

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

CBI Beijing • January 2016

### Highlights

- [2016 U.K.-China Education Policy Week](#)
- [AIIB President-designate speaks at European Chamber Annual Conference](#)
- [CBBC and Alibaba host roundtable on copyright protection in Chinese e-commerce](#)
- [CBBC and Tianjin Municipal Education Commission to co-host forum on entrepreneurship education](#)
- [CBBC signs free trade zone agreement with Qianhai Authority](#)
- [CCTV Français organises gathering on new book “Crossover, China-E.U.” to celebrate 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sino-European diplomatic relations](#)
- [Chinese Ambassador to U.K. hosts 2015 Icebreaker Awards ceremony](#)
- [E.U. and China agree on scope of future investment deal](#)
- [Ninth China-Singapore diplomatic consultations](#)
- [Shakespeare Lives programme in 2016](#)
- [U.K. Home Office announces expansion of its Registered Traveller service](#)
- [U.K. Home Office launches new two-year Chinese visa pilot](#)
- [U.K. Foreign Secretary visits China](#)

### 2016 U.K.-China Education Policy Week

The British Council announced the 2016 U.K.-China Education Policy Week, a week of education events in Beijing around the theme of excellence, employability, and entrepreneurship. Representatives from the U.K. education sector are now invited to register for the events, which will be taking place from 13-20 March 2016. The U.K.-China Education Policy Week will follow-up on progress made at the 2015 U.K.-China People-to-People Dialogue and the 2015 U.K.-China Education Summit and contribute to setting the education agenda for 2016 and the “Golden Era” of U.K.-China relations. (January) Read more [here](#).

### AIIB President-designate speaks at European Chamber Annual Conference

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) President-designate Jin Liqun spoke at the European Chamber Annual Conference, where he outlined the plan, policies, and expectations of the AIIB. (December) Click [here](#) to see a video of his speech.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Guy Dru Drury – Chief Representative – Beijing Office  
DL: 00 86 10 85253100 DF: 00 86 10 85253116 E: [guydd@cbi.org.uk](mailto:guydd@cbi.org.uk)

1006B, 10F, China Life Tower, 16 Chaoyangmenwai Ave.  
Beijing 100020 CHINA  
[www.cbi.org.uk](http://www.cbi.org.uk)

Director-General: Carolyn Fairbairn President: Paul Drechsler

## **CBBC and Alibaba host roundtable on copyright protection in e-commerce**

The China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) and Alibaba hosted a roundtable on copyright protection in Chinese e-commerce. Focusing chiefly on the publishing industry, this was the latest in a series the CBBC and Alibaba have jointly held under their ongoing cooperation agreement to improve IP protection for British companies. The CBBC led a British delegation of 16 company representatives to Alibaba's headquarters in Hangzhou, where leading British publishers, including Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Pearson, and Penguin Books, were able to discuss copyright issues with Alibaba's top intellectual property protection team, including its head of IP strategy, Ni Liang. (December) Read more [here](#).



## **CBBC and Tianjin Municipal Education Commission to co-host forum**

On 10 March 2016, the China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) and the Tianjin Municipal Education Commission will co-host a forum on entrepreneurship education in Tianjin. In preparation the CBBC arranged for a delegation of universities and companies from Tianjin to visit the U.K. in December to explore ways to cooperate. The delegates spent five days visiting 12 British innovation and entrepreneurship education (IEE) institutes and universities, exchanging ideas with their hosts about the Chinese economy, its transformation, and the opportunities that will bring. (January) Read more [here](#).

## **CBBC signs free trade zone agreement with Qianhai Authority**

The China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with authorities in the Guangdong Free Trade Zone, which will help British businesses – and especially CBBC members – to develop their business in the Qianhai-Shekou area of the zone. CBBC and its partners in Qianhai will exchange information on respective investment conditions, policies and regulations, send delegations between Shenzhen and London, and look into setting up contact points for CBBC in Shenzhen and the Qianhai Authority in London. (January) Read more [here](#).

## **CCTV Français organises gathering on new book “Crossover, China-E.U.”**

To celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and the E.U., the TV channel CCTV Français – as part of China Central Television – and Shanghai Far East Publishing organised a gathering on the new book “Crossover, China-E.U.” at the E.U. Delegation in China. “Crossover, China-E.U.” is a series of 40 video portraits produced by CCTV Français for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sino-European diplomatic relations. Through those videos are introduced 40 actors of this special relation, coming from China and Europe. (January) Read more [here](#).

## Chinese Ambassador to U.K. hosts 2015 Icebreaker Awards ceremony

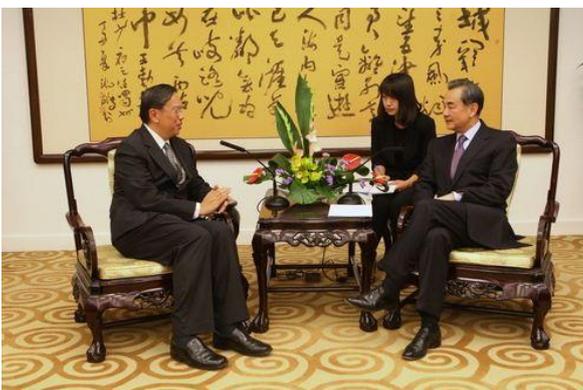


Chinese Ambassador to the U.K. Liu Xiaoming hosted the 48 Group Club's annual 2015 Icebreakers Awards ceremony, which recognises outstanding personal contributions made to advancing relations between China and the U.K. (December) Read more [here](#).

