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Constitution of the People's Republic of China (Full text after amendment on March 14, 2004) (Adopted at the Fifth Session of the National People's Congress on December 4, 1982 Amended in accordance with the Amendments to the Constitution of the People's Republic of China adopted respectively at the First Session of the Seventh National People's Congress on March 15, 1999 and the Second Session of the Eighth National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the First Session of the Eighth National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the Eighth National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the Second Session of the National People's Congress on March 29, 1993, the National People Session of the National People Session of the National People Session of Congress on March 14, 2004) Constitution of China "Constitution of China" redirects here. For other uses, see Constitution of China (disambiguation). This article by introducing more precise citations. (June 2013) (Learn how and when to remove this template message) Constitution of the People's Republic of ChinaCover of the current constitutionOverviewOriginal title中华人民共和国宪法JurisdictionPeople's Republic of China (including Hong Kong and Macau)RatifiedDecember 4, 1982Date effectiveDecember 4, 1982SystemUnitary Marxist-Leninist one-party socialist republicGovernment structureBranchesSix (Legislative, Executive, Military, Supervisory, Judicial, Procuratorial)Head of statePresidentChambersUnicameral (National People's CourtSupreme People's ProcuratoriateFederalismUnitary with special administrative regions Electoral collegeYes - the National People's Congress, which elects all other state authorities, is itself elected by two layers of Indirect election: County and Township People's Congress. History First legislatureSeptember 21, 1949 (Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference)September 27, 1954 (National People's Congress)First executiveSeptember 27, 1954 (Chairman)October 1, 1949 (Premier)First courtOctober 22, 1949Amendments5Last amended11 March 2018LocationBeijingCommissioned by11th Communist Party Central CommitteeSupersedes1978 Constitution of the People's Republic of ChinaFull text Constitution of the People's Republic of ChinaTraditional Chinese中華人民共和国憲法Simplified Chinese中华人民共和国宪法TranscriptionsStandard MandarinHanyu PinyinZhōnghuá Rénmín Gònghéguó Xiànfǎ Politics of China Leadership Leadership Leadership Gore: Xi Jinping 19th Party Politburo: Xi Jinpin of precedence Paramount leader: Xi Jinping Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Keqiang Congress Chairman: Li Zhanshu Conference Chairman: Wang Yang Commander-in-chief: Xi Jinping Politburo Standing Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Communist Party leader: Xi Jinping Head of government: Li Xeqiang Congress Chairman: Wang Yang Congress Chairman: Wa Organization Department Elections Civil service Communist Party History Principal leaders Constitution Admission Oath (Article 6) Organization National Party Congress (19th) Central Secretary: Wang Huning Central Military Commission Chairman: Xi Jinping Vice-Chairman: Xi Jin General: Wang Huning Financial & Economic Affairs Commission Director: Xi Jinping Deputy Director: Liu He General Secretary Chief: Ding Xuexiang Central Security Bureau Central Guard Unit Office of the Central Secretary Chief: Ding Xuexiang Office Office Director: Ding Xuexiang Office Office Director: Affairs Commission Director: Ding Xuexiang Office Office Director: Ding Xuexiang Chen Xi Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (19th) Standing Committee Standing Committee Standing Committee Chairman: Wang Yang Vice-Chairpersons Top-ranked: Zhang Qingli Secretary-General: Xia Baolong Political parties: CCP (ruling) United Front Work Department Head: You Quan RCCKCDLCDNCACAPDCPWDPCZGPJSTDSGL Historical parties: KMTCDSPCYP Federation of Industry and Commerce People's organizations Ideology Marxism-Leninism Mao Zedong Thought Socialism with Chinese characteristics Deng Xiaoping Theory Primary stage of socialism Four Cardinal Principles Three Represents Scientific Outlook on Development Harmonious Socialist Society Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era Chinese Dream Four Comprehensives Constitution Previous constitution Previous constitutions 195419751978 "People's democratic dictatorship" (Article 1) Democratic centralism (Article 3) Constitutional oath of office (Article 27) Protection of human rights (Article 33) Freedom of religion (Article 36) Chinese legal system Civil law tradition Laws Legislation Law List of statutes General Principles of the Civil Law (to 2020) Civil Code (From 2021) Marriage Law Labour law Labour Law Labour Contract Law Property law Property law Property law Property Law Intellectual property law Property Law Intellectual property law Propert Li Zhanshu Vice-Chairpersons Top-ranked: Wang Chen Secretary-General: Yang Zhenwu [zh] Council of Chairpersons Members Special committees Ethnic Affairs Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Foreign Affairs Overseas Chinese Affairs Environment