

## Monthly Roundup: U.K.-China announcements by government, partners, and other stakeholders

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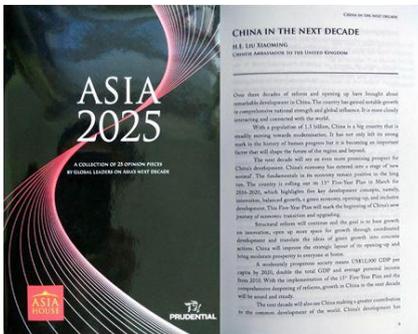
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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## Asia House in U.K. launches new book “Asia 2025”



On 08 March 2016, Asia House in the U.K. launched a new book, “Asia 2025”, which includes an article by Chinese Ambassador to the U.K. Liu Xiaoming entitled “China in the Next Decade”. (March) [Read more here.](#)

## British Ambassadors to Southeast Asian countries visit Yunnan

On 07-08 March, the first ever delegation of British Ambassadors to Southeast Asian countries visited



Kunming in Yunnan province to promote cross-border collaboration between the U.K., China, and its Southeast Asian neighbours. The visit was organised by the British Consulate-General in Chongqing. Invited by Tina Redshaw, British Consul-General in Chongqing, British Ambassadors and senior diplomats from Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam, with Philip Malone, Deputy Director of the Southeast Asia Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

(FCO) in London, visited Kunming, which plays a strategic role in China’s One Belt, One Road initiative. The delegation’s aim was to understand how Yunnan’s government is positioning the province as a gateway to Southeast Asia and to explore the prospect of deepening U.K.-Yunnan-Southeast Asia economic and trade co-operation. In Kunming, the delegation held a roundtable with Yunnan government authorities to understand Yunnan’s development and its engagement with Southeast Asia and its history of cross-border collaboration. They also met business representatives in Kunming to understand their investment plans in Southeast Asia, the challenges and opportunities they face, and how the British embassies in the region might play a bigger role in facilitating cross-border collaboration. The delegation also visited Shilin Experimental Solar Power Plant to learn about the state of renewable energy development in Yunnan and its collaboration with Southeast Asia in this sector. Together with partners in Southwest China, the Consulate General in Chongqing is keen to deepen relationships as part of the “golden era” of China and U.K. relations following Chinese President Xi Jinping’s state visit last year. The latest symbol of that is a friendship partnership agreement signed in February between Kunming and Liverpool. The cities will forge closer collaboration in healthcare, life sciences, green energy, and the creative industries. Tina Redshaw, Consul-General said, “We hope to increase multilateral understanding in the region through the visit and to encourage more regional co-operation.” (March) [Read more here.](#)

## British Consulate-General Hong Kong encourages British citizens to register as overseas voters



On 22 March 2016, British Consul General Caroline Wilson welcomed over 100 British citizens to the British Consulate-General Hong Kong to encourage them to register as overseas voters. Around 50 signed up online on the evening. (March) Read more [here](#).

## British Council's The Selector on air in China



The Selector is the British Council's weekly radio show, bringing listeners up-to-date with all that is going on in new British music. The show features exclusive live sessions, mixes, and interviews with some of the most exciting British artists. Covering styles of music from indie, dubstep, folk, soul, electro, and everything in between, The Selector is presented by Goldierocks and showcases the musical culture of modern Britain to an international audience. Listeners in China can catch it on air in Wuhan, Chongqing, Shenzhen, Beijing, Xi'an, and Nanjing. Read more [here](#).

## British Embassy Beijing and Consulates launch Be Yourself campaign

The British Embassy in Beijing and Consulates across China launched the Be Yourself campaign to empower women in society and the economy. British Ambassador to China Barbara Woodward has made a personal pledge to be a convenor of successful women in China. As the leader of one of the U.K.'s biggest diplomatic networks in the world, she has committed the British Embassy in Beijing and Consulates around China to making a difference to the position of women in society and the economy. The Be Yourself campaign has been designed to celebrate women's ability to achieve whatever they want to achieve. The aim is to empower women to reach their full potential, challenge the stereotypes that persist about gender roles, as well as raise awareness of the benefits of gender equality in society and female participation in the workforce. Each department of the Embassy and the British Consulates around China will be holding events throughout March in order to shed light on the value of women's participation



