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ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

JAMES A. HIMES, CONNECTICUT RANKING MEMBER

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

September 24, 2024

The Honorable Christopher Wray Director Federal Bureau of Investigation 935 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, D.C. 20535

The Honorable Gary Gensler Chairman Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, NE Washington, DC 20549

Dear Director Wray and Chairman Gensler:

(U) We write today regarding the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)-linked entity, Temu, and their parent company, Pinduoduo (PDD). PDD is listed on the NASDAQ, and as such, is subject to United States' Securities and Exchange Commission purview.

(U) Multiple entities, ranging from U.S. Senators,¹ to the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party,² states' Attorneys General,³ and countless others, have previously raised alarm over the practices of Temu and PDD – ranging from possible trade, slave labor, and national security concerns.⁴

¹ Letter from Rick Scott, Senator, United States Senate, to Gina Raimondo, Secretary of Commerce, on Aug. 14, 2024; Letter from Tom Cotton, Senator, United States Senate, to Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States of America, on Apr. 15, 2024; Letter from Marco Rubio, Senator, United States Senate, to Alejandro Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, on Apr. 16, 2024.

² UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY, FAST FASHION AND THE UYGHUR GENOCIDE: INTERIM FINDINGS 1-11 (2024).

³ Briana Herlihy, 'Forced Labor': State AGs Probe Chinese Company Temu Over 'Disturbing' Business Practices, FOXBUSINESS, (Aug. 15, 2024), <u>https://www.foxbusiness.com/politics/forced-labor-state-ags-probe-chinese-</u> company-temu-over-disturbing-business-practices.

⁴ See also Kash Patel, Congress Should Take a Closer Look at China's Temu, WASHINGTON TIMES (Apr. 8, 2024), https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2024/apr/8/congress-should-take-closer-look-at-chinas-temu/; Dan

McCaleb, *China Retailers Shein, Temu Avoid US Tariffs As Labor Practices in Question*, BALTIMORE SUN (Sept. 8, 2024), <u>https://www.baltimoresun.com/2024/09/08/china-retailers-shein-temu-avoid-us-tariffs-as-labor-practices-in-question/</u>.

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(U) A news article from June 15, 2024 highlights the senior executives' of Temu and PDD and their affiliation with the CCP. 5

(U) Further, the PDD app was suspended by Google in 2023 because the app "exploited a zero-day vulnerability that allowed them to surreptitiously take control of millions of end-user devices to steal personal data and install malicious apps, researchers from security firm Lookout have confirmed."⁶

(U) Due to the above cited incidents and many others, we are concerned about the protection of Americans data. Analogous to Congress' action on TikTok, the relationship between the Chinese Communist Party, Chinese national security laws, and Americans data must be understood. We have concerns that the CCP has undertaken yet another attempt to exploit the democracy, free market principles, and the personal and economic data of the United States.

(U) Given the well-detailed concerns, we request a joint briefing from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to the Committee on:

- If the FBI has provided any intelligence to the SEC regarding any of the issues raised in the above statements or accompanying articles?
- Has the SEC requested intelligence in learning more about PDD and Temu?
 - If so, what assistance has the FBI provided?
 - Have any other intelligence agencies provided assistance?
 - \circ If not, why not?
- Does the SEC regularly receive intelligence products or make requests to the Intelligence Community to inform their work?
- What laws and policies stand in the way of greater information sharing between the Intelligence Community and the SEC?
- Providing examples where the FBI has worked with the SEC on similar issues, recently including:
 - How the coordination began?
 - What the outcome of the coordination was?
 - Who the entities involved were?

(U) Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact the Committee at (202) 225-4121 in order to schedule this briefing and to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

⁶ Dan Goodin, *Android App From China Executed 0-Day Exploit On Millions Of Devices*, ARSTECHNICA (Mar. 27, 2024), <u>https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2023/03/android-app-from-china-executed-0-day-exploit-on-millions-of-devices/</u>.

⁵ Jon Levine, *Temu Parent Company Led by Top Former Chinese Communist Officials*, NEW YORK POST (Jun. 15, 2024), https://nypost.com/2024/06/15/tech/temu-parent-company-led-by-top-former-chinese-communist-officials/.

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