

China/US.- China says it will not accept US "theft" of TikTok and threatens to retaliate

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Body

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China's authorities have assured tuesday that they will not accept the "theft" of a technology company like TikTok by the United States and have threatened to retaliate against pressure from Washington for the company to reach a sales agreement on its operations in the US as soon as possible.

In an editorial in the state newspaper 'China Daily', the Asian giant's government has insisted that the U.S. President Donald Trump's stance on ByteDance -- the Chinese-American company that owns TikTok -- is a simple "armed robbery."

While Beijing has asserted that it will be "cautious" in imposing restrictions or similar measures against US companies on Chinese soil, it has emphasized that there are "numerous ways" to retaliate.

Multinational Microsoft, for its part, has noted that it is engaged in talks about the possibility of buying parts of TikTok, after Trump gave ByteDance 45 days, until September 15, to reach a sales deal. Previously, the New York tycoon had threatened to ban the Chinese app for security reasons.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo noted over the weekend that Washington could take action against TikTok and other Chinese companies that may be sharing their users' data with the Asian country government.

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