



The German Marshall Fund
of the United States

STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION



REGERINGSKANSLIET

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Sweden

Transatlantic Discussion Sessions

DRAFT AGENDA (as of February 19, 2018)

Accommodation: Indigo Hotel Hong Kong Island

Friday, February 23, 2018

Meeting Venue: European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao

10:45 Meet in hotel lobby for transfer to venue

11:00-12:00 Registration and light lunch

12:00 Welcome Remarks

12:05-13:15 DECODING THE PARTY CONGRESS

The 19th Party Congress has heralded the beginning of a new age of Chinese politics. Xi Jinping has officially declared the competition for political and economic systems and confidently claimed China to be the most promising candidate for becoming the champion of this era, taking the center stage and pushing aside outdated restraint and reluctance. At the same time, within China domestic control of Chinese citizens, media as well as national and international NGOs is significantly enhanced. How should Europe and the U.S. approach the Chinese leadership's approach in promoting its interests?

13:30-14:30 "SHARP POWER": CHINESE INFLUENCE IN WESTERN DEMOCRACIES

Developments in Australia served as a wake-up call. But Chinese influence in democracies extends far beyond the immediate neighborhood and is becoming palpable in the U.S. and Europe. How resilient are liberal democracies? What are effective counter-measures? How can awareness be raised within Western societies without stoking up a China "witch hunt"?

14:45-15:25 TALK WHAT FUTURE FOR DEMOCRACY IN HONG KONG?