

# Huawei: A Sample Set from a Decade of Notable Risk Events.



## Ties to China's State Security Services

Cases of Huawei being linked to China's intelligence and military apparatus.



## Enabling Espionage, Creating Cyber Vulnerability

Where Huawei faced allegations of engaging in, or facilitating, espionage activity.



## Accusations of IP Theft or Misappropriation

Huawei facing allegations of intellectual property theft from its competitors and potential partners.



## Unethical Business Practices

Huawei accused of unethical trade practices from corruption to non-transparency.

The array of allegations facing Huawei is not new. The latest stories only add to, and reaffirm, the risk that Huawei has posed to its customers and partners for over 20 years.

This visual provides a sample of those events that the company has confronted over the past ten years across a variety of categories of risk.



## Vodafone Italy Alleges Widespread Backdoors in Huawei Equipment

2009-2011 | ITALY

Beginning in 2009, Huawei provided equipment for Vodafone's Italian division that reportedly had widespread backdoor capabilities. In 2011, Vodafone requested Huawei remove the backdoors.



## Huawei Accused of Stealing IP for Smartphone Camera Attachment

MAY 2014 | PLANO, TEXAS

A Portuguese smartphone camera technologist stated he met with Huawei officials to discuss a patent. Three years later, he was informed his invention was being sold by Huawei, indistinguishable from the product he had shown them.



## U.S.-Based Employee Pressured to Conceal Identify at Industry Meeting

NOVEMBER 2017 | CALIFORNIA, USA

A software engineer working for Huawei in California claimed in a lawsuit that was settled confidentially in April 2019, that his Huawei bosses ordered him to register for an industry conference under a fake company name, threatening him if he refused.



## U.S. Finds Huawei Intentionally Designing Products to be "Hackable"

JUNE 25, 2019 | WASHINGTON, DC

The US Department of Homeland Security found that Huawei was likely designing products to be easily hackable, as the weaknesses found in the products are well known and easy to fix. Later batches of studied software had bugs that earlier versions did not.



## Allegations of Price Gouging and Corrupt Procurement

AUGUST 1, 2012 | LAHORE, PAKISTAN

Pakistan's Supreme Court ruled Islamabad Safe City contract with Huawei illegal after allegations of a corrupt procurement process, price gouging, and a two-year delay. Huawei carried out the contract anyway.



## Huawei "Forgives" Over 4,000 Employees for Corruption

JANUARY 22, 2015 | SHENZHEN, CHINA

It was reported that Huawei forgave over 4,000 employees found to be involved in corruption and fraud. Founder Ren Zhengfei stated that workers "came up with fake numbers so they could get good business results."



## Huawei Found Guilty of "Willful" Patent Violations

AUGUST 27, 2018 | TEXAS, USA

Huawei was found guilty in a Texas court of willfully violating five software technique patents held by American firm PanOptis, as the two companies had met on multiple occasions to negotiate licensing agreements (which Huawei refused and then used).



## Accusations of Huawei Collecting Personal Data, Delivering to Chinese Embassy

JULY 23, 2019 | PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

Huawei's Czech unit reportedly collected personal data of customers, officials, and business partners and gave the information to the Chinese embassy in the Czech Republic.



## Huawei Allegedly Offered Bonuses to Employees for IP Theft

2013 | PLANO, TEXAS

In an indictment against Huawei unsealed in January 2019, U.S. officials alleged that, since at least 2013, Huawei systematically offered bonuses to employees who were successful in the theft of confidential information from other companies.



## Huawei Sued for Stealing Cellular Technology

MAY 15, 2015 | ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

Quintel sued Huawei for stealing its cellular device technology, after it became aware that Huawei had taken its technology after it had been shared under a proposal for a partnership agreement. Quintel settled in 2018.



## Huawei Allegedly Helps Zambian Government Spy on Opponents

2018-2019 | ZAMBIA

The Zambian government and police officials acknowledged the cooperation of Huawei in directly assisting in the tracking of opposition publications, activists and criminal behavior through phone-implemented spyware, leading to the arrest of political opponents of the ruling Patriotic Front Party.



## Arrest of Chinese Scholar for IP Theft, Reportedly for Huawei

AUGUST 14, 2019 | TEXAS

Chinese scholar Bo Mao was arrested and charged with wire fraud related to the alleged theft of circuit board technology used in a study tied to a Chinese telecom conglomerate, reported to be Huawei, while serving as a visiting professor at a Texas university.

2010 — 2013

2014 — 2015

2016 — 2018

2019 —

JUST TWELVE OF 100+ RISK EVENTS