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Dr. Joshua Eisenman is an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Austin's Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs and Senior Fellow for China studies at the American Foreign Policy Council. His research focuses on Chinese politics and foreign relations with the United States and the developing world—Africa in particular.

Working with Eric Heginbotham, he co-edited *China Steps Out: Beijing's Major Power Engagement with the Developing World* (Routledge, 2018), which analyses China's strategies in various regions of the developing world and evaluates their effectiveness. Dr. Eisenman's second book, *China and Africa: A Century of Engagement* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012), co-authored with David Shinn, was named one of the top three books about Africa by *Foreign Affairs*. Dr. Eisenman's work has appeared in numerous publications including *Foreign Affairs*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Policy*, *The National Interest*, and *Journal of Contemporary China*.

Dr. Eisenman has been a visiting faculty member at Fudan University, Peking University, and NYU-Shanghai, and served as a policy analyst on the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission and as a fellow at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs and at the New America Foundation. Dr. Eisenman holds a PhD in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles, a MA in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, and a BA in East Asian Studies from The George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs.

Dr. Eisenman testified before the Commission at its 2015 hearing on "The Foreign Investment Climate in China: Present Challenges and Potential Reform."

Questions for Panelist

1. How have countries in the region and beyond responded to BRI?
2. Do countries hosting BRI projects perceive China as an overall positive force and responsible stakeholder in the region? How do perceptions of BRI vary among different stakeholders in host countries (e.g., political elites vs. business elites vs. public opinion vs. workers)?
3. In cases where BRI projects have been successful or well-received by multiple stakeholders, what factors have contributed to their success? Conversely, what factors contribute to failures or negative perceptions by host country stakeholders?
4. How has BRI influenced the economic strategies of countries in the region?
5. How does BRI interact with other regional economic initiatives? To what extent can we expect BRI to compete with or complement development strategies envisioned by other regional powers (e.g., India and Japan)?
6. To what extent do regional countries perceive BRI to impact or complicate their own national security interests? How, if at all, are regional countries recalculating or recalibrating their regional strategies in response?
7. Five years in, has BRI generally improved or hurt China's reputation and standing in the world? How has BRI extended China's diplomatic reach and soft power?
8. To what extent does China's growing influence affect or displace the U.S. role in countries hosting BRI projects?
9. The Commission is mandated to make policy recommendations to Congress based on its hearings and other research. What are your recommendations for Congressional action related to the topic of your testimony?