

**Date:** 26 February 2018

**From:** Progressive PR and Publicity on behalf of *Australian Book Review*

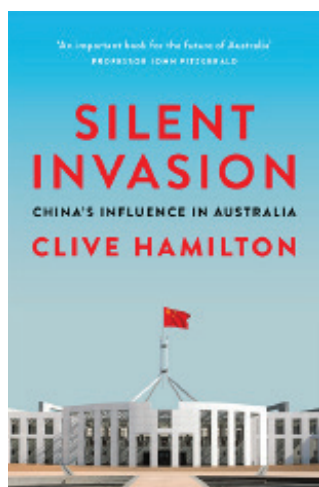
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## Clive Hamilton on China's *Silent Invasion*

Clive Hamilton's book *Silent Invasion: China's Influence in Australia*, published today, has had a chequered history. Allen & Unwin, his long-time publisher, declined to publish the work in November 2017, citing the threat of legal action from the Chinese government. *Books+Publishing* reported on 6 February that Clive Hamilton 'has since rewritten the book to minimise the legal risk'.

Our reviewer, [Dr David Brophy](#) of the University of Sydney, finds Clive Hamilton's claims of a unique Chinese threat to or interference in Australia politics exaggerated and misleading. China, Brophy argues, asserts its interests and curries favour in exactly the same way that other regimes do – including Australia and the United States.



### Quotes from David Brophy's review

- 'If implemented, Hamilton's residency blacklist would license a form of red-baiting far more intense than any Cold War snooping in Australia's Chinatowns.'
- 'Readers of *Silent Invasion* will search in vain for evidence that Chinese actors have impaired the normal functioning of our imperfect democracy.'
- 'In the absence of more Chinese Australian voices in this debate, Hamilton foists his black-and-white view onto the community'

[Read David Brophy's review of \*Silent Invasion\* now on the \*ABR\* website.](#)

**David Brophy** studies the social and political history of China's northwest, particularly the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, and its connections with the Islamic and Russian/Soviet worlds. After finishing his PhD in 2011, he spent two years as a postdoctoral fellow at the Australian Centre on China in the World, at the Australian National University, before coming to the University of Sydney in 2013. His first book, *Uyghur Nation* (2016), is on the politics of Uyghur nationalism between China and the Soviet Union in the early twentieth century. **He is available for interview.**



David Brophy

### Further information

More information about *Australian Book Review* can be found on the *ABR* website.

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