



CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC  
OF CHINA

中华人民共和国宪法

2-1

**CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC  
OF CHINA**

中华人民共和国宪法

FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS  
外文出版社

First Edition 1987  
Second Edition 1990  
Third Edition 1994  
Fourth Edition (with Chinese text) 1999

ISBN 7-119-02388-8  
6-EC-3334S

©Foreign Languages Press, Beijing, China, 1999  
Previous editions © 1987, 1990, 1994

Published by Foreign Languages Press  
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing 100037, China  
<http://www.flp.com.cn>  
Distributed by China International Book Trading Corporation  
35 Chegongzhuang Xilu, Beijing 100044, China  
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

*Printed in the People's Republic of China*

## 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

中华人民共和国宪法:英汉对照. —北京:外文出版社, 1999.4

ISBN 7-119-02388-8

I. 中… II. Ⅲ. 中华人民共和国宪法-英、汉 IV. D921

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (1999) 第 08702 号

外文出版社网页:

<http://www.flp.com.cn>

外文出版社电子邮件地址:

[info@flp.com.cn](mailto:info@flp.com.cn)

[sales@flp.com.cn](mailto:sales@flp.com.cn)

## 中华人民共和国宪法

©外文出版社

外文出版社出版

(中国北京百万庄大街 24 号)

邮政编码 100037

北京外文印刷厂印刷

中国国际图书贸易总公司发行

(中国北京车公庄西路 35 号)

北京邮政信箱第 399 号 邮政编码 100044

1987 年(小 16 开)第 1 版

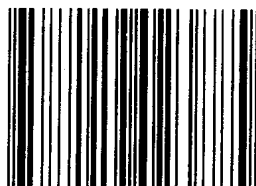
1999 年第 4 版(英汉)第 4 次印刷

ISBN 7-119-02388-8/D·142(外)

06800

6-EC-3334S

ISBN 7-119-02388-8



9 787119 023885 >

**CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC  
OF CHINA**

中华人民共和国宪法

# CONTENTS

## **CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ..... 1**

*(Adopted at the Fifth Session of the Fifth National  
People's Congress and Promulgated for Implementation by  
the Proclamation of the NPC on December 4, 1982)*

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ..... 59**

*(Adopted at the First Session of the Seventh National  
People's Congress and Promulgated for Implementation by  
the Proclamation of the NPC on April 12, 1988)*

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ..... 63**

*(Adopted at the First Session of the Eighth National  
People's Congress and Promulgated for Implementation by  
the Proclamation of the NPC on March 29, 1993)*

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ..... 71**

*(Adopted at the Second Session of the Ninth National  
People's Congress and Promulgated for Implementation by  
the Proclamation of the NPC on March 15, 1999)*

# 目 录

中华人民共和国宪法 .....	79
-----------------	----

(1982 年 12 月 4 日中华人民共和国第五届全国人民代表大会第五次会议通过 1982 年 12 月 4 日全国人民代表大会公告公布施行)

中华人民共和国宪法修正案 .....	123
--------------------	-----

(1988 年 4 月 12 日第七届全国人民代表大会第一次会议通过 1988 年 4 月 12 日全国人民代表大会公告公布施行)

中华人民共和国宪法修正案 .....	127
--------------------	-----

(1993 年 3 月 29 日第八届全国人民代表大会第一次会议通过 1993 年 3 月 29 日全国人民代表大会公告公布施行)

中华人民共和国宪法修正案 .....	133
--------------------	-----

(1999 年 3 月 15 日第九届全国人民代表大会第二次会议通过 1999 年 3 月 15 日全国人民代表大会公告公布施行)

**CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC  
OF CHINA**

*(Adopted at the Fifth Session of the Fifth National  
People's Congress and Promulgated for  
Implementation by the Proclamation of the NPC  
on December 4, 1982)*



