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Biography

Professor Cheng Li is Director and Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution's John L Thornton China Center. He is also a director of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, a distinguished fellow at the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy a nonresident fellow at Yale University's Paul Tsai China Center, and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He received an MA in Asian Studies from the University of California at Berkeley and a PhD in Political Science from Princeton University.

He is the author and editor of 17 books, including more recently Chinese Politics in the Xi Jinping Era: Reassessing Collective Leadership (2016), The Power of Ideas: The Rising Influence of Thinkers and Think Tanks in China (2017), and Middle Class Shanghai: Reshaping U.S.-China Engagement (2021). He is currently completing a book manuscript with the working title Xi Jinping's Protégés: Rising Elite Groups in the Chinese Leadership.