

Van Mercosur & EU naar de bossen van Colombia

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KNAG Onderwijsdag
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Ronde A

Inhoud

- Grote geopolitiek: toegang tot grondstoffen
- Mercosur-EU handelsakkoord
- Verzet tegen extractivisme in Latijns-Amerika
- Naar de bossen in Colombia: Knowledges in Terra project

Latins- Amerika in de grote geopolitiek





Energietransitie

- ‘an integrated global endeavour that entails immense efforts for international cooperation’
- Toegang tot mineralen en metalen is cruciaal
- ‘Eerlijke transititie’

Toenemende geopolitieke spanningen

- China en de VS
- EU (Oorlog Oekraïne)
- Minder afhankelijkheid van China:
uitbreiding van de handelsbetrekkingen
- Meer aandacht voor Latijns-Amerika en
Afrika

A stylized map of Latin America is shown, with the landmasses colored in a vibrant orange. The surrounding areas are filled with a textured red, and five yellow stars of varying sizes are scattered across the red background, mimicking the design of the Chinese national flag. The text 'Latijns-Amerika en China' is centered over the map in a white, sans-serif font.

Latijns-Amerika en China

China's Trade Expansion Across Latin America and Caribbean

In 2000, the United States was the main trade partner of countries across the Western Hemisphere. However, China soon became the largest trading partner of most regional countries, especially in South America, after joining the World Trade Organization in 2001 and expanding commerce with the region.

Largest Trading Partner, By Country

2000



2023



Source: UN Comtrade
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Handel

Handel

China Has Been Central & South America's Largest Trading Partner Since 2020

Share of Total Trade

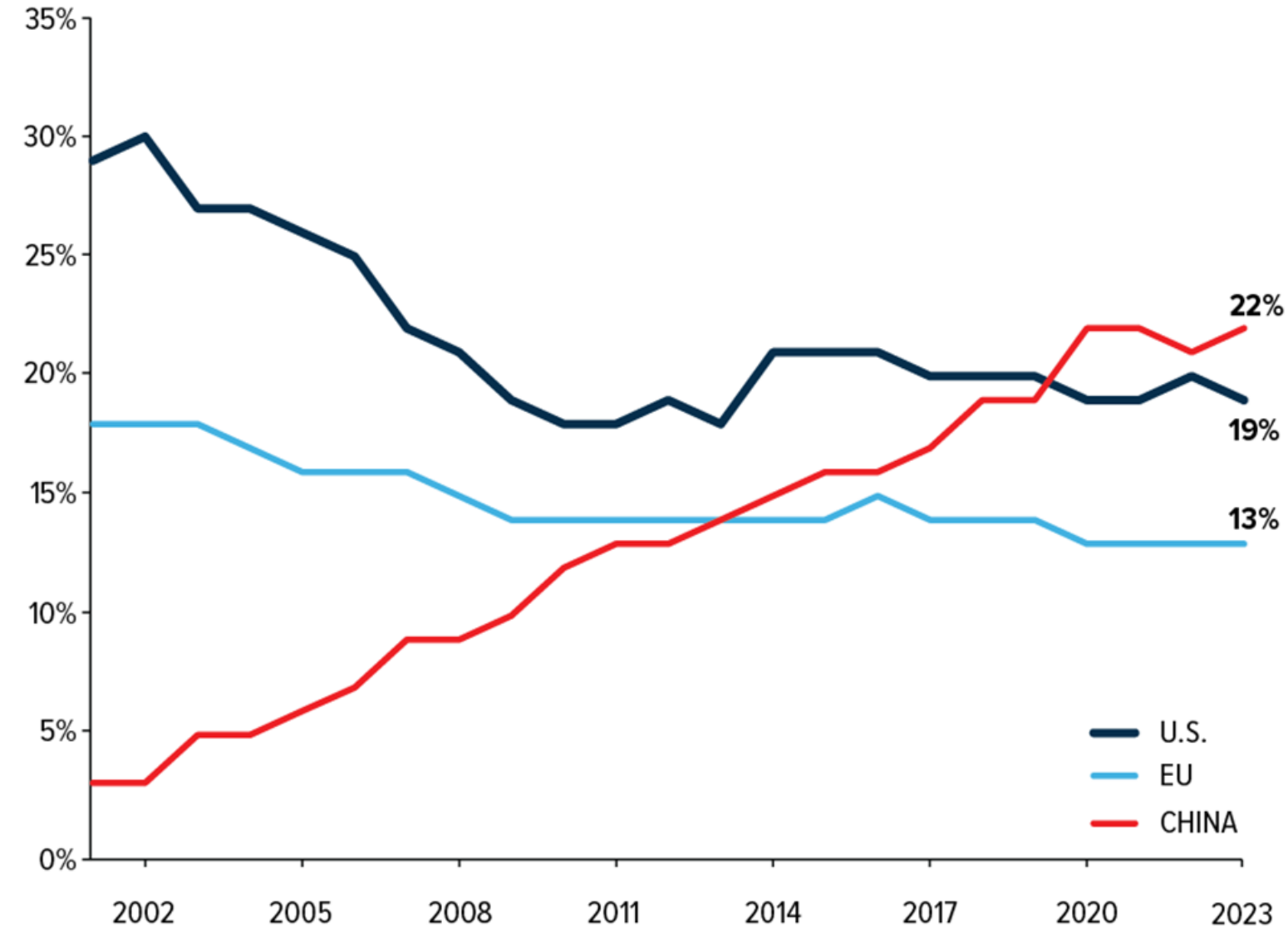
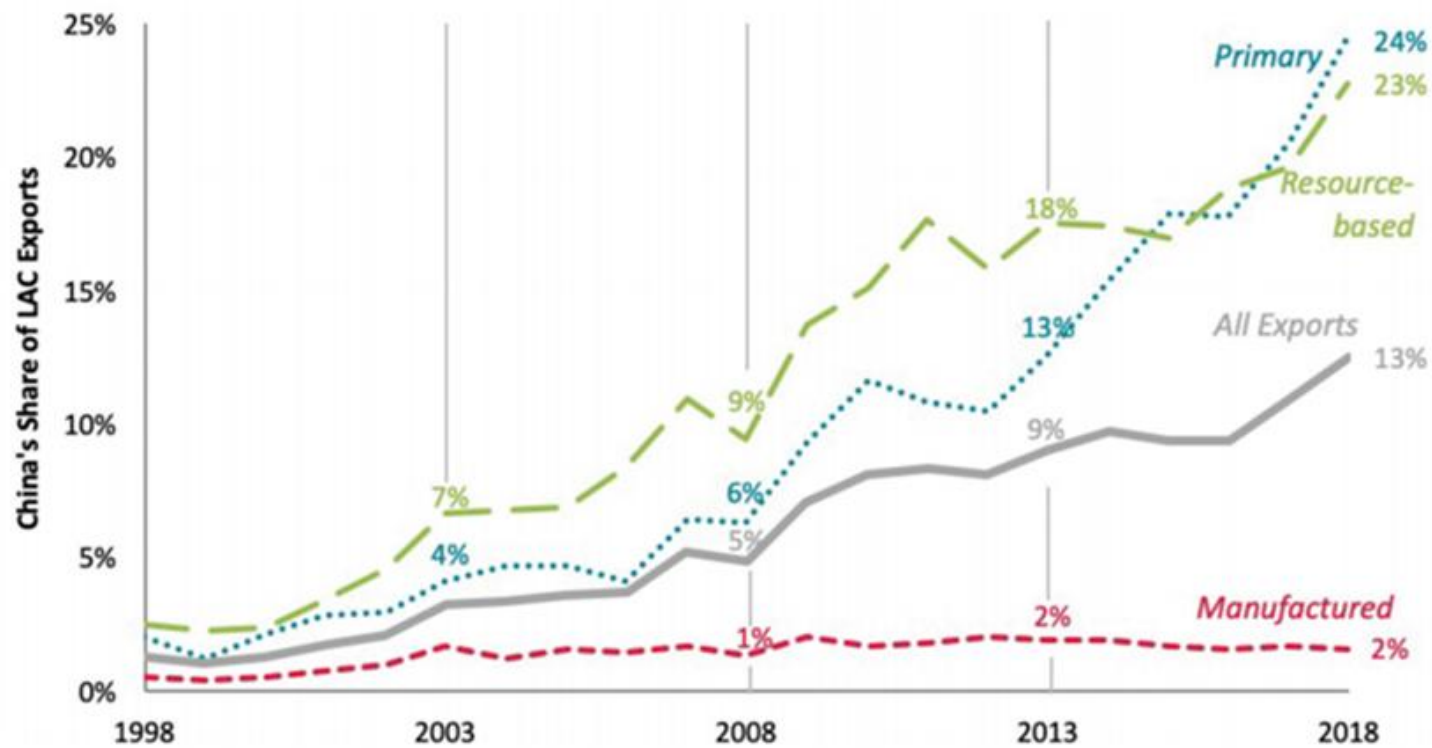


