Dear Executive Vice-President,

I am pleased to share with you attached a copy of the new BusinessEurope paper “EU-China relations – Engaging with a systemic rival”. We will officially publish the paper the day of the EU-China High-Level Economic Dialogue on 19 July, but we would already like to share it in advance with you and your services.

The paper, which should be read in conjunction with our 2020 publication “The EU and China: addressing the systemic challenge”, highlights irritants and risks in contemporary EU-China relations but also emphasises that it remains important for the EU to cooperate with China in certain areas. The paper also sets out policy recommendations for creating the conditions for closer cooperation with China in two specific areas: climate policy and standardisation.

I wish you a successful High-Level Economic Dialogue and will be happy to answer any questions you may have on our views.

Best regards,