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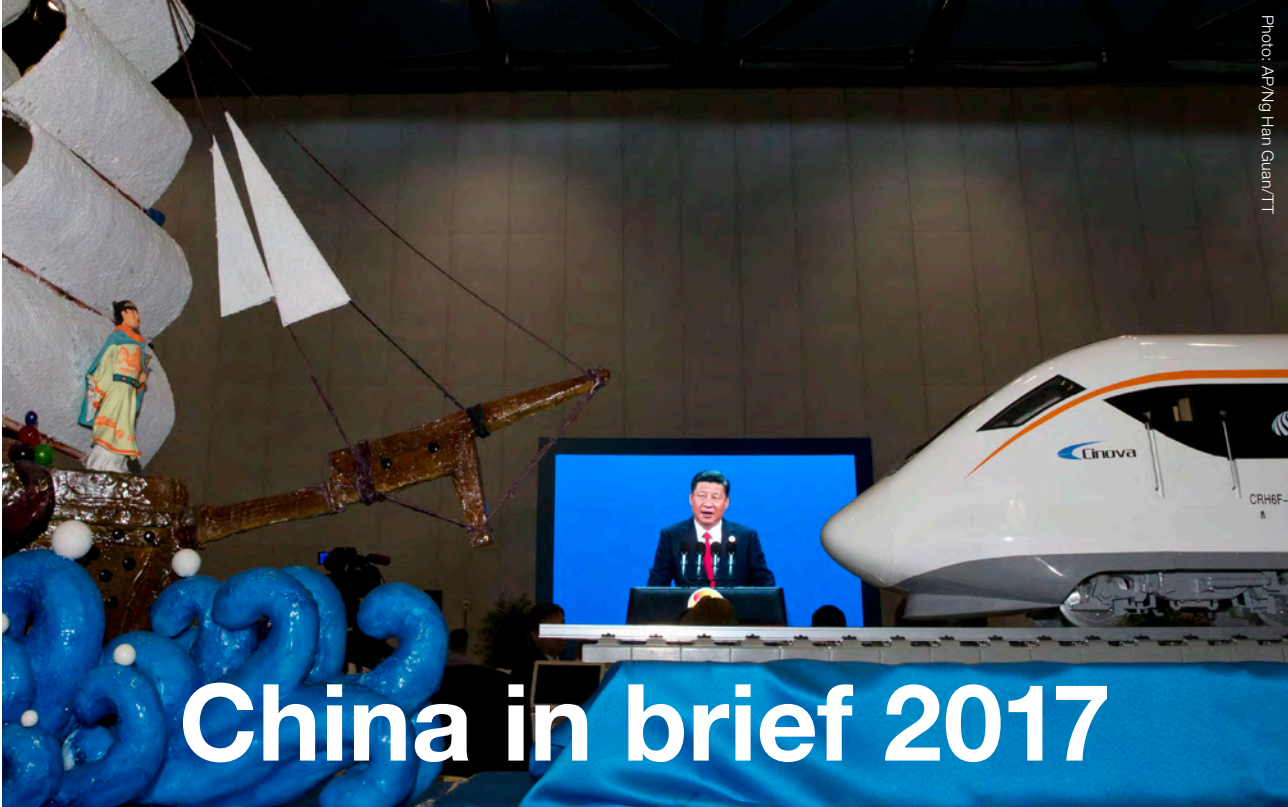
Sweden  
China  
Trade  
Council



Ms Katja Lindvall, Moving Floor during a signing ceremony in Beijing in June at the Sweden China Innovation Forum witnessed by Prime Minister, Mr Stefan Löfven and Ambassador to China, Ms Anna Lindstedt.

