

TikTok parent ByteDance allowed Chinese Communist Party ‘supreme access’ to US data: lawsuit

The Chinese Communist Party “maintained supreme access” to all data held by TikTok parent ByteDance, including information stored in the US, a former top executive at the company alleged in a bombshell lawsuit in California state court.

Yintao “Roger” Yu, the former head of engineering for ByteDance’s US operations, alleged he was fired from his gig after raising alarms about the company’s actions to his superiors.

He asserted that ByteDance leadership knew that a special committee within the Chinese government had a “backdoor channel” to access US user data - despite the company’s repeated denials that such a relationship existed, according to a copy of the lawsuit obtained by Bloomberg.

Yu also alleged that ByteDance has engaged in an effort to spread propaganda that backed the Chinese Communist Party’s views on TikTok, which has more than 150 million users in the US.

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