

EU-China Business Association

欧盟中国贸易协会

EUCBA BULLETIN

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Foreword

The 12th EU-China Business Summit, co-organized by the EU-China Business Association (EUCBA), and the 19th China-EU Leaders Meeting, took place in Brussels on June 1 and 2, attended by Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, President of the European Council Donald Tusk and President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker, European Commissioners, officials, and business representatives.

In this Special Issue of the EUCBA Bulletin we present the reader a round-up of the two summits, the remarks made by President Tusk, and the official press release with details of all the agreements that have been reached.

Happy reading!

Jochum Haakma (Chairman) and Gwenn Sonck (Executive Director)





Contents

The 12th EU-China Business Summit

Speech by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker

Speech by Premier Li Kegiang

Speech by European Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmström

Speech by BusinessEurope President Emma Marcegaglia

Speech by European Chamber of Commerce <u>President Mats Harborn</u>

Speech by EUCBA Chairman Jochum Haakma

19th China-EU Leaders' Meeting: agreement on climate, friction on trade

Remarks by President Donald Tusk

<u>EU Press Release: EU-China Summit: moving forward with our global partnership</u>

<u>China Immersion Program for Health Industry – October 23-27, 2017 – China</u>

The 12th EU-China Business and Technology Cooperation Fair

<u>Horasis China Meeting – 5-6 November 2017 – Sheffield, United Kingdom</u>

Meeting with the China Circular Economy Delegation – 9 June 2017

2017 China-EU SME Cross-Border Investment and Trade Conference

EUCBA Partnership Proposals

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The 12th EU-China Business Summit: "Strengthening the pillars of global trade and investment" – 2 June 2017 – Brussels

On 2 June, BusinessEurope and the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) hosted the 12th EU-China Business Summit in Brussels, Belgium in cooperation with the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China (EUCCC), the EU-China Business Association (EUCBA) and with the support of the Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce.

The EUCBA and FCCC were represented at the Summit by Mr Jochum Haakma, Chairman EUCBA; Mr Philippe Van der Donckt, Vice-Chairman EUCBA and FCCC; Mr Bart De Smet, CEO, AGEAS and Vice-Chairman FCCC; Ms Gwenn Sonck, Executive Director EUCBA and FCCC; Mr Philip Eyskens, Senior Vice President Legal, IT and M&A, Bekaert and Board Member FCCC; and Mr Christian Leysen, Executive Chairman Ahlers and Board Member FCCC.



Chinese Premier Li Kegiang giving a keynote speech at the Business Summit

This one-day event brought together around 500 business leaders from Europe and China and is the highest level platform for policy discussions between business leaders from both sides. EU Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang each made a keynote address in which they outlined their views on how to address the challenges and seize the opportunities in our economic relationship.

China will take steps to make it even more attractive to foreign investors, and administrative procedures will be simplified to guarantee that foreign and domestic investors are treated equally, Li said. China and the EU are continuing to negotiate the China-EU Bilateral Investment Treaty. Li Keqiang told the Business Summit that capable Chinese enterprises are being encouraged to invest in Europe. He also defended the benefits of globalization. Free trade leads to the opening of doors, fair competition, and more options for consumers worldwide, the Chinese Premier said. But he added that it is difficult for any two countries to have completely balanced trade at all times, and attempting to make that happen could affect the process of free trade. Countries need to maintain a cool head when discussing how to evaluate free trade and how to implement fair trade. The Premier said China has been upholding the principle of multilateralism and thus living up to the rules of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

In his keynote speech, Premier Li said both sides believe they should go with the tide of globalization and work to make globalization fairer and more inclusive. Globalization has brought tremendous benefits to China, the EU and the world, Li said, and it should not be blamed for the negative influence emerging along with it. But he cautioned that China and the EU should take action to tackle the problems brought by economic globalization. The current pressing task is to uphold the principles of fairness and free trade and revive the two engines of trade and investment, he added. China always attaches great importance to fairness and sustainability while promoting free trade with the EU, Li said.

Under the overall theme of "Strengthening the Pillars of Global Trade and Investment", CEOs and high level business leaders from European and Chinese companies presented their views on how to move forward in trade and investment; the digital economy; climate and energy; and EU-China connectivity.

BusinessEurope President Emma Marcegaglia welcomed the participants to the 12th EU-China Business Summit. She said: "I think we can all agree that many things happened since we met almost a year ago in Beijing. Many are questioning the benefits of trade and globalisation and some seem inclined to close markets as a way to respond to emerging populism. As business, we acknowledge there might be some downsides of globalisation and trade. But they must not be seen as the cause of all the problems in our societies. And protectionism is not the answer."

On the Belt and Road initiative, Jochum Haakma, Chairman of the EU-China Business Association (EUCBA) mentioned that "partnerships with Chinese companies will be key in order to be able to take part in these projects. Therefore, the EU and China have also set up the EU-China Connectivity Platform, which is now working on a list of pilot projects and identification of priority actions to increase cooperation between both sides." He added that the "EUCBA is keen to assist businesses to get a better understanding of the projects in which business can participate."

"I am convinced that the relations between the EU and China can only become stronger. The EU is China's largest trading partner and China is the EU's second largest trading partner after the U.S. The EU and China need each other. There are plenty of opportunities to increase our cooperation," Jochum Haakma said.

Speech by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker



"I would like to thank the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade and Business Europe for hosting us in these beautiful surroundings.

Prime Minister, I never made a secret of my affection and my admiration for your great nation and for the Chinese people. Over the many years and visits – first as the Prime Minister of Luxembourg, now as the current President of the European Commission – my fascination with your rich history and culture has only grown stronger.

Like all good friends, we may sometimes have our disagreements – and we have disagreements – but I believe that the frankness and honesty between us makes our relation stronger.

Our partnership today is more important than ever before.

The European Union is China's biggest trading partner. China is the EU's second largest. The trade in goods between us is worth over EUR 1.5 billion every single day."

Read more

Speech by Premier Li Keqiang: Work Together to Embrace a New Era of High-standard and Mutually Beneficial Cooperation



"It gives me great pleasure to come to the beautiful city of Brussels and join you for the China-EU Business Summit. On behalf of the Chinese government, I would like to congratulate you on the success of the Business Summit and pay tribute to people from all sectors who have long been committed to promoting friendship and cooperation between China and Europe.

Belgium is known as the "crossroads" of Europe and Brussels is at the "heart" of Europe. From here, one can feel the "pulse" of this continent and see the direction of international evolution. The global economy and trade are now showing positive changes which bolster our sense of optimism, but the foundation for continued growth is not yet secure and uncertainties still abound. Economic globalization is encountering difficulties. Challenges such as regional conflicts, terrorism and large movement of refugees and migrants remain acute.

As two leading players for promoting world peace and common development, how China and the EU respond to such a complex situation will be keenly watched around the world. My visit to Europe is aimed at building consensus, increasing mutual trust and enhancing cooperation between China and Europe to counter international uncertainties with a stable China-EU relationship and our consistent commitment to multilateralism.