# Annual Report 2017

Independent Intelligence



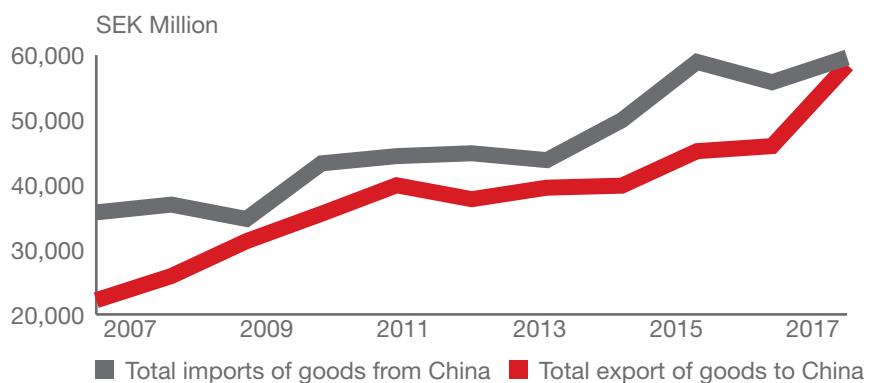
# China in brief 2017

- China's economy grew by 6.9 per cent during 2017, ending the year on a positive note as official figures topped the government target of 6.5 per cent. This is the first time in seven years the pace of growth has picked up. China's total trade reached USD4,104.5 billion with export increasing by 7.9 per cent and imports increased by 15.9 per cent.
- "China and the EU are contributors and beneficiaries of world multi-polarization and process of economic globalization, and under the current situation, China and the EU should confront the instability of the international situation with a stable bilateral cooperation" Premier Li Keqiang, China-European Union (EU) Summit in Brussels in June 2017.
- In October, the 19th Party Congress was held in Beijing with 2,280 delegates representing the party's estimated 89 million members. The Party Congress, held every 5th year, saw Xi Jinping further consolidate his power, with his name inserted into the party's constitution, an honour no Chinese leader has enjoyed while still in power since Mao Zedong.
- The China – US relationship during 2017 was a trade war that never materialized. Predications are that 2018 could be a totally different story.
- "I expect a trade war to emerge in the first part of the year, and it could spiral into a serious conflict that threatens other elements of the relationship," said Scott Kennedy, director of the Project on Chinese Business and Political Economy at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.
- Chinese investments globally is slowing down for the first time since 2006 with a few exceptions among them Sweden being one. The Chinese FDI into Sweden during 2017 was USD1.4 billion compared to USD100 million during 2016. The slowing overall figures is mainly driven by Chinese policies restricting outbound investment. A record proportion of cancelled deals globally were blocked by foreign regulators.
- In May, President Xi Jinping hosted the Belt and Road Summit in Beijing, attended by world leaders and top officials, to bolster China's global leadership ambitions. Sweden was represented at the Forum by the then Minister for Infrastructure, Ms Anna Johansson.

## Sweden's trade with China

Exports of goods to China from Sweden increased 27 percent in 2017. The total value of exported goods was SEK 58,506 million in 2017 compared to SEK 45,959 million in 2016. Imports from China increased by 7 percent in 2017 and the value of goods imports was SEK 59,626 million during the year, the figure in 2016 was SEK 55,806 million. China is Sweden's biggest trading partner in Asia.

**Total export and import of goods with China**





Sweden-China Trade Council participated in the business delegation accompanying Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven's visit to China in June.

Mr Mats Harborn, President, European Union Chamber of Commerce in China and Executive Director, Scania China, moderating a panel during the Sweden China Innovation Seminar in Beijing in June during Prime Minister Stefan Löfven's delegation trip to China.



# Team Sweden Kina

Since late spring 2017 SCTC is, by invitation from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, represented on Team Sweden Kina, represented by Secretary General Elisabet Söderström, vice-chairman Frédéric Cho and chairman Thomas Lagervist. Team Sweden Kina, TSK, is a working group within the framework of the current government's export strategy initiated by State Secretary Oscar Stenström. The purpose of TSK is to improve the coordination of the business promotion that is being carried out by both public and business interests. The ultimate goal is of course to increase business exchange with China, which is also consistent with SCTC's vision to increase more concrete business for our members between Sweden and China, with reduced risk.

