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## Perception of Harmonious Communication of Young Serbs in the Context of Intercultural Communication and International Economic Cooperation with the PRC

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**Abstract:**

**Purpose:** The article discusses harmony and its importance in interpersonal and intercultural communication between Serbia and the PRC representatives.

**Design/Methodology/Approach:** The text presents the results of research related to the occurrence of the category of harmony in the media and its relationship with communication and the results of a survey conducted in 2020 among students of the University of Belgrade.

**Findings:** The main conclusions include an attempt to define the category of harmony by the young generation of Serbs and a group of features considered favorable and unfavorable to harmony in the space of communication.

**Practical Implications and Originality/Value:** The issue is essential, among other facets, due to the possibility of economic cooperation between the two countries resulting from collaboration within the Belt and Road Initiative.

**Keywords:** Harmony, cross-cultural communication, management culture, economic culture, international economic integration, Republic of Serbia, the People's Republic of China, Belt and Road Initiative.

**JEL Classification:** D8, F15, F2, F50, Z10.

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## **1. Introduction**

The category of harmony characterizes the Chinese culture (Mazur-Kajta, 2018; Mazur-Kajta, 2019), but it is not only related to the Middle Kingdom. When looking in the literature and on websites for information on the existence of harmony in Serbia and China, one can come across very few Serbian and relatively more Chinese references. Geographically, Serbs and Chinese are separated by over 6,800 km, apart from the language and other cultural differences. Due to the increased economic cooperation between the representatives of both countries, research on harmony was conducted. Efforts were made to verify whether the category of harmony in the perception of the young generation of Serbs is also treated as an essential feature. This article aims to discover how the young generation of Serbs perceives the category of harmony and how it values and defines unified communication.

## **2. Literature Review**

Serbia is not one of the leading European countries in trade volume with China (Appendix 1). Nevertheless, from year to year (i.e., since 2003, when it was singled out in the statistics as a country and not included with Croatia and Slovenia as Yugoslavia) shows increasing interest in importing goods and services from the PRC. In trade with China, there is an apparent disproportion to Serbia's detriment (Appendix 2). Most products exported from Serbia to China, among others, included, wood and panels, beef, fertilizers, pumps, motors and generators, soybean oil, and wine (Appendix 3). While the most popular goods imported from China, among others, can be mentioned, telephones, machines (for the reception, conversion, and transmission of voice, images, or data) and reception apparatus, buses, polyethylene terephthalate, air conditioning machines, and electric motors (Appendix 4). Serbia's more competitive sectors include tobacco, paper and paper products, beverage, food processing, non-ferrous metal smelting and rolling processing, printing, record media and replication, transportation equipment, and the service sector. While two sectors more competitive to China can be included electronic and telecommunication equipment, textile, culture and sports products, electrical machinery and equipment, instrument and office machinery, and chemical fiber (Chen and Yang, 2016).

Despite clearly more significant economic benefits for China resulting from cooperation between the two countries, Jelena Ilic Petrovic's research shows that this country is perceived by the young generation of Serbs (people between the ages of 23-27) positively. Her respondents were very satisfied with the level of cooperation between the two countries in diplomacy, infrastructure, and trade. Respondents showed dissatisfaction with collaboration between the two countries' injustice, ecology, and police. The researcher notes, among other aspects, that young people's knowledge about institutions promoting Chinese culture and the topic of the abolition of tourist visas between the two countries is not very high. Young people did not know how economically prosperous China is. However, they positively perceived Chinese investments in their country, including privatization of Železara Smederevo by

China's Hebei Iron & Steel Group (HBIS Group) and the modernization and reconstruction of the Hungarian-Serbian relationship, Petrovic, 2018). It is influenced by the Belt Road Initiative [BRI/ OBOR/ One Belt One Road], especially activities under China and the Central and Eastern European Countries cooperation CEEC16+1). According to Chen Xin and Andras Verte's research results, only 1/3 of the Serbians have not heard about the CEEC.

Furthermore, Serbia's inhabitants evaluate China and Serbia's relationship highest from all CEEC countries (Petrovic, 2018). Cooperation between Serbia and China is described as practical, especially in politics, investment, people-to-people exchanges, and finance (Przychodniak, 2018). This is facilitated by mutually supportive diplomatic relations between the two countries and an atmosphere of understanding regarding opposition to the NATO campaign against Serbia and Kosovo's declaration of independence, and no Chinese are showing special political conditions for economic cooperation (Stojadinović and Rašković Talović, 2018). Serbia was the first country in Central and Eastern Europe to build a comprehensive strategic partnership with China and the first European country that has signed an agreement on mutual visa-free travel (Serbian Deputy PM: China is Serbia's partner and friend). The following integration activities can be distinguished between the two countries (Przychodniak, 2018; Stojadinović and Rašković Talović, 2018; Jovic, 2017, chinese firm to renovate railway in Serbia, Serbia officially joins AIIB, Roads and bridges cement Serbia-China friendship, Serbian deputy PM, Serbian capital puts into use new section of international highway, Bank of China opens branch in Serbia):

