

SUTD 2022 02.104TS Final Assignment Self-Reflection

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For the final project, our group embarked on research work regarding China's Belt and Road Initiative. In particular, we decided to focus on the concerns being raised by Western naysayers about the initiative. Overall, the final project was a little tough since some details such as exact figures of the impacts of BRI and resources spent on it so far are not explicitly specified by the Chinese government. Additionally, sources that discuss the initiative tend to take on some kind of perspective, which in turn, tends to be biased. We did attempt to minimize this bias by taking into account various materials from different origins, and yet, it is impossible to eliminate all bias. Nevertheless, I feel that we did our best in this aspect.

Overall, the group dynamics were fine. Minor challenges regarding concept selection, data presentation, as well as how to present the methodology section were encountered but we managed to resolve them along the way. I would say that our group did a great job, both in terms of writing up substantial content as well as designing and developing a presentable website.

My contribution was mainly focused on writing the content for the section "China's Increasing Soft Power via Debt Trap Diplomacy". I also contributed during discussions in the form of website content design ideas, finding relevant data points and dataset sources to be used in the website, doing a final edit through all of the content sections, as well as edited several technicalities on the website such as adding alternative texts to some images for accessibility reasons, collating the reference list and ensuring that it is in proper APA format, and fixing some minor grammar and formatting issues.