



Portugal's Belt & Road Think Thank



NSRF NEWSLETTER

NEW SILK ROAD FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Events NSRF

From January to December 2022

Chinese Spring Dinner

On February 25, NSRF' Friends and Associates gathered at *Restaurante Mandarin* in *Casino Estoril* to celebrate the Chinese Spring Festival.



Edition of the Book "*Rotas de Aproximação Portugal-China - A Importância Civilizacional dos Portos*"

On April, NSRF and the Macao International Institute (IIM) coedited the book "*Rotas de Aproximação Portugal-China - A Importância Civilizacional dos Portos*", following the successful Conference with the same name.



NSRF's Participation on FIN 2022

On June 2nd, the President of the Directors' Board, Prof. Fernanda Ilhéu, participated on FIN and moderated a Panel entitled "China: Myths and Truths". The event took place at *Ordem dos Contabilistas Organizados*, in Porto.



NSRF's Participation on the Exhibitions "Belt and Road: Community of Shared Future for all Mankind" and "A China Vista do Lado de Cá"

On July 8th, at the University of Minho, NSRF's President of the Directors' Board, Fernanda Ilhéu, and the Associate Carla Melo, participated in the inauguration of the exhibitions "Belt and Road: Community of Shared Future for all Mankind" and "A China Vista do Lado de Cá". Prof. Fernanda Ilhéu gave a talk on the Belt and Road Initiative entitled "Uma Faixa Uma Rota e a Nova Rota da Seda Marítima do Século XXI (BRI) (2013-2022): Uma Oportunidade? Uma Ameaça?".

NSRF was present in both exhibitions as a roll-up, edited books and a big cardboard explaining the history of the Association.



Network Lunch "Portugal-China Diplomatic Relations: Past, Present and Future"

On July 21st, NSRF organized, and Jorge Álvares Foundation (FJA) sponsored, a Network Lunch at the Salão Nobre of the Restaurant Círculo Eça de Queiroz. The honourable speaker was Ambassador José Duarte de Jesus, a NSRF Associate and Friend, who gave everyone a brilliant presentation on the diplomatic and historical relations between Portugal and China.



Guided Visit to “Exposição dos Instrumentos Musicais Chineses”

On October 21st, with the assistance of the Associate Dr. Enio de Souza, NSRF organized a Guided Visit to the “Exposição dos Instrumentos Musicais Chineses”, located in the Torreão Sul do Edifício Real de Mafra, where both Associates and the general public participated and enjoyed the memorable explanations given by Dr. Enio de Souza.



NSRF’s Participation in the Web Summit “What’s Up in China?”

Between October 25th and 30th, NSRF participated on the Web Summit “What’s Up in China?” organized by the Associate Isabel Figueiredo Paula and her company *Orientate*. The President of the Board of Directors, Fernanda Ilhéu and the Vice-Presidents Bernardo Mendia and Un I Wong, as well as the Associates Ambassador José Duarte de Jesus, Nelma Pontes and Carla Melo participated by giving interviews on different but relevant topics on China and its affairs.



Network Lunch “Perspectives on the Economic Relations between Portugal and China on the Current Geopolitical and Goeconomical Context”

On November 2nd, NSRF organized a network lunch at the Salão Nobre of the Restaurant Círculo Eça de Queiroz. The honourable speaker was Ambassador José Augusto Duarte, who was the Ambassador of Portugal in China from 2017 until 2022. The honourable Ambassador gave everyone present a brilliant and charismatic presentation on the current economic relations between Portugal and China.



International Conference “Chinese Economy and China’s Dual Strategy”

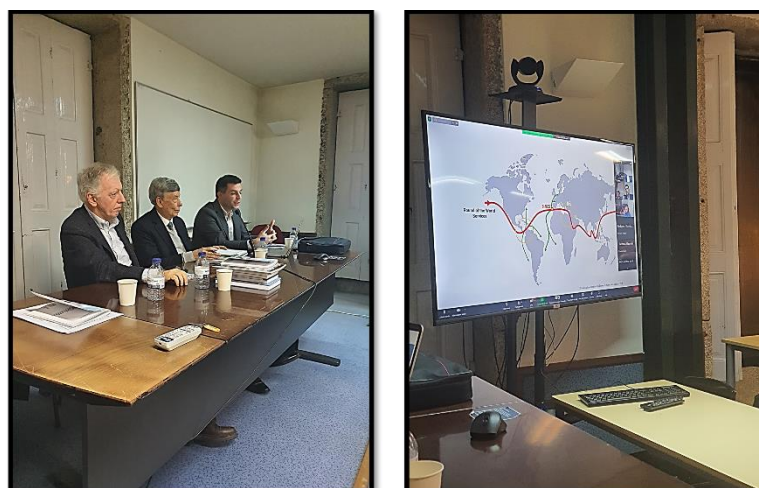
On November 17th, NSRF, the Shandong University of Finance and Economics (SDUFE) and ISEG – Lisbon School of Economics & Management, organized an international conference that took place both presential, at the CGD Auditorium in ISEG, and *online* (ZOOM). Both professors from SDUFE and the Ambassador of People’s Republic of China in Portugal, Zhao Bentang, gave their interesting speeches on this thematic.

All the speeches can be read and watched at NSRF’s website - <https://www.anrs.pt/conferencia.html>



Presentation of the Book “Rotas de Aproximação Portugal-China: A Importância Civilizacional dos Portos”

On November 25th, the President of the Board of Directors, Prof. Fernanda Ilhéu, participated in the seminar and book presentation that took place in Universidade Lusófona do Porto. The event was hybrid, with both presential and online participants.