Team Sweden Kina had three meetings in 2017. Although slowly, progress is being made and we have received clear and written evidence that SCTC's business perspectives combined with the state-of-the-art knowledge and experience about China is being valued and our engagement has led to a more effective and business oriented focus in the coordination of various export promotion activities carried out by the various ministries and government agencies.



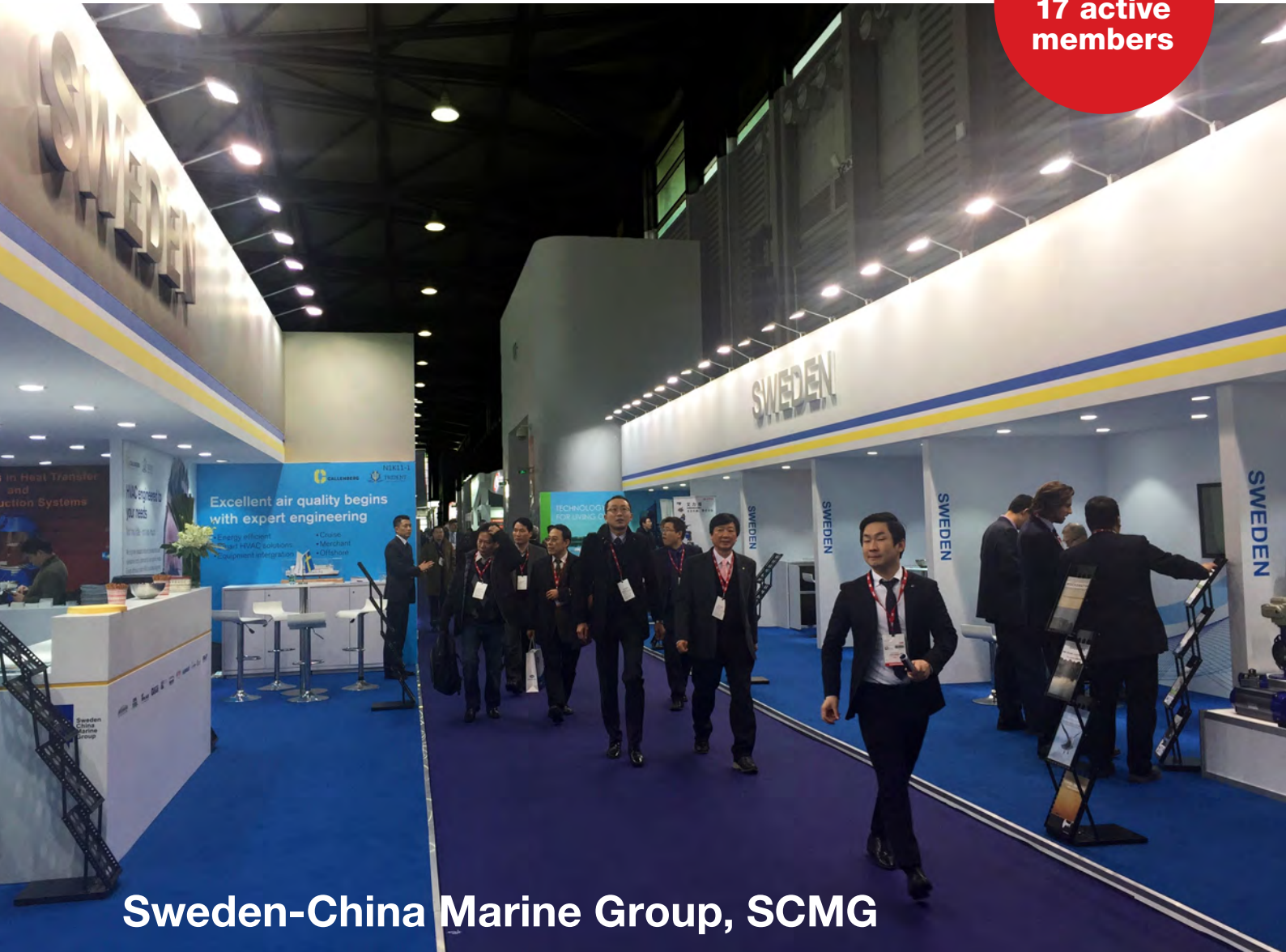
# Working Groups

Previously defined as Platforms. From 2018, these groups are called Working Groups.

