
BEIJING'S INFLUENCE IN EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DRAWS FRESH SCRUTINY

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Just over a year ago, a prominent European lawmaker urged newly elected peers to help him rid the bloc of acrimonious competition with China.

On the face of it, the invitation to an EU-China Friendship Group event was business-as-usual in the European Parliament. Many so-called friendship groups seek to promote cultural and economic ties between the EU and countries ranging from the United Arab Emirates to Taiwan.

Champagne and canapés will be served, read the lawmaker's invitation.

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