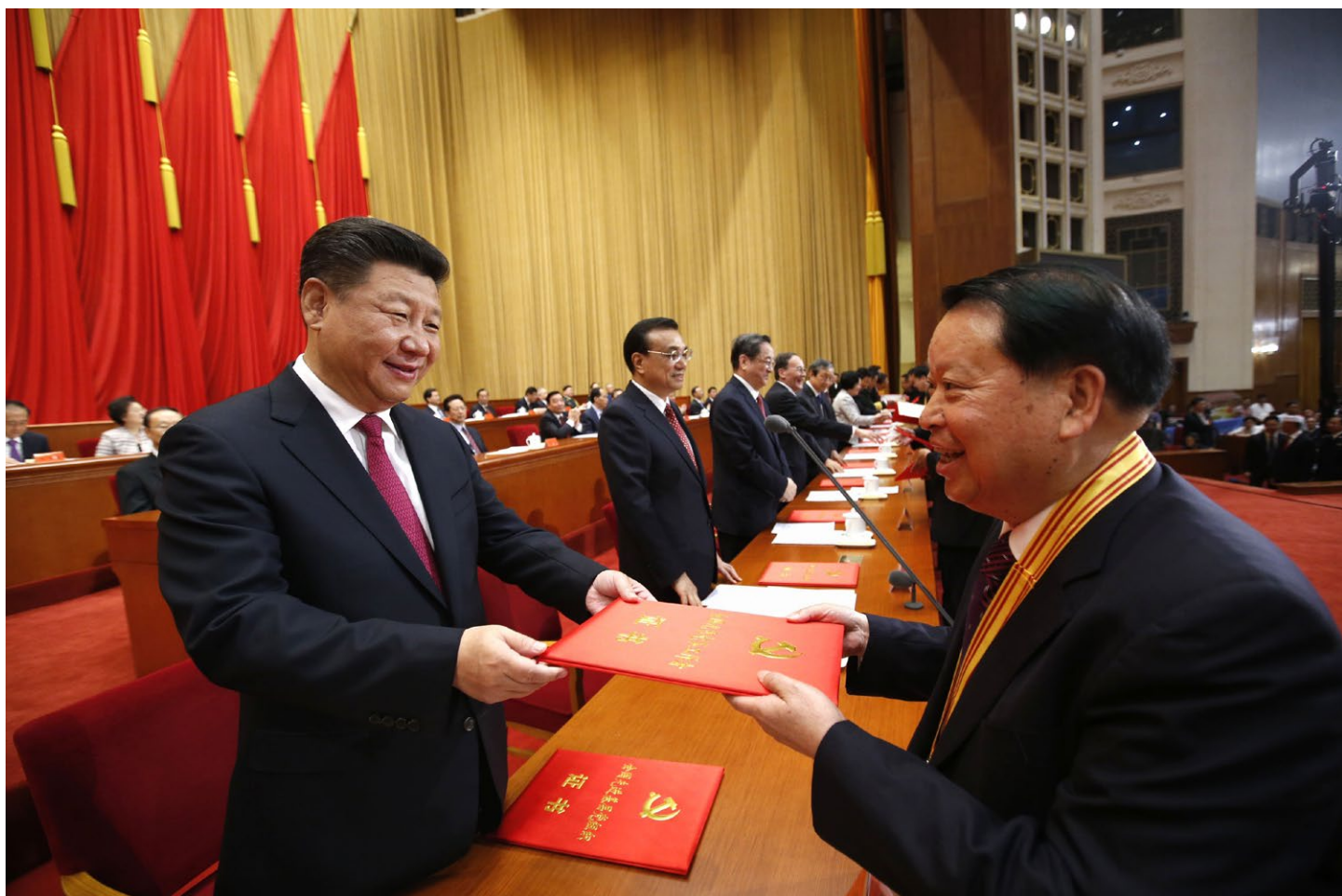


July 1, 1921 - July 1, 2016

China marks 95th anniversary of founding of CPC

Editor's note: July 1, 2016 marks the 95th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the ruling party of China. The CPC leads the nation toward prosperity through arduous journey and is pressing ahead with wisdom and courage in face of challenges.

95 years on, CPC epic continues



Chinese President Xi Jinping (L) and other senior leaders award certificates to outstanding individuals and representatives of outstanding units at a rally marking the 95th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China in Beijing, July 1, 2016.

