

Quarterly Review of International Relations

April-June 2020

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April 1st:

The European Commission values a light form of the States rescue fund and proposes the SURE, an instrument against unemployment, to save the job policies in the most hit European countries by coronavirus.

April 2nd:

The president of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen declares that the next EU budget should be formed as a new 'Marshall plan' to support the European economic recovery from the crisis caused by coronavirus.

April 3rd:

In a letter to Ursula von der Leyen the Italian prime minister Giuseppe Conte relaunches the proposal of a European Recovery and Reinvestment Plan to face the economic crisis caused by pandemic, a plan with innovative tools such as European Recovery Bonds, European government bonds. But the Dutch Finance minister Wopke Hoekstra declares to be against this initiative.

April 4th:

Keir Starmer is elected as new leader of the main British opposition party, the Labor party, pledging to bring to an end of years of bitter infighting and to work with the government to contain the raging of coronavirus pandemic.

April 5th:

Italy and France (in what is called 'Rome-Paris Axe') declare to be ready to put their veto if in the Eurogroup program to be held on April 7th there will not be the eurobonds.

April 6th:

The vice deputy of the city of Wuhan, epicenter of the coronavirus pandemic in China, declares that the operations of recovery of employments and production in the city are: «more rapid and better of what previewed».

April 7th:

Eurozone Finance Ministers meet in the hope to find an agreement on the half trillion of euros economic and financial aids to face the economic crisis caused by coronavirus, in a summit which shows deep divisions among the member States, as the block fights against the pandemic.

France and Germany reach a common position on the use of Ems (European Mechanism of Stability) and not of coronabonds to face the crisis.

April 8th:

At the end of the Eurogroup summit, called to face the economic crisis caused by the pandemic emergency and ended after 16 hours, there is no agreement and a new meeting is established to be held on April 9th. Paris and Berlin are aligned on the use of the EMS. Holland is against it, blocking, in fact, the agreement on which tool to adopt by the European block to face the coronavirus crisis. Dutch position is centered on the idea of «not remove all the conditions» to enter in the Ems. In an interview to the German journal «Bild», Giuseppe Conte declares that is indispensable «to loosen the budget rules or there will be the end of Europe».

April 9th:

During a press conference in Berlin, the German chancellor Angela Merkel declares to be «in agreement with Giuseppe Conte on solidarity. It is the hardest hour» and confirms that Germany is against a debt sharing between EU member States, instead required by Italy with the introduction of eurobonds to face the coronavirus crisis. Dutch Parliament votes against their use and a new meeting of the Eurogroup is held, during which an agreement is reached for an aid program of 1.000 billion euros. In the conclusions of the Eurogroup, it is declared that: «the only requirement to enter the credit line of the Ems will be that the member States will commit to use it to finance direct or indirect health

expenditures, care and prevention costs connected to Covid-19. The credit line will be available until the end of the emergency. After, the member States will rest committed to reinforce the economic fundamentals, coherently with the European surveillance fiscal framework, including flexibility».

April 10th:

The president of the European Council Charles Michel announces on Twitter that he will call the videoconference of the European Council on April 23rd, adding that: «with the president von der Leyen we are working for a roadmap and an action plan to ensure the wellness of the European citizens and to bring back the EU to a growth based on the green and digital strategy». During a press conference Giuseppe Conte declares that Italy will value the whole European proposal during the European Council but that it will fight for the eurobonds.

April 11th:

The European Commission approves the 50 billion euros Belgian loan guarantee scheme that aims to support companies during the coronavirus pandemia.

In a historical TV message to the nation, the president of the Federal Republic of Germany Frank-Walter Steinmeier invites the whole citizenship to solidarity and to help all the European countries, on the background of the still ongoing negotiation between the member States of the Union to agree on the aids to distribute for the coronavirus emergency.

April 12th:

In an interview to the German journal «Bild» Ursula von der Leyen declares that the European Commission is ready to take measures towards Hungary if the anti-coronavirus measures announced by Viktor Orban will overcome the allowed limits. «There is the risk of an infraction procedure» and underlines that the measures: «must be proportionate, time-limited» and not to subvert the rules of democracy.

