

## Speech at the “Wagner” Conference during the visit of the China Fair for Trade and Services

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honour and privilege for me to be invited to China and to have the opportunity to see this country and to get to know its people. This is my first visit to China and I have to admit, what I am seeing is truly amazing. I am saying this with a smile, I am very surprised. What an amazing country my Chinese friends have been building..., there is a certain feeling and Atmosphere connected to cultures and societies on the rise. I truly believe that China is such a culture on the rise, because what I have been experiencing is astonishing. I am a firm believer that everything in life starts with the little things, because if you are not going to get the little things right, how will you ever be able to get the big things right?

And so the first thing I see after my arrival here at the Airport was,... the little things being done right..., the streets are clean, criminality appears to be non-existent and I witnessed an effort being made to every little detail of everyday life – driving to the city centre from the airport I saw people working to make the streets look nice and tidy and the infrastructure has, as of yet, never seen this quality in the world at such a scale like we see today in China and of course I am only seeing a glimpse of what is being done.

But whoever gets the basis, his very foundation of all the little things in life right, builds the basis for anything larger to come... and I know what starts here changes the world. It is exactly this inner commitment of a nation to build itself, to take every difficulty in life as a challenge to grow, because challenges to all of us will keep coming and it is in our hands what we make out of them, do we fail to take them as an opportunity to grow, or shall we, and I opt for the latter one take those difficulties in life as gifts of heaven, given to us, so that we as human beings and as a nation can grow, can evolve our consciousness, because isn't it that the essence of life, being precisely continuously committed to grow..., because great difficulty gets the best out of us human beings and nations and this is because in our darkest moments and times we have to be our finest.

One might ask the question: Why is a wolf such an aesthetic and evolutionary successful animal? And the answer is, because it had to survive and prove itself in evolution. And so it is with everything in life, a diamond can only ever be a truly valuable diamond when it went through the pressure of billions of tons of the earth crust ... and out comes the most precious and valuable thing, ... Just like this,... it is with the struggle of the Chinese people, this great path of difficulty, this great path of pressure made the Chinese people just as precious as the diamond and them as a nation just as aesthetic and successful as the wolf. For this reason, be grateful for your path, be grateful of your eventful endeavour into the future, it is a path of honour and strength and by what we have seen so far, developing hundreds of millions of people out of poverty, the Chinese people's way is an example of greatness to the whole of humanity. And with this high development comes

great responsibility..., China is going to be the leader of the world and who ever wants to be leading others is respect and love will have to have the virtues and qualities of a great leader..., strong people and strong nations lift others up and practise peace and conciliation, qualities we have already seen from China, because only weakness chooses the path of violence and confrontation. With China in the world I have great hopes that the 21th century is going to be a century of tolerance and mutual respect. With this prospect we can solve all problems.

Ladies and Gentlemen let my final words be these: Just this very moment we all are witnessing a German war ship crossing the strait between China and Taiwan, I think I speak on behalf of all of us here, who have come here as friends, that we believe in Chinas wisdom and its right of self-determination..., in concrete words, we fully support the reunification of China and Taiwan, Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for you attention.