



# A Chinese Garden in America's Backyard: Changing Patterns of Trade between China and Latin America

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## II CELAC-China Ministerial Forum

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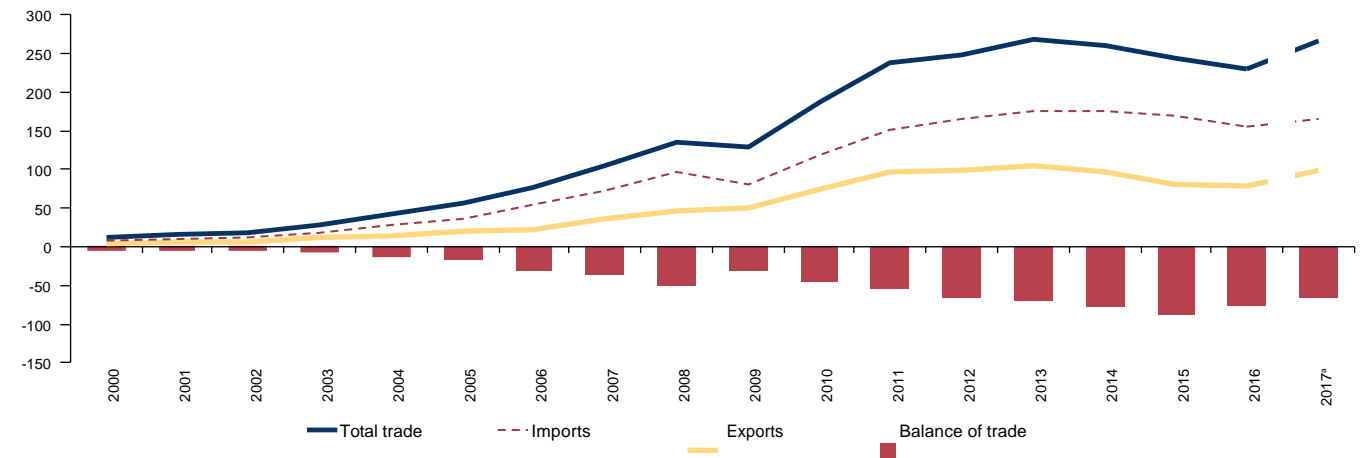


<https://www.univision.com/univision-news/opinion/chinese-engagement-in-latin-america-and-the-us-response-taking-off-the-gloves>

# First Proposition :

- The links that have emerged between Latin America and China in the past twenty years signify the region's most important realignment in the past two centuries.

Latin America and the Caribbean: goods trade with China, 2000-2017  
(Billions of dollars)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of information from the United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database (COMTRADE).

\* Figures for 2017 are projections.

## Second proposition :

- However, these links between China and the region are not new.





# Third proposition :

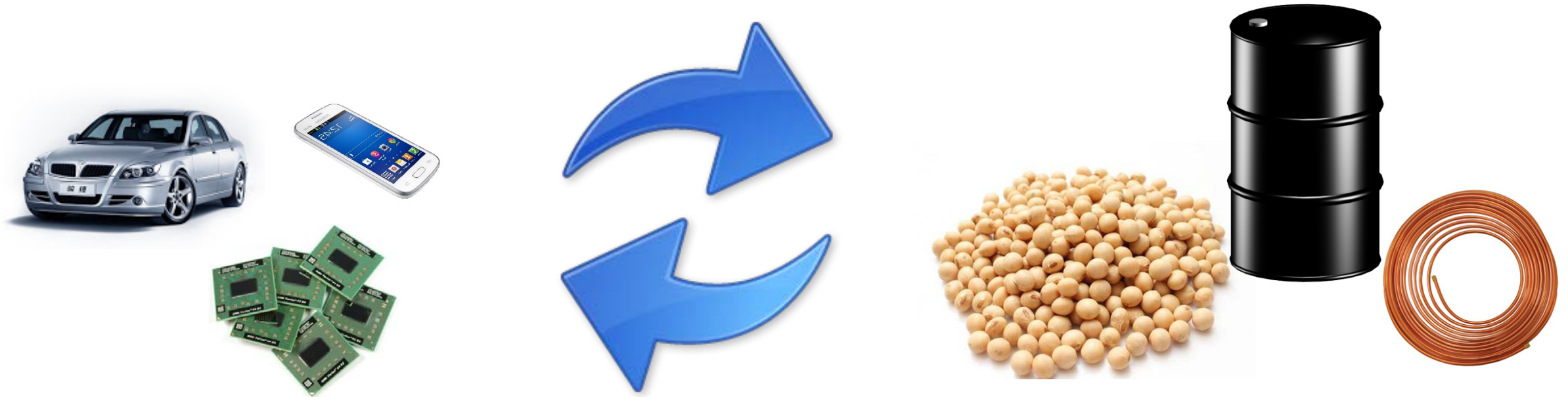
- Globalization was actually kick-started by these links between China and the New World.



