

Copyright Protection and Development in China (2025)

National Copyright Administration of the People's Republic of China

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Preface

General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that innovation is a primary driving force for development, and protecting intellectual property is protecting innovation. Being an integral part of intellectual property, copyright plays a fundamental and strategic role in promoting cultural prosperity, scientific and technological advancement and economic growth. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, the cause of copyright in China has advanced following closely Xi Jinping Thought on Culture, and in alignment with the core task of promoting on all fronts the Chinese path to modernization and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and keeping in mind the top agenda of the Party and the State, historical achievements have been made.

China has established a copyright legal system tailored to its national conditions. Since the enactment of the *Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China* in 1990, a multi-tiered legal structure has been developed, comprising laws, regulations, rules, normative documents and

judicial interpretations, laying a solid legal foundation for the development of the copyright cause.

China has improved its dual-track copyright protection system with judicial and administrative enforcements operating in parallel, and with coordinated advancement of related social forces. By way of coordinated enforcement system, betterment of its operation procedures, and the promotion of industry self-regulation, notable progress has been made in combating infringement and piracy, in maintaining market order, and in protecting legitimate rights and interests of right holders, all therewith helped foster a more favorable environment for copyright-related business.

China has improved its dynamic and diversified system to render copyright-related social services and support for industry. Government authorities, public service institutions, industry associations, collective management organizations, and copyright trading centers work together in the areas such as registration and recordation of licensing and assignment, exhibition and transaction, financial service, collective management and legal popularization, helping a comprehensive and multi-layered service network, and a steady increase of contribution by copyright industry to the national economy.

China has established an extensive framework for international

copyright exchanges and cooperation. China has actively engaged in multilateral mechanisms such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), deepened high-level cooperation with countries and regions participating in the Belt and Road Initiative, expanded bilateral and multilateral exchanges in the area of copyright, and developed strategic partnerships with a number of countries and regions. At the same time, China plays an active role in the formation and implementation of global copyright rules, consistently expanding China's discourse power and influence in the field of copyright.

In 2025, oriented at innovation, the National Copyright Administration of the People's Republic of China (NCAC) strengthened its effort across copyright creation, utilization, protection, management and public services. Under the guidance of NCAC and by the enforcement of copyright-related authorities across the country, a total of 4,170 infringement and piracy cases were investigated and handled, 2,920 infringing websites were shut down, and 1.16 million infringing links were removed. The total number of copyright registrations nationwide reached 10.677 million, including 3.1828 million software copyright registrations, representing a year-on-year increase by 12.58%. These efforts have greatly contributed to high-quality economic and social development and the building of a country strong in culture.

I. Improving the Copyright Legal System and Laying a Solid Institutional Foundation for Copyright

China has continuously up-graded its top-level policy design for copyright, improved its legal system with regard to copyright, and promoted effective implementation of international norms, having gradually developed a copyright policy and legal system of socialism with Chinese characteristics. The development of this policy and legal system has consolidated the institutional foundation for copyright governance, which provides institutional guarantees for regulating the copyright market order, safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of right holders, and promoting development of the copyright sector (see Appendix 1).

(1) Strengthening Top-Level Design and Outlining a Strategic Blueprint for Copyright

China has consistently attached importance to top-level policy design and strategic planning in the field of copyright. In June 2008, the State Council issued the *Outline of the National Intellectual Property Strategy*, which set forth policies for encouraging creation, promoting effective utilization, ensuring legal protection, and strengthening scientific management. The implementation of the national intellectual property strategy marked a significant milestone in China's intellectual property protection cause,

which having a far-reaching impact on its economic and social development, and also serving as guiding principles for strengthening copyright protection and advancing copyright-related industry.

Documents were thereafter successively issued, including the *Several Opinions of the State Council on Accelerating the Construction of an Intellectual Property Powerhouse under New Circumstances* (2015), the *Circular of the General Office of the State Council on Issuing the Overall Pilot Reform Program for Comprehensive Management of Intellectual Property Rights* (2016), and the *Opinions on Strengthening Intellectual Property Protection* (2019) jointly issued by the General Office of the CPC Central Committee and the General Office of the State Council. These documents have set strategic planning for the creation, utilization, protection, and management of intellectual property, with copyright included.

In 2021, the CPC Central Committee and the State Council issued the *Outline for Building an Intellectual Property Powerhouse (2021–2035)*, which set the strategic goal of building a “world-class intellectual property powerhouse with Chinese characteristics” by 2035, thereby providing a solid guarantee for building an innovative country and a modern socialist country in all respects. Issuance and put to practice of this *Outline* has provided further guidance for the work of copyright in the period of high-quality development.

