

# HKETO Berlin promotes business prospects for European companies in Hong Kong (with photo)

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Berlin (HKETO Berlin) participated at the 14th European Economic Congress in Katowice, Poland, on April 25 (Katowice time) to introduce Hong Kong's business opportunities for European companies.

In the panel session "Europe and Asia: discussions about cooperation and economy", the Director of HKETO Berlin, Ms Jenny Szeto, shed light on how Hong Kong has continued to be one of world's major international financial centres and outlined the business opportunities ahead for European ventures amidst the strong support from the Central Government.

"To say the least about Hong Kong's traditional strengths, we have a robust financial system and well-regulated markets underpinned by a deep pool of liquidity and talents. We are also well known for our simple and low tax regime. Our strengths are well recognised internationally, as shown in numerous international rankings where Hong Kong stays on top. For instance, the Fraser Institute has named Hong Kong as the world's freest economy annually since the inception of its annual report. Meanwhile, the latest Global Financial Centres Index ranked Hong Kong third globally, just behind New York and London," Ms Szeto pointed out.

The panel participants also received the latest updates on the economic outlook of Hong Kong, which is promising despite the pandemic. "Hong Kong's economy has recovered remarkably well within the last 12 months with an overall growth of 6.4 per cent, while investment expenditure even rose by 10.1 per cent," Ms Szeto said.

Looking ahead, with the strong support under the National 14th Five-Year Plan, Hong Kong will not only continue to strengthen its traditional role as an international finance, trading, transport and legal centre, but also enhance its status in four emerging sectors, namely as an international hub for aviation and for innovation and technology, an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange, and a regional intellectual property trading centre. Meanwhile, Hong Kong will continue to capitalise on the unique advantages under the "one country, two systems" principle and serve as an important gateway for European businesses to enter the markets of Mainland China and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

## About HKETO Berlin

HKETO Berlin is the official Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government representative in commercial relations and other economic and trade matters in Poland as well as Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Switzerland.