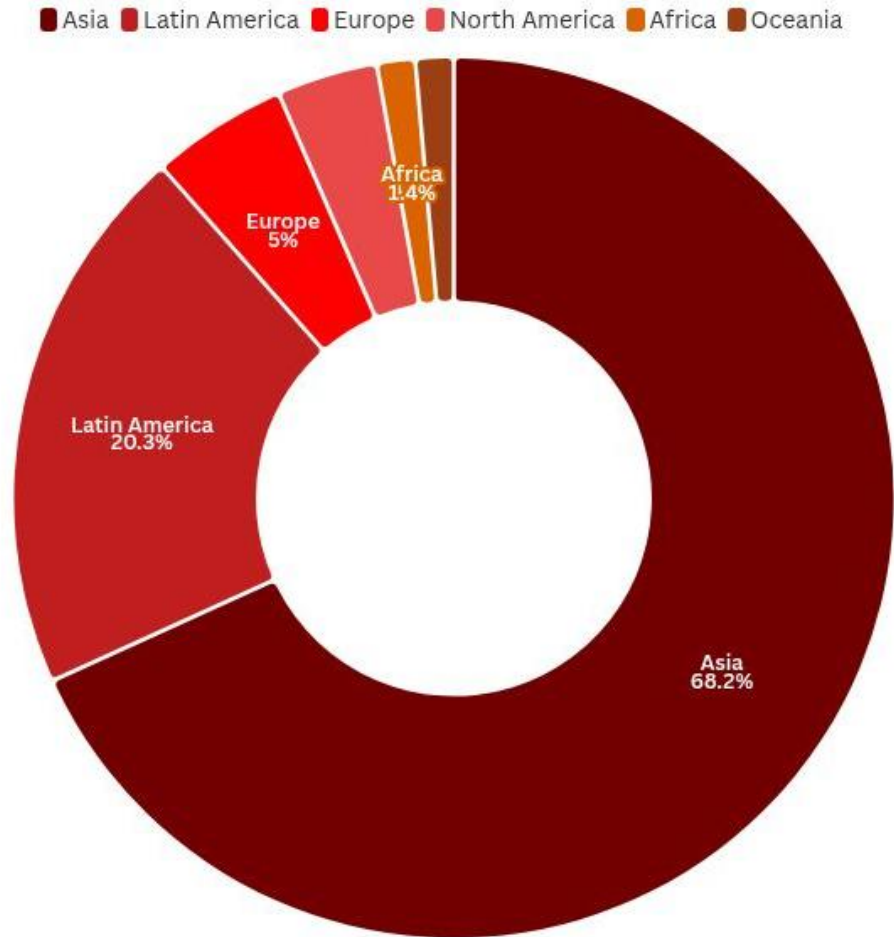
FIGURE 4: CHINA'S SHARE OF LAC EXPORTS, BY TECHNOLOGY LEVEL



Source: Author calculations using UN COMTRADE data. Technology level classifications are based on Lall (2000). China includes Hong Kong and Macao.