China firmly supports a united, prosperous and stable Europe. Europe is home to the largest number of developed countries and the EU is an important pole in the world political and economic arena. A united, stable, prosperous and open Europe and a strong euro serve the fundamental interests of all European peoples and contribute to world multipolarity, economic globalization and diversity of civilizations. China has all along placed strategic importance on its relations with the EU and considers the EU as a diplomatic priority. No matter how the situation in Europe and the world evolves, China will always be ready to deepen its comprehensive strategic partnership with the EU. We will continue to give firm support to the European integration process and respect the development paths chosen by European countries themselves. We have full confidence that Europe has the wisdom and capability to overcome current difficulties and achieve new progress in development.

China and the EU need to remain committed to the overall direction of economic globalization. In his speech at the World Economic Forum in Davos earlier this year, President Xi Jinping underscored China's commitment to upholding free trade and put forward the proposition of making economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all. His message has given a boost to people's confidence in economic globalization. Powered by trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, economic globalization has always been and will continue to be a major driver for sustained global growth. Just as there is no panacea in the world which does not involve any pain, economic globalization is not problem-free. We need to face up to these problems and make efforts to address and alleviate their adverse impacts. In any case, one cannot stop eating for fear of choking, to apply the brakes on economic globalization or try to reverse course is neither advisable nor consistent with the historical trend. The most urgent task now is to uphold free trade, re-energize trade and investment, push the global economy onto the track of steady recovery and spread the benefits of economic globalization to more countries and communities. Both being beneficiaries of free trade, China and the EU should also be its staunch advocates.

Some people raised the issue of fair trade. As a matter of fact, free trade is the premise of fair trade. Restricting free trade will not make trade fairer. Fairness is an inherent feature of free trade, and trade, if not fair, will not be sustainable. Fair trade should reflect multilateral, inclusive and non-discriminatory principles. Attempting to impose unilateral rules or making fair trade a political issue will not lead anywhere. China and the EU need to jointly uphold the rules-based multilateral economic and trade order. The multilateral trading regime with the WTO at its core provides important institutional safeguard for economic globalization. Its authority and efficacy should be respected and upheld. Even though some of the multilateral rules may no longer reflect changing circumstances, we can all engage in consultations on improving them. No one should turn a blind eye to these rules, still less try to start anew.

China has fully honored its commitments as a member of the WTO, and other members are supposed to do the same. The EU is a leading maker of modern economic and trade rules and a standard-bearer of regional economic cooperation. As such, it is in the interests of the EU to observe multilateral rules and uphold the multilateral system. Article 15 of China's WTO Accession Protocol is a "sunset clause," which obliges all members to unconditionally cease, upon the date of its expiry, the application of analogue country methodology in their anti-dumping investigations against China. On the issue of complying with Article 15 obligations, we hope the EU will send a positive signal of upholding the multilateral system and rules. If all WTO members chose to observe international rules in a selective way, this would trigger cycles of reactions and undercut the foundation of the multilateral order. No one will emerge as a winner eventually. China and the EU need to jointly maintain a peaceful and stable environment for development. Peace, development, openness and cooperation are interconnected and inseparable. Without peace and stability, nothing could be achieved. Having both suffered from the miseries of war, the people of China and Europe deeply value peace. The prevalent trend for peace in the world for the past 70 years and more has been no mean feat and should be all the more cherished. China and the EU need to firmly uphold the norms governing international relations underpinned by the UN Charter, never waver from political settlement of hotspot issues, and address global challenges on the basis of consensus-building, in a joint effort to promote durable peace and common development of the world.

The situation on the Korean Peninsula is highly sensitive and complex. China has remained firmly committed to denuclearization, to the maintenance of peace and stability on the Peninsula and in the region and to

resolution through dialogue and consultation. Past experience has shown that this is the responsible approach to take. Protracted conflict in <u>Syria</u> has been a source of concern. The international community should respect the choice of development path made by the Syrian people and work for the early political settlement of the issue. Terrorism is a common enemy to all mankind, and both China and Europe have suffered enormously from this scourge. Terrorism in whatever form must be combated with full resolve.

After a journey of more than 40 years, China-EU relations have moved onto a track of more mature and sound development. During President Xi Jinping's visit to the EU in 2014, he proposed joint efforts to build the partnerships for peace, growth, reform and civilization, which injected fresh and strong impetus into China-EU cooperation. Thanks to the concerted efforts from all sectors on both sides, China-EU cooperation has been making steady and all-round progress. Most notably, our economic and trade cooperation has borne fruitful outcomes. For many years, the EU has been China's largest trading partner, largest provider of technology and an important source of foreign investment. China, on its part, is the second largest trading partner of the EU.

According to Chinese statistics, since the international financial crisis, China's export to the EU has registered an average annual growth of 1.8%, and the EU's export to China 5.8%. Today, every single minute, more than US\$1 million worth of goods and services are being traded between the two sides. The value of goods traded for every two days now is equivalent to that of the whole year in the early period of our diplomatic ties. China and the EU are linked together by over 600 flights every week and 150 freight train services every month.

The growth of China-EU cooperation is a natural outcome of the complementarity of our strengths, and has delivered benefits to people on both sides. European capital, technology and managerial expertise have given a boost to China's industrialization, while high-quality yet inexpensive products from China have been a big money saver for European families. The vast Chinese market has generated huge profits for the 16,000 European-invested companies in China. Chinese investment in Europe has created a large number of jobs for European countries.

Looking ahead, economic and trade cooperation between China and Europe promises a broad prospect. With a medium-high growth rate of around 6.5%, the Chinese economy has entered a crucial stage of consumption and industrial upgrading, leading to growing demands for high-quality consumer goods, advanced technology and equipment and quality services from Europe. Meanwhile, improved economic performance, expanding household consumption and increased infrastructure investment in Europe will generate new opportunities for Chinese businesses. The EU's investment in China only accounts for 4% of the EU's total overseas investment, and Chinese investment in the EU only takes up 2% of all FDI flowing to the EU. This is not commensurate with the size of the two economies and spells out enormous potential for further investment cooperation.

The economic and trade relations between China and the EU may be marked by both cooperation and competition, yet win-win cooperation is the overriding trend. Despite the expanded size of its economy, China is still at the medium and lower ends of the global value chain. The complementary and win-win nature of China-EU cooperation has remained unchanged. What has changed is only the model of such cooperation. In the past our cooperation was more or less about "invested by Europe plus made in China," which is still common today. But now we are also cooperating in the form of "invested by China plus made in Europe" and in third countries. We are also exploring new areas of cooperation such as the Belt and Road Initiative. This has expanded the areas of converging interests and deepened the interdependence between us. That said, competition also exists between China and the EU, yet competition based on common interests is not a bad thing. China and the EU need to pursue common development in the process of cooperation and competition to create deeper market connectivity and instill durable driving force into global economic development.

