

## To counter Huawei, U.S. could take 'controlling stake' in Ericsson, Nokia: attorney general

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. Attorney General William Barr said on Thursday the United States and its allies should consider the highly unusual step of taking a "controlling stake" in Finland's Nokia (NOKIA.HE) and Sweden's Ericsson (ERICB.ST) to counter China-based Huawei's dominance in next-generation 5G wireless technology.

In a remarkable statement underscoring how far the United States may be willing to go to counter Huawei Technologies Co, Barr disclosed in a speech at a conference on Chinese economic espionage that there had been proposals to meet the concerns "by the United States aligning itself with Nokia and/or Ericsson."

Barr said the alignment could take place "through American ownership of a controlling stake, either directly or through a consortium of private American and allied companies."

"Putting our large market and financial muscle behind one or both of these firms would make it a far more formidable competitor and eliminate concerns over its staying power, or their staying power," Barr said.

"We and our closest allies certainly need to be actively considering this approach," he added at the event hosted by Washington's Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

Both firms have a combined market capitalization of about \$50 billion and it is not clear what source of funds the U.S. government could potentially tap to take stakes in the firms or if foreign regulators would approve.

Ericsson declined to comment, while Nokia did not immediately comment. The companies' shares edged higher after Barr's comments in European trading.

Last month, a group of six U.S. senators introduced legislation to provide over \$1 billion to invest in Western-based alternatives to Chinese equipment providers Huawei and ZTE and accelerate development of an open-architecture to allow for alternative vendors to enter the market for specific network components.

Barr said China had emerged as the "top geo-political adversary"



FILE PHOTO: U.S. Attorney General William Barr arrives for U.S. President Donald Trump's State of the Union address to a joint session of the U.S. Congress in the House Chamber of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, U.S. February 4, 2020. REUTERS/Leah Millis/POOL U.S. President Donald Trump

and added: "China has stolen a march and is now leading in 5G ... They have already captured 40 percent of the market and are now aggressively pursuing the balance."

U.S. government investments in public companies are rare except in the case of bailouts to save ailing firms and jobs, and such investments in foreign companies are even rarer.

U.S. officials have criticized Huawei for its close ties to the Chinese government and they added the compa-

ny to an economic blacklist last year, saying it was involved in activities contrary to U.S. national security. The Trump administration has pressed nations not to grant Huawei access to 5G networks and alleged Huawei's equipment could be used by Beijing for spying, which the Chinese company has repeatedly denied. President Donald Trump signed an executive order last year barring U.S. companies from using telecommunications equipment made by companies posing a national security risk.

At the same CSIS event, FBI Director Christopher Wray said Beijing was seeking to steal American technology by "any means necessary."

He said the bureau currently had about 1,000 open investigations of Chinese technology theft across its 56 regional offices, while FBI counterintelligence chief John Brown said it had arrested 24 people last year in China-related cases and another 19 already in 2020.

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# Editor's Choice



U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin arrives before U.S. President Donald Trump delivers a statement about his acquittal in the East Room of the White House in Washington, U.S., February 6, 2020. REUTERS/Joshua Roberts



U.S. President Donald Trump makes a statement about his acquittal in his U.S. Senate impeachment trial in the East Room of the White House in Washington, U.S., February 6, 2020. REUTERS/Leah Millis



Firefighters and personnel from the health ministry participate in a drill to prepare for the potential arrival of passengers infected with the coronavirus at the Viru Viru International Airport, in Santa Cruz



Spectators wear masks to prevent contacting a new coronavirus during Four Continents Figure Skating Championships 2020 in Seoul, South Korea, February 6, 2020. REUTERS/Kim Hong-Ji



People wearing mask are seen near the stalls inside the China pavilion at the India Auto Expo 2020 - Components in New Delhi



Technical Lead for the World Health Organization (WHO) Maria Van Kerkhove speaks at a news conference on the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in Geneva, Switzerland February 6, 2020. REUTERS/Denis Balibouse



Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus attends a news conference on the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in Geneva, Switzerland February 6, 2020. REUTERS/Denis Balibouse



Worker in protective suit walks next to a management staff at an entrance of a shopping mall, as the country is hit by an outbreak of the novel coronavirus, in Beijing

### Updates

Two flights evacuating U.S. citizens from Wuhan, the epicenter of the novel coronavirus, have departed for the United States, the State Department confirmed Tuesday night.

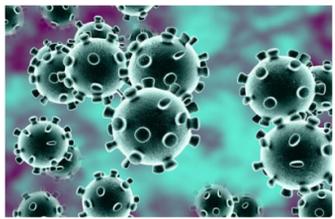
The 2019-nCoV virus has killed 492 people and infected over 24,000 people in mainland China, plus some 200 in 26 other countries and regions. 11 people in the U.S. have been diagnosed with coronavirus, including two who were infected person-to-person rather than via travel to China.

### Last 48 hours

•**U.S. evacuations:** More than 500 Americans have now been evacuated from Wuhan since Jan. 29, a State Department official said. One or more additional flights will be required for a final evacuation, expected to occur on Thursday.