- since 1950: development of economic relations;
- 1955: beginnings of diplomatic relations between the PRC and Yugoslavia;
- 1972-1979: agreements between cultural cooperation, commercial air transport, in the field of veterinary medicine, and visa waiver for people with diplomatic, official and business passports between the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia and the PRC (Trosic, Strojancovic-Visic and Petrovic, 2018);
- 1996: agreement on trade and economic cooperation (Trosic, Strojancovic-Visic and Petrovic, 2018);
- 2010: The People's Republic of China and the Republic of Serbia have agreed to build a bridge with the name of Mihajlo Pupin over the Danube in Belgrade;
- since 2013: conducting the China-CEEC National Coordinators' Meetings, Summit of China and Central and Eastern European Countries (1+16), and China-CEEC Capital Mayors Forum;
- 2016: the People's Bank of China and National Bank of Serbia signed a bilateral currency SWAP;
- 2016: the purchase of Serbia's largest ironmongery in Smederevo by the Chinese Hesteel Company is defined as the most crucial project of cooperation between the two countries;
- 2017: signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on OBOR;

- 2017: signing of the contract concerning the construction of E-763 highway that connects Belgrade with the Adriatic coast in Montenegro, in which the main contractor is the China Communications Construction Company (CCCC);
- 2017: Bank of China opened a branch in Serbia;
- 2015/2017: the agreement between China (China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation) and Serbia on the modernization and reconstruction of the Hungarian-Serbian Railway Line;
- 2019: Serbia became a member of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank;
- 2019: construction of a bridge across the Sava and Kolubara rivers in the Obrenovac project, in which the main contractor is the CCCC.

Serbia's role and position in the BRI may depend on promotion of the advantages of the Danube River (Stojić Karanović and Jolović, 2016; Stepić and Zarić, 2016), as well as the logistics potential related to the rail and road running through Serbia to EU countries (Bugarčić, Jurevičienė, and Janković, 2020). China is, for Serbia, the most important strategic partner in Asia. One can get the impression that Serbia's economy depends on cooperation with the PRC, as evidenced by, among other things, the statement that the development of the Serbian economy is associated with an increase in Chinese investments in this country (Trosic, Strojanovic-Visic, and Petrovic, 2018). There is also an assumption that this country will be able to reindustrialize the production and develop its industrial capacity with the help of foreign capital. The presence of Chinese companies in Serbia is an opportunity for economic development and an improvement in industrial production standard of living (Dimitrijević and Jokanović, 2016). On the other hand, Serbia is referred to as "an active functional factor for integration with the European Union" as an accession applicant country (Dimitrijević, 2020).

Currently, Serbia's interest in economic cooperation with China is associated with its expectations regarding technology development supporting, among others, in traffic infrastructure, foreign direct investment, increased exports, and the living standards (Nikolic, 2017). As mentioned above, all the opportunities for deepening bilateral trade cooperation draw attention not only to both countries' foreign policy but also to the need for effective communication between the representatives of both countries.

### **3. Research Methodology**

This study is part of a research project conducted in an international environment; whose planned scope will include all countries located on the One Belt One Road Initiative route. In 2017-2019, it was also conducted in: the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Poland, the Czech Republic, Portugal, and Malaysia.

Two research methods were used in the study. Review of the literature on the subject and articles available on the Internet in Serbian, English, and Polish, as well as the author's survey conducted among students from the University of Belgrade. The study

was conducted between January and May 2020. In order to learn the opinions of the young Serbian generation, a group of students from the leading academic center - the University of Belgrade was selected. In 2019, Serbia had 8,772,000 people (Yearbook of International Statistics 2020), of which 3,073,908 people were aged between 15 and 49 (Dissemination database). Based on the sample size calculation using Yamane's (1967) formula, assuming the fraction size of 0.5, the maximum error - 5%, and the confidence level of 95%, the initial sample size should be 384. Due to the limited maneuverability associated with the sudden onset of the COVID-19 epidemic, the possibility of 8% of the maximum error was allowed. A total of 167 respondents were included in further investigations.

Initially, the survey was conducted directly with students in paper form. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the questionnaire was also shared via the Internet, using a free online survey tool. The study was conducted among 167 respondents. Fifty-eight questionnaires were collected via direct interview, 109 - via Google questionnaire, as a one-off study.