**All our working groups** are founded on the strong vision that members themselves shall use them to share "best practices" between themselves on special, relevant, issues and aspects of doing business within and/or with China. Consequently, the Working Groups shall engage in and discuss activities that are directly related to, and typical for, the kind of challenges that members meet. The purpose shall be to identify threats and

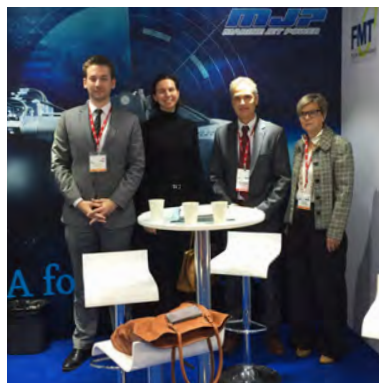
opportunities. The bearing thought has always been that work within the respective group shall be clearly directed towards concrete, well defined, issues and must always be problem-based. By this definition, the working groups are effective limiting both time and individual spending of resources and thereby delivering clear member value.

Sweden-China Marine Group has **17 active members**



## Sweden-China Marine Group, SCMG

**During the year**, members of Sweden-China Marine Group met in Malmö and Gothenburg on two occasions to prepare for the Swedish pavilion at Marintec China 2017. A total of 12 members participated in our pavilion at the biggest international maritime exhibition held every second year in Shanghai. More than 65,000 visitors and more than 2,000 exhibitors participated in the exhibition in December. The exhibiting companies were proud to welcome Sweden's Consul General in Shanghai, Ms Lisette Lindahl to visit together with her colleagues.





SMART CITY SOLUTIONS FOR A RESOURCE EFFICIENT SOCIETY  
COMBINING CHINA'S NEW MODEL FOR GROWTH AND SWEDEN'S ECO GOVERNANCE  
2<sup>ND</sup> SWEDEN – CHINA GREEN COOPERATION CONFERENCE



## Sweden-China Greentech Alliance, SCGA

The **Second Sweden China Green Cooperation conference** was held in Stockholm in May in close cooperation with IVL and the Chinese Embassy in Stockholm with the support of Stockholm Business Region/Invest Stockholm, Nordic Sustainable Development Association, In-Nordic, Jiangsu Representative Office in Sweden, Yes International and the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation. Mr Mikael Damberg, Minister of Enterprise and Innovation, held a key-note speech during the three-day conference that attracted almost 300 delegates from Sweden and China.



1. China's previous Ambassador to Sweden, Mr Chen Yuming.
2. Ms Guo Ying, Economic & Commercial Counsellor, Mr Han Xiaodong and Ms Xie Yisheng from the Embassy of China.
3. Mr Per-Olof Björk, Sweden-China Greentech Alliance together with Governor of Östergötland, Ms Elisabeth Nilsson, SCTC Chairman, Mr Thomas Lagerqvist, Ms Linda Ström, Östergötland County and Mr Ulf Pehrson, Ericsson.
4. Sweden's Ambassador to China, Ms Anna Lindstedt.
5. Guests admiring the Stockholm City Hall.



**SCGA also hosted** a visit from China Urban-townization Promotion Council, CUPC, led by Professor Zheng Xinli in November. The delegation visited Stockholm, Gothenburg and Linköping to incorporate Swedish environmental technology solutions into the urbanization program taking place around China that CUPC is conducting. The visit was co-ordinated with Smart City Sweden, Business Region Göteborg and Cleantech Östergötland.

China Urban-townization Promotion Council, CUPC, delegation led by Professor Zheng Xinli.



# Sweden-China Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Business



During 2017, the CSR Centre at the Swedish Embassy in Beijing celebrated its' 10th anniversary. In November, the second business forum was held in Stockholm in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce and the China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Machinery and Electronic Products.

