

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8503

AN ACT

To require the development of a strategy to promote the use of secure telecommunications infrastructure worldwide, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Securing Global Tele-
3 communications Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of Congress as follows:

6 (1) The United States Government should pro-
7 mote and take steps to ensure American leadership
8 in strategic technology industries, including tele-
9 communications infrastructure and other informa-
10 tion and communications technologies.

11 (2) The expansive presence of companies linked
12 to the Chinese Communist Party, such as Huawei,
13 in global mobile networks and the national security
14 implications thereof, such as the ability of the Peo-
15 ple’s Republic of China to exfiltrate the information
16 flowing through those networks and shut off coun-
17 tries’ internet access, demonstrates the importance
18 of the United States remaining at the technological
19 frontier and the dire consequences of falling behind.

20 (3) The significant cost of countering Huawei’s
21 market leadership in telecommunications infrastruc-
22 ture around the world underscores the urgency of
23 supporting the competitiveness of United States
24 companies in next-generation information and com-
25 munication technology.

1 (4) To remain a leader at the International
2 Telecommunication Union (ITU) and preserve the
3 ITU's technical integrity, the United States must
4 work with emerging economies and developing na-
5 tions to bolster global telecommunications security
6 and protect American national security interests.

7 (5) Multilateral cooperation with like-minded
8 partners and allies is critical to carry out the signifi-
9 cant effort of financing and promoting secure net-
10 works around the world and to achieve market lead-
11 ership of trusted vendors in this sector.

12 **SEC. 3. STRATEGY FOR SECURING GLOBAL TELECOMMUNI-**
13 **CATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE.**

14 (a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days
15 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
16 of State shall develop and submit to the Committees on
17 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and En-
18 ergy and Commerce and the Committees on Foreign Rela-
19 tions and Commerce, Science, and Transportation and of
20 the Senate a strategy, to be known as the “Strategy to
21 Secure Global Telecommunications Infrastructure” (re-
22 ferred to in this Act as the “Strategy”), to promote the
23 use of secure telecommunication infrastructure in coun-
24 tries other than the United States.

1 (b) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary of
2 State shall consult with the President of the Export-Im-
3 port Bank of the United States, the Chief Executive Offi-
4 cer of the Development Finance Corporation, the Adminis-
5 trator of the United States Agency for International De-
6 velopment, the Director of the Trade and Development
7 Agency, the Chair of the Federal Communications Com-
8 mission, and the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for
9 Communications and Information, in developing the Strat-
10 egy, which shall consist of an approach led by the Depart-
11 ment of State using the policy tools, and informed by the
12 technical expertise, of the other Federal entities so con-
13 sulted to achieve the goal described in subsection (a).

14 (c) ELEMENTS.—The Strategy shall also include sec-
15 tions on each of the following:

16 (1) Mobile networks, including a description of
17 efforts by countries other than the United States
18 to—

19 (A) promote trusted Open RAN tech-
20 nologies while protecting against any security
21 risks posed by untrusted vendors in Open RAN
22 networks;

23 (B) use financing mechanisms to assist
24 “rip-and-replace” projects and to incentivize
25 countries to choose trusted equipment vendors;

1 (C) bolster multilateral cooperation, espe-
2 cially with developing countries and emerging
3 economies, to promote the deployment of trust-
4 ed wireless networks worldwide; and

5 (D) collaborate with trusted private sector
6 companies to counter Chinese market leadership
7 in the telecom equipment industry.

8 (2) Data centers, including a description of ef-
9 forts to—

10 (A) utilize financing mechanisms to
11 incentivize countries other than the United
12 States to choose trusted data center providers;
13 and

14 (B) bolster multilateral cooperation, espe-
15 cially with developing countries and emerging
16 economies, to promote the deployment of trust-
17 ed data centers worldwide.

18 (3) Sixth (and future) generation technologies
19 (6G), including a description of efforts to—

20 (A) deepen cooperation with like-minded
21 countries to promote United States and allied
22 market leadership in 6G networks and tech-
23 nologies; and

1 (B) increase buy-in from developing coun-
2 tries and emerging countries on trusted tech-
3 nologies.

4 (4) Low-Earth orbit satellites, aerostats, and
5 stratospheric balloons, including a description of ef-
6 forts to work with trusted private sector companies
7 to retain the ability to quickly provide internet con-
8 nection in response to emergency situations.

9 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON MALIGN INFLUENCE AT THE INTER-**
10 **NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION.**

11 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date
12 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall
13 develop and submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs
14 and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representa-
15 tives and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Com-
16 merce, Science, and Transportation the Senate a report
17 on Russian and Chinese strategies and efforts—

18 (1) to expand the mandate of the International
19 Telecommunication Union (ITU) to cover internet
20 governance policy; and

21 (2) to advance other actions favorable to au-
22 thoritarian interests and/or hostile to fair, industry-
23 led processes.

24 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
25 (a) shall also identify efforts by China and Russia—

1 (1) to increase the ITU’s jurisdiction over inter-
2 net governance and to propose internet governance
3 standards at the ITU;

4 (2) to leverage their private sector actors to ad-
5 vance their national interests through the ITU, in-
6 cluding—

7 (A) encouraging Chinese and Russian com-
8 panies to leverage their market power to pres-
9 sure other member countries to deliver favor-
10 able decisions on ITU elections; and

11 (B) China’s efforts to leverage Huawei’s
12 role as the primary telecommunications equip-
13 ment and services provider for many developing
14 countries to compel such countries to deliver fa-
15 vorable decisions on standards proposals, elec-
16 tion victories, candidate selection, and other le-
17 vers of power at the ITU; and

18 (3) to use the influence of Chinese and Russian
19 nationals serving in the ITU to advantage the com-
20 panies, standards decisions, and candidates that ad-
21 vance the CCP and Kremlin’s interests.

22 (c) FORM.—The report required by this section shall
23 be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a clas-
24 sified annex.

1 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON MULTILATERAL COORDINATION.**

2 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
3 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination
4 with the President of the Export-Import Bank of the
5 United States, the Administrator for the United States
6 Agency on International Development, the Chief Executive
7 Officer of the Development Finance Corporation, the
8 Chair of the Federal Communications Commission, and
9 the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications
10 and Information, shall develop and submit to the Commit-
11 tees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce and
12 of the House of Representatives and the Committees For-
13 eign Relations and on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
14 tation and of the Senate a report that identifies opportuni-
15 ties for greater collaboration with allies and partners to
16 promote secure information and communications tech-
17 nology infrastructure in countries other than the United
18 States, including through—

19 (1) joint financing efforts to help trusted ven-
20 dors win bids to build out information and commu-
21 nications technology (ICT) infrastructure;

22 (2) incorporating ICT focuses into allies' and
23 partners' international development finance initia-
24 tives; and

- 1 (3) diplomatic coordination to emphasize the
- 2 importance of secure telecommunications infrastruc-
- 3 ture to countries using untrusted providers.

Passed the House of Representatives September 20,
2022.

Attest:

Clerk.

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