In 2025, the Fourth Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee

reviewed and adopted the *Proposals of the CPC Central Committee on Formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development*, highlighting development with high quality as the central theme for the period, and emphasizing in particular the need for strengthening protection and utilization of intellectual property. Thus, directing principles are set for the development of China's copyright sector during the 15th Five-Year Plan period.

(2) Improving the Law System to Provide a Strong Legal Base for Copyright Protection

A sound legal regime provides prime basis for effective protection of copyright. In 1990, the 15th Session of the Standing Committee of the Seventh National People's Congress adopted the *Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China* (subsequently amended in 2001, 2010 and 2020), which sets out clearly the basic principles defining the scope of copyright, ownership of right, terms of protection and liability for infringement. The law provides a fundamental legal basis for protecting the rights and interests of copyright holders, and for promoting the creation and dissemination of works. From 1991 to 2006, the State Council, to make the legal system more complete, issued a series of supporting regulations, including the *Regulations for the Implementation of the Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China*, the *Regulations on the Protection of Computer Software*, the *Regulations on Collective*

Management of Copyright, the Regulations on the Protection of the Right of Communication through Information Networks, the Interim Measures for Remuneration Payment for Sound Recordings' Broadcast by Radio and Television Stations, and the Provisions for the Implementation of International Treaties on Copyright.

Meanwhile, in order to align its domestic legal system with international norms, China has taken active steps to join major international copyright treaties. Since 1992, China has joined a number of key international treaties, including the *Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works*, the *Universal Copyright Convention*, the *Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms*, the *Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)*, the *WIPO Copyright Treaty*, the *WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty*, the *Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances*, and the *Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled (Marrakesh Treaty)*, and China has by this transformed its role from the one who actively performs international obligations to a one who takes the initiative to participate in the reform of global copyright governance (see Appendix 2).

In addition, NCAC has issued a series of department rules and normative documents with regard to statutory licensing for sound recordings,

copyright registration, administrative penalties, remuneration for use of works, and the regulation of online communication. Based on local circumstances, region-specific regulations have also been adopted by provinces such as Shandong, Guangxi, and Guangdong. The Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate have promulgated judicial interpretations on the application of laws in copyright cases. Thus, China has established a comprehensive copyright legal system, with the *Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China* at center and supplemented by regulations, rules, normative documents, and judicial interpretations; a socialist legal system on copyright with Chinese characteristics has therefore been formed, which provides a relatively complete institutional structure to ensure copyright protection to be strengthened in a comprehensive way.

In 2025, NCAC stepped up its work on the revision of the *Regulations for the Implementation of the Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China* and the *Regulations on Collective Management of Copyright*. Pilot program was carried out in depth for the protection and promotion of copyright in folk literature and art, alongside research work on possible regulations to the same effect. Efforts were also made to promote the effective implementation of the *Marrakesh Treaty*, including the registration of the third group of authorized entities (including cross-border exchanges institutions) providing accessible format copies, and

push forward effective implementation of the *Interim Provisions on Providing Works in Accessible Formats for Persons with Print Disabilities*, thereby cultural life of persons with print disabilities can be enriched.

(3) Optimizing Policy Coordination and Activating the Driving Force for Copyright Development

A well-developed policy system serves as an important engine for optimizing resource allocation and stimulating innovation across the society. In 2009, to implement the *Outline of the National Intellectual Property Strategy*, NCAC issued the *Implementation Measures for the Outline of the National Intellectual Property Strategy*, putting forth key initiatives aimed at improving the copyright legal system, promoting the creation and utilization of copyright, strengthening administrative enforcement, developing public and social service systems, enhancing publicity, education and training, and expanding international exchanges and cooperation.

In 2019, to implement the important working plan of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council for intellectual property, and to promote financial support for the utilization of intellectual property, NCAC, together with the other authorities, issued the *Notice on Further Strengthening Intellectual Property Pledge Financing* as policy support for expanding the scale of IP-backed financing.

In 2021, NCAC issued the *14th Five-Year Plan for Copyright Development*, which provides strategic planning for copyright work nationwide, aimed at seeing contribution from copyright sector to high-quality development and the building of an innovative country, a culturally strong country, and an intellectual property powerhouse.

In 2024, NCAC, in collaboration with the Supreme People's Court, issued the *Notice on Establishing a "Total-to-Total" Online Litigation-Mediation Coordination Mechanism for Copyright Disputes*, in order to establish a coordinated, efficient, and accessible mechanism for a diversified way of dispute resolution.

