

Issue 158 • September 2015



**CHINA BRIEFING**

**From Dezan Shira & Associates**



# China's Silk Road Economic Belt

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**P.11** Connecting China with South-East Asia

**P.06** Connecting & Developing Chinese  
Central Asia: Urumqi & Kashgar

**P.14** Silk Road Conclusions & The Impact on China

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# Introduction

As envisioned by Beijing, the new Silk Road Economic Belt and Maritime routes will comprise two distinct transportation corridors: a land route that connects Xi'an in West China to Duisburg in Germany and Rotterdam in the Netherlands by way of Central Asia, and a sea route that connects South China to North and East Africa by way of Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and India. China is prepared to invest hundreds of billions of dollars in making this happen over the course of the next few decades. It is the largest diplomatic and infrastructure effort ever put into place. In the words of President Xi Jinping, it will create the world's biggest single market.

It is already known that China spends 8.5 percent of its total GDP on infrastructure, the highest percentage in the world. Getting to grips with accessing that in the form of infrastructure

projects is an issue right at the top of every major manufacturer and contractor involved in infrastructure development worldwide. In my new book "China's New Economic Silk Road", I outline how this can be done, the countries involved, and the problems as well as the opportunities in becoming part of these plans.

This issue of China Briefing outlines the fundamentals of China's proposed new Silk Road Economic Belt. It begins by highlighting the overland route that encompasses Central Asia, and then details the plans behind maritime and overland routes through South-East Asia.



**Chris Devonshire-Ellis**  
Founding Partner & Chairman  
Dezan Shira & Associates

I hope you find this issue a useful primer for your on-going China development knowledge. The Silk Road Economic Belt will affect all businesses operating in China – now is a good time to start thinking about its implications.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "cde" in a stylized, cursive font.

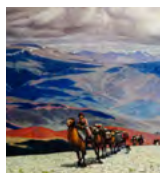
**Chris Devonshire-Ellis**

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Silk Road Caravan  
by A. Zogart, 2012  
From the authors private collection

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## China's Silk Road Economic Belt

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#### Credits

Publisher / Chris Devonshire-Ellis  
Senior Editor / Samuel Wrest  
Design / Jessica Huang & Estela Mi

#### Asia Briefing Ltd.,

Unit 1618, 16/F., Miramar Tower  
132 Nathan Road, Tsim Sha Tsui  
Kowloon, Hong Kong SAR





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