

Translation



The following article summarizes Xi Jinping's speech at a Chinese Politburo study session on internet censorship in November 2025. Xi's remarks indicate that the Party continues to worry about its ability to maintain control over online discourse in China. However, Xi appears to view AI technology as more of an enabler for than a threat to the Communist Party's control over the Chinese internet.

Title

At the 23rd Collective Study Session of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, Xi Jinping Stressed: Strengthen the Long-Term Mechanism for Online Ecosystem Governance, Continue to Create a Clean and Correct Atmosphere in Cyberspace
习近平在中共中央政治局第二十三次集体学习时强调 健全网络生态治理长效机制 持续营造风清气正的网络空间

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Xinhua News Agency (新华通讯社; 新华社). Xinhua is China's state-run press agency.

Source

XinhuaNet (新华网), November 29, 2025. XinhuaNet is Xinhua's website.

The Chinese source text is available online at:

<http://www.news.cn/politics/leaders/20251129/6cc389947805468c8fdca5b4d596fb6e/c.html>

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At the 23rd Collective Study Session of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, Xi Jinping Stressed: Strengthen the Long-Term Mechanism for Online Ecosystem Governance, Continue to Create a Clean and Correct Atmosphere in Cyberspace

Beijing, November 29 (Xinhua News Agency): The Politburo of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) held its 23rd collective study session on the afternoon of November 28, on strengthening online ecosystem governance. While chairing the study session, CCP Central Committee General Secretary Xi Jinping stressed that online ecosystem governance is an important task for

building China into a cyber powerhouse.¹ It is a task that concerns national development and national security, and one that concerns the personal interests of the masses of the people. We must strengthen the long-term mechanism for online ecosystem governance, focus on making governance more forward-looking, precise, systematic, and collaborative, and continue to create a clean and correct atmosphere (风清气正) in cyberspace.

Comrade Shi Jianzhong (时建中), professor at China University of Political Science and Law, gave an explanation of this issue and offered recommendations for work on it. Comrades of the Central Committee Politburo listened attentively to his explanation and engaged in discussion of it.

After listening to the explanation and the discussion, Xi Jinping delivered an important speech. He pointed out that, since the 18th Party Congress, we have placed online ecosystem governance in an important position. We have continuously strengthened mainstream values, mainstream public opinion, and mainstream culture online, and have effectively tackled and contained online chaos (网络乱象). Overall, the online ecosystem is improving. Our practice these past several years has led us to a deep understanding that it is necessary to persist in the Party's leadership, persist in putting the people first (人民至上), persist in making rule of law the safeguard, and persist in systematic concepts (系统观念) as we undertake online ecosystem governance.

Xi Jinping stressed that online ecosystem governance occupies an important position in national governance. We must concentrate unified leadership in the Party Central Committee, strengthen the online comprehensive governance pattern (网络综合治理格局), and form a concerted effort for governance. All departments at all levels should strengthen their political responsibility and leadership responsibility for managing and governing the internet, while simultaneously effectively solving prominent problems and continuously improving their ability to use the internet to comprehend the will of the people and launch internet-related work. We must strengthen guidance of online platforms, self-media,² and multi-channel network

¹ Translator's note: Alternate English translations for the Chinese term wǎngluò qiángguó (网络强国) —here translated as "cyber powerhouse"—include "cyber superpower," "network superpower," "online superpower," "internet superpower," and so on. For a more thorough discussion in English of the meaning of the term wǎngluò qiángguó, see: <https://www.newamerica.org/cybersecurity-initiative/digichina/blog/lexicon-wangluo-qiangguo/>.

² Translator's note: The Chinese term "self-media" (自媒体) refers to non-institutional, publicly accessible social media accounts on platforms such as Weixin (WeChat) and Douyin (TikTok) that are typically run by individual users and produce news content.

organizations (多频道网络机构), and spur them to shoulder their social responsibility and consciously become spreaders of positive energy (正能量).

Xi Jinping pointed out that "if a spring is crystal-clear, so is the stream that flows from it" (源清则流清). We must persist in shaping cyberspace with positive voices, mainstream values, and the new style of the era (时代新风), and make the internet into an important front for ideological leadership, moral cultivation, and inheriting culture. We must deepen online propaganda on the Party's innovative theories, vigorously promote the socialist core values concept, and produce online works with more meaning, warmth, and influence. Mainstream media must play their model and leading role as suppliers of excellent-quality content.

Xi Jinping stressed that online ecosystem governance is a systems engineering project. We must fully mobilize all forces and comprehensively utilize many kinds of methods, including educational, administrative, and rule-of-law methods. We must improve the implementation mechanism for customized (分众化) and targeted (精准化) online ideological and moral education, and cultivate an online social mentality of self-respect and self-confidence, reasonableness and moderation, and accentuation of the positive. We must adopt measures such as policy guidance and administrative permits to align administrative regulations and industry self-discipline with each other. We must do overall planning to advance legislation, law enforcement, judicial review, and legal popularization (立法执法司法普法) for the online realm.

Xi Jinping pointed out that online chaos pollutes the social atmosphere and infringes upon the interests of the masses. We must have the courage to draw our swords and crack down with determination, sever chains of interests and production chains for online chaos, and eliminate the soil and conditions that online chaos flourishes in. We must join forces to crack down on online chaos, search deeply for weak links in online ecosystem governance, and adopt targeted measures to firm up the foundation and compensate for weaknesses.

Xi Jinping stressed that the present ongoing profusion of new technologies and new applications such as artificial intelligence and big data brings new challenges for online ecosystem governance, but it also provides supporting conditions. We must encourage the development of new technologies for the internet and information (网信) realm, promote the conversion of research and development achievements into practical applications (研发成果转化), and establish application scenarios. We must improve the graded and categorized (分级分类) security regulation mechanism and firmly establish a cybersecurity and data security defense perimeter.

Xi Jinping pointed out that online ecosystem governance is a common issue faced by all countries in the world. We must actively participate in the formulation of international rules, join hands with all other nations in cracking down on illegal and criminal activity online, and promote the construction of a community of common destiny in cyberspace (网络空间命运共同体). We must strengthen the construction of online platforms and capabilities for international information broadcasting, and use the internet to broadcast China's voice, tell China's story well, and display the image of a trustworthy, lovable, and respectable China in a lively way.