The trade balance between China and the EU is determined by multiple factors, such as development stage, comparative advantage and trade structure. In the system of free trade, any economy may be prone to deficit or surplus at different times. Absolute balance of trade is simply impossible. While China runs a trade surplus with the EU, it is also in deficit with such countries as <u>Japan</u>, the ROK and Australia. As far as European countries are concerned, China is in surplus with Belgium, the Netherlands and Italy, but in deficit with <u>Germany</u>, Switzerland, Austria and Ireland. Although it is on the surplus side in trade in goods, China has a US\$240 billion deficit in trade in services, among which over US\$40 billion is with Europe.

Due to the readjustment in the global supply chain and value chain, major changes have taken place in the flow of international trade. Trade statistics calculated with simple reference to rules of origin as is currently

the case cannot truly or fully reflect the trade interests and balance between China and Europe. Last year, 74% of China's surplus of trade in goods with the EU came from processing trade. While this was registered as China's surplus, the profits has mainly accrued to multinational companies, with Chinese enterprises only earning a thin margin. If calculated by added value, China's trade surplus with the EU would be cut by around 40%.

China follows a trade policy of balance in import and export, and does not seek trade surplus. Its current account surplus to <u>GDP</u> ratio has dropped from the peak of 10% in 2007 to 1.8% last year. And in the first quarter of this year, it was only 0.7%, lower than that of many EU countries. China stands ready to work for the launch of a joint feasibility study for a China-EU free trade area as early as possible, further improve trade liberalization and facilitation, and create favorable conditions for competitive European products to enter the Chinese market. We also hope the EU will loosen restrictions over hi-tech exports to China, exercise restraint in the use of trade remedies, and promote the balanced growth of two-way trade. China-EU economic and trade cooperation is not a simple relationship of buying or selling, but a partnership of multiple dimensions, investment being an important pillar of such cooperation. China welcomes investment by European companies and encourages its own companies to do business in Europe leading to two-way opening-up on an equal footing that delivers benefits to both sides.

That being said, as China and Europe differ in levels of economic development and industrial structures, their priorities, extent and speed of opening-up may vary as well. It would be inadvisable to make simplistic comparison in the areas and levels of openness or go after one-for-one reciprocity in openness. What's important is to see whether the gains from mutual openness are generally balanced. Take the automobile industry as an example, some people complain that China is not as open as Europe. But the truth is, European car brands take up a significant market share in China, yet Chinese brand cars are rarely seen in the streets of Europe. China will never shut its door to the outside world, but only open ever wider. In 2015, we amended the Catalogue for the Guidance of Foreign Investment Industries for the sixth time, reducing the number of restricted industries by half. In the recent seventh amending procedure, we narrowed the scope of restricted industries by another one third. The negative list model of foreign investment management is being rolled out nationwide. With the exception of only a few sectors, the establishment and major adjustments of foreign-invested companies now only needs to go through a simple filing process with the relevant authorities, without being subject to government review and approval.

We are not only expanding market access, but also vigorously promoting fair competition. All enterprises registered in China, be they Chinese or foreign, are all treated as equals by the Chinese government, and enjoy equal treatment in accordance with the law in such areas as license application, standards-setting, government procurement and access to "Made in China 2025" policies. We are ready to work with the EU side to accelerate negotiations for a high-standard investment agreement and foster a more open, fair and rules-based investment environment. We also hope that Chinese enterprises will be given fair treatment in investment review and greater visa facilitation.

Production overcapacity is a cyclical phenomenon under a market economy. It is a structural and also a global issue. Shrinking demand as a result of weak performance of the world economy since the outbreak of the international financial crisis has been the root cause for global overcapacity in industries such as steel. In China's steel production, 86% is for domestic consumption. China's steel export to the EU was only 6.47 million tons last year, and in the same year, China also imported 1.22 million tons of steel from the EU. China does not subsidize steel exports. On the contrary, we introduced a series of measures to control steel exports starting from ten years ago, including levying export tariffs, the highest level of which is 20% even today.

The efforts China is making to cut overcapacity are unparalleled in the world. Having reduced its steel overcapacity by over 90 million tons in the past few years and 65 million plus tons in 2016, China will continue to phase out around 50 million tons of capacity this year. This process involved the reemployment of some 500,000 workers, which is 170,000 more than all the steel workers of the EU. To blame China for overcapacity is neither objective nor fair. The responsibility for cutting overcapacity must be borne by all parties, and the key lies in concerted actions, not finger-pointing. China stands ready to enhance the sharing of experience and good practices on cutting overcapacity under the framework of the Global Forum on Steel Excess Capacity and set up a steel trade mechanism with the EU, in an effort to promote sound growth of the global steel industry.

Climate change is a common challenge to mankind. Green and low-carbon development has become a compelling trend of our times. The Paris Agreement represents the broadest consensus of the international

community. All parties need to jointly safeguard this hard-won outcome and work for its effective implementation. China always stands by its words. From 2011 to 2016, China's CO2 emission per unit of GDP was cut by 26.2%. China advocates the new concept of green development, which focuses on promoting ecological progress. Our efforts in energy conservation and emission reduction will only be strengthened, not weakened. We have confidence in achieving the goals of reducing CO2 emission per unit of GDP by 40%-45% by 2020 from the 2005 level and peaking carbon emission in around 2030. This is not only imperative for sustainable development, but is also our unshirkable duty as a responsible major country. Under the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities, equity and respective capabilities, we will continue to take an active part in the global climate governance process, and work with the EU to strengthen practical cooperation in energy conservation and environment protection, making it a new highlight of the China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership.

Given the complexity and volatility in the international situation, it is all the more important for China and the EU to stand firmly together, jointly advance mutually beneficial cooperation toward higher level and better quality for the benefit of both peoples, and make even greater contribution to world peace and common development."

Speech by European Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmström: Strengthening EU-China trade relations



"It's a pleasure to be here. The last time I spoke to this forum we were in Beijing, last July. We have seen many changes in the world since then.

Yet the central message, on the value of trade and the importance of open markets, is still the same. I share the President's feelings about President Xi's strong message to the World Economic Forum in Davos. I agree we should not surrender to protectionism: it is a risk to Europe and a risk to the world.

So I eagerly wait for President Xi's call to translate into action and make trade and investment more open, free and fair.

Today I'd like to briefly set out a number of ways how that could be achieved.

The rules-based multilateral system, with the World Trade Organisation at its centre, is today often questioned.

Yet it is that system which ensures trade is fair, and open.

We should maintain and strengthen our shared commitment to it.

It is in our common interest.

This December, the World Trade Organisation holds a Ministerial Conference. I hope it will be a success,

with ambitious negotiated outcomes."

Read more (PDF)

Speech by BusinessEurope President Emma Marcegaglia



"I am extremely happy to welcome you today in Brussels for the 12th EU-China Business Summit. This annual gathering is a unique opportunity to discuss the latest political and economic developments and review the state of EU-China relations.

I think we can all agree that many things happened since we met almost a year ago in Beijing. Many are questioning the benefits of trade and globalisation and some seem inclined to close markets as a way to respond to emerging populism. As business, we acknowledge there might be some downsides of globalisation and trade. But they must not be seen as the cause of all the problems in our societies. And protectionism is not the answer.

