



CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

For the *EU-China Observer* Issue #1.17

THE ROLE OF THE U.S. IN EU-CHINA RELATIONS

Submission deadline: 24 February 2017

The **Baillet Latour Chair of European Union-China Relations** and the **EU-China Research Centre** at the **College of Europe** (Bruges) are calling for contributions to the first issue of the *EU-China Observer* of 2017. The issue will focus on **The Role of the U.S. in EU-China Relations**.

2016 was a very eventful year in global politics, culminating with the election of maverick Republican candidate Donald Trump to the single most powerful seat in global affairs – that of President of the United States. While Trump's actual sway in US foreign policy is yet to be determined, many experts and policymakers have already pointed at the rising uncertainty stemming from the new President's anti-establishment orientation.

As far as US-China relations are concerned, Trump has already ruffled some feathers with his 'unorthodox' openness to Taiwan and – indirectly – with his nominee for Secretary of State Rex Tillerson's very confrontational remarks on China's policies in the South China Sea. Some commentators have already been arguing that Trump will, at least to a certain degree, undo Obama's pivot towards Asia in general and China in particular. Whether that is actually going to be the case remains to be seen, but the very possibility of greater US isolationism is bound to elicit a response from other key global players, including the EU.

While ties between Brussels (and the Member States) and Beijing are getting stronger, the US remains the most important partner for both the EU and China, and all changes in its policy vectors do and will have repercussions on both the bilateral and the trilateral relations.

In this light, the forthcoming issue of the *EU-China Observer* would like to delve into the role and relevance of contemporary US politics and policies in EU-China relations. In particular, it would like to shed light on the impact that recent developments might have on Beijing's approach towards Europe, and vice-versa, as well as on the broader 'triangular' dynamics.

Contributions for the next issue of the *EU-China Observer* may cover – but are not limited to – the following topics:

- The US factor in EU-China relations;
- Recent developments in US-China relations and their effect on Europe;
- Recent developments in EU-US relations and their effect on China;
- Potential impacts (scenarios) of the new US administration on US-China-EU relations in areas such as
 - Trade
 - Security
 - Geopolitics
 - Climate change
 - Energy and environment

Please send your contributions to EUCO@coleurope.eu by **24 February 2017**. For any questions related to the *EU-China Observer*, please do not hesitate to contact us via the e-mail address mentioned above.

Previous issues, and further information are available here: <http://www.coleurope.eu/euco>