In 2025, NCAC issued the *Opinions on Accelerating High-Quality Development of the Copyright Sector*, to promote modernization of copyright governance system and operational capacity. Research work was carried out on the revision of model copyright licensing contracts (Book Publishing Contracts) to regulate the copyright order in the book publishing sector. In cooperation with relevant authorities, it issued a number of policy documents, including the *Work Plan for Pilot Programs on the Intellectual Property Financial Ecosystem*, and the *Guidelines on Enhancing Compliance Awareness and Strengthening Compliance Management for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises*, in order to improve coordination in copyright management and support the development of

new quality productive forces.

II. Strengthening Comprehensive and Multi-Tiered Protection and Consolidating the Effectiveness of Copyright Governance

China has improved its dual-track copyright protection system with judicial and administrative enforcements operating in parallel, and with coordinated advancement of related social forces. Administrative protection gives a full play of inter-agency coordination, whereby a regular and long-term supervision mechanisms can be established, under which targeted enforcement campaigns can be carried out on a continuous basis to combat infringement and piracy, effectively maintaining the market order of copyright. As with judicial protection, continued efforts are made to improve the rules governing adjudication process, and to develop a more professional judicial mechanism, and for notable betterment of efficiency and quality in case handling, and effective protection can thus be available for legitimate rights and interests of right holders. Industry organizations have actively formulated their own self-regulatory norms, and directed market participants for lawful business doing, helping foster a favorable situation seeing coordinated governance in the whole of society.

(1) Strict Law Enforcement and Supervision to Enhance the Effectiveness of Copyright Protection

Administrative protection is an important aspect of China's copyright protection system. In 1985, the State Council approved the establishment of NCAC, which is responsible for guiding nationwide work of copyright administration. At present, copyright administrative authorities have been established in all 31 provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities. Under the direction of NCAC, local copyright authorities, in coordination with comprehensive enforcement units on cultural market, have strengthened administrative enforcement of copyright, tackling under law infringement and piracy, protecting legitimate rights and interests of copyright holders, and safeguarding a stable market order for copyright (see Appendix 3).

Efforts have been made to enhance regular supervision. In 2025, NCAC organized two nationwide coordinated enforcement initiatives against infringement and piracy, involving more than 300 enforcement personnel from copyright authorities and cultural market enforcement teams across the country. These initiatives contributed to improve the legal awareness of enforcement personnel and their ability to handle cases. Procedure for alignment between administrative enforcement and criminal justice were

further refined, and inter-agency coordination was strengthened for conducting joint direction and supervision in a case. A coordinated, multi-agency enforcement mechanism for combating infringement and piracy was further improved. In 2025, a total of 109 major copyright infringement cases were supervised jointly by NCAC, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Ministry of Public Security and the Supreme People's Procuratorate. Across the country, copyright enforcement authorities have investigated 484,400 entities in physical market, with 2,713 infringement and piracy cases being treated.

Targeted measures have also been taken in key areas. First, the “Sword Net 2025” campaign was carried out to address online infringement and piracy. In 2025, NCAC further standardized the copyright order of audiovisual works, animation and gaming, computer software, online storage and dissemination, e-commerce and streaming devices. Under its guidance, copyright enforcement authorities nationwide investigated 1,472 online infringement cases, shut down 2,920 infringing websites, and deleted 1.16 million infringing and piratical links. Second, a special campaign was launched to strengthen copyright protection for theatrical films, focusing on curbing unauthorized recording and distribution. In 2025, early warnings were given by NCAC for 69 key theatrical films in

10 batches. NCAC tracked and supervised the handling of major leads concerning the illegal recording and distribution of theatrical films, including those cases associated with platforms identified as “Zhaixing Theater” and “Global Film”. Third, a periodical campaign involving copyright protection for young people was launched to address with weight the disorder caused by infringement and piracy affecting minors. In 2025, NCAC jointly with the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, launched the Youth Copyright Protection Campaign, focusing on cracking down on the production, sale, dissemination of infringing and pirated books, as well as cultural products involving the rights and interests of minors. The campaign investigated and handled cases of inducing and abetting minors to commit infringing and pirated activities with strict discipline, regulated the copyright order in related fields such as books, animation, games and theatrical films, and safeguarded the health growth of young people.

