

# 中欧领导人会晤：在复杂而重要的伙伴关系中捍卫欧盟的利益和价值观——米歇尔主席和冯·德·莱恩主席的新闻稿

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欧盟和中国于2020年6月22日通过视频会议举行了第22届双边领导人会晤。欧洲理事会主席夏尔·米歇尔（Charles Michel）和欧洲委员会主席乌尔苏拉·冯·德·莱恩（Ursula von der Leyen）在高级代表约瑟夫·博雷尔（Josep Borrell）的陪同下同中国总理李克强一起进行了会议，随后又与中国国家主席习近平进行了交流。

米歇尔主席说：“近年来，中欧关系不断发展。我们的相互经济依存度很高，我们必须共同应对全球挑战，例如气候行动，实现可持续发展目标，应对新型冠状病毒肺炎疫情等。与中国进行合作既是机遇也是必要的，但同时，我们必须认识到，我们在价值观、政治制度或多边主义做法上不尽相同，我们将以清晰的眼光和自信的方式积极捍卫欧盟利益并坚定坚持我们的价值观。”

冯·德·莱恩（von der Leyen）主席说：“新型冠状病毒肺炎大流行以及许多重大的双边和多边挑战表明，中欧伙伴关系至关重要，无论是在贸易、气候、技术和捍卫多边主义等方面。但是为了使我们的关系进一步发展，它们必须变

得更加对等和基于规则，以实现真正的公平竞争环境。”

中欧领导人会晤的议程内容全面，涵盖双边关系；区域和国际问题；新冠肺炎大流行以及经济复苏。

欧盟忆及了在2019年中欧领导人会晤上做出的重要承诺，并强调有必要积极和注重落实这些承诺，因为至今的进展有限。

欧盟大力强调，有必要推进雄心勃勃的《中欧全面投资协定》的谈判，以便解决当前市场准入不对称问题，并确保公平竞争。特别是在国有企业的行为，补贴的透明度和解决强制技术转让的规则等方面，都迫切需要取得进展。

在经济和贸易问题上，欧盟忆及双方为解决一系列市场准入和监管问题而进行建设性和迅速工作的共同承诺。欧盟赞赏中国确认最近的中美“第一阶段”协议将在完全符合世界贸易组织（WTO）义务的前提下实施，并且不会歧视欧盟经营者。欧盟忆及其期望，即欧洲出口商将立即从农业食品领域的贸易便利化措施中受益。

欧盟重申，迫切需要中国参与今后世贸组织的工业补贴谈判，并解决钢铁等传统领域和高科技领域产能过剩的问题。

欧盟期待着中欧地理标志协定在未来几周内签署并在不久的将来生效。

此次会晤也是一次讨论数字部门对全球经济和社会重要性的机会。欧盟强调，新数字技术的发展必须与尊重基本权利和数据保护相结合。欧盟还提出了有关网络安全、虚假信息等仍然需要处理的问题。

领导人就气候变化问题进行了实质性讨论。中国是欧盟在《巴黎协定》下的合作伙伴，但需要承诺采取果断和有力度的国内行动，以在短期内减少排放，并尽早设定达成气候中和的期限。

欧盟呼吁中国通过基于规则的国际体系承担更大责任，应对全球性挑战，促进国际和平与安全，并遵守国际标准以支持可持续发展，特别是在非洲。

为应对新冠肺炎大流行，欧盟强调参与全球努力遏制病毒传播的共同责任，促进治疗方案和疫苗研究，支持绿色和包容性的全球复苏。欧盟强调在解决发展中国家的后续问题，特别是减免债务方面需要团结一致。欧盟还呼吁中国全面参与最近世卫大会决议授权的对国际卫生应对新冠肺炎经验教训的独立评估。欧方呼吁中方为在华欧盟居民回中国提供便利。

在香港问题上，欧盟重申对中国为实施国家安全立法而采取的措施表示严重关切，并认为这些措施不符合《香港基本法》和中国的国际承诺，此举对受法律和独立司法制度保护的人民的基本权利和自由施加压力。

欧盟对不断恶化的人权状况，包括新疆和西藏的少数民族、人权捍卫者的待遇，以及对基本自由的限制表示关切。欧盟还强调，欧盟希望一旦新冠肺炎疫情防控措施限制放宽，人权对话将于今年晚些时候在中国举行。欧盟领导人提出了一些个案，包括关于在报告/表达对新冠肺炎疫情处理方式的想法后失踪的公民的报道，以及继续任意拘留瑞典公民桂敏海和两名加拿大公民——康明凯和迈克尔·斯帕沃尔。

欧盟和中国就包括联合全面行动计划（伊朗核协议），阿富汗和朝鲜半岛局势在内的许多地区和国际问题交换了意见。欧盟对其他地区冲突的升级以及在以及在海洋领域维护国际法的重要性表示关切。双方同意今后继续保持联系。

新闻办公室——理事会总秘书处

[https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/china/81414/node/81414\\_zh-hans](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/china/81414/node/81414_zh-hans)

# EU-China summit via video conference, 22 June 2020

23/06/2020 - 04:12

On the occasion of the 22nd EU-China summit which took place via video conference, the President of the European Council, Charles Michel, and the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, accompanied by High Representative Josep Borrell, met with Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang followed by exchanges with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

At the end of the meeting President Michel and President von der Leyen issued a joint press release setting out the direction for EU-China relations in a number of areas:

## **Bilateral relations**

The EU stressed the need for progress on the implementation of the commitments made at the 2019 EU-China Summit, including advancing

negotiations for an EU-China Comprehensive Investment Agreement that ensures a level playing field and addresses asymmetries in market access

The EU expressed also its willingness to sign the EU-China Agreement on Geographical Indications in the coming weeks and see its entry into force in nearest future.

## **Global challenges**

Leaders had a substantive discussion on climate change. China is the EU' s partner under the Paris Agreement, but needs to commit to decisive and ambitious domestic action to reduce emissions in the short term and to set a goal of climate neutrality at the earliest possible date.

The EU stressed that the development of new digital technologies must go hand in hand with the respect of fundamental rights and data protection. The EU also raised outstanding issues on cybersecurity, disinformation.

The EU called on China to assume greater responsibility in dealing with global challenges through the rules-based international system, promoting international peace and security, and adhering to international standards to support sustainable development, especially in Africa.