<http://www.rgvbizjournal.com/uncategorized/mexico-city-new-york-western-hemisphere-xvii-century/>

# Fourth proposition :

- The pattern of exchanging raw materials for manufactured products was established early on, and continues to this day, with China selling industrial products and Latin America commodities.



# Fifth proposition :

- Denouncing trade with China as tantamount to promoting deindustrialization is to put the cart before the horse.

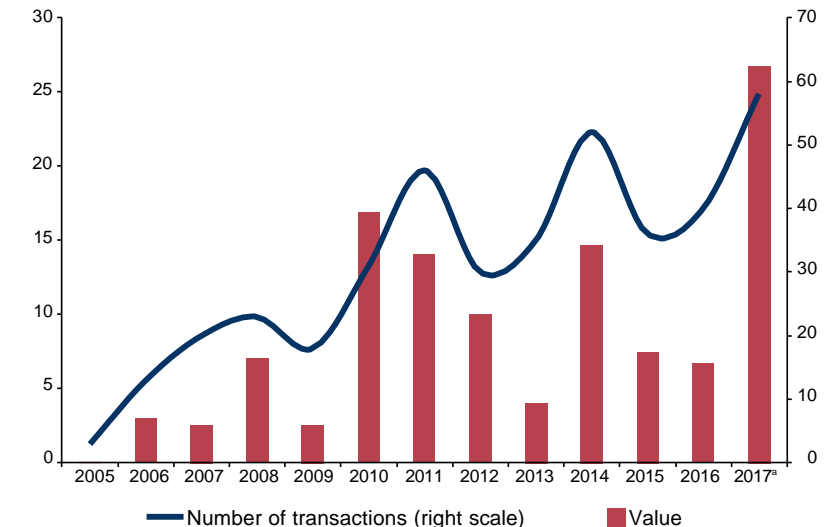


# Sixth proposition :

- During the “China boom” years, the main driver of Sino-LAC links was trade, which increased 26 times from 2000 to 2013, when it reached USD 265 billion.
  - Yet, since then trade has flattened or even fallen.
  - Investment and financial cooperation are now moving to center stage.

■ Figure IV.10 ■

Latin America and the Caribbean: estimated FDI inflows from China, 2005-October 2017  
(Billions of dollars and number of transactions)