Primaire
grondstoffen

Regional Distribution of China's Outward Direct Investment (ODI) in 2023

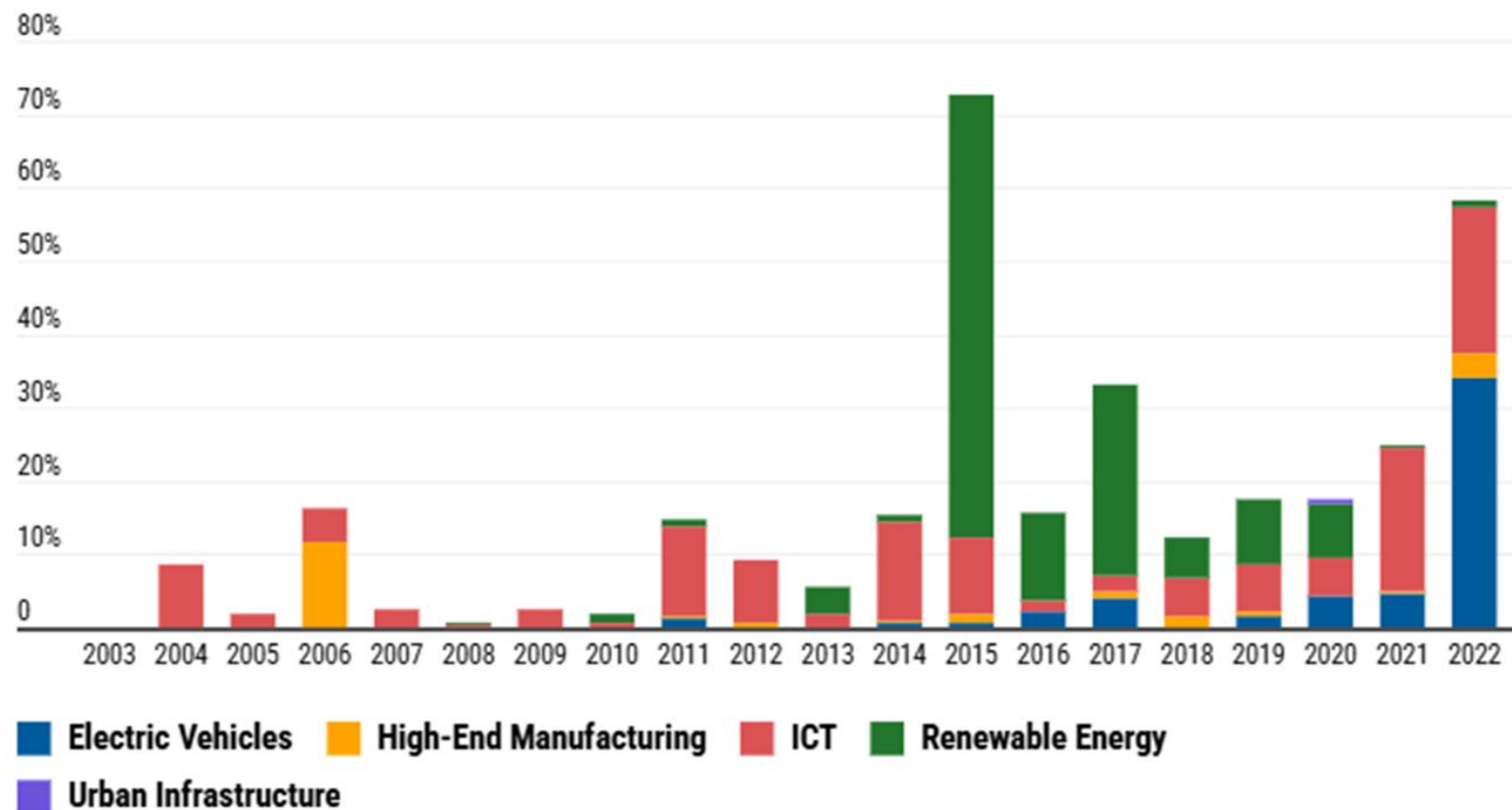


Source: Statistical Communiqué on China's OFDI in 2023

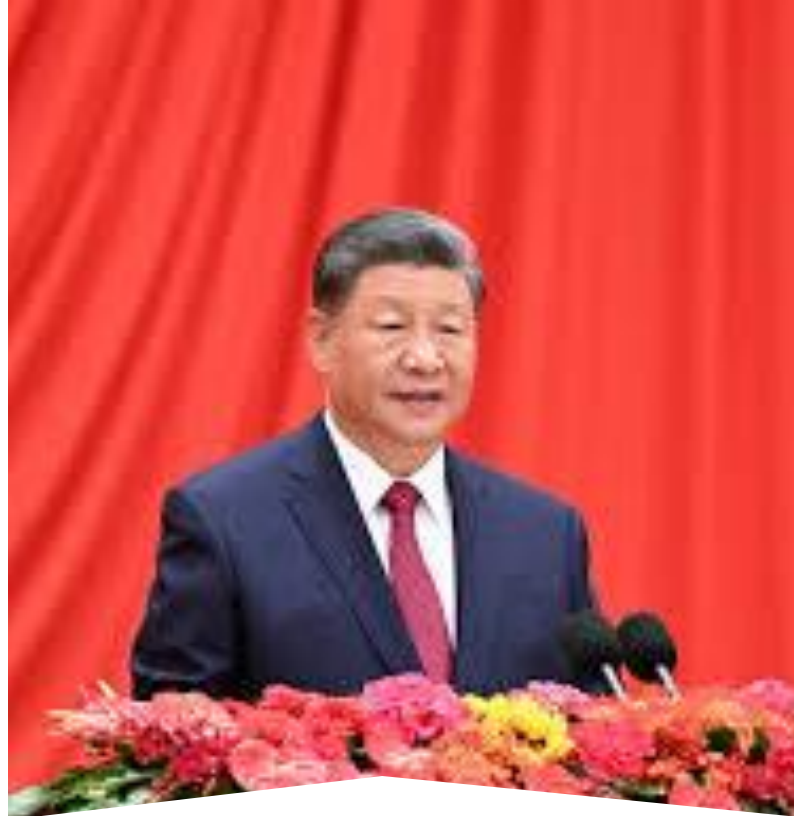
China FDI

China FDI in “new infrastructure” industries in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2003-2022

VALUE OF NEW INFRASTRUCTURE DEALS (AS % OF TOTAL ANNUAL CHINA FDI IN LAC)



China FDI



November 2024

- Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit, 10-16 November, Peru
- G20 18-19 November, Brazil
- Inauguration of mega-port Chancay by president Xi Jinping

China's investment in Chancay Port shortens shipping time from China to South America to 23 days



The old route takes over 45 days, going through the U.S. and Panama



Chancay haven en nieuwe 'bi-ocenische' route



Latijns-Amerika en de VS

Trump's America first



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U.S. POLICY

Did Bi Offer

BY FERNANDA

APEP suffers
region's bigg



The Americas | Regime change, again

War looms in Venezuela as Trump tests an “Americas First” doctrine

A gathering armada risks repeating the mistakes of the “war on terror”





Latin America: in the midst of a global hegemonic dispute

LAC-EU



2023: ‘Strengthening ties: A new agenda for the EU's relations with Latin America and the Caribbean’

“Experts point out that, especially in the last decade, relations between the EU and the LAC countries have lost intensity and relevance. HR/VP Borrell himself pointed out that, while the US has kept a steady engagement in the LAC region, and China overtook the EU as Latin America's second most important trading partner, the attention paid by the EU towards LAC countries is not proportionate to the region's importance. As a result, HR/VP Borrell observed a 'growing sense of neglect' in Latin America.”

Source: EU 2023

([https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2023/749791/EPRS_BRI\(2023\)749791_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2023/749791/EPRS_BRI(2023)749791_EN.pdf))





"For decades, we have been the number one trading partner with Latin America, now everywhere else it's China."

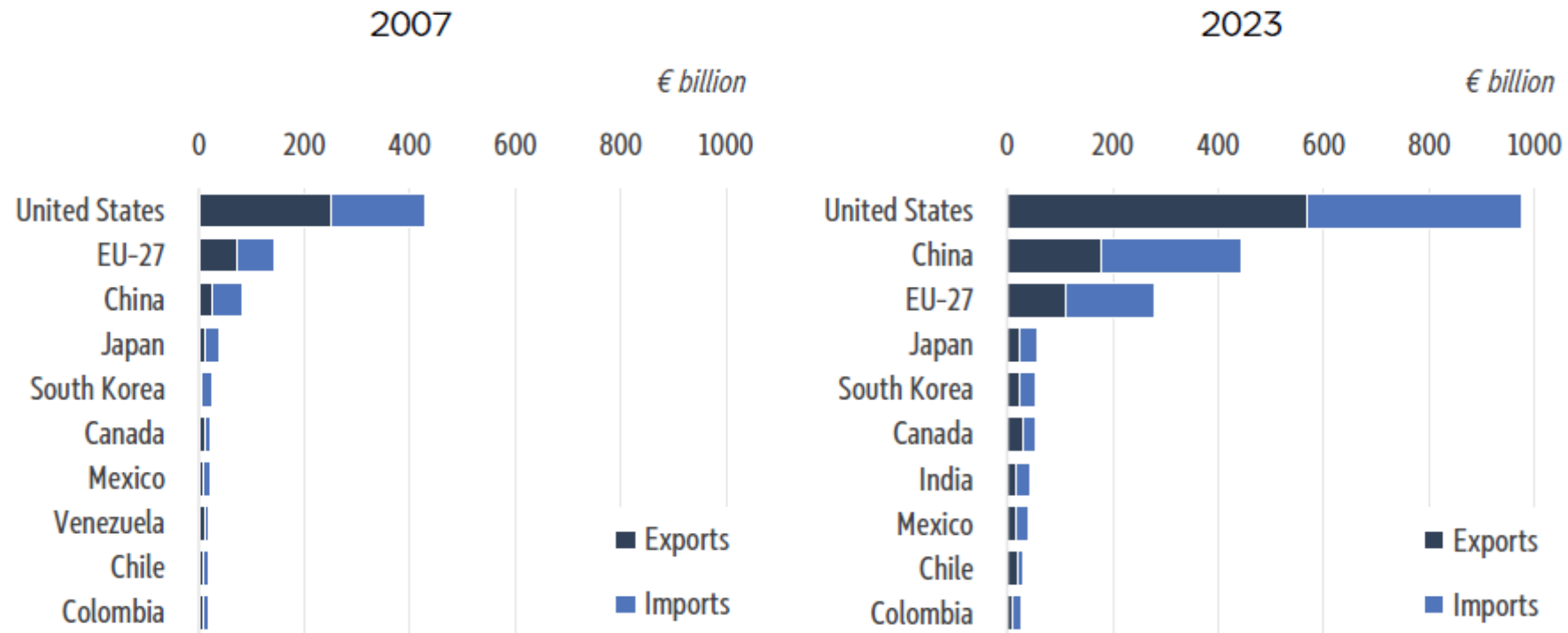
Maroš Šefčovic

EU Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security

4 November 2024

LAC-EU handel

Figure 1 – Latin America's main trade partners in 2007 and 2023 (€ billion)