## **COVID-19 pandemic**

The EU underlined the shared responsibility to:

- participate in global efforts to stop the spread of the virus
- boost research on treatments and vaccines
- support a green and inclusive global recovery
- show solidarity in addressing the consequences in developing countries
- participate in the independent review of lessons learned from the international health response to COVID-19
- to facilitate the return of EU residents in China.

## **Regional and international issues**

The EU and China discussed international issues such as Afghanistan, the situation on the Korean Peninsula and Iran and the implementation of the nuclear deal (JCPOA).

EU leaders also expressed their concerns at steps taken by China to impose national security legislation in Hong Kong, as well as on the deteriorating human rights situation, including the treatment of minorities in Xinjiang and Tibet, and of human rights defenders, as well as restrictions on fundamental freedoms

Finally the EU also underlined its expectation that the Human Rights Dialogue will take place in China later in the year once the COVID-19 restrictions are eased.

# EU-China Strategic Dialogue: Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the press conference

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*Check against delivery!*

Thank you for waiting.

The meeting and discussions with the [State Councillor and] Foreign Affairs Minister of China, Wang Yi, has been longer than expected. It has been a long meeting. This was the 10th annual Strategic Dialogue between the European Union and China to prepare the forthcoming Summit.

It was my first strategic dialogue with the Foreign Affairs Minister as High Representative, but it was already our fourth opportunity for discussions since I started my mandate.



It had to be a virtual meeting, but we had an in-depth exchange. During more than three hours, we discussed a wide range of topics, reflecting the broad relations that we have. We had a very open and frank dialogue.

We first addressed our bilateral relationship, to prepare the forthcoming EU-China Summit by the end of this month of June.

We took stock of the progress made in the negotiations of our Agenda 2025 and agreed on the need to move forward on the remaining areas in which there are still concrete disagreements. I underlined the need to accelerate our work towards a Comprehensive Agreement on Investment.

In particular, I highlighted the importance of reaffirming all relevant [commitments from the 2019 summit](#), which have not yet been adequately implemented, notably on the issue of market access, improving the level playing field, and reciprocity, where, on the European Union' s side, there are important concerns.

We want our cooperation Agenda 2025 to be mutually satisfactory and we will engage in talks in order to do so.

We will also seek to have a balanced and reciprocal approach on our cooperation, including on areas such as connectivity, which is an important issue, free trade, science cooperation, and also on media and cultural cooperation.

We expect to hold our usual Human Rights Dialogue as soon as physical meetings will resume, but nevertheless we raised a number of important human rights issues, including the situations in Xinjiang and Tibet. I also raised a number of individual cases.

Of course, I also raised the steps taken by China in [Hong Kong, which risk to seriously undermine the 'One Country, Two Systems' principle](#) and the high degree of autonomy of Hong Kong. I have been talking about this issue, receiving explanations from the China side, but I put on the table the need for China to take steps to de-escalate the situation and respect its international commitments and the Hong Kong Basic Law.

This was about our bilateral relations, then we have an important number of multilateral issues, in particular the coronavirus pandemic and the international response to the crisis.

We agree on the need to continue working together on global challenges. Some of them will be even more important in the post-COVID-19 world. In particular, we need to hold on to our commitment to fight climate change and reach the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. We will have to “build back better” – all of us. We all need to seize this opportunity to transform our economies and societies in a green and sustainable way.

We talked about non-proliferation, [including the JCPOA \[Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action – the Iran nuclear deal\]](#). As coordinator for the implementation of this agreement, I expressed to my Chinese counterpart my appreciation for the support they are giving to maintain the efforts to keep this agreement in place.

As global actors, we also discussed about international and regional conflicts and the pursuit of stability in all corners of the world, from

Afghanistan to Libya, from the Korea Peninsula to the Middle East and Syria. Most specifically, [we discussed] our further cooperation in and with Africa, also in particular in the framework of the effects and economic consequences of the pandemic. This cooperation could cover many areas, among them debt relief, support for the health sector and economic development.

Our strategic dialogue was a very intense and substantial meeting. China is without doubt one of the key global players. This is a fact, and China will increase its global role. We have to engage with China to achieve our global objectives, based on our interests and values. I am very happy to have had this important meeting and I hope it will contribute to the success of the forthcoming EU-China Summit.

Thank you.

## **Q&A**

**Q. On Hong Kong, did you receive any commitment from the Chinese Foreign Minister on the de-escalation and the principle ‘One Country, Two Systems’ ?**

Well, it is not the first time that the State Councillor [Wang Yi] heard our position on Hong Kong. We have been very clear that the imposition by Beijing of the [national security legislation on Hong Kong](#) undermines its autonomy and poses genuine problems, politically and economically.

The Chinese Minister [of Foreign Affairs, Wang Yi] reiterated Beijing's position, insisting on the fact that, from their point of view, it does not jeopardise the 'One Country, Two Systems' principle, and that it is just a way of increasing security in Hong Kong and that this law should have been approved by the assembly of Hong Kong in the past years and that they did not do it. We exchanged views on that and we insisted on the need for China to uphold its international commitments and to respect the agreement they made with the United Kingdom.

**Q: Did you raise the issue of disinformation campaigns by China in the European Union? And if so, what was your message?**

This is a cross-cutting issue. On any issue, there is an underlying disinformation process. And for sure we have been exchanging views about the role that information and disinformation play on geopolitics

today. We have been talking about it and we have insisted on the need to offer citizens true and accurate information. Tomorrow, the European Commission will approve a communication on that. I informed the Minister about our efforts to fight disinformation from wherever it comes.

**Q. On the two major issues that you just outlined, namely the investment agreement and EU' s concern over the situation in Hong Kong, it seems that the Chinese Foreign Minister' s remarks to you today basically repeat the usual Chinese position. Are you satisfied with these repeated positions on these two very critical issues for the EU? If you are not, what would be the message to you fellow Foreign Ministers in the EU?**

Today' s meeting is not the end of the [road]. It is not the last moment. Our relationship has to continue developing. It is important to have exchanges of views. We base our relationship on mutual trust and on the will for cooperation. This has to be built by having meetings, discussing, presenting their points of view, noting the disagreements, trying to look for agreements. For sure, we have not found an

agreement on everything, the work continues.

The Summit will take place by the end the month, and we still have time in order to try to build on one thing that can be a deliverable of the Summit, which is the Agenda 2025, which sets out the concrete issues.

