

China's Debt Diplomacy

Open-Source Intelligence in Action

Background

- China has been accused of practicing 'debt-trap' diplomacy: deliberately lending to countries that it knows cannot repay money*
- Concept involves political leverage: pressuring countries to vote with it in the UN on key issues
- China is a leading bilateral lender in 32 African countries and the top lender on a continent with a worsening debt crisis
- China invested over \$130B in Latin America between '05-'20. Four Latin American countries (Panama, El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua) broke off relations with Taiwan in favor of China**

Deeper Insight

Babel Street analysts, harnessing the power of publicly available information by drawing on English and Non-English language sources, examined this growing geopolitical concern from multiple angles. Enhancing situational awareness using hyper-local news and non-traditional outlets creates a robust picture of this unfolding story.









*Source: <u>BBC News</u>

**Source: Foreign Affairs Magazine

The Power of Publicly Available Information: China's Debt Diplomacy



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