

China Cord Not Quite Cut

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Is it good news?

LinkedIn recently announced that it's ending the current form of its service in China, citing the "challenging" environment.

"While we've found success in helping Chinese members find jobs . . . we have not found [the same] success in the more social aspects of sharing and staying informed.

We're also facing a significantly more challenging operating environment . . ."

Part of the problem has been China's unremitting censorship. Which was not openly discussed in

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the LinkedIn post, of course.

Another part has been the Microsoft-owned firm's willingness, as the price of doing business in China, to do the Chinazi government's bidding in censoring dictatorship-disfavored posts. Also not openly discussed.



So now LinkedIn will replace the full LinkedIn experience with an app for China-based users that is a "standalone jobs application."

Whether this means that LinkedIn will no longer censor Chinese LinkedIn users remains to be seen. For example, China is likely to demand censorship of a user if it sees a disapproved organization mentioned in a job posting.

At that point, will LinkedIn leave China entirely?

Given the Chinese government's history, why wait?

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That public opinion has swayed Microsoft and LinkedIn to the extent that they will no longer abet China's censorship of social media is good. But still doing business with CCP-controlled China is fraught with danger. Why? Because China is fraught with tyranny.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.