Article Name	Website Link	Date	General Topics/Industries	Companies	Al summary	Al Key Words
TikTok's native app arrives for the Vision Pro	https://www.theverge.com/2024/2 /15/24073674/tiktok-apple-vision- pro-app-launched	15-Feb-24	New Features, Social Media, Virtual/ Augmented Reality	Apple, TikTok	TikTok has announced the arrival of its native app for Apple's Vision Pro headset. The app offers a familiar interface with vertically oriented videos and additional interface elements spread out to make use of the increased screen real estate. The Vision Pro allows users to watch TikTok videos in realworld surroundings or fully virtual locations. While major video streaming services have shown mixed support for the Vision Pro, YouTube has confirmed that a Vision Pro app is on its roadmap.	Apple, TikTok, Vision Pro, Disney, Disney Plus, Amazon Prime Video, Paramount Plus, Mubi, Discovery Plus, Netflix, YouTube, Safari browser, YouTube Shorts
European Commission Opens Inquiry Into TikTok Over Risk of Addiction	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/european-commission- opens-inquiry-into-tiktok-over-risk- of- addiction?utm_campaign=%5BRE BRAND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii		European Regulation, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	TikTok	The European Commission has opened an inquiry into TikTok over concerns of addictive design and harmful content. The investigation will focus on TikTok's algorithms and whether they stimulate behavioral addictions. The Digital Services Act requires companies to offset addiction risks with age verification tools. This comes after TikTok's CEO appeared before a Senate hearing to discuss platform safety measures.	European Commission, TikTok, Digital Services Act, ByteDance, addictive design, harmful content, algorithms, rabbit hole effects, age verification tools, Senate hearing, Shou
EU opens formal investigation into TikTok over possible online content breaches		19-Feb-24	European Regulation, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	TikTok	The European Union has launched a formal investigation into TikTok to determine if the platform violated online content rules regarding child protection and transparent advertising. Concerns include addictive design, screen time limits, age verification, privacy settings, and algorithmic systems. The investigation falls under the Digital Services Act, and potential penalties could include fines of up to 6% of ByteDance's global turnover. TikTok has expressed its commitment to safety measures for young users. The investigation will focus on system design, privacy and safety measures, and advertising transparency. This is the second investigation under the DSA, highlighting the EU's dedication to protecting users, especially minors, on online platforms.	TikTok, ByteDance, EU, Thierry Breton, Digital Services Act (DSA), Elon Musk, X
Social-Media Company Reddit Files for IPO	https://www.wsj.com/finance/sto cks/reddit-files-for-ipo- 8fa2e55f?mod=finance_lead_pos4 &mod=djemHeardEUH	22-Feb-24	IPO, Social Media	Reddit	Social media company Reddit has filed for an IPO with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. It plans to list its shares on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol RDDT. Reddit reported a narrowed net loss of \$90.8 million in 2023 and achieved full-year revenue growth of 21% to \$804 million. Founded in 2005, Reddit is known for its subreddits and "ask me anything" town halls.	IPO, Social Media, Reddit, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, New York Stock Exchange, RDDT, net loss, revenue growth, message boards, subreddits, "ask me anything", The Wall Street Journal
How Europe learned to stop worrying and love TikTok	https://www.politico.eu/article/ho w-europe-learned-to-stop- worrying-and-love-tiktok-china- bytedance/	23-Feb-24	Elections, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	TikTok	Despite initial bans and concerns, European politicians and parties are now embracing TikTok as a platform to engage with young voters. TikTok's efforts to connect with politicians and its popularity among young users have made it an essential tool for reaching younger demographics, despite ongoing security concerns.	TikTok, European politicians, parties, elections, privacy security & safety, social media

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Supreme Court Fears 'Land Mines' in Social Media Debate Over Free Speech	https://www.bloomberg.com/news /articles/2024-02-26/supreme- court-arguments-on-social-media- laws-are-scrutinized	26 Eab 24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media		The US Supreme Court is reviewing laws from Texas and Florida aimed at restricting social media companies' editorial discretion, raising concerns about the impact on hate speech moderation and user management. Trade groups argue that the laws could burden platforms and increase the risk of spam and bullying, while supporters claim they are necessary to protect conservative voices. The court grapples with defining the modern public square and the scope of the First Amendment concerning private entities' regulation of speech, while also facing procedural questions and the legal status of the laws.	Key Words/Topics: Supreme Court, free speech, internet, laws, social media, hate speech moderation, user management, tech companies, spam, bullying, conservative voices, Capitol attack, First Amendment, private entities, speech regulation, procedural issues, facial challenges, anti-discrimination provisions, Texas law, Florida law, viewpoint discrimination, content moderation decisions, legal status Companies: major tech companies, governors DeSantis and Abbott, Gmail, Uber
Supreme Court Seems Open to Tech Companies' Challenge to Social Media Laws	https://www.nytimes.com/live/20 24/02/26/us/supreme-court- arguments-social- media?utm_campaign=%5BREBRA ND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124	26-Feb-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Search Engine, Social Media		The Supreme Court is considering the challenge to social media laws in Florida and Texas, with potential implications for internet speech and online discourse. Key takeaways include discussions on market competition, complexities of state laws, First Amendment implications, Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, the Biden administration's position, judicial deliberations, historical context, and the political and economic significance of the cases. The court's decision, expected by June, will shape the future of online speech and content moderation.	Key Topics: Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety, Search Engine, Social Media Companies: None mentioned
Reddit IPO: Key Takeaways	https://www.appeconomyinsights. com/p/reddit-ipo-key- takeaways?utm_source=post- email- title&publication_id=1147403&po st_id=141980456&utm_campaign= email-post- title&isFreemail=true&r=1qccu0& triedRedirect=true&utm_medium= email	27-Feb-24	Company History, IPO, Social Media	Reddit	Reddit has filed for an IPO with a valuation goal of \$5 billion. The S-1 filing provides details on Reddit's business model, financial highlights, risks, management, and future outlook. The platform has a unique feature set, including subreddits and voting, and boasts a large user base. Notable subreddits like r/WallStreetBets have gained attention and influenced financial markets.	Reddit, IPO, S-1 filing, ticker symbol RDDT, valuation, business model, financial highlights, risks, management, use of proceeds, future outlook, Steve Huffman, Alexis Ohanian, Andreessen Horowitz, Tencent, Snoop Dogg, subreddits, voting, Karma points, Condé Nast, CEO, active communities, daily active unique users, weekly active unique users, Ask Me Anything (AMA), r/WallStreetBets, social platforms
The Phone in the Room	https://www.nytimes.com/2023/0 2/27/briefing/phones-mental- health.html?campaign_id=9&emc =edit_nn_20240223&instance_id= 115869&nl=the- morning®i_id=179763402&seg ment_id=158932&te=1&user_id=18 69f1dc75d3901fa8cd37e3162219 95	27-Feb-24	Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media		Digital technology, particularly smartphones, has significantly changed teenage life, with American teenagers spending a significant amount of time on their phones. Teen mental health has deteriorated, and there is a debate about the role of technology in these trends. Practical advice for parents includes limiting smartphone use and introducing technology gradually to younger teens. The news section covers various global events, including Russia's actions in Ukraine and child deaths in Afghanistan, while the arts and ideas section previews Broadway shows and recommends cooking rice in the microwave and watching a French documentary.	Privacy, Security, Safety, Social Media, Russia, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Italy, U.S. Energy Department, COVID-19, Palestine, Mexico, Jake Paul, Damian Lillard, Broadway, "Fat Ham", "Bad Cinderella", microwave, French documentary "On the Adamant"

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For TikTok, Universal Standoff Shows Music No Longer Matters Like It Once Did	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/for-tiktok-universal- standoff-shows-music-no-longer- matters-like-it-once- did?utm_campaign=article_email &utm_content=article- 12357&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	28-Feb-24	Social Media	TikTok	TikTok's standoff with Universal Music Group (UMG) highlights the platform's strategic shift away from its reliance on music. Despite the removal of UMG's music, TikTok's user engagement remains stable, and the company is focusing on diversifying into e-commerce and livestreaming ventures. The fate of UMG music on TikTok will depend on user reactions and future negotiations.	TikTok, Universal Music Group (UMG), ByteDance, e-commerce, livestreaming, user engagement, CEO Shou Zi Chew, global head of music Zhen Cao, Ole Obermann
Thank you to our creator community	https://newsroom.tiktok.com/en- us/thank-you-creators-adam- presser?utm_campaign=article_e mail&utm_content=article- 12399&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg	29-Feb-24	Creator Incentives, Social Media	TikTok	Adam Presser, Head of Operations at TikTok, expresses gratitude to the TikTok Creator Community for their storytelling and creativity, highlighting their positive impact on communities, career development opportunities, music discovery, economic opportunities, and the platform's commitment to supporting creators and fostering a diverse community.	TikTok, Creator Incentives, Social Media, Adam Presser, Head of Operations, storytelling, creativity, connecting people, Impact on Lives, Career Development, Music Discovery, Economic Opportunities, entrepreneurs, small business owners, Future Outlook
Reddit Eyes Valuation of Up to \$6.5 Billion in IPO	https://www.wsj.com/finance/sto cks/reddit-eyes-valuation-of-up-to- 6-5-billion-in-ipo- 18e0c346?utm_campaign=article- email&utm_content=article- 12383&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg		IPO, Social Media	Reddit	Reddit aims for a valuation of up to \$6.5 billion in its IPO, offering shares at a price range of \$31 to \$34 each. The unique IPO structure allows individual investors, loyal users, and some employees to participate. The decision to target a more modest valuation reflects caution in a volatile IPO market and investor preference for profitability. Despite being unprofitable, Reddit reported net income of \$18.5 million in Q4 2023. The company plans to list shares on the NYSE under the ticker RDDT.	Reddit, IPO, Social Media, Valuation, Equity value, Price range, Individual investors, Loyal users, Employees, Share price growth, Super- users, Volatile IPO market, Profitability, Growth, Net income, Net loss, New York Stock Exchange, Ticker RDDT
Music Is TikTok's Past. Sounds May Be Its Future	https://www.wired.com/story/tikt ok-music-umg-sounds-future/	2-Mar-24	Social Media	TikTok	Universal Music Group (UMG) songs are disappearing from TikTok due to failed agreements, leading to the rise of viral audio clips as replacements. UMG's negotiation issues with TikTok regarding music revenue, AI, and platform safety have caused uncertainty about when new agreements will be reached. Despite missing music, TikTok remains important for artists' cultural relevance and impact. There is a potential shift towards using unlicensed or independent music on TikTok, and creators are adapting to trending audio clips, hinting at a future of decontextualized sound blending on the platform.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, Universal Music Group (UMG), music, viral audio clips, negotiation issues, music revenue, Al, platform safety, http://musical.ly/, music discovery platform, artists, cultural relevance, royalties, unlicensed music, independent music, creators, trending audio clips, decontextualized sound blending Companies: TikTok, Universal Music Group (UMG)
TikTok's longer videos are here to stay	https://www.theverge.com/2024/3 /5/24090583/tiktok-creator- rewards-program-monetization- subscriptions	5-Mar-24	Creator Incentives, Social Media	TikTok	TikTok has announced that its Creator Rewards program, previously known as the Creativity Program, will now require creators to make videos longer than a minute to monetize. The program calculates payouts based on originality play duration, search value, and audience engagement, aiming to provide higher payouts compared to the previous creator fund. Additionally, TikTok is expanding access to premium livestreaming features, allowing non-livestreaming creators to charge fans for exclusive content and benefits.	TikTok, Creator Rewards, Creator Incentives, Social Media, Twitch