## 4. Results and Discussion

### 4.1 Subject Literature Analysis

English, German, and Polish-language materials available on the Internet with the correlation of *harmony* categories and its relationship to Serbia appeared in the following areas:

- Tourism
  - Names of apartments and hotels offering accommodation (among others Apartament Harmonia, Harmony Bed and Breakfast, Sweet Harmony Apartment, Apartments Harmony Vrnjacka Banja), restaurant and cafe signs (among others Kafeterija Harmonia in Belgrade and Wine Harmony - Tarpos Restaurant at Vrbica Winery).
  - Places described as calm and harmonious covering both city areas (among others the old part of Novi Sad (*Bike routes in Serbia - which are the best?*), Belgrade of the 1980s when the harmony between European and Oriental architecture was visible (Lukovic, 2011), as well as their elements - cafeterias (among others Kafana SFRJ in Belgrade (Dizdarevic, 2018)).
  - Vocal corpses offering early Serbian music (among others Bulgarian Harmonies - a vocal workshop with Tzvetanka Varimezova (*KITKA Women's Vocal Ensemble*), artists Ratko and Radisa Teofilowiczow (*Concert of mystical Balkan music performed by the Teofilowicz brothers (Serbia)*)).
  - The beauty of nature (picturesque valleys, charmingly meandering rivers, mountains, and gorges (*Serbia, a cheat sheet for tourists*)).

- Yugoslavia was treated not as an example of harmony but as a political concept in the early 20th century resulting from the necessity of joining three nations (Pszczółkowski, 2015).
- The need to build society on the acceptable practices of other countries that value harmony and apply pro-harmonious behaviors (among others delegation of government officials to Indonesia to study the model of local inter-religious harmony (*Serbia to learn Indonesia's inter-religious harmony*)).
- The works of David S. Pijade related to the bodily feelings of homosexual relationships achieving “the divine harmony of the eternal universe” (Nowak-Bajcar, 2017).
- Harmonization understood as the adaptation of the educational policies of Serbian society to the so-called ‘European space’ - international standards, taking into account the transfer of economic principles to the sphere of education (Trifunovic, 2018).
- Harmonization of the Republic of Serbia's policy and legal system with EU regulations and strategic goals due to global environmental problems (Todic and Jelisavac Trosic, 2017), including the promoting of innovative renewable sources and reinforcing the wind energy market by the obligations of the Energy Community Treaty (Ljubojev, Pekez and Radovanovic, 2018).

On the other hand, when talking about *harmony* in the Serbian language, there is a need to determine the word *harmony's* meaning. In the Serbian-English dictionary (Ignjatić, 2008) for the Serbian word *хармонија*, stands the English word *harmony* and the *consonance*. In the English-Serbian dictionary (Ignjatić, 2008), the Serbian words used for the word *harmony* are the nouns *склад* that can be translated as *harmony*, and *слога* - *accord* or *harmony*. The Serbian dictionary (Vujanić, 2011) description under *harmony* (*хармонија*) lists the category of *music* and *accordance*, as well as *uniformity of parts*:

- gr. music: at the same time, the harmonious sound of several tones, harmony, melodiousness: merge into harmony; part of music theory that studies chords, their composition, and fitting into the whole, the science of harmony;
- accordance, compatibility, harmony, comply with two things, a phenomenon or a person; ~ language and spelling, ~ forms and content, ~ among society members; harmoniousness, uniformity of parts of some complex whole: ~ book.

However, in the Serbian dictionary of synonyms (Ćosić, 2008) there are more synonyms for the word *harmony* (*хармонија*):

- balance, harmony, fairness, consent, idyll, unity, order, harmoniousness;
- arrangement;
- euphony (a slight sound of several tones simultaneously), see a chord.

Serbian language materials available on the Internet with the correlation of categories of *harmony* and its relation to Serbia appeared in the following areas:

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- Tourism (names of hotels and apartments: Harmony Event center, Ranch Club Harmony, Villa Harmony Sokobanja, Apartments Harmony Kopaonik); restaurants and shops (Catering Harmony, Harmony café, Market Harmony, Cosmetics Harmony, Restaurant Harmony).
  - Books and works:
    - In a book by Milan Aberdar Kujundzic, *Harmony in the world - A Brief Overview* (Kujundžić, 1867, p. 82), harmony is connected to nature and feelings. The author emphasizes the importance of harmony for the spirit and the body; “The primary expression in the mechanism of feelings is harmony”.
    - In Zarko Vidovic book, *Serbian people in Yugoslavia and Europe* (Vidović, 2018), the author is writing about the new world order. He states that the “problem is how to create harmony between the nation (patriotic feeling) and democracy”.
    - Franjo Grcevic, in the book, *Critical works of Bogdan Popovic* (Grčević, 1977), describing the connection between harmony, art, and literature. In his opinion, harmony is “a necessary and universal need of every work of art and literature.” He also correlates the term *harmony* with *consistency* and *unity*.
  - The divine harmony of the authorities and the editors disguised as journalists: Who pays them in general, how much, and for what? (*Divine harmony*).
  - Serbia and Azerbaijan plan to ensure harmony between the West and the East, which suits each of the theme’s interests (*Harmony between West and East: an example of Serbia's partner*); The two sides pointed out that the expansion and deepening of the traditionally friendly relations between Serbia and China are shared aspirations of the two peoples. The two countries’ vital interest is that it will contribute to the improvement of harmony globally (*Joint statement of Serbia and China*).
  - Music and harmony - among others, explanations, and studies about musical harmony.
  - Harmonization of Serbian law with the legislation of the European Union - the analysis of harmony and models of harmonization, specificities of Family Law that diminish the degree of suitability for harmonization (Panov, 2013), Communitarian social security law, and harmonization of Serbian legislation in this field (Golubović, 2011), Serbia’s significant initial steps towards harmonizing labor legislation with Community law (Jašarević, 2011).

