**May Calls for Early Election to Strengthen Brexit Hand**

BRUSSELS - The cooperation between the European Union and the United States is standing at a crossroads, a senior EU official said on Friday, with both sides weighing how to approach a two-year countdown to the European Parliament elections.

The official, who asked not to be named, said the US Treasury Department had declared that no negotiations with the United States would be carried out in the next two years if the EU did not implement several key reforms. The official also said that if the US Treasury Department decided to impose sanctions, it would be a serious setback for the EU's efforts to secure the strong and stable relationship it needs to achieve its goals.

The official added that the EU needed to be more flexible in its approach to negotiations with the United States, particularly in the areas of trade, climate change, and security.

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**EU-Singapore Ties Developing Dynamically: Russian Parliamentary Leader**

MOSCOW - Russia-China relations are developing dynamically under the leadership of the Russian State Duma Chairperson, Vyacheslav Volodin, the leader of Russian United Russia in a recent interview with the Kommersant daily.

"We are conducting a very productive dialogue at all levels," Volodin said in an interview with Kommersant. "That is why we are strengthening our relationship."

While the Russian parliamentary leader spoke highly of the China-Propelled Belt and Road Initiative, saying it was a reliable project for the future, he added that Russia would not be able to secure the strong and stable relationship it needs to achieve its goals.

Volodin also said that the EU needed to be more flexible in its approach to negotiations with the United States, particularly in the areas of trade, climate change, and security.

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**U.S. Won't Draw Red Line on Korean Nuclear Issue: White House**

WASHINGTON - The White House said on Monday that it does not expect U.S. President Donald Trump to draw a red line in his upcoming nuclear talks with the United States and continue to work with China to solve the problem.

White House Spokesman Sean Spicer told a briefing that "President Trump holds his cards close to the vest, and I think you are not going to get to know how to respond to that right now.

"We're going to continue to work with the Chinese and U.S. Treasury Department on Rick's and we are actively negotiating how to proceed," Spicer said in a statement after his initial meeting with China's national nuclear issues.

Spicer also reiterated that China has not manipulated its currency and that it is a victim of state-sponsored theft.

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**EU-Brazil Plans Unchanged by UK Vote: Spokesman**

BRUSSELS - The EU's chief foreign policy officer said on Friday that the EU's ambitious ambitions on the Latin American continent have not been altered by the UK's vote to leave the European Union.

The spokesperson, who did not want to be named, said that the EU's goals on the continent had been largely unchanged despite the UK's decision to leave the bloc.

"We are still committed to the continent and our priorities remain the same," the spokesperson said.

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**German, Dutch FMs Urge Albanian Opposition to End Parliamentary Boycott**

BERLIN - Germany's foreign minister and his Dutch counterpart are urging the Albanian opposition to end its parliamentary boycott and seat in the country's five-party coalition government.

The ministers told a joint press conference that the Albanian opposition had been boycotting the parliament and no longer participating in the coalition since February 18.

"We have been boycotting the parliament and our position is that the Albanian opposition should stop boycotting the parliament," German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel said in comments to the Frankfurter Allgemeine Daily, which published a draft letter to the Albanian Prime Minister.

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**10th Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference Opens in Vietnam**

HANOI - Vietnam is hosting the 10th Asia-Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference this week, with the participation of: 20 countries, 200 cooperatives and 100 me members from a wide range of economic sectors such as agriculture, transport, construction, transport, and tourism. (More on PA4)