

Wang Chen 王晨

Born 1950



Current Positions

- Vice Chairman of the National People's Congress (NPC) (2013–present)
- Secretary-General of the NPC (2013–present)
- Full member of the Central Committee of the CCP (2002–present)

Personal and Professional Background

Wang Chen was born in December 1950 in Beijing. He joined the CCP in 1969. He received an undergraduate education in Chinese literature, but it is unclear where and when he studied. He received a master's degree in journalism from the Department of Journalism at the Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS) in Beijing (1979–82).

He a “sent-down youth” at an agricultural commune in Yijun County, Yan'an Prefecture, Shaanxi Province (1969–70).ⁱ He then worked as a clerk in the Propaganda Department and the County Office of Yijun County, Shaanxi Province (1970–73) and as a clerk in the General Office of the Yan'an Prefecture Party Committee (1973–74). He worked as a reporter on domestic affairs for *Guangming Daily* (1974–79). After graduating from the CASS, he continued to work for *Guangming Daily*, where he served as reporter on political and economic affairs and deputy director (1982–84) and director (1984) of the Mass Media Department. He served as director of the Office of the Editor-in-Chief (1984–86), deputy editor-in-chief (1986–95), and editor-in-chief (1995–2000) of *Guangming Daily*.

He served as deputy director of the Central Propaganda Department of the CCP Central Committee (2000–01), editor-in-chief of *People's Daily* (2001–2003) and as president of *People's Daily* (2002–08) at the same time he attended a short program at the Central Party School in Beijing (2006). He served as deputy director of the Central Propaganda Department, director of the Central Foreign Propaganda Office of the CCP Central Committee, director of the State Council Information Office, and director of the National Internet Information Office (2008–13). He was first elected to the Central Committee as a full member at the 16th Party Congress in 2002.

Compiled by Cheng Li and the staff of the John L. Thornton China Center at Brookings

Notes:

ⁱ “Sent-down youth” (插队知青) refers to young, educated urbanites who left their home cities to serve as manual laborers in the countryside during the Cultural Revolution.