## EVENTS

SCTC organized and took part in more than 22 events during 2017 with over 1,000 participants in total which is a record number of participants so far. As a member, SCTC's activities are the meeting place where you share experience and knowledge with other members. An active member is a sharing member!

**22**  
events  
were held  
in 2017



**Mr Mats Harborn**, Executive Director, Scania China, was elected President of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China in May 2017. SCTC was proud to host several seminars in Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö during the year where Mats Harborn gave updated information on the development for international companies in China.



**Sweden-China Trade Council's events** are an excellent meeting place to get to know the right people to connect with for your China business.

**Mr Joerg Wuttke**, former President of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China, during the seminar "China – the new champion of global free trade or just a mercantilist in disguise of open trade retoric?" in June in cooperation with Mannheimer Swartling, ECIPE, Eurasia Group and AmCham Sweden.





▲ **Mr Che Jun**, the Party Secretary of Zhejiang Province visited Sweden in August and attended a business seminar hosted by SCTC, Business Sweden and the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation.



▲ **Ms Jia Liu**, PR Manager & China Liaison, CEVT at a lunch meeting at Business Region Göteborg.



▲ **Mr Lars Fredén**, Sweden's previous Ambassador to China at a lunch meeting at DLA Piper.



▲ **Mr Han Xiaodong**, Economic & Commercial Counsellor at the Chinese Embassy in Stockholm shared his views on Sweden and Denmark from a Chinese perspective.



▲ **Kinatimmen**, the China Hour, in Almedalen was co-organized with Six Year Plan and DLA Piper.  
Photo: Paul Abrigo

**Over 1,000 participants joined our events in 2017**

Mr Pär Uhlin, Six Year Plan, Mr Mattias Bergman, NEVS, Ms Marianne Ramel, DLA Piper and Mr Peter Ling-Vannerus, SEB Beijing.



**THE BOARD  
OF DIRECTORS**

## 2017–2018

Sweden-China Trade Council's Board of Directors consists of 19 persons, each with a unique experience of doing business with and in China. The following persons has been on

the Board of Directors from May 2017 to May 2018. For an updated list of the Board of Directors, please visit [www.sctc.se](http://www.sctc.se) where each member is also introduced more in detail.



**Thomas Lagerqvist,**  
Mannheimer Swartling,  
Chairman



**Frédéric Cho,**  
Frédéric Cho Advisory,  
Vice Chairman



**Anna Hessele,**  
Sweco,  
Vice Chairman



**Oscar Lundberg,**  
SEB,  
Vice Chairman



**Elisabet Söderström,**  
Secretary General



**Peter Ahlgren,**  
Triple 8



**Kajsa Fung,**  
Kajsa Fung  
Consulting



**Maria Hemberg,**  
Volvo Cars



**Ulf Landin,**  
Business Region  
Göteborg



**Katja Lindvall,**  
Moving Floor



**Marie Linghoff  
Lehnert,**  
Swedavia



**Håkan Osvald,**  
Atlas Copco



**Malin Oud,**  
Tracktwo



**Marianne Ramel,**  
DLA Piper



**Johan Spennare,**  
KG Spennare



**Mikael Sundström,**  
Scania



**Ira Thilén,**  
AB Volvo



**Jonas Törnblom,**  
Envito



**Pär Uhlén,**  
Six Year Plan



**Magnus Wikander,**  
SSPA

## Board Meetings

In 2017, altogether five Board Meetings were held, one in Gothenburg and four in Stockholm.

During the Board Meetings, less than 15 per cent of the time is spent on reports from individual Board Members and the Secretary General. Remaining time is spent on analysing China and discuss-

ing how SCTC shall be best equipped to address the various challenges that our members are facing. Time is also and always spent on analysing if SCTC is serving its members in a relevant and effective way and on discussing how to attract new members.

## Executive Board

**The Executive Board** consists of the Secretary General, the Chairperson and the current three Vice-Chairs. The purpose is to act as a sounding board and support function for the Secretary General in the daily operations as well as an executive body in case quick decisions need to be made in the operations. Decisions made by the Executive Board are always reported to the next ordinary

Board Meeting and, where required, formally confirmed by the Board.