Box: 20th Anniversary of “Sword Net” Special Campaign for
Crack Down on Online Infringement and Piracy

A special campaign by name of “Sword Net” was jointly carried out by NCAC, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the Ministry of Public

Security, and the Cyberspace Administration of China to crack down on online infringement and piracy. Launched in 2005, it has by 2025 continued for 20 years already. In this period, NCAC has issued a series of regulatory and normative documents, including the *Measures for the Administrative Protection of Copyright on the Internet*, the *Notice on Regulating the Order of Online Reproduction of Copyrighted Content*, the *Notice on Requiring Online Music Service Providers to Cease Unauthorized Dissemination of Musical Works*, the *Notice on Regulating the Copyright Order of Cloud Storage Services*, and the *Notice on Strengthening Copyright Administration of Online Literary Works*, purposed to strengthen differentiated regulation for copyright compliance by various online operations. Targeted governance actions have been taken in key areas such as online video, online music, online literature, online games, cloud storage services, application stores, e-commerce platforms, browsers, search engines and network disks, by way of investigation of infringement and piracy cases, shutting down infringing websites and APP and removing infringing and piracy links. As a result, online infringement and piracy has been contained, the order has been established for online copyright, the environment for online business has been purified, and legitimate rights and interests of copyright holders have been protected.

Enforcement Outcomes of the “Sword Net” Campaign (2020–2025)			
Year	Infringement and Piracy Cases Investigated	Infringing Websites Shut Down	Infringing Links Removed (10,000s)
2020	724	2,884	324
2021	1,031	1,066	120
2022	1,180	1,692	85
2023	1,513	2,390	244
2024	1,491	705	363
2025	1,472	2,920	116

Efforts have gone deeper in promoting authorized use of software. In 2025, the Inter-Ministerial Joint Conference on Promoting the Use of Genuine Software (chaired by NCAC) consolidated the achievements in software legalization for Party and government organs as well as central enterprises, and accelerated the software legalization process in relevant fields. Third-party audit agencies not owned by or affiliated to the government were employed to assess the usage of software in selected government departments, public institutions and central enterprises. A total of 184 units were inspected, with 23,792 computer sets being checked. The rate of compliance for software copyright was 100% for antivirus software, 99.62% for operating systems, 97.78% for office software, and 99.82% for industrial software (see Appendix 4).

(2) Impartial Adjudication to Ensure the Protection and Utilization of Copyright

Judicial protection is a powerful means for copyright protection in China, and plays an important role in deciding on disputes for copyright infringement. At present, a system for judicial trial on intellectual property cases has been established, which is clearly tiered, coordinated and highly efficient. At central level, the Third Division for Civil Trial and the Intellectual Property Court of the Supreme People's Court undertake the function as a coordinator and director, and as a supervisor over the work of adjudicating intellectual property cases by courts across the country. At local level, courts specialized in intellectual property have been established in Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Hainan Free Trade Port, and intellectual property tribunals have been set up within 33 people's courts, thus forming a nationwide network of specialized adjudication.

Since 2020, the Supreme People's Procuratorate has had therewithin an office for intellectual property prosecution, so as to coordinate the four main functions of prosecuting. Engaged specifically in the prosecution work for intellectual property, it has made good effort to strengthen judicial protection in a comprehensive manner for intellectual property, in which copyright is included. Centralization and unification of functions of intellectual property prosecution have been carried out on a trial bases in

several provinces, gradually to have intellectual property cases treated by specialized department and personnel. At present, all provincial-level procuratorates have established intellectual property prosecution offices, and specialized teams have also been set up in certain municipal and primary-level procuratorates that handle a high volume of cases. The number of intellectual property cases handled has thus increased significantly, and the composition of cases has been considerably optimized.

Strengthening the adjudication of copyright cases in accordance with the law. The people's courts have continuously improved the adjudication rules for copyright cases and strived to raise the quality and efficiency of the trial of copyright cases. In 2025, the people's courts across the country received 259,248 first-instance civil cases regarding copyright, accounting for 54.76% of the total number of first-instance civil cases on intellectual property; 27 first-instance administrative cases for copyright, accounting for 0.1% of the total number of administrative cases for intellectual property; and 1071 first-instance criminal cases for copyright, accounting for 11.88% of the total number of criminal cases for intellectual property. Adjudication with high efficiency by people's courts for copyright cases has helped greatly to the development and prosperity of culture and science (see Appendix 5).

Severely punishing criminal violations of copyright in accordance with the

law. The people's procuratorates have strengthened criminal protection with regard to copyright, as in 2025, totally 368 individuals were approved for arrest in 246 criminal cases on copyright infringement, and 1,710 were prosecuted in 894 cases. On the crime of selling infringing reproductions, 90 individuals in 70 cases were approved for arrest, and 343 individuals in 162 cases were prosecuted. Focusing on the needs of cultural innovation and development, efforts have been continuously intensified to combat crimes, with a particular emphasis on strengthening copyright protection for key works such as educational and reference books, audiovisual works, and computer software, as well as works in emerging areas concerning cultural creativity. Active responses have been made to the new challenges posed by copyright infringement and piracy activities employing new technologies. Over 30 cases of copyright infringement involving popular works, including the film *Ne Zha 2* and the trendy toy "Pop Mart", have been initiated for legal proceedings by prosecutorial authorities. The Supreme People's Procuratorate has published typical cases where copyright-related crimes are severely punished, so as to provide guidance for local procuratorates to handle new type cases on emerging issues such as infringement by means of artificial intelligence and intentional circumvention or disruption of technical measures for protection.

