



## Open Source Media Summary

June 6, 2024

### **BIDEN'S SCIENCE ADVISER EXPLAINS THE NEW HARD LINE ON CHINA**

*Eva Dou | The Washington Post | June 3, 2024*

Early in her career, Arati Prabhakar led the development of a self-piloting ship for a secretive U.S. military research agency. Now she's the White House's top technology official — the first to hail from a defense background since the Cold War and a representative of Washington's new hard-line consensus on China. For three decades, the United States threw itself headlong into globalization, backed by the confidence that while a rising tide lifts all boats, America's vessel would rise the highest. China's technological ascent has shaken that self-assurance and prompted a broad policy reversal. "We had an oversimplified model for a long time, for a number of decades," Prabhakar said in an interview with The Washington Post. "That oversimplified model was that markets and globalization would solve all the problems." Prabhakar's early specialty was semiconductor research, a rare background among senior policymakers. That technical knowledge has come into use, as she has helped the Biden administration craft the largest industrial policy push in decades, in an effort to help the United States retain its technological lead over China. Semiconductors — the brains of computers — are the program's centerpiece.

Read the full article [here](#).

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### **NEW LAWS NEEDED TO STOP TIKTOK AND OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA GIANTS 'HARVESTING' DATA: PRIVACY COMMISSIONER CARLY KIND**

*Carly Kind | The Australian | May 28, 2024*

In the days between last Christmas and the new year, when most Australians were still digesting their Christmas meal in front of the cricket, the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) was fielding media inquiries about research that revealed Chinese-owned social media platform TikTok was harvesting Australians' data, using tracking pixels. The claims are accurate. TikTok, like all other social media platforms, receives personal information about internet users as they move across the web. The range of data that websites share differs greatly across sites, but can span from the basic fact of a site visit to personal details such as email addresses and mobile numbers. Some of this data Australians might already suspect is being shared – ever looked at a pair of shoes on an e-commerce site only to find them following you around your Facebook feed? But most people wouldn't reasonably expect household brand websites, medical providers or news sites to be disclosing to X, Facebook, Snapchat or TikTok where you go on their site, how long you stay for, and what you read.

Read the full article [here](#).

## **FOREIGN STUDENTS AND RESEARCH FUNDING FACE ‘SHOCKING’ CUTS**

*Jan Petter Muklebust | University World News | May 29, 2024*

The Dutch right-wing coalition platform’s recently published outline agreement promises to scrap research funding schemes, slash research spending by billions of euros and reduce the number of foreign students in the Netherlands. Experts describe it as bad news for higher education innovation and internationalisation. After six months of negotiations, Geert Wilders’ far-right Party for Freedom (Partij voor de Vrijheid) and two centre-right parties, the People’s Party for Freedom and Democracy (Volkspartij voor Vrijheid en Democratie) and the New Social Contract, as well as the Farmer-Citizen Movement (BoerBurgerBeweging or BBB) have reached an outline coalition agreement. The 26-page coalition agreement report published on 16 May, which is titled “Hope, Courage and Pride”, calls for cutting taxes, investing in housing and increased support for farmers, and promises to curb labour migration.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **FEWER INTERNATIONAL TIE-UPS REFLECT CHANGE OF EMPHASIS IN TNE**

*Yojana Sharma | University World News | May 29, 2024*

China’s Ministry of Education (MOE) has released its latest list of approvals for joint university projects with foreign institutions, with their programmes slated to start in September this year. But with just half a dozen approvals coming after a long hiatus of almost a year when no approvals for new Sino-foreign university projects were publicly announced, the limited list has caused some surprise. The latest approvals include the previously flagged City University of Hong Kong branch campus in Dongguan in China’s Southern Guangdong province, an independent legal entity with international university status that does not require a mainland partner – making it just the 12th such international university in China. When the new campus opens its doors in September it will initially offer mainly engineering and computer science degrees. The Hong Kong university already announced the approval on 20 April. The first phase of the campus construction has reportedly been completed.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARE UNDER ATTACK: WHAT CAN WE DO?**

*Emma Harden-Wolfson, Shannon Hutcheson and Yvonne Zhang | University World News | May 31, 2024*

Far from being welcomed with open arms, international students around the world are increasingly coming under both literal and metaphorical assault. Instead of the previous commercially driven emphasis on the apparently incessant demand for an overseas education or discussions around the latest hot recruitment ‘markets’ for revenue-generating international students, the past few months have seen the higher education news landscape dominated by stories of harm and denial. From physical violence to policy changes that seek to restrict the number of international students as well as their rights, a tide appears to be turning.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **9 WAYS NATIONAL SECURITY AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION ARE EVOLVING**

