

EU-China Relations: Chronology

1975	May	Diplomatic relations established. Christopher Soames first European Commissioner to visit China
1978	2 May	Trade agreement EEC-China signed. Inter alia, establishes Joint Committee
1979	February	Roy Jenkins visits China. First visit of a Commission President. Meets Deng Xiaoping
	July	First meeting of the Joint Committee in Beijing
	18 July	(First) agreement on textile trade
1980	16-19 June	First inter-parliamentary meeting between delegations of the EP and of the National People's Congress, Strasbourg.
1983		Launch of first science and technology cooperation program
1984		First political consultations at ministerial level, in the context of European Political Cooperation
		Launch of first cooperation projects in China (Management training and rural development)
1985	21-23 May	Agreement on trade and economic cooperation signed
1988	4 October	Opening of the Delegation of the European Commission in Beijing
1989	June	As a reaction to Tian An Men incidents of 4 June, EC freezes relations with China and imposes a number of sanctions, including an arms embargo
1990	October	Council and EP decide to re-establish bilateral relations step by step
1992		EC-China relations largely back to normal; arms embargo remains in place
	June	Launch of environmental dialogue
	June	Establishment of a new bilateral political dialogue
1993	October	Opening of Commission office in Hong Kong
1995	15 July	European Commission publishes first Communication "A long-term policy for China-Europe relations"
		Launch of a specific dialogue on human rights issues
1996	1-2 March	First Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM); China and EU are active participants
1998	25 March	European Commission publishes Communication "Building a Comprehensive Partnership with China"
	2 April	1st EU-China Summit, London
	22 December	Agreement on scientific and technological cooperation signed
1999	21 December	2nd EU-China Summit, Beijing
2000	19 May	Bilateral agreement on China's WTO accession signed in Beijing
	11 July	Visit of Prime Minister Zhu Rongji in Brussels (first visit of a Chinese Premier to the Commission)
	24 October	3rd EU-China Summit, Beijing
2001	15 May	European Commission publishes Communication "EU Strategy towards China: Implementation of the 1998 Communication and Future Steps for a more Effective EU Policy"
	5 September	4th EU-China Summit, Brussels
	17 September	New Information Society Working Group launched
	25 -26 October	Human Rights Dialogue, Beijing
	13 November	Ministerial Troika, New York (in the margin of UN General Assembly)
	30 November	Political Directors Troika, Beijing
	8 December	Human Rights Seminar, Brussels
	11 December	China becomes the 143rd Member of the World Trade Organisation

2002	30-31 January	EC-China Joint Committee, Brussels.
	1 March	Release of China country Strategy paper 2002-2006
	5-6 March	Human Rights Dialogue, Madrid
	28 March-4 April	Visit of Commissioner Patten to China
	16 May	Launch of negotiations on Chinese participation in GALILEO
	June	Exchange of letters strengthening the EU-China political dialogue
	24 September	5th EU-China Summit, Copenhagen
	13-15 November	Human Rights Dialogue, Beijing
	6 December	EU-China maritime transport agreement signed
	2003	14 February
5-6 March		Human Rights Dialogue, Athens
10 March		EC opens European Economic and Trade Office in Taiwan
3 June		China formally requests market economy status under EU's anti-dumping instrument
30 June		Ministerial Troika, Athens
10 September		European Commission adopts policy paper "A maturing partnership: shared interests and challenges in EU-China relations"
13 October		EU Council of Ministers endorses Commission policy paper "A maturing partnership"
13 October		China releases first ever policy paper on EU
30 October		6th EU-China Summit, Beijing: Agreements signed on - cooperation in the Galileo satellite navigation program - Industrial Policy Dialogue - EU-China Dialogue on Intellectual Property
26-27 November		Human Rights Dialogue, Beijing
2004	10-11 February	EU-China Seminar on the two Policy Papers issued in October held in Beijing, leading to "Guidelines for Common Action"
	12 February	Signing of MOU on Approved Destination Status (the "Tourism Agreement")
	26-27 February	Human Rights Dialogue, Dublin
	26 February	Political Directors Troika, Beijing
	16 April	Commission President Romano Prodi visits China
	6 May	Chinese PM Wen Jiabao visits Commission Headquarters, new dialogue initiatives signed; customs cooperation agreement initialed; political leaders recommend that the "Guidelines for Common Action" are implemented
	26 May	5 th High Level Consultations on Illegal Migration and trafficking of human beings, Brussels
	24 September	Human rights dialogue, Beijing
	8 October	Ministerial Troika, Hanoi
	12 November	Geographical Directors' Troika, Beijing
2005	8 December	7th EU-China Summit, The Hague: the EU and China signed - Joint declaration on Non-proliferations and Arms Control - EU-China Customs Cooperation Agreement - Agreement on R&D cooperation on the peaceful use of nuclear energy
	24-25 February	Human Rights Dialogue, Luxembourg
	11 May	Ministerial Troika, Beijing
	30 June-1 July	EU-China Civil Aviation Summit, Beijing
	7 July	First ADS Committee ("Tourism Agreement") Meeting, Beijing
	14-18 July	Commission President José Manuel Barroso visits China
	5 September	8th EU-China Summit, Beijing: the EU and China signed: - MoU on labour, employment and social affairs - Joint Statement on cooperation in space exploitation, science & technology development - Joint declaration on climate change
	25-27 October	Human Rights Dialogue, Beijing
	4 November	EC-China Joint Committee, Brussels
	20 December	1 st EU-China Strategic Dialogue, London, UK
2006	January	EU-China MoU on food safety is signed in Beijing
	3 February	Ministerial Troika, Vienna
	20 February	Commission and Chinese Government sign a MoU on cooperation on near-zero emissions power generation technology

