

“Securing Science“: Understanding EU Research Security Initiatives towards China

Responsible international cooperation: Cooperation with China - the way forward

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Outline

EU research policy and
China

Implications for European
HE and R&I sectors



1. EU research policy: 2014-2019

- „3O“ approach: Openness
- EU in China
 - Growing S&T role in EU-China relationship
 - Horizon 2020 etc. welcoming Chinese
 - Member States' projects and programmes
 - Joint calls and thematic priorities
 - IPR, reciprocity - but not security



Carlos Moedas (Wiki 2024)



European Commission - Speech

Open Innovation, Open Science, Open to the World

22 June 2015

Carlos Moedas – Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation

Brussels, 'A new start for Europe: Opening up to an ERA of Innovation' Confer

„I am convinced that excellent science is the foundation of future prosperity, and that openness is the key to excellence. Europe is a global leader in science, and (to) remain relevant and competitive (...) we need to engage more in science diplomacy and global scientific collaboration.”

Carlos Moedas (2015) Commissioner DG Research and Innovation

1. EU research policy: 2019-2024



Mariya Gabriel (EC 2023)

- **EU Strategic Outlook on China (2019)**
- **Global Approach to R&I (2021)**
- „strategic, open, reciprocal“
- values and principles, closer to other policies
- „as open as possible and as closed as necessary“

„(O)penness and collaboration are part of the DNA of great science, but they can also make it vulnerable to malign influence and the undesirable transfer of critical technologies. This can undermine our security.”

Iliana Ivanova (2024) Commissioner DG Research, Innovation, Education Youth and Sport

1. EU research policy: 2019-2024

EU Security Union
Strategy (2020/7)

EU Strategic
Compass for
Security & Defence
(2022/3)

**European
Economic Security
Strategy (2022/6)**

EC List of critical
technology areas
(2023/10)

Defence of
Democracy
package (2022/12)

White paper on
European R&D dual
use of home-grown
tech. (2024/1)

EU Green
Diplomacy (2024/3)

EU Science
Diplomacy (2024)

Proposal for Council
Recommendation
on Research
Security (2024)