I understand that for China, to be presented as a systemic rival, is something that looks a little bit controversial. We have to explain what we mean by that and try to express how complex our relationship is, on which things we are disappointed, on which points we need to improve our relations, mainly on the economic side and on the human rights side. I was not expecting to leave this meeting with a full agreement on everything.

**Q. You were mentioning that you exchanged views on many issues. Has there been any issue were you made progress in these talks so that a future Summit with China would be better prepared than actually it is now?**

Yes, I think that both parties agreed on working constructively and on showing flexibility in order to reach agreements on the pending issues

of the Agenda 2025. I think that this is today the most important deliverable on the table.

The investment agreement will not be ready for the Summit; that is clear. But the Agenda 2025 is still possible and also on the Declaration of the Summit, which contains important political positions on which we can enhance our shared, common approach.

I think that it is important also to show our common understanding on many things. For example, on the JCPOA [Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action], the Iran nuclear deal, it is clear that there we have an important convergence of positions.

On Afghanistan, we share the same interest of ensuring the stability of the country once the retreat of the American troops has taken effect and the negotiations between the Afghan Government and the Taliban reach an end.

On Africa, cooperation to fight coronavirus, debt relief and all efforts to increase cooperation. In order to fight against the pandemic, the world needs more cooperation and less confrontation.



**Q. Did you raise the systemic rival issue? Is that something that the Chinese have taken issue with?**

We talked a lot about it. Words matter and sometimes they matter a lot.

I am sure [this important communication about China of March 2019](#),

has quite an important relevance maybe thanks to these two words:

“systemic rival” . What does it mean? Because the word “rival” is important in diplomatic language; because it is not a soft word. This has attracted a lot of interest. What does “rival” mean? “Rival” on what? Is “systemic” a matter of rivalry between systems? Or is it a systematic rivalry? There are two interpretations.

It is clear that we do not have the same political system. It is clear that China defends its political system as we do with ours. It is clear that China has a global ambition. But, at the same time, I do not think that China is playing a role that can threaten world peace. They committed once and again to the fact that they want to be present in the world and play a global role, but they do not have military ambitions and they do not want to use force and participate in military conflicts.

What do we mean by “rivalry” ? Well, let’ s go over this word. Sometimes, there are differences on interests and on values. That is a fact of life. It is also a fact of life that we have to cooperate, because you cannot imagine how we can solve the climate challenge without strong cooperation with China. You cannot build a multilateral world without China participating in it effectively, not in a “Chinese way” , but in a way that can be accepted by everybody. I think these kind of explanations are good, because I can tell you that we have talked a lot about what it means to be a “systemic rival” .

**Q. Did you discuss the US push for an arms embargo extension under the JCPOA? What would you do about it?**

This is a point on which we agree. We agree that the embargo was taken at a certain moment with a certain time schedule. The United States have withdrawn from the JCPOA and now they cannot claim that they are still part of it in order to deal with this issue from the JCPOA agreement. They withdrew; it is clear.

**Q. Could you let us know what type of trust you have in terms of your ongoing relations with China, given the fact that there has been disinformation and concerns about transparency over COVID-19 and other reasons to maybe not trust them as strongly as you might have hoped.**

Yes, you are right. Some weeks ago, in an interview with the French press, I said that Europe has been too naïve in its relations with China. I said that several times. I think that we have to build a realistic relationship with China in order to defend our values and interests.

**Q. Est-ce que vous avez discuté de la crise en Libye avec votre homologue chinois ? Sur cette question, avez-vous été approché par votre collègue, le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères égyptien, sur son communiqué du samedi dernier ? Est-ce que vous-même, ou vos diplomates, étiez-vous ces derniers jours en contact avec [le Président du Conseil présidentiel du gouvernement d' union national de Libye, Fayez el-] monsieur Sarraj ou bien avec son Ministre des Affaires Etrangères ? Quel est le message de l' UE alors que la situation évolue sensiblement sur le terrain militaire et que,**

**diplomatiquement, il y a une activité qui a été provoquée par le communiqué du Caire ?**

Bien sûr nous avons parlé de la Libye. Tous les deux nous étions bien conscients des derniers événements. A propos de l'initiative de paix prise par l'Egypte, nous sommes tombés d'accord sur le fait que toutes les initiatives qui sont en ligne avec le processus de Berlin, qui essaient d'établir la paix et la stabilité en Libye, sont positives. Donc, nous saluons cette initiative-là, parce qu'elle ne va pas à l'encontre du processus de Berlin mais le renforce.

Une fois de plus, nous devons répéter qu'il n'y a pas d'alternatives à une solution politique qui reflète les conclusions de la conférence de Berlin, comme elles ont été confirmées par une résolution [2510] du Conseil de Sécurité [des Nations Unies] qui a aussi été prise avec l'accord et la participation de la Chine.

Quand les choses vont mal dans le domaine militaire, nous sommes plus intéressés par un cessez-le-feu. C'est parfois vrai d'un côté et parfois vrai de l'autre côté. En tous cas, il faut profiter de toutes les

occasions pour obtenir un cessez-le-feu et pour que les discussions [militaires] sous le format 5+5 [et sous l'égide des Nations unies] recommencent. Et que les pourparlers [politiques] sous l'égide des Nations Unies recommencent également. Il n'y a pas d'alternatives à cela. Je pense que sur ce sujet nous sommes bien d'accord avec nos collègues chinois.

**Q. On China, just to know if you talked with your counterpart about the fact that there are plenty of initiatives to sue China in EU and non-EU courts, to ask for damages from China because China allegedly lied about the spreading of the coronavirus at the beginning. Just to know if you talked about that or not.**

I am not aware that there are so many initiatives to bring China to the courts in Europe. Maybe there are, and I am respectful of them, but we have not talked about it.

There is no EU government engaged on these initiatives, as far as I know.

**Q. Aujourd' hui devaient s' ouvrir les journées de développement, donc nous pensons évidemment à l' Afrique. Vous avez indiqué le soutien de l' UE en ce qui concerne la dette en cette période de coronavirus et dans le secteur de la santé. Envisagez-vous peut-être des coopérations triangulaires dans le cadre de la stratégie EU-Afrique également avec la Chine ?**

Bien sûr, nous avons parlé de ça. Mais la réunion a duré trois heures. On a traité énormément de sujets. Nous n' avons pas approfondi la question au point d' entrer à quel point nous pouvons faire la coopération triangulaire. Sans doute, ça fait partie de notre domaine de coopération avec l' Afrique mais, honnêtement, nous ne sommes pas entrés dans ce niveau de détails.

