China’s Presence in the Middle East and Western Indian Ocean: Beyond Belt and Road

AT A GLANCE

MILITARY
In 2017, China officially opened its first overseas base in Djibouti. Located directly on the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, this base provides China with a permanent military facility along a critical waterway.


ECONOMIC

INFORMATION

Instead of looking for a proxy in the Middle East, China promotes peace talks; instead of seeking any sphere of influence, China calls on all countries to join the circle of friends for the “Belt and Road”; instead of attempting to fill the “vacuum”, China builds a cooperative partnership network for mutual benefits and win-win results.

Sources: See section in References entitled “Sources of Information on Chinese Port Development.”

President Xi Jinping speaking at the Arab League Headquarters in Cairo, Egypt, January 2016