As the Communist Party of China (CPC) celebrates its 95th birthday, Party members have been urged to be motivated, self-disciplined, confident, and – most importantly – loyal to the CPC mission.

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, also Chinese president, delivered a keynote speech at a grand gathering in Beijing on July 1, calling on his 88.758 million comrades to uphold the fighting spirit of the Party's founding members and their commitment to the people.

In fact, the Party's 95th anniversary was more than a celebration. It was also a reflection of how far it has come and how it should navigate through the future.

Looking back

"One who wants to move ahead should not forget the path that was trodden. No matter how far we travel and how our bright future is, we should not forget what we have done and why we set out to do it," Xi said at the rally.

In its 95-year history, three generations of CPC central leadership have led the Party and the country to overcome numerous difficulties and challenges, Xi recalled before highlighting three major accomplishments the Party has achieved.

The first is that it led the Chinese people to revolution, which in turn led to national independence and the founding of the People's Republic of China. The revolution also ended the country's semi-feudal and semi-colonial status and brought about a historic transformation from a feudal autocracy to a "people's democracy."

The second is that the CPC established a socialist system after the revolution, laying a solid foundation for the country to move towards prosperity.

The third is that the Party carried out a "new great revolution" of reform and opening up, bringing about a notable increase in the country's economic and national strength.

Without the leadership of a party equipped with advanced theories and strong commitment and dedication, the Chinese nation would not have been able to change its state of oppression and enslavement and the country would not have become united and prosperous, Xi said.

China should therefore adhere to the leadership of the CPC and never stray away from socialism with Chinese characteristics, he concluded.



The CPC's approach to the world

Looking forward

"We do not intend to seek comfort from our success nor to bury our heads in the past to avoid facing today's challenges and problems," Xi told the attendees.

Noting that it is a long and tough mission to develop socialism with Chinese characteristics, Xi urged the whole Party to be prepared to face challenges and risks, remove barriers and solve problems.

The CPC must continue improving itself if it is to remain in power. Xi demanded that Party members uphold political integrity, keep the bigger picture in mind and act consistently with CPC Central Committee policy.

He also vowed to continue the fight against corruption, which he deemed "the biggest threat to the ruling party." After more than three years of hitting "tigers" and swatting "flies," parlance for high-ranking officials and low-ranking bureaucrats, respectively, the anti-corruption drive is gaining momentum.

"We will maintain our zero-tolerance attitude toward corruption and look into every case involving corruption," Xi said.

Development is a top priority for the Party, Xi stated while calling for intensified efforts in supply-side structural reform. He also emphasized the fight against poverty, vowing to bring more benefits from reform and to ensure that development fairly benefits everyone.

Xi also demanded that the whole Party strengthen confidence in socialism with Chinese characteristics while adapting Marxist principles to China's current realities.

Xi also vowed that China would not resort to the threat of force nor flaunt its military power, pledging that China will work with people of all countries to push world order and global governance system toward a more just and reasonable direction.

Striking a chord

Li Junru, former vice president of the Party School of the CPC Central Committee, said that he was impressed by Xi's call to "stay true to the mission and keep striving forward."

"The decline of a party always starts with a fading of faith, and it is important to keep faith in mind," Li said.

"The fundamental role the CPC has in guiding the Chinese people through reform and opening up is undeniable," noted Jose Ramon Machado, the second secretary of Cuba's Communist Party.

The Party can always surpass its past successes because it can use new thoughts and new strategies as powerful ideological weapons, unite and lead Chinese people from all ethnic groups and vigorously advance its undertakings in various fields, analyzed Vichian Piakhong, vice president of the Thai Young Chinese Chamber of Commerce.



Members of the Communist Party of China (CPC) recite the oath to join the CPC at the site where the CPC held its first national congress in Shanghai, July 1, 2016. The site reopened to the public after a major refurbishment and expansion on July 1, the 95th anniversary of the Party's founding.

CPC Basics



What is the CPC?



CPC Constitution



CPC emblem
(Design of sickle & hammer)



CPC flag



Organization of
CPC leadership



CPC FAQs



The Communist Party of China in Numbers



The total number of the Communist Party of China (CPC) members reached **88.758 million** at the end of 2015, an increase of **965,000** people and **1.1%** from 2014.



There were **4.413 million** grassroots CPC units, an increase of **54,000** and **1.2%** from 2014.

There were **213,000** grassroots CPC committees, **276,000** general branches, and **3.924 million** local branches.