Each of the members of the Executive Board are also frequently engaged in representing SCTC in various official events, thereby supporting the Secretary General in what would otherwise be an impossible workload for a one-person administrative office.

## Committee meetings

**SCTC currently has four committees:**

- Membership Committee;
- Program & Editorial Committee;
- Opinion Committee;
- Public Affairs Committee

Each committee is chaired by a Director of the Board to ensure total transparency for the Board in the committee activities, because the Board is responsible and accountable to decisions made by the committees.

The Opinion Committee is active on and off depending on whether there is a particular issue that SCTC needs to have an official position on. Currently the Committee is active again and preparing SCTC's position on a more assertive China and how to deal with that on different levels relevant to members business activities in and with China.

The Public Affairs Committee consists of Swedish municipalities, towns and regions that have entered into twin-city

agreements with a Chinese party of equal standing and its purpose is to improve the commercial exchange between twin-cities, on a Swedish national level, primarily by mapping industry and business structures for each agreement so as to enable a kind of cross-fertilization that AB Sweden can use for increased business exchange between Sweden and China.

The Program & Editorial Committee meets 5–6 times per year to secure a continuous flow of events and knowledge exchange to the benefit of members and others interested to keep up with the constant flow of China information provided by SCTC.

The Membership Committee is active in generating member-value to existing members as well as attracting new members in different sectors.

### WORDS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

#### Some words from the Chairman

**All in all**, SCTC was engaged in more than 35 different activities over the year. On top of that comes all the various meetings we have had with the Swedish Government in its different shapes and forms. And if we add to this the number of activities that both our Secretary General Elisabet Söderström and the Directors have engaged in, in their capacity as officers of the Board of SCTC, between Board meetings, chairpeople in various committees and representing SCTC at official SCTC activities we are counting hundreds of contacts meetings and discussions that have taken place to create value for our members.

So, as you can see, the network is active. But if you want to get even more "return on investment" then you also have to invest more of your own time and energy to engage yourself. Get active in our working groups. Participate in workshops, attend seminars, invite members to your own membership presentation, advertise in KinaNytt. There is no limit to what you can do and you will get results if you do.

And if you are not a member yet, sign up and become an active part of our network!

*Thomas Lagerqvist, Chairman,  
Sweden-China Trade Council*

**Become  
a member  
of our  
network!**

## - make yourself seen

**Three member presentations** were held during 2017, where Lindahl Advokatbyrå, Awapatent and Mannheimer Swartling each hosted an event on topics close to their own activities. As a member you have the opportunity to arrange, at least once a year and at your own cost and expense, an activity over

which you exercise total control and where you can choose any subject to address. It could be true promotion of products and services or it can be a traditional networking opportunity or it can be an exchange of knowledge and/or experience, whatever it takes to have other members show up and participate.



Ms Kristina Sandklef, Sandklef Asia Insights at Lindahl's member presentation.



Mr Henrik Bergquist, Ministry for Foreign Affairs at Mannheimer Swartling's member presentation.