April 13th:

OPEC Plus (born on November 30th 2016 from OPEC including the Organization member States plus other oil- producer countries, such as Russia and Mexico) agrees on an oil production cut to bring an end to the prices war. The agreement is on the reduction of 9,7 million of barrels per day. Mexico will reduce its production of 100.000 barrels per day. Between the non OPEC countries, the group counts Azerbaijan, Russia and Malaysia.

April 14th:

In an interview to the German economic journal «Handelsblatt» the European Commission vicepresident Valdis Dombrovskis declares that the theme of common European bonds will be «on the desk» of the meeting of the Council to be held on April 23rd and adds that: «we could finance the bond with bonds supported by a guarantee of the member States».

In its *World Economic Outlook* the International Monetary Fund (IMF) declares that, due to its provisional estimations, the Italian GNP will drop of 9,1% in 2020 and that it is necessary that Europe should help the countries most damaged by the pandemic.

April 15th:

Donald Trump stops US financing to the World Health Organization (WHO), criticizing it strongly because: «it has failed to obtain timely information on coronavirus, it has badly managed and covered up the pandemic and it has costed lives».

April 16th:

In her speech to the European Parliament, Ursula von der Leyen declares that: «it is true that many were absent when Italy needed help at the beginning of this pandemic. And it is true, the European Union must now present its deep apologies to Italy and it does it», adding that the European pluriannual budget will be the guide for the recovery.

During her speech to the virtual spring meeting of the IMF the president of the European Central Bank Christine Lagarde declares that: «the ECB is ready to increase the dimensions of its programs of bonds titles purchase and to adjust their composition, in the necessary measure and for all the time needed and to value every action and every contingency».

April 17th

Donald Trump presents the guidelines to back to normalcy: three phases to open back the United States and to recover the American economy, on the depression edge. The President refers to the single States governors the decision on the openings, renouncing to the decisional «total authority» previously claimed.

The European Parliament rejects a test presented by the Greens on the economic aids to use against the coronavirus epidemic which is advising the recourse to the Eurobond and to systems of «debt mutualization». The decision is not binding but it is considered as an important political sign in sight of the EU Council to be held on April 23rd.

April 18th - 19th:

In an interview to the German daily «Sueddeutsche Zeitung» Giuseppe Conte declares that: «the European Union needs all its fire power to respond to the economic crisis caused by coronavirus, specifically with the emission of common bonds».

Donald Trump declares that: «if China has intentionally made itself liable the diffusion of the virus, it should pay the consequences. If otherwise it has been a mistake, it is different», accusing China to hide data and to register a real death toll higher than the US one.

April 20th:

The Chinese spokesman of the Foreign Affairs Ministry Geng Shuang declares that Beijing invites Washington to: «realize that the Covid-19 is the enemy, not China», to respond to the hypothesis of Donald Trump to send a team in China to investigate on the origins of the coronavirus pandemic, putting forth corresponding measures in case of Chinese responsibility. Beijing calls the US politicians to: «stop to spread rumors following the game of accusing others and to concentrate themselves on the fight to the pandemic in the US».

April 21st:

Donald Trump announces on Twitter that he will sign an act to temporally suspend immigration in the US. The decision, the US president explains, is motivated by: «the attack of the invisible enemy of coronavirus. We must protect the job resources in our great country».

April 22nd:

Donald Trump declares he has instructed the US Navy to fire on any Iranian ships that harass it at sea, after 11 vessels from Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy (IRGCN) have come dangerously close to US ships in the Gulf.

April 23rd:

The 27 European Union member States during the European Council establish that the aid measures will be dispensable since June. The Recovery Fund will be composed according to the indications that the European Commission will give on May 6th and formed by European countries State bonds. Germany is against to the eurobonds because, according to Angela Merkel, the European treaties should be changed.

