

The rise of China

Published: September 8, 2026, 6:21 am

As [The Guardian reported](#) in the last day or so:

Job losses in EU manufacturing will rapidly increase unless Brussels stops the "colonisation" of industry by Chinese component manufacturers, a leading industry trade body has warned.

Eurometal predicts 300,000 job losses in manufacturing in the rest of 2026 because of expanding competition from China, which is now enjoying a record €1bn-a-day trade surplus with the bloc.

China is becoming deeply embedded in our product supply chains. The claim that a product might be 'Made in Europe' or 'Made in the UK' is increasingly meaningless.

On climate-change technology, EVs, and related tech, they are beating the world.

And then there is AI. Try their models and you will find they work, and may turn out to be much cheaper than those from the USA. And when the US is a fascist state, who to share data with becomes a difficult question, but one with a potentially easier answer.

At the same time, don't talk about who is winning the conflict in Iran; the answer is China, without a doubt. They have the oil. No one else has.

Amongst the many ideas we have to get our heads around now is the fact that China may now become the world's single global superpower. As neoliberalism kills Western democracies, that is the reality we have to face.

What does that mean?

How does it make us feel?

What does it change?

Answers on the back of a postcard, please.....