

4th Red Lotus Asian Film Festival in Vienna, Austria
(25 April 2025)

Speech by DDBL

Dear Katja (Ms Katja Wiederspahn), Liuying (Ms Cao Liuying / 曹柳鶯),
Petra (Ms Petra Krassnitzer), Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good evening. It is a great pleasure to be here with you tonight for the screening of the film “Fight For Tomorrow”, showcasing the vibrant popular culture of Hong Kong and highlighting the great opportunities to collaborate with Hong Kong filmmakers.

2. As an international city, the Hong Kong government places strong emphasis on promoting Hong Kong culture through extending international reach of Hong Kong films. To this end, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Berlin has been actively supporting the screening of Hong Kong movies in different European film festivals to promote exchanges with the industries and audiences in the region.

3. In the creative stakes, Hong Kong has much to be proud of. Over the years, our Film Development Fund has provided funding support for more than 120 film projects, involving over 110 new directors and producers and have collectively won over 180 awards. In the past year, the Hong Kong government has further injected about \$1.4 billion HKD, which is roughly equivalent to about 150 million EUR, to support the development of the film industry.

4. The support we provided include launching a new funding scheme which aims to subsidise film projects co-produced by filmmakers from Hong

Kong and European countries. I am happy to share with you that a project collaborated by filmmakers of the two places will soon be put into production with the funding support from the Film Development Fund. I look forward to seeing the finished film shining both in Hong Kong and Europe, and more similar collaboration in the near future.

5. Last but not least, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the festival organiser for your support. It is my first time attending the Red Lotus Asian Film Festival, but I am impressed with the team's passion of showcasing the finest Hong Kong movies to the Austrian audiences.

6. Thank you once again for joining us tonight and please enjoy the show!