



ReLaTe - Law and business in China in the framework of the EU and China investment and trade relations: the challenges of digital-tech age

## PRESS RELEASE

### LAUNCH OF THE JEAN MONNET MODULE ReLaTe (September 2023)

On September 2023 the Jean Monnet Module ReLaTe - Law and business in China in the framework of the EU and China investment and trade relations: the challenges of digital-tech age has been launched at the University of Bologna. This is a teaching programme that aims at promoting research and teaching experience among young researchers, scholars and practitioners in EU issues. Jean Monnet Modules, that in 2019, as all other Jean Monnet Activities, celebrated their 30th anniversary, are co-funded under the Erasmus+ Programme.

The Jean Monnet module ReLaTe aims to explore how to build a new model of EU-China relations paying particular attention to the emerging regulatory framework of the digital-tech transition. This transition has given rise to new regulatory challenges, also in the field of international economic relations. This is due to the absence of clearly defined global rules, which must be established while balancing social and economic development and protecting fundamental rights. The EU is linking the digital regulation to the idea of strengthening its digital sovereignty; likewise, China, in developing its own strategy on digital sovereignty, has engaged in a massive regulatory process, particularly from an international trade perspective. Against this background, ReLaTe aims to provide students with an understanding of the key factors underpinning the history of EU-China investment and trade relations in the changing global context driven by the digital transition.

The ultimate objective is to train the new generation of leaders, jurists and legal practitioners, providing them the analytical and critical skills to become conscious and active participants in the construction of a new model of relations in one of the most crucial areas of the global economic and legal framework. This will strengthen the role of the EU and promote its values in the current globalized and digitalized world. The Module, taught entirely in English, will provide 48 hours of teaching and 14 hours of seminars per year as well as a workshop for high school students and a conference. The wider society will also be involved in the Module through the seminars and the conference.

Actually, the seminars, workshop and the final conference will play a key role in disseminating knowledge to a wider audience about the topics covered by the Module. These topics address important issues that have a significant impact on everyday life, such as privacy, data protection, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. This will ultimately lead to greater public awareness of these complex issues and of the policies and regulatory instruments adopted by the EU to protect their rights and interests, including in its external relations with China, bringing the EU closer to the public.



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