in many different fields and how to promote gender equality. This campaign is an opportunity for women and men all over China to be part of the discussion and look for solutions. Events will include film festivals, documentary screenings, training sessions, panel discussions on women in health, business, sport, and more, and even a chance to meet the female crew members of the Great Britain Clipper Round the World Race yacht team when they arrive in Qingdao. The Be Yourself launch event was held on 03 March 2016 and attended by over 120 people, including Deng Yaping, the world-famous Olympic table tennis champion. Ambassador Woodward said, “I have met many inspiring women in China. I want to celebrate the progress that has been achieved already in the field of gender equality here. However, globally it will take 118 years for women’s salary to be equal to that of men’s at the current pace. This is too long. I intend the Be Yourself Campaign to encourage people to join the discussion, challenge unequal practices, and help us to make a difference.” (March) Read more [here](#).

### CBBC and Alibaba host roundtable on IP protection

On 18 March 2016, the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) and Alibaba hosted a roundtable on intellectual property (IP) protection in Chinese e-commerce at Alibaba’s headquarters in Hangzhou. Focusing chiefly on the food and beverage industry, this was the latest in a series of events that CBBC and Alibaba have held under an agreement signed in 2014 to improve IP protection for British companies. One and a half years on, CBBC has assisted many U.K. companies in addressing infringing product listings on Alibaba’s various platforms, including Taobao, 1688.com, and AliExpress, using Alibaba’s notice-and-take-down mechanisms. CBBC and Alibaba are also working together so that British brands can help establish pre-emptive measures to reduce the number of counterfeits online and, more broadly, to improve the business environment for U.K. brands in China. (March) Read more [here](#).



### CBBC holds 4<sup>th</sup> Annual China Business Conference in London



On 22 March 2016, the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) held its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual China Business Conference in London, which was attended by over 500 delegates. This year’s key themes centred on China’s 13<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan, China’s New Normal, and the Belt and Road and Made in China 2025 initiatives. The healthcare, innovation, and e-commerce sectors also provided some of the key discussion areas at the conference. (March) Read more [here](#).

## China CSR Awards 2016 held in Beijing



On 23 March 2016, the British Chamber of Commerce in China and the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) joined forces with the American Chamber of Commerce in China to hold the inaugural China CSR Awards 2016 in Beijing. Judged by a panel of experienced British, American, and Chinese individuals, including Clare Pearson, Chair of the British Chamber of Commerce in China and International Development Director at DLA Piper, Carma Elliot CMG OBE, China Director at the British Council, and

Wang Liwei, CEO of the China Development Foundation, the awards recognised companies that have made a contribution to creating a fairer society in China. 13 companies received their awards on the evening in front of Chinese and overseas media, with a further 10 receiving honourable mentions for their contributions to China's social evolution. Winners of the China CSR Awards are as follows:

### **Charity**

- First place (tie): **CBI member** [PwC](#) and NBA China
- Honourable mention: **CBI member** [Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business](#)

### **Cross-Cultural**

- First place: The British School of Beijing
- Honourable mention: Visa

### **Education**

- First place: **CBI member** [Starbucks Coffee Company](#)
- Honourable mention: **CBI member** [Prudential](#)

### **Environment**

- First place (tie): Coca-Cola and PepsiCo
- Honourable mention: Intertek

### **Healthcare**

- First place: **CBI member** [Standard Chartered](#)
- Honourable mention: Amway

### **Integration**

- First place (tie): Dulwich International College and Invest U.K.

### **Poverty Alleviation**

- First place: **CBI member** [Zurich Insurance](#)
- Honourable mention: CMS

### **Regional Outreach**

- First place: China International Capital Corporation Limited

## Thought Leadership

- First place: **CBI member** [IBM](#)
- Honourable mentions: **CBI member** [Jaguar Land Rover](#) and Ultra Electronics

## Women's Empowerment

- First place (tie): Credit Suisse and Plan International
- Honourable mentions: **CBI member** [Diageo](#) and Mary Kay

Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

## Chinese Ambassador congratulates CBBC on its China Business Conference

Chinese Ambassador to the U.K. Liu Xiaoming congratulated the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) on the opening of its Fourth Annual China Business Conference. (March) Read more [here](#).

