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## Informationen für die Medien

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### **China's Vice Premier to attend economic conference in Hamburg on China's and Europe's future**

Vice Premier Liu He to be guest of honour at the "Hamburg Summit" on 26 and 27 November in Hamburg, Germany

Hamburg, 24 October 2018 – China's Vice Premier, Liu He, will be guest of honour and main speaker of the 8<sup>th</sup> "Hamburg Summit: China meets Europe". The conference will be held on 26 and 27 November 2018 in Hamburg, Germany. The "Hamburg Summit" is organised by the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce. Following last summer's G20 summit, this will be the second time for Liu to visit Hamburg, home of Germany's largest port. The European Commissioner for Competition, Margrethe Vestager, confirmed her participation as guest of honour from the European side. Furthermore, a Federal Minister is expected to represent the perspective of the German government. Topics to be discussed at the conference will include Sino-European affairs in particular as well as both world regions' relations with the United States.

Just after President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Li Keqiang, Liu He is one of the key policymakers in China's State Council. In his role as Vice Premier, Liu is responsible for financial and economic affairs as well as for China's global trade relations, with the United States in particular. A close confidant of Xi Jinping, he is thus the central figure in China's economic and financial politics. Moreover, he was given the task of promoting the development of small and medium-sized enterprises in China and revising the country's strategic economic policy.

Liu's participation in the "Hamburg Summit" demonstrates that the Chinese government attaches great importance to Europe as a strong economic partner in times of global uncertainty. Political and economic challenges, the forthcoming Brexit, as well as difficult trade relations with the United States have put an increasing strain on Sino-European relations. "Amidst a difficult economic environment in both China and Europe, the "Hamburg Summit" will get the two partners to talk and thus facilitate a dialogue on further opportunities for cooperation as well as critical issues in economic relations," said Tobias Bergmann,

President of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce. “Therefore, we are very pleased that, with the participation of Liu He, China is again this year indicating great interest in our conference and in dialogue with Europe.”

#### About the Hamburg Summit

Initiated by the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce, the “Hamburg Summit” is the leading economic conference on Sino-European affairs. As a high-level platform for open dialogue between Europe and China, it is aimed at enhancing economic relations and mutual understanding. Participants include leading business representatives as well as policymakers and academics from China, Europe and other parts of the world. The Hamburg Chamber of Commerce was established in 1665. It is Germany’s oldest Chamber of Commerce and represents the interests of some 160,000 local businesses at political and administrative levels. [www.hamburg-summit.com](http://www.hamburg-summit.com)

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