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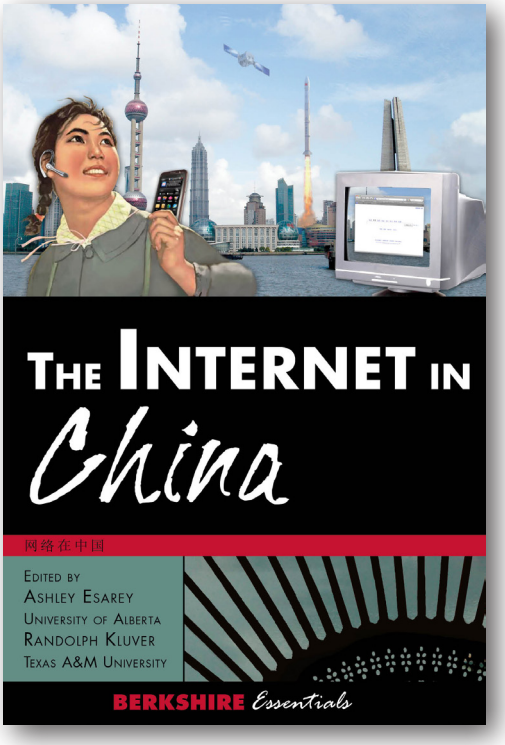

Editors: Ashley Esarey, University of Alberta & Randolph Kluver, Texas A&M University

Ebook: 9781933782249• US$49
Paperback: 9781614729358• US$59
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The Internet in China, a Berkshire Essential, provides unique and much-needed historical background on the communications revolution and technological developments that have transformed Chinese society, creating new conflicts and new opportunities for the nation's half a billion netizens. This convenient handbook covers the role of the Internet in business and economy, governance and politics, civil society, and social welfare. More than forty international experts, many of them Chinese, write about community-building and social networking, online dating and romance, government regulation, education and entertainment, and phenomenon specific to China, including the Great Firewall and microblogging.

The volume is divided into four parts:

- Part 1: Business and Economics
- Part 2: Governance, Law, and Politics
- Part 3: Entertainment and Education
- Part 4: Society and Social Welfare

An introduction by Randolph Kluver and a conclusion by Ashley Esarey provide the framework for the individual articles. The volume provides an overview of many key aspects of the Internet in China, made relevant to a general audience. Contributors address in detail the state's influence over the Internet in entries on Internet regulation, monitoring, filtering, and the Great Firewall, and explore the ways in which Chinese society has responded to the popularization of the Internet applications in articles on microblogging, text messaging, online gaming, online shopping, and the impact of the Internet on daily life. Each article is cross-referenced for easy navigation and contains a bibliography with recommended sources. An English-Chinese glossary of commonly used terms is included at the end of the book.