

# 欧盟中国商会《周·知》

## WEEKLY UPDATES

### Foreign Minister Wang Yi travels to Europe

State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi is in Europe visiting Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, France, and Germany, after meeting his Hungarian counterpart in China. Indeed, including that of Canada, minister Wang will have met seven ministers in person in a short amid Covid-19 pandemic. His visit is particularly important ahead of the September China-EU higher level political meeting, where the leaders of China and the EU will discuss to lay the foundations of the future China-EU relations. The CCCEU observes the ongoing developments in the political, trade and economic relations towards the long-awaited meeting, as it believes that it will be a crucial moment to find renewed political will to further push the Sino-European and global cooperation.

At the same time, EU Trade Commissioner Phil Hogan presented his resignation this week, among a scandal in Ireland, where he violated the current COVID-19 prevention norms in the country. Now Von der Leyen has to find an appropriate replacement for the chief of the trade portfolio, amid a stalled World Trade Organisation, the US growing aggressivity in the trade realm, and the EU's busy trade agenda: not an easy task. The US tech-war on China continues, now dragging in also TikTok and WeChat. To restore some faith in innovation, the CCCEU presents the inspiring story of Shenzhen, the Chinese city which greatly transformed itself by investing in high-tech and is now ready for an even bigger upgrade with 5G technology.

#### China-EU relations: Minister Wang Yi's visit to Europe

This week, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi is travelling across Europe to visit the leaders of some European partners. The importance of this visit is clear to the European media and press, which follow it attentively. Minister Wang's busy week actually started in Beihai, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region on Monday, when he met Hungarian Foreign Affairs Minister Péter Szijjártó. Hungary, a key Central Eastern European country, kicked off the first meeting in person, in the awareness of the importance of its cooperation with China, which has been increasingly involved in the country's development, especially with high-tech investment projects on the part of Chinese enterprises. Cooperation with China is extremely important to the Hungarian economy, said Szijjártó, who also spoke about Hungary's intention to relaunch and strengthen bilateral economic cooperation with China.

Minister Wang then flew to Italy, his first stop, to meet his Italian counterpart Luigi di Maio on Tuesday. Italy is the first G7 country visited during this trip and will be chairing the G20 meetings next year after Saudi Arabia's presidency. Italy was among the first countries to sign agreements with China in support of the Belt Road Initiative and was also a close partner in anti-COVID-19 cooperation. The Italian press reported Di Maio's appreciation for being the first country to be visited by Minister Wang: La Stampa stressed Di Maio's intention to relaunch and strengthen Italian-Chinese cooperation, which was put to the test by the COVID-19 pandemic, and succeeded. In the press conference in Rome, Minister Wang said that his Europe trip has four main purposes: continuing the fight against COVID-19 with Europe; supporting Europe's unity and development; promoting China-Europe relations; and boosting world peace and global development.

In Rome, Minister Wang also met Canadian Foreign Minister Francois-Philippe Champagne, with whom he discussed the case of Huawei CFO Meng Wanzhou. On Wednesday, he met his Dutch counterpart Stef Blok and called on the Netherlands to cooperate with China in upholding multilateralism and setting an example for safeguarding free trade, ensuring mutual openness, and advocating fair competition, China Daily reports. CGTN



The China Chamber of Commerce to the EU (CCCEU) is a platform between China and the EU and it serves the best interests of Chinese enterprises investing in the EU. Established in August 2018, the CCCEU speaks on behalf of its 62 members and represents about one thousand Chinese enterprises.

Office 503 A, Rond-Point Schuman 6, 1040 Brussels, Belgium | [info@ccceu.eu](mailto:info@ccceu.eu) | [en.ccceu.eu](http://en.ccceu.eu)

also highlights that the Netherlands are an important partner because of their traditional support for multilateralism and open trade and investment.