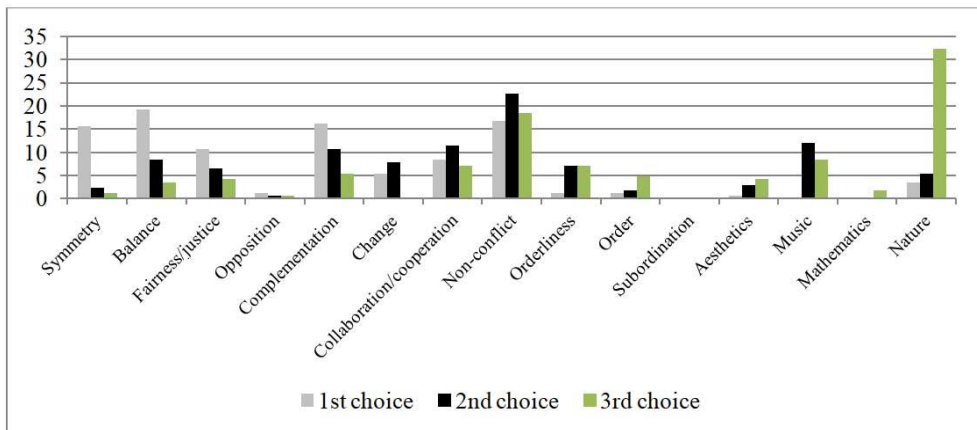
## 4.2 Questionnaire Survey

In the group of 167 respondents, 78% were women. The vast majority of respondents were in the age of 18-24 years (60%), followed by the age range of 25-30 years (24%) and 35-34 years (15%). Due to the age groups represented, most of the respondents at the time of the survey had secondary (32%), bachelor's (37%), and master's (31%) education and were not professionally active (57% of declarations). Among the female

respondents, the percentage of employed persons was lower than among the male respondents (41% and 48%). Between the variables coming from the questions about the respondents' socio-demographic situation and the questions about the harmony value, there was a weak correlation of features - shallow values of the linear correlation coefficient. Similarly, the study of Spearman's rank correlation and Pearson's linear correlation indicated no correlation between the variables.

Respondents were asked to define the category of harmony in three consecutive choices. In the first choice, the most frequently proposed category was balance (19%), non-conflict (17%), as well as symmetry and complementation (16% each). In the second choice, the most frequent category was non-conflict (22%), while in the third choice - nature (32%) and non-conflict (19%). After summarizing all three indicators, the most frequently mentioned categories, interpreted by the respondents as terms explaining and defining harmony, were: non-conflict (58%), nature (41%), complementation (32%), balance (31%), cooperation (27%), justice (22%), and music (20%). Details are presented in Figure 1.

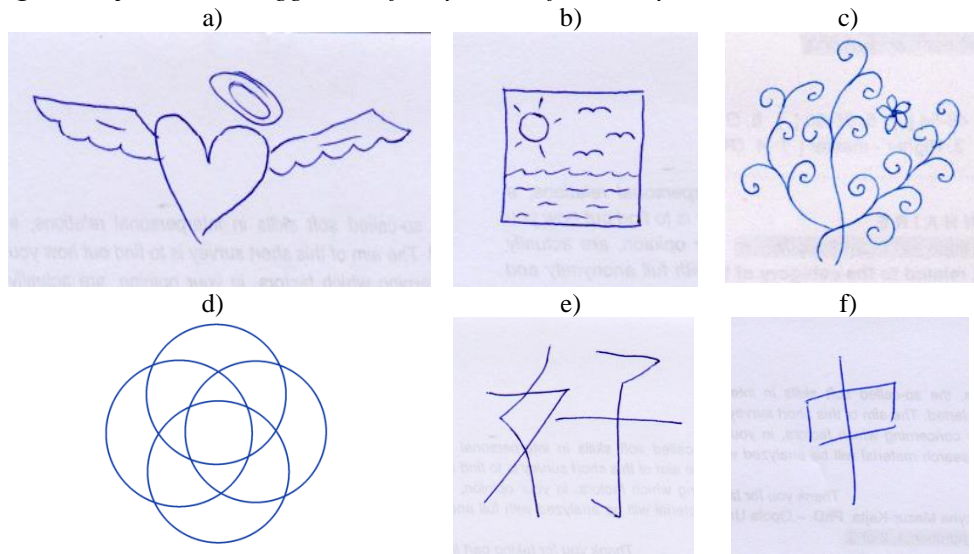
**Figure 1.** *Defining the harmony category - 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice [%].*



