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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Dombrovskis
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.2.2021)

The EU's bilateral trade and investment relationship with Taiwan is important and robust with a potential to further strengthening ties given the synergies and complementarities in respective economic sectors and investments.

The EU and Taiwan are in regular policy dialogues on economic, trade and investment issues. Since 2017, the Investment Working Group has met six times, with substantive and productive exchanges on a broad range of policy matters and legislative developments. These technical exchanges have strengthened mutual understanding of the respective regulatory frameworks for investment.

The conclusion in principle of negotiations for a Comprehensive Agreement on Investment between the EU and China (CAI) on 30 December 2020 is a first step in the process towards adoption and ratification of the agreement. The Commission's immediate priority is to ensure that the process will conclude smoothly and that the agreement delivers concrete benefits to European investors.

The Commission has not taken a decision on launching investment negotiations with Taiwan nor does it have a roadmap for the negotiations. In the meantime, the EU continues working closely with Taiwan, including addressing some persistent trade barriers faced by European exporters.