Gender, ethnic group, and educational background of CPC members



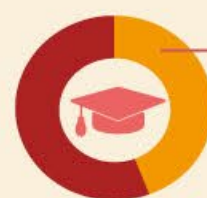
25.1%

Female members
22.278 million



7.0%

Members from ethnic minority groups
6.18 million

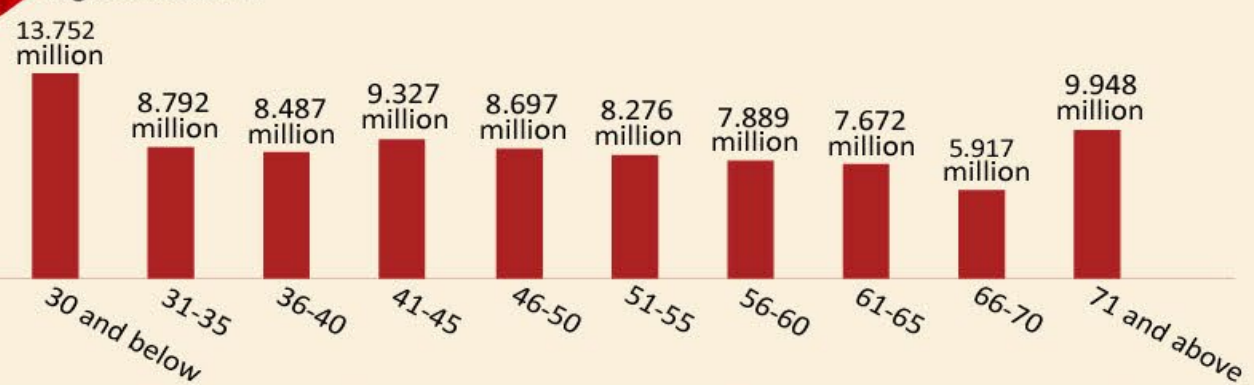


44.3%

Members with college or above education
39.324 million



Age distribution



Occupation



Workers
7.244 million



Farmers
herdsmen
fishermen
26.025 million



Professionals at companies,
public institutions, and private,
not-for-profit organizations
12.945 million



Management staff at companies, public
institutions, and private, not-for-profit
organizations
9.114 million



Civil servants and officials at
CPC or state organizations
7.485 million



Students
2.034 million



Other occupations
7.33 million



Retirees
16.581 million



Intra-CPC awards



Outstanding grassroots CPC units
158,000



Outstanding CPC members
910,000



Outstanding CPC affair-related personnel
157,000



Application to join the CPC

There were **22.247 million** people applying to join the CPC at the end of 2015, with **9.983 million** active candidates who are about to be admitted once they pass the tests and review.



CPC units



Local CPC committees



There were a total of **3,206 CPC committees** at various levels

Province
31

City
391

County
2,784



CPC units at city sub-districts, townships, neighborhood communities, rural villages

A total of **7,828** city sub-districts, **32,341** townships, **94,424** neighborhood communities, **571,544** rural villages have established CPC units, accounting for **99%** of their kind.



CPC units at government organs and public institutions

233,000 government organs have established CPC units, accounting for **99.6%** of all organs.

511,000 public institutions have established CPC units, accounting for **93.7%** of public institutions, an increase of 1% over last year.



CPC units at enterprises

192,000 public-owned enterprises have established CPC units, accounting for **90.9%** of all public-owned enterprises.

1.602 million out of 3.093 million non-public owned enterprises have established CPC units, accounting for **51.8%** of all non-public owned enterprises.



CPC units at non-governmental organizations

204,000 non-governmental organizations have established CPC units, an increase of **20,000** from last year and accounting for **41.5%** of all non-governmental organizations.



Voices from scholars

The quotes are listed in alphabetical order by each scholar's last name.



Kerry Brown, Director of China Studies Center and Professor of Chinese Politics, University of Sydney

I wish China well as it continues its journey towards a more prosperous, developed economic model. For the last nine and a half decades, the Communist Party of China has been close to, or central, to the project of modernity in China, and the impact, influence and understanding of this are crucial for the outside world.



Eugene Clark, Dean of the Sydney City School of Law, Professor of China University of Political Science and Law, Griffith University, and University of Canberra

Congratulations to the Communist Party of China on its 95th Anniversary. The progress that China has made under the Party's leadership has been amazing. Never in history have so many people been brought out of poverty in such a short time. China is united, and the Chinese people are creating an economy and culture that have made and continue to make remarkable progress in pursuing the "Chinese dream."



