CHINA'S SLOWDOWN IMPACTS LATIN AMERICA

China is a major trade partner and a crucial source of financing for Latin American economies. So when the Chinese giant readjusts and slows down, it sends shockwaves across the Pacific Ocean.

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Over the last 15 years trade between Latin American countries and China has increased twenty-fold.

Argentina, Ecuador and Venezuela are suffering a triple shock: exports to China are falling, commodity prices (particularly oil) are at their lowest level for years, and these countries are heavily dependent on Chinese financing.

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China is Brazil's most important trading partner: 20% of Brazilian exports go to the Chinese market and 17% of its imports originate there.

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China accounts for around a quarter of Chile's exports. Chile is the most dependent on China for its exports, along with Peru (25%), and Venezuela (22%).

500 bn $

Expected bilateral trade in 2019, double the current figures.

90%

China invests heavily in Latin America. Primary industry and natural resources are the focus of 90% all Chinese investment. The economic powerhouse also finances infrastructure and logistics projects.

Some important countries' situation is exacerbated by the risk of price fluctuations, as exports are primarily concentrated in only a few products: soya in Argentina, metals in Peru and copper in Chile.

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