Protection and Resources Conservation Agriculture and Rural Affairs Social Development Affairs Social Premier (list): Li Keqiang Vice-Premiers (list) Han ZhengSun ChunlanHu ChunhuaLiu He State Councilors Wei FengheWang YiXiao JieZhao Kezhi Secretary-General Deputy Secretaries-General State-owned Assets Supervision & Administration Commission most Central Enterprises Military Commission (CMC) Chairman (supreme commander): Xi Jinping Vice-Chairman: Xu QiliangZhang Youxia Members: Wei FengheLi ZuochengMiao HuaZhang Shengmin Departments: General Office Director: Zhong Shaojun Joint Staff Dept. Chief: Li Zuocheng Political Work Dept. Director: Miao Hua Logistic Support Dept. Director: Miao Hua L Planning Office Reform & Organizational Structure Office Audit Office Administration Agency National Structure Office Int'l Military Cooperation Office Administration Agency National Structure Office Int'l Military Cooperation Office Administration Agency National Structure Office Int'l Military Cooperation Office Administration Agency National Structure Office Int'l Military Cooperation Office Int'l Mi National Defense Minister: Wei Fenghe Ministry of Veterans Affairs State Administration for Sci., Tech. & Industry for National Defense Military Reform Leader: Xi Jinping Supervision Corruption in China Anti-corruption campaign since 2012 CCP Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (19th) Secretary: Zhao Leji Deputy Se Commission for Discipline Inspection of the Central Military Commission Against Corruption (Macau) JudiciaryLaw enforcement CCP Central Politics and Law Commission Secretary: Guo Shengkun Supreme People's Court President: Zhou Qiang People's Courts Judicial Police Supreme People's Procuratorate Prosecutor General: Zhao Kezhi (State Councilor) Public Security Organs People's Police State Immigration Administration Local public security bureaus Ministry of State Security Minister: Chen Wenqing State Security Organs People's Police Ministry of Justice Ministrative Organs People's Police Bureau of Prison Administrative Organs People's Police Bureau of Prison Administrative Organs People's Police Bureau of Prison Administration [zh] Office for Safeguarding National Security of the CPG in the HKSAR Urban Management (chengguan) Judiciary of Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal Department of Justice Prosecutions Division Law enforcement in Hong Kong Security Bureau Regular Disciplined Services Hong Kong Police Force Judiciary of Macau Security Force Unitary Police Services [zh] Public Security Police [zh] Propaganda Central Leading Group for Propaganda and Ideology Leader: Wang Huning Central Guidance Commission on Building Spiritual Civilization Director: Wang Huning National Press and Publication Administration China Film Administration [zh] State Council Information Office China Daily Ministry of Culture and Tourism National Radio China R jamming Overseas censorship of Chinese issues Media of China Internal media Publishing industry in China Internet in China Internet censorship Great Firewall Great Cannon Central Cyberspace Affairs Commission Director: Xi Jinping Deputy director: Xi Jinping Deputy director: Li Keqiang Cyberspace Administration of China Director: Xu Lin Hong KongMacau Central Leading Group on Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Leader: Han Zheng HK & Macau Affairs Office Director: Zhang Xiaoming Liaison Office in Hong Kong Basic Law Chief Executive: Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor Hong Kong SAR Government Politics of Hong Kong SAR Government Politics of Hong Kong Basic Law Chief Executive: Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor Hong Kong SAR Government Politics of Hong Kong SAR Government Politics Office Hong SAR Government Polit Independence movement Mainland & HK CEPA Macao Basic Law Chief Executive: Chui Sai On Macau SAR Government Politics of Macau Mainland & Macau CEPA Cross-Strait relations Cross-Strait independence movement Anti-Secession Law Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement Cross-Strait Service Trade Agreement Chinese unification Central Leading Group for Taiwan Affairs Deputy Leader: Xi Jinping Deputy Leader: Wang Yang Taiwan Affairs Office Director: Zhang Zhijun Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits Foreign relations Central Foreign Affairs Commission Director: Xi Jinping Deputy Director: Xi Jinping Deputy Director: Xi Jinping Deputy Director: Vang Jiechi Ministry of Foreign Affairs Minister: Wang Yi (State Councilor) Spokespersons Diplomatic missions Diplomatic missions of China International Development Cooperation Agency Ministry of Commerce Exim Bank of China China Development Bank Ministry of National Defense International Military Cooperation Office NPC Foreign Affairs Committee CCP International Liaison Department State Council Information Office State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs Overseas Chinese attionality law Chinese passports (Hong Kong; Macau) Visa policy of China (Hong Kong; Macau) V Beijing Consensus Sino-British Joint Declaration One country, two systems China-Africa relations China-European Union relations China-European