Conducting criminal investigation into copyright infringement crimes in accordance with the law. Public security authorities have continuously

taken targeted actions, such as the one named by “Kunlun”, in order to strengthen criminal enforcement on crimes against intellectual property, and attack in a harsh way counterfeiting activities of various types. Contributions are meant to be made for the building of beautiful China, and to the safeguarding of public welfare, and to be of service to high-quality development. And from the sector of public security, contribution is to be made to the objectives set in the Fourteenth Five-Year Plan to be achieved successfully. In 2025, approximately 26,000 criminal cases involving infringement against intellectual property and the production and selling of fake and shoddy goods were investigated, of which over 1,100 were criminal cases on copyright infringement.

(3) Promoting Social Co-Governance to Foster a Sound Copyright Environment

Based on its dual-track system combining judicial and administrative protection, China is accelerating the construction of a multi-level new pattern of copyright social co-governance led by the government, with industry self-regulation, corporate self-discipline and public participation, so as to create a well-regulated and orderly market environment for innovation and creation.

Continuous improvement of industry self-regulation mechanism. In 2025, under the direction of NCAC, the Copyright Society of China researched

and formulated the *Guidelines on Strengthening the “Notice-and-Takedown” Mechanism in the Short-Form Drama Sector*. The China Netcasting Services Association established a copyright service platform for short-form dramas in order to regulate with joint efforts copyright practices in emerging fields. Industry associations have also actively promoted the development of mechanisms for copyright compliance, and improving the copyright protection awareness and capabilities of the entire industry through, among others, carrying out copyright training and formulating sample contracts.

Expanding rights protection channels through a multi-resolution mechanism for disputes. In 2025, NCAC, in coordination with the Supreme People’s Court, pushed forward the work on a mechanism called “total-to-total” for online linkage of litigation and mediation in the field of copyright, with six regions and institutions as base for trial, which handled 4,419 copyright disputes through mediation. A working pattern for prevention and resolution of copyright disputes was formed to enable coordination in action, organic connection and efficiency and convenience. Besides, institutions such as the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission and the Beijing Arbitration Commission have established therewithin intellectual property arbitration platforms, where arbitrators with relevant expertise have been employed to help with treatment of copyright disputes. Mediation organizations

across the country have actively participated in dispute resolution, and by way of providing professional services, procedures for dispute resolution of higher efficiency and convenience become available to the parties, thus the workload has been reduced effectively on the judicial part.

Theoretical research and frontier-orientated exploration to enhance the building of think tanks. Universities and research institutes have actively engaged in copyright theoretical research, standard-setting, and talent training. Policies and measures for copyright protection have been studied with focus being laid on such topical and tricky issues, such as copyright rules with regard to artificial intelligence, data protection and copyright, manner of copyright licensing for digital music, copyright risk prevention and control at the international level, copyright compliance for online sales, protection and development of copyright in creative cultural products, and typical cases of software related infringement and piracy.

III. Improving the Efficiency of Public Services and Promoting the Development of Copyright-Related Industry

China attaches much importance to the establishment of a social service system for copyright and high-quality growth of copyright-related industry . At present, a system for providing services in a comprehensive way and of all types has been established, encompassing copyright

registration, collective management, transaction services, overseas certification and promotion of publicity and education, as well as talent training. Irreplaceable function has been performed by this system in deciding on ownership of copyright, safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of right holders, regulating market transactions, facilitating dissemination and utilization of works, and stimulating innovation in the industry, which on the whole helped the copyright-related industry to become a pillar one for the national economy.

(1) Optimizing Public Services and Improving the Quality and Efficiency of Copyright Registration

Copyright registration is an important mechanism for clarifying ownership of right, ensuring safe transaction and facilitating commercialization of copyright. In China, copyright registration involves a range of work items, including voluntary registration of works, registration of copyright in computer software, registration of copyright pledges, recordation of foreign-related copyright contracts, recordation of license for exclusive use of copyright and deposit of assignment contracts. Accordingly, NCAC has designated the Copyright Protection Center of China and 31 provincial-level copyright authorities as registration spots to carry out voluntary registration for works. Certificates of registration with official seal are made solely under the supervision of NCAC, and have legal effect nationwide. The Copyright Protection Center of China has also

been designated by NCAC to carry out the work in relation to registration of copyright in computer software and copyright pledges.

