
EU NATIONS BREAKING RULES IN BILATERAL TRADE DEALS WITH CHINA

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Fifteen EU member states have breached bloc-wide rules in agreeing bilateral commercial deals with China as part of Beijings ambitious belt and road initiative (BRI), according to a damning report published by the European Court of Auditors on Thursday (10 September).

Auditors have probed the scope of Chinese investments into the EU, identifying multiple risks of both a political and economic nature, while also drawing attention to how member states have been systematically violating EU rules in bypassing the European Commission before tying up trade deals with China.

On a bilateral basis, China has formed 15 agreements with EU member states as part of its Belt and Road Initiative, a landmark development plan involving infrastructure and investments stretching across more than 80 countries in Europe, Asia and Africa.

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