*Simon Lacey and Don Rodney Junio | World Economic Forum | June 3, 2024*

Rising geopolitical tensions and efforts to pursue de-risking have seen national security assume a more prominent place in domestic policy debates about trade and investment. More than ever, trade officials are engaging with their counterparts from the national security and defence establishments — the result is an uptick in trade and investment restrictions across a wide range of sectors from semiconductors and critical minerals to renewable energy technologies. That’s why, ahead of the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, the World Economic Forum, working in partnership with the Hinrich Foundation, convened a small group of experts representing policymakers from national security and defence on the one hand and economic cooperation and trade on the other.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **IP IN NATIONAL SECURITY: GROWING CONCERNS OVER FOREIGN EXPLOITATION**

*Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and The Rt Hon Michelle Donelan MP  
Gov.UK Press Release | May 28, 2024*

Concerns about national security and intellectual property (IP) are intensifying, particularly with cases like Terves vs. Chinese entities, which allegedly use IP challenges to undermine U.S. industries critical to national security. This issue underscores the intersection of IP rights and national security, highlighting the need for robust protective measures.

### **The Terves Case: A Catalyst for National Security Concerns**

The Terves case has brought significant attention to the potential exploitation of IP challenges by foreign entities. Terves, a U.S.-based company specializing in advanced materials, has accused Chinese companies of using IP disputes as a strategy to weaken American industries. This case exemplifies the broader threat posed by foreign entities targeting IP to gain competitive advantages in sectors vital to U.S. national security.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **BLACKLISTED CHINESE COMPANIES REBRAND AS AMERICAN TO DODGE CRACKDOWN**

*Heather Somerville | The Wall Street Journal | May 28, 2024*

In December, a new company registered in Michigan: American Lidar. Its planned home would be an easy drive from the big three U.S. automakers. The company behind American Lidar, and not mentioned in its registration, is China-based lidar maker Hesai Group, which the U.S. has labeled a security concern. It is a familiar playbook: a company facing regulatory or reputational problems sets up a subsidiary or affiliate with a different name. Chinese firms trying to buffer themselves from Washington’s anti-China policies are rebranding and creating U.S.-domiciled businesses to sell their wares as the Biden administration expands the government entity lists that restrict Chinese companies’ business dealings in the U.S., say policymakers and national-security experts.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **SUPPORTING GLOBAL RESEARCH AND OUTREACH FOR LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES MAKES GOOD SENSE IN TODAY'S WORLD**

*Jimmy Smith and Ann Leger | University of Maryland (College Agriculture and Natural Resources)  
June 3,, 2024*

The Land Grant University System established by Abraham Lincoln in 1862 led a wave of agricultural education, research, extension and innovation that has resulted in exponential U.S. economic growth. Because of this, an argument can be made that federal and state funded research should focus locally on U.S. issues and ignore the international stage. Take food availability for instance, when we have so many food insecure individuals here at home, as part of the argument inherent in isolationism vs. globalism, some believe that international concern is misdirected. We believe otherwise. Responding to global challenges and opportunities is not only a humanitarian good, but represents enlightened self-interest here at home.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **NIST SP 800-171 REVISION 3 GOES FINAL: WHO'S DOWN WITH ODP?**

*Alex Major | McCarter & English | May 28, 2024*

On May 14, 2024, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) dropped the third revision...er, revision...of its Special Publication (SP) 800-171, "Protecting Controlled Unclassified Information in Nonfederal Systems and Organizations." It even came with a critical sidekick in the form of the companion assessment guide, "NIST SP 800-171A, Revision 3," which gives organizations the necessary lowdown on "assessment procedures and methodologies" to check if they're playing by NIST SP 800-171's rules. Over a year in the making after previous releases in May and November of 2023, NIST's finalized revision takes inspiration from industry by laying down the cybersecurity rules that contractors should expect to follow when handling Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) for the US Department of Defense (DoD).

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **AN URGENT CALL FOR CLEAR AND FAIR LAW ENFORCEMENT GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR RESEARCH SECURITY**

*Neal F. Lane, Steven Pei, and Jeremy Wu | Baker Institute for Public Policy (Rice University)  
May 31, 2024*

The U.S. science and technology enterprise is unparalleled, and its contribution to the security and well-being of the American people is indisputable. In recent years, however, federal initiatives intended to protect American science and technology have strayed from their purpose and are rendering our nation increasingly unable to draw and retain science and technology talent — putting our competitive edge at risk during an era of techno-competition with key rivals. Our scientific success is rooted in the core values of collaboration, honesty, transparency, integrity, the fair competition of ideas, and the protection of intellectual capital. Some foreign entities do not share these values and are working to illicitly acquire our research and innovation. This necessitates laws — and law enforcement. But it is vital that law enforcement guidelines and procedures be clear and fair for maintaining public trust, upholding individual rights, and promoting accountability and consistency within the justice system. Otherwise, we can expect our competitive edge in science and technology to wane, as well as our standing as a leading democracy.

