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EU-CHINA INVESTMENT DEAL HITS A SNAG AS US EXERTS PRESSURE

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By Eleanor Mears And Giorgio Leali

The chances of China and the European Union concluding a landmark investment deal before the end of the year appear to be diminishing, as opposition grows, including from the U.S., to any agreement that fails to tackle the issue of forced labor.

Talks between EU trade chief Valdis Dombrovskis and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, tentatively scheduled for Tuesday morning, were postponed, according to someone briefed on the negotiations. Ambassadors from the EU member states, meeting Tuesday afternoon, also dropped a discussion on the EU-China investment deal from their schedule.

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