In 2025, NCAC further improved registration system for copyright, pushed forward digitalization of registration processes for higher efficiency of the work. Active steps have been taken to treat, among others, the matter concerning public disclosure of information on copyright registration, thereby the legitimate rights and interests of right holders would get protected. Following the total number of copyright registration nationwide exceeding 10 million for the first time in 2024, the total number of national copyright registration exceeded 10 million again in 2025, including 7.4939 million works registration, 3.1828 million computer software copyright registration, and 353 copyright pledge registration (see Appendix 6).

With respect to voluntary registration of works, the top three regions by number of registrations in 2025 were Beijing Municipality, Fujian Province and Shandong Province, whose combined total of 2.8705 million registrations consisted 38.30% of the national total. And by number of registrations, the top three categories of works were artistic works, photographic works and literary works, whose combined total of 7.1241 million registrations, accounted for 95.07% of the total number of works registered.

(2) Focusing on Commercialization and Utilization to Promote the Development of Copyright-Related Industry

Active steps have been taken by China to have a copyright service system, which is driven by service needs for transaction, concentrates on industry development, and is supported by collective management, and with an ecosystem of copyright being optimized on a continued basis, momentum is to be injected into high-quality economic and social development.

The system of collective management of copyright has gradually been improved to safeguard in an effective way the legitimate rights and interests of right holders. In 1992, the system of collective management of copyright has taken root in China, and with issuance in 2004 of the *Regulations on Collective Management of Copyright*, legal guidance has been provided for the work of collective management. At present, five collective management organizations have been established in China, with type of works covering music, audiovisual, literary, photographic and cinematographic ones. Collective management organizations operate under the law to grant blanket license, to collect and distribute royalties, and protect the rights managed, who thus have played an important role in safeguarding rights and interests of the owners, in improving efficiency of licensing procedure, and in facilitating dissemination of works. In accordance with the law, NCAC exercises supervision and direction over collective management organizations and promotes coordination between

collective management organizations and users on licensing related matters. In 2025, under the direction of NCAC, the Music Copyright Society of China entered into cooperation agreements with relevant digital music platforms, upholding the copyright order in the music industry. Total income from royalty of collective management organizations exceeded 1 billion in RMB, with whose number of members coming near to 50,000. With direction and support from NCAC, collective management organizations have continued to optimize their managing function, to consistently improve the level of transparency, to give a full play of the advantage of the system, and to safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of right holders, thereby rendered strong support for the promotion of high-quality development of copyright-related industry (see Appendix 7).

NCAC has continuously strengthened its supervision of overseas copyright certification institutions. Currently, a total of 7 overseas copyright certification institutions has been approved to establish representative offices in China. In 2019, NCAC issued the *Opinions on Strengthening the Administration of Resident Representative Offices of Foreign Copyright Certification Bodies in China*, to provide guidance for them to carry out various activities in accordance with the law, so as to consolidate and give play of their role as a channel and link in copyright exchanges between China and the outside world.

In 2025, NCAC strived to promote copyright transactions and innovation in copyright financing. Review on operations of 19 copyright trading centers (trading bases) was done, in order to further strengthen their standardized construction. Directions have been given for innovation in copyright finance at regions for general experiment on an ecosystem of intellectual property finance, to improve the environment for copyright financing, and promote high-quality copyright assets. The 10th China International Copyright Expo was held successfully in Shandong province, with displays being shown both online and offline. The exhibition had a floor area of approximately 50,000 square meters, and saw 53,000 in-person visitors. A total of 363 agreements for strategic cooperation were concluded, with the amount of money involved in such cooperation having reached 776 million RMB.

Copyright-related industry has developed steadily and its pillar position has been continuously consolidated. Since 2007, NCAC has conducted annual assessments on economic contribution from copyright industry in accordance with the *Guide on Surveying the Economic Contribution of Copyright-Based Industries* prepared by WIPO. In 2024, the value added of copyright-related industry in China reached 10.06 trillion RMB, accounting for 7.46% of GDP, thus made it a pillar industry in national economy. Contribution from core copyright industry was significant. In 2024, the value added of core copyright industry in China was 6.37 trillion

RMB, accounting for 4.72% of GDP. The number of persons employed in urban entities of copyright-related industry was 15.895 million, accounting for 9.63% of total number of persons employed in urban entities, and representing a year-on-year increase by 0.01%. Foreign trade by copyright industry in China remained stable with sign of going better, and the composition of exported goods continued to improve. In 2024, the value of goods exported from copyright-related industry in China reached 421.165 billion US dollars, further demonstrating the weight of copyright-related industry in national economy (see Appendix 8).