Sava Hassan, Canadian Egyptian author, poet and educator

With tremendous pleasure, I wish to extend my heart-felt best wishes to my beloved China on the precious occasion of the 95th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China. May you continue your excellent efforts in bringing prosperity and good fortune to the distinguished Chinese people. On July 1st, I shall raise my glass to share with my fellow Chinese in toasting this wonderful event.



Heiko Khoo, a columnist, video producer, historian and a well-known public speaker in London

We all owe a debt to the revolutionaries who founded the Communist Party of China 95 years ago. The Party defeated the fascist invaders from Japan because the honesty and integrity of its members won the support of the masses. In 1949, it created a new nation and a new society. From the 1980s onwards China experienced the most extraordinary development of productive forces in world history. Fraternal greetings to Chinese comrades and to the people of China on this historic anniversary.



Sumantra Maitra, foreign affairs journalist and research scholar on foreign policy and neo-realism based in London

As a political scientist, I look forward with great interest to seeing what direction China takes under the leadership of the CPC, as it celebrates its 95th anniversary. As I have written often, there is hope and desire in policy circles here in the West, both in Europe and the Americas, that in the future we might see a G2 power sharing, which is how the CPC describes win-win cooperation. There are glimpses of that already in the Asia-Pacific region. Britain, where I live now, is also hopeful about strong economic ties with China in the near future. I am fairly certain it is going to be very positive and exciting.



Sajjad Malik, journalist, columnist and researcher based in Pakistan

I would like to congratulate the Communist Party of China on its 95th anniversary. The Party deserves a lot of credit and appreciation for its untiring efforts to develop and transform China into a modern country. The centralized fast-track development story of China will go a long way in history as a model of development that has helped millions of people, directly and indirectly, to have a better life.



James DeShaw Rae, Associate Professor in the Dept. of Government at California State University

The 95th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China allows us to commemorate the blood, sweat, sacrifice and perseverance of those committed revolutionaries who against all odds fought to create a "New China." Perhaps even more remarkably, the Party has adapted to changes in the modern world while providing independence, peace, prosperity and development for the world's most populous country.



John Ross, Senior Fellow of Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies, Renmin University of China

China has raised 725 million people out of internationally defined poverty with the leadership of the Communist Party of China - the rest of the world managed only 152 million. This achievement is the greatest contribution to real human rights and human well-being of any country in the world.

Raised red: Party membership through three generations

July 1st marks the 95th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC). We talked to a number of Party members about why and how they signed up to the Party in the first place and how membership has changed their life.

For the 81-year-old Ye Xinzhu, being a member of the Communist Party of China (CPC) is like the air she breathes every day.

She joined the CPC in 1956 when she was 21 years old. She didn't tell her family about it until being admitted, leaving her mother overjoyed when she heard the news. "She ran all over the neighborhood to tell all our neighbors about it," she said.

Ye was first impressed with the Party during the Chinese Civil War, also known as the Liberation War, in the 1940s. The capital city Beijing was under the reign of the Kuomintang (the Nationalist Party) before 1949 and the CPC only came to power after 1949.

"When the Kuomintang was there before the Liberation War, they often borrowed things from our families but never returned them. And when they came and asked my mother to cook pancakes for them, they never returned the flour. My mother always had to hide our flour from them, though it didn't work." Food and other necessities were rarities in the 1940s in China, especially for Ye's working-class family of seven people.

"So, later when the Eight Route Army came and borrowed things, my family and our neighbors were quite unwilling at first. But we were really impressed after seeing them return things at exactly the time they said. And all our cookeries they returned were fresh and clean! I'd never seen an army do that!" recalled Ye. The Eight Route Army, which later constituted the People's Liberation Army, was led by the CPC.

"I was in my formative teenager years then, so that registered deeply in my mind," Ye said.

When Ye began working at the National Planning Committee (which later became the present-day National Development and Reform Commission, China's economic planner), she found that most of her co-workers were CPC members. Living in the dorm provided by the committee, Ye and her colleagues, who were slightly older than her, bonded immediately.

"They often took us younger girls to the dances held in nearby parks. We would dance among ourselves, really enjoying the moment." For Ye, the sense of community and the wish to learn from her "more politically conscious" co-workers encouraged her to join the Party.

