



NEW SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS OF 112

On December 12, 2024, Public Safety Command Center 112 of the Ministry of Internal Affairs purchased 30 surveillance cameras worth 84,963 GEL from the Chinese company Dahua Technology. This is not the first instance[1] of state agencies procuring cameras produced by Chinese companies. As for Dahua, it has been linked to several international scandals.

SIGNIFICANT FACTS:



The Georgian government continues its partnership with sanctioned Chinese companies

- In 2022, The Federal Communications Commission adopted new rules prohibiting purchasing or importing communications equipment from Dahua. At the same time, Dahua was named as one of the Chinese Military Companies. As a result, purchasing surveillance cameras and telecommunications equipment from Dahua has become prohibited.
- In 2023 the Australian government implemented the same decision as the United States, prohibiting surveillance cameras manufactured by Dahua Technology. The minister of Defense and Deputy Prime Minister of Australia announced that Dahua Technology cameras would be removed from the Defense Department building as well



The Georgian government maintains relationships with international sponsors of the War in Ukraine.

 The National Agency on Corruption Prevention of Ukraine included the Chinese company Dahua Technology in the list of international sponsors of the war. In 2022 after the intervention in Ukraine, Dahua Technology continued providing Russia with safety equipment.



The Georgian government continues to deny the challenges in the domain of cyber safety.

- According to the document published by the National Cyber Security Centre of Latvia, these cameras carry the risk of being exploited for unauthorized connections, which increases the risks of cyber attacks.
- Due to the growing risk of cyber attacks, the United Kingdom banned the installation of cameras manufactured by the company in public buildings in 2023. The Georgian government ignores the damaged international reputations of companies regarding human rights when signing contracts.



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With the security risks, Dahua Technology's name is also associated with accusations
of racism and discrimination. Particularly, according to documents published by the
company itself, Dahua Technology produces cameras that can specifically recognize
Uyghurs, which makes it possible to automatically identify this data and provide it to
relevant state agencies.

Thus, Western states are increasingly trying to limit ties with Chinese companies with questionable reputations. In this context, the illegitimate Georgian government is strengthening its anti-Western course and, despite the risks associated with national security, is actively cooperating with Chinese companies.