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Bipartisan Bill Would Force ByteDance to Divest TikTok	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/representatives- introduce-bill-to-force-bytedance- to-divest-tiktok-or-face- ban?utm_campaign=article_email &utm_content=article- 12383&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	6-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	A bipartisan bill introduced by members of the House of Representatives would require ByteDance to divest TikTok within six months or face a ban. The bill aims to address national security concerns tied to TikTok's Chinese parent company. If passed, app stores and web platforms would be prohibited from offering or hosting TikTok. Previous federal efforts to ban TikTok have faced obstacles, including a preliminary injunction issued by a federal judge in Montana.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, ByteDance, bipartisan bill, divest, ban, national security concerns, app stores, web platforms, federal efforts, preliminary injunction Companies: ByteDance, TikTok
Linktree Jumps Into Social Commerce With Sephora	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/linktree-jumps-into-social- commerce-with- sephora?rc=hm8aii	6-Mar-24	Creator Economy, E-Commerce, New Features, Social Media	Linktree	Linktree is entering the social commerce space by testing an affiliate marketing program with brands like Sephora, Revolve, and Urban Outfitters. Creators can earn commissions by promoting products through Linktree, and the company is introducing Linktree Stores for creators to set up shops within their link-in-bio pages. This move reflects Linktree's strategy to diversify revenue streams and capitalize on its large user base. It also highlights the trend of platforms integrating commerce features, influenced by TikTok's expansion into live shopping.	Linktree, Sephora, Revolve, Urban Outfitters, affiliate marketing program, Linktree Stores, revenue diversification, link-in-bio market, TikTok, live shopping, platforms, creators, brands, future outlook, venture capital
The Talent Battle Behind Musk's Feud With OpenAl	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/the-talent-battle-behind- musks-feud-with- openai?rc=hm8aii	6-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, Talent, US-China/ Asia	TikTok, X (Twitter)	Elon Musk's feud with OpenAl may be driven by a talent battle in the Al industry, as companies like OpenAl, Google, Meta Platforms, and Apple compete for scarce Al talent. Musk's actions with http://x.ai/, including launching Grok as a ChatGPT rival, indicate a desire to compete with OpenAl. However, Musk's lawsuit against OpenAl appears to lack substance and may be more about hindering their progress. Additionally, bipartisan lawmakers have introduced a bill to address national security risks associated with TikTok, aiming for a change of ownership rather than an outright ban.	Companies: TikTok, X (Twitter), OpenAl, Google, Meta Platforms, Apple Topics: Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety, Social Media, Talent, US-China/ Asia
W.H. works with Hill to ban TikTok	https://punchbowl.news/article/g allagher-krishnamoorthi-tiktok-bill- gets-white-house-backing/	6-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The Biden White House is supporting a bipartisan bill that could result in a ban on TikTok in the United States. The bill would require ByteDance to sell TikTok if it wants to remain in U.S. app stores. The White House has provided technical assistance in drafting the bill, and this support is significant as previous attempts to ban TikTok did not have White House backing. However, there will still be opposition from both sides of the political spectrum. TikTok, which is headquartered in Singapore and backed by Chinese investors, has been under scrutiny for its data and alleged influence by the Chinese government.	Key Words/Topics: Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety, Social Media, US- China/Asia Companies: TikTok, ByteDance
White House Urges Senate to Act on TikTok Bill	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/white-house-urges- senate-to-act-on-tiktok- bill?utm_campaign=%5BREBRAN D%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	6-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The White House is urging the Senate to act on a bipartisan House bill that would require TikTokto sever ties with its parent company or face a ban in the U.S. The bill passed the House with a significant majority, and President Joe Biden has expressed his willingness to sign it. TikTok executives, however, have stated that their strategy will remain unchanged, including their Project Texas initiative to protect U.S. user data.	TikTok, White House, Senate, House, ByteDance, Joe Biden, Charles Schumer

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Furious Congress plows forward with TikTok bill after user revolt	https://www.axios.com/2024/03/0 7/tiktok-ban-congress-phone-calls	7-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Following a user revolt and flood of calls from constituents, Congress is advancing bipartisan legislation requiring TikTok's Chinese parent company, ByteDance, to divest its ownership of the app. The urgency and aggression in TikTok's campaign aimed to counter national security risks. Lawmakers criticized the campaign but clarified that the bill does not entail an outright ban on TikTok. The White House's engagement with TikTok raised questions about conflicting messages on national security concerns. The bill highlights ongoing concerns about Chinese ownership of popular social media platforms and lawmakers are calling on President Biden to address the issue.	TikTok, ByteDance, House Energy and Commerce Committee, House Majority Leader Steve Scalise, President Biden, White House
House Majority Leader Calls for Vote on TikTok Ban Bill Next Week	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/house-majority-leader- calls-for-vote-on-tiktok-ban-bill- next- week?utm_campaign=%5BREBRA ND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	7-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	House Majority Leader Rep. Steve Scalise plans to bring a bill to the House floor for a vote next week, which would force ByteDance to divest TikTok or face a ban. The bill, endorsed by the White House and House Speaker Mike Johnson, would require ByteDance to sell TikTok to a non-Chinese company within 165 days. TikTok has responded by mobilizing users and creators to oppose the bill.	TikTok, ByteDance, House Energy and Commerce Committee, White House, House Speaker Mike Johnson
In new disclosure, LinkedIn says premium subscriptions bring in \$1.7 billion	https://www.reuters.com/technol ogy/rare-disclosure-linkedin-says- premium-subscriptions-bring-17- billion-2024-03-07/	7-Mar-24	Artificial Intelligence, Social Media, Subscription	Microsoft	LinkedIn's premium subscription business generated \$1.7 billion in revenue in 2023, with a focus on expanding through Al tools for job seekers. Subscriber growth increased by 25%, and early data shows high adoption and usefulness of the new Al tools. Despite a tight labor market, there are still job opportunities, leading more people to seek better options.	Key Words/Topics: Revenue Disclosure, Al Tools, Subscriber Growth, Al Tool Adoption, Market Dynamics Companies: LinkedIn, Microsoft
Lawmakers: Bill to Remove Chinese Owner Shows "Path Forward" for TikTok's Survival	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/lawmakers-bill-to- remove-chinese-owner-shows- path-forward-for-tiktoks- survival?utm_campaign=%5BREB RAND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	7-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Lawmakers in the House of Representatives have introduced a bipartisan bill to force ByteDance, the Chinese owner of TikTok, to divest the app. The goal is not to ban TikTok, but to create a "path forward" for its survival by changing ownership. The White House is supporting the bill, which would give ByteDance 165 days to divest TikTok or face a ban. Lawmakers argue that TikTok, under current ownership, poses a national security threat due to China's control over ByteDance. TikTok denies any influence from the Chinese government and sees the bill as an outright ban.	Key Words/Topics: Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety, Social Media, US- China/ Asia Companies: TikTok, ByteDance
US lawmakers tune out TikTok lobbying to advance bill to ban app	https://www.ft.com/content/ce22 dd51-9410-4245-8556- f9b4a4bf5ada?accessToken=zwAA AY7NPg9ikdPOlt1RIBBCRdOFWm 0pL9a2gE.MEYCIQCYfRejTonfZ48j vMbC87EPt2F15zXfGPupBX9AoWb- 4wlhANKrMJbmZdKTrNDCcy0dloQ Fst86DeKB7UiQulseKYrD&segmen tld=ce22dd51-9410-4245-8556- f9b4a4bf5ada	7-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	A US congressional committee has passed a bill to remove TikTok from app stores unless its Chinese owner, ByteDance, divests the video-sharing platform. The bill was approved unanimously after concerns were raised about the app's potential risks due to its Chinese ownership and the possibility of Beijing accessing personal data. The bill is expected to pass the House and supporters hope it will gain momentum in the Senate. TikTok has responded by highlighting its investment in a corporate restructuring to protect US user data.	TikTok, ByteDance, House energy and commerce committee, Beijing, Chinese government, Mike Johnson, Steve Scalise, Congress, Project Texas, Senate, free speech, Mike Gallagher, app stores

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You can write long-form articles on X if you pay for Premium+	https://www.engadget.com/you- can-write-long-form-articles-on-x- if-you-pay-for-premium- 005707599.html	7-Mar-24	New Features, Social Media	X (Twitter)	X now allows verified organizations and Premium+ subscribers to publish long-form articles, with a character limit of over 100,000 characters or about 15,000 words. Twitter had been working on this feature before Elon Musk's takeover, aiming to attract newsletter writers and creators to the platform.	X, Twitter, Premium+, long-form articles, verified organizations, Premium+ subscribers, text-editing interface, embedded media, text formatting options, bulleted lists, character limit, longer posts, Elon Musk, Notes, newsletter writers, publishing tools
Altman Is More Powerful Than Ever; Trump's TikTok Reversal	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/altman-is-more-powerful- than-ever-trumps-tiktok- reversal?rc=hm8aii	8-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	OpenAl, TikTok	Sam Altman's reinstatement to OpenAl's board strengthens his position after being fired and exonerated. Former President Trump reversed his stance on banning TikTok, coinciding with a bipartisan bill gaining momentum. Other key stories include ByteDance's revenue growth, Amazon's cautious international expansion, and Chipper Cash's suspension of transfers. In other news, Astera Labs plans to raise funds through an IPO, Reddit prepares to start trading, and a SpaceX employee sues for harassment. The Information's upcoming events cover scaling businesses, the creator economy, and private capital.	OpenAl, TikTok, Sam Altman, Donald Trump, Facebook, ByteDance, Amazon, Chipper Cash, Snowflake, Astera Labs, Reddit, SpaceX, The Information, Congress
Biden Backs Effort to Force Sale of TikTok by Chinese Owners	https://www.wsj.com/politics/poli cy/biden-backs-effort-to-force- sale-of-tiktok-by-chinese-owners- ba989656?mod=hp_lead_pos1&ut m_campaign=%5BREBRAND%5D+ %5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124	8-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	President Biden supports a bill that would force the sale of TikTok or ban it due to national security concerns related to its Chinese ownership. The bill aims to separate TikTok from its parent company, ByteDance, and has gained support in the House. TikTok's attempt to rally users against the bill has backfired, and former President Trump criticized the legislation. The Biden administration seeks clear authority to address TikTok's handling of user data and ties to the Chinese government. The bill may face challenges in the Senate regarding free expression and First Amendment rights.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, Chinese ownership, national security concerns, bill, ByteDance, American owner, ban, user data, Chinese government, legislation, free expression, First Amendment rights Companies: TikTok, ByteDance, Facebook
Meghan Markle Speaks About 'Toxicity' of Social Media at SXSW	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/meghan-markle-speaks- about-toxicity-of-social-media-at- sxsw?utm_campaign=%5BREBRA ND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	10-Mar-24	Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media		Meghan Markle spoke about the "endless toxicity" of social media at South by Southwest, sharing her personal experience and calling for systemic changes. The annual tech and arts festival also highlighted artificial intelligence and the creator economy, with discussions on the impact of Al on content creation and the efficiency of creators.	Key Words/Topics: Meghan Markle, social media, toxicity, South by Southwest, International Women's Day, negative comments, women executives, mental health, artificial intelligence, creator economy, podcast, venture capitalist, Roku, content creation, movies, efficiency Companies: Roku
TikTok Crackdown Shifts Into Overdrive, With Sale or Shutdown on Table	https://www.wsj.com/tech/why- the-new-effort-to-ban-tiktok- caught-fire-with-lawmakers- 7cd3f980?mod=djemTECH	10-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Legislation to ban TikTok in the U.S. or force its sale is gaining traction, with a bill passing the House Energy and Commerce Committee. TikTok was caught off-guard by the push and faces the possibility of being shut down. U.S. tech and media companies are considering buying TikTok if ByteDance agrees to sell. TikTok sees two ways to stop the bill from becoming law: through opposition in the Senate and by challenging its legality. The bill calls for ByteDance to divest itself of TikTok or face a ban.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, ban, sale, legislation, House Energy and Commerce Committee, ByteDance, app stores, web-hosting services, bill, divest, content app, Al models, Senate, President Biden, First Amendment, free speech, Chuck Schumer, disinformation, data, Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S., Oracle, Project Texas, Meta Platforms, Facebook Companies: TikTok, ByteDance, Activision, OpenAl, Meta Platforms, Facebook

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X to Launch TV App	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/x-to-launch-tv- app?utm_campaign=%5BREBRAN D%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	10-Mar-24	New Features, Social Media	X (Twitter)	Elon Musk's X is launching a TV app for Amazon and Samsung smart TVs, similar to YouTube, as part of its pivot to video. The app will feature longform videos and comes after X signed deals with TV hosts like Don Lemon and Tucker Carlson. X's advertising revenue has declined since Musk's takeover, prompting the company to add more video advertising products.	X, Twitter, Elon Musk, app, longform videos, Amazon, Samsung, YouTube, Fortune, Don Lemon, Tucker Carlson, advertising revenue, brand advertisers, video advertising, MrBeast
As TikTok Faces Ban Bill, Investors Distance Themselves From App	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/as-tiktok-faces-ban-bill- investors-distance-themselves- from-app?offer=rtsu-engagement- 24&utm_campaign=RTSU+- +TikTok+Invest&utm_content=336 0&utm_medium=email&utm_sourc e=cio&utm_term=2394&rc=hm8aii	12-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Investors in ByteDance, the parent company of TikTok, are not actively supporting the app amidst a bill aiming to ban or sell TikTok in the U.S. Venture capitalists are hesitant to publicly support TikTok due to the polarizing nature of the issue and prioritize other regulatory matters. Sequoia Capital, previously involved in lobbying for TikTok, has changed its stance. Some investors accept the possibility of TikTok being forced to withdraw from the U.S. market. TikTok's strategy of mobilizing users to protest against the bill has faced backlash. Uncertainty remains regarding the bill's passage and potential legal challenges.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, ban bill, investors, ByteDance, lobbying, sale, U.S. market, profitability, regulatory landscape Companies: TikTok, ByteDance, Sequoia Capital
TikTok is now letting creators in more countries earn money for their effects	https://techcrunch.com/2024/03/ 12/tiktok-letting-creators-more- countries-get-rewarded-effects/	12-Mar-24	Creator Incentives, New Features, Social Media	TikTok	TikTok is expanding its Effect Creator Rewards program to more regions and lowering the payout threshold. Creators now only need their effects to be used in 100,000 qualified videos to start earning rewards, and rewards will only be given for effects used in public videos. The updated payout model follows a revenue per mile (RPM) model, and creators can collect rewards based on the total number of qualified videos that used their effect within the first 90 days. This update comes after TikTok announced the increased revenue from its revamped creator fund.	TikTok, Effect Creator Rewards, AR development platform, Effect House, RPM (revenue per mile) model, TechCrunch, Creator Fund
Reddit's Long, Rocky Road to an Initial Public Offering	https://www.nytimes.com/2024/0 3/13/technology/reddit-public- offering-stock- market.html?unlocked_article_co de=1.cU0.R2Yw.3-dfdUDhwxb0	13-Mar-24	Company History, IPO, Social Media	Reddit	Reddit, one of the first tech IPOs of the year, has faced challenges including leadership crises, controversies over free speech, and struggles with monetization. Under cofounder Steve Huffman's leadership, revenues increased and the workforce expanded. However, concerns remain about monetizing user base and data. Despite internal challenges, Reddit is now on the verge of going public, reflecting its resilience and evolution over nearly two decades.	Reddit, initial public offering, tech, leadership crises, controversies, free speech, business model, co-founder, Steve Huffman, revenues, workforce, investors, user base, data, origins, Alexis Ohanian, community-driven structure, subreddits, volunteer moderators, speech moderation, toxic content, advertising business, misinformation, employees, dorm room start-up
TikTok Ban Bill Spotlights Open Secret: App Loses Money	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/tiktok-ban-bill-spotlights- open-secret-app-loses- money?utm_campaign=article_em ail&utm_content=article- 12447&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	13-Mar-24	Company Outlook, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Investors estimate that TikTok lost several billion dollars last year on revenue of roughly \$20 billion. A potential ban of TikTok in the U.S. would impact ByteDance's future growth and value. Despite the current losses, TikTok is seen as having the potential to become a major moneymaker in the future, especially in the U.S. market. TikTok's expansion efforts, including its e-commerce business, contribute to its losses, but ByteDance sees the U.S. as a significant opportunity for TikTok's online shopping business. The cost of hosting a video-based service like TikTok is high, and TikTok has a significant staff of about 7,000 employees in the U.S.	TikTok, ByteDance, US-China, Asia, e- commerce, TikTok Shop, Southeast Asia, TikTok CEO, Douyin, Tokopedia, Oracle, Project Texas, Meta Platforms

