

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE & TRADE**

**INQUIRY INTO AUSTRALIA'S RELATIONS
WITH CHINA**

Submission No. P4

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Attachments: No

Lancsar, Angela (SEN)

From: jarrad clark [jarradclark79@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, 24 February 2005 1:22 PM
To: FADT, Committee (SEN)
Subject: China FTA



Dear Senators,
i am writing to inform you of my deep displeasure and concern for the apparent path towards a FTA with China, an FTA which no doubt currently has no provision for human and environmental rights targets. Any FTA with China, which is in both Australia's and China's interests, should contain provision for the inclusion of human and environmental rights - of which China currently upholds very few.

To ignore these basic rights in the pursuit of this agreement is a completely hypocritical position for Australia to take. On one hand we have joined in the invasion of the sovereign nation of Iraq (a completely powerless but strategically important nation) in the name of Freedom, Democracy and Peace, while we can't do enough for the most repressive, murderous and militarised country outside the US. What message does this send to the poor of the world - the places where dissent springs from. It says we will steal what we want and support regimes where the costs of production and the level human rights are the lowest. Not really a good look and the poor and better off people of the world now see and understand this.

We do have a choice - they need our steel more than we need their trade dollars - erection of a FTA with China that includes basic human rights is not the end of Australia, but would send the strongest and most positive message yet to our neighbours about our seriousness to create lasting democracy and peace in Asia and globally. Please don't just plod along with the status quo - it is dangerous in the long term and not in the interests of the 'people' of either country. The status quo is only in the interests of the elite and powerful industrialists whom profit massively from vicious regimes such as China's. It is your choice - murder and massive profits for some, or human freedom and sustainable trade for the majority?

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