**Source:** *Own elaboration.*

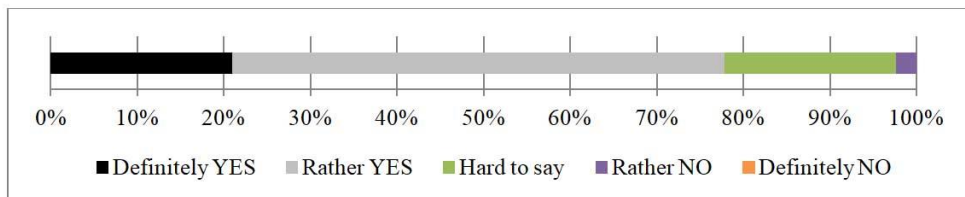
The respondents were also asked to illustrate the category of harmony by designing its symbol. Only 46% of respondents had an idea for a symbol for this category. The most common proposals included: landscape (8%), a flower (5%), a heart, and a circle/circle (4% each). 3% of respondents showed knowledge of Chinese characters 好 (combined with the words good/acceptable/nice/friendly/kind) and 中 (meaning center/middle/medium/mean/halfway between two extremes), suggesting them as the most appropriate for harmony. Selected photos are presented in Figure 1a-f.



**Figure 1a-f.** Selected suggestions for symbols of harmony

*Source: Own elaboration.*

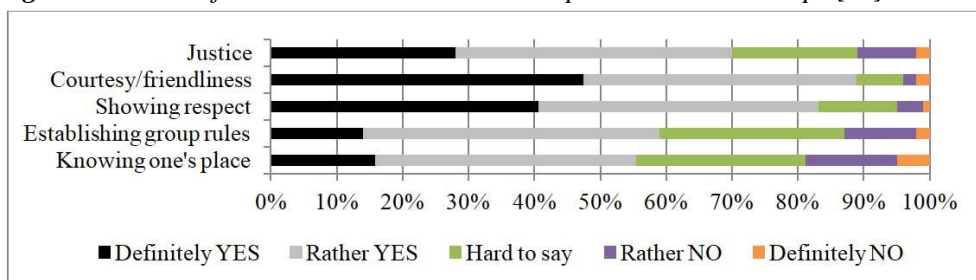
Apart from trying to define the category of *harmony*, a question was also asked about the importance of harmony in interpersonal relationships in the space of communication. Most of the respondents believed that harmony is an important value in interpersonal communication - 78% of the answers were affirmative. Details are presented in Figure 2.

**Figure 2.** Perception of harmony as an important value in interpersonal communication [%].

*Source: Own elaboration.*

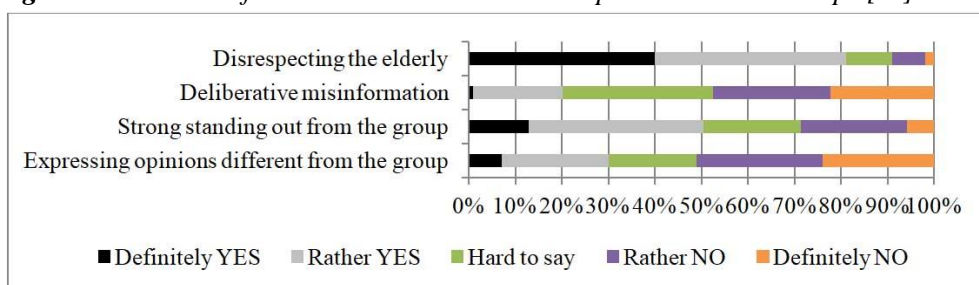
The categories of good harmony among the respondents included mainly: courtesy/friendliness (88% matching answers), showing respect to people with more experience and knowledge (84%), justice (70%), establishing group rules and rules of conduct (59%), and knowing one's place in the social hierarchy (56%) - Figure 3. The respondents mentioned the unfavorable harmony features: disrespecting the elderly (81% matching answers) and a strong standing out from a group (both in a positive and negative sense - 52%). Details are shown in Figure 4.

**Figure 3.** Factors favorable to harmonious interpersonal relationships [%].



Source: Own elaboration.

**Figure 4.** Factors unfavorable to harmonious interpersonal relationships [%].



Source: Own elaboration.