April 24th:

The EU Chief negotiator for Brexit Michel Barnier declares that during the last negotiating round the United Kingdom did not substantially commit itself to extend the transition period and has slowed the negotiation for its divorce from the Union on some issues such as the level playing field. The British Chief negotiator David Frost replies that the UK: «deplores that the EU offer on goods trade would remain well below of what agreed by Brussels in recent free trade treaties with other sovereign countries».

April 25th:

China sends to North Korea a delegation in recognition during the contradictory rumors on the health state of leader Kim Jong-un who on April 12th should have had cardiovascular surgery because of his chronic health problems.

Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump adopt a conjunct declaration for the 75th anniversary of the historical meeting of Soviet and US troops along the Elba river, event that signed a decisive step in the end of II World War, to reduce the divergences between their two countries.

April 26th:

Yemen's separatists declare their self-government in the South of the country, claiming the exclusive control of Aden and breaking the peace agreement with the government (accused of not having honored the understandings and of «conspiring» against the Southern cause). The separatists have reached an agreement after a conflict against the government's forces since 2014. The break mines the government, in fight against the Huthi rebels (supported by Iran) which control much of the country.

April 27th:

WTO Director Tedros Adhanom declares that the Organization is worried on the growing trends in the world on pandemic, especially in Africa, adding that while in Europe some countries start to lighten the lockdown: «we urgently ask to keep on locate, isolate, test and cure».

April 28th:

General Khalifa Haftar self-declares leader of Libya, affirming that he has received a «popular mandate» to govern the country, declaring as dead and buried the Skhirat agreement of 2015, which created the national agreement government, and promising to keep on fighting to get control on Tripoli.

April 29th:

The Vicepresident of the European Commission Vera Jurova declares that the Commission has launched an infringement procedure against Poland for the law approved on February 14th which brings modifications to the operation of the judiciary system, «with the serious risk of a political control of it». Poland has two months to reply.

April 30th:

The director of the intelligence service of Taiwan Chiu Kuo-cheng declares that, on the basis of collected information, Kim Jong-un is ill, adding that there are emergency plans in case of a power vacuum in North Korea.

Germany bans all the activities of the Lebanese political group Hezbollah all over its national territory, a measure requested especially by USA and Israel.

May 1st:

During a press conference at the White House, Donald Trump declares to have confidence on the hypothesis that the origin of coronavirus would be connected to a laboratory in Wuhan, without giving any further explanations.

May 2nd:

Kim Jong-un goes back to the public for the first time after three weeks, without any apparent sign of disease, in 21 photographs published by Kcna, the official Northkorean press agency, and by «Rodong Sinmun», the Labor Party's journal, which show the leader at the inauguration of a phosphate fertilizers' factory in Sunchon.

May 3rd:

Southkorean command of the conjunct general staff declares that the Northkorean army has exploded some bullets along a guard post of the South on the demilitarized line (Dmz) between the two States, receiving as a warning a same response, and that the exchange of shots does not seem to have been started by the North «intentionally».

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo declares that there are many proofs about the origin in the Wuhan's virological laboratory of coronavirus. According to him: «China did all it could to be sure that the world did not promptly know» of the virus.

May 4th:

Donald Trump openly accuses China to have created coronavirus in laboratory and to have hidden the proofs, while official Chinese media declare to consider as «crazy» Mike Pompeo's thesis on the origin in a Chinese laboratory of the virus. The WHO declares that if the USA are in possession of proofs that demonstrate that covid-19 would be created in a laboratory, it expects these proofs will be shared and sustains that the virus has an animal origin.

May 5th:

There is a clash in the European Union on ECB's powers after that German High Court has in part upheld the legal appeals against the buying of bonds by the same ECB occurred in 2015 during the Quantitative Easing. Frankfurt has three months of time to clarify on the program and Berlin lets know

that «it will move» to make the ECB perform the appropriate check. The European Central Bank replies that it is valuing the sentence of the German Court on the bonds buying program and that will «express on it at due time».

May 6th:

The speaker of Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs Hua Chunying declares that if Mike Pompeo: «tells to have huge proofs? Will he show us». But the US secretary of State insists: the USA would have «significant proofs» that coronavirus comes from a laboratory in Wuhan: «but we are not still sure».

