

Model European Parliament
2nd Mediterranean Regional Session Athens 5-10 October 2018

Committee on International Trade (INTA)
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Dear delegates,

My name is Eva Margarita and, together with Pavlos Karagrigoris and Veronika Wrbka, we have the honour of being your Committee Presidents on this upcoming MEP MED session in Athens. We would firstly like to congratulate you on participating in the conference and we cannot wait to work with you in the committee meetings.

This year, the committee on International Trade deals with the EU and China's trade relations. The EU and China have been trading partners for a long time, with China being the second biggest trading partner of our continent, behind the United States. The questions that you will have to answer regard how the EU is going to surpass all the obstacles that have surfaced, such as lack of transparency, intellectual property theft and government intervention, in order to achieve fair trade partnership with China and how the EU should react towards the economic influence of China on the development of individual Member States.

In order for you to be well-prepared, we have provided you with some useful links. Apart from that, we strongly encourage you to do research on your own and form your own opinion regarding the issue.

As a last step in your preparation for the session, you are strongly advised to compose a position paper (1-2 pages in a word document) which will be presented during the first committee meeting. It will include:

- Your country's position on the issue
- Some of your proposed solutions
- Some key facts from your research

We believe that this will help you understand the topic even better and will make the discussions in the committee more fruitful and interesting.

Looking forward to seeing you in Athens.

Your CP, CoCP and CP Secretary,

Eva Margariti
Pavlos Karagrigoris
Veronika Wrbka

Useful links

- Official documents regarding the EU's and China's trade relations

https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/eu-china_factsheet_1.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/china/index_en.htm

<https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/20131123.pdf>

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/legislative-train/theme-a-balanced-and-progressive-trade-policy-to-harness-globalisation/file-eu-china-investment-agreement>

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/-/EDN-20170601-1?inheritRedirect=true>

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/-/DDN-20180522-1?inheritRedirect=true>

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/8765917/6-26032018-AP-EN.pdf/0a4e2aea-1654-4c0d-92b1-c44ac844726f>

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2013/april/tradoc_150837.pdf

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//NONSGML+TA+P8-TA-2016-0223+0+DOC+PDF+V0//EN>

<http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/new-trade-strategy/>

<http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/accessing-markets/trade-defence/>

<http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/accessing-markets/trade-defence/actions-against-imports-into-the-eu/>

<http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/accessing-markets/trade-defence/actions-against-exports-from-the-eu/>

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2013/april/tradoc_151017.pdf

- Articles regarding Intellectual Property

<https://www.upcounsel.com/intellectual-property-theft>

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-03-22/what-s-intellectual-property-and-does-china-steal-it-quicktake>

**Even though this article talks about the US, it is important to read about the problem of intellectual property from a different perspective.*

<https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/europol-%E2%80%93-euipo-2017-situation-report-counterfeiting-and-piracy-in-eu>

<http://www.ipkey.org/en/>

<https://www.cato.org/blog/how-world-trade-organization-can-curb-chinas-intellectual-property-transgressions>

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/eu-china/news/eu-considering-taking-china-to-wto-over-ip-practices/>

- Articles regarding Government Intervention

<http://policonomics.com/government-intervention/>

<https://www.economicshelp.org/blog/5735/economics/should-the-government-intervene-in-the-economy/>

<https://www.investopedia.com/articles/investing/022716/4-consequences-government-intervention-chinas-markets.asp>

- Articles regarding the Lack of Transparency

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/opinion/transparent-europe-how-the-eu-is-becoming-a-role-model-of-transparency/>

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/ben-bernanke/2016/03/08/chinas-transparency-challenges/>

<http://www.globaltrademag.com/global-trade-daily/commentary/chinas-transparency-challenges>

- Articles that include information on the issue

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/China%E2%80%93European_Union_relations

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/economy-jobs/opinion/china-the-unbeloved-trade-partner/>

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2018/02/02/why-is-china-buying-up-europes-ports/>

<http://www.dw.com/en/as-china-takes-center-stage-europe-stands-at-a-crossroads/a-42590805>

<http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1736>

<https://thediplomat.com/2017/12/eus-new-anti-dumping-rules-threaten-trade-relations-with-china/>

<http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201712/08/WS5a29eac1a3101a51ddf8da1e.html>

<http://www.bike-eu.com/laws-regulations/nieuws/2017/12/eu-announces-start-anti-subsidy-proceeding-e-bike-imports-china-10132458>

<http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1807> <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-china-steel/eu-extends-duties-on-stainless-steel-pipes-from-china-idUSKCN1GI1HC>

<http://ecipe.org/app/uploads/2017/06/China-Tech-Protectionism.pdf>

**It's not necessary to read the whole file. Instead, focus on the parts that you think will help the committee discussions.*