	27 March	Political Directors Troika, Beijing
	30 March	The first EU-China bilateral consultations under the Climate Change Partnership are held, Vienna
	6 April	Geographical Directors Troika, Brussels
	15 May	EU-China Dialogue on Regional Cooperation initiated
	25–26 May	Human Rights Dialogue, Vienna
	6 June	2 nd EU-China Strategic Dialogue
	9 September	9th EU-China Summit, Helsinki: the EU and China agree on opening negotiations for a new comprehensive framework agreement
	11 October	Official launch of China-EU Science and Technology Year
	19 October	Human Rights Dialogue, Beijing
	24 October	Commission adopts Communication “EU-China: Closer Partners, growing responsibilities” and a policy paper on trade and investment
	7 November	EC-China Joint Committee, Beijing
	7 December	The first Macroeconomic Dialogue is held
	11 December	The Council endorses the Commission Communication and adopts related Council Conclusions
2007	16–18 January	Commissioner for External Relations Ferrero-Waldner visits Beijing: launch of negotiations on a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement
	5 March	Geographical Directors Troika, Beijing
	3 May	Commission and ECB discuss economic policy issues with Chinese counterparts, Beijing, China
	8 May	Political Directors Troika, Brussels
	15-16 May	Human Rights Dialogue, Berlin, Germany
	11-12 June	EC-China Joint Committee, Brussels
	22 June	1st Meeting of the EU-China Civil Society Round Table, Beijing, China
	17-18 October	Human Rights Dialogue, Beijing, China
	25 October	3 rd EU-China Strategic Dialogue, Lisbon
	14 November	2 nd Meeting of the EU-China Civil Society Round Table, Brussels
	28 November	Euro-zone Troika and Chinese counterparts, Beijing, China
	28 November	10th EU-China Summit, Beijing: the EU and China - established High Level Economic and Trade Dialogue - agreed to enhance cooperation on climate change
2008	11 March	Geographical Directors’ Troika, Brussels
	24–25 April	President José Manuel Barroso and nine Commissioners meet with their counterparts in Beijing
	25 April	1 st EU-China High Level Economic and Trade Dialogue, Beijing
	15 May	Political Directors’ Troika, Beijing
	15 May	Human Rights Dialogue, Brdo, Slovenia
	9 June	EU-China Ministerial Troika, Ljubljana
	11 June	Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi visits Brussels
	23-26 June	3 rd Meeting of the EU-China Civil Society Roundtable, Beijing, China
	24-25 September	EC-China Joint Committee, Beijing
	6-7 November	4 th Meeting of the EU-China Civil Society Roundtable, Paris, France
	28 November	Human Rights Dialogue, Beijing
2009	19 January	4 th EU-China Strategic Dialogue, Beijing
	30 January	Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao visits Brussels
	29-30 March	Commissioner B. Ferrero-Waldner’s visit to China
	7-8 May	2 nd EU-China High Level Economic and Trade Dialogue, Brussels, Belgium
	18-19 May	5 th meeting of the EU-China Civil Society Round Table, Tianjin, China
	20 May	11th EU-China Summit, Prague, Czech Republic: the EU and China - addressed the issues of the financial crisis and climate change.
	14 May	Human Rights Dialogue, Prague, Czech Republic
	27 May	EU-China Ministerial Troika, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
	28 October	6 th meeting of the EU-China Civil Society Round Table, Stockholm, Sweden
	18 November	Political Directors’ Troika, Stockholm, Sweden
	20 November	Human Rights Dialogue, Beijing, China

	29 November	Euro-zone Troika and Chinese counterparts, Nanjing, China
	29 November	EU-China Ministerial Troika, Nanjing, China
	30 November	12th EU-China Summit, Nanjing, China: the EU and China - agreed to speed up the negotiations on the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement - agreed to strengthen people-to-people exchanges and cultural cooperation
	17 December	5 th EU-China Strategic Dialogue, Stockholm, Sweden
2010	28 January	EU HR/VP Ashton meeting with FM Yang Jiechi in margins of London Conference on Afghanistan
	5 February	China experts Group meeting
	24-27 February	PCA negotiations China (Beijing)
	16 March	Regional Directors' Troika, Brussels, Belgium
	12 April	Meeting between President Von Rompuy and President Hu (Washington, on the margins of the Nuclear Security Summit)
	26 April-2 May	College visit (President Barroso, HR/VP Ashton and to Beijing and Shanghai
	6 May	Celebration of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the EU and China
	21 May	24 th EU-China Joint Committee
	29 June	29 th EU-China Human Rights Dialogue
	29 August- 4 September	HR/VP Ashton's visit to China (including High Level Strategic Dialogue and Foreign Ministerial meeting)
	14 September	PCA negotiations EU (Brussels)
	6 October	13th EU-China Summit, Brussels: the EU and China addressed: - how to strengthen our political dialogue, trade and investment questions; - issues related to global governance (sustainable growth in a post crisis-world economy). They agreed to dedicate 2011 as the EU-China Year of Youth
	6-7 October	High Level Cultural Forum

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