On Thursday, he headed to Norway to meet Foreign Minister Ine Eriksen Sørreide and Prime Minister Erna Solberg: it is the first to the Scandinavian country by a Chinese foreign minister in 15 years. Norway is negotiating a free trade agreement with China, and discussions on this topic and on international trade topped the agenda. The Norwegian Ministry also highlighted that the Ministers discussed cooperation on other topics as well, such as on ocean issues. Minister Wang's trip will continue to France and Germany, which are the most powerful states in the EU and the main European integration drivers. As a saying in EU politics recalls, the destiny of the EU is mostly decide di Paris and Berlin: Minister Wang's visit to these key European capitals is an important opportunity to further strengthen cooperation with the key political forces in the European continent.

In reporting on the Rome press conference, POLITICO also highlighted Minister Wang's reference to the divisive role of the USA, which is trying to undermine EU-China relations by leveraging on 5G, digital technologies and trade. In fact, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's recent visit to some countries in Eastern Europe has the objective of influencing decision making in the EU, as POLITICO maintains. On the contrary, Minister Wang's European tour shows its very different objective: his tour is an opportunity to reinforce bilateral relations after the darkest hours in the pandemic, where China and the European partners showed concrete support to each other. The visits to his counterparts are also functional to prepare the September EU-China political meeting organised by Germany. From their exchanges in this meeting, the leaders of China and the EU will lay the foundation for their strategic partnership and cooperation for the years to come, continuing the work done to date under the 2013 Partnership Agreement, which will come to an end in December 2020.

---

### **The EU looks at sustainability, France thinks green, and Germany talks energy**

[ [European Commission](#) ] As a further step to achieve the goals of the Green Deal, the Commission presented on Thursday a package for critical raw materials for strategic technologies and sectors, with a forwarding looking perspective to 2030 and 2050. The EU executive aims to reduce dependency on third countries, to diversify suppliers, to improve resource efficiency and circularity, and to promote responsible sourcing worldwide.

[ [Guardian](#) ] On Thursday, French prime minister Jean Castex unveiled the EUR 100bn plan aimed at returning France to pre-pandemic economic strength. Part of the money comes from the European Union recovery fund, and jobs and the green economy are the core pillars of the proposal, officially called "Relaunch France".

[ [Financial Times](#) ] Public pressure is mounting on Merkel to suspend the Nord Stream 2 Project after the poisoning of the Russian citizen Alexei Navalny: German parliamentarians raise their voices. Yet, the suspension of the project, currently in its final stages of construction, would bring back major issues and political discussions for the European energy sector, as it did in its conception stage back in 2015.

[ [POLITICO](#) ] The Trump administration increasingly threatens sanctions against companies in Germany and other European Union countries over Russian gas ties via the Nord Stream 2 project. Yet, after stronger criticism especially in the German Parliament, US LNG gas exporters fear that the European retaliation could backfire, instead of boosting the shipping of American gas to the Old Continent.

---

### **As the US-China tech trade war worsens...**

#### **The EU's economy struggles along**

[ [Eurostat](#) ] In July, the euro area seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 7.9% (7.2% for the EU), up from 7.7% in June 2020 (7.1% for the EU). Eurostat estimates that 15.184 people were unemployed in July in the EU (12.793 million in the euro area).

[ [Financial Times](#) ] The Eurozone retail sales run out of steam as a north-south split emerges. The economists see a payback from the surge in pent-up demand that followed the easing of national lockdowns.

[ [POLITICO](#) ] The Eurozone fell into deflation in August, heaping pressure on policymakers and raising fears of economic freefall: falling prices could devastate the economy after an early estimate showed deflation of 0.2 percent in August.

The US government is firm in the pursuit of its targets: Huawei and TikTok. In mid-August, the Commerce Department further restricted Huawei access to US technology, blocking the use of any American technology in microchips powering Huawei's smartphones and networking equipment. The US hostility, however, did not meet the immediate and unanimous support of EU countries, who are rather divided in their position vis-à-vis the American stance. As Laurens Cerulus (POLITICO) presented, most European capitals – with the exception of London – have their own approach to 5G networks, and have not followed the US approach with concrete actions.

