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Age of creativity born of the East and West

Max Nikias foresees a fruitful alliance between scholars from the Pacific Rim

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Throughout time, certain regions have been the launching points of great intellectual revolutions. These places provided an environment that encouraged discovery, creativity and innovation. Periods like the Renaissance, the Enlightenment and the Scientific Revolution not only changed the way people viewed the world, but also altered our place in it.

For the past two centuries, we have lived in the Age of the Atlantic. Today the centre of gravity is in the Pacific Rim, where a new intellectual revolution is emerging.

If you look across the region, you will find that the scope and depth of its collective knowledge is unparalleled in human history. From the invention of paper to the extraordinary feats of engineering that created the Great Wall of China, this area has a remarkable record of momentous achievements.

The Pacific Rim is home to a vast network of scholars, researchers and thinkers who are part of a new generation of intellectual explorers. These men and women not only have the ability to see the world from new angles, but also the capacity to view themselves in new ways. They must see themselves not as residents of a particular city, or country or region, but rather as citizens of the world.

They must have a firm foundation in their chosen fields of study and also a strong affinity for collaborating with their peers from disparate disciplines. They should apply classical knowledge to contemporary society, renewing eternal truths for the present as they seek out new challenges, search for new ideas, and discover new territories.

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