China and the EU have largely benefited from trade and open markets. More than ever we have strong responsibilities in ensuring the multilateral trading system remains fit-for-purpose and able to respond to today's challenges in particular the digital revolution."

Read more (PDF)

Speech by European Chamber of Commerce President Mats Harborn

"Two days ago, we presented the *2017 Business Confidence Survey* in China. If one was to summarise the findings of the report. Those findings would show how there is a lack of a level playing field for business in China and at the same time it would point to the new economic reality, a dynamic and innovative Chinese economy.

As a chamber we must understand the challenges facing our member companies and China as a whole. Knowing where China is in its development path can lead to more tailored and well-constructed proposals. The 'old normal' is dead – but the 'new normal' is not entirely what we have come to believe it is. New forms of economic development must continue to be sustainably done: socially, economically and environmentally. Sustainable development will not happen without a level playing field.

This entails having an agreed upon set of rules that are enforced and applied equally to everyone in the marketplace.



Sustainable development starts with appropriate regulation. In our BCS improvement was noted in anti-corruption efforts, as indices showed it moving from 7th to 9th place, indicating that the issue was no longer as much of a hurdle to businesses in China as it once was. Regulation, on the other hand, still remained as one of the top three issues foreign enterprises face. Our members feel that industries are often over-regulated. Regulation is often applied wantonly, it is written in a confusing manner, and too little time is given for proper implementation."

Read more

Speech by EUCBA Chairman Jochum Haakma

"This morning we have heard a range of eminent views on the prospects of EU-China trade and investment relations.

I am convinced that the relations between the EU and China can only become stronger.

As you all know, the EU is China's largest trading partner and China is the EU's second largest trading partner after the US. The EU and China need each other. There are plenty of opportunities to increase our cooperation!

Let me start with the Comprehensive EU-China Investment Agreement. This agreement, which is under negotiation offers an opportunity to increase trade and investment as it will provide new and better market access.

Last year, Chinese investment flows into the EU rose to a record high of almost €40 billion, while EU investment into China fell to a ten-year low of under 8 billion €.

I would also like to stress that Chinese investment in the EU safeguards and creates jobs. Again, both sides need each other.

EU companies in China are prepared to ramp up their investments considerably, if better market access in China would be granted.

According to the recent survey of the European companies in China, 50% of European companies mentioned that in 2016 they achieved higher sales than in 2015, especially in information and communication technology, automotive, machinery, cosmetics, environmental and retail industry! Also the IPR protection saw improvements!

The improved financial performance can largely be attributed to the major financial stimulus the Chinese government injected into the Chinese economy.



The slowing economic growth of the Chinese economy causes concern amongst EU investors in China, but also opens other opportunities in other sectors and regions to invest. China still is the fastest growing in the economy in the world! So a slower growth can also be a blessing in order to have a more qualitative and balanced economic development.

Speaking about business opportunities, I would like to mention China's major initiative with the Strategy on Belt and Road. The EU-China Business Association also had the honour to participate in the major Belt And Road Forum presided by President Xi Jinping and at which more than 1200 delegates from 110 countries participated.

This modern-day Silk Road will bind together 65 countries and 4.4bn people from China to Europe.

The Belt & Road initiative will offer many commercial opportunities. Infrastructure construction will become a priority of investment. Next to that companies can create business opportunities such as in financial and professional services, agriculture and environment, advanced manufacturing and transport, energy and resources, E-commerce, logistics and healthcare.

Partnerships with Chinese companies will be key in order to be able to take part in these projects. Therefore, the EU and China have also set up the EU-China Connectivity Platform, which is now working on a list of pilot projects and identification of priority actions to increase cooperation between both sides.

EUCBA is keen to assist businesses to get a better understanding in the projects in which business can participate.

What the EUCBA can do you for you.

The EUCBA is the association of bilateral China business associations in Europe, aiming at promoting the economic and trade relations between the EU and China.

Today, we have 20 member associations and represent more than 20.000 European and Chinese companies.

The aim is to be complementary to the national level so that the member companies can work on a larger scale and can deepen their cooperation with Chinese business partners.

So let me explain how European and Chinese companies can benefit from the activities of EUCBA: The EUCBA organizes high-level EU-China Conferences, and we are co-organiser of today's EU-China Business Summit.

The EUCBA co-ordinates and organises economic missions to China.

The EUCBA Co-ordinates visits of Chinese delegations to EU member states. Taking into account the growing amount of Chinese overseas investment, we need to grasp every opportunity to promote our investment environment and assist to find partnerships in Europe.

The EUCBA also works in close cooperation with the Chinese Mission to the EU, the European Delegation in China, EU Commission and CCPIT, the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China, BusinessEurope and the EU SME Centre in Beijing.

We have a strong network in China and in the EU and this is what we want to share with you in order to broaden the business and trade between both sides."

19th China-EU Leaders' Meeting: agreement on climate, friction on trade

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang co-chaired the 19th China-EU Leaders' Meeting together with European Council President Donald Tusk and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker on June 1 and 2. Agreement was reached on climate change. The European Union and China warned U.S. President Donald Trump he was making a major error by withdrawing from the Paris climate pact, but they failed to agree on a formal climate statement because of divisions over trade. Speaking alongside Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, European Council President Donald Tusk said efforts to reduce pollution and combat rising sea levels would now continue without the United States. "We are convinced that the decision by the United States to leave the Paris agreement is a big mistake. The fight against climate change, and all the research, innovation and technological progress it will bring, will continue, with or without the U.S.," Tusk said. In their meeting, the three leaders committed to cutting back on fossil fuels, developing more green technology, and helping raise funds to help poorer countries cut their emissions.

On trade and steel overproduction, differences remained. Premier Li urged the European Union to fulfill the promise made in Article 15 of the protocol on China's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO). The EU has still not recognized China's market-economy status, which should have been granted 15 years after the country joined the WTO on December 11, 2001. President Juncker referred to a World Bank report placing China 78th out of 190 countries in terms of the ease of doing business. "A big economic powerhouse needs to be higher than mid-table," he said, adding that a planned EU-Chinese investment treaty needed to be completed to ensure reciprocal relations. In reply, Li said China was working hard to promote a trade balance, with Chinese tourism to Europe now far greater than EU tourism in China. Foreign investment opportunities, he said, were far different from when China first opened up. "I do hope you can put things into context. We find the problems, but we are working on them. Our ranking is getting better," he said.



President Jean-Claude Juncker, Premier Li Kegiang and President Donald Tusk

The EU complained to China about steel overcapacity and the export of Chinese products to the EU at dumping prices. China's annual steel output is almost double the EU's total production and Western governments say Chinese steel exports have caused a global steel crisis.

The leaders witnessed the signing of cooperation documents in fields ranging from energy to intellectual property.

Remarks by President Donald Tusk after the EU-China Summit in Brussels

"Good afternoon, let me first of all welcome Premier Li in Brussels. It is very good to have you here.

Yesterday evening we had a good informal meeting with Premier Li and this morning we have just concluded our plenary session of this year's EU-China summit. We had fruitful and constructive talks that underline the importance we both attach to EU-China relations.