(3) Strengthening Publicity and Education to Optimize the Ecosystem for Copyright Development

China has continued to carry out the work on publicity and education of copyright in various forms, to promote popularization of knowledge on copyright and distribution of typical copyright cases, to push forward the building of a copyright culture, and raise the understanding of copyright among whole society, therefore a social environment in favor of protecting copyright and encouraging innovation are to be fostered.

In 2025, NCAC, taking advantage of events like National Week for Publicity of Intellectual Property, World Intellectual Property Day, and World Book and Copyright Day, carried out, in collaboration with relevant authorities and engaging social forces, activities to foster publicity and

education of copyright in a verified, down-to-top and continued manner, so as to improve the effectiveness of the work for popularization of copyright, and to strengthen the training of copyright personnel.

Making copyright as a key note sound louder. A series activities for publicity via main themes on copyright were organized by NCAC, such as the 10th China International Copyright Expo and the 2025 International Copyright Forum, the 9th Conference on the Protection and Development in China of Online Copyright, the 2025 Copyright-Themed Events along with the National Week for Publicity of Intellectual Property and the Forum on Coordination Between Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei for the Development of Copyright, a forum on the protection of rights in relation to reading, and an exhibition showing copyright's role in promoting the preservation of and innovation for traditional culture held as a part of Shenzhen Cultural Expo. In coordination with relevant authorities, NCAC held in 2024 a press conference to report on the building of China into an intellectual property powerhouse, where publication was made of the second group of typical cases selected in relation to building a copyright powerhouse, the fifth group of units for trial on the protection and promotion of copyright relative to folk literature and art, and top ten cases of 2024 on combating infringement and piracy. Continued efforts are made to create cultural surroundings wherein copyright is respected.

Carrying out training on copyright protection and services. In this respect, NCAC organized training courses on supervision over copyright enforcement, copyright compliance with regard to software, social services for copyright, and copyright compliance with regard to internet enterprises, which served to effectively improve the competence of copyright personnel working at grassroots level. Guidance was given by NCAC for development of copyright compliance among online platform based enterprises, and for online copyright businesses to grow in a healthy way. Training courses were organized in cooperation with WIPO on the prevention and control of the risk for copyright-related industry operating internationally, so as to enhance the ability of the business circle in managing copyright related risks and operating abroad. Active efforts were made to push forward the work on the copyright part of the national exam for professional qualification in intellectual property, and to improve the evaluation system for granting professional titles to copyright personnel.

IV. Deepening International Exchanges and Cooperation and Expanding Global Influence of Copyright

Against the backdrop of an era seeing profound change in the system of global governance and the rapid development of digital economy, China attached great importance to international exchanges and cooperation in

relation to copyright, engaging on its own initiative in the process of global copyright governance, actively participated in the making of international norms for copyright, promoting bilateral and multilateral cooperation vigorously, carrying out through new ways external publicity campaign and international communication, thus having added dynamic force in and contributed Chinese wisdom to the formation of a fair, equitable, open and inclusive system for global copyright governance.

(1) Participating in Rule-Making and Enhancing the Discourse Power in Global Governance

Active participation in the development of international copyright rules is of strategic importance for safeguarding the core interests of the country, for having a stronger say in global governance, for promoting international cultural exchanges, and for developing a system for global copyright governance which will be fairer and more equitable. Since 1992, China has acceded a number of major international treaties, including the *Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works*, the *Universal Copyright Convention*, the *Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Performances*, the *Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)*, the *WIPO Copyright Treaty*, and the *WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty*, with active steps being taken for their domestic implementation.

In 2012, the *Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances* was successfully concluded. By being the first international treaty on intellectual property signed in China since the founding of the People's Republic of China, and being the one named after a city in China, it has constituted a milestone in China's cause of copyright and a new starting point for the benefit of performers from the world. In 2022, the *Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled* entered into force in China. In August 2022, NCAC issued the *Interim Provisions on Providing Works in Accessible Formats for Persons with Print Disabilities* to effectively protect the rights in culture of persons with print disabilities, which demonstrated the high importance attached by China to the protection of human rights.

