

## HOUSE OF LORDS

European Union Committee

House of Lords London SWIA 0PW

Tel: 020 7219 8663 Fax: 020 7219 6715 roperi@parliament.uk www.parliament.uk/hleu

863/244

Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič

Vice-President of the European Commission

European Commission

1049 Brussels

Belgium

19 October 2010 CABINET ŠEFČOVIČ DC 2 1. 10. 2010 MSe OC IMHPLOL GK ZD BP MRM TG

Thank you for your letter and full response of 30 September (ref C/2010/6349) to our report on "Stars and Dragons: the EU and China", which the Sub-Committee considered at its meeting on 14th October 2010.

We were pleased to note that in many respects the European Commission shares our analysis of the EU-China relationship.

However, we would be grateful for clarification of the Commission's position in respect of two specific recommendations that we made, and where the Commission has a key role.

Paragraph 193: "The EU needs to have a presence in major industrial centres outside Beijing, in order to extend its influence and effectiveness".

Paragraph 232: "Given its importance in the EU-China relationship, the EU Delegation in Beijing should consider increasing the number of those working on human rights".

We look forward to hearing from you and to continuing our constructive dialogue.

The Rt Hon the Lord Roper

Chairman of the Select Committee on the European Union