

## Call for Contributions

For the *EU-China Observer* Issue #3.15

*EU-China Bilateral Investment Agreement*

Submission Deadline: 30 July 2015

The **InBev-Baillet Latour Chair of European Union-China Relations** and the **EU-China Research Centre** are calling for contributions to the third issue of the *EU-China Observer* to be published in September 2015. After the first issue on the new “One Belt, One Road” initiative of the Chinese government and the second issue reporting on the conference “The EU and China: Reform and Governance”, the third issue of the *EU-China Observer* (Issue #3.15) will be dedicated to the EU-China Bilateral Investment Agreement.

EU-China trade reached over € 568 billion in 2014, with China being the EU’s biggest source of imports and vice versa. In October 2013, the EU Member States gave the European Commission a mandate to launch negotiations for an investment agreement. At the 16<sup>th</sup> EU-China Summit on 21 November 2013, the EU and China announced the launch of negotiations. The aim of the agreement is to eliminate restrictions for investors and to provide a more secure legal framework for investors on both sides. The Agreement could also be seen as a stepping-stone for stronger cooperation in trade in the long term. As the two sides stated in a *Joint Statement* of 31 March 2014, "concluding such a comprehensive EU-China Investment Agreement [...] will convey both sides' joint commitment towards stronger cooperation as well as their willingness to envisage broader ambitions including, once the conditions are right, towards a deep and comprehensive FTA, as a longer-term perspective."

For the third issue of the *EU-China Observer*, we are thus interested in contributions exploring the topic of the EU-China Bilateral Investment Agreement from the perspective of different institutional actors both in the EU and China, but also from the perspective of investors (potential benefits of an agreement for businesses) and from a macroeconomic perspective. Moreover, we are looking for submissions exploring the relationship of this agreement and FTA, and papers exploring the negotiations from a strategic perspective. What are the aims of both the EU and China in the negotiations? What could be the consequences of an agreement for further EU-China cooperation not only in trade, but also in other fields?

Please send your contributions to [EUCO@coleurope.eu](mailto:EUCO@coleurope.eu) by 30 July 2015. 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, as well as further information is available here:

[www.coleurope.eu/EUCO](http://www.coleurope.eu/EUCO)