**Q. Should the EU should put more resources in terms of fighting against Chinese disinformation, propaganda, call it as you want?**

We have to allocate more resources to the fight against disinformation. Not only to Chinese disinformation or the disinformation that can be related to Chinese sources of different types. There are a lot of people

doing disinformation – among them there are Russian, Chinese sources.

Yes, I think we have to work more on that. Not only fighting against disinformation – trying to counterattack the fakes – but to present a positive narrative. The fight against disinformation asks also to present good information, not only to say “that is bad information”, but before pointing out what is wrong, we have to present things the way they are; positive information. Maybe on that we have not been active enough. My colleague, Commissioner [in charge of Values and Transparency] Vera Jourova, was saying that and I think she is quite right. That is why tomorrow we are going to present at the College a [Joint] communication in order to strength our capacities on the information side. But at the end, you know, on the European External Action Service, we can have more resources if the Member States allocate these resources. I am happy to work more and I am happy to devote more resources, but the Member States have to agree on that – not only preaching, but providing. One thing is to preach and another thing is to provide. If you want to do something, please allocate

resources to it.

**Q: Should the European Union follow the United Kingdom in offering specific or accelerated pathways to citizenship for Hongkongers who want to leave?**

For the time being, I do not see that there are people escaping from Hong Kong as it was the case of other places where thousands of people were fleeing. For the time being, no European Union Member State has taken a decision about it. The United Kingdom has a special responsibility as a former colonial power and having strong links with the Hong Kong people, but other Member States as well because there are 350 000 European Union citizens living in Hong Kong.

**Q. You said that you were looking into cooperation with China on Afghanistan. Would China be considered a partner that would be suitable in this area, given the treatment of Uighur Muslims? Were you able to say something specifically about the situation of the Uighurs? Did that come up? In a Muslim country like Afghanistan, will they really appreciate the intervention of a country that has**



**such a poor record in its treatment of this minority?**

I have not said anything about Chinese intervention in Afghanistan. I am just saying that China is a neighbour of Afghanistan. We have a strong interest in the stabilisation of the country; I suppose China also does. We have to try to cooperate in order to ensure that after 20 years of useless war, after the withdrawal of American troops and, I suppose, troops from other western countries, we have to ensure not only stability but also to try to preserve, from our side, the rights of the Afghan people, especially women, that have been achieved during these years.

I am looking for the cooperation of everybody who wants do to that. If China is ready, why not? After all, China is a neighbour and also an important actor in the region. But I have not said anything about China' s intervention in Afghanistan.

**Q. A question not related to your meeting. Greece and Italy have signed the delimitation of their territorial waters, but at the same time the tensions with Turkey are rising. Turkey is not only showing**

maps these days, they are already announcing that in three months they will try to explore the natural resources of the sea in the proximity of Crete and the Dodecanese. Does **the current framework for sanctions** also cover also the Eastern Mediterranean? How can we end this whole deal? Last time you mentioned negotiations. Can we force the two countries to go to The Hague and solve it once and for all? How can we do that?

There is nothing new on that side. The **framework agreement [on sanctions]** is still there. For sure it can be applied to the events you are referring to because it is part of the Eastern Mediterranean. On the dispute between Turkey and Greece over territorial waters, there is nothing new, nothing that I can share with you. But the Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs [Nikos Dendias] my friend and colleague, has sent a couple of letters asking for the Council to focus on the relationship with Turkey. It is a complex relationship, it covers a lot of issues, we have been reaching out to Turkey on these issues from the Council of Foreign Affairs, we have been talking, not in formal negotiations but the Council will have to engage on that. In the next Council, at the request of the

Greek government, this issue will be considered by the Council.

**Q. Has the issue of 5G between Europe and China been discussed?**

About 5G, it is part of our common concerns and it is part of our technological relations and security relations. We have also delivered a [Communication from the Commission](#) about how to deal with 5G, taking into consideration both dimensions of the 5G deployment. We have been talking about it and I expressed my concerns about the fact that, for example, the participation of European companies, which are very good at 5G technology, in the development of the 5G network in China is not as big as it has been for the 4G – just 10% until now. This is part of our discussions about the openness of the Chinese market and the development of European investments and this imbalance that is something that worries us. Yes, I have been talking about it, from a technological, security and trade and economic perspective.

**Q: I have the impression that the European Union is much harder towards Russia than China. Do you think that the situation looks like the one half a century ago when the United States and China**

## **formed an alliance against the Soviet Union?**

We are not in a tough position against one or against another. We just want to respect our values and our interests. When this requires a tough position, to put sanctions, as was the case with Russia regarding Ukraine. Even today, unhappily the situation remains difficult because there is a conflict at the border.

I do not think we have such a situation on any border related with China. There is no security issue as pressing and as important as they have been and still are on our eastern borders. So no, I do not see anything comparable to what you remember of what happened many years ago between China, the United States and the Soviet Union. We are not on a confrontational line; we just want to have realistic relationships in order to defend our values and our interests.

# Commissioner Simson takes part in the 9th EU-China Energy Dialogue

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On 22 June, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Charles Michel, together with High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell, participated in the 22nd EU-China summit, via videoconference.

In parallel, Energy Commissioner Kadri Simson took part in the 9th EU-China Energy Dialogue with her Chinese counterpart, Zhang Jianhua, the Administrator of the National Energy Administration of China.

This year's dialogue focused on clean energy policies, in the context of both parties' efforts to overcome the economic crisis caused by COVID19. The EU Recovery Plan and the European Green Deal were discussed, as well as China's measures to stimulate clean energy

development, and the shared responsibility to promote green energy investments in third countries. Commissioner Simson and Administrator Zhang also discussed security issues on the global energy markets, diversification of currencies for energy transactions, progress on power market reforms in the EU and China, as well as energy innovation and business cooperation. European and Chinese businesses were invited to present their views on the opportunities and challenges of energy investment in China.

Commissioner Simson and Administrator Zhang reviewed progress on the Joint Statement on the Implementation of the EU-China Energy Cooperation, which was signed in the margins of the 2019 EU-China Summit. They also took stock of the progress of the EU-China Energy Cooperation Platform, launched in May 2019, and discussed activities that are planned under the second Annual Work Programme of the Platform.

