

## China gives a week to six US media outlets to report on its operations

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### Body

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PEKON, Oct 26 (Reuters) - China's Foreign Ministry ordered six U.S. media outlets to report on their operations in the country within seven days, after Washington announced the designation as foreign missions of six other Chinese media divisions.

The U.S. media affected are American Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), Los Angeles Times, Newsweek, Feature Story News, Bureau of National Affairs and Minnesota Public Radio, according to a statement made public by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Monday night.

Ministerial spokesman Zhao Lijian said last week that Beijing would respond to Washington's decision, which was announced by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, and followed an initial offensive against chinese media in the United States in March.

The decision further soured Chinese-American relations, which have fallen to their lowest point in decades by disputes ranging from trade to technology to human rights and coronavirus.

The United States, "regardless of China's legitimate and reasonable demand and solemn warning, insistently increased political repression and stigmatization of Chinese media and staff," Zhao said in the statement.

"In response, China requires China-based divisions of (the six US media) to declare in writing information about its workforce, finance, operations, and real estate in China within seven calendar days of today," he added.

"China urges the United States to (...) stop this political oppression and arbitrary restrictions on Chinese media organizations. If he chooses to go the wrong way, he could expect more countermeasures from China," he added.

(Report by Yew Lun Tian and Tom Daly; edited in Spanish by Carlos Serrano)

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