Article Name	Website Link	Date	General Topics / Industries	Companies	Al summary	Al Key Words
Exclusive: Snapchat will allow users to save DMs	https://www.axios.com/2024/03/1 4/snapchat-messages-disappear- save-imessage-whatsapp	14-Mar-24	Messaging Apps, Social Media	Snapchat	Snapchat is introducing a new feature called "Infinite Retention Mode" that allows users to save direct messages indefinitely, similar to SMS messages. The feature will be rolled out gradually, starting in smaller markets and eventually expanding to the U.S. This change is in response to user feedback and will give users more control over their conversations. The ability to save messages could also facilitate reporting of concerning conversations or incidents on the app.	Snapchat, Infinite Retention Mode, DMs, SMS messages, iMessage, WhatsApp, U.S., communication platform, young people, U.S. teens
Steven Mnuchin Says He Is Putting Together a Group to Buy TikTok	https://www.wsj.com/tech/steven- mnuchin-says-he-is-putting- together-a-group-to-buy-tiktok- 3aac4a33?mod=hp_lead_pos1&m od=djemalertNEWS		Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Former Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin intends to create a consortium to purchase TikTok and separate it from its Chinese owners. The House has passed a bill to ban TikTok or require its sale if ByteDance does not divest, pending Senate approval. Mnuchin believes TikTok should be owned by US businesses to address concerns about Chinese ownership and data privacy. The sale may encounter obstacles such as regulatory approval and fundraising, but Mnuchin's financial background could aid the process.	TikTok, Steven Mnuchin, ByteDance
The battle over TikTok	https://www.ft.com/content/3603 b4d2-ce38-4d2c-a21b- baae6ea1921e?accessToken=zwA AAY7sF0_pkc82A7TSzjhNLNOIG7q ubqGSHgE.MEQCIAHfTU- 10jDfU3Dhu3Nan5l6FNXnzoltzEL EmYuVkYGkAiBkhZ1YCb5rMFgHUX 0XUu1zLou099QCrx2YTT3Pztk0cA &segmentId=3603b4d2-ce38-4d2c- a21b-baae6ea1921e	15-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The battle over TikTok continues as American lawmakers vote to force the Chinese owner, ByteDance, to sell the video-sharing app due to concerns about national security and Chinese government control. The House of Representatives has approved a bill to ban app stores from distributing TikTok unless ByteDance divests the platform within 180 days. The Senate's decision is still uncertain, but President Joe Biden has expressed support for the bill. TikTok argues that the bill is unconstitutional and denies Chinese government control. The company also faces criticism for its influence on news and content moderation. The future of TikTok remains uncertain, with questions about potential sale and international bans.	TikTok, ByteDance, FBI, US intelligence agencies, China, US, Capitol Hill, House of Representatives, Senate, Joe Biden, Chuck Schumer, Rand Paul, Mike Lee, Trump, Facebook, Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio, Chinese government, Project Texas, Five Eyes, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, UK, India, Italy, Taiwan
The TikTok Bill Could Get a Lot of Apps Banned	https://gizmodo.com/tiktok-bill- could-get-lot-apps-banned- 1851337755	15-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill to ban TikTok unless it's sold, raising concerns about vague language and potential impact on other apps. The bill grants the President power to designate apps as national security threats, but critics argue it lacks clarity and infringes on freedom of speech. The broad reach of the bill extends beyond TikTok and the President gains significant authority. TikTok opposes the bill and its fate rests with the Senate.	TikTok, U.S. House of Representatives, President, national security threats, legal experts, apps, websites, foreign adversary, critics, freedom of speech, app ecosystem, Executive Power, campaign, U.SChina relations, Senate, Majority Leader Chuck Schumer
China Vows to "Take All Necessary Measures" as House Approves TikTok Bill	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/china-vows-to-take-all- necessary-measures-as-house- approves-tiktok- bill?utm_campaign=%5BREBRAN D%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	16-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	China's Ministry of Commerce vows to "take all necessary measures" to protect its rights and interests in response to the proposed bill that forces Bytedance to sell or ban TikTok in the U.S. The ministry emphasizes the need for the U.S. to stop unjustified suppression of foreign companies and respect fair competition. The bill has been passed by the House and will move to the Senate, with TikTok expected to file a lawsuit to block its implementation.	Key Words/Topics: China, House, TikTok bill, Ministry of Commerce, Bytedance, U.S., Beijing, sale, ban, foreign companies, market economy, fair competition, bill, Senate, Trump administration, algorithms, export control rules, American buyer, deal. Companies: TikTok, Bytedance

Article Name	Website Link	Date	General Topics/Industries	Companies	Al summary	Al Key Words
House Approves TikTok Ban-or-Sell Bill	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/house-approves-tiktok- ban-or-sell- bill?utm_campaign=article_email &utm_content=article- 12439&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	16-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The House of Representatives has approved a bill that would require TikTok to sever ties with ByteDance or face a ban in the U.S. The bill now moves to the Senate for consideration. President Biden has indicated he will sign the bill if it reaches his desk, but implementation may be delayed due to expected legal challenges from TikTok. China is also expected to block ByteDance from selling TikTok.	TikTok, ByteDance, House of Representatives, Senate, President Biden, China, Chinese Foreign Ministry, CGTN
DOJ to Push for TikTok Divestiture in Senate Briefings	https://www.bloomberg.com/news /articles/2024-03-18/biden- officials-to-brief-wary-senators-on- tiktok-sale-push	18-Mar-2/	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The Department of Justice (DOJ) and other agencies will hold closed-door briefings in the Senate to advance legislation that would allow TikTok to continue operating in the US while being severed from its Chinese owner. The battle over TikTok is part of a broader campaign by the DOJ to prevent adversaries from using technology and data in illegal or harmful ways. TikTok is subject to Chinese national security laws, raising concerns about data privacy and potential influence on American politics. TikTok intends to exhaust all legal challenges if the latest US legislation targeting the app becomes law.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, legislation, Senate, Chinese owner, sale, ban, lobbying battle, national security, data, algorithms, user information, Oracle Corp., legal challenges, divestment, White House, regulations, personal data, artificial intelligence Companies: TikTok, Justice Department, Oracle Corp.
TikTok Spent Years Developing Data Security Plan: Washington Ignored It	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/tiktok-spent-years- developing-data-security-plan- washington-ignored- it?utm_campaign=article_email&u tm_content=article- 12478&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	18-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Reputation, Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	TikTok spent \$1.5 billion on data security measures and restructuring its operations to address national security concerns. However, the recent vote in favor of a bill to force TikTok to sever ties with its Chinese parent company shows that management misread the political situation. TikTok employees regret not lobbying Congress earlier and feel frustrated that their data security efforts were ignored. The company is now stuck in a lose-lose situation, unable to dissolve its data security unit but facing criticism that the arrangement is ineffective. Despite implementing a data security plan and working with Oracle, concerns about data sharing with ByteDance employees persist. TikTok's lobbying efforts have increased, but without authorization from the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), their data security project remains incomplete. The US Data Security subsidiary has created hurdles and delays for employees, impacting their work and product development.	TikTok, ByteDance, Oracle, CFIUS, Project Texas, US Data Security, Lisa Monaco, The Wall Street Journal
The Slow-Motion TikTok Bill	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/the-slow-motion-tiktok- bill?rc=hm8aii	19-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Reputation, Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The momentum of the TikTok bill is slowing in the Senate, with uncertainty about whether it will be brought to a vote. TikTok's current position is the result of years of misplaced priorities, and the company regrets not building relationships with Congress earlier. If the bill passes, it is likely to face a lengthy legal fight due to First Amendment concerns. TikTok is also expanding its Creator Rewards Program and introducing new ad formats for TikTok Shop.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, bill, Senate, Chuck Schumer, Maria Cantwell, ByteDance, divest, ban, CFIUS, Project Texas, Shou Zi Chew, Erich Andersen, Nu Wexler, Lisa Monaco, Congress, Joe Biden, First Amendment, national security, legal scrutiny, Creator Rewards Program, search value, ad formats, TikTok Shop Companies: TikTok, ByteDance, Twitter, Facebook, Google

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Critics of the TikTok Bill Are Missing the Point	https://www.theatlantic.com/idea s/archive/2024/03/tiktok-bill- foreign- influence/677806/?gift=2iIN4YrefP juvZ5d2kh307hGgGBze0wGHRD_ FG-OTTo&utm_source=copy- link&utm_medium=social&utm_ca mpaign=share		Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The TikTok bill, which aims to force the sale of TikTok's U.S. version to an American buyer, has sparked debates. Critics argue that it is xenophobic or a threat to a free internet, but the concerns about foreign-government surveillance and political interference have historical roots. The bill addresses worries about the Chinese government's access to user data and influence over American public opinion. While opponents raise concerns about free speech and the effectiveness of the bill, it is seen as a step to prevent a hostile foreign power from controlling a major communication platform.	TikTok, ByteDance, ACLU, Discord, Google, Meta
Senate plots next moves on TikTok	https://www.axios.com/pro/tech- policy/2024/03/20/senate-plots- next-moves-on-tiktok	20-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Senators are considering holding a hearing on TikTok as their next step, which could slow down momentum and potentially affect the bill. Congress has largely avoided addressing privacy, competition, and data sharing on tech platforms. TikTok supporters are actively contacting lawmakers, while TikTok itself emphasizes the importance of respectful and civil expression.	TikTok, Senate Commerce Committee, Congress, privacy, competition, data sharing, Sen. Thom Tillis
Senators get "shocking" look at TikTok's spy potential	https://www.axios.com/2024/03/2 1/senators-briefing-tiktok-spy- data-tracking-security		Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Senators who received a classified briefing on TikTok's spy potential revealed that China's government can use the social media app to spy on American users and push propaganda. The senators expressed concerns about TikTok's access to personal data, leading Senate leaders to consider a bill that would force ByteDance to sell TikTok or face a ban in the U.S.	TikTok, China, ByteDance
'Cherry on the Cake': How China Views the U.S. Crackdown on TikTok	https://www.nytimes.com/2024/0 3/23/business/dealbook/tiktok-us- china.html?ugrp=m&unlocked_arti cle_code=1.fU0.XLHq.a8x4kycfTeY x∣=url-share		Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	China views the U.S. crackdown on TikTok as unwelcome and believes that ByteDance is being bullied because it is a Chinese company. Chinese state media has mobilized the public in the past to boycott companies that criticize China. Beijing may retaliate against U.S. companies but has been forbearing in the past due to their economic importance and lobbying power. If the U.S. government forces a sale or bans TikTok, Beijing would see it as a propaganda victory and highlight U.S. hypocrisy. The potential involvement of former Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin in a bid to buy TikTok is viewed as in bad taste. ByteDance and TikTok should consider hiring great lawyers and lobbyists to fight back.	TikTok, ByteDance, Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, H&M, Apple, Foxconn, Tesla, Elon Musk, Steve Mnuchin