Yet, this recent US decision might produce more concrete results, and not in the desired direction: as a recent market analysis by Strand Consulting estimates, Huawei has ongoing contracts for telecoms gear in all but one EU country, Slovakia. The European reliance on Huawei for the existing 4G networks will not push the governments to embrace the US strategy without questioning it, as it would mean economic losses and delays. Politically speaking, this move can turn out to be suicidal for the US, as their European allies are not likely to follow it into an evident catastrophe. For Huawei, this is an opportunity to strengthen its cooperation with its European partners and to find innovative solution to avoid the US trick. The CCCEU is confident that the company, which experienced a 27.4% growth in sales in Q2 this year in comparison to Q1 despite the COVID-19 pandemic and the US aversion, will stand up to the challenge. New partners are also on their way, for instance Russia, which is ready to co-operate with China and Huawei on 5G technology, which Moscow is currently trying to develop.

In addition to Huawei, TikTok and WeChat are now the new front line in the US-China tech war, which is part of a wider campaign by the Trump administration to clamp down on China on a whole range of policy topics: this is one of the outtakes by Demetri Sevastopulo and James Kynge (Financial times), who discuss the reasons why US President Donald Trump has banned the social media apps. After the latest development, TikTok chief Kevin Mayer quit the company, after Trump threatened to ban the app. The company had filed a lawsuit against the Trump administration over an executive order banning any transactions with its parent company ByteDance – an inevitable reaction to a political decision, according to the Financial Times. But the games on TikTok's destiny are still open, as the US retailer Walmart enters the race for TikTok US with the Microsoft partnership.

### ... Shenzhen shines

This year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone. As shown by the infographics by China Daily, the area experienced an enormous development, going from a rural landscape to becoming China's Silicon Valley. With an economy based on the tertiary sector (60.9%) and on high-tech, Shenzhen now leads in innovation and automation in high value-added industries such as IT and biotechnology. Innovation is truly the fil rouge of Shenzhen's last 40 years. The city announced on 17 August that it has become the first Chinese city to achieve full-scale 5G deployment: according to China Daily, 5G technology is bringing significant changes to the infrastructure sector in Shenzhen, freeing workers from heavy workloads and enhancing their work efficiency. The CCCEU thinks that Shenzhen's history is the result of timely decision on business development: this rate of innovation can be achieved through cooperation among private companies, and the CCCEU and its members are keen on exploring similar opportunities with their European partners.

### The Long Read – suggested readings, selected for you by the CCCEU

- *“Shenzhen reflects the success of reform, opening-up”* – In only four decades Shenzhen has been at the forefront of reform and opening-up, transforming from a small fishing town into an international city and an innovation hub with the country's highest per capita GDP, writes Shen Minghao, director of the Institute of Studies for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. [ [link](#) ]
- *“Globalization Isn't in Decline: It's Changing”* – Erik van der Marel, Senior Economist at ECIPE, argues that, although the COVID-19 crisis has seen a dramatic decline in goods trade, investments and the movement of

people, a new type of globalization is emerging. This “new globalization” is based on digital services, research and development, data, ideas, and other intangibles. [ [link](#) ]

- *“Europe has an artificial-intelligence skills shortage?”* - How severe is Europe’s dearth of AI talent and how does it compare to the United States, China and the United Kingdom – the world’s AI champions? Julia Anderson, Paco Viry and Guntram B. Wolff from Bruegel present their reply. [ [link](#) ]
- *“Abuse of power weakening US hegemony”* - The moves US administration’s moves against TikTok, WeChat and Huawei attracted great attention but, by closing its market to Chinese companies, the US is keeping out new technologies and suppressing innovation, writes Dang Sen from the Fudan Development Institute. [ [link](#) ]
- *“Minimizing the Social Cost of COVID-19”* - Andrew Sheng and Xiao Geng show why East Asian economies have far outperformed countries like the US and the UK during the pandemic. [ [link](#) ]