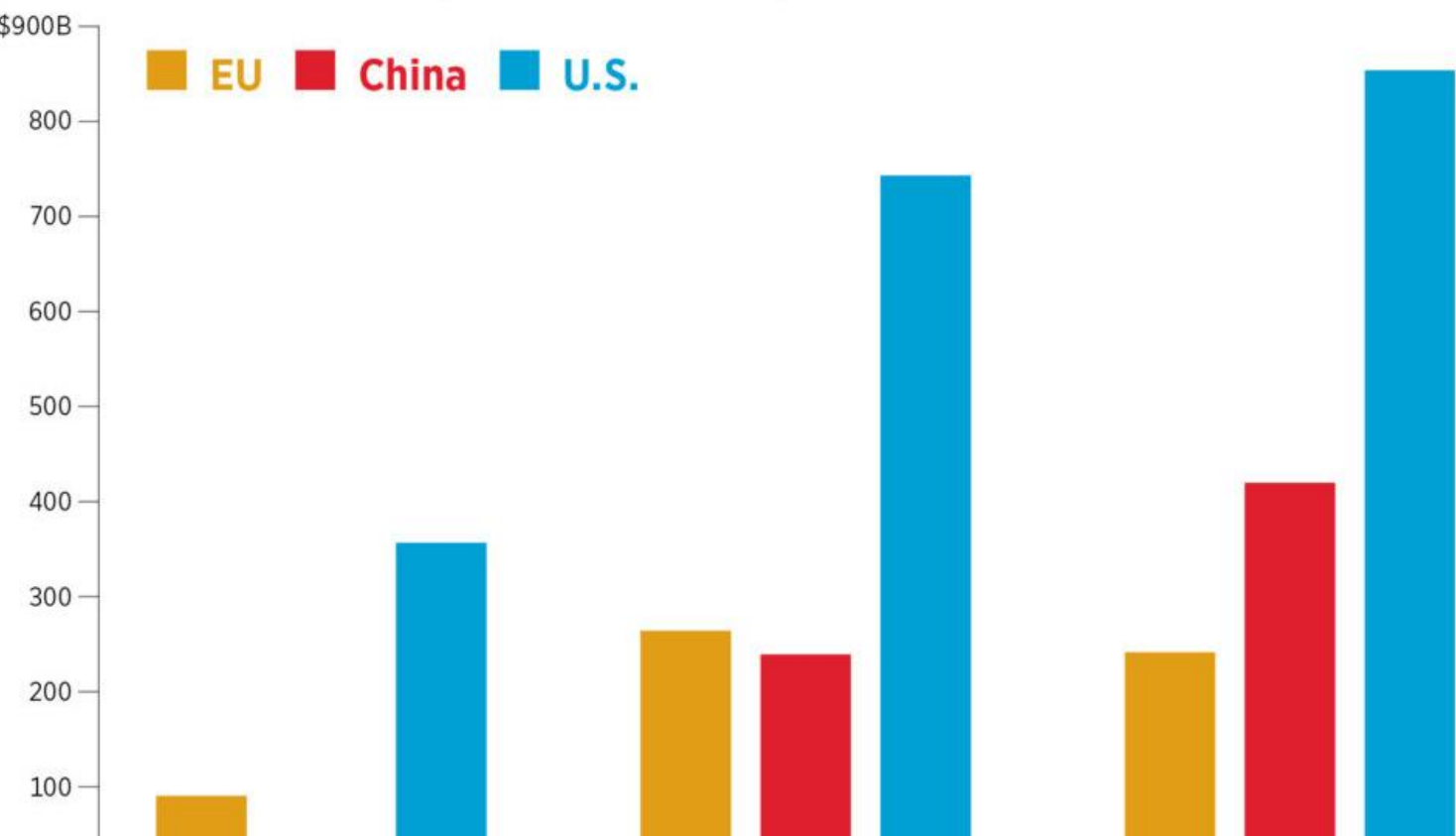


Data source: [IMF](#).

Bron: European Parliament Briefing 'China's increasing presence in Latin America: Implications for the European Union'. Februari 2025

Latin American trade winds: up with U.S. and China, down with Europe

LATIN AMERICAN TRADE VALUE (EXPORTS AND IMPORTS)



LAC-EU
handel



EU-CELAC summit

- ✓ Eerste Januari 2012
- ✓ Geen summit tussen 2015-2023
- ✓ (Xi Jinping bezocht LA 6 keer tussen 2013 en 2024, meer dan Obama, Trump en Biden bij elkaar)



MERCOSUR

Mercosur-EU handelsakkoord

A 'game changer'?

Mercosur

- Handelsunie
- 26 March 1991: Treaty of Asunción
- Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay