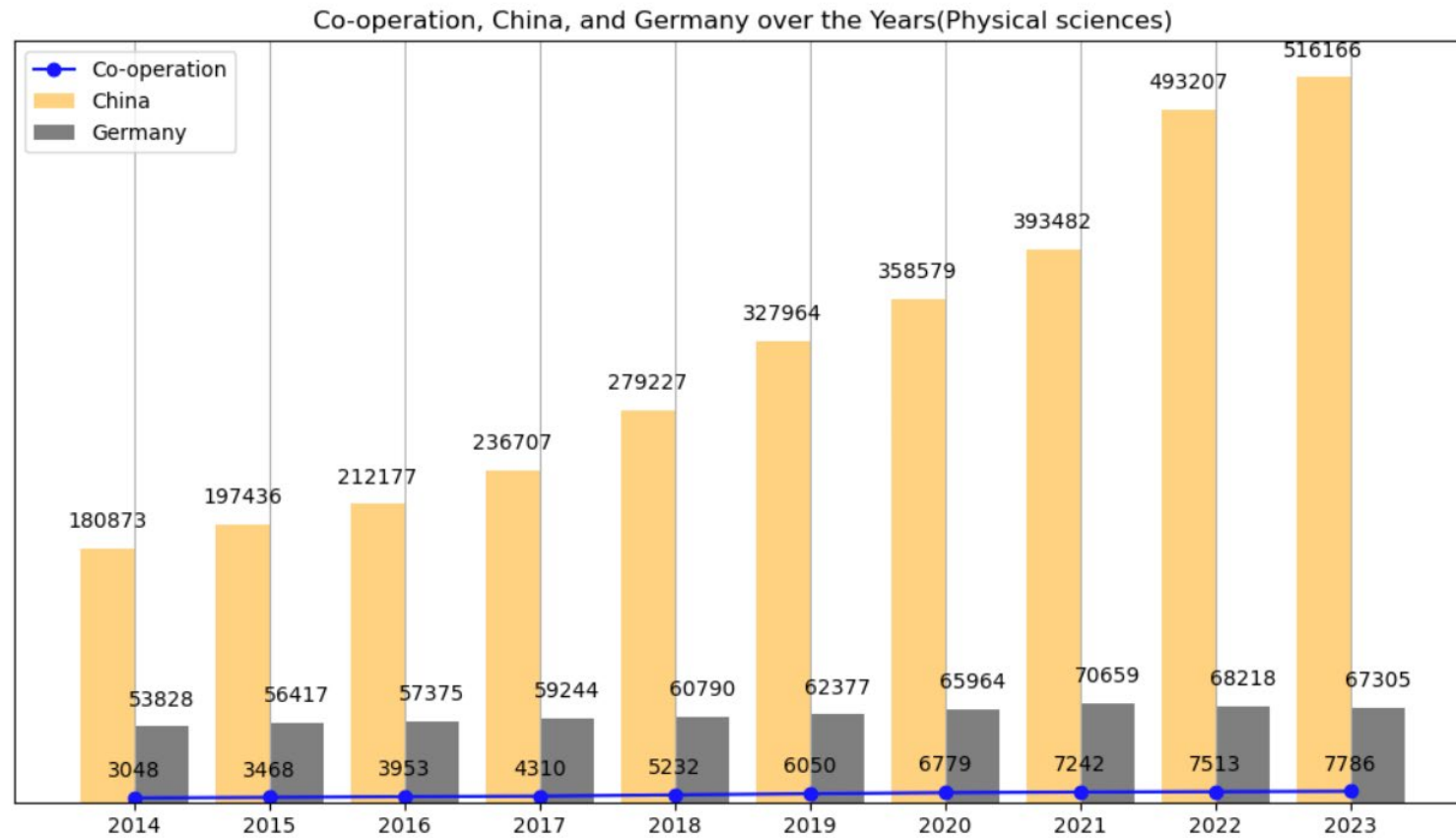
EU research policy: 2024 -

- Proposal for Council recommendations on enhancing research security
- Draghi report (on EU Competitiveness), Heitor report (on interim FP) – sense of urgency
- Derisking, open strategic autonomy
- Strategic deployment of science diplomacy
- EU–China Joint Roadmap on R&I



Ekaterina Zaharieva (EC 2024 TBC, photo SciBusiness Arno Mikkor/EU2017EE) / Flickr)

Implications for European HE & R&I sectors



Sino-German
co-authorship
in physical sciences

Data: Scopus (2024)

Implications for European HE & R&I sectors

- **Research security:** An approach protecting research ecosystems and legitimate national security and economic interests + maintain integrity (OECD, 2024)
- National approaches and guidelines: Knowledge security (NL), trusted research (UK)... broken to five aspects (DLR, 2024)

Compliance

Export
Control and
Dual Use

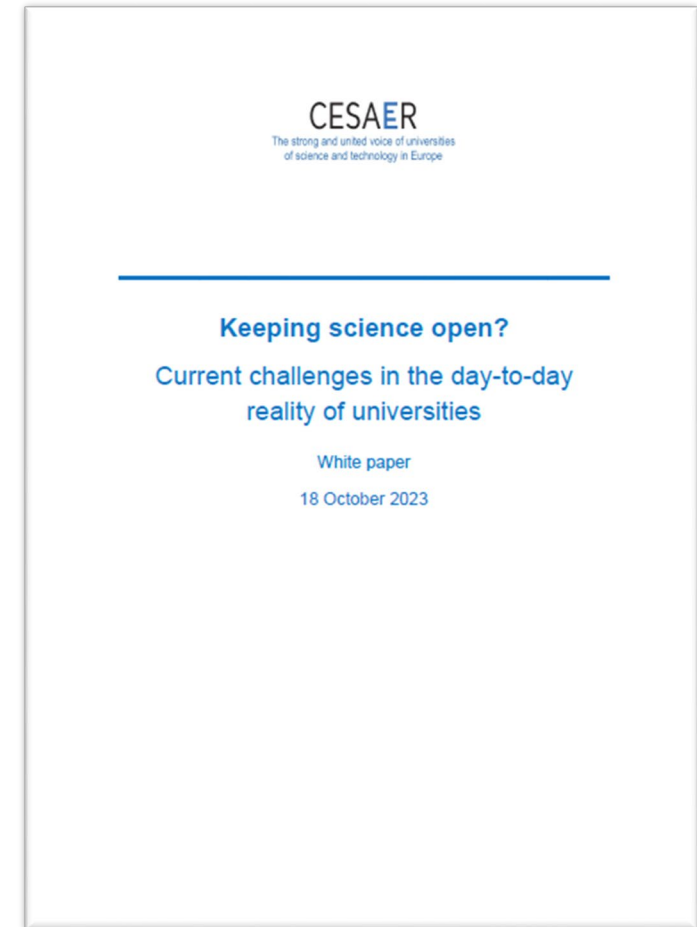
Security
Architecture

Regulatory
Framework

Cybersecurity

Implications for European HE & R&I sectors

- Unintended consequences
- Autonomy vs. Control
- Administrative vs. Academic staff
- Diversity vs. Unity of the EU/ERA



Van der Molen et al (2023): White paper

Conclusion

- Structural turn in EU research policy
- Openness & opportunity to risk & security
- Risk management as the new normal
- New dilemmas for European HE and R&I
- More cooperation inside Europe needed!

Thank you!

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