China and the European Union are strategic partners. We have a stake in each other's success. Our cooperation is broad and continues to broaden and strengthen on issues like trade and investment, climate change, the migration crisis, North Korea, and a security partnership in Africa. We share many interests. Most importantly, we share a fundamental interest in upholding and strengthening the rules-based international system. For example, respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine has been our common position since 2015. And in these difficult times we have a joint responsibility to protect this system and demonstrate its added value in all aspects of our relations.

Today, we are stepping up our cooperation on climate change with China. Which means that today, China and Europe have demonstrated solidarity with future generations and responsibility for the whole planet. We are convinced that yesterday's decision by the United States to leave the Paris Agreement is a big mistake, bigger than not ratifying the Kyoto Protocol, because Paris is fairer. But the fight against climate change, and all the research, innovation and technological progress it will bring, will continue, with or without the U.S.

However, strong transatlantic ties are far more important and far more durable than the latest, unfortunate decisions of the new Administration. Strong transatlantic ties are still the best guarantee that the people and nations who advocate freedom and peaceful order will not be left helpless or alone.

We also discussed the issue of human rights today. How we can further improve cooperation on this at the bilateral and international level. I expressed our concern about freedom of expression and association in China, including the detention of human rights lawyers and defenders, as well as the situation of minorities such as Tibetans and Uighurs. I am glad we could agree that the next round of our human rights dialogue will take place later this month. Finally, on North Korea, we welcome China's efforts. We share a common interest in peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, de-escalation of tensions, and for North Korea to comply with its international obligations and abandon all nuclear and ballistic missile programs. We count on China's continued support to achieve these objectives. Thank you."

EU Press Release: EU-China Summit: moving forward with our global partnership

Brussels, 2 June 2017. The 19th Summit between the European Union and the People's Republic of China held today in Brussels has brought a number of important developments to the bilateral relationship, as well as providing fresh impetus to a partnership that has a global impact.

President **Juncker**, along with Donald Tusk, the President of the European Council, represented the European Union at the Summit. The People's Republic of China was represented by its Premier, Li Keqiang. The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the Commission, Federica **Mogherini**, Trade Commissioner, Cecilia **Malmström**, and Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, Carlos **Moedas**, as well as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Wang Yi also attended the Summit.

Delivering for a stronger partnership

During the Summit, a number of agreements were signed that will concretely strengthen what is already a comprehensive relationship. In addition, several EU-China meetings covering specific policy areas, held in the margins of the Summit, also brought positive outcomes.



President of the European Council Donald Tusk (left) and President of the European Commission Jean-Claude-Juncker (right), flanking Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (middle)

Climate action:

At the Summit, EU and Chinese leaders reaffirmed their commitment to implementing the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change and, as major energy consumers and importers, highlighted the importance of fostering cooperation in their energy policies. At the joint press conference following the Summit, President of the European Commission Jean-Claude **Juncker** said: "As far as the European side is concerned, we were happy to see that China is agreeing to our unhappiness about the American climate decision. This is helpful, this is responsible, and this is about inviting both, China and the European Union, to proceed with the implementation of the Paris Agreement."

EU and Chinese leaders also looked forward to co-hosting, along with Canada, a major ministerial gathering in September to advance the implementation of the Paris Agreement and accelerate the clean energy transition.

Business:

In the margins of a productive Summit, during which leaders were able to constructively discuss topics across the entire spectrum of EU-China relations, the 12th EU-China Business Summit provided an opportunity for EU and Chinese leaders to exchange views with representatives of the business community on economic relations between the European Union and China and on the challenges that remain.

In his keynote speech, President **Juncker** said: "Our relationship is founded on a shared commitment to openness and working together as part of a rules-based international system. I am glad that we can meet here today and say this, loud and clear. It is one that recognises that together we can promote prosperity and sustainability at home and abroad. We applaud the ambition of China's reform path. We recognise that reforms have been made and that plans have been established. But we would like to see implementation speed up – so that your policies are in line with your world vision."

In her <u>speech</u>, Commissioner **Malmström** stressed that: "Sound economic development, trade and investment also require respect for the rule of law, with independent lawyers and judges who can operate freely and independently. To conduct business – and for their daily lives – people need to be able to access free and independent information, communicate and discuss. This is a fundamental human right which also applies in the age of the internet. Limits to online freedom also affect peoples' lives and the business climate."

Regional and global challenges:

Discussions at the Summit demonstrated the shared commitment of both the European Union and China to addressing regional and global challenges such as climate change, common security threats, the promotion of multilateralism, peacekeeping and peace-building. Comprehensive discussions took place between the Summit participants on how to advance cooperation and joint action in the area of **foreign and security policy**, in particular on the situations on the Korean Peninsula, in Ukraine, Afghanistan and Syria, on the

implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and on Myanmar.

Competition policy:

European Commissioner Margrethe **Vestager**, in charge of competition policy, and He Lifeng, Chairman of China's National Development and Reform Commission, signed a <u>Memorandum of Understanding to start a dialogue on state aid control</u>. The state aid dialogue creates a mechanism of consultation, cooperation and transparency between China and the EU in the field of state aid control. A full press release on this Memorandum of Understanding is available <u>here</u>.

Investment:

The European Investment Fund (EIF), part of the European Investment Bank Group, and China's Silk Road Fund (SRF) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the aim of jointly investing in private equity and venture capital funds that will, in turn, invest in small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) located primarily in the EU. The European Commission and China's National Development and Reform Commission have played an important role in supporting the negotiations which led to the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding. The total expected commitment amounts to €500 million, of which €250 million would be financed from the EIF and €250 million from the SRF. The signature follows the commitment made by China at the High-Level Economic and Trade Dialogue in 2015 to examine opportunities to contribute to the Investment Plan for Europe, the so-called "Juncker Plan" and enhance cooperation with the EU on investment issues generally. The initiative would complement the SME window of the Juncker Plan's European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), which is already expected to facilitate access to finance for some 416,000 small businesses across Europe.

Energy cooperation:

Following the EU-China **High Level Energy Dialogue**, which took place this morning, Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel **Arias Cañete** and Mr Nur Bekri, Vice-Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission and Administrator of the National Energy Administration of China signed the <u>Work Plan 2017-2018</u> of the <u>Technical Implementation of the EU-China Roadmap on Energy Cooperation</u>. This <u>Roadmap</u>, agreed in June 2016, commits both sides to tackling common energy and climate challenges, including security of energy supply, energy infrastructure and market transparency. The Roadmap lays the foundations for sharing best practices with regards to energy regulation, demand and supply analysis, energy crisis, and nuclear safety, as well as grid design and the integration of renewable energy into the electricity grid.

Connectivity:

The second meeting of the **EU-China Connectivity Platform** enabled progress on: (i) policy exchange and alignment on the principles and the priorities in fostering transport connections between the EU and China, based on the TEN-Ts framework and the Belt and Road initiative, and involving relevant third countries; (ii) cooperation on promoting solutions at the international level with a focus on green transport solutions; (iii) concrete projects based on agreed criteria including sustainability, transparency and a level-playing field. The joint agreed minutes of the Chairs' meeting are available here, along with the <a href="historycentralists of European transport infrastructure projects presented under the EU-China Connectivity Platform.

