
British Council and Azerbaijan Ministry of Culture signed a five-year Letter of Intent to deepen their collaboration in the areas of Creative Industry, Crafts Sector, and Inclusive Arts.

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British Council Country Director in Azerbaijan, Mr Summer Xia, accompanied the Azerbaijan Minister of Culture Mr Abulfas Garayev during his visit to the UK this week.

During his trip, Minister Garayev visited the British Council Headquarters in London and met with its Chair Mr Christopher Rodrigues to exchange views on the important role arts and culture play in the UK-Azerbaijan relationship and economic development of the country. As a result, the British Council and Azerbaijan Ministry of Culture signed a five-year Letter of Intent to deepen their collaboration in the areas of Creative Industry, Crafts Sector, and Inclusive Arts. The signing of the Letter of Intent between Minister Garayev and Mr Summer Xia was witnessed by the British Council Chair and H.E. Mr Tahir Taghizadeh, Azerbaijani Ambassador to the UK. Minister Garayev invited Mr Christopher Rodrigues to attend the 5th World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue on 2-3 May in Baku.

“The British Council is excited by the Minister’s vision for the development of creative industries in Azerbaijan, which will enhance the government’s effort to diversify the economy. The British Council will continue to support the Ministry by sharing the best practice, experts, and experience from the UK.” says Mr Summer Xia.

During Minister Garayev’ visit to the UK, he also met with Michael Ellis MP, UK Minister for Arts, Heritage and Tourism. Both sides had fruitful discussion of their shared interests across culture, creative industries, heritage, tourism and striking the right balance between conservation & development. Minister Garayev also invited Michael Ellis MP to attend the 5th World Forum and the 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee which will be held in Baku in June.

British Council

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The British Council is the UK’s international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We work with over 100 countries in the fields of arts and culture, English language, education and civil society. Last year we reached over 75 million people directly and 758 million people overall including online, broadcasts and publications. We make a positive contribution to the countries we work with – changing lives by creating opportunities, building connections and engendering trust. Founded in 1934 we are a UK charity governed by Royal Charter and a UK public body. We receive 15 per cent core funding grant from the UK government.

The British Council has been working with Azerbaijan since 1993.

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