



# Information on the WeChat Ban

Trump issued an Executive Order banning WeChat from the American App Store, but a federal judge has temporarily blocked this Order. If the block is overturned and WeChat becomes banned again, **people with WeChat could still use the app, but it could not be newly downloaded.**

## Trump banned downloading WeChat for 3 key reasons

- 1 Worry that American information might be misused by the Chinese government
- 2 Worry that China may use the app to spread political ideologies or misinformation
- 3 There have been ongoing technology tensions between the US and China

## Current state of the ban

- ▶ A federal judge temporarily blocked Trump's ban on WeChat
- ▶ Trump has appealed the judges' block and a final decision is pending

## If WeChat is not usable, what other apps can you use?



### Wecom

Can be used for messaging, and in the past has been used for coworkers to message each other. Different from WeChat because you can't post your "moments"



### LINE, WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram

Available in the US, but inaccessible in China without VPN



### Alipay

Used just for transactions



### QQ

Can be used for messaging and monetary transactions