

Dear *St. Gallen Symposium Magazine* Team Recruiting Committee:

Two years ago, as a Leader of Tomorrow at the 47th St. Gallen Symposium, I was fascinated by the scene where groups of young participants from all over the globe, after dinner, danced to violin played by local university students. I could barely recognize the dancers and violinists due to the dimness, but it later turned out to be the most memorable scene I have ever witnessed. After all, what is more exciting than a group of talented young people gathering in a peaceful small town where they talk, debate, laugh, travel, drink and dance together? At that moment, I knew I would come back to St. Gallen again. Now, I am applying to join the magazine team as a journalist, eager to experience the annual activity from a different angle.

At the Symposium, it surprised me that China, the most populous country and the second largest economy, was largely underrepresented: only five Chinese students participated, and I was the only one from the Chinese mainland. China has considerable impacts on all the themes covered by the Symposium—technology, business, and politics, and therefore the country was repeatedly discussed by many panelists. Also, China’s economy probably has already overtaken eurozone. Clearly, a debate on how “capital”, the theme of the coming Symposium, should be used to make a better world for posterity is incomplete without more Chinese students participating, and without a Chinese perspective in reporting and promoting the event. This is exactly where I want to contribute.

As a former participant, I am familiar with the Symposium’s history, topics, and schedule. This familiarity makes it easier for me to report the event. As a Chinese studying in the United States, I enjoy viewing China from an international perspective, and at the same time informing global audiences of the problems and potential of Chinese society. My background in international journalism, in terms of both news writing and on-camera interviewing, will help me collaborate with other team members and complete the reporting tasks on time. What’s more, I am planning to promote the Symposium on my blog and social media by broadcasting in Chinese what I will see, hear and experience. Hopefully, more young Chinese will get to know about this amazing event and participate enthusiastically.

The St. Gallen Symposium will become more “international” if it adds a Chinese perspective in reporting the event, and if an increasing number of talented youth from China come and participate. This, in turn, will allow China’s interests and concerns to be understood by a larger international audience. By joining the magazine team, I can serve as a bridge linking the two: China and the Symposium.

Kind regards,
Hongtao Hao