"Being a Party member means you care for the country and its people more than others do," Ye said, recalling all the work she has done to help the people around her.

Sixty years into Party membership, the grey-haired member said she still cares for the Party.

Being tech-savvy, she likes to read political news online and on WeChat (China's answer to WhatsApp and Facebook) to keep herself posted on what's going on in the country.

"What have I gained most (from joining the Party)? I would say political consciousness. When I see unjust things happen, I prefer not to look on with folded arms... I have always followed the calling of the Party my whole life," she said with pride.



Wang Shujie (L) and Pan Yue are students at Capital Normal University.



Ye Xinzhu, an 81-year-old member of the Communist Party of China.

Millennial Party members

Unlike Ye, who witnessed the CPC leading China through the country's darkest and most turbulent times, Wang Shujie and Pan Yue, two girls aged 20, are more proud of the Party and the country's present activities.

The two are what's called Yubeidangyuan, or probationary Party members, which means that they are not fully-fledged CPC members yet.

The process of being admitted into the Party is arduous, said the two Chinese literature students of Capital Normal University.

They filed an application to the Party unit of the Chinese Department of their college last year. After being recognized as active candidates, they need to write 3,000-word reports once a month regarding their opinion of the Party or a discussion of current affairs, attend Party-related sessions, take part in all the meetings organized by the Party unit and do volunteer work as much as they can.

Despite their tremendous efforts, only one or two students out of a 40-strong class will be admitted into the Party each year.

They believe joining the Party is "an honorable and purposeful thing to do."

Wang's parents and Pan's father are Party members, and they have influenced the two young women since they were children. But they are more drawn to the Party due to the miraculous achievements the Party and the country have made in the past few decades.

"For example, we now have quite good relations with the United States, our ties with Japan are improving, and we are good friends with South Korea. Thanks to the Party, China has more say in the world now than it did decades ago," said the two, beaming with pride.

They said they just had a debate in their dorm the night before, talking about the ongoing anti-corruption campaign in the country and various political systems throughout the world.

"Every political party has its problems, but it will improve itself if it keeps rectifying these problems, like the crackdown on corruption," Wang said.

Asked whether they admired the two-party or multi-party systems in other countries, they snapped, "No! They're unstable! They're not a match for China!"

Party training

Echoing the two's thoughts is Huan Lei, who is a teacher at the Party School of the Central Committee of the CPC, the country's highest institution for training Party officials.

There are various training bases for Party officials in China, expanding from the capital to every province, city and county.

According to Huan, who has been a Party member since 2007, higher-ranking officials

across the country are required to attend a two-month training session at the Central Party School at least once every five years, and other lesser Party officials are selected to attend other training sessions, which last half a year or an entire year.

The courses touch on a variety of topics, ranging from enhancing Party officials' belief in the CPC to their understanding of the history of the CPC, China's economics and the country's international relations.

"Each and every official comes here with many questions in their mind. Most of the questions focus on the development of their specific area," Huan said. His students include



Huan Lei, a teacher at the Party School of the Central Committee of the CPC.

Tibetan officials, who he said cared about how to maintain stability and drive economic development in the highland area as well as how to interpret the central government's policies in Tibet. These trainings definitely benefit Party officials, said Huan.

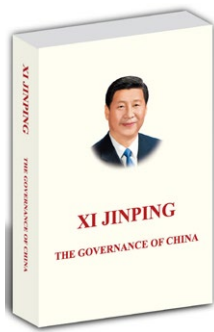
Apart from Party school sessions which are intended for officials only, there are Party gatherings and sessions offered by what's called "grassroots Party units" for ordinary Party members.

For 81-year-old Ye and 20-year-old Wang and Pan, they attend these gatherings regularly. Most of the time they study the country's major policies, and they sometimes also reread classic Communist literature.

"I love attending Party gatherings very much. I wish there could be more of them," said Ye, whose Party unit holds such gatherings once every three months. When she is there, she likes to exchange ideas and sometimes debate with her fellow retired Party members about what's going on in the country.

About two girls listening to heroic stories about Party members, where belief in the Party and the love for the country become inseparable. As to where the Party is headed, the young people are convinced it will lead Chinese people to a better future.