Customs:

European Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Pierre **Moscovici**, and the Minister of Customs of China, Mr Yu Guangzhou signed a **Strategic Framework for Customs Cooperation for the years 2018** – **2020**, setting out the priorities and objectives for EU-China customs cooperation for the years ahead. The framework's priority areas of focus are protecting citizens and combating illegal trade through effective customs controls, at the same time speeding up and reducing administrative burdens on legitimate trade. The Framework supports continued cooperation on supply chain security while facilitating reliable traders, the enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights, and the fight against financial and environmental fraud. Cooperation has also now been extended to the field of e-commerce. More details are available online.

Trade and agriculture:

Commissioner **Malmström** and her Chinese counterpart, the Minister of Commerce, Mr **Zhong Shan,** signed important documents covering the protection of intellectual property and geographical indications.

The administrative arrangement related to EU-China cooperation on the **protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights** aims to ensure smooth cooperation between the European Commission and the Ministry of Commerce of China in the implementation of the new phase of the programme "Intellectual Property: A Key to Sustainable Competitiveness". This programme has, since 2013, been the European

Commission's main instrument to address legal challenges faced by EU businesses in China. These include, for example, patents, trademarks, and industrial designs. The new phase, funded under the Partnership Instrument, will run from 1 September 2017 until 2021.

Commissioner Malmström, on behalf of the European Commissioner for Agriculture, Phil Hogan, and on the Chinese side, Mr Zhong, also signed an agreement committing both the European Union and China to publish, on 3 June, a list of one hundred European and Chinese **geographical indications**. This publication opens the process for protecting the listed products against imitations and usurpations and is expected to result in reciprocal trade benefits and increased consumer awareness and demand for high-quality products. More information on this agreement is available online.

Research and innovation:

In the field of research and innovation, the European Union and China have agreed to boost their cooperation with a new package of flagship initiatives targeting the areas of food, agriculture and biotechnologies, environment and sustainable urbanisation, surface transport, safer and greener aviation, and biotechnologies for environment and human health. These initiatives will translate into a number of topics for cooperation with China under Horizon 2020, the EU's funding programme for research and innovation. The 3rd Eu-China Innovation Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, and Wan Gang, China's Minister of Science and Technology, took place in the margins of the Summit. Both sides agreed on the Eu-China co-funding mechanism for research and innovation for the period 2018-2020, and on its application to future SME cooperation and to support start-ups. Both sides also confirmed their commitment to improving framework conditions, notably reciprocal access to Science and Technology and Innovation resources, and to promoting open access to publications and research. More information is available online.

The European Commission's science and knowledge service, the **Joint Research Centre (JRC)**, under the responsibility of Tibor **Navracsics**, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences signed an overarching **Research Framework Arrangement**, building on their longstanding and fruitful cooperation in the field of **remote sensing and earth observation**. The objective of the agreement is to expand their collaboration and develop new scientific approaches in key areas, such as air quality, renewable energy, climate, environmental protection, digital economy, regional Innovation policy and Smart Specialisation. More information is available **online**.

Tourism:

The European Union and China signed an <u>Arrangement on the implementation of the 2018 EU-China Tourism Year</u>. Good progress is being made on preparation of the tourism year, which should promote lesser-known destinations, improve travel and tourism experiences, and provide opportunities to increase economic cooperation. This initiative also provides an incentive to make quick progress on EU-China visa facilitation and air connectivity.

Maritime affairs:

Representatives from the European Union and China signed in the margins of the Summit a <u>Joint Press</u> <u>Statement on the 2017 EU-China Blue Year</u>. As part of this EU-China Blue Year, a series of activities on ocean matters are taking place. These activities aim to foster closer ties and mutual understanding between European Union and China and highlight a strong China-EU maritime relationship.

For more information:

19th EU-China Summit website
EU-China relations factsheet
Frequently asked questions on EU-China relations
EU Delegation in China website

UPCOMING EVENTS

China Immersion Program for Health Industry – October 23-27, 2017 – China

The Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business (CKGSB) is organizing an immersion program for the health industry from October 23 to 27, 2017. The program is co-developed with the EU-China Business Association (EUCBA), the Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce (FCCC), the China-Britain Business Council, and Luso-Chinesa.

As your pathway to business with China, 2017 CKGSB's China Immersion Program for Health Industry will immerse participants into the true market realities. CKGSB helps explore the key elements of China's cultural and business environment. This 5-day blended learning program covers a concise and informative range of classroom learning, exposure to China's Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centre for Drug Evaluation and wide ranging visits to both Western and Eastern companies operating in China in: Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology, Nutrition, Medical Insurance, Medical devices and applications, as well as Healthcare and its related products and services

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

"Many large European health related companies have benefited tremendously from the booming Chinese economy and its increasing desire for advanced health care products and services. However, SMEs in the European industry have generally missed out on the same opportunities. This is due to the lack of China knowledge, network and partners in China and investment opportunities. China Immersion Program for Health Industry aims to solve this problem by providing European SMEs with the life-changing opportunities to benefit from the lucrative and fast growing Chinese health market.

Through its world recognised faculty, alumni and programs, CKGSB provides an unprecedented level of support to aid Western health care companies in creating a brand and appropriate China stage where organisations are able to drive competitive advantage and distinguish their products. This includes advancements in product quality and packaging design adaptations to the Chinese market, as well as increased access to China's best distribution channels."

Bo Ji, Chief Representative of Europe & Assistant Dean, CKGSB

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Participants will have the opportunity to learn from CKGSB's world-class faculty and benefit from the rich experience of industry practitioners. The program provides the foundations for participants to immerse themselves in what it truly takes to operate a successful health care organization in the Chinese market. Through the use of business case studies, group discussions and company visits, Western executives will learn from and network with like-minded leaders and entrepreneurs from both China and Europe.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This program is aimed at the senior executives who are responsible for creating the organisation's future strategy closely aligned with the high growth health industry in China. This program targets the following: Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology, Nutrition, Medical Insurance, Medical device and applications, as well as Healthcare and its related products and services.

Day 1

Morning China's Transformation and its Global Implications

Afternoon Chinese Health Industry Overview

Evening Welcome Networking Dinner and Cultural Event with European Union Chamber of Commerce in China

Day 2

Morning China Entry Strategies

Afternoon Field Visit: Foreign Pharmaceutical Company in China: MNCs in China

A wholly state-owned hospital visit **Evening** CEO & Executive Networking Dinner with MNCs

Day 3

Morning Policy, Regulation and Chinese Health Industry

Afternoon Field Visit: CFDA & CDE Speaker: Product Registration & Clinical Testing in China

Evening CEO & Executive Networking Dinner withRegulators, Industry Experts

Day 4

Morning Health Sales & Marketing in China

Afternoon Field Visit: Chinese Health Company: Strategic Alliances & Partnerships

A privately owned hospital visit

Evening CEO & Executive Networking Dinner with Selected Chinese Health Executives

Day 5

Morning GMP Certification and Manufacturing in China

Afternoon Field Visit: Big Health Industrial Park

Evening Networking and Pitch Session with Chinese Health Investors

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Upcoming session: October 23-27, 2017

Tuition: €6,500 EUCBA Members are eligible for a 10% discount. Tuition includes class materials as well as

selected meals during the program.

