

# MI5 head warns of 'epic scale' of Chinese espionage

**More than 20,000 people in the UK have now been approached covertly online by Chinese spies, the head of MI5 said.**

It comes amid a new warning to tens of thousands of British businesses of the risk of having their innovation stolen.

Ken McCallum was speaking to the BBC at an unprecedented public appearance of the security chiefs of the Five Eyes alliance in California.

The heads of US, UK, Australian, Canadian and New Zealand security agencies appeared together.

They did so for the first time to warn of commercial secrets being obtained by China.

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**Source:** <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-67142161>

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