# EU-China ties vital amid global crisis

**China Daily** | Updated: 2020-05-06 08:13

This year we celebrate the 45th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the European Union and China, established on May 6, 1975. It is an important milestone in an ever more important relationship between our union of 27 European states and China.

We have come a very long way since 1975. At that time, the EU was made up of just nine member states. China was only beginning to open up and had yet to undergo its formidable economic transformation. Trade between our two sides was miniscule; now, in normal times, the EU and China engage in 1.8 billion euros of trade per day with each other.

We cooperate in more areas than ever before, including political, economic, financial, scientific, educational and cultural. We both have obvious shared interests in the peaceful resolution of global conflicts, climate change mitigation, sustainable development, food and energy security, nuclear non-proliferation and social justice. And we share a common aspiration to bring our relationship to an even more productive level in the years to come, as connectivity increases between Europe and Asia. While we have our differences, notably on human rights, our partnership has become mature enough to allow frank discussion on these issues. We both see merits in upholding and defending multilateralism, with the United Nations and World Trade Organization at its core.

As recently as mid-January, the year 2020 had been hailed as a crucial one for EU-China relations, with numerous high-level meetings aimed at deepening EU-China cooperation. But the outbreak of the coronavirus has meant that our pre-existing plans have been temporarily side-tracked as both the EU and China are fully mobilized to tackle what has now become a challenge of truly

global proportions. However, we are currently rescheduling the annual EU-China summit, which was originally due to take place in Beijing in March, and plans for a special summit of leaders of EU Member States and China in Leipzig in September are on track.

It is already clear that the pandemic will reshape our world. But precisely how will depend on the choices that we make today. The coronavirus should be seen as the world's common challenge. It is clear that a global pandemic requires a global response.

The EU is playing its role and doing everything possible to manage the crisis and its consequences. We are acting with determination to protect our citizens, public health, and avoid further spreading. Among our 27 member states, there is a strong commitment to solidarity, mutual support and joint burden sharing with a view to mitigating the economic shock that the virus has wrought on our countries.

We are also helping to alleviate the dramatic economic consequences this crisis will have globally. With our partners around the world, we are developing a common international approach to fight the pandemic, and to assist the most vulnerable, not least those in developing countries and conflict zones. On May 4, the EU hosted the Coronavirus Global Response Summit, an international pledging conference to raise billions of euros for vaccine research in which China also participated. The guiding principles for this global effort should be partnership, solidarity and transparency.

At different stages of the pandemic, there has been reciprocal assistance between Europe, China, and others, demonstrating mutual support. The EU supported China when it was overwhelmed by the outbreak at the beginning of the year, with large donations of much-needed equipment. And now China is returning that support when Europe is in a time of need. That is how true partners act.

In addition to medical equipment, there is a real need for macro-economic assistance and significant debt relief for highly indebted countries. So once we join forces to beat back the virus, the next steps will be to join forces to forge a global economic recovery. The best way to accelerate the economic recovery



is to expand trade. This is where, as major global players, successful cooperation on the EU-China bilateral front will be even more important. We will need more trade and investment on both sides, so a swift conclusion of negotiations on the EU-China Comprehensive Agreement on Investment will be crucial to this end.

But let's also cooperate to make this a green recovery. A close partnership between China and the EU is key in making global climate efforts successful. Both the EU and China need to lead the way by making ambitious commitments on climate change by the end of this year. We also need to work closely together to foster new opportunities to promote green and sustainable solutions. Jointly investing in clean energy technology and infrastructure will be key to this end. Another key focus should be engaging the public in both the EU and China, as well as strengthening our research cooperation on climate change. In addition, the consequences of climate change have a disproportionate impact on already vulnerable groups, such as women, children and those living in disconnected and underdeveloped areas. So let's join hands to invest in smart and green solutions for a more sustainable and healthy planet fully adhering to the universal principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The world initially met the crisis in an uncoordinated fashion. It is now clear that the only way out of it is together. And that is also true of the many other areas in which the world needs the cooperation of Europe and China, such as climate action, peace and security, sustainable development and upholding the multilateral global order. The EU and China can push forward all of these and more, together.

The authors are the EU ambassador to China and the ambassadors to China of the 27 EU member states. The views don't necessarily represent those of China Daily.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202005/06/WS5eb2013ba310a8b2411537e3.html>

# EU defends interests, values in China Summit

*Brussels, Beijing discuss coronavirus, trade, climate technology*

Being economically interdependent, EU and China must work together on global challenges like climate action, meeting the Sustainable Development Goals or dealing with COVID-19, European Council President **Charles Michel** said on June 22, following the 22nd EU-China Summit and 9th EU-China Energy Dialogue that took place via videoconference.

“Engaging and cooperating with China is both an opportunity and necessity. But, at the same time, we have to recognise that we do not share the same values, political systems, or approach to multilateralism. We will engage in a clear-eyed and confident way, robustly defending EU interests and standing firm on our values,” Michel said.

Michel, European Commission President **Ursula von der Leyen**, accompanied by High Representative **Josep Borrell**, held the Summit meeting with Chinese Prime Minister **Li Keqiang** followed by exchanges with Chinese President **Xi Jinping**.

Von der Leyen said the Covid-19 pandemic and a number of major bilateral and multilateral challenges show clearly the EU-China partnership is crucial, be it in terms of trade, climate, technology, and the defence of multilateralism. “But for our relations to develop further,

they must become more rules-based and reciprocal, in order to achieve a real level playing-field,” she said.

The EU-China summit had a comprehensive agenda addressing bilateral relations, regional and international issues, and the COVID-19 pandemic and economic recovery.

### **Transparency on subsidies, transfers of technology rules**

The EU strongly emphasised the need to advance negotiations for an ambitious EU-China Comprehensive Investment Agreement that addresses the current asymmetries in market access and ensures a level playing field. Urgent progress is needed in particular on behaviour of State-Owned Enterprises, transparency on subsidies and rules tackling forced transfers of technology, the European Commission said in a press release.

On economic and trade issues, the EU recalled the joint commitment to work constructively and expeditiously towards the resolution of a number of market access and regulatory issues. The EU welcomed confirmation by China that the recent China-US “phase 1” deal will be implemented in full compatibility with World Trade Organisation (WTO) obligations and without discrimination against EU operators. The EU recalled its expectation that European exporters immediately benefit from trade facilitating measures in the agri-food sector.

