

"Yeah, I've talked to Enes Kanter several times."

How does he feel? I know there's been a lot of animosity between him and LeBron.

"The same issue for Enes. It's never got nearly the kind of attention that Daryl Morey's tweet is getting. But, Enes has been speaking out about his political beliefs for a long time in this league. I mean, most of the things he's talking about ... probably for most Americans, they're not all that familiar with these issues. But certainly, he's a Turkish citizen -- or was a Turkish citizen -- and he's speaking about his views that are important to him and he's been supported by the league in doing so."

If you guys could have done anything differently, sorry, let me back up. Do you guys think you handled the whole situation to the best you could have?

"In retrospect, I never think I handled anything the best we could have. Things are changing, evolving so quickly. We were over in China, dealing sort of what felt at the moment that an issue that was getting global attention. We had 2 teams there that were on the ground. We were there to play games and we made a decision that we would play our games and come home. And then once we got home, we would have an opportunity to sort of, take in all the information and reset and figure out the best thing to do. I would just say I'm someone who always has regrets. I mean, I think everything we do, we can do better in hindsight."

Would you do anything differently if you could do it again?

"It's not clear to me. It bothered me that in saying we regretted upsetting hundreds of millions of Chinese fans while at the same time supporting Daryl Morey's speech, it bothered me, I'd say, that it was interpreted as an apology to the Chinese government. We certainly didn't apologize to the Chinese government. We supported Daryl from the get-go in terms of his ability to tweet. We also made clear that there were consequences from that speech. And that was no doubt frustrating to a lot of people in the NBA community because it was incredibly disruptive. But, you know, we accepted that. Daryl knew we accepted that. There was not much we could do about that. But I think it bothered me that somehow even though we -- I felt were holding the line in a way that many companies haven't been able to in China, meaning there was no discipline of our employee, there was never a suggestion that we weren't supporting him. In fact, I spoke out in favor of freedom of expression. Somehow, there was a sense from some people that that was the equivalent of kowtowing to the Chinese government. I certainly didn't see it that way, but people are entitled to their opinion."

People didn't seem to think the NBA was doing enough and I feel like you stated your opinion -- freedom of speech and what not -- I guess some people were expecting you guys to do more.

"I understand it's an incredibly divisive issue. It plays into a larger dynamic between the U.S. and China right now. We're in the middle of negotiating a trade agreement. There's issues on both sides of the aisle in terms of trade agreement and what issues should be addressed and where the Trump administration stands on various tariffs, so, clearly, having been doing business in China for a long time, I think these are unusual times. So, when this event happens, I think it ended up getting a lot more attention than it might have --"

It's so much bigger than basketball. It's so much bigger.

"No question."

Last thing, have you spoken to David Stern, who laid a lot of this groundwork down? How's he doing? How's he feeling?

"Absolutely, I have talked to David Stern. He's still an advisor to the league. He's doing great personally, but also he and I had several conversations about this."

What is the next step for you guys?

"The season! It starts on Tuesday! Back to basketball!"

So, we'll expect to see you guys in China next year?

"Unclear. It's unclear."