Commemorative Dinner of the 6th Anniversary of NSRF

On December 19th, the Commemorative Dinner of the 6th Anniversary of NSRF happened at Restaurante Grémio Literário. The honourable guest speakers were the Minister of the Economy and the Sea, António Costa e Silva, and the Second Counsellor of the Embassy of People's Republic of China in Portugal, Miss Chen.

The event gathered both Associates and Friends and it was a night of special celebration for everyone.





Belt & Road NEWS

China Trade Balance with the World

China, in 2021, registered a trade surplus of USD 679 billion, having increased USD 258 billion compared to 2017 and USD 142 billion compared to 2020.

Year	Exportation (USD Bi)	Importation (USD Bi)
2016	2,1	1,6
2017	2,3	1,8
2018	2,5	2,1
2019	2,5	2,1
2020	2,6	2,1
2021	3,4	2,7

Source: [AICEP](#)

China Trade Balance with Portugal

China was the 14th customer of Portuguese exports of goods in 2021, with a share of 1.1% in total, occupying the 6th position in terms of imports (4.7%). Over the period 2017-2021 there was an average annual decrease in exports of 3.9% and a growth of 17.7% in imports. The balance of trade in goods was unfavorable to Portugal, having presented a deficit of 3 205 million euros in 2021.

Year	Exportation (€ mM)	Importation (€ mM)
2016	0,7	1,8
2017	0,8	2,1
2018	0,7	2,3
2019	0,6	3
2020	0,6	3,1
2021	0,7	3,9

Source: [AICEP](#)

Algeria, China, Upgrade And Extend Belt & Road Initiative Development Plans

Algeria and China signed an executive plan on December 5th for the joint development of the Belt and Road initiative. A second agreement was signed regarding cooperation in “important areas” between the two countries extending until 2024.

Source: [Silk Road Briefing](#)

China-Portugal relationship

Portuguese Prime Minister António Costa said, during the opening ceremony of Macao Forum, that *Portugal wants more cooperation with China*.

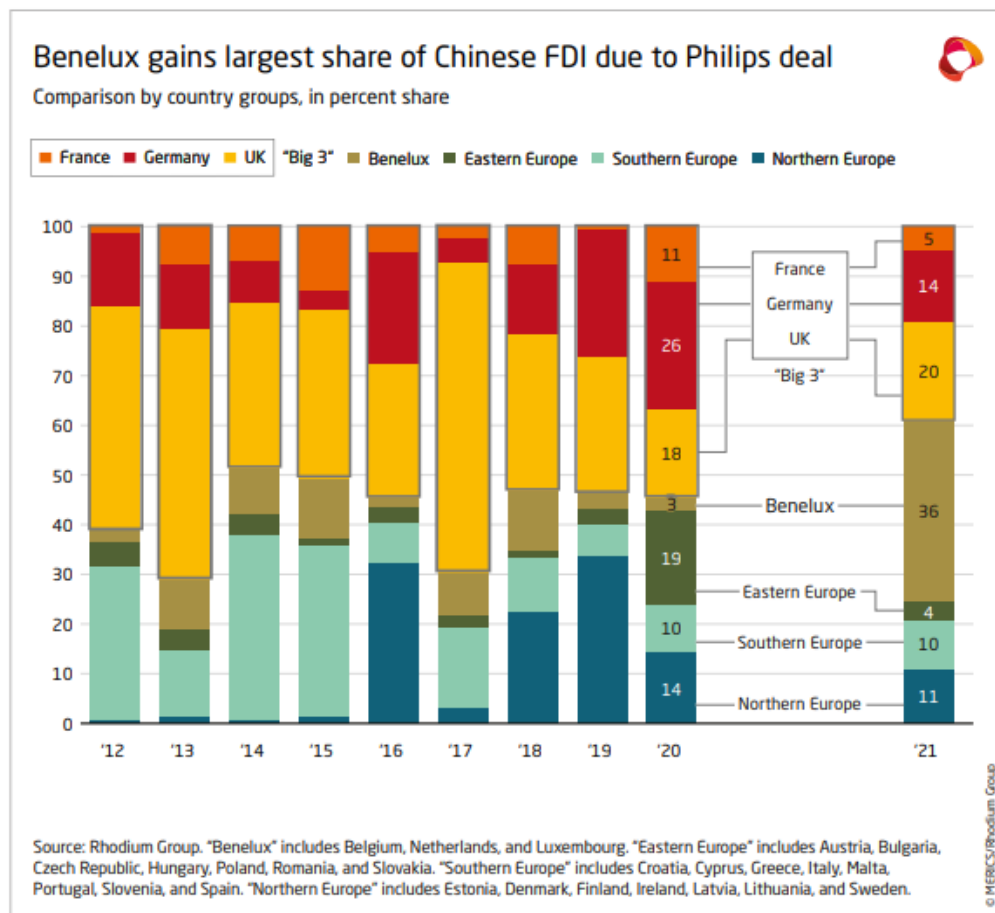
Source: [Portugal Resident](#)

China-EU Cooperation

Recently, the high-level interaction between China and the EU has accelerated significantly, and the EU's good intentions for relations with China have been increasing. This has released stability and positive energy not only for the development of China-EU relations, which have encountered some setbacks.

Source: [Global Times](#)

Chinese FDI in Europe: 2021 Update



Source: [MERICS](#)

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