

**Shou Zi Chew** ([Chinese](#): 周受资; born 1 January 1983) is a Singaporean business executive who has been the [chief executive officer](#) (CEO) of [TikTok](#), an online video platform owned by Chinese company [ByteDance](#), since 2021.<sup>[1][2][3]</sup>

## Early life and education

[\[edit\]](#)

Chew was born on 1 January 1983 in Singapore.<sup>[4]</sup> His father reportedly worked in construction and his mother in bookkeeping.<sup>[5]</sup> Upon graduating from [Hwa Chong Institution](#),<sup>[5]</sup> Chew went on to serve [National Service](#) in the [Singapore Armed Forces](#).<sup>[5]</sup>

After his military service, Chew went on to study at [University College London](#) in England.<sup>[6]</sup> He graduated from the college in 2006 with a [Bachelor of Science](#) in economics.<sup>[7]</sup> In 2010, he completed a [Master of Business Administration](#) degree at [Harvard Business School](#),<sup>[8]</sup> and while there completed a summer internship at [Facebook](#) prior to its IPO.<sup>[9]</sup>

## Career

[\[edit\]](#)

After graduating from University College London in 2006, he stayed on in London to work as a banker for the Goldman Sachs Group for two years before he joined [Yuri Milner](#)'s venture capital firm [DST Global](#).<sup>[5]</sup> At the Russian investment firm DST Global,<sup>[10][11][12]</sup> Chew led investment into [JD.com](#), [Alibaba](#), and [Xiaomi](#).<sup>[10][11][12]</sup> He also led a team of early investors in [ByteDance](#) in 2013.<sup>[5]</sup>

In 2015, Chew joined Xiaomi as its [chief financial officer](#).<sup>[5]</sup> In 2019, he became Xiaomi's foreign business president.<sup>[5]</sup>

In March 2021, Chew joined ByteDance as its chief financial officer.<sup>[13]</sup>  
<sup>[14]</sup> He subsequently replaced TikTok CEO [Kevin A. Mayer](#),<sup>[15]</sup> who left the ByteDance subsidiary after four months on the job.<sup>[16]</sup>

In March 2023, Chew testified before the [United States Congress](#) regarding the legislative effort to ban TikTok in the United States.<sup>[17]</sup> Following the testimony, then senator [Marco Rubio](#) requested the [U.S. Department of Justice](#) investigate Chew for [perjury](#).<sup>[18][19]</sup> Chew testified again in January 2024, during a [United States Senate Judiciary Committee](#) hearing regarding legislation on child internet safety.<sup>[20]</sup>

He was the honorary chairperson of the 2024 [Met Gala](#) as TikTok was the lead sponsor of the event.<sup>[21][22]</sup> Chew was recognized as one of the most impactful Asians in 2024 by Gold House.<sup>[23]</sup> In December 2024, Chew met with [Donald Trump](#) at [Mar-a-Lago](#) to lobby against a ban of TikTok under the [Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act](#).<sup>[24]</sup> Chew was present at [Trump's inauguration](#).<sup>[25]</sup>

## Personal life

[\[edit\]](#)

Chew is married to Vivian Kao, a [Taiwanese American](#) businesswoman. They met as classmates at Harvard.<sup>[26]</sup>

## References

[\[edit\]](#)