Read the full article [here](#).

## NSF ENHANCES RESEARCH SECURITY WITH NEW TRUST PROPOSAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

*U.S. National Science Foundation | McCarter & English | June 5, 2024*

The U.S. National Science Foundation has announced a new risk mitigation process, the Trusted Research Using Safeguards and Transparency (TRUST) framework, which will guide the agency in assessing grant proposals for potential national security risks. The revised procedures will help safeguard U.S. taxpayer investments in research and innovation while strengthening international collaboration. Developed by the NSF Office of the Chief of Research Security Strategy and Policy (OCRSSP), the TRUST framework includes three branches. The first focuses on assessing active personnel appointments and positions, while the second focuses on identifying instances of noncompliance with disclosure and other requirements. The third branch — the inclusion of potential foreseeable national security considerations — represents a significant new effort for NSF. The framework is designed to avoid curtailing beneficial research activities due to institutions or individuals in the community being overly cautious, protect the agency's core values of fairness and due process and maintain open lines of communication with the research community.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## A NEW WORLD FOR SCIENCE RESEARCH SECURITY

*Alison Snyder | Axios Science | June 5, 2024*

Countries around the world are debating and deploying new rules and tools to try to minimize the risks and maximize the benefits of increasingly global scientific research.

**Why it matters:** These policies will shape the course of science and the technologies it powers — as well as govern who collaborates with whom.

**Driving the news:** A new report commissioned by the National Science Foundation (NSF) urged the agency to "proceed with caution" before adding controls over fundamental science research.

**Friction points:** Many scientists argue an open research environment where results and hypotheses can be tested and exchanged is vital for science.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

*The Research and Innovation Security and Competitiveness Institute*



# USEFUL RESOURCES

## **2024 SPECIAL 301 REPORT**

*Executive Office of the President of the United States | Office of the United States Trade Representative*

The Special 301 Report (Report) is the result of an annual review of the state of intellectual property (IP) protection and enforcement in U.S. trading partners around the world, which the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) conducts pursuant to Section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the Trade Act, 19 U.S.C. § 2242). Congress amended the Trade Act in 1988 specifically “to provide for the development of an overall strategy to ensure adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights and fair and equitable market access for United States persons that rely on protection of intellectual property rights.”<sup>1</sup>

View the full resource [here](#).

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## **DOE FUNDED CHINESE DEFENSE RESEARCH TRACKER**

*Data Abyss*

The "DOE Funded Chinese Defense Research Tracker" is a specialized tool designed to monitor and provide transparency regarding research activities funded by the United States Department of Energy with Chinese defense institutions. This tool compiles and displays information on research projects, publications, and funders associated with US funding sources and their affiliations with Chinese institutions.

View the full resource [here](#).

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## **ACADEMIC RESEARCH SECURITY**

*The Department of Defense | Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering*

The Department of Defense greatly values its partnership with the academic community. Of paramount importance to the integrity and effectiveness of the academic research community has been the open, transparent, and merit-based nature of research collaborations. In recent years the Department, along with other federal research funding agencies, has become concerned that foreign governments may try to undermine the integrity of the academic research enterprise. This site is a resource for the actions that the Department and the interagency are taking to ensure the integrity of fundamental research in academia as well as steps that the academic community has taken.

View the full resource [here](#).

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## **KNOW THE RISK - RAISE YOUR SHIELD: TRAVEL AWARENESS**

*Office of the Director of National Intelligence | June 29, 2016*

Travel Vulnerabilities are greater than usual, especially if you are traveling outside of the U.S., as it is common for you to encounter unfamiliar people. When traveling, have no expectation of privacy.

View the full resource [here](#).

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## **UNITED STATES RESEARCH SECURITY STANDARDS**

*University of Toronto Division of the Vice-President, Research & Innovation*

The United States (US) has implemented research security measures that impact Canadian researchers seeking American funding. It is important that researchers understand the different research security requirements established by the following US government funding agencies.

- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- Department of Defense (DoD)
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Department of Energy (DoE)

View the full resource [here](#).

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## **MOBILE DEVICE BEST PRACTICES**

*National Security Agency*

Threats to mobile devices are more prevalent and increasing in scope and complexity. Users of mobile devices desire to take full advantage of the features available on those devices, but many of the features provide convenience and capability but sacrifice security.

View the full resource [here](#).

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## **OPEN FAR CASES AS OF 5/31/2024**

*The Department of Defense*

View the full resource [here](#).

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# **THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

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# UPCOMING RESEARCH SECURITY EVENTS

We will include a calendar of research security-related events in future editions of the OSMS. If you have events you would like to be included in the calendar, please send your information (Who, What, Where, When, and links) to [ascep@tamus.edu](mailto:ascep@tamus.edu).

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