Call for Papers

8. Internationalisierung von Forschung, Technologie und Innovation (FTI): Politik, Kooperation und Wettbewerb

“Research and Innovation cooperation between the European Union and China”

Einreicher/in

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Abstract (300 Wörter)

The purpose of this study is to identify in which areas China and the EU could cooperate with each other under Horizon 2020 (H2020) programme and how to facilitate the bilateral cooperation. Regarding methodological approach, bibliometric analysis, literature review, stakeholder/expert interviews as well as workshop are applied. This study reveals a high potential for cooperation between both sides. Promising areas were identified in "Excellent Science" (ES) and "Societal Challenge" (SC), especially in ES. Almost all the experts agree that cooperation in ES is the most promising and easiest due to the nature of scientific research. China is keen to cooperate with the EU in its, so far, comparatively "weak" fields such as "Energy", "Environment", "Health and Ageing", and "Urbanization" in order to gain access to the EU’s expertise in these SC areas. In contrast, it is not easy to identify suitable cooperation models in "industrial leadership". Hindering factors for closer cooperation could be found in cultural, strategic and administrative aspects. The recommendations from the experts and stakeholders could be categorised in six perspectives: "Principles", "Who talks to whom?", "How to set up strategic priorities?", "Improvement of efficiency and coordination of administration", "Creative cooperation forms/instruments" and "Funding issues". In the end, all agree if the EU wants to speak with one voice to China, the first step is to develop a common strategy. Two different approaches are recommended: the first one is to apply the already existing framework of the EU, but to strengthen the coordination between the relevant agencies and the EU MS. The second one is to create a new "EU-China research council" to ensure direct, efficient and effective decisions and R&I governance. This institutional consideration might be the foundation for further and closer cooperation between the EU and China since learning effects could be transferred to other fields.