The EU reiterated the urgent need for China to engage in future negotiations on industrial subsidies in the World Trade Organization (WTO), and address overcapacity in traditional sectors such as steel as well as high-tech areas.

## **Cybersecurity, disinformation issues**

The EU is looking forward to the signature of the EU-China Agreement on Geographical Indications in coming weeks and entry into force in nearest future, the Commission aid.

According to the Commission, the EU-China Summit was also an opportunity to discuss the importance of the digital sector to economies and societies worldwide. The EU stressed that the development of new digital technologies must go hand in hand with the respect of fundamental rights and data protection. The EU also raised outstanding issues on cybersecurity, disinformation, the Commission said.

## **Climate change priorities**

Leaders had a substantive discussion on climate change. China is the EU' s partner under the Paris Agreement, but needs to commit to decisive and ambitious domestic action to reduce emissions in the short term and to set a goal of climate neutrality at the earliest possible date, the Commission said, noting that the EU called on China to assume greater responsibility in dealing with global challenges through the rules-based international system, promoting international peace and security, and adhering to international standards to support sustainable development, especially in Africa.

## **COVID-19 responsibility**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU underlined the shared responsibility to participate in global efforts to stop the spread of the virus, boost research on treatments and vaccines, and support a green and inclusive global recovery. The EU stressed the need for solidarity in addressing the consequences in developing countries, notably as regard debt relief, the Commission said. The EU also called on China to

fully participate in the independent review of lessons learned from the international health response to COVID-19, mandated by the resolution adopted at the last World Health Assembly. The EU also called on China to facilitate the return of EU residents in China.

### **Concerns on the deteriorating human rights situation**

On Hong Kong, the EU reiterated its grave concerns at steps taken by China to impose national security legislation from Beijing and considers those steps not in conformity with the Hong Kong Basic Law and China's international commitments, and put pressure on the fundamental rights and freedoms of the population protected by the law and the independent justice system, the Commission said.

“The EU raise its concerns on the deteriorating human rights situation, including the treatment of minorities in Xinjiang and Tibet, and of human rights defenders, as well as restrictions on fundamental freedoms. The EU also underlined its expectation that the Human Rights Dialogue will take place in China later in the year once the COVID-19 restrictions are eased,” the Commission said, adding that EU Leaders raised a number of individual cases, including the reports on citizens who have disappeared after reporting/expressing their views on the handling of the Coronavirus outbreak, as well as the continued arbitrary detention of Swedish citizen **Gui Minhai** and two Canadian citizens - **Michael Kovrig** and **Michael Spavor**.

According to the Commission, the EU and China exchanged views on a number of regional and international issues, including Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (the Iran nuclear deal), Afghanistan as well as situation on the Korean Peninsula. The EU expressed concerns about the escalation of other regional conflicts and the importance of upholding international law in the maritime domain. We agreed to continue contacts in the future.

<https://www.neweurope.eu/article/eu-defends-interests-values-in-china-summit/>

**EU-CHINA-GIPFEL**

# **Handel, Klimaschutz, Hongkong: China lässt die EU abblitzen**

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**HANDELSBLATT.COM**

**Die Europäer fordern beim Gipfeltreffen viel von der chinesischen Führung. Die aber erhöht sogar den Druck, unter anderem mit Subventionsplänen für die eigene Wirtschaft.**

**Peking, Brüssel, Berlin** Beim vergangenen EU-China-Gipfel hatte es noch eine gemeinsame Pressekonferenz und eine ausführliche Abschlusserklärung gegeben. Nicht so an diesem Montag: Kommissionspräsidentin **Ursula von der Leyen** und Ratspräsident Charles Michel traten ohne ihre chinesischen Gesprächspartner vor die Öffentlichkeit, auch das gemeinsame Statement fiel aus.

Der Grund: Peking wollte nicht. Diese Tatsache sagt bereits einiges über den Stand der Beziehungen zwischen beiden Seiten aus. Nach dem jüngsten Gipfeltreffen im Frühjahr 2019 waren die Europäer noch vorsichtig optimistisch gewesen, Chinas Führung um Präsident **Xi Jinping** und Premier Li Keqiang Zugeständnisse abtrotzen zu können.

Immerhin hatte Peking schriftlich versichert, bis Ende 2020 ein **ehrgeiziges Investitionsabkommen** abschließen zu wollen und so die Bedingungen für Investoren zu verbessern. Anschließend passierte aber – erneut – nicht

viel. „Viele der Zusagen wurden nicht genügend umgesetzt“, kritisierte eine hochrangige EU-Beamtin.

Der Videogipfel sollte, so hofften zumindest einige in Brüssel, neuen Schwung bringen: die Handelsgespräche, Pekings Engagement für den Klimaschutz und auch Chinas Vorgehen in Hongkong sprachen von der Leyen und Michel an. Allzu viel Gehör scheinen sie in ihren Gesprächen mit Xi und Li aber nicht gefunden zu haben.

„Wir müssen Fortschritte machen“, betonte von der Leyen anschließend. Der Gipfel könne dafür aber nur der Auftakt gewesen sein. Gerade beim Investitionsabkommen müsse Peking mehr Ehrgeiz zeigen, [um die Gespräche bis Jahresende abzuschließen](#).

## **Verhältnis von EU und China ist eingetrübt**

Der Gipfel hätte bereits Ende März stattfinden sollen, wegen des Virusausbruchs wurde er aber verschoben. Nach der



ursprünglichen Dramaturgie hätte das Treffen den Auftakt machen sollen für ein richtungweisendes Jahr in den bilateralen Beziehungen, gekrönt durch ein historisches Treffen aller 27 EU-Staats- und Regierungschefs mit der chinesischen Führung.

Der von Kanzlerin [Angela Merkel](#) angeregte Gipfel Mitte September in Leipzig wurde aber unlängst verschoben, ein neuer Termin steht noch nicht fest. Auch die für Juli geplante Chinareise Merkels wird nach Handelsblatt-Informationen nicht stattfinden.

Die Gipfelabsage wurde von den Beteiligten mit Corona-bedingten Einschränkungen begründet, ebenso wie die schleppenden Verhandlungsfortschritte im Vorfeld der heutigen Videokonferenz. Aber das ist nur die halbe Wahrheit: Das Verhältnis zwischen der EU und China hat sich in den vergangenen Monaten weiter eingetrübt.