Mercosur in numbers



14.869.775

Area in km²



295.007.000

Total Population



5th

World Economy



US\$824.000.000

Infrastructure Projects financed by
MERCOSUR



50

International Cooperation Projects executed



10.533.000

Young people aged 15-17

MERCOSUR-EU

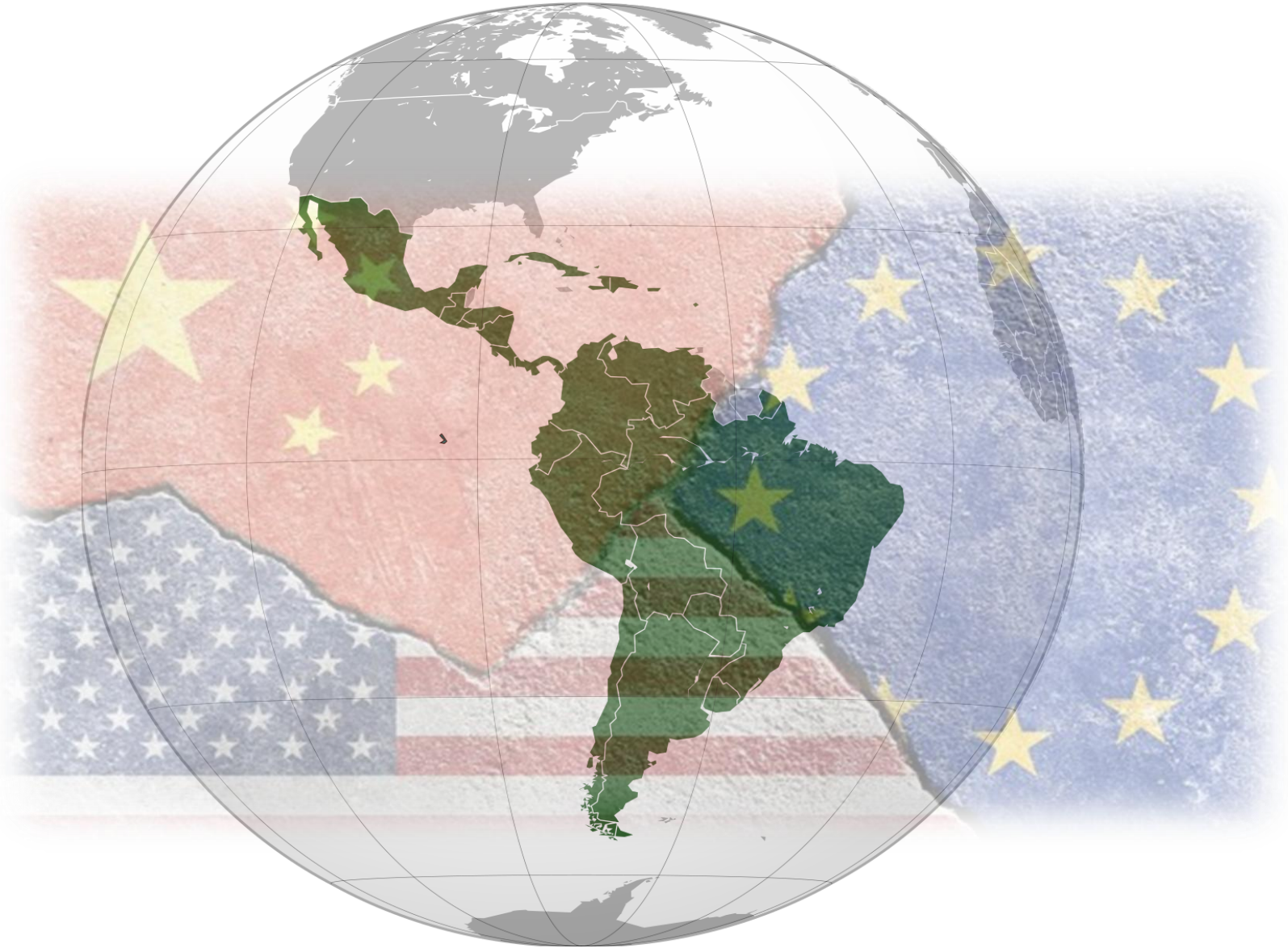


- EU-steun vanaf het begin: personeel, technische ondersteuning en financiële middelen
- Focus op: ‘regionale institutionalisering’ en ‘regionale marktopbouw’
- In lijn met de geopolitieke belangen van de EU op de lange termijn
- Juni 2019:
EU-Mercosur Free Trade Agreement
- 780 miljoen mensen

Mercosur-EU deal onzeker?

- Verzet:
 - EU: protectionisme (m.n. Frankrijk)
 - LA: environmental ('regulatory imperialism')
- 08.10.2025 **European Parliament lawmakers vote against the Mercosur deal**
- 27.10.2025 **EU eyes final signing of Mercosur deal before Christmas**







Verzet tegen extractivisme

Roots of resistance

**Documenting the global
struggles of defenders
protecting land and
environmental rights**

September 2025



AT LEAST

196

DEFENDERS WERE KILLED
LAST YEAR

KILLINGS BY INDUSTRY DRIVER 2023

Mining & Extractives 25

Fishing 5

Logging 5

Agribusiness 4

Roads & Infrastructure 4

Hydropower 2

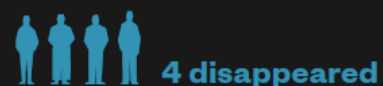
Source: [globalwitness.org](https://www.globalwitness.org)

2024 key findings

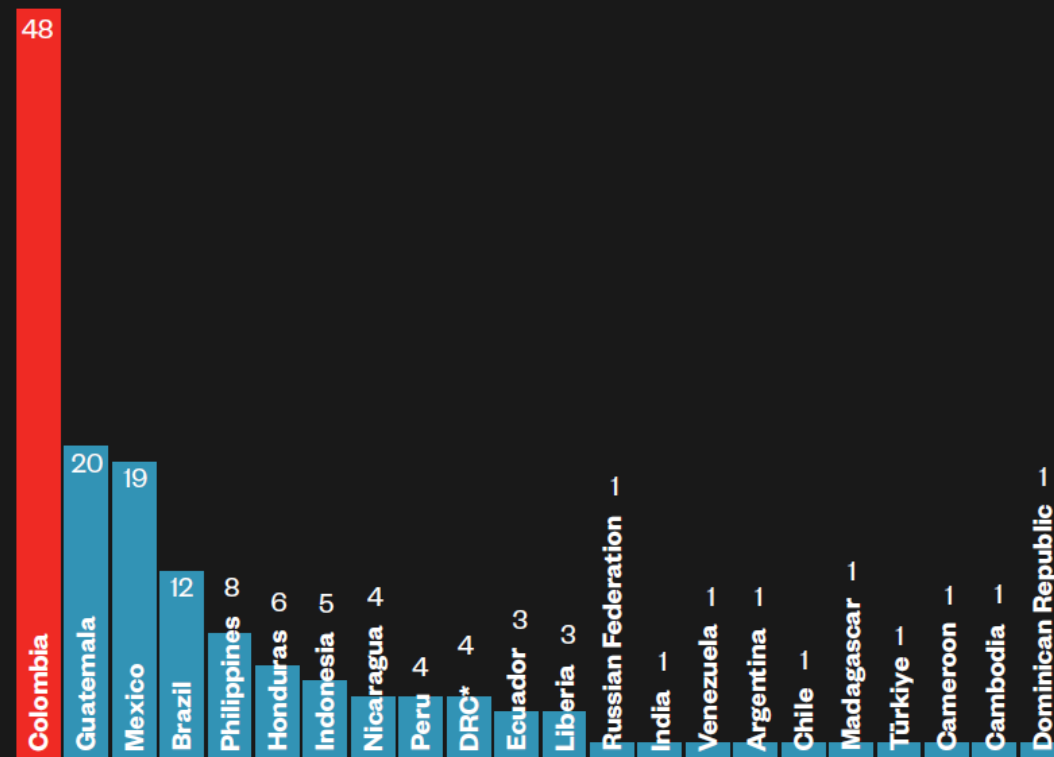
At least

146

defenders killed or disappeared in 2024



Killings and disappearances by country



Global Witness documents killings and disappearances where there is a reasonable and suspected link to an individual's activism in defence of the land or the environment. We include individuals who work in any capacity to protect rights linked to the exploitation of land or the environment as well as tangential attacks against families, community members or others caught up in violent attacks.

* Democratic Republic of Congo.

