

## **Response from DarkMatter**

The Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited DarkMatter to respond to allegations that the company is behind the back development of the ToTok messaging app, an app allegedly serving as a mass surveillance tool for the UAE government. News articles mention that ToTok tracks users' conversations, movement, social connections, sound and image.

- [“It Seemed Like a Popular Chat App. It’s Secretly a Spy Tool,”](#) New York Times, 22 Dec 2019
- [“Messaging app ToTok is reportedly a spying tool for the UAE,”](#) Engadget, 22 Dec 2019

On 5 February 2020, DarkMatter sent the following response:

“DarkMatter is not involved in, and has no connection to, the development or distribution of the TokTok application you reference below.

We have no knowledge of, or affiliation with, the company or persons responsible for this software application – and categorically deny any of the allegations cited below in your email.”