

《中国是否介意英国离开欧盟？》

导读:从中国在英国的财政投资和政治投入上来看，中国领导人和商界人士希望英国留在欧盟内。



And the UK has become the second most popular destination for Chinese investment in Europe, second only to Italy.

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Many investors worry that those economic ties will be damaged if Brexit occurs.

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John Zai is one of them. Originally from Shanghai, he heads Cocoon Networks, a venture capital group that plans to invest in tech companies in Europe, primarily in the UK.

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It's just signed a 10-year lease on the former London Stock Exchange and aims to transform it into Europe's largest tech innovation centre.

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"If we can combine the European technology and the ideas with the Chinese money, the Chinese capital, it's going to be crazy," he enthuses.

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But those plans could all change if the UK votes to leave the EU.

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"It's going to probably cause a lot of problems, because Cocoon is a platform bridge between China and Europe.

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"It's China and Europe, not China and the UK or China and London.

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"Tech companies are really dependent on talent," he says. "If the UK leaves the EU, all this different talent from the EU, from all these different countries, they're going to be gone.

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"People are always talking about how London is going to become a Silicon Valley but without all this talent, it's not going to happen."

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Many hope the UK's economy will flourish because of the close relationship between London and Beijing.

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Deals worth more than ?40bn (\$56bn) were signed when Chinese President Xi Jinping visited the UK last October.

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During that visit, Mr Xi made his views clear: China supports a "united EU".

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"China definitely wants to sell more Chinese products into the European market, but they'd better do it from the eurozone really," says Philippe Le Corre, a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington.

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London would be less attractive to investors if it could offer only the UK market of 65 million people, rather than the 500 million across the EU, he says.

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"London would not lose its role as trader of renminbi but in terms of consumer products, big industries, even tourism, I believe London would be affected."

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But it's not all about money.

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For Mr Xi, the EU referendum also carries political concerns.

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During his time in power, over almost four years, he's fostered closeties with London - a counterbalance, perhaps, to China's rockier relations elsewhere.

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If the UK leaves the EU, Mr Xi's judgement could be called into question.

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