## Chinese summit looks to unlock investment for Northern Powerhouse

On 22 March 2016, U.K. Communities Secretary Greg Clark welcomed a senior delegation of Chinese regional leaders to an historic summit to highlight investment opportunities across the Northern Powerhouse and promote stronger U.K.-China regional collaboration. The summit, the first of its kind on U.K. soil, also offered the chance to showcase the government's historic devolution revolution, which is empowering local leaders across the country. The Northern Powerhouse represents almost a fifth of the U.K. economy. Ministers want to build on this and therefore are supporting local leaders from the great northern cities to engage with international partners and attract inward investment. To this end, Mr. Clark and ministers from several Whitehall departments met with leaders from Chinese regional governments along the Yangtze regional economic belt. The Chinese delegation headed to Sheffield for a series of discussions with their U.K. counterparts from across the Northern Powerhouse about the opportunities for collaboration and investment. The official delegation heard from U.K. experts on sustainability, integrated transport planning, primary healthcare, and the creative industries. (March) Read more [here](#).

## European Chamber podcast on E.U.-China trade and economic relations

In a podcast with Paul Haenle, Director of the Carnegie-Tsinghua Centre for Global Policy, Joerg Wuttke,



President of the E.U. Chamber of Commerce in China, discusses what he thinks the E.U. can expect in the coming years regarding its economic presence in China. Mr. Wuttke notes that the main story in E.U.-China relations in 2015 was not simply an increase in trade but rather a complete shift in investment flows as China invested US\$22 billion in the E.U. He expects this level of Chinese investment into Europe to continue, but he reasons that European investment in China may slow due to lower growth rates and other constraints. Mr. Wuttke also comments on emerging international initiatives that China has put forward, such as the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the Belt and Road. (February) Read more [here](#).

## European Chamber releases Tianjin Position Paper 2015/2016



On 03 March, the E.U. Chamber of Commerce in China released its Tianjin Position Paper 2015/2016, which is the first ever standalone, local European Chamber position paper to focus exclusively on Tianjin and provides recommendations for the city's continued development. In the paper, the European Chamber presents six key recommendations that will enable Tianjin to leverage its unique potential and to meet the "Tianjin 2020" goals of establishing itself as north China's economic centre, becoming an ecological city and an international port city by the year 2020. (March) Read more [here](#).

## Inauguration of Generation U.K. – China Network

Chinese Ambassador to the U.K. Liu Xiaoming spoke at the inauguration of the Generation U.K. – China Network in London, a legacy initiative of the Generation U.K. – China campaign. Through this campaign, a growing number of young people from the U.K. are gaining experience in China. The new network, managed by the British Council, aims to extend and deepen the engagement of British students with China after they return home. The network revolves around an interactive and events-focused LinkedIn group, for which the British Council aims to have 20,000 members by 2020. The network was officially launched in September 2015 at the 3<sup>rd</sup> U.K.-China High-Level People-to-People Dialogue in London and already has over 1,500 members. To join, please follow this link: [www.linkedin.com/groups/6981428](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/6981428). (February) Read more [here](#).



## Liverpool signs friendship agreement with Kunming

On 25 February, Liverpool signed a friendship agreement with Kunming. The partnership will see the two cities build on existing ties and work together to create a positive, mutually beneficial relationship. The agreement is the result of a dialogue between the Vice Mayor of the Kunming Municipal Government and Joe Anderson, the Mayor of Liverpool, in Chengdu in September 2015. The agreement was signed by Gary Millar, the Vice Mayor of Liverpool, cabinet member for Business, Enterprise, and Investment, and board member of Liverpool Vision,



and Vice Mayor Zhao Xuenong from Kunming at a ceremony in the Chinese city. Counselor Millar and Ellen Cutler, Director of Invest Liverpool (part of Liverpool Vision), attended the ceremony as part of a wider visit to Southwest China, organised by Invest Liverpool. Under the friendship agreement, the cities will seek to deliver sustainable economic and community benefits by collaborating on a broad range of activities, including trade and investment, science and technology, culture, creative, and tourism. The partnership will be developed and implemented through bilateral friendship visits. Business delegations from Kunming will also be attending the International Festival for Business 2016. There is also the potential to host a Liverpool event in Kunming. The British Consulate has been working closely with Liverpool to support its growing city-to-city relationships in China through a year-long project that focused on urban regeneration, healthcare, and creative. The successful outcome of this visit provides a strong base for continuing our engagement with Liverpool and in supporting cities across South West China in strengthening their cultural and commercial links with cities across the UK. (February) Read more [here](#).

## Sunday Telegraph publishes signed article by Chinese Ambassador to U.K.



The Sunday Telegraph published a signed article by Chinese Ambassador to the U.K. Liu Xiaoming entitled “The Chinese economy is still full of power”. (February) Read more [here](#).

