

# China passes export law protecting national security, covering tech

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The new law takes effect in December and allows Beijing to "take reciprocal measures" against countries that abuse export controls and pose a threat to national security

China has passed a new law restricting sensitive exports to protect national security, a move that adds to policy tools it could wield against the US as tensions—especially in technology—continue to rise

The law, which China's top legislature passed on Saturday, comes into effect on December 1 and allows Beijing to "take reciprocal measures" against countries that abuse [export controls](#) and pose a threat to [national security](#).

Technical data related to items covered will also be subject to export controls, according to the published text of the law.

Beijing's latest measure gives it more room to hit back in US President Donald Trump's war on Chinese tech firms, with the White House moving against popular platforms and major companies—including apps TikTok and WeChat, tech giant Huawei and chipmaker Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corp.

The new law, "formulated to safeguard national [security](#) and interests", adds to China's regulatory toolkit which also involves a restriction catalogue of tech exports and an unreliable entity list.

"Where any country or region abuses export control measures to endanger the national security and interests of the People's Republic of China, (it) may take reciprocal measures," the law states.

It adds that Chinese authorities will formulate and adjust an export control list of items to be published in a "timely manner".

Foreign individuals and groups can also be found liable for violating export control rules.

The economic relationship between Beijing and Washington has been roiled by Trump's unprecedented campaign of tariffs, threats of bans and sanctions on Chinese tech firms.

With Trump facing a tough re-election campaign ahead of polls next month, US officials have described measures against China as national security safeguards—prompting a backlash from Beijing.

In September, China launched a long-expected "unreliable entities list", widely seen as a weapon to retaliate against the US which has used its own "entity list" to shut Huawei out of the US market.

The month before that, China's commerce ministry stepped up rules on technologies restricted for [export](#), adding "civilian use" to the list.

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