May 7th:

There is a clash between the European Union and China on the origin of coronavirus: the «Financial Times» refers that: «the EU has accused China to censor an article co-confirmed by its ambassador in Beijing and published on «The China Daily», removing a reference on the diffusion of the virus in the country». This part indicated that covid-19 has been originated in China and then it has been diffused in the world.

May 8th:

At the Eurogroup meeting is reached an agreement on a credit line of 240 million euros since June 1st to satisfy the financial needs to face covid-19, confirming that EMS will be able to offer financings of 2% of the GNP with 0% of interest rate for direct and indirect health and prevention expenditures connected to covid-19. The European Commission will verify only this requirement. Additional conditions will not be introduced.

May 9th:

On the anniversary of the Schuman declaration in 1950 the Europe Day is celebrated with the spirit of solidarity due to the pandemic.

May 10th:

After more than 5 months of political stall the new Iraq Prime Minister takes office. Mustafa al Kadhim, 53 years old and former chief of Iraq intelligence, is the third premier appointed by Baghdad's Parliament since the resignation in November 2019 of Adel Abdul Mahdi. Strongly supported by the USA, and for this not very welcomed by Iran, Kadhim declares that he will have to face immediately the serious economic crisis of the country.

May 11th:

The EU Ministers of Foreign Affairs, which will meet on May 15th, are considering to impose sanctions to Israel if it will keep on with its plans of annexation of the Jewish settlements of West Bank and Jordanian Valley. Peter Sano, spokesman of the High representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and security policy Josep Borrell, declares that: «the annexation is not online with the international law and, if Israel will insist with its plan to annex parts of the occupied West Bank, the EU will act accordingly».

May 12th:

Thirteen people and two babies die in a terroristic attack of gunmen in the hospital Dasht-e-Barchi in Kabul where Doctors Without Borders operate.

May 13th:

Austria opens some minor crossing with Germany, Czech Republic and Hungary, closed since March 2020 because of the pandemic emergency, but brakes to open the ones with Italy. Also France, Germany and Switzerland consider to maintain closed the borders with Italy and Spain.

May 14th:

The ECB declares that the pandemic crisis, which has stopped the most part of the economic activity, will cause a fall of the Eurozone GNP of -5 and -12% and that with the gradual removal of the containment measures, there will be an economic recovery whose rapidity and flow are still strongly uncertain.

May 15th:

Donald Trump declares that the United States could entirely cut its relations with China, despite his personal relationship with PRC Xi Jinping «good».

At the end of the meeting of the EU Foreign Affairs Ministers, the European Union declares that it will try to stop the Jewish annexation proposal of parts of occupied West Bank.

May 16th:

Italy declares that since June 3rd all its borders with the EU countries will be open and that the obligation of precautionary quarantine for the incoming citizens will decay.

May 17th:

In Israel the new government of national emergency of Benjamin Netanyahu and Benny Gantz takes office. The two premiers will lead it in rotation for 18 months one after the other. The government is formed by 36 ministers and 16 viceministers and is the most numerous in the country's history. It takes office after a long crisis of more than one year and cost 3 electoral turns.

May 18th

US envoy for peace in Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad waves for Doha and Kabul to press Taliban and Afghan government officials to open peace talks that the United States hope will allow them to withdraw from Afghanistan.

After the videoconference summit with Emanuel Macron, Angela Merkel declares that: «Germany and France agree on the Recovery Fund, a temporary plan of 500 billion euros which will come from the budget expenditure of the EU, so no loans, available to regions and sectors more hit by pandemic».

May 19th:

After the French-German agreement on the Recovery Fund (that will be repaid by all the UE member States), supported by Italy and Spain, the North European countries (Austria, The Netherlands, Sweden and Denmark) are against it and declare that: «the right road are loans, not contributions» as confirmed by Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz, who announces a forthcoming proposal to the European Commission.