Location: TBD

Travel and accommodation: TBD

Program language: all materials and lectures will be delivered in English.

APPLICATION

You can register for the 2017China Immersion Program for Health Industry by contacting the Program Director, Mr. Bo Ji at boji@ckgsb.edu.cn or by calling the London office on +44 (0)20 7766 8201. We will then issue you a registration form to book your place.

ABOUT CKGSB

As a world-class business school from China, Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business (CKGSB) aims to develop current and future leaders with a global vision, a humanitarian spirit and an innovative mind-set. Established in Beijing in November 2002 with generous support from the Li Ka Shing Foundation, CKGSB is China's first faculty-governed, non-profit, independent business school.

Over the past 13 years, CKGSB has developed into a prominent business school with 45 full-time professors, who have earned their PhDs or held tenured faculty positions at leading business schools such as Harvard, Wharton and Stanford. Their research have provided the basis for over 300 case studies of both China-specific and global issues. CKGSB also stands apart for its unmatched alumni network. More than half of the 10,000+ CKGSB alumni are at the CEO or Chairman level and, collectively, lead one-fifth of China's most valuable brands. Together, their companies shape over \$1 trillion in annual revenue, demonstrating the school's impact and influence.

In addition to its main campus in the center of Beijing, CKGSB has campuses and teaching facilities in Shanghai, Shenzhen and New York, as well as offices in Hong Kong and London. The school offers innovative MBA, Finance MBA, Executive MBA, Dual-Degree EMBA with IMD, Korean EMBA, Finance EMBA, Doctor of Business Administration and Executive Education programs.

The 12th EU-China Business and Technology Cooperation Fair – 24-31 October 2017 – Chengdu – Qingdao



As an important platform for building ever closer relationship between 27 EU member states and China, the 12th EU-China Business and Technology Cooperation Fair, in the context of the importance of the land and marine Silk Roads linking China and Europe, will take place in Chengdu and Qingdao, two vital strategic cities of west and north China, the first phase in Chengdu from 24 till 27 October, 2017 and the second phase in Qingdao from 29 to 31 October, 2017. The fair will gather 1,500 participants of companies, state/regional governments, clusters, business associations, EU-China cooperation experts, universities, R&D institutions from west and north China, the European Commission, EEN partners, and European countries who are seeking potential collaboration and partnerships with their counterparts.

The EU-China Business Association (EUCBA) and the Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce (FCCC) are partners of the 12th EU-China Business and Technology Cooperation Fair.

Cooperation Fair China Tour 2017

Chengdu - Qingdao, 24-31 Oct., 2017

- One of the Largest Platforms for Investment, Trade and Technological Cooperation between the European Union and China
- Meet with Over 30 Most Competitive Clusters in China
- Matchmaking with over 1,000 Chinese Enterprises
- Learn the Favorable Policies for European Entrepreneurs to Start up Business in China

Chengdu, 24-27 Oct., 2017

- Centre of West China, Hometown to Giant Pandas
- Initial Station of Chengdu-Europe Express Railway Lodz, Poland
- Forbes listed Chengdu as one of "The Next Decade's Fastest Growing Cities Globally"
- Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport: Ranked 1st in Mid & West China Direct, Flights to Amsterdam, London, Paris, Frankfurt, Moscow, etc.
- 14 Consulates General settled in Chengdu
- Leading Industries: ICT, Environment, Renewable Energy, New Materials, Life Sciences, Bio-Pharmaceuticals, Aviation, Modern Agriculture

Link to the Chengdu agenda.

Qingdao, 29-31 Oct., 2017

- Intersection of Two Silk Roads both through the Continent and over the Sea
- Converging Point for Asia Pacific Economic Integration
- 70% of China's Academicians and 30% of Senior Researchers on Maritime Sciences and Technologies are based in Qingdao
- EU Is Now the TOP 1 Trading Partner for Qingdao
- Leading Industries: Maritime Equipment, Maritime Bio-Pharmaceuticals, Renewable Energy, New Materials, Maritime Environment, ICT, Home Appliances, Rolling Stock.

Link to the Qingdao agenda.

Official website: http://www.eu-china.org.cn/about.html

To register for the Chengdu or Qingdao program, follow this link.

Horasis China Meeting – 5-6 November 2017 – Sheffield, United Kingdom

Horasis – The Global Visions Community – is organizing a China Meeting on 5 and 6 November 2017 in Sheffield, United Kingdom. Co-organizers are the EU-China Business Association (EUCBA), China-Europe Association for Technical and Economic Cooperation (CEATEC), China-Britain Business Council, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), China Fortune Media, EU-China Business Association (EUCBA), EU-China Municipal Development Commission, and Global Innovator Conference.

The Horasis China Meeting will take place at the Mercure St. Pauls Hotel, 119 Norfolk St, Sheffield S1 2JE.

Registration of the participants will take place on November 5 between 11.00 and 19.00 at the Mercure St. Pauls Hotel. An optional programme will be offered during the day. The opening dinner on the theme of "China and the UK – Investing in the Future" will be held at the Cutlers Hall at 19.00, followed by a reception "Celebrating Sheffield City Region and the Northern Powerhouse" at the Mercure St. Pails Hotel.

Programme on November 6

07.30 – 08.45	Breakfast Sessions
01.00 00.40	Reading China's 13the Five-Year plan
	Cultivating Entrepreneurship – The Role of Youth
	Navigating China's Geopolitics
	Making Sense of China's Booking Tourism
09.00 - 10.00	Opening Plenary: China and World Economic Outlook
10.30 - 12.00	Boardroom Dialogue Sessions
	Investing in the UK
	Reforming China's Capital Markets
	Rethinking "Made in China"
	Foreign firms in China
12.00 – 13.30	Networking Lunch
13.30 – 14.30	Plenary Session: Embracing China's New Normal
14.30 - 16.00	Boardroom Dialogue Sessions
	Gauging the Power of Chinese Innovation
	China's Global Expansion
	Making Green Economical
	Educating for a New Age
16.30 - 18.00	Boardroom Dialogue Sessions
	China's Grand Trade Strategy
	Boosting Venture Capital
	Reshaping Corporate Governance
	Chinese Brands – Creating Awareness of a Rich Variety
	Closing Plenary: Making Globalisation Work
19.15 – 19.45	Reception at Sheffield Cathedral
19.45 – 21.30	Closing Dinner: The New China Context
	J

Fees & Payment: Swiss Francs CHF1000 per person (reduced fee for co-chairs, speakers and delegates coming through co-hosts and co-organizers. The standard fee is CHF2000). Participation will not be granted without payment. Please allow five working days for application to be processed. Participation is not confirmed until payment has been received in full. Cancellation Policy: 100% Non Refundable once registered.