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To Fight Ban Bill, TikTok's Best Hopes Lie in First Amendment Challenge	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/to-fight-ban-bill-tiktoks- best-hopes-lie-in-first- amendment- challenge?utm_campaign=article_ email&utm_content=article- 12511&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	25-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	TikTok's best hopes to fight a potential ban lie in a First Amendment challenge, as lawyers argue that TikTok users have the right to express themselves and receive information on the app. The argument that TikTok could serve as a mouthpiece for Chinese propaganda is also seen as a First Amendment problem. TikTok could also challenge the ban on the grounds of lack of due process and the need for evidence. Congress passing a broader privacy bill could also help forestall legal challenges. The government would need to prove compelling governmental interest and the least restrictive solution for any restriction on speech to hold up. Data security concerns and the risk of Chinese influence on TikTok's data and employees have been cited, but lawyers argue that banning TikTok would affect a large amount of speech and there are other ways for China to obtain data on American users.	TikTok, WeChat, Chinese government, First Amendment, due process, Congress, privacy bill, data brokers, China, Russia, foreign adversaries, algorithm, antitrust scrutiny, Ramya Krishnan, Knight First Amendment Institute, Huawei, bill of attainder, Department of Justice, ownership, data security, ByteDance, American journalists, speech, Facebook, Russia
Biden's TikTok Challenge: Reach Gen Z, Without Drawing Its Wrath	https://www.nytimes.com/2024/0 3/26/us/politics/biden-tiktok- voters.html?utm_campaign=articl e_email&utm_content=article- 12521&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg	26-Mar-24	Elections, Government & Policy, Social Media	TikTok	President Biden's campaign is using TikTok to reach younger voters, but faces challenges such as anger over the war in Gaza and the perception of supporting an uncool administration. Navigating the platform involves addressing thorny issues and dealing with mocking commentary. The campaign plans to deploy TikTok creators to promote its message, but political activity is discouraged on the platform. The effectiveness of Biden's TikTok strategy remains uncertain, as many young users are upset about American complicity in Israel's military campaign in Gaza. The campaign's efforts to appeal to young voters may require a policy shift on Gaza and other issues.	TikTok, Biden, Gaza, Trump, Israel, Notion, Betaworks, Replit, Hack Club, Spensa, Gen-Z for Change, White House, Facebook
TikTok's troubles just got worse: The FTC could sue them, too	https://www.politico.com/news/2 024/03/26/biden-administration- tiktok-data-practices-00149139	26-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is investigating TikTok over alleged privacy and data security issues, and may bring a lawsuit or settlement in the coming weeks. The allegations include claims that TikTok deceived users about data access in China and violated children's privacy laws. This adds to the ongoing concerns about TikTok's ties to its parent company ByteDance and potential national security threats. The FTC case is separate from the bill to force a sale of TikTok's U.S. operations. Discussions between the FTC and the Department of Justice (DOJ) will determine the next steps, including potential civil penalties. No final decision has been made, and it is unclear if ByteDance will be included in any action. TikTok maintains that American user data is stored in the U.S. under a previous settlement, but investigations by the European Commission, Canadian privacy regulators, and state attorneys general are ongoing.	Key Words/Topics: FTC, TikTok, privacy and data security practices, children's privacy law, national security, ByteDance, forced-sale bill, DOJ, civil penalties, Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), misleading users, user data storage, Oracle cloud servers, European Commission, Canadian privacy regulators, state attorneys general, privacy-related class action lawsuit Companies: TikTok, ByteDance, Oracle

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LinkedIn is experimenting with a TikTok- like video feed in its app	https://techcrunch.com/2024/03/ 27/linkedin-is-experimenting-with- a-tiktok-like-video-feed-in-its- app/?guccounter=2	27-Mar-24	Creator Economy, New Features, Social Media	Microsoft	LinkedIn is experimenting with a TikTok-like video feed in its app, offering a vertical feed of short videos focused on professional content. This move aims to enhance engagement and provide users with relevant video content. It also presents opportunities for creators to share professional advice and experiences, although some users may have mixed reactions to the proliferation of short-form video feeds.	LinkedIn, TikTok, Microsoft, Instagram, YouTube, Snapchat, Netflix, Austin Null, McKinney
SOCIAL MEDIA, AUTHORITARIANISM, AND THE WORLD AS IT IS	https://lpeproject.org/blog/social- media-authoritarianism-and-the- world-as-it-is/	28-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Meredith Whittaker criticizes a bill passed by the U.S. House of Representatives that aims to force the sale of TikTok or banish it from the U.S. market. Whittaker opposes the bill, expressing concerns about privacy protection, executive power, political motives, and challenges to free speech. She calls for alternative approaches to centralized tech power and promoting dissent.	TikTok, U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. market, foreign adversary-controlled application, privacy protection, U.S. dominance, President, foreign adversary controlled, tech companies, information ecosystem, Holy Land Foundation, political manipulation, pro-Palestinian sentiment, centralized control, speech, free speech, global surveillance power, dissent-friendly spaces, centralized tech power, authoritarian tendencies
TikTok sell-or-ban bill heads to Senate: What's next?	https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/ Business-Spotlight/TikTok-sell-or- ban-bill-heads-to-Senate-What-s- next?utm_campaign=IC_techAsia_ free&utm_medium=email&utm_so urce=NA_newsletter&utm_conten t=article_link&del_type=5&pub_da te=20240404150000&seq_num=2 3&si=0da7fc56-79df-4037-bd3f- e874dae0c0e2	29-Mar-24	Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The bill to force TikTok to cut ties with its Chinese parent company or be banned from operating in the US has passed the House of Representatives and now heads to the Senate. President Joe Biden has expressed support for the bill and would sign it into law if it passes. However, there is mixed political support in the Senate, with some senators voicing concerns and former President Donald Trump changing his stance. Technical and legal challenges to a forced divestiture or ban have been pointed out, and if the bill passes the Senate with changes, a conference committee would need to reconcile the differences. The bill may be advanced as part of the National Defense Authorization Act. TikTok is expected to fight back in court if a bill is signed into law. China has expressed opposition to a forced divestiture and could make the process difficult. There are also questions about potential retaliation from China and the challenges of finding a buyer for TikTok. A nationwide ban on the platform would be technically challenging to enforce and could face noncompliance from users.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, bill, Senate, ban, ByteDance, Chinese parent, divestiture, Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act, public hearing, conference committee, National Defense Authorization Act, Facebook, young voters, court, China, artificial intelligence, export control list, algorithm, U.S. regulators, source code, acquisition, antitrust challenges, app stores, internet providers, great firewall, U.S. Department of Justice, violation, noncompliance, Gen Z, VPN Companies: TikTok, ByteDance, Facebook, Meta, Apple
Early Clues Emerge on Senate's Plans for TikTok	https://www.wsj.com/politics/poli cy/tiktok-ban-legislation-stalled- senate- 379beae5?utm_campaign=%5BRE BRAND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124	31-Mar-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The Senate is planning to revise the House proposal for TikTok legislation, considering potential changes to make it more resistant to court challenges. Options include extending the divestment timeline or addressing wider social-media issues. Senator Maria Cantwell is expected to lead the effort for changes, but the timing for Senate action remains uncertain. Public opinion on TikTok is divided, and any changes made by the Senate would require approval from the House before reaching President Biden. TikTok and its opponents are engaged in marketing campaigns, and potential solutions include selling TikTok's U.S. operations or rebuilding the app without its current algorithm.	TikTok, Senate, House, ByteDance, Maria Cantwell, President Biden, industry response, marketing campaigns, national security, free speech, children's mental health, Steven Mnuchin

Article Name	Website Link	Date	General Topics/ Industries	Companies	Al summary	Al Key Words
Biden, Xi Discussed TikTok Divestment Push, White House Says	https://www.bloomberg.com/news /articles/2024-04-02/biden-xi- discussed-tiktok-divestment-push- white-house- says?utm_campaign=%5BREBRAN D%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124	2-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	President Joe Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping discussed efforts to force the sale of TikTok Inc. in the US, expressing concerns about Chinese ownership and emphasizing the importance of divestiture to protect national security and data security. Biden's reelection team has used TikTok for outreach to young voters, taking precautions to ensure device and data security.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, divestment, ban, national security, data security, Chinese ownership, video-sharing app, data-sharing practices, US media ecosystem, young voters Companies: TikTok Inc.
TikTok Shop Chief: No Plans to Dial Back Shop Content	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/tiktok-shop-chief-no- plans-to-dial-back-shop- content?utm_campaign=article_e mail&utm_content=article- 12544&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	2-Apr-24	E-Commerce, Social Media	TikTok	TikTok Shop's Chief, Marni Levine, stated that there are no plans to reduce the amount of e-commerce content on TikTok's For You page, despite user complaints. TikTok Shop has been successful, handling over \$10 million in sales per day in the U.S. However, the company is still figuring out how to balance pursuing high-end brands and optimizing for order volume. TikTok is also testing livestreaming studios in Los Angeles to facilitate product promotions by creators. The profitability timeline for TikTok Shop remains undisclosed.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, e-commerce, social media, TikTok Shop, For You page, complaints, entertainment, sales, high-end brands, order volume, livestreaming studios, buyer experience, profitability Companies: TikTok
A TikTok Whistleblower Got DC's Attention. Do His Claims Add Up?	https://www.wired.com/story/tikt ok-whistleblower-got-dcs- attention-do-his-claims-add-up/	4-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, Talent, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	A former TikTok employee, Zen Goziker, has made allegations about TikTok's ties to China and its data security practices. While some of his claims lack evidence, they have influenced news reporting, congressional concerns, legislative action, and regulatory scrutiny in Washington.	TikTok, Zen Goziker, Project Texas, Oracle, FBI, China, Washington Post, Senators Hawley and Warner, Forbes, ByteDance, Federal Trade Commission (FTC), House
The Guy Who Cost Reddit \$2.8 Billion	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/the-guy-who-cost-reddit- 2-8- billion?utm_campaign=article_em ail&utm_content=article- 12601&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	6-Apr-24	Company Outlook, Social Media, Stock Market General	Reddit	Andrew Freedman, a partner at Hedgeye Risk Management, caused Reddit's stock to fall by 10% in a day, resulting in a \$2.8 billion loss in market value. Despite being a small firm, Hedgeye had a significant impact due to Freedman's timely call and existing skepticism about Reddit's growth prospects. Freedman's background as a young, male, and online individual who made successful calls in the tech and media industries is discussed. He views his short on Reddit as a case of stock prices divorcing from reality and emphasizes the importance of management transparency.	Andrew Freedman, Hedgeye Risk Management, Reddit, stock market, short-selling, market value, Hedgeye, tech industry, media industry, Pinterest, Snap, Meta Platforms, stock prices, reality, AMC, investors, leadership
Snap Turns Off "Solar System" Friend Ranking Feature by Default, Following Concerns	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/snap-turns-off-solar- system-friend-ranking-feature-by- default-following- concerns?utm_campaign=%5BRE BRAND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	7-Apr-24	Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	Snapchat	Snap, the maker of Snapchat, has decided to turn off its paid friend-ranking feature, Solar System, by default due to concerns about its impact on user wellbeing. The feature allowed paying subscribers to see their ranking on their friends' best friends list. Snap acknowledged that while the feature received positive feedback, it could also heighten feelings of insecurity and opted to make it optional for users.	Snap, Snapchat, Solar System

Article Name	Website Link	Date	General Topics/ Industries	Companies	Alsummary	AI Key Words
Mitch McConnell Backs House TikTok Bill	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/mitch-mcconnell-backs- house-tiktok- bill?utm_campaign=%5BREBRAN D%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	8-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Mitch McConnell, the Senate minority leader, has expressed support for the House TikTok bill, which would require a sale or ban of the app. McConnell's backing of the bill, in contrast to former President Donald Trump's opposition, could help revive legislative action on the bill, which has stalled in the Senate.	Mitch McConnell, House TikTok bill, Donald Trump, Beijing, Senate, Chuck Schumer
TikTok Launches New Rewards App to Boost Growth	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/tiktok-launches-new- rewards-app-to-boost- growth?utm_campaign=article_em ail&utm_content=article- 12615&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	8-Apr-24	Investments, Social Media, User Growth	TikTok	TikTok is launching a new app called Coin App/TikTok Lite in Europe, starting with Spain and France, to incentivize users to watch videos and perform other actions by awarding them points that can be redeemed as gift cards or digital tips. The app aims to boost growth among users aged 18 and older, particularly in the EU where user growth has been stagnant. The launch of the app reflects TikTok's efforts to maintain momentum after a rapid rise in global monthly users. The parent company, ByteDance, continues to introduce new apps and features to deepen its appeal to consumers. TikTok plans to expand the rewards app to other EU countries and test a new app for posting photos called TikTok Notes. The rewards app has been successful in stimulating growth in Japan, with over 2.5 million daily active users since its launch. TikTok hopes the rewards feature will create stronger bonds between viewers and creators.	TikTok, Coin App, TikTok Lite, ByteDance, CapCut, Lemon8, Instagram, Facebook
TikTok To Test New Photo App	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/tiktok-to-test-new-photo- app?utm_campaign=%5BREBRAN D%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	8-Apr-24	New Features, Social Media	TikTok	TikTok plans to test a new app for posting photos called TikTok Notes, although it will not be widely available. Existing and future public TikTok photo posts will be shown on the new app, unless users opt out. Additionally, TikTok is introducing a separate app in select countries to incentivize users with rewards for watching videos and inviting friends to sign up, aiming to attract new users and stimulate growth.	TikTok, TikTok Notes, X, The Information, Spain, France, EU
Coatue's Laffont Says U.S. and China Need to Provide Clarity on TikTok	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/coatues-laffont-says-u-s- and-china-need-to-provide-clarity- on- tiktok?utm_campaign=article_ema il&utm_content=article- 12715&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	9-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Philippe Laffont, Chief Investment Officer of Coatue and a board member of ByteDance, emphasizes the need for clarity from the U.S. and China regarding the future of TikTok. Anton Levy, co-president of General Atlantic, expresses empathy for concerns but suggests many fears may be speculative. Both executives discuss the uncertain regulatory landscape and potential impact of a proposed bill. Laffont hints at inquiries about potential consortiums to acquire TikTok but highlights the need for clarity before decisions are made. ByteDance's stock faces valuation challenges, while Coatue's investments in China have decreased. Levy remains optimistic about Chinese companies expanding into Southeast Asia.	TikTok, Coatue, ByteDance, General Atlantic, The Information, regulatory landscape, proposed bill, consortiums, governments, ByteDance's stock, Meta Platforms, Facebook, Coatue's investments, China, Southeast Asia

