

“Improve the framework for the German Business Community to do business in China.”



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Where do you see the main challenge or main opportunity for German companies in China over the next two years and where do you see the role of the German Chamber?

The upcoming China-Europe Summit in 2020 will offer big opportunities to further improve the legal frame for doing business in China. The German Chamber has to actively lobby towards the German government to negotiate the most favorable conditions for our member companies.

On the other side, we have to seize our well-established relations to many government authorities to keep ongoing China initiatives such as the social credit system or the enforcement of environmental protection manageable for German companies, in particular SMEs.

Furthermore, the recent COVID-19 crisis demonstrates that our increasingly positive relationship to municipal governments in the North-East can help to address critical member cases as well as general topics of relevance for the German community (e.g. schooling).

How can your expertise and professional background support the German Chamber to address this challenge or opportunity?

Having the privilege to chair the German Chamber for two years and at the same time being responsible for the largest German company in China with a footprint in 33 locations all over the country, allowed me to build various high-level contacts within state and provincial government bodies as well as with the relevant ministries in Germany.

In addition, I regard it as vital to strengthen our bond to the other two German Chamber offices in China as well as the European Chamber. In this respect, we achieved already a lot over the past two years but in a time where advocacy is becoming more and more important, a harmonized approach across all relevant Chamber bodies is essential for our future work. I am determined to further drive this process.