

Concern over Piraeus exclusion from European Ports Alliance



Piraeus port's exclusion from the European Ports Alliance (EPA) due to significant ownership by the Chinese Cosco shipping group is causing concern.

David Glass | Feb 09, 2024

Established to combat drug trafficking, EPA, was inaugurated in Antwerp by the European Commission in collaboration with the Belgian Presidency last month, with Belgian Interior Minister Annelies Verlinden presiding over the launch.

Ports owned and majority controlled by non-EU member states have been excluded. [Cosco Shipping](#) owns 67% of the Piraeus Port Authority, Europe's fifth largest container port.

Related: [Cosco completes increased stake in Piraeus Port Authority](#)

While Piraeus is not typically identified as a primary entry point for drugs into Europe, the decision to exclude it from the initiative has sparked skepticism over the EU's capacity to ensure security at critical infrastructure under foreign ownership.

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