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Macro Roundup Article

Headline: Huawei's Breakthrough Still Shows China's Limits in Tech Race

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Tweet: Huawei's new G5 phone demonstrates that the Chinese semiconductor industry can deliver advanced chips even without access to US, Dutch, and Japanese technologies blocked by sanctions, potentially enabling Huawei to regain lost market share.

Summary: Last week Huawei quietly unveiled the Mate 60 Pro—its new smartphone that apparently comes with 5G capabilities. According to a teardown by industry research firm TechInsights, the main chip inside this new phone is made using technology comparable to the so-called 7nm process. It is possibly made by China's leading chip foundry Semiconductor Manufacturing International (SMIC). That is still generations behind the market leaders. For example, TSMC has already been mass-producing more advanced 3nm chips. But that nonetheless is still a big step forward, especially given the limitations China's chip makers are facing. While SMIC has no access to the most cutting-edge extreme ultraviolet lithography machines, it could use some older equipment to make advanced chips, likely using a process called multipatterning.

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Primary Topic: China

Topics: China, GDP, News article, Trade (not deficits)

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