Article Name	Website Link	Date	General Topics/ Industries	Companies	Al summary	Al Key Words
TikTok Owner ByteDance Misled Regulators on Payments Probe	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/how-bytedance-bungled- a-money-laundering-probe-into- tiktok- payments?utm_campaign=article_ email&utm_content=article- 12649&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	10-Apr-24	Reputation, Social Media	TikTok	ByteDance, the owner of TikTok, misled regulators on a payments probe involving large sums of money being moved out of its HSBC bank accounts. The company initially claimed the transfers were for "liquidity management purposes," but it was later revealed that HSBC had closed the accounts due to deficiencies in ByteDance's money-laundering controls. The incident has delayed ByteDance's plans to expand its payments business and has raised concerns among global regulators about its role in the payments system.	TikTok, ByteDance, HSBC, JPMorgan Chase, PayPal, Baker Tilly, MASAK, Anadolu Agency, Central Bank of Ireland, Project Clover, Oracle, Citigroup, India, U.S.
Inside the debate over The Anxious Generation	https://www.platformer.news/anxi ous-generation-jonathan-haidt- debate-critique/	11-Apr-24	Social Media		The debate over "The Anxious Generation" by Jonathan Haidt explores the impact of smartphones and social media on teen mental health. While Haidt argues for a causal link, critics question the evidence and highlight methodological issues. Key questions include the relationship between social media and mental illness, the impact of screen time on sleep, and the effectiveness of proposed solutions. The debate has policy implications, emphasizing the importance of rigorous research and nuanced discussions.	Key Words/Topics: The Anxious Generation, smartphones, social media, mental health crisis, teens, development, well-being, digital technologies, mental illness, evidence, complexity, screen time, sleep, solutions, causal link, methodological issues, research, policy implications, parental guidance, Rushing, personal experience, technology's influence, rigorous research, nuanced discussions, policy implications, technology, mental health Companies: None mentioned
TikTok Plots Using Virtual Influencers for Advertising	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/tiktok-plots-using-virtual- influencers-for- advertising?utm_campaign=article _email&utm_content=article- 12650&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	11-Apr-24	Artificial Intelligence, New Features, Social Media	TikTok	TikTok is exploring the use of virtual influencers generated by artificial intelligence (AI) for advertising purposes. The feature, still in development, would generate video ad scripts and AI-generated influencers to star in the videos. This move reflects TikTok's efforts to incorporate generative AI into its platform and attract advertisers. While the concept aims to make AI investment worthwhile, testing has shown that videos created by human influencers generate more e-commerce transactions. TikTok staff view virtual influencers as complements, not replacements, for human creators. The company needs to be cautious in introducing this feature to avoid alienating its user base and maintain its expansion into e-commerce.	TikTok, Artificial Intelligence, New Features, Social Media, Meta Platforms, ByteDance, Doubao, Sora, Creative Assistant, Synthesia, Render Media, Douyin, WPIC
Taylor Swift's Music Returns to TikTok Despite UMG Dispute	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/taylor-swifts-music- returns-to-tiktok-despite-umg- dispute?utm_campaign=%5BREBR AND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	12-Apr-24	Social Media	TikTok	Taylor Swift's music has returned to TikTok despite the dispute between the social media app and Universal Music Group. The dispute arose when UMG pulled permission to use its music on TikTok due to failed licensing talks. Swift's music is now available on the platform, including rerecordings of her earlier hit songs, ahead of the release of her next album.	Taylor Swift, TikTok, Universal Music Group, Drake, U2, Ariana Grande

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TikTok, under fire elsewhere, sees spike in Vietnam e-commerce	https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/ Startups/TikTok-under-fire- elsewhere-sees-spike-in-Vietnam- e- commerce?utm_campaign=IC_asi a_daity_free&utm_medium=email &utm_source=NA_newsletter&utm _content=article_link	12-Apr-24	E-Commerce, Social Media, US- China/ Asia	TikTok	TikTok's e-commerce growth in Vietnam has surged, with the number of merchants and average sales tripling. VinFast motorbikes and Samsung phones were among the popular products. TikTok's success in Vietnam contrasts with its challenges in other markets. The platform has become the country's second-largest online marketplace, earning vendors around \$1.3 billion in the past six months. TikTok's strong performance in Southeast Asia contributes to ByteDance's position as a leading social media group globally.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, e-commerce, social media, US-China/Asia, Vietnam, merchants, sales, revenue, VinFast, Samsung, online shopping, social commerce, online marketplace, ads, political content, user data, controversies, deepfakes, algorithm, addictive content, disinformation, positive value, negative aspects, Amazon, Alibaba, Facebook, YouTube. Companies: TikTok, VinFast, Samsung, Lazada, Shopee, ByteDance, Meta, Facebook, YouTube, Amazon, Alibaba.
Naval Ravikant's Airchat is a social app built around talk, not text	https://techcrunch.com/2024/04/ 13/airchat-launch/?guccounter=1	13-Apr-24	Competition, Social Media		Naval Ravikant's Airchat is a social media app that prioritizes voice communication over text. It relaunched on iOS and Android with an invite-only model and gained popularity. Users can follow others, scroll through an audio feed, reply to posts, and like and share them. While voice communication fosters better human connection, some users find the default 2x audio playback speed unnatural. Content moderation is employed to reduce online acrimony, and monetization is not a priority for the company.	Naval Ravikant, Brian Norgard, Airchat, iOS, Android, Apple's App Store
Snap Shares Rally. There's a New Push to Force ByteDance to Sell TikTok.	https://www.barrons.com/articles /tiktok-ban-update-house-vote- 4010d24b	17-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	House Speaker Mike Johnson plans to bundle bills, including a forced sale of TikTok, for a vote on Saturday. The Senate has not yet taken up the measure, with Senator Rand Paul opposing it due to potential First Amendment violations. Previous attempts to ban TikTok faced legal challenges. If approved, the measure would move to the Senate, potentially resulting in a 65% chance of TikTok's forced sale becoming law. The passage of the measure would benefit other short-video companies like Snap, Meta Platforms, and Alphabet's YouTube.	TikTok, ByteDance, House Speaker Mike Johnson, Israel, Ukraine, Russia, Senator Rand Paul, First Amendment, Montana, President Trump, Senate, Snap, Meta Platforms, Alphabet, YouTube
Twitch is bringing its TikTok-style feed to everyone this month	https://www.theverge.com/2024/4 /17/24133457/twitch-tiktok-style- feed-rollout	17-Apr-24	New Features, Social Media	TikTok, Twitch	Twitch is launching its TikTok-style discovery feed to all users, allowing them to scroll through separate feeds dedicated to clips and livestreams. The feed will be available as a tab within the mobile app and may become the homepage for some users. Livestreams and clips that meet Twitch's content guidelines are eligible to appear in the discovery feed. The feed includes live content from followed creators and recommended streams, and the clips stream features shortform videos from Twitch livestreams. Ads will also appear within the feed, but users can scroll past them without interruption.	TikTok, Twitch, New Features, Social Media
Congress Fast-Tracks TikTok Ban Legislation, Setting Up Possible Passage This Month	https://www.wsj.com/politics/poli cy/tiktok-ban-measure-attached- to-house-foreign-aid-bill-boosting- odds-of-passage- 7a946470?mod=djemMoneyBeat_ us	18-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Congress is fast-tracking bipartisan legislation that could result in a TikTok ban in the U.S., giving the app up to a year to find new ownership. President Biden supports this unprecedented move. TikTok considers a forced sale equivalent to a ban and may pursue legal challenges, while the Chinese government opposes a sale of TikTok's U.S. operations.	TikTok, Congress, legislation, ownership, ban, U.S., President Biden, app, Ukraine, Israel, Chinese government, forced sale, national security, free speech rights

Article Name	Website Link	Date	General Topics/ Industries	Companies	Al summary	Al Key Words
How an Obscure Chinese Real Estate Start-Up Paved the Way to TikTok	https://www.nytimes.com/2024/0 4/18/business/tiktok-bytedance- jeff- yass.html?ugrp=m&unlocked_artic le_code=1.IU0.5Zek.ylMuHixP418s ∣=url-share	18-Apr-24	Investments, Social Media	TikTok	In 2009, Susquehanna International Group invested in a Chinese real estate start-up called 99Fang, whose search technology later resurfaced at ByteDance, the parent company of TikTok. Susquehanna was involved in ByteDance's genesis, but the origins of its technology are disputed. Despite legal disputes and potential forced sale, ByteDance has become one of the world's most valuable private technology companies.	Key Words/Topics: Chinese real estate start- up, search algorithm, Susquehanna International Group, ByteDance, TikTok, court documents, Xiangping, http://musical.ly/, technology, Pennsylvania court case, House, campaign donations, Club for Growth Companies: TikTok, 99Fang, Susquehanna International Group, ByteDance, http://musical.ly/, Club for Growth
TikTok Ban Measure Attached to House Foreign Aid Bill, Boosting Odds of Passage	https://www.wsj.com/politics/poli cy/tiktok-ban-measure-attached- to-house-foreign-aid-bill-boosting- odds-of-passage- 7a946470?mod=djemMoneyBeat_ us	18-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The House plans to vote on revised TikTok legislation that would tie it to aid for Ukraine and Israel. The new approach gives TikTok up to a year to find new ownership. If the bill passes, it would be the culmination of years of debate and could lead to lawsuits and efforts to acquire TikTok's U.S. operations. TikTok considers any legislation to force a sale as a ban, and the Chinese government has signaled it wouldn't allow a forced sale. The Senate could vote on the matter next week.	Yass, Chuck Schumer
How TikTok Changed Us	https://www.nytimes.com/2024/0 4/19/briefing/tiktok-congress.html	19-Apr-24	Social Media	TikTok	TikTok has had a profound cultural influence in the United States, transforming industries like Hollywood and schools, fostering innovations in cooking and content creation, and becoming a cultural phenomenon that shapes entertainment, news consumption, and social interactions. However, it also faces ongoing challenges and uncertainties regarding potential bans and algorithm scrutiny.	TikTok, Hollywood, Anyone But You, schools, privacy, bullying, news source, journalism, cooking trends, user-generated content, microtrends, cultural phenomenon, entertainment, news, self-diagnoses, shopping habits, algorithm, bans
Love, Hate or Fear It, TikTok Has Changed America	https://www.nytimes.com/interac tive/2024/04/18/business/media/t iktok-ban-american- culture.html?unlocked_article_co de=1.mE0.DpEZ.WWmNssw5B6_c ∣=url-share	19-Apr-24	Social Media	TikTok	TikTok has had a significant impact on America, with its surge during Covid, influence on trends like bathroom filming, and as a source of information for the new generation. Hollywood has also embraced TikTok to reach a young audience and increase movie ticket sales. The ban on TikTok has alarmed Hollywood and forced other social platforms to emulate its success.	TikTok, Covid, bathroom filming, Hollywood
TikTok Plots Suit Over U.S. Ban Bill, Exec Tells Staff	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/tiktok-plots-suit-over-u-s- ban-bill-exec-tells- staff?utm_campaign=%5BREBRAN D%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii		Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	TikTok plans to file a legal challenge if a bill forcing a sale or ban of the app is signed into law, citing it as unconstitutional. The company has previously sued to block similar legislation and will rely on First Amendment grounds in its legal defense. TikTok's head of public policy, Michael Beckerman, expressed support from creators and announced a global allhands meeting to discuss the situation.	Representatives, ByteDance, Michael

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U.SChina Internet War Intensifies as House Passes TikTok Ban	https://www.wsj.com/tech/u-s- china-internet-war-intensifies-as- house-passes-tiktok-ban- 7d19ff05?mod=djemHeardEUH	21-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The U.SChina internet war escalates as the House passes a bill to force a sale or ban of TikTok, owned by China-based ByteDance. The bill gives ByteDance up to a year to sell the app, and if no buyer is found, TikTok would be banned. The Chinese government has signaled it wouldn't allow a forced sale. This comes as China increases its campaign against foreign messaging and social-media services. Passage of the legislation targets China's most successful app and follows China's recent action to close a loophole allowing access to banned services. U.S. social-media apps would likely benefit from a TikTok ban. However, there are political risks for both parties involved, given the app's popularity among young people.	TikTok, ByteDance, Israel, Ukraine, President Biden, Chinese government, Apple, Meta, WhatsApp, Threads, Facebook, Google, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, X, WeChat, Mark Zuckerberg, Elon Musk, Donald Trump
Dear President Biden	https://www.dearpresidentbiden.c om	22-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	This letter addresses President Biden, expressing concerns about the potential ban of TikTok. The letter highlights the efforts made by TikTok to address national security and data protection concerns. It argues against the ban, emphasizing TikTok's role in amplifying voices, providing income opportunities, and educating users. The letter suggests that a blanket ban is not the solution and invites open dialogue on the matter.	TikTok, national security, personal data protection, Project Texas, American-owned social media company, freedom of expression, storytelling, income, job creation, economic prosperity, younger generation, election year, young voters, education, vaccine information, voter registration, blanket ban, global space for connection, security concerns, advocacy, livelihoods, joy, open dialogue
EU opens probe of TikTok Lite, citing concerns about addictive design	https://techcrunch.com/2024/04/ 22/tiktok-lite-dsa-probe/	22-Apr-24	European Regulation, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	TikTok	The European Union has initiated a second investigation into TikTok, focusing on the TikTok Lite app and its potential breach of the Digital Services Act (DSA) regarding mental health risks. Interim measures may be imposed, potentially leading to the suspension of TikTok Lite in the EU. If found guitty, ByteDance could face fines of up to 6% of its global annual turnover. The investigation specifically examines the "Task and Reward Lite" program and its impact on users' mental health, particularly minors. TikTok is regulated under the strictest regime of the DSA, requiring proactive identification and mitigation of systemic risks. TikTok expressed disappointment and ongoing discussions with the EU are taking place. The EU emphasizes the importance of protecting children and is ready to trigger interim measures if necessary, comparing TikTok Lite to "cigarettes 'light'". This investigation highlights the EU's commitment to safeguarding users' mental health in the online environment.	TikTok, Digital Services Act (DSA), ByteDance, European Union (EU), Thierry Breton
EU Probing New TikTok App Over 'Addictive' Rewards Program	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/eu-probing-new-tiktok- app-over-addictive-rewards- program?utm_campaign=article_e mail&utm_content=article- 12715&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	22-Apr-24	European Regulation, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	TikTok	The European Union has launched a probe into TikTok's new TikTok Lite app in France and Spain due to concerns about its "Task and Reward Program" and the addictive effect of the platform. TikTok has until Tuesday to provide a risk assessment report or face fines. This comes as TikTok aims to address "stagnant growth" in the EU.	European Union, TikTok, TikTok Lite, France, Spain, European Commission, Task and Reward Program, The Information, Korea, Japan

