



THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA YEARBOOK

The Republic of China Yearbook continues to be the world's most comprehensive, up-to-date overview of Asia's first and oldest republic. This year, to aid readability and portability, the main body of the Yearbook has been condensed from 20 chapters to 14 chapters, highlighting the latest social, political and economic trends in Taiwan. Its rich content, interesting photographs and sidebars, informative charts and tables, as well as Chinese-character equivalents of organizational, personal and place names help the reader in understanding this vibrant and colorful nation.

The appendices have also been restructured. In addition to a chronology of major events from the previous year, the full text of the Constitution of the Republic of China and its Additional Articles, and a comparison of systems for Romanization of Mandarin Chinese, three new sections have been added to provide an overview of Taiwan's international rankings, a summary of national holidays and festivals, and the history of the ROC.

As always, the writers and editors of this year's ROC Yearbook wish their readers the world over an enjoyable reading experience, enabling them to easily explore and appreciate the uniqueness and significance of the Republic of China and its people as a force for good in the world.

The full text of this publication is also available online at <http://www.ey.gov.tw/en/>.

2013



TAIWAN

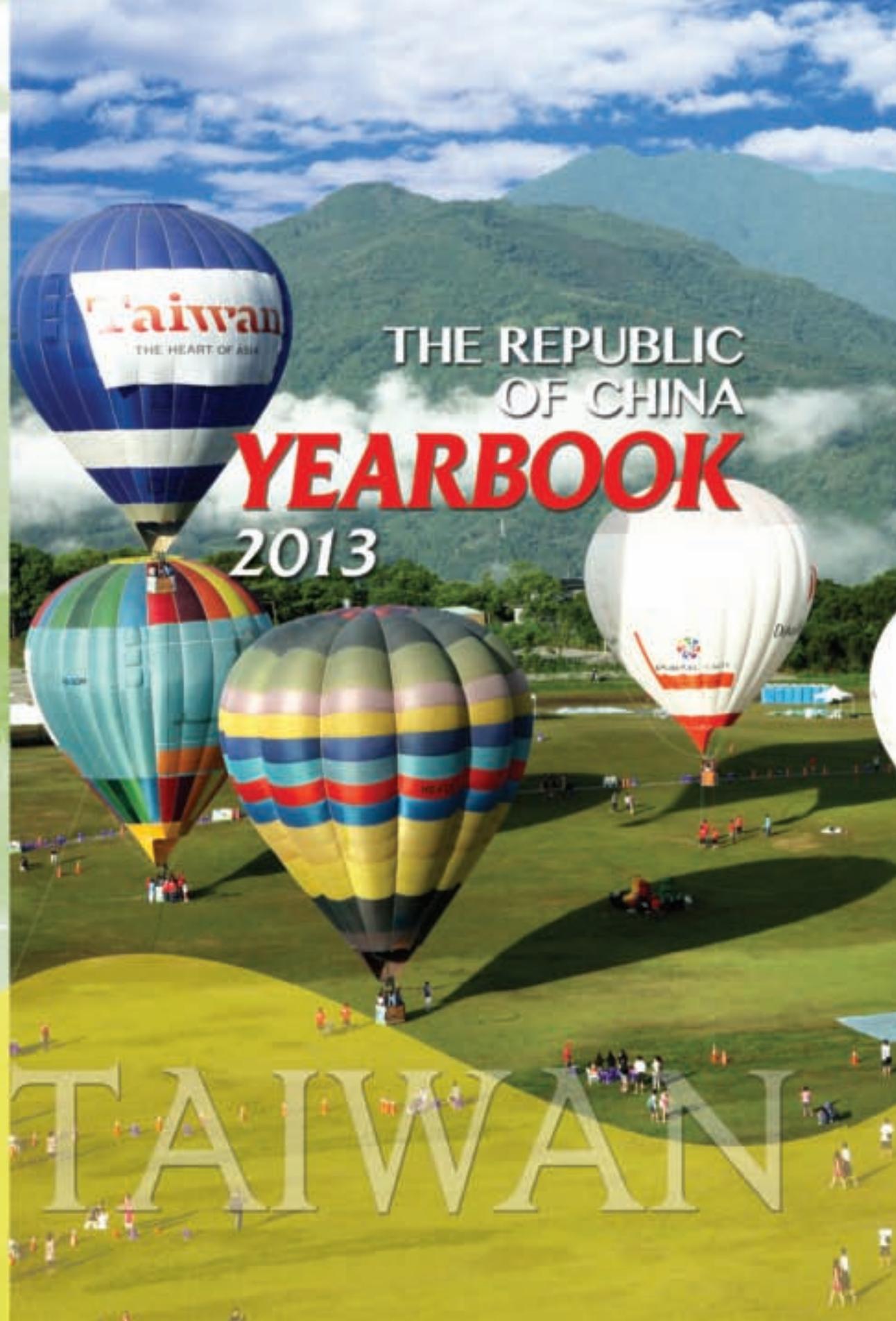


Price: NT\$550 (US\$19) GPN: 1010202197



The Republic of China Yearbook 2013

THE
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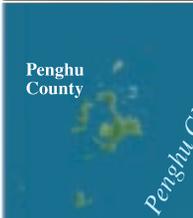


ABOUT THE PUBLISHER

The Executive Yuan is the executive branch of the government of the Republic of China and the highest administrative organ in the country. It is empowered by the Constitution to carry out its functions and obligations, which include formulating administrative policies, evaluating statutory and budgetary bills, and making decisions on matters of common concern to its subordinate ministries and commissions.

In 2012, as part of a government reorganization plan, the Executive Yuan's Office of Information Services took over responsibility for publication of *The Republic of China Yearbook* from the former Government Information Office. As the Yearbook's new publisher, the Executive Yuan is pleased to present this authoritative and insightful window on the ROC and its people's efforts to create a more beautiful world.





TAIWAN

The Republic of China Yearbook 2013

Published by the Executive Yuan
Compiled by the Office of Information Services, Executive Yuan
No. 1, Sec. 1, Zhongxiao E. Road, Taipei 10058, ROC (Taiwan) <http://www.ey.gov.tw>

1st edition, December 2013

The full text of this publication is also available in the “ROC Yearbook” section of the Executive Yuan website.

