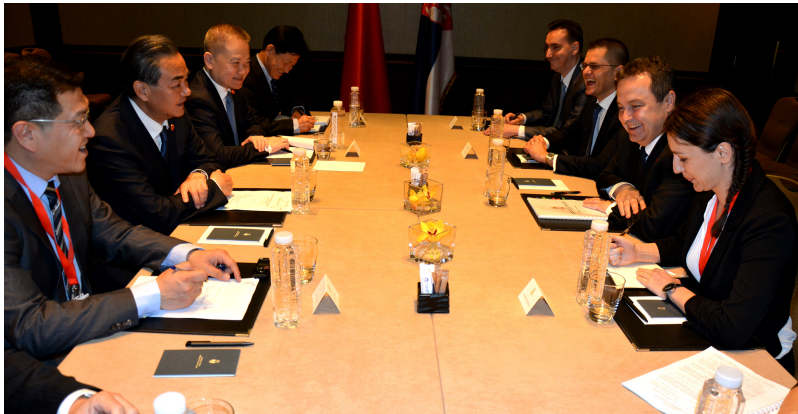




First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia Ivica Dacic met Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China Wang Yi, who came to Serbia today, together with China's state delegation headed by President Xi Jinping.

Expressing his pleasure at meeting again China's Foreign Minister, Minister Dacic emphasized that the Republic of Serbia extended a warm welcome to the dear guests from friendly China, with the belief that relations of decades-long friendship, respect and cooperation would become even stronger, more diversified and more substantive after the visit. Minister Dacic highlighted that Serbia regarded the visit made by President Xi Jinping as a historic one, because it had been more than three decades since the last time a Chinese President visited Belgrade, and owing to the fact that the relations of strategic partnership between our two countries would be raised to a qualitatively new level of the overall strategic partnership. Moreover, the visit would be always remembered for a large number of bilateral agreements, more than 20 of them, covering a wide range of areas, from the economy and finance to infrastructure, environmental protection, culture, education, media and other areas.

During their talks, the Ministers exchanged their views on a considerable number of issues regarding bilateral relations, cooperation within the China-CEEC mechanism, and multilateral topics. It was noted by both sides that the hallmarks of Serbia-China relations were traditional friendship, profound mutual understanding and trust, as well as mutual support on issues of highest national interest. Serbia-China bilateral relations were being developed and enhanced on a continuous basis, Ministers Ivica Dacic and Wang Yi underlined in their meeting.