Article Name	Website Link	Date	General Topics / Industries	Companies	Al summary	Al Key Words
Social Media Has Overwhelmed America's Main Nonprofit Fighting Child Exploitation	https://www.wsj.com/tech/why- americas-system-for-investigating- child-exploitation-online-isnt- working- 34b74b71?mod=djemTECH	22-Apr-24	Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media		The U.S. nonprofit responsible for combating child exploitation is overwhelmed by the volume of reports and lacks the necessary resources to process them effectively. A report from the Stanford Internet Observatory highlights the lack of information, staff, and technology, while noting that advancements in artificial intelligence could help improve the triaging process. The nonprofit currently underutilizes Al and has a small team.	Child exploitation, nonprofit, center, major American tech platforms, law enforcement, Stanford Internet Observatory Cyber Policy Center, NCMEC, CyberTipline, artificial intelligence, Meta Platforms, Instagram, Facebook
ByteDance, TikTok shelled out \$7 million on lobbying and ads to combat potential U.S. ban		23-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Lobbying, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	ByteDance and TikTok have spent over \$7 million on lobbying and advertising campaigns to prevent potential legislation that could ban the social media app in the United States. ByteDance alone spent \$2.68 million on in-house lobbyists, while TikTok spent over \$4.5 million on a television and digital ad campaign. Additional payments were made to external consultants, including \$80,000 to veteran lobbyist David Urban. In 2023, ByteDance and TikTok spent over \$8 million on lobbying.	ByteDance, TikTok, lobbying, ads, U.S. ban, Congress, social media app, legislation, China, privacy, security, safety, US-China, Asia, Oracle, Senate aides, data housing project, lobbyists, federal officials, television ad campaign, digital ad campaign, external consultants, David Urban, LGL Advisors, outside lobbying firms, OpenSecrets
Congress Passes TikTok Bill, Aid Package	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/senate-votes-to-advance- tiktok-bill-aid- package?utm_campaign=%5BREB RAND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	23-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The Senate has passed a bill requiring TikTok to sever ties with ByteDance or face a ban, along with providing aid for Israel and Ukraine. President Joe Biden is expected to sign the bill, giving ByteDance up to a year to sell TikTok. TikTok plans to sue, citing First Amendment concerns. Democratic Senator Mark Warner supports the bill, citing reports of TikTok's surveillance and inadequate security measures.	TikTok, ByteDance, Israel, Ukraine, Joe Biden, First Amendment, Mark Warner, Project Texas, China
How the TikTok ban could survive a court challenge	https://www.platformer.news/tikt ok-ban-bill-senate-legal-challenge- first-amendment/	23-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The legal fight over the TikTok ban is likely to be challenging for the government. While the First Amendment protects freedom of speech, Congress has criticized TikTok's content. However, previous Supreme Court rulings suggest that banning TikTok based on unsupported claims of amplifying propaganda may not hold up. The argument of data privacy is also weak, as the Chinese government can obtain data through other means. The government's strongest argument is national security, but it remains uncertain how the Supreme Court will rule. The outcome of this case could set a precedent for the rights of foreign speakers.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, ban, court challenge, First Amendment, government & policy, privacy security & safety, social media, US-China/Asia Companies: TikTok, ByteDance, Oracle
If TikTok Is Such a Threat, Show Us the Receipts	https://www.bloomberg.com/opini on/articles/2024-04-23/if-tiktok-is- such-a-threat-show-us-the- receipts	23-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The article discusses the proposed bill to ban TikTok in the US, raising concerns about free speech, trade, and national security. It highlights the lack of concrete evidence presented to justify the ban and calls for transparency to maintain America's leadership in internet governance.	TikTok, legislation, ban, President Biden, Senate, US operations, free speech, trade, national security concerns, China, US citizens, younger demographic, security briefings, evidence, transparency, Congress, court, internet governance
Potential TikTok Ban Clears Key Senate Vote—Part Of Israel, Ukraine, Taiwan Aid Package	•		Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The Senate is set to pass a House-approved aid package for Israel, Ukraine, and Taiwan, which includes potential legislation to ban TikTok if its Chinese parent company doesn't sell the app. The package also includes sanctions on Russia, China, and Iran. President Biden is expected to sign the bills into law.	TikTok, Israel, Ukraine, Taiwan, Russia, China, Iran, ByteDance, President Biden, Indo-Pacific, U.S., House Speaker Mike Johnson, former President Trump

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'Thunder Run': Behind Lawmakers' Secretive Push to Pass the TikTok Bill	https://www.nytimes.com/2024/0 4/24/technology/tiktok-ban- congress.html?unlocked_article_c ode=1.m00.eGs3.xKH2Ja- 0Ur84∣=url-share	24-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	A group of lawmakers worked secretly for nearly a year to pass a bill that forces TikTok to be sold by its Chinese owner or risk being banned. The bill, signed by President Biden, marks the first time a U.S. president has signed a bill that could result in a wide ban of a foreign app. The lawmakers strategically collaborated with the Justice Department and White House to ensure legal standing and bipartisan support. The bill's passage was swift, taking only seven weeks from its public introduction. TikTok was caught off guard by the lawmakers' strategy and is now working to navigate the next steps.	TikTok, ByteDance, President Biden, Senate, White House, Justice Department, Notion, Betaworks, Replit, Hack Club, Spensa, Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party, Mike Gallagher, Raja Krishnamoorthi, Alex Haurek, Project Texas, National Security Council, F.B.I., Maria Cantwell, Warner, Club for Growth, Cato Institute, Jeffrey Yass, American Civil Liberties Union, American Parents Coalition, Leonard Leo, Mike Johnson, Ukraine
Biden campaign plans to keep using TikTok through the election	https://www.nbcnews.com/politic s/joe-biden/biden-campaign-keep- using-tiktok-signed-ban-law- rcna149158	24-Apr-24	Elections, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Despite the signing of a law that could ban TikTok, Joe Biden's re-election campaign plans to continue using the platform to reach young voters. The campaign believes in meeting voters where they are and sees TikTok as one of many places to share content. The campaign has pledged to use enhanced security measures and acknowledges the concerns about data integrity. The Biden campaign's digital outreach extends beyond TikTok, with Facebook, Instagram, and an influencer network playing key roles in their strategy.	TikTok, Joe Biden, Donald Trump, Facebook, Instagram
Biden signs TikTok 'ban' bill into law, starting the clock for ByteDance to divest it	https://www.theverge.com/2024/4 /24/24139036/biden-signs-tiktok- ban-bill-divest-foreign-aid- package	24-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	President Joe Biden signed a foreign aid package that includes a bill to ban TikTok if ByteDance fails to divest within a year. ByteDance has nine months to make a deal, with a possible three-month extension. The legislation was bundled with foreign aid, which helped it pass through the Senate. TikTok plans to challenge the law in court, and the response from China regarding the sale of TikTok and its algorithm remains uncertain.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, ban, ByteDance, divest, foreign aid package, legislation, Senate, House, political maneuvering, timeline, courts, algorithm Companies: TikTok, ByteDance
President Biden Signs TikTok Ban or Sell Bill	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/president-biden-signs- tiktok-ban-or-sell- bill?utm_campaign=%5BREBRAN D%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	24-Apr-24	Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	President Joe Biden signed a law requiring TikTok to sever ties with its Chinese owner ByteDance or face a ban. TikTok plans to challenge the law in court, stating that it is unconstitutional. TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew reassured users that they will continue fighting for their rights in the courts.	TikTok, President Joe Biden, ByteDance, Shou Zi Chew
TikTok Ban in US Looms as Biden Kicks Off 270-Day Countdown	https://www.bloomberg.com/news /articles/2024-04-24/tiktok-s-us- ban-looms-as-biden-prepares-to- sign-law-with-a-270-day-sale- deadline	24-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Legislation requiring TikTok's Chinese owners to divest has been signed into law by President Joe Biden, starting a 270-day countdown for a sale or a potential US ban of the popular video-sharing platform. TikTok and ByteDance have vowed to fight the measure, arguing it infringes on free speech rights and plan to file suits to void or delay its enforcement. The law comes after years of scrutiny in Washington over concerns about TikTok's Chinese ownership and its potential risk to US national security. If implemented, a TikTok ban could disrupt user expression, influencer income, and TikTok Shop. ByteDance sees divestiture as a last resort and plans to seek a restraining order and wage a legal battle. Biden has the option to extend the divestiture deadline by an additional 90 days if progress is made toward a sale.	TikTok, Biden, ByteDance Ltd., Meta Platforms Inc., SOCi, Damian Rollison, David Greene, Electronic Frontier Foundation, Oracle Corp.

Article Name	Website Link	Date	General Topics/ Industries	Companies	Al summary	Al Key Words
TikTok Executives to Staff: Stay Focused Amid Ban Threat	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/tiktok-executives-to-staff- stay-focused-amid-ban- threat?utm_campaign=%5BREBRA ND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii		Government & Policy, Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	TikTok executives held a meeting to urge staff to stay focused on strategic projects despite the threat of a forced sale or ban. They expressed confidence that the recently passed legislation does not have significant impact and stated their intention to fight it in court. The executives also emphasized the importance of continued platform growth and addressed national security concerns. Additionally, they discussed priorities such as trust and safety, particularly the safety of children.	TikTok, ByteDance, President Joe Biden, Congress, Ukraine, Israel
TikTok Halts Rewards Program Following EU Probe	https://www.theinformation.com/ briefings/tiktok-halts-rewards- program-following-eu- probe?utm_campaign=%5BREBRA ND%5D+%5BTI- AM%5D+Th&utm_content=1095&u tm_medium=email&utm_source=c io&utm_term=124&rc=hm8aii	24-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	TikTok	TikTok has halted the rewards program for its TikTok Lite app in response to an EU probe into the feature. The European Commission had requested a risk assessment report and raised concerns about the app's addictive design. This decision coincided with President Joe Biden signing a foreign aid package that includes a requirement for TikTok to sever ties with its Chinese owner ByteDance or face a ban in the U.S.	TikTok, European Commission, The Information, TikTok Lite, European Union, France, Spain, President Joe Biden, ByteDance
TikTok Isn't Going Away—at Least Not Yet. Here's What to Know.	https://www.wsj.com/tech/person al-tech/tiktok-ban-bill-explained- 159280ef?mod=djemTECH	24-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	TikTok users should be prepared for the possibility of the app being banned in the future. If the ban goes into effect, users may still keep the app on their phones, but it will stop updating and eventually stop working. TikTok is likely to comply with the ban and disable access to its service in the U.S. The enforcement of the ban may involve internet service providers and could raise concerns about free speech. Even if TikTok is banned, other platforms like Instagram Reels and YouTube Shorts offer similar short-form video features.	TikTok, ByteDance, Apple, Google, Signal, Telegram, Meta Platforms, YouTube, Reels, Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook
TikTok suspends new app's reward programme amid EU concerns	https://www.reuters.com/technol ogy/tiktok-suspend-tiktok-lites- reward-programme-amid-eu- concerns-2024-04-24/	24-Apr-24	European Regulation, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	TikTok	TikTok has decided to suspend its reward programme for the new app TikTok Lite in response to concerns raised by the European Commission regarding its impact on children. The EU had given TikTok until today to address these concerns or face a temporary suspension of the feature. The reward programme allows users to earn points by performing various tasks on the platform.	TikTok, TikTok Lite, EU, European Commission, Digital Services Act, ByteDance
TikTok's Pro-China Tilt	https://www.nytimes.com/2024/0 4/24/briefing/tiktok-bill- congress.html	24-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The debate over TikTok centers around its ownership by a Chinese company and concerns about China's control and influence over the platform. TikTok has become a leading source of information for many Americans, but there is evidence that China uses it as a propaganda tool. The issue raises concerns about national security and democracy. The fight over TikTok is ongoing, with Chinese officials refusing to sell the platform and legal battles expected. The bill to address TikTok's ownership has support from both the political left and right, driven by fears of China's influence and national security threats.	TikTok, ByteDance, Chinese government, Congress, F.B.I., Xi Jinping, Christopher Wray, Zephyr Teachout, India, Pakistan, Russia, Iran, Kashmir, Wall Street Journal, Hamas, Mike Gallagher, Yvette Clarke, Alex Haurek, Sapna Maheshwari, Biden, A.C.L.U., Jeff Yass, Cato Institute, Donald Trump, Carl Hulse