Registration: registration form for reduced fee, payments details and cancellation policy can be found <u>here</u>.

For more information, please contact:

Communication & Public Affairs

Horasis. The Global Visions Community

phone: +41 79 305 3110fax: +41 44 214 6502e-mail: richter@horasis.org

PAST EVENTS

Meeting with the China Circular Economy Delegation - 9 June 2017

The Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce, the Flanders Cleantech Association and Flanders Investment & Trade organized a meeting with the China Circular Economy Delegation on 9 June at the Flanders Cleantech Association in Berchem.

The delegation had been invited by the European Commission, DG Environment and the EU-China Business Association as a result of the Circular Economy Mission to Beijing organized by DG Environment in November last year. On June 9 in the afternoon, Mr Daniel Calleja, Director General DG Environment met with the China Circular Economy delegation. The EUCBA was represented by Mr Philippe Van der Donckt, Vice Chairman, and Ms Gwenn Sonck, Executive Director.

China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) has proposed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on circular economy with the EU, and the Directorate General Environment will start working on that basis.



The Circular Economy delegation was led by the China Association of Circular Economy (CACE), and coorganized by the Green Development League of National Economic and Technological Development Zones (Green Development League of NETDZs).

The purpose of this seminar was to bring together business leaders from both sides to discuss business cooperation on circular economy and to promote the EU clean-tech investment in Chinese industrial parks.

2017 China-EU SME Cross-Border Investment and Trade Conference

The Bank of China, in partnership with EUROCHAMBERS, and supported by the EU-SME Centre and the EU-China Business Association (EUCBA), have organized the 2017 China-EU SME Cross-Border Investment and Trade Conference in Brussels on June 2.

More than 200 companies took part in the event, and more than 100 Chinese companies were available to discuss business opportunities.

Several subsidiaries of the Alibaba Group were present, among which Ant Financial Services Group, formerly known as Alipay. This company operates the Alipay payment platform. It also runs the Zhima credit rating system.

EUCBA PARTNERSHIP PROPOSALS

The EU-China Business Association (EUCBA) is an Association of Associations in the European Union countries. EUCBA maintains relations with EU institutions in order to promote business relations between European enterprises, institutions and their Chinese counterparts. It represents more than 20,000 European and Chinese companies. It is an international non-profit organization registered in Belgium.

PLATINUM PARTNERSHIP

The EUCBA is offering a platinum partnership for European and Chinese companies.

Partnership per year: 7.500 € (Excl. VAT)

Benefits

- Participation in EU-China high-level meetings and access to high-level Chinese and European
 authorities and diplomats. There will be a minimum of two such meetings per year organised by
 EUCBA. Participation in an annual meeting with the Chinese Ambassador to the EU in Brussels.
- During high-level EU-China conferences in Europe or in China, of which EUCBA is a co-organiser, the CEO/Chairman of platinum company partners can be proposed as a speaker.
- Through the EUCBA platform, Platinum Partnerships can give input to the European Commission on issues regulating EU China business relations, such as the EU-China Investment Agreement in order to increase market access for their company in China or in the EU for Chinese members.
- Recognition on EUCBA website, EUCBA events, EUCBA Quarterly Newsletter with company logo and short profile
- Interview in the EUCBA Quarterly Newsletter
- Interview in Special Issues EUCBA Quarterly during high-level visits
- · Joint activity if requested
- Free participation in EUCBA events (max. 4 participants / event)

SILVER PARTNERSHIP

The EUCBA is offering a silver partnership for European and Chinese companies.

Partnership per year: 3.000 € (Excl VAT)

Benefits

- Participation in EU-China high-level meetings and access to high-level Chinese and European authorities and diplomats. There will be a minimum of two such meetings per year organised by EUCBA.
- Recognition on EUCBA website and EUCBA Quarterly Newsletter with their company logo

EUCBA Activities:

An overview of the most important EUCBA events can be downloaded at the EUCBA website:

www.eucba.org

For further information, please contact:

Gwenn SONCK, Secretary General, EU-China Business Association, gwenn.sonck@eucba.org

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Invest in Flanders - You will be in great company

Ever since the Middle Ages, Flanders has been one of the world's most dynamic regions, a thriving hub of economics and cultures. Situated on the crossroads between Anglo-Saxon, Latin and Germanic cultures, it is a place where people not only meet for trade, but also to exchange ideas and experiences. Flanders has therefore over time become a center of both commerce and innovative thinking.

A strong emphasis on innovation and quality

Today, the traditional strengths of trade, innovation and quality hold true. This is largely due to the people of Flanders themselves, who are well-known for their cultural sensitivity and are among the most multilingual in the world. They also show great flexibility and loyalty, are highly skilled and well-educated, and always aim to deliver the highest quality.

Furthermore, productivity is the trademark of the Flemish employee. Heavy funding of R&D across the sectors and in future-oriented areas ensures that Flanders keeps its edge in technology and innovation. The region's leading industries include technology-driven niches, such as life sciences, chemicals, plastics, logistics, automotive and food sectors. Additionally, luxury segments such as diamond trading, fashion, textiles and specialty chocolate production are other industries that do particularly well here. Not to mention the strong brewing tradition, which goes back a thousand years and has resulted in the world's most appreciated and award-winning beers...

Flanders, providing the world with quality products and services

Flanders can boast more than delicious pralines and the finest of beers. Its excellent infrastructure, highly skilled people and inspirational atmosphere result in the highest quality of products and services of any sort. Thanks to the many advantages the region has to offer, Flanders hosts a number of key players in niche industries that have made it to the top of their markets.

Flanders, business in the heart of Europe

It's no coincidence that Brussels, capital of Flanders, became the administrative center of the European Union and the host for the NATO headquarters. Its location at the heart of Europe, its superb transport infrastructure and unique workforce, make Flanders the designated environment for all business and political purposes. Enterprises looking to establish or expand their operations in Europe will encounter all the means necessary to be successful in their objectives.

Flanders Investment & Trade www.investinflanders.be

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The EUCBA offers sponsorship and advertisement opportunities in the EUCBA Quarterly Newsletter and on the EUCBA website. If you are interested in obtaining more information, please send an e-mail to: gwenn.sonck@flanders-china.be.

About the EUCBA

The EU–China Business Association (EUCBA) is the EU-wide federation of national non-profit business organisations in the European Union with specialization and particular expertise in exchange of knowledge on investments and trade with China. At current, EUCBA unites 20 members in 20 countries representing more than 15,000 companies – large, medium, and small, in all branches of industry, commerce and the service sector.

EUCBA promotes direct investment and trade between China and the EU through international exchange of information and joint projects of its members – providing European companies a stronger base for expanding trade cooperation with China.

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The EUCBA Bulletin is edited by Gwenn Sonck, Executive Director of the EUCBA, based in Brussels, Belgium (gwenn.sonck@flanders-china.be); and Michel Lens, who also edits the newsletters of the Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce, based in Beijing, China (michel.jc.lens@gmail.com). Disclaimer: the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the EUCBA or its Board of Directors.