Die Versuche chinesischer Regierungsvertreter, die Herkunft des Sars-CoV-2-Virus umzudeuten, haben die Europäer ebenso verärgert wie die im Internet verbreitete Propaganda Pekings.

Das geplante [Sicherheitsgesetz für Hongkong](#) verurteilten die EU-Staaten einhellig als Eingriff in die weitgehende Autonomie. Peking gibt vor, mit dem Gesetz Recht und Ordnung in seiner Sonderverwaltungszone wiederherstellen zu wollen. Die Europäer sehen darin aber einen Verstoß gegen das Prinzip „ein Land, zwei Systeme“. EU-Ratspräsident Charles Michel sagte, das chinesische Vorgehen in Hongkong bereite der EU „ernste Sorgen“.

Am Freitag forderte das Europaparlament überdies, eine Klage vor dem Internationalen Gerichtshof zu erwägen. „Die EU darf sich nicht wegducken, wenn sie den Anspruch hat, geopolitisch eine Rolle zu spielen“, sagt der Vorsitzende der Chinadelegation des Parlaments, Reinhard

Bütikofer.

Die politischen Spannungen belasten auch die Gespräche über eine engere wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit. Die Europäer verlangen eine weitgehende Öffnung des chinesischen Marktes etwa für europäische Autohersteller, Finanzdienstleister und Biotechunternehmen. Zudem pochen sie darauf, dass die dortigen Behörden ausländische Unternehmen nicht länger gegenüber den eigenen (Staats-)Unternehmen benachteiligen und China hohe Standards beim Schutz von Umwelt und Arbeitnehmern erfüllt.

### **Streit auch über die Klimapolitik**

Nur wenn Peking diese Forderungen erfüllt, wollen sich die EU-Staaten auf ein Abkommen einlassen: „Ein schlechter Deal ist keine Option“, sagte der deutsche EU-Botschafter Michael Clauß der „South China Morning Post“.

Norbert Röttgen, Vorsitzender des Auswärtigen Ausschusses im Bundestag, betont: „Ein Investitionsabkommen macht für die EU nur Sinn, wenn es einen besseren Zugang für europäische Unternehmen auf den chinesischen Markt gibt.“ Das Verhältnis zu China könnten die Europäer nur durch „konstruktive Stärke“ gestalten.

Bislang aber ist Xi nicht zu den geforderten Reformen bereit. Vizepremier Liu He habe zwar vergangene Woche in einem Brief an Kommissionsvize Valdis Dombrovskis davon gesprochen, ein „Durchbruch“ in den Verhandlungen sei noch vor der Sommerpause möglich, hieß es in EU-Kreisen.

Die Europäer können bislang aber nicht erkennen, dass die Führung bereit wäre auf ihre Forderungen einzugehen: „Begriffe wie Reziprozität und fairer Wettbewerb sind offenbar schwierig ins Chinesische zu übersetzen“, sagt ein hochrangiger EU-Diplomat.

Die EU-Seite argumentiert, der eigene Markt sei sehr viel offener für chinesische Investoren als umgekehrt. Daher sei es an Peking, auf die Europäer zuzugehen.

Um den Druck zu erhöhen, legt die EU die eigenen Folterinstrumente auf den Tisch: Zum vorhandenen Instrumentarium wie Antidumpingzölle und Investitionskontrolle möchte die Kommission weitere Werkzeuge hinzufügen, die sich gegen Chinas üppige Subventionen für die eigene Industrie richten. „Wenn wir keine gemeinsamen Regeln vereinbaren können, werden wir einseitig handeln müssen“, warnt die EU-Beamtin.

Auch beim Klimaschutz sind die Europäer unzufrieden mit China. Von der Leyen und Michel wollten ihre Gegenüber dazu drängen, nach der Pandemie in die Modernisierung der Wirtschaft zu investieren und ihre Zusagen aus dem Pariser Klimaschutzabkommen nachzubessern.

Obwohl Peking mit hohen Summen regenerative Energien und alternative Fahrzeugantriebe fördert, investieren aber Lokalregierungen vermehrt in klimaschädliche Kohlekraft. Bereits 2019 hatte es mehr Genehmigungen für Kohlekraftwerke gegeben.

Laut Medienberichten genehmigte die chinesische Regierung allein im ersten Quartal 2020 neue Kohlekraftwerke mit fast zehn Gigawatt – das entspricht etwa dem, was für das gesamte letzte Jahr genehmigt worden war. Bütikofer warnt daher: „China bewegt sich in eine andere Richtung als wir.“

# L'UE et la Chine s'expliquent sur une relation difficile

Par **Le Figaro** avec **AFP**

Publié le 23 juin 2020

Européens et Chinois ont eu lundi une «*franche explication*» sur leurs divergences à propos de Hongkong et de leurs relations commerciales, au cours d'un sommet en visioconférence. Cette rencontre virtuelle avait pour but de préparer une réunion extraordinaire entre le président chinois et les dirigeants des 27 alors que les deux parties espèrent signer cette année un accord sur la protection des investissements.

Les présidents des institutions européennes ont exprimé au président Xi Jinping et au Premier ministre Li Keqiang leur «*grave préoccupation*» pour l'ex-colonie britannique. Mardi, Pékin a fustigé ces remarques. «*La législation sur la sécurité nationale à Hongkong est une affaire interne à la Chine. Nous sommes opposés à toute ingérence étrangère dans cette affaire*», a réagi le responsable des Affaires européennes au ministère

chinois des Affaires étrangères, Wang Lutong.

Les Européens ont également dit leur mécontentement face aux campagnes de désinformation et aux cyberattaques menées depuis la Chine. Ils ont enfin marqué leur déception devant l'absence de progrès dans les négociations commerciales. Les entretiens avec le Premier ministre puis avec le président Xi ont duré six heures. Le sommet s'est conclu sans déclaration commune et chacun a communiqué de son côté. Les Chinois *«n'ont pas proposé de faire une conférence de presse commune»*, a précisé un responsable européen.

*«Il est essentiel d'avoir un dialogue avec la Chine pour défendre nos valeurs, mais nous avons des points de désaccord sur des sujets essentiels»*, a expliqué le président du Conseil européen Charles Michel, au cours d'une conférence de presse. *«La Chine est un partenaire commercial, un concurrent économique et un rival systémique»*, a pour sa part rappelé la présidente de la Commission européenne Ursula von der Leyen. *«Tout cela démontre que notre relation n'est pas facile»*, a-t-elle reconnu.