## 5. Discussion and Conclusions

The category of harmony has a presence in many cultures. It is interpreted as an abstract concept that does not have a formally precise definition or a reference to specific values, incl. change, balance (Shani, 2020), order (Fabio and Tsuda, 2018), aesthetics (Yeung, 2020), peace (Gill, 2020; Putra and Smolak, 2020; Bigazzi, Serdült and Bokrétás, 2019), and justice (Düring, 2020). Within many disciplines, one can find references to harmony: philosophy - primarily related to antiquity (Lösckke, 2020) incl. philosophy of the East (especially Confucianism, Buddhism, and Judaism) and of the West (including ancient Greek thinkers); ethics (Chu and Moore, 2020); family science (Prarono, 2020), social sciences (Yuan, 2020; Taormina, 2003; Naragatti, Rastogi and Singh, 2019; Po-Keung, 2014); psychology (including internal relationships, relationships with others and with the world) (Fabio and Tsuda, 2018; Kwan, Bond, and Singelis, 1997; Hook, Worthington and Utsey, 2009); economic sciences (regarding corporate social responsibility (Lin *et al.*, 2020), sustainable development (Dancer, 2021; Mallabanda and Lipson, 2020; European Commission, 2001), neoclassical economics (Suh 2020), industrial harmony (Ganiyou, 2020), leadership (Nnadi, Okoh, and Nwonye, 2020; Heffernan and Crawford, 2006), conflict management (Leung, Koch, and Lu, 2002; Abioro, Odunlami, and Ekpudu, 2019)) and politics (Hagstrom and Nordin, 2019).

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Harmony in the literature is also a central notion in Asian culture (Li and Düring, 2020; Li, Kwok and Düring, 2021; Shukhratovna *et al.*, 2019), especially in connection with Chinese culture as its most important concept (Costantini, 2016).

The category of harmony can be used to understand and evaluate social relations, interactions, and institutions (Düring, 2020), as well as improving communication, especially about creating a comfortable environment (Rasna, Binawati, and Putra, 2019), conflict resolution space (Prmono, 2020; Bigazzi, Serdült and Bokrétás, 2019), inter-ethnic and inter-religious relationships (Sulistyani, Rahardjo, and Rahmiaji, 2020; Yusuf and Dhita, 2020; Multiculturalism in Asia - Peace and Harmony 2018; Dhal, 2016), as well as cultural tolerance (Banban, 2018). Because of all the above, it can also improve intercultural communication, cooperation in a multicultural environment, and economic cooperation - especially concerning assumptions of the One Belt One Road Initiative (Mazur-Kajta and Ruszczak, 2020).

Despite the general agreement that harmony is present in many spheres of human life, its perception and definition may differ depending on the origin - it may be culturally conditioned. The conducted research made it possible to fill the information gap in gathering information on the contemporary occurrence of harmony and listing the components of harmony in the opinion of the young generation of Serbs.

The category of harmony is noticeable in texts related to Serbia and the Serbian people, mainly in the space related to tourism, as well as in articles related to politics (the reunification of countries and adjustment of legislation to the guidelines of the European Union) and in the philosophical dimension - harmony with the world, as well as to musical harmony.

Among this group of respondents, harmony was associated mainly with the non-conflict, and next with the following values: nature, complementation, and balance. This is confirmed by the symbols of harmony proposed by the respondents, such as heart, natural landscape, and plants. The young generation of Serbs associating the category of harmony with the concept of non-conflict may be the aftermath of the country's turbulent history. Above all, with the military events that took place after the collapse of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, especially in Kosovo. The respondents' recognition of Chinese characters also shows the young generation's awareness of the importance of economic contacts between Serbia and the PRC and the potential opportunities resulting from learning Chinese. Moreover, it points out that the category of harmony is still strongly associated with Chinese culture.

Like the representatives of the research group from China, the respondents found harmony essential in interpersonal communication. Similarities are also evident in the responses to the value of favorable harmony - courtesy/ friendliness, showing respect to people with more experience and knowledge, justice, establishing group rules and rules of conduct, and knowing one's place in the social hierarchy; as well as the

characteristics of disrupting harmonious relationships: disrespecting the elderly, and a strong standing out from a group.

China and Serbia have launched new forms of economic cooperation in recent years that are related to the launch of the OBOR initiative, with an extensive range of fields and industries, and referred to as a plan that is open to all nationalities and consisting of: policy coordination, facilities connectivity, unimpeded trade, financial integration, and people-to-people bonding. Serbia has been described as "the country of mixed national identity, cultural and historical heritage, which makes it much more open and accountable partner in international relations" (Dimitrijević and Jakanović, 2016), and sees opportunities for its economic development in connection with China and seems to be heavily involved in the initiative. Because Chinese and Serbian respondents highly valued the concept of harmony; the concept of harmony is essential from the point of view of interpersonal communication; the fact that similar categories of values that favor or disrupt harmonious relationships - this information can help to develop these relationships, both on an interpersonal level and in a broader context.

