
CLAMPING DOWN: CHINA TIGHTENS EXIT RULES

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The Chinese government announced new border regulations in late July in a move seen as expanding state control over its citizens. The new rules, which come into effect on September 15, tighten checks on travellers and provide new grounds for restricting Chinese citizens from leaving the country, including exit bans of up to three years in some cases.

In a document published on July 31, China's State Council announced that, in order to preserve national sovereignty and interests, border control officials could require travellers to provide additional information and documents about their reasons for travelling.

Those who provide false documents or statements could be prohibited from entering or leaving the country. Chinese nationals who have acquired travel documents by deceit or have been involved in exiting or entering the country illegally could face an exit ban of between six months and three years in addition to existing punishments, according to the new rules.

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