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今日中国

范克高夫：我来中国 40 年了！

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VIDEO (视频由欧美亚教育联盟提供)

“大家都说我是中国通，但我自己从没这么认为过。实际上当你在这个国家待得越久，你就越觉得还有很多东西要学。”12月9日，比利时人范克高夫(Gilbert Van Kerckhove)在北京的莫劳餐厅组织了一个小型晚宴。他创办的“中国老手”俱乐部每个月聚餐一次，但这一天的聚餐，却包含了更深一层的意义。

老范的家乡在比利时弗拉芒地区。1980年他第一次来到中国，渐渐发展起自己的事业，成为了帮助中国引进第一笔国外政府软贷款的外籍商业顾问。当时的他并没有想到自己能在中国定居下来。2020年12月9日，正是老范来华40周年的纪念日。他说：“80年代的中国生活条件并不好，但对我来说，中国依然有很多东西吸引我。就这样一年过去又是一年，我渐渐成了‘中国通’，被周围的朋友打上了‘中国先生’的标记。”



欧盟驻华使团大使郁白（左1）参加范克高夫（左2）在华40周年聚会。

让老范跟中国结下不解之缘的另一个重要原因，是他的妻子孙冰。“我很感谢妻子，她是我职业生涯很多重要的推动者。”老范笑称，他和太太结婚一段时间后才发现太太家显赫的家庭背景。孙冰的祖父孙炳文曾同周恩来、朱德等一起参加革命的前辈，姑姑孙维世是周恩来的养女，父亲孙泱是高级领导干部。而这位大家闺秀却一点也没有架子，在20多

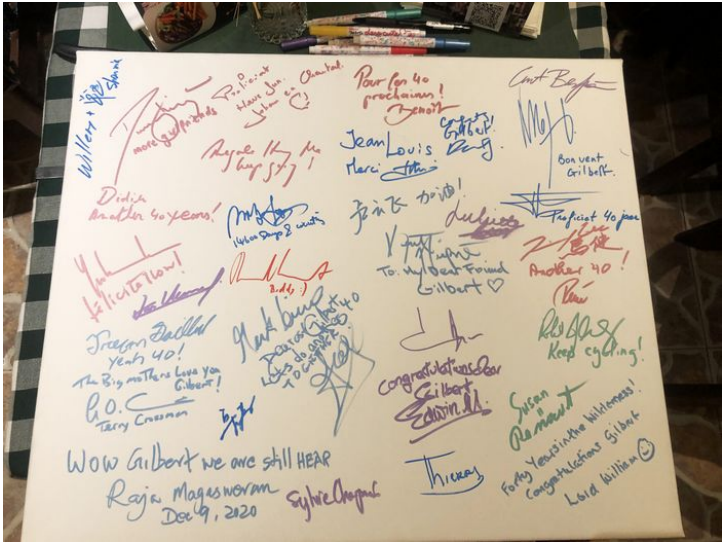
年的婚姻中，老范和孙冰完美地诠释了中西融合，互相包容的家庭氛围，女儿也在父母的培养下成为了出色的国际人才。



范克高夫和妻子孙冰

2008 年，老范为北京奥运会的筹办工作做出了卓越的贡献，几年后，他获得了中国绿卡。随着朋友圈子越来越大，老范在北京建立了“中国老手”俱乐部。他希望通过这个俱乐部，让长期在华工作和生活的外籍友人，有机会在一个圈子里交流感情、分享生活经历，同时收获友谊和人脉。

12 月 9 日的庆祝晚宴上，有欧盟驻华使团大使郁白（Nicolas Chapuis）、比利时驻华大使高洋（Jan Hoogmartens）以及 30 多位有十年以上在华工作、生活经历的外籍友人出席，他们对老范多年来为“中国老手”俱乐部所做的贡献表示感谢，同时以老朋友的身份为老范送上祝福。



范克高夫在华 40 周年友人签名卡

作为在华 40 年的外籍人士，老范见证了中国改革开放的全过程。他说：“中国最近 40 年经历的非凡变化，是世界上独一无二的。没有一个国家能在这么短的时间内，发生这么巨大的变化。”

“尤其是基础设施建设。中国建造的公路、高铁，以及其他基建，令人印象深刻。中国不再是那个生产‘T 恤’的制造型国家，而是创造‘5G’和‘电动车’的创新型国家。”老范认为中国的改变不仅仅发生在北京、上海等大城市。他乐于去一些小地方，看很多外国人接触不到的一面。他说：“我以为甘肃、四川、重庆这些地方应该很穷，但实际上完全不是我想象的那样，这些地方都很现代化。”

老范说：“生活有高峰，也有低谷。现在我们正处在低谷中，疫情之下全球经济收到冲击，外界对中国有很多质疑的声音。但我觉得只要坚持经济对外开放，我们慢慢会走向高峰的。”

Translation

Van Kerckhove: I have been in China for 40 years!