Union relations China-European Union China-European Uni United States relations Related topics Administrative divisions Hukou system Family planning Ethnic minorities Communism China is nominally the supreme law of the People's Republic of China. It was adopted by the 5th National People's Congress on December 4, 1982, with further revisions about every five years. It is the fourth constitution in the country's history, superseding the 1954 constitution, the 1975 constitution, and the 1978 constitution, the 1975 constitution, and the 1978 constitution, the 1976 constitution of the People's Republic of China was declared in 1954. After two intervening versions enacted in 1975 and 1978, the current Constitution was declared in 1982. There were significant differences between each of these versions, and the 1982 Constitution has subsequently been amended five times. In addition, evolving constitution has subsequently been amended five times. government in the absence of changes in the Evange (Chapter 2) The Structure Preamble General Principles (Chapter 3) — which includes such state organs as the National People's Congress, the State Council, the Local People's Congress and Local People's Governments and the People's Courts and the People's Procuratorates The National Flag, the National Emblem and the Capital (Chapter 4).[2] 1982 Constitution There had been five major revisions by the National People's Congress (NPC) to the 1982 Constitution. The 1982 Constitution reflects Deng Xiaoping's determination to lay a lasting institutional foundation for domestic stability and modernization. The 1982 State Constitution provided a legal basis for the broad changes in China's social and economic institutions and significantly revised government structure. The posts of President (which were abolished in the 1975 and 1978) constitutions) are re-established in the 1982 Constitution. Prior to 1982 there were no term limits on key leadership posts. Deng imposed a two-term limit (10 years total) on all but the Central Military Commission.[3] Much of the PRC Constitution is modeled after the 1936 Constitution of the Soviet Union, but there are some significant differences. For example, while the Soviet constitution contains an explicit right of secession, the Chinese constitution formally creates a unitary multi-national state. The 1982 Constitution is a lengthy, hybrid document with 138 articles.[4] Large sections were adapted directly from the 1978 constitution, but many of its changes derive from the 1954 constitution. Specifically, the new Constitution de-emphasizes class struggle and places top priority on development and on incorporating the contributions and interests of non-party groups that can play a central role in modernization. Article 1 of the Constitution describes China as "a socialist state under the people's democratic dictatorship"[5] meaning that the system is based on an alliance of the working class. Elsewhereach of the working class. Elsewhereach of the working class. the Constitution provides for a renewed and vital role for the groups that make up that basic alliance—the CPPCC, democratic parties, and mass organizations. The 1982 Constitution expunges almost all of the rhetoric associated with the Cultural Revolution incorporated in the 1978 version. In fact, the Constitution omits all references to the Cultural Revolution and restates Chairman Mao Zedong's contributions in accordance with a major historical Issues of the Party since the Founding of the People's Republic."[6] Emphasis is also placed throughout the 1982 State Constitution on socialist law as a regulator of political behaviour. Unlike the 1977 Soviet Constitution, the text of the Constitution itself originally didn't explicitly mention the Chinese Communist Party outside the preamble. Thus, the rights and obligations of citizens are set out in detail far exceeding that provided in the 1978 constitution. Probably because of the excesses that filled the years of the Cultural Revolution, the 1982 Constitution gives even greater attention to clarifying citizens' "fundamental rights and duties" than the 1954 constitution gives even greater attention to clarifying citizens that filled the years of the Cultural Revolution, the 1982 Constitution gives even greater attention to clarifying citizens that filled the years of the Cultural Revolution, the 1984 constitution gives even greater attention to clarifying citizens. guarantees the freedom of religious worship as well as the "freedom not to believe in any religious bodies and religious worship as well as the "freedom of speech, of the press, of assembly, of association, of procession, and of demonstration."