

BACKGROUND

EU-China Summit

1-2 June in Brussels

The 19th bilateral summit between the European Union and China and its related events will take place on Thursday 1 and Friday 2 June 2017 in Brussels.

The summit will be hosted by the President of the European Council, Donald Tusk, and the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, accompanied by the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Federica Mogherini, and Commissioner for Trade, Cecilia Malmström.

China will be represented by the Premier of the People's Republic of China, Li Keqiang, State Councillor Yang Jiechi and Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi. Other Chinese Ministers may also participate.

At the end of the meeting, leaders are expected to adopt a joint summit statement and a separate statement on climate change and clean energy.

An EU-China Business Summit will take place in the margins of the summit.

Indicative programme:

Thursday	18:30	Arrival (Europa VIP entrance) Informal dinner between Premier Li Keqiang, President Donald Tusk and President Jean-Claude Juncker
Friday	10:40	Arrival (Europa VIP entrance and forum)
	10:45	Meeting
	12:15	Signature ceremony
	12:40	Press conference by Premier Li Keqiang, President Donald Tusk and President Jean-Claude Juncker (Europa press room)
	13:20	Working lunch

Due to security measures, journalists are advised to access the Council premises through the Europa building main entrance, except at the time of arrival, when access will only be possible through Justus Lipsius entrance.

- Video streaming: <http://video.consilium.europa.eu/>
- Video coverage in broadcast quality and photos in high resolution: <http://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu>

¹ This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the press office.

EU-China bilateral relations

This will be the first summit since the adoption of the **new EU strategy on China** in July 2016, which sets out how both sides can take advantage of their cooperation to promote long-term benefits for EU and Chinese citizens. It also stresses the need for reciprocal benefits and a level playing field between China and the EU.

The first item on the formal agenda is **EU-China bilateral relations**, with a focus on trade and investment, including the negotiations towards a **Comprehensive Investment Agreement**.

Connectivity will also be on the agenda, as leaders are expected to prioritise progress on the EU-China connectivity platform. The aim is to coordinate on transport policies and to identify projects of common interest between Europe and China, based on transparency and a level playing field.

Regarding **Geographical Indications (GI)**, leaders are expected to instruct their negotiators to accelerate work so as to conclude negotiations by the end of 2017. An agreement at the summit is foreseen on the publication of GI names by both sides soon after the encounter.

Leaders are also expected to address the impact on the EU industry of China's **overcapacity** in steel and other sectors.

The summit will also provide an opportunity for the EU to reiterate its commitment to the promotion of **human rights** and the rule of law as a core part of the EU's engagement with China.

It should also provide an opportunity to take stock of preparations for the EU-China Year of **Tourism** (2018), as well as of common activities on oceans governance and agreed priorities for cooperation in this field, starting with the launch of the EU-China '**Blue Year**' (2017).

Global challenges

The second agenda item will focus on global, international and regional issues. This will include **climate change** and clean energy, in particular in relation to the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Leaders are also expected to address cooperation in multilateral fora, such as on **migration** and **refugees**, the **G20**, and the **Agenda 2030** for sustainable development.

Finally, **security and defence** cooperation will also be discussed, with a focus on peacekeeping cooperation in Africa and enhanced cooperation on **counterterrorism**.

Foreign policy issues

The working lunch will be dedicated to **foreign and security policy**. The two sides are expected to discuss recent developments in their respective neighbourhoods, notably **Syria, Libya, Ukraine, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the South China Sea**.

More information

- [EU-China summit on the Council website](#)
- [Factsheet: EU-China relations](#)
- [EU relations with China \(EEAS\)](#)
- [EU trade relations with China \(European Commission -Trade\)](#)
- [EU-China 2020 Strategic Agenda for Cooperation](#)
- New EU strategy: [Joint Communication on elements for a new EU strategy on China](#) and [Council conclusions of 18 July 2016](#)