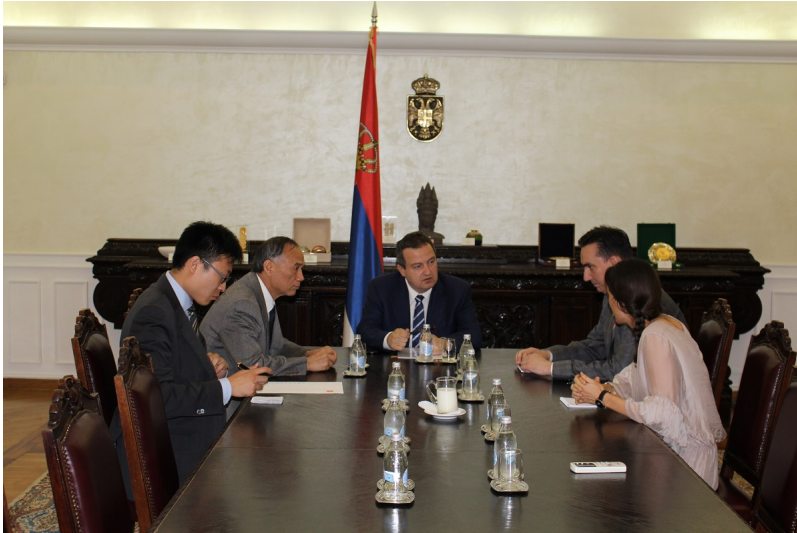




First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia Ivica Dacic received today Li Manchang, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of Serbia.

In their cordial talks, the Minister and the Ambassador expressed their mutual satisfaction with the highly successful visit that President of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping made to Serbia between 17 and 19 June. The Ambassador of China pointed out that shortly after the visit ended, President Xi Jinping addressed his letters to President of the Republic of Serbia Tomislav Nikolic and to Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic, expressing his warm gratitude for a remarkable reception and cordial hospitality bestowed on the official Chinese delegation in Serbia.

Ambassador Li Manchang took the opportunity to convey to Minister Dacic regards from Wang Yi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, expressing, at the same time, his gratitude for the contribution made by Minister Dacic and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia towards the successful organization of the Chinese President's visit.

Minister Dacic emphasized that the Republic of Serbia highly appreciated its bilateral relations with the People's Republic of China, which were upgraded to the level of overall strategic partnership, by the signature and adoption of the Joint Declaration. That opened a new window of opportunity for the intensification of relations and cooperation, but also represented an obligation to constantly enrich and diversify bilateral cooperation.

"We have special expectations when it comes to bilateral economic cooperation with China", Minister Dacic highlighted, expressing his pleasure at major infrastructural projects in Serbia, involving Chinese companies.

A large scope of opportunities for cooperation within the China-CEEC mechanism also featured in the talks, as well as different forms of activity within the Chinese global "One Belt, One Road" strategy, encompassing more than 60 countries from Asia, the Middle East and Europe.

Minister Dacic and Ambassador Li Manchang were especially pleased to underline in their talks

a high level of understanding and mutual support on a number of issues of vital interest for both Serbia and China, as well as on cooperation within numerous international fora.

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