[5] In the 1978 constitution, these rights were guaranteed, but so were the right to strike and the "four bigs": to speak out freely, air views fully, hold great debates, and write big-character posters. In February 1980, following the Democracy Wall period, the four bigs were abolished in response to a party decision ratified by the National People's Congress. The right to strike was also dropped from the 1982 Constitution. The widespread expression of the four big rights during the student protests of late 1986 elicited the regime's strong censure because of their illegality. The official response cited Article 53 of the 1982 Constitution, which states that citizens must abide by the law and observe labor discipline and public order. Besides being illegal, practising the four big rights offered the possibility of straying into criticism of the Chinese Communist Party, which was in fact what appeared in student wall posters. In a new era that strove for political stability and economic development, party leaders considered the four big rights politically destabilizing. Chinese citizens are prohibited from forming new political parties.[7] Among the political rights granted by the constitution, all Chinese citizens have rights to elect and be elected.[8] According to the later promulgated election law, rural residents had only 1/4 vote power of townsmen (formerly 1/8). As Chinese citizens are categorized into rural residents are restricted by the Hukou (registered permanent residence) and have fewer political, economic, and educational rights. This problem has largely been addressed with various and ongoing reforms of Hukou in 2007. [citation needed] The fore-said ratio of vote power has been readjusted to 1:1 by an amendment to the election law passed in March 2010. [9] The 1982 State Constitution is also more specific about the responsibilities and functions of offices and organs in the state structure. There are clear admonitions against familiar Chinese practices that the reformers have labelled abuses, such as concentrating power in the hands of a few leaders and permitting lifelong tenure in leadership positions. On the other hand, the constitution strongly oppose the western system of separation of powers by executive, legislature and judicial It stipulates the NPC as the highest organ of state authority power, under which the State Council, the Supreme People's Procuratorate are responsible to. In addition, the 1980s. It allows the collective economic sector not owned by the state a broader role and provides for limited private economic activity. Members of the expanded rural collectives have the right "to farm private plots, engage in household sideline production, and raise privately owned livestock." The primary emphasis is given to expanding the national economy, which is to be accomplished by balancing centralized economic planning with supplementary regulation by the market. Another key difference between the 1978 and 1982 state constitution stressed "self-reliance" in modernization efforts, the 1982 document provides the constitutional basis for the considerable body of laws passed by the NPC in subsequent years permitting and encouraging extensive foreign participation in all aspects of the economy. In addition, the 1982 document reflects the more flexible and less ideological orientation of foreign policy since 1978. Such phrases as "proletarian internationalism" and "social imperialism" have been dropped. Revisions and amendments 7th National People's Congress (1988) See also: 7th National People's Congress The National People's Congress amended Articles 10 and 11 of the Constitution. Allow the emergence of the private sector and allow the transfer of the Land tenure.[10] 8th National People's Congress (1993) See also: 8th National People's Congress (2004) See also: 9th National People's Congress (1999) See also: 9th property of the citizens shall not be violated") and human rights ("the State respects and protects human rights"). The government argued that this represented progress for Chinese democracy and was a sign from the Communist Party that they recognised the need to adapt to the booming Chinese economy, which had created a growing middle class who wanted private property protections.[11] Chinese leader Hu Jintao said that "These amendments of the Chinese constitution are of great importance to the development of China [...] We will make serious efforts to carry them out in practice."[11] 13th National People's Congress (2018) See also: 13th National People's Congress The Constitution was amended on 11 March 2018, with 2,958 votes in favour, two against, and three abstentions.[12][13] It includes an assortment of revisions that further cement the Communist Party's control and supremacy, [14] including setting up the National Supervisory Commission, [15] establishing a new anti-graft agency, extending the powers of the Communist Party's graft watchdog, adding Hu Jintao's Scientific Outlook on Development and Xi Jinping Thought to the President, enabling Xi Jinping to remain president indefinitely. Xi is also the General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, the de facto top position in Communist Party ruling China without term limit.[17][18][19] The amendment also adds the phrases "Communist Party of China" and its "leadership" into the main body of the Constitution. Prior to the amendment, the CCP and its leadership were only mentioned in the preamble. Constitutional preambles are often not legally binding (as with the United States constitution[20]), and as the legal applicability of the Chinese constitutional basis for China's status as a one-party state and formally rendering any competitive multi-party system unconstitutional.