Share your experience and knowledge



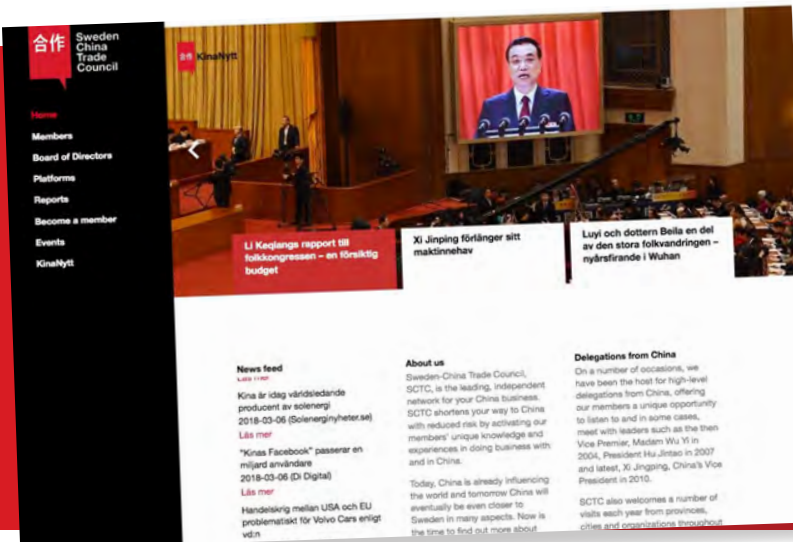
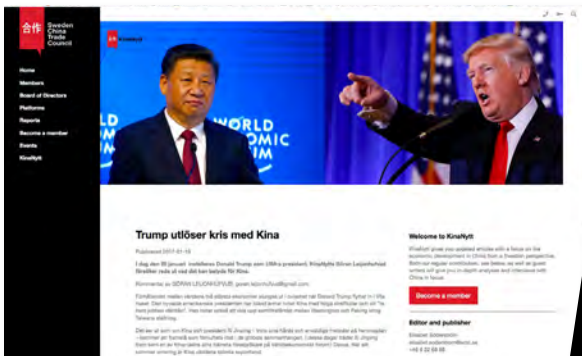
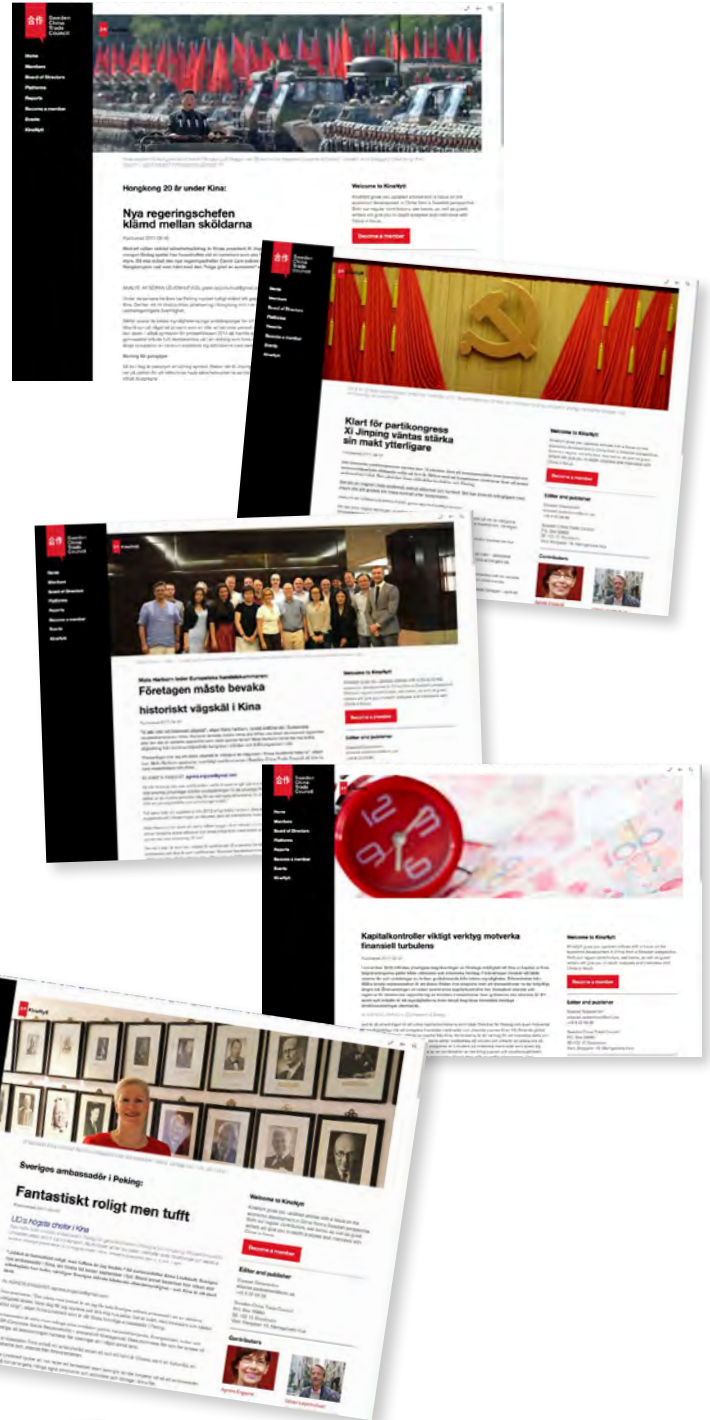
Mr Thomas Lagerqvist, Mannheimer Swartling, Mr Jerker Hellström, FOI, Mr Klas Eklund, Mannheimer Swartling and Mr Lars Fredén, former ambassador to China at Mannheimer Swartling's member presentation.

