



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**

### **First ReLaTe Course, Seminars and Study Visit (February 2024)**

The first ReLaTe course and seminars took place between September and December 2023 at the Department of Legal Studies of the University of Bologna.

About 60 young scholars, coming from all over the world – from Belgium to China, from India to Brazil, from Germany to Russia, from Italy to Poland (only to mention a few) – attended the 48 hours course “Law and Business in China – ReLaTe” and successfully completed the exam session in January and February 2024.

During the lectures the ReLaTe coordinator, professor Marina Timoteo with Professor Angela Carpi (who is teaching a 20 hours module in the course), discussed with the student on the legal framework of doing business in China, devolving special attention to the evolution of this framework in the context of the EU-China legal relations in the field of investment and trade.

After an introduction to the EU-China investment and trade dialogue and cooperation initiatives and the related regulatory framework, the strategies and regulatory approaches adopted by EU and China in the digital-tech revolution with a focus on specific sectors dealing with e-commerce, personal data and artificial intelligence have been presented. The goal of the course was to help the students to become aware and to deepen their understanding about the current situations of the EU and China economic relations, as well as the complexity and the challenges that emerge from the rising of the digital technology on the regulatory framework.

The students acquired analytical and critical skills on the crucial global issues covered by the course and were very active in the class discussions. The students were very interested and willing to deepen the analysis: actually, 25 of them, in groups or alone, decided to write a paper on a specific topic, chosen together with the professors. Under the guidance of the teachers and with the help of the ReLaTe Research Assistance, dr. Barbara Verri, the students successfully presented to the class the outcome of their research work.

On November 10, 2023 Professor Federico Casolari, delivered a 3 hours seminar on “Eu and China in Relation: Digital Dialogue and Sovereignty Issue”. During the seminar Professor Casolari chaired a fruitful discussion with other distinguished professors: Prof. Elaine Fahey (City University of London), Dr. Riccardo Nanni (Fondazione Bruno Kessler), and Prof. Marina Timoteo, (University of Bologna). Undergraduate students, PhD students, lawyers, entrepreneurs, advisors and other professionals attended the seminar.

On November 24 and December 10, 2023 Professor Angela Carpi delivered 2 seminars. In the first 3 hours seminar, some scholars from Tongji University also discussed with professor Carpi on the challenges of the digital era in the protection of intellectual property rights. In the second 2 hours seminar, held online, Professor Carpi delivered a speech on “EU-China IP Digital Dialogue”. Undergraduate students, PhD students, lawyers, entrepreneurs, advisors and other professionals attended the seminar.

On December 7, 2023 a group of 20 students of the ReLaTe course accompanied by Professors Marina Timoteo and Angela Carpi enjoyed a study visit at the Super Computer “Leonardo”, one of the few and most powerful super computer of the world, located at the Bologna Technopole. The group was accompanied in the visit by experts that explained how does the super computer works, its potentials and its activities, also connected to data collection and processing.

During the ReLaTe Course and seminars, the work of assisting students and guests made by Dr. Barbara Verri was precious and constant.



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