Européens et Chinois négocient depuis un an un accord sur la protection de leurs investissements qui accorde aux entreprises européennes un accès au marché chinois et en même temps protège les entreprises de l'UE de l'appétit des grandes groupes chinois subventionnés. Or les attentes des Européens ont été déçues. *«Nous avons besoin de plus d'ambition de la part de la Chine pour conclure un tel accord pour la fin de l'année»*, a lancé Mme von der Leyen. *«Nous attendons des autorités chinoises des engagements sur les entreprises d'État et de la transparence sur les aides et les transferts de technologie forcés»*, a-t-elle expliqué. *«Sinon, nous sommes déterminés à jouer une autre carte, celle de la défense de nos intérêts»*, a averti lundi un haut responsable européen.

Les Chinois sont pour leur part préoccupés par la nouvelle législation européenne sur les investissements étrangers et la prise de distance de l'UE à leur égard. *«La Chine s'ouvre résolument, et s'engage à créer un environnement commercial international axé sur le marché et fondé sur le droit pour les entreprises internationales»*, a déclaré le Premier ministre Li Keqiang dans un compte rendu du sommet par la télévision publique CCTV. *«Nous espérons que l'UE maintiendra également l'ouverture de ses*

*marchés du commerce et des investissements, et assouplira ses restrictions à l'exportation vers la Chine», a-t-il ajouté.*

Engagé dans un conflit commercial et politique avec les Etats-Unis, Pékin cherche des soutiens. Washington a mis en garde les Européens avant le sommet: *«Le Parti communiste chinois veut vous obliger à choisir»* entre les Etats-Unis et la Chine, a affirmé le secrétaire d'Etat américain Mike Pompeo. Mais les Européens refusent de se laisser prendre dans le jeu des tensions entre les deux puissances. *«L'Europe ne sera pas le champ de bataille des Etats-Unis et de la Chine»*, a affirmé dimanche le commissaire européen à l'Industrie Thierry Breton. Mais la Chine est un important partenaire pour l'UE. Les échanges de biens représentaient 1,5 milliard d'euros par jour en 2019, selon les données de la Commission.

La Chine est disposée à maintenir une communication étroite avec les deux présidents (des institutions européennes) pour faire avancer une série d'agendas politiques majeurs et pousser les

relations sino-européennes à un nouveau niveau, a assuré le président Xi cité par l'agence de presse Chine nouvelle. Le report d'un sommet extraordinaire avec le président Xi prévu en septembre à Leipzig par la chancelière allemande Angela Merkel avec tous ses homologues de l'UE accorde un peu de temps supplémentaire aux négociateurs.

Ursula von der Leyen a dit espérer que les conditions seront réunies pour conclure *«avant la fin de l'année»* un accord sur la protection des investissements. *«Si cela n'est pas possible, ce serait regrettable»*, a-t-elle conclu.

Eric Frey

# Investitionsschutzgesetz: Das Problem ist nicht China

Österreich ist mit den bisherigen Investitionen aus China nicht schlecht gefahren

**KOMMENTAR** Eric Frey 17. Juni 2020 [Der Standard](#)

Mit Warnungen vor dem Ausverkauf der Wirtschaft kann man immer gut Ängste schüren. Waren es früher die Deutschen oder die Japaner, vor denen man die heimischen Unternehmen schützen musste, sind es nun vor allem die Chinesen, vor deren Geld und ökonomischem Expansionsdrang sich alle fürchten. Deshalb hat bereits die EU die Regeln für Direktinvestitionen aus Drittstaaten verschärft, und Österreich legt mit seinem Gesetz so wie die meisten anderen Mitgliedsstaaten noch etwas drauf.

Wie sinnvoll die geplanten Prüf- und Bewilligungsverfahren bei internationalen Beteiligungen tatsächlich sind, bleibt offen. Ausländisches Kapital leistet meist einen positiven Beitrag für den Standort und die Beschäftigung, und Österreich ist mit den bisherigen Investitionen aus China nicht schlecht gefahren. Wenn inländische Eigentümer verkaufen wollen, dann braucht es schon gewichtige Argumente, um sie zu zwingen, dem Bestbieter abzusagen.

Das heimische Gesetz dürfte weniger streng ausfallen, als es einige verlangt und andere befürchtet haben. Aber es schafft immer noch bürokratische Hürden für Beteiligungen, die gerade Start-ups schaden könnten. Österreichs Problem sind nicht ausländische Heuschrecken, sondern fehlende inländische Kapitalgeber. Vor allem in den Privatstiftungen liegen Milliarden, die in Zinshäuser statt in Technologiefirmen fließen. Bessere Rahmenbedingungen für Risikokapital zu schaffen wäre deutlich wichtiger.

NEWEUROPE.eu

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# EU-China energy dialogue focuses on green policies after coronavirus

***Simson and Zhang discuss energy security issues, diversification of currencies for energy transactions, power market reforms, energy innovation***

European Union Energy Commissioner **Kadri Simson** and her Chinese counterpart, **Zhang Jianhua**, the administrator of the National Energy Administration of China, discussed clean energy policies, in the context of both parties' efforts to overcome the economic crisis caused by COVID19.

“Had a very good dialogue with Zhang Jianhua from the NEA at the 9th annual EU-China Energy Dialogue. Focused on the role of green energy in recovery and clean energy technologies, global energy markets and security of supply,” Simson tweeted after the meeting with her Chinese counterpart.

During the 9th EU-China Energy Dialogue, which took place in parallel with the 22nd EU-China summit via videoconference, Simpson and Zhang discussed the EU Recovery Plan and the European Green Deal, as well as China's measures to stimulate clean energy development, and the shared responsibility to promote green energy investments in third countries.

Simson and Zhang also discussed security issues on the global energy markets, diversification of currencies for energy transactions, progress on power market reforms in the EU and China, as well as energy innovation and business cooperation. European and Chinese businesses were invited to present their views on the opportunities and challenges of energy investment in China, the Commission said in a press release.

They reviewed progress on the Joint Statement on the Implementation of the EU-China Energy Cooperation, which was signed in the margins of the 2019 EU-China Summit. Simson and Zhang also took stock of the progress of the EU-China Energy Cooperation Platform, launched in May 2019, and discussed activities that are planned under the second Annual Work Programme of the Platform.

<https://www.neweurope.eu/article/eu-china-energy-dialogue-focuses-on-green-policies-after-coronavirus/>