## U.K. Business Secretary showcases Midlands Engine to Chinese investors

U.K. Business Secretary Sajid Javid oversaw the signing of commercial U.K.-China contracts in Birmingham with Chinese Minister of Commerce Gao Hucheng. This was part of the U.K.-China 12<sup>th</sup> Joint Economic and Trade Commission (JETC) to boost cooperation and understanding between the two countries. The U.K. attracted up to a third of all Chinese investment into Europe over the past two years, and the Business Secretary used the visit to highlight the investment opportunity in the Midlands. Details of the Memorandums of Understanding and business contracts that were signed included:

- Introducing House of Fraser and Hamleys department store into Xuzhou Sanpower Plaza Complex Project in China
- Developing the Sino-U.K. cultural and creative industrial park to enhance cooperation between

China and the U.K. for creative projects

- Nottingham and its sister city of Ningbo in China signing a five-year deal to become the first U.K. and Chinese authorities to develop closer trade and civic ties – the deal will help Midlands firms to establish trade and export opportunities in China

Read more [here](#).

## U.K. and China launch teacher training programme using space science

On 14 March 2016, the U.K. and China launched an innovative teacher training programme using space science to inspire secondary students. A team of the U.K.'s top space scientists and science teachers will arrive in China to launch the new programme. The U.K.'s National Space Academy Director, Anu Ojha, will lead the team to run a set of demonstration masterclasses. They will showcase techniques for using inspirational space science to boost student engagement and achievement and enhance teacher effectiveness in high school science. Chinese and British teachers and students will attend the classes, which, for this pilot phase, will be held at the British School of Beijing in Shunyi and Nord Anglia International School Shanghai in Pudong. The Space Academy already runs masterclasses for 7,000 students and teacher training for 1,000 teachers across the U.K. annually. This is the first time the programme will run in China. The programme is part of a wider space education and training relationship between the U.K. and China. The National Academy Space team will discuss with Chinese partners the potential to develop a wider joint programme of teacher training and student masterclasses that synthesise the very best practice from education and science systems in both China and the U.K. (March) Read more [here](#).



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## U.K. and China sign agreement to boost exports

U.K. Export Finance (UKEF) and the China Export and Credit Insurance Corporation (SINOSURE) committed to a framework for strengthened co-operation, paving the way for increased U.K. and Chinese exports. The agreement, signed in London, creates a framework for UKEF and SINOSURE to co-operate in supporting contracts in third countries involving both U.K. and Chinese exports. The move is designed to enhance the two export credit agencies' ability to support exports by increasing their risk capacity for projects sourcing goods and services from the U.K. and China. The agreement will also facilitate co-operation between Chinese and U.K. firms as they compete for business in other countries. UKEF and SINOSURE will work together to identify opportunities for trade in capital goods, equipment, and services involving co-operation between the two countries. (March) Read more [here](#).

## UKTI and Bank of China host e-commerce event

On 23 March 2016, U.K. Trade and Investment (UKTI) and Bank of China hosted an e-commerce event to help British mother and baby goods brands meet buyers from Chinese e-marketplace platforms. Around 80 British specialist mother and baby goods companies met with 14 Chinese cross-border platform businesses at Bank of China U.K.'s London office. More than 120 business meetings took place during the match-making event. The U.K.-China retail and e-commerce seminar and match-making event followed the launch of the [White Paper on Cross-border E-commerce Service](#), which was jointly prepared by Bank of China and UKTI. The White Paper outlines the benefits that can be gained by adopting a structured approach to e-commerce market entry. The White Paper aims to provide an informative background to assist British enterprises who intend to cooperate in cross-border e-commerce ventures in China. (March) Read more [here](#).



## Volunteering for Inspiring Women

The British Council's Inspiring Women initiative is a campaign that aims to expose girls and young women across China to a range of professional roles and career options. Inspiring Women is about breaking down career stereotypes and encouraging young girls and women to raise their aspirations. The British Council wants to inspire the next generation to expand their horizons, realise their ambitions, and fulfil their career potential. They are building a network of volunteers – inspirational female professionals who can spare one hour of their time to visit schools and share their stories. Please register your interest to volunteer [here](#) or email [InspiringWomen@britishcouncil.org.cn](mailto:InspiringWomen@britishcouncil.org.cn).

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