



BACKGROUND
EU-China Summit
12-13 July in Beijing, China

The 18th bilateral summit between the European Union and China and its related events will take place on 12-13 July in Beijing.

The summit will be hosted by Premier Li, who will represent the People's Republic of China. The European Union will be represented by Donald Tusk, President of the Council of the European Union, and Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission.

The High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini, Vice President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness Jyrki Katainen and Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmström will also participate.

At the end of the meeting, leaders are expected to adopt a joint summit statement.

The EU leaders will also have talks with President Xi.

An EU-China Business Summit and an event on EU-China cooperation on sustainable cities will take place in the margins of the summit.

- *Press conferences by 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 political and economic relations

Discussions will be held in the framework of the jointly agreed EU-China 2020 Strategic Agenda for Cooperation, launched at the Summit held in Beijing in November 2013.

The summit will be an opportunity to consolidate progress and give political guidance for the completion of the EU-China Comprehensive Agreement on Investment (CAI) and in particular set the timeframe for an exchange market access offers in the CAI negotiations. Leaders are also expected to take stock of progress on a first list of projects on connectivity, linking EU priorities under the Trans-European Transport Networks (TEN-T) and the European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI) with Chinese priorities under One Belt One Road. In this context there will be an opportunity to also discuss China's contribution to the EFSI. Leaders are also expected to address the impact of (steel) overcapacity on the EU industry and it is likely that the summit will touch upon the issue of China's market economy status.

The summit should announce the launch of the second phase of the package deal on mobility and migration, including negotiations on visa facilitation and a readmission agreement. An agreement on the opening of applications centres for Schengen visa in new cities in China is also envisaged.

Both parties are expected to commit to increase their foreign policy cooperation and agree to further develop their cooperation on defence and security, especially in providing peace and security in Africa and enhancing counter-terrorism cooperation.

The summit will also provide an opportunity for the EU to reiterate the EU's attachment to improving its dialogue on human rights with China.

Global challenges

In the area of the climate, the summit should advance the implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change and assess the implementation of the EU-China Climate Change Declaration of 2015.

The summit will be an occasion to look forward to and prepare the upcoming G20 summit to be held in Hangzhou (China) on 4-5 September 2016. Emphasis is likely to be put on priority issues such as economy, trade and migration.

Regional and foreign policy issues

Recent developments in the EU's and China's respective neighbourhoods will be on the agenda. The two sides are expected to stress the importance of dialogue, respect of international law and human rights.

Other foreign policy issues likely to be addressed are: Syria, South China Sea, Ukraine, Libya, Afghanistan and the Korean Peninsula.

For more information see:

[China summit on the Council website](#)

[EU-China fact sheet](#)

[EU-China climate change declaration 2015](#)

[Elements for a new EU strategy on China- joint communication](#)

[FAQs on the joint communication: Elements for a new EU strategy on China](#)