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ByteDance Exploring Scenarios for Selling TikTok Without Algorithm	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/bytedance-exploring- scenarios-for-selling-tiktok- without- algorithm?utm_campaign=%5BRE BRAND%5D+RTSU+- +Aut&utm_content=1109&utm_me dium=email&utm_source=cio&ut m_term=129&rc=hm8aii	25-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	ByteDance is exploring scenarios for selling a majority stake in TikTok's U.S. business without the algorithm, in response to a new law requiring TikTok to cut ties with ByteDance. One scenario involves ByteDance selling over 50% of TikTok U.S. but retaining a minority stake. The sale options prioritize selling to a company outside the tech industry. The sale of TikTok may face challenges due to the absence of the algorithm and potential objections from China.	Key Words/Topics: ByteDance, TikTok, algorithm, selling, majority stake, U.S. business, tech industry, divestiture, Chinese ownership, potential buyers, ban, revenue, advertising, sale options, TikTok brand, China, export control rules, tech companies, Oracle, Microsoft, Walmart, crosshairs, U.S. investors, back end, computing resources, machine-learning engineers, Chinese government, Ministry of Commerce, China Daily Companies: ByteDance, TikTok, Oracle, Microsoft, Walmart
TikTok sell-or-ban law gets Biden's approval, starting 9-month countdown	https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/T echnology/TikTok-sell-or-ban-law- gets-Biden-s-approval-starting-9- month- countdown?utm_campaign=IC_asi a_daily_free&utm_medium=email &utm_source=NA_newsletter&utm _content=article_link	25-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	President Joe Biden has signed a law that requires TikTok to cut ties with its Chinese parent company, ByteDance, within nine months or face a ban in the U.S. The legislation was passed as part of a foreign aid bill, and the deadline for divestiture is around late January. Former President Donald Trump attempted to ban TikTok over national security concerns, but his executive orders were blocked by the courts. If a sale is not completed, TikTok will be removed from app stores and blocked by internet providers.	TikTok, ByteDance, Joe Biden, U.S. Senate, Ukraine, Israel, app stores, internet providers, Donald Trump, Facebook, Meta, Chinese Foreign Ministry, Beijing
What Is TikTok Worth? Some Say \$20 Billion, Others Say \$100 Billion	https://www.wsj.com/tech/what- is-tiktok-worth-guesses-range- from-20-billion-to-over-100-billion- e7d61a0f?st=viil5mz76y51h7c&ref link=desktopwebshare_permalink	25-Apr-24	Government & Policy, M&A, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The valuation of TikTok varies widely, with one suitor suggesting a starting price of \$20 billion for the U.S. operations, while executives at ByteDance consider TikTok's global operations to be worth over \$100 billion. Factors influencing the sale include what would be included in the deal, such as the user base and the video-personalization algorithm. TikTok's growth has slowed, and there are concerns about its profitability and the potential ban in the U.S. The valuation of ByteDance itself also varies, with some valuing it at less than \$215 billion and others suggesting it could be well over \$100 billion.	TikTok, ByteDance, Kevin O'Leary, Steven Mnuchin, Bobby Kotick, Activision
ByteDance Says It Won't Sell U.S. TikTok	https://www.wsj.com/tech/byteda nce-says-it-wont-sell-u-s-tiktok- business-61f43079	26-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	ByteDance has stated that reports of exploring the sale of TikTok's U.S. business are untrue. Beijing has signaled that it won't allow a forced sale of TikTok, limiting options for the app's owners. The sale of TikTok is hindered by the coveted algorithm for recommending personalized videos. Selling only the U.S. business could "break" the app, according to TikTok's CEO. TikTok plans to challenge the legislation in court.	Key Words/Topics: ByteDance, TikTok, U.S., sale, algorithm, Beijing, app's owners, buyers, starting price, global operations, Chinese company, overall value, personalized videos, export-control list, Trump administration, U.S. operations, app, Americana, legislation, court Companies: ByteDance, TikTok

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Exclusive: ByteDance prefers TikTok shutdown in US if legal options fail, sources say	https://www.reuters.com/technol ogy/bytedance-prefers-tiktok- shutdown-us-if-legal-options-fail- sources-say-2024-04-25/	26-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	does not disclose its financial performance, but the US accounted for about 25% of TikTok's overall revenues last	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, ByteDance, algorithms, app stores, legislation, shutdown, sale, American buyer, financial performance, revenues, daily active users, intellectual property license, divestment, China, Ministry of Commerce Companies: TikTok, ByteDance, Meta Platforms (Facebook), Snap, Tencent, Xiaohongshu
Why China Is Holding Its Fire as U.S. Moves to Ban TikTok	https://www.wsj.com/tech/why- china-is-holding-its-fire-as-u-s- moves-to-ban-tiktok- 38a63cdd?st=f2f9k21rt7p87ue&ref link=desktopwebshare_permalink	26-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Semiconductors, Social Media, US-China/ Asia	Huawei, TikTok	The new law banning or forcing a sale of TikTok's U.S. operations has escalated the tech war between the U.S. and China. Chinese officials have refrained from criticizing the law, indicating that TikTok is of less strategic value to China than Huawei. However, China is unlikely to give up on TikTok easily, as divestment could be seen as acquiescing to American bullying. The incident is seen as a violation of intellectual property rights and a precedent for excessive government control over technology platforms.	Huawei, TikTok, U.S., China, ByteDance, Antony Blinken, Beijing, Communist Party, Meng, Canada, Center for China and Globalization, Eurasia Group, Washington, intellectual property, technology platforms, geopolitical tension, Ja-lan Chong
How TikTok Lost the War in Washington	https://www.wsj.com/tech/how- tiktok-lost-the-war-in-washington- bbc419cc?mod=djemTECH	28-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	TikTok's failure to navigate Washington led to a law requiring a sale or ban of the app, driven by shifts in U.SChina relations and coordinated efforts by its critics. Miscalculations and a lack of engagement with U.S. power players left TikTok scrambling for support. Now, the company faces a battle in U.S. courts or the need to find a deal that faces opposition from Beijing and uncertain interest from U.S. buyers. The outcome could mean the end of TikTok's U.S. business, a significant blow for the globally successful Chinese app.	TikTok, President Biden, Capitol Hill, Beijing, U.S. courts, Washington, U.SChina relations, Shou Zi Chew, U.S. security officials, Michael Beckerman, Erich Andersen, Microsoft, Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. (Cflus), House Energy and Commerce Committee, Club for Growth, Jeff Yass, Susquehanna International Group, President Biden, Daniel Castro, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, Facebook, Kellyanne Conway, Doug Stafford, Sen. Rand Paul, David McIntosh, House Energy and Commerce Committee, Kesha, U.S. Senate, Sen. Brian Schatz

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A TikTok ban could also end short-form video as we've come to know it	https://www.washingtonpost.com/ technology/2024/04/29/tiktok- capcut-ban- impact/?pwapi_token=eyJ0eXAiOiJ KV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzl1NiJ9.eyJyZ WFzb24iOiJnaWZ0liwibmJmljoxNz E0M2YZMjAwl.CJpc3MiOiJzdWJzY3 JpcHRpb25zliwiZXhujjoxNzE1NzQ 1NTk5LCJpYXQiOjE3MTQzNjMyM DAsImp0aSl6ljU2NjUwYzA1LTc4Z WItNDU5Ni1iNDhmLTYZM2JNWU zMGUzNyIsInVybCl6Imh0dHBzOi8 vd3d3Lndhc2hpbmd0b25wb3N0L mNvbS90ZWNobm9sb2d5LzlwMjQ vMDQvMjkvdGlrdG9rLWNhcGN1d C1iYW4taW1wYWN0LyJ9.R7SGZ M-Gx4koP XNA0BeR_51wKl3SGYsxlx7x46mo	29-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The potential ban of TikTok could also jeopardize CapCut, ByteDance's short-form video editor. This could lead to the collapse of the entire short-form video ecosystem, stifling self-expression for millions of young people. CapCut has become an essential tool for creating complex and engaging videos, offering a suite of creative tools that are not available on other major social media platforms. Creators are concerned about losing the ease and intuitive nature of CapCut, as well as the unique artistry it enables. The legislation targeting TikTok is written broadly enough to potentially include CapCut as well.	TikTok, ByteDance, CapCut, Instagram Reels, Adobe Premiere, After Effects, small businesses, educators, content creators, House Energy and Commerce Committee, Chinese Communist Party
Americans' Views of Technology Companies	https://www.pewresearch.org/inte rnet/2024/04/29/americans-views- of-technology-companies- 2/?org=982&lvl=100&ite=13851&l ea=3344991&ctr=0∥=1&trk=a0 DQm000001hMhRMAU	29-Apr-24	Elections, Government & Policy, Social Media		According to a Pew Research Center survey, Americans have growing concerns about social media's influence in politics and its impact on the country. Democrats, in particular, believe that social media companies have too much political power. The survey also found that most Americans think social media has a negative impact on the country and that these platforms intentionally censor political viewpoints they disagree with. Additionally, Americans are more likely to believe that major technology companies support the views of liberals over conservatives. There is also a debate about government regulation of technology companies, with a majority of Americans favoring more regulation.	Key Words/Topics: Elections, Government & Policy, Social Media Companies: Pew Research Center, Facebook, Twitter, Google, Big Tech
TikTok ban in EU is 'not excluded,' von der Leyen says	https://www.politico.eu/article/tik tok-ban-in-eu-is-not-excluded-von- der-leyen-says/	29-Apr-24	European Regulation, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	TikTok	Commission President Ursula von der Leyen hinted at the possibility of banning TikTok in the European Union during a debate, citing the United States' potential ban. The Commission has already banned TikTok on corporate phones. TikTok is also facing investigations under the Digital Services Act for content moderation and protection of minors.	TikTok, European Union, Ursula von der Leyen, United States, ByteDance, Commission, TikTok Lite, Digital Services Act (DSA)

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When It Comes to TikTok, the World's Democracies Have Played the Sucker for Far Too Long	https://www.nytimes.com/2024/0 4/29/opinion/tiktok- divestiture.html?campaign_id=9& emc=edit_nn_20240430&instance _id=121909&nl=the- morning®_id=179763402&seg ment_id=165177&te=1&user_id=f8 69f1dc75d3901fa8cd37e3162219 95	29-Apr-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	China's violations of human rights and internet freedom norms justify the United States' demand for TikTok to have a different owner. President Biden signed a law giving TikTok 270 days to find a new owner and sending a message that disregarding internet norms has consequences. China's track record of violating these norms disqualifies it from controlling a major social media network. While American companies like Oracle, Microsoft, and Meta have the means to acquire TikTok, alternative options like turning it into an American company or running it as a nonprofit are possible. These steps are not unprecedented, as there is a longstanding law that barred foreign ownership of U.S. radio and television stations. The control over social media is just as politically significant in our times.	Key Words/Topics: China, human rights, internet freedom, TikTok, ByteDance, Chinese state, President Biden, law, internet norms, Declaration for the Future of the Internet, social media networks, American companies, Oracle, Microsoft, Meta, Canadian investor, Kevin O'Leary, nonprofit, toxic business model, propaganda wars, radio stations, social media Companies: TikTok, Apple, WhatsApp, Threads, Signal, Carlyle Group, General Atlantic, Susquehanna International Group, ByteDance, Meta, Google, Oracle
TikTok Shop Tops 500,000 US Sellers After 2023 E-Commerce Launch	https://www.bloomberg.com/news /articles/2024-04-30/tiktok-shop- tops-500-000-us-sellers-after- 2023-e-commerce-launch	30-Apr-24	E-Commerce, Social Media	TikTok	TikTok's e-commerce platform, TikTok Shop, has surpassed 500,000 US sellers after its 2023 launch, more than doubling the number in just three months. Globally, the platform has over 15 million sellers, with more than 6 million added in the second half of the year. TikTok sees e-commerce as a significant revenue source and aims to provide an entertaining and engaging shopping experience for users. The company has invested over \$400 million in platform safety and has a team of more than 7,500 people to ensure policy compliance and remove prohibited products.	TikTok, E-Commerce, Social Media, Southeast Asia, UK, Mary Hubbard
Twitch's TikTok-like discovery feed is rolling out to all users	https://techcrunch.com/2024/04/ 30/twitchs-tiktok-like-discovery- feed-is-rolling-out-to-all-users/	30-Apr-24	Gaming Industry, New Features, Social Media	Twitch	Twitch is launching a TikTok-like discovery feed for all users, allowing them to scroll through short content and discover new streamers. The feed includes a live feed and a clips feed, showcasing top moments from streamers. Users can personalize their feed by indicating their preferences with thumbs-up or thumbs-down. This new feature addresses the need for Twitch streamers to reach new audiences and provides opportunities for small and medium streamers to gain visibility.	Twitch, TikTok, iOS, Android, livestreams, streamers, clips, content, algorithmic platform, small and medium streamers
Linkedin now has Wordle-style games you can play every day	https://www.engadget.com/linkedi n-now-has-wordle-style-games- you-can-play-every-day- 133035046.html	1-May-24	Gaming Industry, New Features, Social Media	Microsoft	LinkedIn has introduced Wordle-style puzzle games on its platform, including Pinpoint, Queens, and Crossclimb. These "thinking-oriented games" can be played once a day and encourage players to come back with streaks. The games were developed by LinkedIn's news team and were inspired by the success of Wordle and The New York Times Games app. The goal is to provide games that help users think differently and connect with their network.	Wordle-style games, LinkedIn, Microsoft, Pinpoint, Queens, Crossclimb, The New York Times, New York World
Most Americans see TikTok as a Chinese influence tool, Reuters/Ipsos poll finds	https://www.reuters.com/world/u s/most-americans-see-tiktok- chinese-influence-tool- reutersipsos-poll-finds-2024-05- 01/	1-May-24	Elections, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	According to a Reuters/Ipsos poll, a majority of Americans believe that China uses TikTok to shape U.S. public opinion. 58% of respondents agreed that the Chinese government uses TikTok to influence American public opinion. Additionally, 50% of Americans supported banning TikTok, while 46% believed that China is using the app to spy on everyday Americans.	TikTok, China, Reuters, Ipsos, ByteDance

