

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 11, 2018

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister's Office  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2  
Canada

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

We write with grave concerns about the possibility that Canada might include Huawei Technologies or any other Chinese state-directed telecommunications company in its fifth-generation (5G) telecommunications network infrastructure. As you are aware, Huawei is not a normal private-sector company. There is ample evidence to suggest that no major Chinese company is independent of the Chinese government and Communist Party—and Huawei, which China's government and military tout as a “national champion,” is no exception.

Based on what we know about Chinese state-directed telecommunications companies, it was troubling to learn that on September 20, 2018, the new Head-Designee of the Canadian Center for Cyber Security Scott Jones told the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security that banning Huawei is not needed, in response to a question about why Canada has not come out against Huawei as other Five Eyes allies have. Specifically, he claimed that Canada has “a very advanced relationship with our telecommunications providers, something that is different from most other countries,” adding, “We have a program that is very deep in terms of working on increasing that broader resilience piece especially as we are looking at the next-generation telecommunications networks.”

In contrast to Mr. Scott's comments, however, three former senior Canadian national security officials warned earlier this year against the inclusion of Huawei in Canada's 5G network. One of them—Mr. Ward Elcock, former Deputy Minister of National Defence—told the *Globe and Mail* on March 18, 2018, “I have a pretty good idea of how signal-intelligence agencies work and the rules under which they work and their various operations,” concluding that, “I would not want to see Huawei equipment being incorporated into a 5G network in Canada.”

While Canada has strong telecommunications security safeguards in place, we have serious concerns that such safeguards are inadequate given what the United States and other allies know about Huawei. Indeed, we are concerned about the impact that any decision to include Huawei in Canada's 5G networks will have on both Canadian national security and “Five Eyes” joint intelligence cooperation among the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada. As you know, Australia effectively banned Huawei, ZTE, and other Chinese state-directed companies from its

nation's 5G networks by excluding firms that "are likely to be subject to extrajudicial directions from a foreign government" and therefore pose unacceptable risks to national security. Moreover, the United Kingdom's Huawei Cyber Security Evaluation Centre Oversight Board's 2018 annual report to Britain's national security adviser found that "identification of shortcomings in Huawei's engineering processes have exposed new risks in the UK telecommunications networks and long-term challenges to mitigation and management."

Further, the strong alignment between the United States and Canada in spectrum management has meant that American and Canadian carriers in many cases share complementary spectrum holdings, jointly benefiting from economies of scale for equipment designed for regionally harmonized frequencies. The entry of suppliers such as Huawei into the Canadian market could seriously jeopardize this dynamic, depriving both Canadian and American operators of the scale needed to rapidly build out 5G networks.

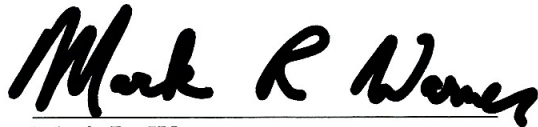
Given the strong statements by former Canadian national security officials as well as similar concerns out of the U.S., Australia, and the United Kingdom, we hope that you will reconsider Huawei's inclusion in any aspect of Canada's 5G development, introduction, and maintenance. Should you have any questions about the threat that Chinese state-directed telecommunications firms pose to your networks, we urge your government to seek additional information from the U.S. Intelligence Community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio  
U.S. Senator



Mark R. Warner  
U.S. Senator

CC: Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats  
Director of the National Security Agency General Paul Nakasone  
Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Christopher Wray