
CHINA REJECTS NEW ZEALAND INTELLIGENCE REPORT ACCUSING BEIJING OF ESPIONAGE 'AT SCALE'

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China on Friday rejected a New Zealand intelligence report that identified Beijing as the only country conducting espionage against New Zealand "at scale," calling the allegations "groundless."

"Its false allegations against China either smear normal exchanges and cooperation as so-called espionage or interference, or are entirely groundless and fabricated out of thin air. We firmly oppose this and will never accept it," the Chinese Embassy in New Zealand said in a statement posted on US social media platform Facebook.

An embassy spokesperson highlighted improvements in bilateral relations in recent years, pointing to increased trade and growing numbers of Chinese tourists and students visiting New Zealand, and said the report's release "at this particular juncture is no coincidence."

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