## 《周·知》 | 王毅外长“一口气”见七国外长,推动全球变局中的中欧关系

**编前语:** 欢迎大家阅读欧盟中国商会最新一期中英文《周·知》简报。本周要闻关注国务委员兼外交部长王毅的欧洲访问。在国内会见了匈牙利外交部长后,王毅正在欧洲穿梭,访问意大利、荷兰、挪威、法国和德国,“一口气”会见包含加拿大在内的 7 国外长,为推动中欧高级别政治议程奠定基础。与此同时,在欧盟外贸事务繁忙、美国外贸政策咄咄逼人的当下,欧盟贸易专员 Phil Hogan 因违反新冠禁令于本周提交辞呈,而欧委会及时找到合适的新外贸专员并非易事;中美科技战持续发酵,TikTok 和微信仍在战线前沿;今年深圳经济特区成立 40 周年,高科技的持续投资使深圳从小渔村转变为“中国硅谷”,5G 技术的投入使用将持续为深圳输入创新动力。面对变幻莫测的国际形势,欧盟中国商会竭力提供最有价值的资讯和观点,解读中欧经贸合作的机遇和挑战。感谢阅读本期《周·知》简报,祝您周末愉快。订阅读请致信 [info@ccceu.eu](mailto:info@ccceu.eu)。

### 王毅外长访问欧洲,开拓新局,深化双边关系

本周,中国外交部长王毅在欧洲访问并会见部分欧盟成员国外长及领导人。8月24日,王毅部长在广西壮族自治区北海市会见匈牙利外交部长斯齐亚尔托(Péter Szijjártó)。匈牙利是中东欧的关键国家,其意识到中国尤其是中资企业带来的高科技投资项目对其发展的重要性。斯齐亚尔托表示,与中国合作对匈牙利经济至关重要,匈牙利意图重新开展并加强与中国的双边经济合作。

随后,他飞往第一个目的地意大利,并于周二会见意大利外交部长迪马约(Luigi Di Maio)。意大利是王外长此行访问的第一个 G7 国家,也是明年 20 国集团的轮值主席国。意大利是最早与中国签署协议支持“一带一路”倡议的国家之一,也是合作共抗新冠疫情的亲密伙伴。意大利媒体《新闻报》报道了迪马约对中方此行首访意大利的感谢,并表示意图重新开展并加强受到疫情影响的中意合作。在罗马的新闻发布会上,王毅部长表达他欧洲之行的四个目的:继续与欧洲统一战线对抗新冠疫情;支持欧洲统一和发展;推动中欧关系;促进世界和平和全球发展。

他也在罗马会见了加拿大外长商鹏飞(Francois-Philippe Champagne)并讨论华为首席财务官孟晚舟案。周三,他会见了荷兰外交部长布洛克(Stef Blok)并号召荷兰与中国合作以维护多边主义,树立维护自由贸易、确保相互开放、倡导公平竞争的榜样。中国国际电视台强调,荷兰传统上支持多边主义和开放的贸易投资,是一个重要的伙伴。

周四,他前往挪威会见外交部长瑟里德(Ine Eriksen Sørreide)和首相索尔伯格(Erna Solberg):这是 15 年来中国外长首次访问斯堪的纳维亚国家。挪威正在与中国谈判一项自由贸易协定,这一议题和其他国际问题的讨论是本次议程的重点。挪威外交部表示,双边部长还讨论了关于海洋和其他议题方面的合作。随后,王毅部长将继续访问法国和德国。法国和德国是欧盟最具实力的国家,也是欧洲一体化的主要推动力。欧盟政坛上有一句格言:欧盟的命运取决于巴黎和柏林。王部长访问巴黎和柏林,是进一步加强与欧洲大陆主要政治力量合作的重要机会。

