

Directives to officials describe the Belt and Road as an economic strategy.¹² Even though the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is a joint signatory on official statements reg

Regardless of what happens, for Chinese bureaucrats, the Belt and Road will always appear to be weaker than other areas

Figure 2: Official Belt and Road documentation released by the central bodies, 2013–2017²⁷

As Figure 2 makes clear, the Belt and Road developed mainly through an array of government ministry plans and projects, attempting to flesh out the vague intentions from the top. Note the lack of official party documentation to govern the BRI. As a comparison, let us examine the development of another signature policy, the anticorruption campaign. In Figure 3 the commitment of Xi Jinping and the party to the anticorruption campaign is clear. The

Figure 3: Official anticorruption documentation released by central bodies, 2013 2017

Figure 3:

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Notes

¹ <https://www.nbr.org/publication/a-guide-to-the-belt->