Just before the WHO Assembly there is a clash between USA and China because of a letter of Donald Trump to the General Director of the Organization Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. In this letter the US President threatens to stop the US fund to the WHO, considering that it has been supporting Chinese positions. Through the spokesman of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Zhao Lijian, Beijing replies that the letter of Trump: «tricks the public opinion and throws mud to China».

May 20th:

Between Giuseppe Conte and Ursula von der Leyen there is a phone call on the Recovery Fund in view of the EU Commission's proposal on May 27th. According to the Italian premier the French-German proposal is: «a courageous step but more is needed».

May 21st:

The EU Commission Vice President Frans Timmermans praises the initiative between Berlin and Paris.

Cyprian Finance Minister Constantinou Petrides announces that Cyprus is the first country of the Eurozone to use EMS's credit line for health costs.

May 22nd:

It is being made ready China's authoritarian grasp on Hong Kong, due to «protect national security» and to stop the autonomist claims of the State-city. The new law, whose draft is deposited to the People's National Congress, will sanction secession, eversion against the State, terrorism and external interferences, becoming operating with its addition to the Attachment 3 of the Basic Law, the Hong Kong Constitution. This move would be overcoming the local Parliament's ballot, without the authorizations to be asked to the local government. With this news the Hang Seng index drops and closes with a fall of - 5.56%.

May 23rd:

In a document sent to the European capitals and to Brussels, the Recovery Fund project proposed by Austria, The Netherlands, Denmark and Sweden is composed by an emergency fund, «temporary, *una tantum*» and limited for two years to support «the economic recovery and resilience of health sectors» with an approach based on «loans to favorable conditions» without «any mutualization of debt» and in exchange of «a strong commitment for national reforms» from the beneficiaries.

May 24th:

During a press conference Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Li declares that China and the USA are «close to a new Cold War».

In Hong Kong police in riot gear loads on the crowd using urticant sprays, tear gas and water cannons to disperse thousands of people in the streets to protest against the national security law at the exam in Beijing to the People's National Congress.

May 25th-26th:

China warns USA on the consequences connected to Hong Kong on possible US sanctions against the National Security Law discussed in Beijing, accusing Washington to be willing to «hit Chinese national security».

May 27th:

The European Commission presents its plan to recovery European economy and Italy gets the most out of the available resources of the Recovery Fund proposed by the Commission. On 750 expected billions (500 of aids and 250 of loans) the Italian package is about 172,7 billions: 82 non-repayable and 91 of loans. The whole measures for the recovery will be about 2400 billions, according to Ursula von der Leyen. But the Northern countries, the Netherlands and Sweden especially, are against the aids. Angela Merkel declares that: «the negotiations will be difficult and will not be yet closed for the European Council to be held in June».

May 28th:

Chinese People's National Congress approves Hong Kong national security act, which causes protests in the former British colony. At the Congress premier Li Keqiang declares that Beijing wants to promote «the pacific reunification» of China with Taiwan.

May 29th:

United States, Canada, Australia and Great Britain condemn the Hong Kong Act on national security, the United Kingdom promising a simplified release of visa and a facilitated route to get British passport for the State-city citizens. Also the EU High Representative Joseph Borrel underlines the «deep worries» of the 27 EU countries for the measures adopted by Beijing.

Donald Trump announces the abandonment by the USA of the WHO, considered as «China-centric organization».

May 30st:

On the re-opening of EU countries borders the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs declares that: «is needed a European answer because if we act in a different and disordered way the spirit of Europe fails. And Europe collapses».

May 31st:

Donald Trump announces the postponement of the G7 meeting to be held in June at the White House after that Angela Merkel has refused his invitation to take part in presence because of the pandemic, organizing it for September 2020. The US President invites also Russia - suspended since 2014 because of Crimea annexation - and other countries such as South Korea, Australia and India, to unify the traditional allies to discuss on China, become a strategic rival of the USA.

June 1st:

After the killing in Minneapolis of George Floyd by the police agent Derek Chauvin occurred on May 25th, various protest marches take place in Atlanta, Philadelphia and other cities in the US. From the bunker under the White House, in which he is transferred by the secret services because the violent clashes between protesters and police, Donald Trump warns to send the army, while China and Iran urge to stop the violence.