**Source:** Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of Financial Times, *fDi Markets*, and Bloomberg.

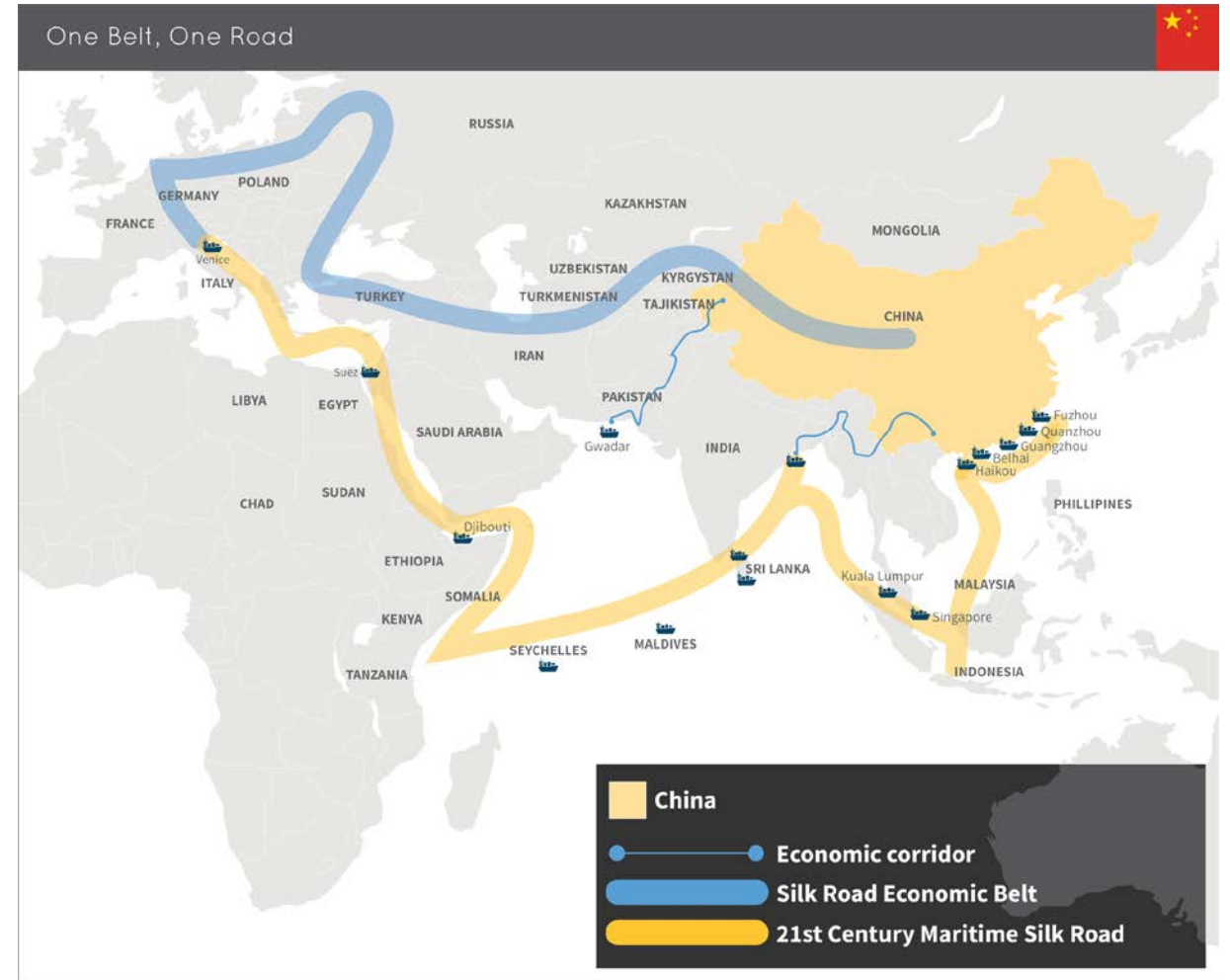
**Note:** The estimate includes the value and number of mergers and acquisitions and projects announced.



# Seventh proposition :

- China in LAC is no longer just about buying oil, and iron and copper and soybeans.

**China in LAC today is also about development.**



# Eighth proposition :

- Latin America's infrastructure could benefit tremendously from Chinese investment, which could integrate our own vast expanses.
  - Many of our economies are export-oriented, yet the infrastructure of our countries leaves much to be desired.



<https://macaunews.mo/hong-kong-zhuhai-macao-bridge-open-new-year/>



# Ninth proposition :

- Much as in infrastructure, Latin America's energy matrix could benefit considerably from Chinese cooperation and investment.



# Tenth proposition :

- At this point in time, there is a basic convergence of interests between China and Latin America in terms of development priorities.