在关于罗马新闻发布会的报导中,《政治》强调了王毅部长的观点:美国试图通过利用 5G 和数字技术、外面和安全问题破坏中欧关系。实际上,正如《政治》所主张的那样,美国国务卿蓬佩奥(Mike Pompeo)最近访问东欧国家的目的在于左右欧盟决策。然而王毅部长的行程和目

的与美国截然相反，他主要的访问对象是中国最重要的几个欧盟国家伙伴。在新冠疫情至暗时刻，中欧坚定地支持了彼此；后新冠疫情时期，王毅部长访问欧洲则是进一步加强双边关系的重要机遇，为后几个月继续在更高层面深化中欧关系奠定基础。

## 欧盟贸易专员因丑闻辞职

【[金融时报](#)】欧盟贸易专员菲尔·霍根（Phil Hogan）在本周三辞职。当前，欧盟的贸易部门正与中国、美国、南方共同市场等全球不同地区的伙伴进行谈判，同时中美贸易关系日益紧张。在复杂的形势下，失去一位欧盟委员的指导必将削弱欧盟的贸易外交。

## 中美贸易战局势升级

【[路透社](#)】俄罗斯目前正在研发 5G 技术，并已准备好与中国和华为合作。

【[中国日报](#)】尽管受到新冠疫情和美国打压的影响，华为今年第二季度销售额较第一季度增长 27.4%。

【[政治](#)】随着美国禁止对华为出口芯片，欧洲各国目前对华为暂未站成统一战线。欧洲国家仍然十分依赖华为 4G 网络，放弃华为网络意味着丢掉经济增长。这也是华为加强与欧洲伙伴合作，寻求避免美国干扰新办法的时机。

【[金融时报](#)】TikTok 和微信是中美科技战的砝码，也是特朗普政府全面打压中国政策的延伸。Demetri Sevastopulo 和 James Kynge 讨论了美国禁用中国社交媒体的原因。同时，因为被禁止与其母公司字节跳动交易，TikTok 已经[起诉特朗普政府](#)。当商业的公平竞争受到政治打压，TikTok 此举无可避免也无可厚非。

【[金融时报](#)】TikTok 最终命运悬而未决：沃尔玛开始与微软（Microsoft）合作，竞购 TikTok 的美国业务；在特朗普威胁禁用 TikTok 后，[TikTok 首席执行官凯文·梅尔（Kevin Mayer）决定辞职](#)。

## 深圳，四十而立

【[中国日报](#)】今年是深圳经济特区成立 40 周年。在过去的 40 年里，深圳经历了巨大的变革，从小渔村快速发展为中国硅谷。深圳经济以第三产业（60.9%）和高科技产业为基础，并在信息技术和生物技术等高附加值产业的创新和自动化方面处于领先地位。

【[中国日报](#)】创新是深圳过去 40 年的真正财富。8 月 17 日，深圳宣布其迄今已有超过 4.6 万个基站，成为中国首个实现 5G 全面部署的城市。5G 技术极大减轻了工人们工作负担，提高了工作效率，并时刻在变革深圳的基础设施行业。

## 欧洲经济复苏动态

【[欧盟委员会](#)】周一，欧盟委员会根据其缓解失业风险的临时支持工具向 15 个成员国提供 814 亿欧元的财政支持的建议，以保障公民并减轻疫情造成的负面社会经济影响。欧盟理事会不必

考虑这些提案：一旦提案获批，欧盟将向成员国以发放低息贷款的形式提供财政支持。这笔钱可以用来资助短期工作计划和类似措施，以支持受到封城影响的工人。

**【[欧盟委员会](#)】**周一，欧盟委员会结束了与美国生物制药公司 Moderna 关于另一种潜在疫苗的探索性谈判。周四，欧盟委员会与制药公司阿斯利康（AstraZeneca）签订合同，为欧盟成员国购买新冠疫苗。