The majority of killings and disappearances in 2024 occurred in Latin America

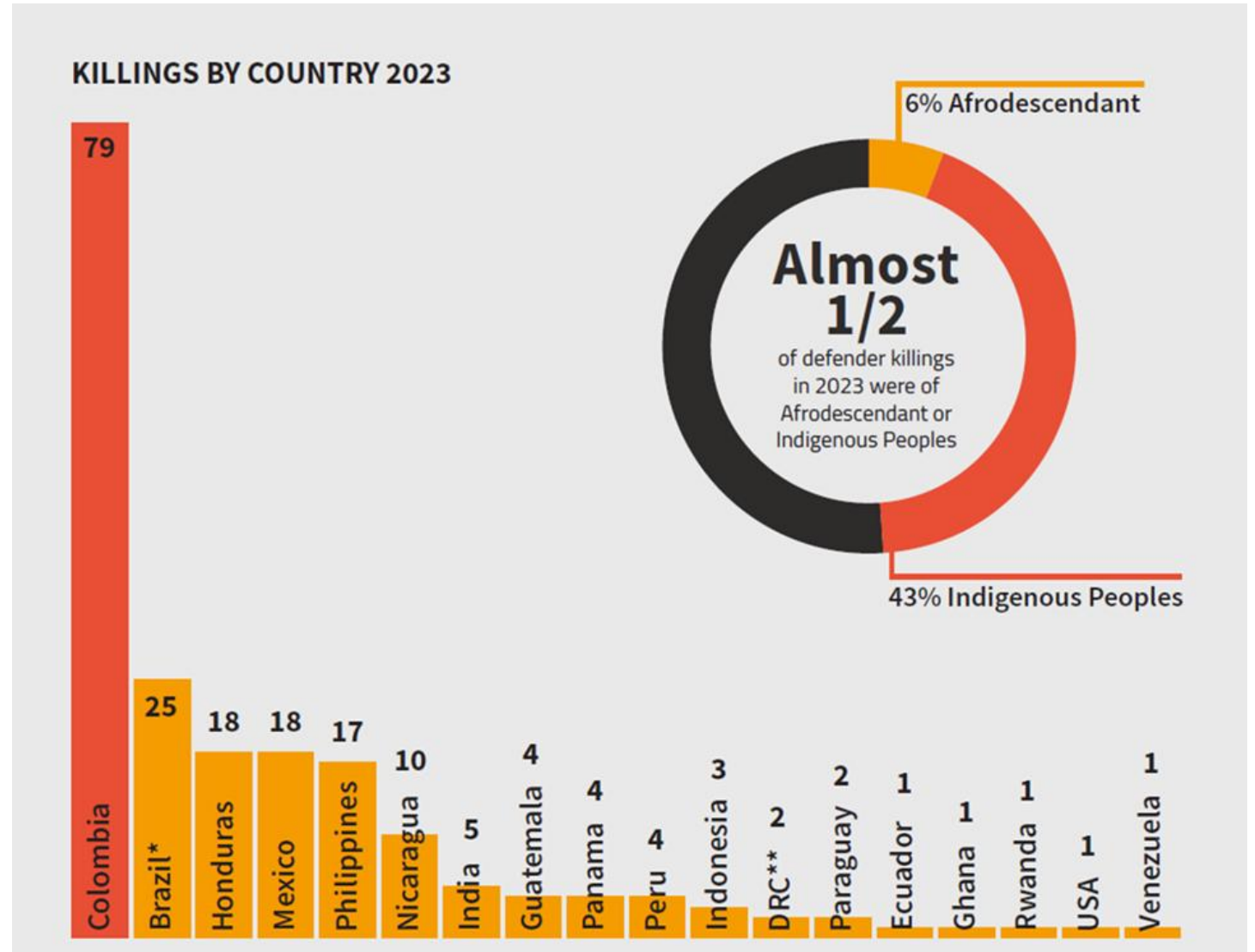
Latin America (119)



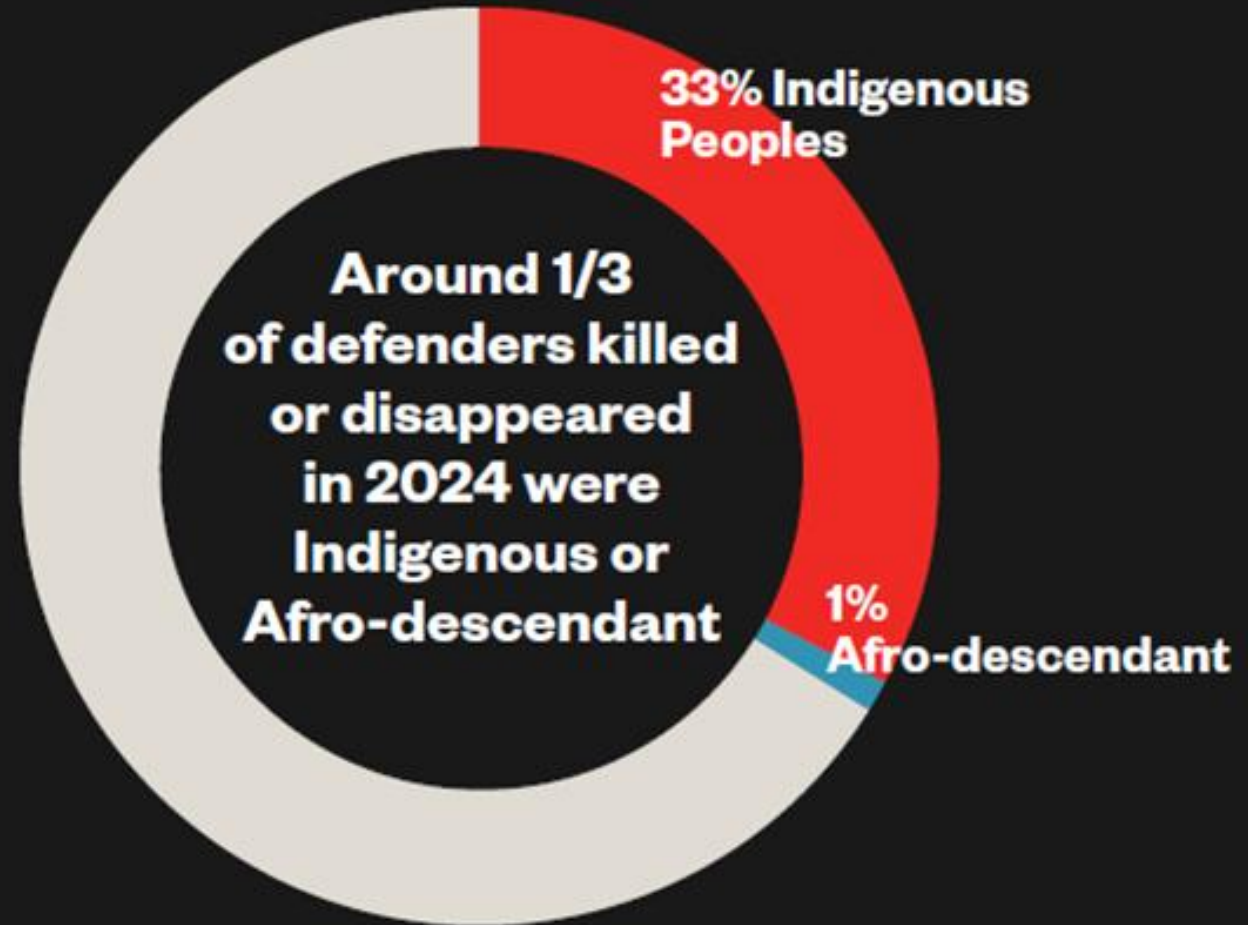
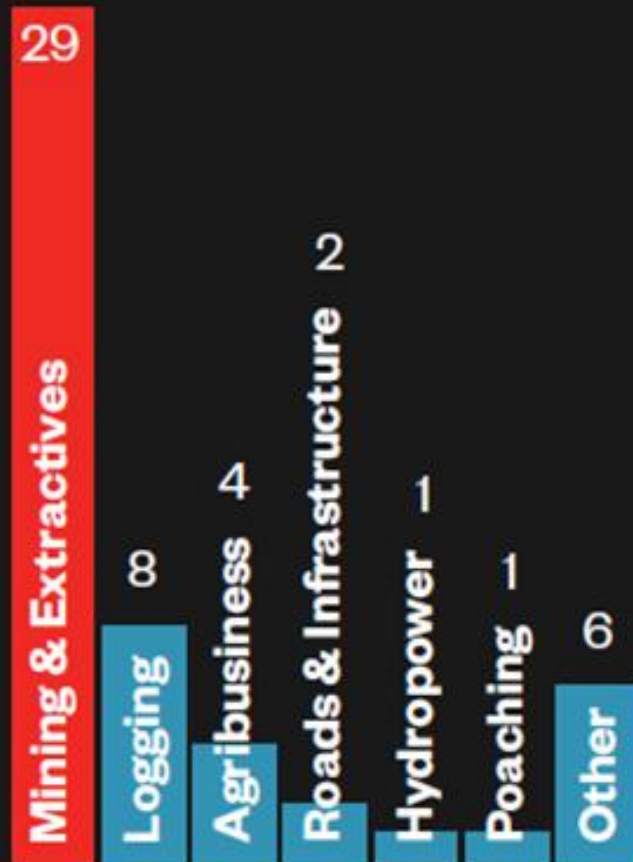
Other (27)



