

EUPLANT lecture: EU-China Relations: A Coherence Perspective

1 June 2021

Ms Esther Wong

CityU School of Law, in cooperation with EU-China Legal and Judicial Cooperation (EUPLANT) Project, have jointly held a lecture via Zoom on 27 May 2021. We are honoured to have Dr. Kolja Raube, Assistant Professor of European Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences at KU Leuven (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven) in Belgium, to give a lecture titled “EU-China Relations: A Coherence Perspective”.

The lecture was kicked off with welcome remarks by Dr. He Tianxiang (Assistant Professor, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong). Dr. He explained the background and the aims of EUPLANT Lecture, the background of the speaker and thanked all the participants for their support for the lecture.



Dr. He Tianxiang



Dr. Kolja Raube

Dr. Raube’s lecture focused on the coherence of the EU-China relations. He first explained the coherence and strategic pragmatism of the EU foreign policy and explored if coherence and strategy apply to the foreign policy of the European Union. Furthermore, Dr. Raube examined the EU-China relations from a coherence perspective in the global and EU foreign policy context. According to Dr. Raube, the signing of The Comprehensive Agreement on Investment (CAI) between EU and China and the introduction of sanctions from European Union signify the incoherent EU-China relationship. He concluded that with the dividing Europe, it is unlikely to have one pragmatic and one principled approach towards the EU-China relations.

After the lecture, questions were raised by some participants, including Professor Lin Feng (Associate Dean, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong, Coordinator of the EUPLANT project in Hong Kong) and Dr. Matthieu Burnay (Associate Professor, School of Law, Queen Mary University of London). They interacted with Dr. Raube in the Q & A session. The lecture was concluded with the closing remarks by Dr. He Tianxiang, who thanked Dr. Raube for his valuable contributions and all the audience for their attendance which made this lecture a great success and fruitful.



Professor Lin Feng



Dr. Matthieu Burnay