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## HOW TRUMP CAN BREAK CHINA'S TIGHTENING GRIP ON CENTRAL ASIA

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Asia Times (13 January 2025)

Andrew Korybko

The ceremonial launch of the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway on December 27 was the latest indication of Chinas growing influence in Central Asia.

Construction is expected to take six years and will bolster Chinas growing trade with a strategic region the US has de facto abandoned since withdrawing militarily from neighboring Afghanistan in 2021.

Chinas trade with Central Asia, comprised of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, hit US\$89 billion in 2023, making it by far the regions largest trade partner.

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