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TikTok and Universal Music Group Settle Royalty Dispute With New Licensing Agreement	https://variety.com/2024/music/n ews/tiktok-universal-music-group- settle-royalty-dispute-licensing- agreement-1235987271/	1-May-24	Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	TikTok	TikTok and Universal Music Group have settled their royalty dispute with a new licensing agreement. The deal includes improved remuneration for UMG's songwriters and artists, new promotional opportunities, and industry-leading protections with respect to generative Al. UMG's music will return to the platform, and the companies will collaborate on monetization opportunities and campaigns supporting UMG's artists globally. The ban on UMG's music on TikTok caused disruption in artists' careers, but now a resolution has been reached.	Universal Music Group, TikTok, royalty dispute, licensing agreement, Al policies, remuneration, promotional opportunities, engagement opportunities, generative Al, e-commerce capabilities, UMG artists, ban, music blackout, music-discovery, legislation, President Biden, Bytedance, content infringement, hate speech, bullying, harassment, takedown notices, detection software
Drake and Rihanna Will Return to TikTok After Universal Feud Ends	https://www.bloomberg.com/news /articles/2024-05-02/universal- music-and-tiktok-enter-into-new- licensing- pact?cmpid=BBD050224_OUS&ut m_medium=email&utm_source=n ewsletter&utm_term=240502&ut m_campaign=openamericas	2-May-24	Social Media	TikTok	Universal Music Group has reached a deal with TikTok to bring back songs from artists like Drake and Rihanna to the platform. The deal includes better pay for songwriters and artists, new promotional agreements, and protections against Al-generated music. The agreement also addresses longstanding concerns about fair compensation for artists. The companies will work together to explore new monetization opportunities using TikTok's e-commerce features.	Drake, Rihanna, TikTok, Universal Music Group NV, The Weeknd, Kendrick Lamar, Bob Dylan, Sony Music Entertainment Inc.
Snap Pitches Advertisers on its Olympics Plans	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/snap-pitches-advertisers- on-its-olympics-plans?rc=hm8aii	2-May-24	Company Outlook, New Features, Social Media	Snapchat	Snap announced its plans for the upcoming Summer Olympics, including bringing top stars to report from the games and partnering with NBCUniversal on augmented-reality lenses. They also introduced the Snap Sports Network, a new sports channel featuring unconventional sports, and highlighted their partnerships with the NFL, NBA, and WNBA. Snap emphasized its commitment to creators, announcing partnerships with Issa Rae and Live Nation, and showcasing the growth in time spent watching stories from Snapchat stars.	Snap, Snapchat, Livvy Dunne, Harry Jowsey, Kai Cenat, NBCUniversal, NFL, NBA, WNBA, Snap Sports Network, TikTok, YouTube, Instagram, Issa Rae, Live Nation, Evan Spiegel
Europe is nowhere close to banning TikTok	https://www.politico.eu/article/us- style-tiktok-ban-nowhere-close- europe/	3-May-24	European Regulation, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media	TikTok	Despite increasing scrutiny of Chinese technology in Europe, a blanket ban on TikTok is unlikely to happen. European officials have been investigating Chinese companies and their state support, but the European Commission President and other politicians have expressed reservations about a TikTok ban. The EU has already taken action against TikTok based on existing rulebooks, but a US-style ban is not part of the EU toolbox. National security concerns and the complex decision-making process within the EU make a ban on TikTok challenging.	Key Words/Topics: European Regulation, Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety, Social Media Companies: TikTok, Nuctech, Huawei
How TikTok Is Wiring Gen Z's Money Brain	https://www.wsj.com/tech/person al-tech/how-tiktok-is-wiring-gen- zs-money-brain- fc43ba6c?mod=djemTECH	4-May-24	Recommendation System, Social Media	TikTok	TikTok is shaping the financial habits and outlook of Gen Z, with young adults feeling pressure to spend and save based on what they see on the platform. The platform's influence is creating a disconnect between their actual financial situation and their perception of it, leading to confusion and a term called "money dysmorphia." While some young adults are taking on debt to enjoy life now, others are becoming thrifty due to a sense of economic gloom. TikTok's constant stream of consumption-focused content and its ecommerce engine contribute to the influence it has on young adults' spending habits.	TikTok, Lululemon, Louis Vuitton, Citizens Pay, Stanley cup, Jellycat plush, makeup

Article Name	Website Link	Date	General Topics/ Industries	Companies	Al summary	Al Key Words
TikTok under U.S. ownership makes sense, Jake Sullivan says	https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/In ternational-relations/US-China- tensions/TikTok-under-U.S ownership-makes-sense-Jake- Sultivan- says2?utm_campaign=IC_asia_dai ly_free&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=NA_newsletter&utm_cont ent=article_link&del_type=1&pub_ date=20240506123000&seq_num =24&si=0da7fc56-79df-4037-bd3f- e874dae0c0e2	5-May-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan believes it makes sense for TikTok to switch to U.S. ownership. The ban on TikTok could potentially take effect in January next year, but both President Biden and former President Trump are unlikely to alienate young TikTok users before the November U.S. presidential election. There are concerns about TikTok's ties to the Chinese government and its potential national security vulnerabilities. Former Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin is forming a group to buy TikTok, but it remains to be seen if the deal will go through.	Key Words/Topics: TikTok, U.S. ownership, divestment, ban, national security, Chinese government, surveillance, manipulation, algorithm, moderation rules, pro-Israeli content, pro-Palestinian sentiment, antisemitic sentiment, Chinese Communist Party, American buyer, Treasury Secretary, private equity firm, regulatory scrutiny, antitrust issues Companies: TikTok, Liberty Strategic Capital
Ex-Google CEO Schmidt Says He Considered Buying TikTok	https://www.bloomberg.com/news /articles/2024-05-07/schmidt- says-he-weighed-buying-tiktok- from-its-chinese- owners?cmpid=BBD050724_CUS& utm_medium=email&utm_source= newsletter&utm_term=240507&ut m_campaign=closeamericas	7-May-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt considered buying TikTok but has since moved on from the idea. He believes the US should regulate TikTok rather than banning it or taking judicial action. Schmidt views TikTok as more like television than social media and suggests regulating it with an equivalent access rule. He also discusses the US-China rivalry in artificial intelligence and the impact of European regulation on innovation.	TikTok, Google, Eric Schmidt, US, China, television, social media, regulation, artificial intelligence, Europe, European Union, semiconductor shortages
TikTok Lawsuit Sets Stage for Prolonged Legal Fight Over US Ban	https://www.bloomberg.com/news /articles/2024-05-07/tiktok-sues- us-government-to-block-us-divest- or-ban- law?cmpid=BBD050724_CUS&ut m_medium=email&utm_source=n ewsletter&utm_term=240507&ut m_campaign=closeamericas	7-May-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	China-based ByteDance has filed a lawsuit challenging a new US law that requires the sale of TikTok, setting the stage for a prolonged legal battle. ByteDance argues that the law violates the First Amendment and represents an illegal punishment without due process. The Biden administration may struggle to justify the law in court without publicly revealing classified information. TikTok argues that a ban would devastate businesses and contribute to a loss of \$24 billion annually to the US economy. Experts believe TikTok has a 30% chance of winning the case, with a potential ruling in the second quarter of 2025.	TikTok, ByteDance Ltd., President Joe Biden, Chinese government, First Amendment, Covington & Burling LLP, Mayer Brown LLP, Knight First Amendment Institute, DC Circuit, Supreme Court
TikTok Sues to Block U.S. Ban	https://www.wsj.com/politics/poli cy/tiktok-sues-to-block-u-s-ban- 6ec6e17f?mod=djemalertNEWS	7-May-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	TikTok has filed a federal lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a new law that requires a sale or ban of the app in the U.S. The lawsuit accuses the government of violating TikTok's First Amendment rights and alleges that the ban is an unconstitutional punishment. TikTok's parent company, ByteDance, has stated that it cannot sell its U.S. operations by the deadline, leaving litigation as its best hope. Supporters of the ban argue that TikTok poses national security risks. Past government restrictions on TikTok have been struck down by courts, but the First Amendment issues remain unresolved.	TikTok, ByteDance, President Biden, Beijing- based ByteDance, U.S. market, First Amendment, national security, Chinese government, Commerce Department, Trump administration

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As TikTok Files Lawsuit, Employees Ponder Their Future	https://www.theinformation.com/ articles/as-tiktok-files-lawsuit- employees-ponder-their- future?utm_campaign=article_em ail&utm_content=article- 12797&utm_medium=email&utm_ source=sg&rc=hm8aii	8-May-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, Talent, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	As TikTok faces a potential ban in the U.S., employees are uncertain about their future. The CEO's optimistic reassurances have been met with skepticism, and some employees are already looking for new jobs. The threat of the ban has also affected TikTok's hiring plans and raised questions from advertisers and creators. Chinese engineers and product managers on visas are particularly concerned about their employment status. The company's ongoing reorganization has added to the sense of uncertainty among employees.	TikTok, ByteDance, Joe Biden, Shou Zi Chew, Michael Beckerman, Notion, Betaworks, Replit, Hack Club, Spensa
TikTok Places ByteDance Founder Among China Moguls in Singapore	https://www.bloomberg.com/news /articles/2024-05-08/tiktok- places-bytedance-founder-among- china-moguls-in-singapore	8-May-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	The article discusses Zhang Yiming's residency in Singapore, ByteDance's ownership structure, and the company's legal battle against US legislation impacting TikTok. Zhang Yiming, the founder of ByteDance, has relocated to Singapore while retaining his Chinese citizenship, joining other Chinese tech executives in the country. Zhang owns approximately 21% of ByteDance, valued at over \$40 billion, with global investors and employees holding the rest. The article also highlights a lawsuit filed by TikTok against US legislation, indicating ByteDance's intention to challenge the law in court.	Zhang Yiming, ByteDance, TikTok, Singapore, Alibaba, Eddie Wu, Wu Jihan, ownership structure, residency, lawsuit, US legislation, constitutional grounds, First Amendment
U.S. public funds invested in TikTok owner ByteDance: report	https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/ Finance/U.Spublic-funds- invested-in-TikTok-owner- ByteDance- report?utm_campaign=IC_asia_da ily_free&utm_medium=email&utm _source=NA_newsletter&utm_con tent=article_link&del_type=1&pub _date=20240509123000&seq_num =21&si=0da7fc56-79df-4037-bd3f- e874dae0c0e2	8-May-24	Government & Policy, Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media, US-China/ Asia	TikTok	U.S. public funds, including pensions and university endowments, have invested over \$9 billion in private equity and venture capital funds with potential exposure to ByteDance, the Chinese parent company of TikTok. The ongoing battle between ByteDance and the U.S. government over national security concerns could affect these investments. The report suggests reevaluating geopolitical risks and advocates for institutional investors to stop investing in Chinese companies.	TikTok, ByteDance, U.S. pensions, university endowments, institutional investors, Washington State Investment Board, New York State Common Retirement Fund, California Public Employees Retirement System, University of Michigan, University of California system, Princeton University, KKR, Carlyle Group, Chinese companies, IPOs, mergers
Reddit Lays Out Content Policy While Seeking More Licensing Deals	https://www.bloomberg.com/news /articles/2024-05-09/reddit-lays- out-content-policy-while-seeking- more-licensing-deals	9-May-24	Artificial Intelligence, Social Media	Google, Reddit	Reddit Inc. has released new policies governing data posted on its social network, including a ban on sending advertisements without consent. The company aims to increase revenue through licensing agreements with Al developers and other companies. The content policy prohibits the use of deleted Reddit posts or comments, sharing private data with licensees, and violating intellectual property rights. Reddit has a \$60 million licensing agreement with Google and is in talks with other Al companies. The company generated about \$20 million from Al content deals last quarter and expects to bring in over \$60 million by the end of the year.	Google, Reddit, Artificial Intelligence, Social Media

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Is there a middle way on children and smartphones? This researcher thinks so	775a-t664-4006-9002-	12-May-24	Privacy Security & Safety , Social Media		Sonia Livingstone, a social psychologist, proposes a middle ground approach to children's smartphone use, considering the context and activities on screens. She calls for constraining tech companies' influence, empowering young people and parents, and advocating for better regulation and guidance. Policy implications include addressing harmful content, being responsive to parental concerns, and implementing multifaceted solutions.	Children's smartphone use, mental health, context, tech companies, attention, young people, parents, regulation, guidance, Ofcom, harmful online content, addictive features, policy interventions, evidence, precautionary approach