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Cybersecurity and Informatization Leading Group: Names and Documents

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Following the establishment of the Central Leading Group for Cybersecurity and Informatization, the independent website Guancha.cn circulated a name list of the group's members and the institutions they represent. In total, the group reportedly has 22 members. The first three of these had been announced by Xinhua: the Group is chaired by Xi Jinping, with Premier Li Keqiang and Standing Committee member Liu Yunshan as vice-chairs. These are joined by 8 other Politburo members and senior leaders: Ma Kai (Vice-Premier), Wang Huning (Central Policy Research Office Director), Liu Qibao (Central Propaganda Committee Director), Fan Changlong (Central Military Commission, Vice-Director), Meng Jianzhu (Central Political-Legal Committee Secretary), Li Zhanshu (Central Committee General Office Director), Yang Jing (Central Secretariat, Secretary) and Zhou Xiaochuan (Vice-Chair of the CPPCC and Governor of the People's Bank of China). With the exception of Yang Jing, all of these are also members of the new Central Leading Group of the Comprehensive Deepening of Reform. Furthermore, the group contains 11 ministerial-level officials, representing the State bureaucracies involved with informatization and cybersecurity. They include Lu Wei (SCIO Vice-Director and SIO Director) who will also be in charge of the Leading Group's Office, Guo Shengkun (Minister of Public Security), Fang Fenghui (Chief of the General Staff), Wang Yi (Minister of Foreign Affairs), Xu Shaoshi (NDRC, Director), Yuan Guiren (Minister of Education), Wang Zhigang (Ministry of Science and Technology, Party Secretary), Lou Jiwei (Minister of Finance), Miao Wei (Minister of Industry and Information Technology), Cai Wu (Minister of Culture) and Cai Fuchao (State Administration of Press, Publications, Radio, Film and Television, Director).

This new leading group largely merges the membership of the previous two leading bodies for online governance, the State Informatization Leading Group (SILG) and the State Network and Information Security Coordination Small Group (SNISCSG). One interesting addition is the governor of the central bank, who had hitherto not been involved in cybergovernance matters. It passed a work plan for 2014 at its first meeting, as well as internal rules for its functioning. None of these documents has been made public so far, but Guancha indicates that broad policy pronouncements can be expected in the wake of the plenary meetings of the National People's Congress and the Political Consultative Conference, which ended today and yesterday respectively.