19 on children, education, gender equality, the physical and mental health of young people, socio-economic resilience, and tourism activities, as well as the climate change and other significant regional challenges;

9) Commend and support the outcomes of UNESCO's flagship programmes such as the Silk Roads Programme, the Intercultural Dialogue, Management of Social Transformation, the Organization's youth, gender and sports programmes, the Anti-Racism Roadmap, the Bioethics and Ethics of Science Programme, Tangible and Intangible Heritage, and the Man and Biosphere Programme, and acknowledge these programmes as a basis for the regional policy dialogue;

10) Agree to launch the "Khiva Process" as a policy dialogue that adds value to the Baku process, in collaboration with UNESCO that will gather the region's decision-makers on different topics on a regular basis to secure the sustainability of the outcomes and recommendations of the International Khiva Forum Central Asia at the Crossroad of the World's Dialogue;

11) Support the holding of such forums in the future to promote the further development of the spiritual, scientific, educational, cultural spheres of the countries of the region, and the strengthening of national and universal spiritual values in the countries of Central Asia;

12) Recognize that the International Cultural Forum "Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations" provided a unique opportunity for open and comprehensive discussions on a wide range of issues, including the contribution of commercial, scientific and cultural exchanges to the development of the heritage of Central Asia, the contribution of the cultural and scientific heritage of Central Asia to the development of modern social and human sciences, the contribution of the region's cultural heritage as a solid basis for regional dialogue and cooperation, the contribution of cooperation and exchanges through social and human sciences to counter the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the sustainable development of

Central Asia, and the importance of building promising relationships based on strategic partnership;

13) Express our deep gratitude to the Government of Uzbekistan for the traditional hospitality and excellent organization of the International Cultural Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations” in Khiva, as well as determined efforts to create broad and lasting regional and international cooperation.

The declaration was adopted in the city of Khiva (Republic of Uzbekistan) by the participants of the International Cultural Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations”.