Twitter Thread by David Henig



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Not the easiest to follow, but for those interested in the big picture of trade relations between US, EU and China this exchange between @alanbeattie and @IanaDreyer is an essential read. Real debate on key issues, and good points on both sides.

> V good points but overall I stick with the conclusion that this is a v risky deal.
>
> 1. It\u2019s overstating it to say that COM now has final say over investment. FDI screening remains a MS competency. COM has had to take a v secondary supporting role over Huawei and 5G.
>
> 1/n https://t.co/RVg2jnoFgK
>
> — Alan Beattie (@alanbeattie) January 5, 2021

Also reading this from @gideonrachman on EU-China. My view (cynically?) - that EU-China is a deal that makes a lot of sense given a probably unresolvable trade policy superpower triangle with the US, and best for the EU to move while China will. https://t.co/BxH0EB2dT6

The US and EU roughly agree on China that it should do some things differently, but not really the details of what those are. Meanwhile the EU and US have long standing trade policy differences, which neither (or their key stakeholders) prioritise resolving.

For the EU, the China deal has sent a message to the new US administration, you can't just tell us what to do. And delivered some (probably marginal in reality) benefits to business. For China, this is the 3rd deal with EU or US in 12 months. Pretty clear strategy there.

The key assumption that lies at the heart of too much writing on EU-US relations is that the two should cooperate on trade. After 25 years of largely failing to do so, I'd suggest we might want to question that a bit more deeply.

Also just read this. I'm confident we're going to have a lot of conversations about US-EU-China relations in the next four years. Less confident we're going to get answers. https://t.co/lcZUx7hwvV

> Blistering stuff from @noahbarkin on EU-China deal - a must read https://t.co/92a6rxBRtU pic.twitter.com/VHRtEiOiTy
>
> — Finbarr Bermingham (@fbermingham) January 5, 2021

And more on EU-China. Worth reading (from DG Trade in EU) in briefly outlining the complex factors to be considered. https://t.co/FNZLJBPCv8

> I disagree with the assertion, and I ask myself against what benchmark the EU is measured here. The EU\u2019s 2019 China Communication sets out a comprehensive strategy that treats China simultaneously as a negotiating partner, an ec competitor and a systemic rival. 1/5 https://t.co/xN1XRQlK1m
>
> — Sabine Weyand (@WeyandSabine) January 5, 2021

Personal note - before working on Brexit and TTIP, I worked on the quiet file that was US-China-EU trade relations... ten years too soon really.

Wondering what I should go for next.