

China's top spy agency warns of 'gene weapons' able to target specific ethnicity or race

- Some nations targeting Chinese population for 'ulterior motives', Ministry of State Security says on official WeChat account without offering details
- While some call it 'science fiction', advanced DNA sequencing, genetic data and AI may make 'ethnic bioweapons' a reality, researchers say

Some countries have "armed" themselves with deadly weapons targeting human genes, China's top spy agency alleged on Monday – the first time a Chinese state body has mentioned such a threat publicly.

In a post on its official WeChat account, the Ministry of State Security said some nations had targeted the Chinese population for "ulterior motives".

The ministry did not name those countries or offer evidence to support the claim.

The existence of such weapons has long been dismissed by the mainstream scientific community as a conspiracy theory.

In a report in February last year, researchers from the Council on Strategic Risks said the threat of bioweapons as a deterrent was "irrelevant" because no country was safe from the effects of a pandemic.

But what the Chinese ministry is alleging countries have made is not a biological agent engineered for the entire world but rather the creation of a targeted threat, or genetic weapons.

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