(Google translation, edited and corrected)

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VIDEO (Video provided by UWEE)

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"Everyone says that I am a Chinese expert, but I have never thought so myself. In fact, the longer you stay in this country, the more you feel that there is still a lot to learn." December 9, Belgian Gilbert Van Kerckhove organized a small dinner at the Morel's Restaurant in Beijing. The "Old China Hands" club he founded has a lunch together once a month, but this day's dinner has a deeper meaning.

Lao Fan's hometown is in the Flemish region of Belgium. He came to China for the first time in 1980 and gradually developed his own business as a foreign business consultant who helped China introduce the first foreign government soft loan. At the time, he did not expect to settle down in China. December 9, 2020 is the 40th anniversary of Lao Fan's visit to China. He said: "The living conditions in China in the 1980s were not good, but for me, China still has a lot of things that attract me. Just like this, one year has passed and another year has passed. I have gradually become a "China Expert". My friends had marked me as "Mr. China"."

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EU Ambassador to China Nicolas Chapuis (1st from left) attends the 40th anniversary gathering of Van Kerckhove (2nd from left) in China.

Another important reason for Lao Fan's indissoluble bond with China is his wife Sun Bin. "I am very grateful to my wife, she is a very important promoter of my career." Lao Fan said with a smile, he and his wife were married for a period of time before discovering his wife's prominent family background. Sun Bin's grandfather, Sun Bingwen, was a predecessor who participated in the revolution with Zhou Enlai and Zhu De. Aunt Sun Weishi was Zhou Enlai's adopted daughter, and his father Sun Yang was a senior leader. But this lady has no pretensions at all. In their 30-year marriage, Lao Fan and Sun Bin perfectly interpret the family atmosphere of Chinese and Western integration and mutual tolerance. Their daughter has also become an outstanding international talent under the cultivation of their parents.

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Van Kerckhove and his wife Sun Bin

In 2008, Lao Fan made an outstanding contribution to the preparation of the Beijing Olympics. A few years later, he received a Chinese green card. With the growing circle of friends, Lao Fan established a "Chinese Veteran" club in Beijing. He hopes that through this club, foreign friends who have been working and living in China for a long time will have the opportunity to exchange feelings, share life experiences, and gain friendship and connections in a circle.

The celebration dinner on December 9th was attended by Nicolas Chapuis, Ambassador of the European Commission to China, Jan Hoogmartens, Ambassador of Belgium to China, and more than 30 foreign friends with more than ten years of working and living experience in China. , They expressed their gratitude to Lao Fan for his contributions to the "Veteran Chinese" club over the years, and at the same time sent blessings to Lao Fan as an old friend.

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Van Kerckhove's 40th Anniversary of Friends' Signature Card in China

As a foreigner in China for 40 years, Lao Fan has witnessed the whole process of China's reform and opening up. He said: "The extraordinary changes that China has undergone in the past 40 years are unique in the world. No country has been able to undergo such dramatic changes in such a short period of time."

"Especially infrastructure construction. The roads, high-speed rails, and other infrastructures built by China are impressive. China is no longer a manufacturing country that produces 'T-shirts', but a '5G' and 'electric vehicles'. Innovative country." Lao Fan believes that China's changes are not only happening in big cities such as Beijing and Shanghai. He is happy to go to some small places and see the side that many foreigners can't reach. He said: "I thought Gansu, Sichuan, and Chongqing should be very poor, but in fact it is not what I imagined. These places are very modern."

Lao Fan said: "Life has peaks and troughs. Now we are in a trough. Under the epidemic, the global economy has been hit, and there are many voices of doubts about China from the outside world. But I think as long as we persist in opening the economy to the outside world, we will slowly Will go to the peak."