

## NGO law - a threat to EU-China relations, says J.Leinen

[28-01-2016 - 18:23]

**"Without a revision of the draft law on foreign Non-Governmental Organisations, we will face a lot of turmoil and trouble in EU-China relations", argued Jo Leinen (S&D, DE), Chair of the EP's China Delegation after its meeting today in Brussels.**

The draft Chinese law on foreign non-governmental organisations (NGO) foresees their mandatory registration with the Ministry of Public Security as well as other registration and supervision requirements. The vague definition of an NGO would cover all aspects of civil society, from universities to trade unions and chambers of commerce and generally all non-profit groups working in China.

Mr. Leinen issued the following statement after the meeting:

"European civil society organisations should not be seen as a threat, but as helping the development of China and of EU-China relations.

Under the current draft law, many NGOs would reconsider their engagement in China and would most probably leave the country. China would lose a lot of opportunities for innovation.

The EP Delegation for relations with China will address this issue in the upcoming meetings with its Chinese counterparts."

*Disclaimer: this is an informal message intended to help journalists covering the work of the European Parliament. It is neither an official press release nor a comprehensive record of proceedings*

### Further information

- Jo Leinen (S&D, DE): <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/4262.html>
- EP delegation for relations with People's Republic of China: [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/delegations/en/d-cn/home.html#delegation\\_menu](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/delegations/en/d-cn/home.html#delegation_menu)

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