•“All travelers were screened for symptoms at the airport prior to departure, and will be subject to Centers for Disease Control (CDC) screening, health observation, and monitoring requirements,” the official added.

•**Cruise ships quarantined:** A U.S. national is among 10 people hospitalized in Japan after testing positive to coronavirus on a quarantined ship near Yokohama. Hong Kong has also quarantined a cruise ship after three passengers on an earlier voyage tested positive for the virus.



•**U.S. cases:** Cases have been confirmed in California (6), Illinois (2), Arizona (1), Massachusetts (1) and Washington state (1).

•**Under investigation:** 36 U.S. states report 260 (cumulative total) patients under investigation (PUIs), of whom 82 are pending and 167 were found negative,

## Coronavirus Death Toll Reaches 492



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

the CDC said Monday.

•**Travel bans:** The U.S. is denying entry to all foreign nationals who have been to China in the past two weeks, and will place Americans who were in Hubei province in a 14-day quarantine — and it's not the only country to take this type of measure. China reacted furiously to the decision.

•**Congress:** Some Congress members are asking the Trump administration to do more to combat the spread. Some want harsher travel restrictions to and from China.

•**Protecting Xi:** President Xi Jinping is often described as the most powerful Chinese leader since Mao, but he's not the face of Beijing's response to what could ultimately be the biggest test of his tenure thus far.



•**U.S. markets:** Despite growing fears on global economic growth, traders appear happy to purchase U.S. stocks on days following selloffs. Meanwhile, there's growing belief the Fed will cut interest rates this year.

•**Global economy:** The coronavirus has the potential to be as damaging to the global economy as the U.S.-China trade war, economists tell Axios. Plus, announcements of global mergers could be delayed.

•**OPEC+ response:** OPEC and its allied producers are mulling at least two possible responses to the crude prices drop.

### Cruise Ships Quarantined Off Japan And Hong Kong



Workers in protective gear in Japan Coast Guard boats in Yokohama head toward the Diamond Princess cruise ship. Photo: STR/JIJI PRESS/AFP via Getty Images

10 people who tested positive to the novel coronavirus while on a cruise ship quarantined off Japan have been taken to hospital, but everyone else must remain aboard for now, a Japanese government spokesman said Wednesday.

Some 3,700 people were aboard the Princess Cruises ship, moored near Yokohama, the firm said in a statement. Nine of those infected were guests — one from the U.S., two Australians, three Japanese people and three from Hong Kong.

•A Filipino crew member also tested positive. Half of the on-board guests are from Japan, per Princess Cruises.

“The length of the quarantine will be at least 14 days as required by the Ministry of Health.”

A guest from Hong Kong sailed from Yokohama on Jan. 20 before disembarking back home on Jan. 25, Princess Cruises said. He showed no symptoms aboard the ship but tested positive for coronavirus in a Hong Kong hospital six days later. The Japanese government spokesman said nearly 300 of those on the ship had undergone tests for the virus so far.

•In Hong Kong, a second cruise ship has been quarantined “after three passen-

gers on an earlier voyage were later diagnosed with the new coronavirus,” the New York Times reports.

•A city port health official said over 30 crew members aboard the World Dream ship, operated by Genting Cruise Lines, who displayed “symptoms such as fever, cough or sore throat” would be tested and everyone on the vessel would be screened, per the NYT.

•About 90% of the passengers are from Hong Kong “and no one is from mainland China,” AP reports.



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各位海內外華人同胞暨兄弟姐妹們，正當我們大家共同迎接鼠年來臨之際，一種新型肺炎冠狀病毒正在猛烈衝擊中國大陸，並已蔓延到世界各地；我們身處海外之華人，正為此疫情深感焦慮，我們已經派出一支堅強的採訪團隊，在世界最大的美國休斯敦德州醫學中心，進行全面之採訪，企望世界一流的傳染病醫學專家，提供預防及治療參考。我們在全球各地之華文媒體同仁，此時此刻大家要動員起來，和海內外同胞來戰勝這場挑戰。

我們希望大家保持鎮靜，拒絕新聞渲染，造成群眾的恐慌，今天我們全世界的媒體人，應以最忠實之態度，來報導疫情，更希望海外華人共同努力，共體時艱，同舟共濟，表現華夏兒女人溺己溺之情操。

李蔚華 鼠年除夕  
於美國德州休斯敦 德州醫學中心

A Public Health Researcher Recently Warned That, "We Have No Reason To Believe 5G Is Safe"

New Research Shows That 5G Technology Can Cause Cancer



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

The impending 5G technology roll out is not without controversy. All across the globe people—including consumers, parents, scientists, and engineers—are demanding answers about and educating others of the risks of 5G.

In fact, nearly 200,000 people from 204 countries have signed an appeal to "stop the deployment of millions of 5G antennas on Earth and 50,000 5G satellites in space, and to secure emergency high-level meetings with officials in governments and international governmental organizations including the European Union, the United Nations, and the World Health Organization."