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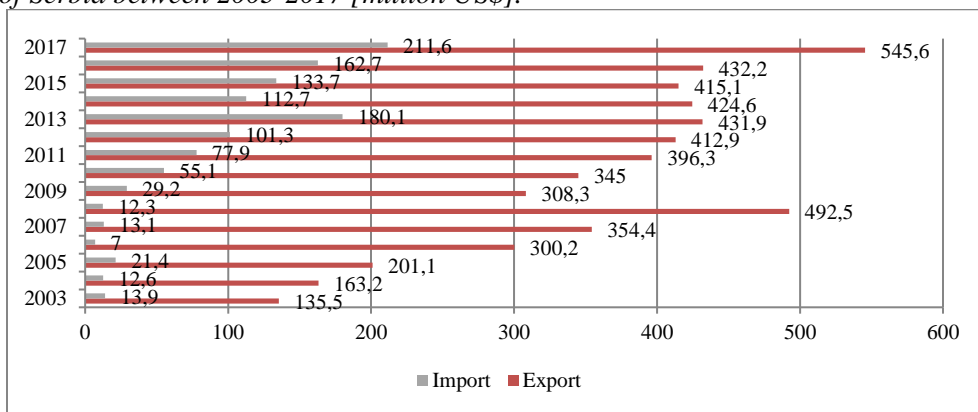
**Appendix 1: Trade exchange between the People's Republic of China and selected European countries in 2017 [billion US\$].**

Country	Export	Import
Germany	71.1	96.9
Russia	42.8	41.4
United Kingdom	56.7	22.3
Netherlands	67.1	11.3
France	27.7	26.8
Italy	29.2	20.5
Switzerland	3.2	32.9
Spain	22.9	8
Belgium	15.7	7.5
Poland	17.9	3.3
Sweden	7	7.9
Czech	8.8	3.7
Ireland	2.9	8.1
Denmark	6.5	4.2
Hungary	6	4.1
Austria	2.5	5.9

Ukraine	5	2.3
Finland	2.8	4.2
Norway	2.5	3.1
Romania	3.8	1.8
Portugal	3.4	2.1
Slovak	2.7	2.6
Greece	4.7	0.4
Slovenia	2.9	0.5
Malta	2.1	0.4
Bulgaria	1.2	1
Lithuania	1.6	0.2
Byelorussia	0.9	0.5
Croatia	1.1	0.2
Latvia	1.1	0.2
Estonia	1	0.3
Luxembourg	0.7	0.3
Georgia	0.9	0.1
Azerbaijan	0.4	0.6
<b>Serbia</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Albania	0.4	0.2
Armenia	0.1	0.3
Iceland	0.1	0.1
Montenegro	0.1	0.1
Macedonia	0.1	0.1
Bosnia & Herzegovina	0.1	0.05
Moldavia	0.1	0.03

**Source:** Own elaboration on the basis of Value of Imports and Exports by Country (Regions) of Origin/Destination (2017), National Bureau of Statistics of China. Retrieved from: <http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjsj/ndsj/2018/html/EN1105.jpg>.

**Appendix 2. Trade exchange between the People's Republic of China and Republic of Serbia between 2003-2017 [million US\$].**



**Source:** Own elaboration on the basis of Value of Imports and Exports by Country (Regions) of Origin/Destination, National Bureau of Statistics of China: <http://www.stats.gov.cn>.

**Appendix 3. Trade exchange between the Republic of Serbia and the People's Republic of China in 2019 by products and exports value [thousand US\$].**

Products	Total (Eksport from Serbia)
Refined copper	263,506.8
Beech wood, sawn or chipped lengthwise	16,668.6
Centrifugal pumps	7,042.7
Wood in the rough or roughly squared	6,777
Meat of bovine animals, boneless	2,635.4