# 合作 KinaNytt

– invaluable insight and knowledge

KinaNytt articles, written by some of Sweden's most respected journalists with deep China knowledge as well as analyses by industry specialists, are published individually on SCTC's web. KinaNytt's articles cover analyses of the most recent development in China as well as interviews with interesting business people giving you invaluable first-hand insight and knowledge.

KinaNytt now being exclusively digital has opened up for a more steady and up-to-date flow of information that we try to make as relevant as possible. Every day, you will also be able to read the most updated news on China through our news-feed on [www.sctc.se](http://www.sctc.se).



[www.sctc.se](http://www.sctc.se)

This is where you find the most updated information on Sweden-China Trade Council, the activities we are engaged in as well as other China related activities of interest for our members.



Photos, except those credited, Elisabet Söderström

## Members

**In 2017, 27 members joined our network.** We count hundreds of hours spent by members engaged in the network itself, the Board of Directors, the Committees, the Working Groups, by participating in events and delegation visits to Sweden and other meetings within the network. Without the members, a lot of the work carried out in the network would never be realized. By activating yourself within your membership you can create member value for the whole network.

**27**  
new members  
joined us in  
2017

### Other contacts with Swedish Government and Ministries

There is currently a very constructive dialogue ongoing between SCTC and various ministries on issues that are relevant for different industries where our members are active. In particular there are frequent contacts between SCTC and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation as well as the Ministry of Environment.

SCTC was also represented by our Secretary General during the delegation visit to China in June 2017 led by Prime Minister Stefan Löfven and with the presence of the Minister of Enterprise and Innovation, Mikael Damberg, Minister for EU Affairs and Trade, Ann Linde and Minister of Environment, Karolina Skog together with a big business delegation.

SCTC has an ongoing and very constructive and open dialogue with the Swedish Embassy to China in Beijing as well as the Consulates General in Shanghai and Hong Kong feeding one another with relevant information and views.

### Official contacts with China and the Embassy of China in Sweden

An ongoing dialogue is conducted with the Economic & Commercial Counsellor's office at the Embassy of China in Stockholm discussing a wide range of topics, challenges and possibilities as well as common activities in Sweden.

"SCTC's significance for a balanced, but not uncritical, view on China in Sweden and for business exchange with China is acknowledged by the official China"?

### Delegations

As part of our continuous brand building in China as well as our knowledge exchange SCTC also welcomes a number of visits each year from provinces, cities and organizations throughout China, bringing with them business opportunities for our members and information on important trade fairs, conferences and projects in China.

This is a more informal report on the activities within Sweden-China Trade Council, SCTC. Our intention is to provide a more user-friendly version of the activities that took place during 2017.



**Sweden  
China  
Trade  
Council**

### Sweden-China Trade Council

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**Secretary General:** Elisabet Söderström



**THANK YOU**

**SCTC would like to thank** the following persons for their contributions that in their own respective way have enriched the network during 2017.

Anne Parmlin, Erik Hertsius, Interago Design and Lisbeth Byman, Lisbeth Byman Design.

A special thank you goes to Birgitta Ed, Six Year Plan, Johan Groth, Groth & Groth, Anders Kärrberg, Volvo Cars and Claes Rudling, Uson Marine for valuable contributions to SCTC's Board of Directors that they left in May 2017 and Martin Pei, SSAB that left the Board of Directors in December 2017.