# Biden Administration Bans Sale of Kaspersky Lab Software Over Security Concerns



The Biden administration has announced a ban on the sale of Kaspersky Lab software in the United States due to security concerns. This decision, effective from September 29, 2023, targets the cybersecurity company known for its widespread use in both consumer and enterprise markets.

Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo cited the risk that Kaspersky's software could be exploited by Russian intelligence to conduct espionage or cyber sabotage, given its deep integration into critical infrastructure and state and local government systems. The ban also includes prohibitions on downloading updates, resales, and licensing of Kaspersky products, as well as integrating them under different brand names.

Kaspersky has denied these allegations, asserting it does not pose a threat to U.S. national security and indicating plans to pursue legal options. The U.S. government’s action against Kaspersky is part of broader efforts to counter potential Russian cyber threats amid ongoing geopolitical tensions related to the Ukraine conflict.

Additionally, three units of Kaspersky, including two based in Russia and one in the UK, will be added to a trade restriction list, hampering their ability to procure goods from U.S. suppliers. This move underscores the U.S.'s stance on eliminating perceived risks associated with Russian cybersecurity firms.