

A recent article in the New York Times chronicles the use of 'soft power' by the Chinese regime to intimidate free speech by Chinese-Australians and to influence Australian government policy making.

This type of coercion in western democracies is coordinated by the United Front Department of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

United Front work is the political advantage and strategy of the Chinese Communist Party to solidify its ruling status. relations with individuals and organizations who have social, commercial, or academic influence, both inside and outside China, with the goal of ensuring that these groups are supportive of and useful to the Communist Party rule's.

Almost all Chinese overseas media are controlled by the CCP and promote regime propaganda whilst stifling free speech in the host country. By refusing to renew the visas of journalists (Chinese and western) who report stories it dislikes and by rewarding "friendly" media, the CCP aims to sway international media to provide coverage in its favor.

[Read full Times story here](#)