China's Cybersecurity Strategy:
Principles, Implementation and Challenges

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*This only reflects the personal views of the presenter and does not represent any other personal or official positions.


中国网民规模和互联网普及率
单位：万人
39.9%
42.1%
44.1%
45.8%
46.9%
47.9%
48.8%
50.3%
51.7%
53.2%
54.3%
53,760
56,400
59,056
61,758
63,200
64,875
66,769
68,826
70,958
73,125
75,116
2012.06
2012.12
2013.06
2013.12
2014.06
2014.12
2015.06
2015.12
2016.06
2016.12
2017.06
网民数
互联网普及率
来源：CNNIC 中国互联网络发展状况统计调查
2017.06

China is a De facto Cyber Power

- The number of netizens has jumped to the top of the world.
- Of the top 20 most visited websites in the world, 7 are in China.
- Of the 10 most used social media sites in the world, 6 are owned by China;
- 23 of China's top 25 websites are products of China's own Internet companies.
- Moreover, China still has tremendous room for growth. China's internet penetration rate has just passed 50%.

China still has a long way to go in terms of informatization.

- As indicated by the “Measuring the Information Society Report 2014” issued by the International Telecommunication Union, China ranks 86th in the Information Development Index.
- “The Global Information Technology Report 2014” ranks China 62nd in the Networked Readiness Index.
- “The Global E-Government Survey 2014” issued by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs ranks China 70th in the E-Government Development Index.

Global Internet Development Index
（Report on world internet development 2017）

(The Index contains six dimensions: infrastructure, innovation capacity, industry development, Internet application, cyber security and Internet governance.)

Ranking	Country	Score
1	US	57.66
2	China	41.80
3	Korea	38.86
4	Japan	38.11
5	UK	37.85
6	Singapore	37.71
7	Sweden	36.64
8	Finland	35.72
9	France	35.39
10	Germany	35.22
11	Australia	35.21
12	Canada	34.63

Three important documents in 2016/2017:

- Cybersecurity Law of the People's Republic of China (November 7, 2016)
- National Cybersecurity Strategy of the People's Republic of China (December 27, 2016)
- International Strategy of Cooperation on Cyberspace (March 1, 2017)

Cybersecurity Law

- Chapter I: General Provisions
- Chapter II: Cybersecurity Strategy, Planning and Promotion
- Chapter III: Network Operations Security:
  (Section 1: General Provisions;
  Section 2: Operations Security for Critical Information Infrastructure)
- Chapter IV: Network Information Security
- Chapter V: Monitoring, Early Warnings, and Emergency Response
- Chapter VI: Legal Responsibility
- Chapter VII: Supplementary Provisions

National Cybersecurity Strategy

- Chapter I: Opportunities and Challenges
- Chapter II: Objectives (5: peaceful, secure, open, and cooperative, orderly)
- Chapter III: Principles(4: respect of cyberspace sovereignty; peaceful use of cyberspace; governance by law; balance of cybersecurity and development)
- Chapter IV: Strategic tasks
  1.Defending cyberspace sovereignty;
  2.Safeguarding national security;
  3. Protecting critical information infrastructure;
  4.Strengthening the construction of cyberspace culture;
  5.Combating cyber terrorism and cyber crime;
  6.Improving cyberspace governance system;
  7.Laying a solid foundation for cybersecurity;
  8.Enhancing cyberspace defense ability;
  9. Strengthening international cooperation in Cyberspace)

International Strategy of Cooperation on Cyberspace

- **Preface**
- **Chapter I. Opportunities and Challenges**
- **Chapter II. Basic Principles:**
  1. The Principle of Peace; 2. The Principle of Sovereignty; 3. The Principle of Shared Governance; 4. The Principle of Shared Benefits
- **Chapter III. Strategic Goals:**
  1. Safeguarding Sovereignty and Security; 2. Developing A System of International Rules ; 3. Promoting Fair Internet Governance; 4. Protecting Legitimate Rights and Interests of Citizens; 5. Promoting Cooperation on Digital Economy; 6. Building Platform for Cyber Culture Exchange
- **Chapter IV. Plan of Action:**
  1. Peace and Stability in Cyberspace; 2. Rule-based Order in Cyberspace; 3. Partnership in Cyberspace; 4. Reform of Global Internet Governance System; 5. International Cooperation on Cyber Terrorism and Cyber Crimes; 6. Protection of Citizens' Rights and Interests Including Privacy; 7. Digital Economy and Sharing of Digital Dividends; 8. Global Information Infrastructure Development and Protection; 9. Exchange of Cyber Cultures
- **Conclusion**

Chinese View on Cyberspace & Cybersecurity

- From Information Security to Cybersecurity
- Network Sovereignty and Cybersecurity under the “Holistic National Security Outlook”
- Informatization and Cybersecurity of a Cyberpower

Executive institutions of Chinese Cyberspace strategy and policies

- There are two parallel systems, one from the Communist Party line, the other from the governmental and administrative line.
- Sometime they are different, sometime it could be just one organization with two name plates. (Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee--State Council Information Office)
- Party side is responsible for making up strategy and policies while the governmental side is responsible for the implementation.

----Top leading group: The central Internet security and informatization leading group (cyberspace Administration of China，CAC）)

Organizations involved:

- On cyberspace content management /On cyberspace technical and infrastructure management
- On cyber security /On cyber development and application

Institutions for cyber security

- **Comprehensive management:**
  Central Propaganda Department ;
  State Council Information Office;
  Ministry of Industry and Information Technology;
  Ministry of Public Security
- **Specific management:**
  State Council Information Office;
  Ministry of Culture;
  The State Administration of Radio, Film and Television;
  Agency of Press and Publications;
  Ministry of Education;
  National Security Agency;
  State Secrecy Bureau

Institutions for cyber development and application

- **Comprehensive management:**
  State Council Information Office;
  Ministry of Industry and Information Technology;
  State Administration for Industry and Commerce
- **Specific management:**
  Ministry of Culture;
  The State Administration of Radio, Film and Television;
  Agency of Press and Publications;
  Ministry of Education;
  Ministry of Health;
  China Food and Drug Administration;
  People's Bank of China

Challenges to Chinese cyber strategy

- **---How to keep the balance between economic development and cyberspace security.**
- **---How to keep the balance between internal stability (as exemplified by strict censorship) and cyberspace freedom demand in the country.**
- **---How to create connection between China's value and international common sense.**

Doubts and tensions China faces in the international community

- 1, The contradiction between the multilateralism and multi stakeholder model
- 2, Internet sovereignty and global commons
- 3, Internet sovereignty and Internet freedom
- 4, Internet sovereignty and community of shared future in cyberspace

Conclusion about China's national cyber strategy

- **Stragegic Interest** (objectives) :
  1. Political stability:
  CPC leadership; socialism with Chinese character.
  2. Sovereignty security:
  territorial integrity; unity of the nation;
  3. Sustainable development of the economy and society

- **Strategic approach**:
  precautious (vs. preemptive)

  “Internal pacification”: China favors a far more precautious approach to risk management. This approach assumes technology to have inherent risks, and states impose controls at the outset.

  “Step by step”

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