Motors and generators, direct current	2,099.9
Assembled flooring panels	1,629.3
Meat of bovine animals	1,484.4
Fertilizers, containing nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium	1,289.2
Soybean oil, crude, and its fractions	1,268.1
Wine of fresh grapes, grape must with fermentation prevented by the addition of alcohol	1,173.1
Other saw blades	1,097.6
Polyethylene having a specific gravity of less than 0,94	1,057.3
Meat of baby beef, boneless, frozen	1,004.1
Other polystyrene, in primary forms	819
Other parts and accessories of the motor vehicles	779
Other electrical machines and apparatus, having individual functions	757.2
Floor coverings, wall coverings	722.6
Measuring or checking instruments	719.9
Meat of baby beef	698
Electric motors of an output not exceeding 37,5W	691.6
Cigars, cheroots and cigarillos, containing tobacco	647.1
Combined refrigerator-freezers, fitted with separate external doors	585.7
Raspberries, frozen, without sugar	570.9
Footwear with outer soles of leather	559.3
Fittings for tubes, pipes and hoses, of plastics	559.1
Revolution counters, production counters, taximeters	490.8
Marble and travertine, merely cut into blocks or slabs of a rectangular shape	471.7
Electric sound or visual signaling apparatus	446.2
Diagnostic or laboratory reagents, on a backing	386.5
Parts of the furniture of headings	385.7
Machinery for making hot drinks or for cooking or heating food	376.2
Conveyor belts or belting, of vulcanized rubber	372.5
Preparations for the care of the skin	348
Parts of the machinery	336.2
Other heterocyclic compounds with nitrogen hetero-atom(s) only	328.2
Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) copolymers	326.8
Beer made from malt	321.6
Parts for the machines	290.4
Refrigerators, household types	288.2
Parts for the pumps, compressors, fans and hoods	274.5
Other styrene polymers	218.2
Surface-active washing or cleaning preparations	212.4
Other lifting, handling, loading or unloading machinery	205.9
Other winches;capstans	203
Parts suitable for use solely with the machines	197.5
Shampoos for use on the hair	188.8
Other automatic data processing machines	181.7
Ash wood, sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled, of a thickness exceeding 6mm	177.5

Offset printing machinery	171.6
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*Source:* Own elaboration on the basis of Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, <https://data.stat.gov.rs/AdvancedSearch?languageCode=en-US#>.

**Appendix 4:** Trade exchange between the Republic of Serbia and the People's Republic of China in 2019 by products and imports value [thousand US\$].

<b>Products</b>	<b>Total (Import to Serbia)</b>
Unclassified goods	397,920.9
Telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks	156,719
Machines for the reception, conversion, and transmission or regeneration of voice, images or data	72,255.6
Portable automatic data processing machines, weighing not more than 10kg	55,508.5
Polyethylene terephthalate, in primary form	54,390.7
Buses, diesel or semi-diesel	34,512.7
Reception apparatus for television not designed to incorporate a video display or screen	26,336.2
Air conditioning machines, of a window or wall types, self-contained or 'split-system'	26,233.1
Other toys; other reduced-size models, other construction sets	23,501.7
Electric motors of an output not exceeding 37,5W	21,993.8
Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, coated with plastics, of a width $\geq 600$ mm	21,005.8
Parts suitable for use with the apparatus & equipment	19,591.9
Parts for the gas turbines	18,437.9
Aluminum bars, rods and profiles, of aluminum alloys	16,608.3
Other footwear with outer soles of rubber or plastics	15,624
Printed circuits	15,378.8
Static converters (e.g. rectifiers)	14,999.9
Other parts and accessories of the motor vehicles	14,632.3
Other automatic data processing machines	14,369.6
Tires, pneumatic, new, of a kind used on buses and lorries	14,217.2
Parts and accessories for the machines	14,174
Machinery and mechanical appliances having individual functions	14,123.6
Other electric conductors, for a voltage not exceeding 1000V	14,080.2
Other monitors	13,764.5
Chandeliers and other electric lighting fittings	13,698.2
Boards, panels, consoles, desks, cabinets and other bases, for a voltage not exceeding 1000V	13,649.6
Reception apparatus for television other, colour	13,423.9
Other articles of plastics	13,015.4
Other travelling containers, of textile materials	12,970
Flat-rolled products (iron, non-alloy steel), otherwise coated with zinc, of a width $\geq 600$ mm	12,112.9
Other electrical machines and apparatus, having individual functions	12,042.9
Parts and accessories for the machines	11,427.4

Insulating fittings for electrical machines, appliances or equipment, of plastic materials	11,365.4
Taps, cocks, valves and similar appliances	11,143.5
Machinery for working rubber or plastics or for the manufacture of products thereof	11,046.6
Aluminum foil, a thickness not exceeding 0,2mm, not backed	10,470.1
Compressors of a kind used in refrigerating equipment	10,313.8
Other woven fabrics, containing 85% or more by weight of textured polyester filaments	9,830.3
Tin, unwrought, not alloyed	9,534.7
Footwear with outer soles of rubber and uppers of textile	9,339.6
Storage units	9,126.7
Brakes and servo-brakes and parts thereof	8,771
Parts of apparatus	8,718.8
Parts, suitable for use solely with the machines falling	8,481.4
Other polyethers, in primary forms	8,075.9
Handbags with other surface of plastics or of textile materials	7,939.8
Photosensitive semiconductor devices; light-emitting diodes	7,785.4
Other units of automatic data processing machines	7,344.1
Ball bearings	7,285
Wrist watches, electrically operated	7,151.3

**Source:** Own elaboration on the basis of Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, <https://data.stat.gov.rs/AdvancedSearch?languageCode=en-US>.