



**EUROPEAN UNION**

OFFICE TO HONG KONG AND MACAO

Head of Office

Hong Kong, 5 June 2015

**Note to the editor of China Daily Hong Kong edition**

Dear Sir,

Your report (5 June) about meetings of the Heads of EU diplomatic missions with members of the Legislative Council may give readers an inaccurate picture of the nature of the meetings.

The purpose of the meetings was not for the EU side to prescribe particular solutions to the electoral reform debate in Hong Kong, as the EU respects the principle of sovereignty in this process. Rather, we wished to hear the respective views and expectations about the reform of the system for electing the Chief Executive in 2017. Earlier in the week, the EU also met with the President of the Legislative Council, Hon. Tsang Yok-sing, to discuss the same.

As a stakeholder in Hong Kong's future and in line with the Basic Law, in the meetings the EU side did express the hope that, through constructive discussion, Hong Kong will be able to reach a timely agreement on the introduction of universal suffrage for the election of the Chief Executive in 2017, and on an election system which is democratic, fair, open, and transparent.

Your report furthermore incorrectly states that the President of the European Commission, Mr Jean-Claude Juncker, attended the meetings. Instead, the EU delegation was led by the undersigned.

Vincent Piket

Head of the EU Office to Hong Kong and Macao

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