Price: NT\$550 (US\$19)

For information on purchasing the yearbook, please visit Government Publications Bookstore:

1F, No. 209, Songjiang Road, Taipei 10485, ROC (Taiwan)
TEL: (+886-2) 2518-0207 ext. 15 <http://www.govbooks.com.tw>

or

Wu-nan Bookstore Co., Ltd.
No. 6, Zhongshan Road, Taichung 40042, ROC (Taiwan)
TEL: (+886-4) 2226-0330 ext. 821 <http://www.wunanbooks.com.tw>

ISBN 978-986-03-8417-8 ISSN 1013-0942 GPN 1010202197

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Contact agency: Office of Information Services, Executive Yuan, TEL: (+886-2)3356-6500

Printed in the Republic of China (Taiwan)

Printed by China Color Printing Co., Ltd.
No. 229, Baoqiao Road, Xindian District, New Taipei City 23145, ROC (Taiwan)

Cover Photo: The annual Taiwan Balloon Festival in Luye Township, Taitung County, is a big summertime draw that attracts thousands of hot-air balloon enthusiasts and spectators.
(Courtesy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

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PREFACE

In *The Republic of China Yearbook 2013*, the Executive Yuan Office of Information Services strives to give readers worldwide a comprehensive understanding of the ROC and Taiwan, with special attention given to the events of 2012 and 2013.

As always, the reader will also find rich and up-to-date descriptions of Taiwan's abundant natural wonders and vibrant multicultural society. Major government initiatives to reinforce the nation's renowned public health care system and infrastructure, stimulate the economy, put the country on the cutting edge of industry and education, and defend citizens and the environment from pollution and climate change are all outlined herein. This wide-ranging guide chronicles Taiwan's accomplishments in international relations and global sporting events alike and paints a vivid portrait of a dynamic nation.

To aid readability and portability, the yearbook has been significantly streamlined beginning with this edition. As an aid

to past readers, the changes are described as follows:

- "ROC Vital Information" has been added to the introductory pages.
- "Geography" and "People and Language" have been combined into "Geography & Demographics."
- "History" has been made an appendix.
- "Transportation and Telecommunications" has been renamed "Infrastructure."
- "Society" and "Public Health" have been combined into "Health & Welfare."
- "Tourism" has been dissolved, with its section about national parks merged into "Environmental Protection" and section about festivals and events turned into the new appendix "Festivals, Holidays & Events."
- "Culture," "Sports" and "Religion" have been combined into "Life & Culture."
- The "Who's Who in the ROC" has been removed.
- Another new appendix, "Global Survey Rankings," has been added.