Selected works on the CPC



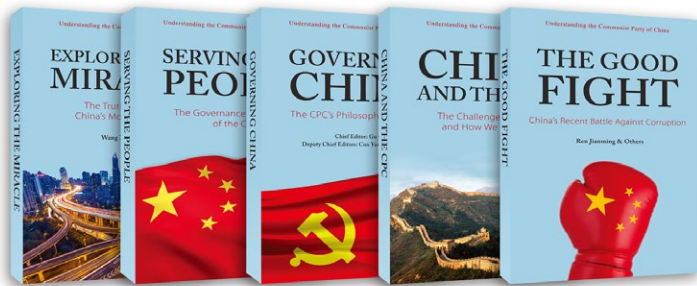
Xi Jinping: The Governance of China

“Xi Jinping: The Governance of China” has 18 categories, containing 79 speeches, informal talks, addresses, answers to questions from the press, approvals and congratulatory letters from Xi Jinping between Nov. 15, 2012 and June 13, 2014. It offers notes to help international readers understand China’s social institutions, history and culture. There are also 45 photos of Xi taken in different eras, to give readers a better sense of his work and life.



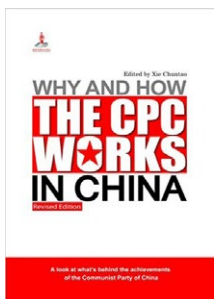
A Great Road to Take: The CPC and China's Socialism

The book “A Great Road to Take: The CPC and China’s Socialism” is written by five young scholars. With an understanding of China and the West, with an interdisciplinary academic field of vision, and from the aspects of civilization, politics, society, basic level and economy, the writers analyze the advantages and problems of China’s road, China’s system and China’s governance, and probe into how the CPC overcomes multiple crises and challenges.



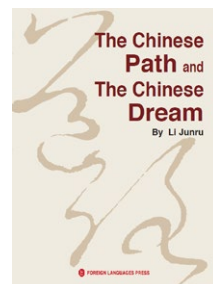
Understanding the CPC through book series

The series, which consists of five books, Exploring the Miracle, Serving the People, Governing China, China and the CPC and The Good Fight, addresses the fundamental questions that foreign readers have regarding China, including the country’s one-Party rule, Party structure, organization and governance, how the CPC brought about China’s development “miracle”, its remarkable anti-corruption campaign, and challenges it faces in the future.



Why and How the CPC Works in China

The international community now views China and the CPC with increasing respect because of a series of important and symbolic events. “China Model,” “China Road” and “China Experience” have become hot topics of discussion both at home and abroad. This book answers 13 questions about how the CPC works in China and why the Party has made great achievements in the past decades.



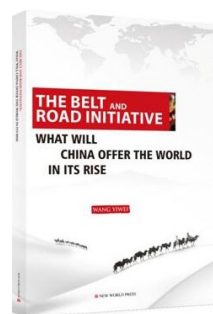
The Chinese Path and the Chinese Dream

The book “The Chinese Path and the Chinese Dream,” written by Li Junru, former vice president of the Party School of the Central Committee of the CPC, manages to elaborate on the concepts of the Chinese path and Chinese Dream, increase people’s understanding, reduce misinterpretation and advance the influence of the Chinese Dream concept in all over the world.



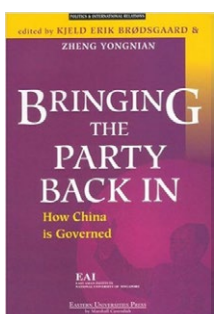
How China Is Pulling Ahead

Zhang Weiwei, a distinguished professor at Fudan University, discusses how China is overtaking the U.S.-led West in terms of development, including GDP, per-capita wealth, social security, institutional arrangement and scientific and technological innovation in his book “How China Is Pulling Ahead.” The most interesting section of the book is the one on China’s institutional arrangement, which details the superiority of China’s political institutions.



The Belt and Road Initiative: What Will China Offer the World in Its Rise

In his new book “The Belt and Road Initiative: What Will China Offer the World in Its Rise,” Wang Yiwei argues for the unsustainability of the U.S.-dominated globalization and pointed out that the “Belt and Road” initiative proposed by China is a great solution to narrow the gaps, initiate a true and inclusive globalization and become the main theme of the 21st century.



Bring the Party Back in: How China Is Governed

“Bring the Party Back in: How China Is Governed,” written by Kjeld Erik Brodsgaard and Zheng Yongnian, looks at how the CPC has been able to avoid predictions of a breakdown of its rule and revitalize itself by reaching out to new social forces and strengthening its organizational machine. Through analysis and research, the authors bring the CPC back into the focus in their understanding of China’s development.