

4th China Forum Event Rationale

Europe-China: Cooperation & Innovation in Smart Urban Mobility

Under the Juncker Commission's political guidelines on strengthening the role of the European Union as a global actor, Europe is pursuing intensive cooperation efforts with China in the area of research and innovation, as confirmed more recently during the 19th EU-China Summit on 2 June 2017 in Brussels, Belgium. In the new package of flagship initiatives, both the EU and the Republic of China expressed the need to boost cooperation in sustainable urbanization and surface transport to be able to tackle future socio-economic challenges to their economies.

While these initiatives have been incorporated in the topics of the EU's Horizon2020 Work Programme 2018-2020, they have also influenced the partnerships of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)'s Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs). The upcoming KIC on Urban Mobility, which will be announced in December 2018 and move into its start-up year phase in 2019, represent in this respect a new opportunity to stimulate synergies between China and Europe to shape the future of cities.

How can we prepare cities to transition towards green smart urban mobility with zero emissions? In order to answer this question, the European Sustainable Energy Innovation Alliance (eseia) organized the panel "Cooperation & Innovation in Smart Urban Mobility" to address the technological, social, economic, environmental, and governmental challenges of urban mobility. Under the stringent commitments to reduce global greenhouse gas emission under the Paris Agreement (2015), key opportunities for cooperation between EU and China could lie for instance in the electrification and automation of the car, as well as in the delivery of mobility as a service and in its increasing digitalisation.

Target Groups and Outcome of the Panel

The panel on "Cooperation & Innovation in Smart Urban Mobility" shall bring together government spokesperson, business leaders, as well as NGOs professionals, academics, providing a high-level interactive platform to exchange ideas, views and experiences, and explore opportunities for the integration of the Sino-European cooperation in the framework of EIT's KIC on urban mobility.

Date: 24 October 2018

Venue: Confucius Institute at the University of Graz, Austria

Organisers: Director Brigitte Hasewend, European Sustainable Energy Innovation Alliance (eseia)

Moderator: DI Martijn Christiaan Kiers, FH Joanneum (tbc)

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