



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in China
瑞士驻华大使馆

Media release

Beijing 31.10.2026

9th Sino-Swiss Economic Forum Held in Beijing Celebrating the Signing of the optimized bilateral free trade agreement

Beijing, 31.10.2026 — The 9th Sino-Swiss Economic Forum took place on 31 October 2026 in Beijing, celebrating the signing of the upgraded Switzerland-China Free Trade Agreement (FTA). Jointly organized by SwissCham China, the Embassy of Switzerland in China and Switzerland Global Enterprise, the event brought together government representatives, business leaders and industry experts from both countries to exchange perspectives on bilateral economic cooperation, industrial innovation and business development in China.

The forum welcomed Guy Parmelin, President of the Swiss Confederation and Head of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research and Wang Wentao, Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China, as Guests of Honor. Krystyna Marty Lang, Ambassador of Switzerland to China, also attended, together with a delegation of Swiss parliamentarians and representatives of the Swiss business and scientific communities accompanying President Parmelin on his visit to China.

The gala dinner celebrated the signing of the optimized FTA and was hosted by Zhang ZZ, National Vice-Chairman of SwissCham China. President Parmelin and Minister Wang Wentao each delivered remarks, joining business representatives from both countries to mark this important development in bilateral trade cooperation.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Switzerland-China Innovative Strategic Partnership. Relations between the two countries continue to develop positively, with cooperation yielding results across a wide range of fields. Free trade cooperation has been a particular highlight. Switzerland was the first country in continental Europe to sign an FTA with China. Since entering into force more than a decade ago, the agreement has helped advance bilateral trade and economic exchanges. In August this year, Switzerland was again among the first European countries to conclude FTA upgrade negotiations with China. The gala dinner marked the signing of the upgraded FTA and provided an opportunity for government and business representatives to discuss the prospects for bilateral trade cooperation.

This year's economic forum featured three industry sub-forums on Artificial Intelligence, Advanced Engineering & Manufacturing, and Life Sciences, alongside a closed-door CEO Macroeconomic Outlook + FTA forum. Bringing together business experience and broader economic perspectives, the sessions addressed technology adoption, localization, innovation partnerships and bilateral trade.

Contact

Ms. Li Dan, Press Manager, Culture and Media Section, Embassy of Switzerland in China
+86 10 8532 8741, dan.li@eda.admin.ch