June 2nd:

From an investigation made by the Associated Press, published on its website and based on secret documents of WHO's chiefs, emerges that China was late in communicating data on coronavirus and in some the cases it hid them, causing great frustration in WHO's ranks, quite differently from the public praises made by the organization to Beijing in the attempt to persuade China to a stronger collaboration.

June 3rd:

China rejects the accusation of delays in communicating to the WHO the first steps of Covid-19 pandemic.

Austrian Foreign Affairs Minister Alexander Schallenberg declares that Austria will not open, for the moment, the border with Italy, underlining that: «it is not a decision against Italy».

June 4th:

Hong Kong Parliament approves the contested act on national security after an high tension session between the pro-Beijing front and the pro-democratic one, in the day of 31st anniversary of Tienanmen Square facts, causing new violent riots to whom follow many detentions made by police.

June 5th:

Spanish premier Pedro Sanchez declares he has sent a letter together with Giuseppe Conte to the European Commission to get to a safe transition to the cancellation of restrictions to travels in the EU Member States in a coordinated way, on the basis of common and transparent criteria. At the end of their meeting EU Interior Ministers declare that Union's external borders will be closed until July 1st.

In Libya Khalifa Haftar looses Tripolitania and seriously risks an internal revolution in Cirenaica: militias of the National Agreement government of premier Fayeze Sarraj in Tripoli announce the conquest of Tarhuna.

June 6th-7th:

Khalifa Haftar accepts a ceasefire in Libya since 6 a.m. of June 8th, at the end of a meeting in Cairo with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al Sisi, one of its main supporters, but it is rejected by the government of Libyan national agreement of Fayeze al Sarraj.

June 8th:

Italy establishes the Pact for Made in Italy, an agreement to support exports, thanks to the extraordinary resources of the government about 1.4 billion euros, which reinforces the tools for internationalization of Italian companies and adopts broad promotional actions.

June 9th:

North Korea announces that will stop military and political communications since June 10th with South Korea, considered «enemy», as reaction to the initiative of some activists that have reached to send some flyers with anti-Pyongyang texts from the South to the North.

June 10th:

Joseph Borrell announces that: «The opening of the external borders will be made with a gradual and partial revocation since July 1st». Austria will open its border with Italy on June 16th. Answering to an interrogation to its Parliament Danish premier Mette Frederiksen declares that: «our commitment is not to put the veto but to find a solution and so Danish government is favorable to the Fund to help the most hit EU countries by pandemic».

June 11th:

The European Commission recommends to all the EU States that agree to the Schengen Treaty to revoke the controls to the internal borders within June 15th and to prolong until the end of the month temporary restrictions of non essential travels in the Union.

In a briefing with the member States, WHO Director Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus declares that: «coronavirus emergency in the world is worsening even if it is better in Europe».

June 12th:

In Kabul there is an attack inside a mosque: the death toll is of at least 4 people. The attack happens after that on June 11th President Ashraf Ghani has announced the liberation of other thousands of Taliban prisoners in the efforts to favor the opening of negotiations.

June 13th-14th:

New cases of coronavirus cause the lockdown in some areas in Beijing. Eleven residential complexes in the South of Chinese capital are isolated because of a Covid-19 hotbed connected to the meat market of Xinfadi. The fear of a second wave of the virus grows in the country.

June 15th:

Beijing Mayor Xu Ying declares the new Covid-19 cases registered in the city have inducted the authorities to stop once again sport activities and cultural events. The prohibition is related to all the outdoor sport and cultural activities.

In the EU countries that agree to the Schengen treaty is possible to move for travels also for touristic reasons.

June 16th:

Keeping the threat of June 13th North Korea destroys the Inter Korean Office of Relations in Kaesong, symbol of the hopes of pacific dialogue between Pyongyang and Seoul, with an explosion. Kim Jong-un threatens to send his army in the DMZ, declaring North Korea to be furious for the launch of hot air balloons with propaganda flyers organized by defectors sheltered in the South.