Inheems verzet



Killings and disappearances by industry driver



Berta Cáceres in Honduras

- Lenca inheemse groep
- Proyecto Hidroeléctrico “Agua Zarca”
- Goldman-prijs 2015
- Vermoord op 3.3.2016



De Yonomami in Brazilië

- EEN ILLEGALE MIJNWERKING IN HET INHEEMSE YANOMAMI-GEBIED, BRAZILIË, 2023. ALAN CHAVES/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES





Illegale goudwinning bij de Kayapó (Brazilië)



Virgilio Trujillo (Uwottuja), Orinoco, Venezuela

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jul/07/venezuela-indigenous-leader-killed-amazon-defenders>

2024**2012-2024**

■ Small-scale farmer ■ Indigenous Peoples ■ Relatives of persons targeted for repression ■ Journalist
■ Children ■ Demonstrators ■ Afrodescendant ■ Park ranger ■ Lawyer ■ State official ■ Other

Colombia (48)**Guatemala (20)****Mexico (19)****Brazil (12)****Philippines (8)****Honduras (6)**



Naar de bossen in Colombia

Knowledges in Terra in de strijd
voor biodiversiteit





Inheems verzet en activisme

- Vanaf jaren '80: inheemse sociale bewegingen
- Strijd voor erkenning
- (land)rechten



Knowledges in Terra

- Verschillende perspectieven op de relatie tussen mens en natuur
- KiT: Workshops van circa 4 dagen, op locatie (geplaatst en ingebed in een specifieke context)
- Diversiteit aan deelnemers
- Samenwerking, co-creatie, co-design, innovatie



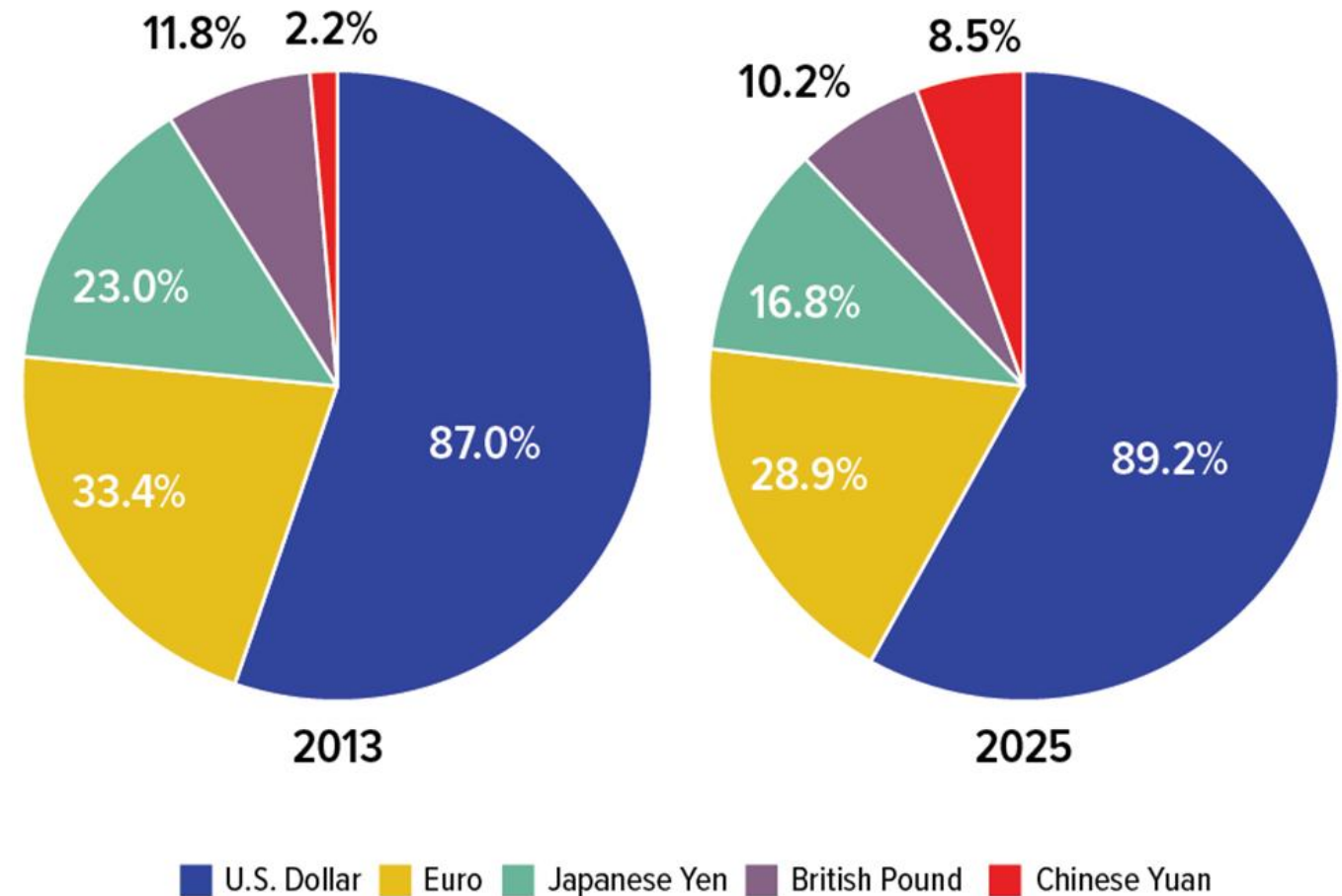
Gracias

(Soledad Valdivia, s.valdivia.rivera@hum.leidenuniv.nl)