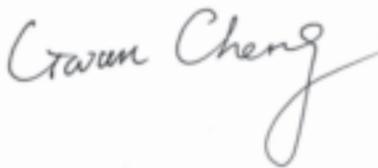
- The chronology will henceforth only include events from the year before publication (in this case, 2012.)

As in past editions, the textual summary and analysis is supplemented by pertinent photographs, charts and tables. The facts and figures herein are as up-to-date as possible. The Office of Information Services gratefully acknowledges all the official agencies and organizations that have provided information and helped verify the accuracy of this publication's content as well as all individuals who have contributed photographs.

With the exception of certain personal and place names, Mandarin Chinese terms and names are rendered in Hanyu Pinyin 漢語拼音 throughout the work. All proper nouns that are translations of Chinese names, such as Sun Yat-sen 孫中山 or the National Health Insurance Act 全民健康保險法, are accompanied by their original Chinese character names the first time they appear in a chapter. Unless otherwise indicated, U.S. dollar figures

are based on the annual average exchange rates of NT\$33.05, NT\$31.64, NT\$29.46 and NT\$29.61 per US\$1 for 2009 through 2012, respectively, as calculated by the Central Bank of the ROC (Taiwan). The exchange rate for 2013—NT\$29.55 per US\$1—is based on the average rate for that year's first three months.

The yearbook is a collective effort to provide readers from all walks of life with reliable and authoritative information about Taiwan today. Reader feedback and advice regarding this publication is welcomed and appreciated.



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NATIONAL SYMBOLS

National Designation

The founding father of the ROC, Sun Yat-sen 孫逸仙, first proposed the name “Republic of China” 中華民國 at the first official meeting of the Chinese Revolutionary Alliance 中國同盟會 in Tokyo in 1905. Sun said, “Not until that day in autumn 1905 when outstanding individuals of the entire country gathered to found the Chinese Revolutionary Alliance in Tokyo did I come to believe the great revolutionary task could indeed be achieved. Only at this point did I dare to propose the national designation of ‘Republic of China’ and announce it to the members of our party, so that each could return to their respective province and proclaim the message of the revolution and disseminate the ideas behind the founding of the Republic of China.”

The name became official on January 1, 1912, when the Provisional Assembly 臨時國民大會 of representatives from across China declared the establishment of the Republic and swore in Sun as its president.

ROC Year Designations

In official and most ordinary usages, years in the ROC are calculated from the

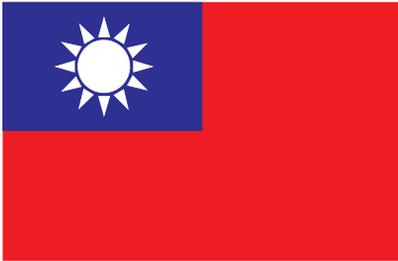
year of the Republic’s founding, 1912. Thus, 1912 was referred to as “the first year of the Republic of China,” and 2011 is “the 100th year of the Republic of China,” and so on. This is a continuation of the millennia-old system in China of beginning new year designations with the start of a new era, which once coincided with the ascension of a new emperor.

National Flag

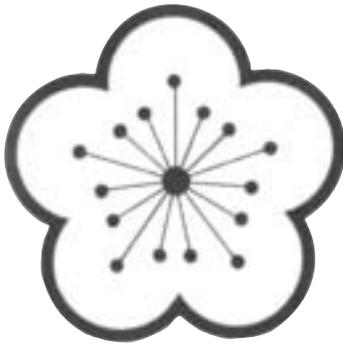
The “white sun in a blue sky” portion of the ROC’s national flag was originally designed by Lu Hao-tung 陸皓東, a martyr of the Chinese revolution. Lu presented his design in a meeting of the Revive China Society 興中會 in Hong Kong on February 21, 1895. It was redesigned to include a crimson background during the years just prior to the revolution. This later design is still used today as the national emblem.

Before the Wuchang Uprising 武昌起義 in 1911 (also known as the 1911 Xinhai Revolution 辛亥革命), the revolutionary armies in different provinces had different flags: the one used in the Wuhan 武漢 area had 18 yellow stars, representing the 18 administrative

NATIONAL SYMBOLS



National flag



National flower

divisions of China at the time; the Shanghai army adopted a five-color flag of red, yellow, blue, white and black, representing the five main ethnic groups of China; and Guangdong 廣東, Guangxi 廣西, Yunnan 雲南 and Guizhou 貴州 provinces used the “white sun in a blue sky.”

