

More foreign languages needed to tell China's stories

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By ZHOU WENTING in Shanghai | China Daily | Updated: 2021-12-16 00:00



As China is becoming increasingly influential on the world stage, foreign-language education and talent cultivation will play a pivotal role in the country's development and social progress, experts said at a conference in Shanghai, organized by the China University Alliance for the Development of Foreign Language and Literature Discipline over the weekend.

During the conference, foreign-language experts pointed out that what the world is currently provided with to learn about China is insufficient, and that there are contrasting views of the country across the world. As such, foreign-language educational institutions need to join hands to help the country build its discourse power systematically, said Li Yansong, president of Shanghai International Studies University.

"The common responsibility of academia is to be strategic in constructing the country's discourse and narrative system in a global context," said Li at the conference, which attracted more than 200 experts from nearly 100 domestic universities.