# Taiwan Takes Comprehensive Approach to Address Disinformation Across Social Media Platforms



In Taiwan, TikTok, owned by Chinese internet giant ByteDance, is widely popular with a quarter of its 23 million residents using the app. However, the island has faced significant online disinformation largely traced back to China, intensifying concerns about TikTok's potential as a propaganda tool. Despite this, Taiwan does not plan a U.S.-style ban on TikTok. Instead, it focuses on broader measures against disinformation across all social media platforms.

Taiwan was early to act against TikTok, banning it from government devices in 2019, along with the Chinese apps Douyin and Xiaohongshu. The ruling Democratic Progressive Party, retained in power with President Lai Ching-te’s inauguration, refrains from TikTok usage due to data security concerns.

Legislation in Taiwan might soon require online platforms to register local representatives to ensure accountability. Meanwhile, TikTok has been cooperating with officials to curb misinformation, especially during January's presidential election, removing nearly 1,500 videos for policy violations.

According to officials, TikTok is part of a wider threat landscape involving numerous platforms like YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, and the messaging app Line. Taiwan’s strategy incorporates all social media, not just TikTok, given the widespread nature of digital misinformation.