When the Provisional Government was first established, the five-color flag was adopted as the national flag, the 18-star flag was used by the army, and the “white sun in a blue sky” by the navy. The current ROC national flag was officially adopted on May 5, 1921.

The 12 points of the white sun in the emblem represent the Chinese conceptualization of a day’s being divided into 12 two-hour periods, symbolizing unceasing progress. At one level, the three colors of blue, white and crimson stand for the Three Principles of the People 三民主義: nationalism, democracy and social well-being. At another level, the colors embody qualities that evoke other concepts enumerated in the Three Principles: the blue signifies brightness, purity and freedom, and thus a government that is of the people; the white, honesty, selflessness and equality, and thus a government that is by the people; and the crimson, sacrifice, bloodshed and

brotherly love, thus a government that is for the people.

National Flower

The plum blossom, *Prunus mume*, was officially designated by the ROC Executive Yuan to be the national flower on July 21, 1964. The plum blossom, which produces shades of pink and white and gives off a delicate fragrance, has great symbolic value in Chinese culture because of its resilience during the harsh winter. The triple grouping of stamens (one long and two short) represents Sun Yat-sen's Three Principles of the People, while the five petals symbolize the five branches of the ROC government.

National Anthem

The words of the ROC national anthem were first delivered as an exhortation by Sun Yat-sen at the opening ceremony of the Whampoa Military Academy 黃埔軍校 on June 16, 1924. This exhortation was designated as the Kuomintang's (KMT) 中國國民黨 party song in 1928, after which the KMT publicly solicited contributions for a tune to fit the words. A melody by Cheng Mao-yun

程懋筠 was selected out of those submitted by 139 contenders. (See page 4 for both lyrics and melody.)

In the late 1920s and early 1930s, the Ministry of Education (MOE) held two separate competitions for the lyrics for a national anthem, using the KMT party song in the meantime as a temporary national anthem. None of the entries reviewed by the MOE were deemed appropriate, so Dr. Sun's composition was finally adopted as the official anthem of the Republic of China in 1937.

The anthem first declares the Three Principles of the People to be the foundation of the nation and a guide to a world commonwealth of peace and harmony; and then calls upon the people to be brave, earnest and faithful in striving to fulfill that goal.

NATIONAL ANTHEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Dr. Sun Yat-sen 孫中山

Music by Cheng Mao-yun 程懋筠
Arrangement by Huang Tzu 黃白

mf 三民主義，吾黨所宗，以建民國
San - min - zhu - yi, wu dang suo zong, yi jian min
San - min - zhu - yi, our aim shall be; to found a free

國，以進大，同，咨爾多士，為民前鋒，夙
guo, yi jin da tong, Zi er duo shi, wei min qian feng, su
land, world peace be our stand. Lead on, com-rades, van-guards ye are; hold

夜匪懈，主義是從，矢勤矢勇，必信必
ye fei xie, zhu yi shi cong. Shi qin shi yong, bi xin bi
fast your aim, by sun and star. Be ear-nest and brave, your coun-try to

ff 忠，一，心，一，德，貫，徹，始，終！
zhong, yi xin yi de, guan che shi zhong.
save; one heart, one soul, one mind, one goal!

Sun Yat-sen 孫中山

Founding Father
Republic of China



Sun Yat-sen 孫逸仙, also known as Sun Chung-shan 孫中山 and Sun Wen 孫文, was born in 1866 in a coastal village of Xiangshan County 香山縣, Guangdong Province 廣東省. After receiving his early education in both Chinese and Western schools, he moved to Hawaii in 1879, where he attended Iolani and Oahu Colleges. In 1883, he returned to China to continue his studies, concentrating on

the Chinese classics and history. He later moved to Hong Kong to attend Queen's College and in 1892 graduated from Hong Kong Medical College for Chinese.

Deeply concerned at the Qing 清 dynasty government's oppression, corruption and subsiveness toward foreign powers, Sun gave up his medical career to pursue political reform. In 1894, together with a group of young overseas Chinese, Sun established his first revolutionary organization, the Revive China Society 興中會, in Honolulu. His political ideals are summarized in a set of doctrines called the Three Principles of the People 三民主義, comprising solidarity of the people, power to the people and prosperity of the people.

Over the next 16 years, Sun and his followers launched 10

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