
CHINA AND THE US CLASH AT THE UN OVER THE PANAMA CANAL, A FOCUS OF TRUMP'S ATTENTION

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The United States and China clashed over the Panama Canal at the United Nations on Monday, with the U.S. warning that Beijings influence over the key waterway could threaten global trade and security and China calling U.S. accusations a pretext to take over the canal.

The clash took place at a U.N. Security Council meeting where Panamas President José Raúl Mulino stressed the neutrality of the canal and his countrys ownership of the waterway linking the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Panama holds the council presidency this month, and Mulino was chairing a meeting on challenges to maritime security. Interpol Secretary General Valdecy Urquiza told members these include piracy, armed robbery, transnational crime and cyber criminals weaponizing artificial intelligence to attack ports where there is minimal cyber security, maximum exposure.

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