

News Item

TikTok is China's Next Big Weapon in the Battle for Personal Data | Axios

By Shane Savitsky July 24, 2019

Chinese social media is largely impenetrable for most in the West — <u>just check out their memes</u> — but Sino tech giants have their eye on owning the U.S. market, evidenced by the rise of TikTok.

Why it matters: While the video-based app simply seems like a benign platform for Gen Zers to make and share funny memes, it's could become a Chinese vacuum for coveted American data.

Between the lines: TikTok's "parent company, ByteDance, recently valued at more than \$75 billion, bills itself first as an artificial intelligence company, not a creator of mission-driven social platforms," per the New York Times. Its secret sauce: "Apparently you just ... show [users] things, and let a powerful artificial intelligence take notes."

[...]

Source: TikTok is China's next big weapon in the battle for personal data - Axios