# **CONTENTS**

## **PREAMBLE**

## ***CHAPTER ONE*      GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

## ***CHAPTER TWO*      THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF CITIZENS**

## ***CHAPTER THREE*   THE STRUCTURE OF THE STATE**

- Section I*    The National People's Congress
- Section II*   The President of the People's Republic of China
- Section III*   The State Council
- Section IV*   The Central Military Commission
- Section V*    The Local People's Congresses and Local  
People's Governments at Various Levels
- Section VI*   The Organs of Self-Government of Ethnic  
Autonomous Areas
- Section VII*   The People's Courts and the People's  
Procuratorates

## ***CHAPTER FOUR*   THE NATIONAL FLAG, THE NATIONAL EMBLEM AND THE CAPITAL**

## PREAMBLE

CHINA is a country with one of the longest histories in the world. The people of all of China's ethnic groups have jointly created a culture of grandeur and have a glorious revolutionary tradition.

After 1840, feudal China was gradually turned into a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country. The Chinese people waged many successive heroic struggles for national independence and liberation and for democracy and freedom.

Great and earthshaking historical changes have taken place in China in the 20th century.

The Revolution of 1911, led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, abolished the feudal monarchy and gave birth to the Republic of China. But the historic mission of the Chinese people to overthrow imperialism and feudalism remained unaccomplished.

After waging protracted and arduous struggles, armed and otherwise, along a zigzag course, the Chinese people of all ethnic groups led by the Communist Party of China with Chairman Mao Zedong as its leader ultimately, in 1949, overthrew the rule of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism, won a great victory in the New-Democratic Revolution and founded the People's Republic of China. Since then the Chinese people have taken control of state

power and become masters of the country.

After the founding of the People's Republic, China gradually achieved its transition from a New-Democratic to a socialist society. The socialist transformation of the private ownership of the means of production has been completed, the system of exploitation of man by man abolished and the socialist system established. The people's democratic dictatorship led by the working class and based on the alliance of workers and peasants, which is in essence the dictatorship of the proletariat, has been consolidated and developed. The Chinese people and the Chinese People's Liberation Army have defeated imperialist and hegemonist aggression, sabotage and armed provocations and have thereby safeguarded China's national independence and security and strengthened its national defence. Major successes have been achieved in economic development. An independent and relatively comprehensive socialist system of industry has basically been established. There has been a marked increase in agricultural production. Significant advances have been made in educational, scientific and cultural undertakings, while education in socialist ideology has produced noteworthy results. The life of the people has improved considerably.

Both the victory in China's New-Democratic Revolution and the successes in its socialist cause have been achieved by the Chinese people of all ethnic groups, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China and the guidance of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought, by upholding truth, correcting errors and surmounting numerous difficulties and hardships. The basic task of the nation in the years

to come is to concentrate its efforts on socialist modernization. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China and the guidance of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought, the Chinese people of all ethnic groups will continue to adhere to the people's democratic dictatorship and the socialist road, steadily improve socialist institutions, develop socialist democracy, improve the socialist legal system, and work hard and self-reliantly to modernize the country's industry, agriculture, national defence and science and technology step by step to turn China into a socialist country with a high level of culture and democracy.

The exploiting classes as such have been abolished in our country. However, class struggle will continue to exist within certain bounds for a long time to come. The Chinese people must fight against those forces and elements, both at home and abroad, that are hostile to China's socialist system and try to undermine it.

Taiwan is part of the sacred territory of the People's Republic of China. It is the inviolable duty of all Chinese people, including our compatriots in Taiwan, to accomplish the great task of reunifying the motherland.

In building socialism it is essential to rely on workers, peasants and intellectuals and to unite all forces that can be united. In the long years of revolution and construction, there has been formed under the leadership of the Communist Party of China a broad patriotic united front which is composed of the democratic parties and people's organizations and which embraces all socialist working people, all patriots who support socialism and all patriots who stand for

the reunification of the motherland. This united front will continue to be consolidated and developed. The Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, a broadly based representative organization of the united front which has played a significant historical role, will play a still more important role in the country's political and social life, in promoting friendship with other countries and in the struggle for socialist modernization and for the reunification and unity of the country.