## E.U. and China agree on scope of future investment deal

Meeting in Beijing, the E.U. and China negotiators reached clear conclusions on an ambitious and comprehensive scope of the upcoming E.U.-China investment agreement. This is a major step forward in the E.U.-China talks launched in November and a direct response to the political commitment made by European and Chinese leaders at the June 2015 E.U.-China Summit. The E.U. and China agreed in particular that the future deal should improve market access opportunities for their investors by establishing a genuine right to invest and by guaranteeing that they will not discriminate against their respective companies. The E.U. and China are also determined to address key challenges of the regulatory environment, including those related to transparency, licensing, and authorisation procedures, and to provide for a high and balanced level of protection for investors and their investments. The agreement will also include rules on environmental and labour-related dimensions of foreign investment. The outcomes set the negotiations on a good track to expect a deal offering a real added value for E.U. and Chinese firms investing in their respective markets. The negotiators will continue working throughout 2016 in order to hammer out the details of the agreement. (January) Read more [here](#).

## Ninth China-Singapore diplomatic consultations



On 26 January 2016, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met in Beijing with the Permanent Secretary of Singapore's Foreign Ministry, Chee Wee Kiong, who visited China to attend the ninth China-Singapore

diplomatic consultations. (January) Read more [here](#).

## Shakespeare Lives programme in 2016



Shakespeare Lives – a major programme of events and activities celebrating Shakespeare’s work in the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of his death – will be held in 2016. Organised by the British Council and the GREAT Britain campaign, the programme is an invitation to the world to join in the celebrations by experiencing the work of Shakespeare directly on stage, through film and exhibitions, in schools, and online. The programme is an opportunity for millions of people of all ages across China to actively experience Shakespeare’s works. Read more [here](#).

## U.K. Home Office announces expansion of its Registered Traveller service

The U.K. Home Office announced the expansion of its Registered Traveller service to Hong Kong,



Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan. The scheme, which currently has 40,000 members, is now open to Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and the U.S. Members who frequently travel to the U.K. can benefit from an improved traveller experience. Potential members must apply online via gov.uk, and once U.K. Border Force officers have undertaken security checks, individuals are then provisionally accepted onto the scheme. Membership is

completed the next time they visit the U.K. Once they become a Registered Traveller member, individuals are then eligible to use passport eGates and the U.K./E.U. controls at Heathrow and other participating airports. (January) Read more [here](#).

## U.K. Home Office launches new two-year Chinese visa pilot

The U.K. Home Office will launch a new two-year visit visa for Chinese nationals on 11 January. The new visa will cost £85, the same as the U.K.’s existing six-month visitor visa, and will enable successful applicants to make multiple trips to the U.K. The launch follows the Prime Minister’s announcement of the

pilot during the state visit of President Xi Jinping to the U.K. in October 2015. The new Chinese visit visa will also:

- Enable visitors to make multiple trips to the U.K. for a longer period
- Provide eligible Chinese customers with a better deal than the standard Schengen visitor visa, which is limited to a maximum of 90 days
- Enable British visitors to China to benefit from the same visa arrangement

The two-year visitor visa will be available for the purposes of tourism and business. Increasing numbers of British citizens are visiting China and will now benefit from these same arrangements, with the Chinese reducing their two-year visitor visa fee to the equivalent of £85 (an additional service fee will still be charged) and, for the first time, matching the U.K.'s offer of a 10-year visitor visa. There are also plans to extend the U.K.'s mobile fingerprinting service, which captures the biometrics needed for applications, from nine to 50 Chinese cities. (January) Read more [here](#).

## **U.K. Foreign Secretary visits China**

U.K. Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond visited China, marking his second official visit in six months. He is the most senior Cabinet Minister to visit the country since President Xi Jinping's landmark state visit to the U.K. in October, which marked a significant change in U.K.-China relations. The Foreign Secretary held high-level talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, where they focused on the security challenges facing the world. In addition, he met with State Counsellor Yang Jiechi and Premier Li Keqiang to exchange views on shared foreign policy priorities in 2016, including preparation for the next Strategic Dialogue and high-level Security Dialogue. He also followed up on key announcements from President Xi's state visit, including on anti-microbial resistance, and discussed cooperation on the development of the rule of law in China with Supreme People's Court President Zhou Qiang. (January) Read more [here](#).

CBI Beijing  
January 2016

*For inputs or comments, please contact our Beijing office:*

Guy Dru Drury (Chief Representative): [Guy.DruDrury@cbi.org.uk](mailto:Guy.DruDrury@cbi.org.uk)

Ben Cooper (Policy Analyst): [Ben.Cooper@cbi.org.uk](mailto:Ben.Cooper@cbi.org.uk)