In Beijing 10 areas are put in lockdown; primary and secondary schools are closed to face the new cases of coronavirus.

June 17th:

In Kashmir, in the Galwan Valley, in the night between June 16th and 17th 20 Indian soldiers are killed in a clash at the border with Chinese army. These are the first victims since the 1962 war in the Himalayan area, contended between the two Asian powers, at the end of which the Indian forces were defeated. New Delhi accuses Beijing to have occupied an area of 38.000 square kilometers and despite negotiating rounds an agreement has never been reached by the two countries.

June 18th:

In a speech to the Bundestag before the European Council of June 19th and the beginning of German Presidency at the EU on July 1st Angela Merkel declares that: «Recovery Fund is a due and necessary instrument in this moment».

June 19th:

At the end of the European Council Ursula von der Leyen declares that the first discussion on the Recovery Fund and the budget has been very positive, that the European leaders have affirmed that they are looking for an agreement within August and that: «the success of the Recovery Plan depends also on its rapid adoption».

But Sweden and The Netherlands consider that: «the Recovery Plan must be based on loans and not on grants».

June 20th:

The Libyan national agreement government announces that it will not take part to the Arab League emergency briefing called by Egypt to be held at the end of June.

June 21st:

Chinese State agency Xinhua refers that China will establish in Hong Kong an: «agency of national security, leader by a Chief in Office», as forecasted in the draft of the act on national security.

June 22nd:

In conference call is held the 22nd summit of EU-China bilateral relations, in particular on the project to negotiate an agreement on investments that, in the ambition of the Europeans, should respect the reciprocity conditions and a level playing field, regional and international issues, Covid-19 pandemic and the economic recovery. But the relation between the two parts is very difficult because of problems on the «deterioration of the human rights situation» in China, the crisis in Hong Kong, personal data protection in the digital economy and the loss of initial transparency of Beijing in the management of the coronavirus epidemic.

June 23rd:

Donald Trump tweets that: «the commercial agreement with China is completely intact. If everything is all right, it will continue to be able to the understanding terms», trying in this way to clarify after the declarations of his advisor Peter Navarro that has left it be understood that the agreement's terms were expired because of coronavirus.

June 24th:

Chinese daily «South China Morning Post» sustains that between the United States and China the risk of a military clash is: «more high than ever», intensifying the patrolling of the two countries' navies in the Pacific where, according to Beijing, 60% of the US navy is dedicated.

June 25th:

The US Senate passes legislation that will impose mandatory sanctions on individuals or companies that back efforts by China to restrict Hong Kong's autonomy, pushing back against Beijing's new security law for the city.

June 26th:

Vietnam and the Philippines warn of growing insecurity in Southeast Asia at a regional summit amid concerns that China is stepping up its activity in the disputed South China Sea during the coronavirus pandemic.

June 27th:

US media (from New York Times to The Washington Post), citing diplomatic sources, report that the European Union is ready to forbid the entrance of American travelers when since July 1st will be open the borders of the Old Continent. This would be the decision taken by the Ambassadors of the 27 EU countries. The list of the States that will be allowed to enter in the Union will be official on July 1st.

June 28th:

Hong Kong police arrests at least 53 people after scuffles have erupted during a relatively peaceful protest against planned national security legislation to be implemented by the mainland Chinese government.

June 29th:

Teheran attorney Alghasi Mehr declares Iran has emitted arrest warrants for 36 US citizens and of other countries, including for Donald Trump, with the accusation to have organized or done the killing of general Qassem Soleimani, chief commander of Qods' Pasdaran forces, occurred on January 3rd in Baghdad. Interpol replies that it will not be able to follow up on the mandate.

June 30th:

China enacts the law on national security of Hong Kong: the president of the European Council Charles Michel declares that this law is deplored by the European Union because it risks to seriously mine the independence of judiciary power and the autonomy of the city-State. Its governor Carrie Lam declares that Hong Kong will take necessary countermeasures in the hypothesis of US sanctions.