Next week an important lawsuit is set to go before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. As TMU previously reported, the ruling will decide whether the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) can restrict just how much local governments charge wireless providers to attach small cells to city-owned infrastructure like light-poles. As it stands, thanks to a September 2018 ruling, local and state governments have limited time to approve or deny applications for installing these small cells and limitations on what they can charge carriers.

The FCC reportedly relies on a federal law banning state and local governments from prohibiting mobile carriers from

offering services to a particular area. However, many see this being used as a loophole to further advance 5G with as little pushback as possible and there is ample evidence that local governments are finding themselves losing control of their local 5G roll out.

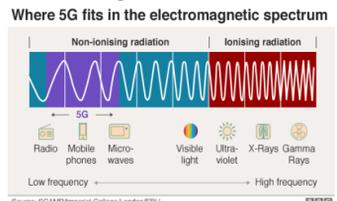


As previously reported by TMU, Danville, California Mayor Robert Storer admitted in March 2019 that the city council had "lost local control" of the 5G roll out. In an effort to stand up to the federal government and Big Wireless, the city council voted four to one to block Verizon's permit. The council was successfully influenced by Danville citizens who brought forward their complaints and concerns about the health impacts of the proposed small cell site and other 5G infrastructure.

But because of the FCC's own regulations, local governments are not allowed to consider health risks when making their decisions on 5G infrastructure. As it turns out, health risks—not small cell tower aesthetics—are the primary focus

of opponents and critics of 5G not only in Danville but across the globe.

In fact in May of last year, the Louisiana House unanimously voted to have the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Health study the effects of 5G on both the environment and on public health. And only one month before that a 5G pilot project in Brussels was halted out of fear negative health impacts on citizens.



"I cannot welcome such technology if the radiation standards, which must protect the citizen, are not respected, 5G or not," Environment minister Céline Fremault told Bruzz. "The people of Brussels are not guinea pigs whose health I can sell at a profit. We cannot leave anything to doubt."

University of California, Berkeley, public health researcher Joel Moskowitz recently warned in Scientific American that we don't fully understand the risks of 5G in an article titled "We Have No Reason To Believe 5G is Safe."

Moskowitz notes that localities like those mentioned above are acting on sound scientific evidence, not merely conspiracy theories, and that those scientists who have engaged in research on the topic and thus sounded the alarm are being dismissed as fear mongers.

Based on scientific research, Moskowitz writes that more than 240 scientists who have researched the biologic and health effects of nonionizing electromagnetic fields (EMF) and published more than 2,000 papers and letters signed the International EMF Scientist Appeal calling for stronger EMF exposure limits. The appeal states:

"Numerous recent scientific publications have shown that EMF affects living organisms at levels well below most international and national guidelines. Effects

include increased cancer risk, cellular stress, increase in harmful free radicals, genetic damages, structural and functional changes of the reproductive system, learning and memory deficits, neurological disorders, and negative impacts on general well-being in humans. Damage goes well beyond the human race, as there is growing evidence of harmful effects to both plant and animal life."



5G towers are being erected all across the country.

Nevertheless, the FDA reaffirmed the FCC's 1996 exposure limits. In an April 2019 letter, the FDA told the FCC that they had "concluded that no changes to the current standards are warranted at this time," and that "NTP's experimental findings should not be applied to human cell phone usage." The letter goes on to explain that "the available scientific evidence to date does not support adverse health effects in humans due to exposures at or under the current limits." Research is indeed lacking when it comes to 5G but this is because the technology is new and should therefore warrant study before being put to use. However, we do possess evidence that 2G and 3G can be harmful to human health and anecdotal evidence that 4G is harmful as well. Unfortunately, due to an unsurprising lack of government funding, studies into the effects of 4G exposure are lacking.



But even estimating the potential effects of 5G based on those of 2G, 3G, and 4G will result in accuracies as 5G is brand new—the technology uses millimeter waves for the very first time. And with the required increase in cell antennas needed for the technology to even work, more people will be exposed than ever before.

According to Moskowitz, short-term exposure to these millimeter waves "can have adverse physiological effects in the peripheral nervous system, the immune system and the cardiovascular system. The research suggests that long-term exposure may pose health risks to the skin (e.g., melanoma), the eyes (e.g., ocular melanoma) and the testes (e.g., sterility)."

It isn't a stretch to say the potential effects of 5G technology are worth exploring before jumping into the 5G roll out head first. But it appears 5G is yet another example of consumers willingly trading in their health, privacy, or data for the sake of convenience and the latest technological advances without question.

If the 5G roll out proves successful without meaningful and thorough study of the health impacts as some are demanding, we may find ourselves inundated with a surge of cancers in the coming years followed by a surge of donations into the cancer treatment complex rather than an overhaul into the cause. But as long as our cars, our hospitals, and our doorbells are connect to The Internet of Things who are we to complain? (Courtesy https://themindunleashed.com/)

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