The People's Republic of China is a unitary multi-ethnic state created jointly by the people of all its ethnic groups. Socialist relations of equality, unity and mutual assistance have been established among the ethnic groups and will continue to be strengthened. In the struggle to safeguard the unity of the ethnic groups, it is necessary to combat big-ethnic group chauvinism, mainly Han chauvinism, and to combat local ethnic chauvinism. The state will do its utmost to promote the common prosperity of all the ethnic groups.

China's achievements in revolution and construction are inseparable from the support of the people of the world. The future of China is closely linked to the future of the world. China consistently carries out an independent foreign policy and adheres to the five principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence in developing diplomatic relations and economic and cultural exchanges with other countries. China consistently opposes

imperialism, hegemonism and colonialism, works to strengthen unity with people of other countries, supports the oppressed nations and the developing countries in their just struggle to win and preserve national independence and develop their national economies, and strives to safeguard world peace and promote the cause of human progress.

This Constitution, in legal form, affirms the achievements of the struggles of the Chinese people of all ethnic groups and defines the basic system and basic tasks of the state; it is the fundamental law of the state and has supreme legal authority. The people of all ethnic groups, all state organs, the armed forces, all political parties and public organizations and all enterprises and institutions in the country must take the Constitution as the basic standard of conduct, and they have the duty to uphold the dignity of the Constitution and ensure its implementation.

## ***CHAPTER ONE***

### **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

**Article 1** The People's Republic of China is a socialist state under the people's democratic dictatorship led by the working class and based on the alliance of workers and peasants.

The socialist system is the basic system of the People's Republic of China. Disruption of the socialist system by any organization or individual is prohibited.

**Article 2** All power in the People's Republic of China belongs to the people.

The National People's Congress and the local people's congresses at various levels are the organs through which the people exercise state power.

The people administer state affairs and manage economic, cultural and social affairs through various channels and in various ways in accordance with the law.

**Article 3** The state organs of the People's Republic of China apply the principle of democratic centralism.

The National People's Congress and the local people's congresses at various levels are constituted through democratic elections. They are responsible to the people and subject to their supervision.

All administrative, judicial and procuratorial organs of the state are created by the people's congresses to which they are responsible and by which they are supervised.

The division of functions and powers between the central and local state organs is guided by the principle of giving full scope to the initiative and enthusiasm of the local authorities under the unified leadership of the central authorities.

**Article 4** All ethnic groups in the People's Republic of China are equal. The state protects the lawful rights and interests of the ethnic minorities and upholds and develops a relationship of equality, unity and mutual assistance among all of China's ethnic groups. Discrimination against and oppression of any ethnic group are prohibited; any act which undermines the unity of the ethnic groups or instigates division is prohibited.

The state assists areas inhabited by ethnic minorities in accelerating their economic and cultural development according to the characteristics and needs of the various ethnic minorities.

Regional autonomy is practised in areas where people of ethnic minorities live in concentrated communities; in these areas organs of self-government are established to exercise the power of autonomy. All ethnic autonomous areas are integral parts of the People's Republic of China.

All ethnic groups have the freedom to use and develop their own spoken and written languages and to preserve or reform their own folkways and customs.



**Article 5** The state upholds the uniformity and dignity of the socialist legal system.

No laws or administrative or local rules and regulations may contravene the Constitution.

All state organs, the armed forces, all political parties and public organizations and all enterprises and institutions must abide by the Constitution and the law. All acts in violation of the Constitution and the law must be investigated.

No organization or individual is privileged to be beyond the Constitution or the law.

**Article 6** The basis of the socialist economic system of the People's Republic of China is socialist public ownership of the means of production, namely, ownership by the whole people and collective ownership by the working people.

The system of socialist public ownership supersedes the system of exploitation of man by man; it applies the principle of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work."

**Article 7** The state economy is the sector of socialist economy under ownership by the whole people; it is the leading force in the national economy. The state ensures the consolidation and growth of the state economy.

**Article 8** Rural people's communes, agricultural producers' cooperatives and other forms of cooperative economy, such as producers', supply and marketing, credit and