[17] Xi "now has the distinction of being the first Chinese leader ever to have his theories enshrined in the constitution during his own lifetime."[3] The leadership of the CPC is now constitutionally enshrined as the "defining feature of socialism with Chinese characteristics", and therefore it establishes one-party rule as an end-in-itself.[3] Xi says:[3] Party, government, military, civilian, and academic, north, south, east, west, and center, the Party leads everything. Constitutional enforcement The constitution stipulates that the National People's Congress (NPC) and its Standing Committee have the power to review whether laws or activities violate the constitution. [22] Unlike many Western legal systems, courts do not have the power of judicial review and cannot invalidate a statute on the grounds that it violates the constitution and Law Committee has been responsible for constitutional review and enforcement. [22] The committee has never explicitly ruled that a law or regulation is unconstitutional. However, in one case, after media outcry over the death of Sun Zhigang the State Council was forced to rescind regulations allowing police to detain persons without residency permits after the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) made it clear that it would rule such regulations unconstitutional.[24] In January 2020, the NPC Legislative Affairs Committee [zh] conducted a constitutional review, targeting the relevant provisions in local regulations concerning that "schools of all levels and types of ethnic minorities should use the language of the ethnic group or the language commonly used by the ethnic group for teaching" and that "some courses in minority schools with conditions can be taught in Chinese with the approval of the local education administration department". The Legislative Affairs Committee found that the above-mentioned provisions are inconsistent with the provisions of Article 19, paragraph 5 of the Constitution on promotion of Putonghua and the provisions in National Common Language Law, Education Law and other relevant laws. Local authorities have been ordered to make changes. [25] In November 2020, the 13th NPC Standing Committee adopt a decision on the qualification of members of the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region [zh], which referred to Article 64, item 1 of the Constitution on interpreting the Constitution. [26] Criticisms In early 2013, a movement developed among reformers in China based on enforcing the provisions of the constitution Initiative was an organization consisting of lawyers and academics in the People's Republic of China that advocated the rule of law and greater constitutional protections. It was shut down by the government on July 14, 2009.[29] In 2019, Ling Li of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals to [the CCP] because it does not provide solutions to fundamental issues of government on July 14, 2009.[29] In 2019, Ling Li of the University of Vienna and Wenzhang Zhou of Zhejiang University wrote that "the constitution appeals to [the CCP] because it does not provide solutions to fundamental issues of government on July 14, 2009.[29] In 2019, Ling Li of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals to [the CCP] because it does not provide solutions to fundamental issues of government on July 14, 2009.[29] In 2019, Ling Li of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals to [the CCP] because it does not provide solutions to fundamental issues of government on July 14, 2009.[29] In 2019, Ling Li of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals to [the CCP] because it does not provide solutions to fundamental issues of government on July 14, 2009.[29] In 2019, Ling Li of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals" to fundamental issues of government on July 14, 2009.[29] In 2019, Ling Li of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals" to fundamental issues of government of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals" to fundamental issues of government of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals" to fundamental issues of government of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals" to fundamental issues of government of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals" to fundamental issues of government of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals" to fundamental issues of government of the University wrote that "the constitution appeals" to fundamental issues of government of the University wrote the University kept out of the constitution so that they can be addressed by the Party through other regulatory mechanisms outside of the constitutional economics Constitutional history of the People's Republic of China Constitutional law Constitutionalism Law of the People's Republic of China Constitution of the Chinese Communist Party Notes ^ The de facto legislature is the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress References Citations ^ Diamant, Neil J. 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