The Yuan Has Quadrupled Its Share of Global Transactions in Just Over a Decade

Share of Total Global Transactions | As of April 2025

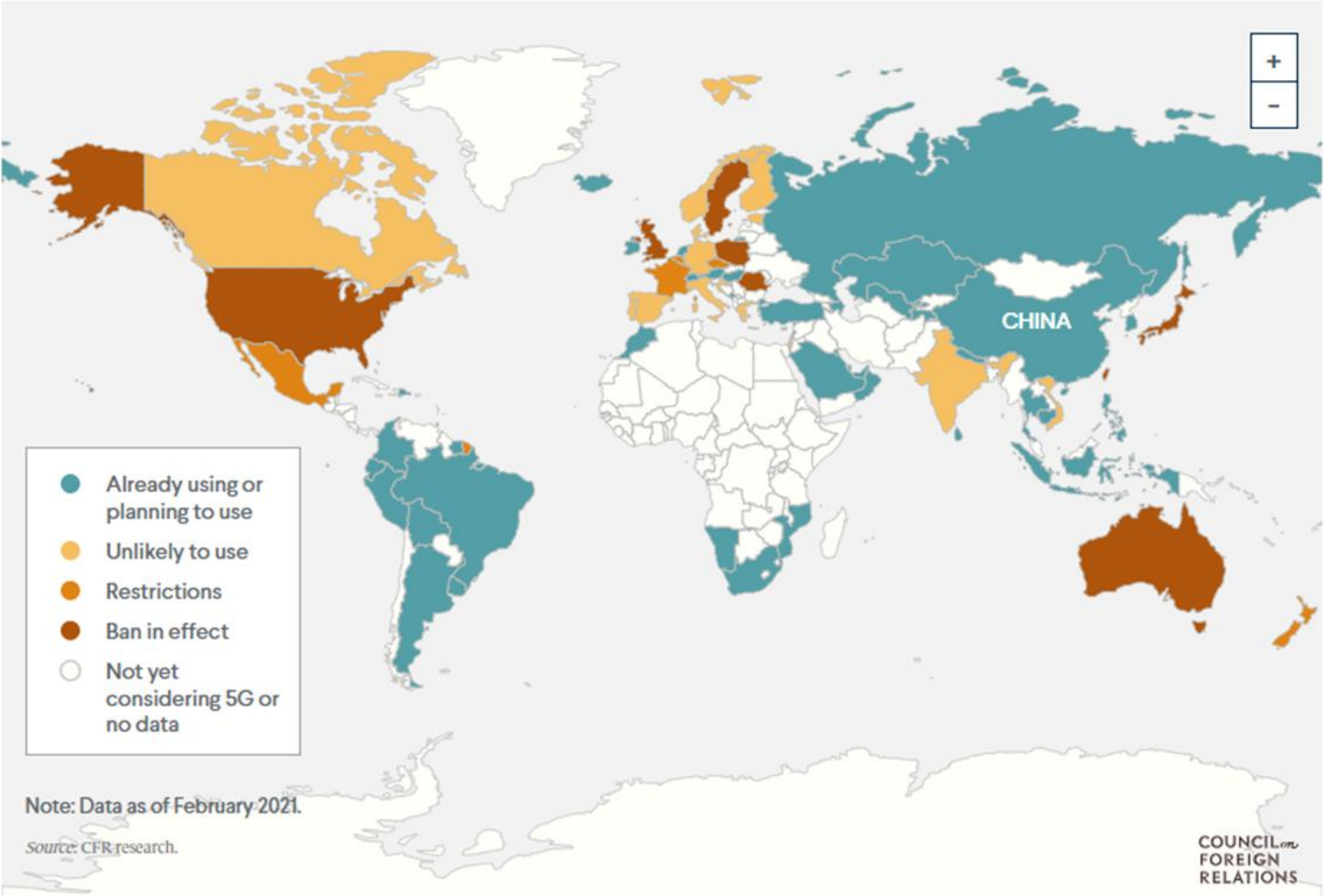


Huawei's 5G Networks Support China's Ambitions, While Bans Threaten to Derail Them

Official approaches to using Huawei equipment in 5G networks

Map

Table



China and 6G

“China is also **investing heavily** in the enabling technologies that form the backbone of 6G infrastructure, such as legacy chips and artificial intelligence, to **reduce dependencies on foreign suppliers** and secure a competitive edge across **the entire 6G supply chain**. Simultaneously, China is increasing its participation in international fora to gain influence over standard-setting processes and make Chinese telecommunications companies the preferred 6G providers around the world.”

**The
Economist**

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Weekly edition

The world in brief

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Business | The standards war

China is writing the world's technology rules

It is setting standards for everything from 6G to quantum computing



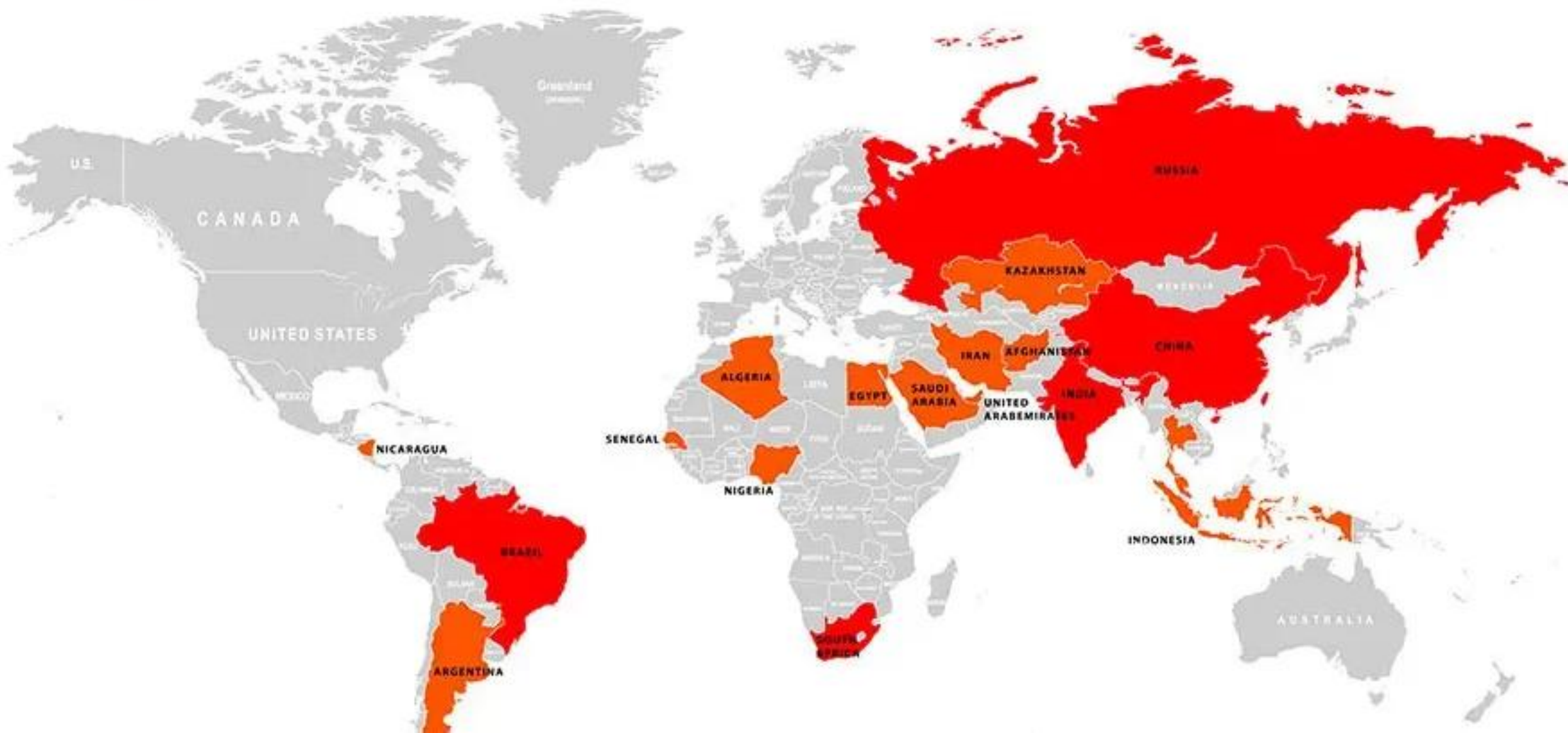
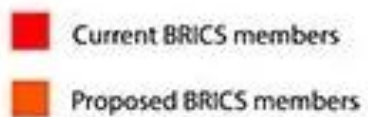
South-South: a different type of relation?



BRICS

- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South-Africa
- 42% global population
- Ca. 1/3 of global GDP
- Annual summits
- New Development Bank

Proposed BRICS Expansion



BRICS expansion per 1 January 2024

- Saudi Arabia, Iran, Ethiopia, the United Arab Emirates, Argentina and Egypt
- 46% of global population
- Ca. 37% of global GDP
- ‘multi-alignment cooperation’



BRICS Summit October 2024