China has actively engaged in global copyright governance within the framework of WIPO. In 2024, China participated intensively in the negotiation on and conclusion of the *WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge*, continuously improved the relevant international rules of copyright, and continuously strengthened bilateral and multilateral copyright negotiations related to economy and trade. In 2025, China actively participated in the WIPO General Assembly and meetings specifically on copyright topics, and helped with steady advancement of the process for negotiations on international treaties such as those *on the protection of*

broadcasting organizations and on the protection of traditional cultural expressions, thus having demonstrated the constructive role played by China in the making of international rules on copyright, and the wisdom of China contributed to the construction of a global system for copyright governance which is fairer and more equitable.

(2) Engaging in Exchanges and Cooperation and Jointly Building a Copyright Ecological Community

To deepen bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the field of copyright is an important pathway for promoting cultural exchanges and fostering an open, cooperative, and mutually beneficial global copyright ecosystem. Since joining the WIPO in 1980, China has actively participated in its work, and over the years has co-organized with WIPO a range of programs, including the granting of WIPO-NCAC Copyright Awards, model spots designated by WIPO for excellent cases on copyright protection, and the International Copyright Forum (see Appendix 9). Being also a member of international organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), China has consistently strengthened cooperation and exchanges with other countries within multilateral mechanisms. By continued efforts to widely and deeply promote international cooperation

in the field of copyright, China is dedicated to insert fresh dynamic force into the endeavor for the shared prosperity of the global copyright ecosystem.

China has in an active way developed strategic partnership for copyright with major economies such as the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Republic of Korea, with whom agreements to that effect have been signed, and intergovernmental meetings have been held on a regular basis, and policy dialogue and sharing of experience have happened in a down-to-business and intensive manner, achieving fruitful cooperation results, and making a contribution to promoting the development of global copyright protection and industry.

In 2025, China strengthened cooperation within multilateral mechanism such as those under WIPO and WTO, and deepened bilateral cooperation with countries participating in the Belt and Road Initiative as well as those in dialogue mechanisms with China, who also made active efforts to push forward bilateral and multilateral negotiations on trade-related copyright issues, and participated in the meetings of China-EU working group for intellectual property, and the meetings of intellectual property experts under the auspice of APEC. Memoranda of understanding were signed with the United Kingdom and Indonesia. Intergovernmental dialogue and bilateral exchanges concerning copyright were held with

countries such as the Republic of Korea and Japan, and copyright cooperation with countries such as Brazil, Egypt, and the United Arab Emirates have been further advanced.

(3) Strengthening External Publicity to Tell China's Copyright Stories Well

Strengthen external publicity and international communication with regard to copyright is a necessary means to raise China's influence in the field of international copyright, and for China's copyright story to be well told. In line with this, NCAC has carried out a range of copyright related external publicity activities, including copyright-themed events during the National Week for Publicity of Intellectual Property, press briefings, publication of relevant statistical data and research reports, display of publicity posters and videos, selecting and announcing annual major copyright events and typical cases, and holding copyright-related lectures and training courses for specific groups, all have achieved remarkable results. Enterprises in China such as Nantong Home Textiles, Dehua Ceramics, Wujiang Silk, and Jingdezhen IP and Creative Industry have been designated by WIPO as model spots for excellent cases on copyright protection, thereby experience of copyright-related industry in China could be promoted globally. Meanwhile, 4 regions at provincial-level, 18 regions at municipal-level and 27 regions at county-level have been selected as pilot regions to carry out legislative and pilot work on

copyright protection and promotion of folk literature and art, in order to give full play to the unique advantages of local resources, to activate their copyright value, and to summarize China's theoretical and practical experience in the protection and promotion of copyright in folk literary and artistic works, thereby contributing Chinese wisdom and solutions to the international community.

In 2025, China extensively exhibited and displayed its copyright achievements through bilateral and multilateral platforms and channels. During the period of WIPO General Assembly, NCAC, together with Permanent Mission of China in Geneva and WIPO, hosted an exhibition themed "Protection for Innovation, Co-Building for the Future: Copyright in China", which fully demonstrated the development and international cooperation in China's copyright cause, and the important role of copyright in encouraging innovation and promoting economic and social development. The exhibition has also helped to explain the practical thinking and lively exploration by China for deeply participating in global copyright governance and promoting the cause of copyright for it to develop vigorously. Efforts were also made to enhance external communication of valuable account of local practices, to push forward cross-border exchanges of accessible format copies, and to stage presentation of China's image as far as copyright is concerned. In cooperation with WIPO, projects such as the one for presentation as a model for the

excellent cases of copyright protection carried out at the Malanshan Cultural Innovation Park for Video Products in Changsha, Hunan Province, where good stories and experiences concerning copyright in China were on display.

Conclusion

The year 2026 marks the beginning of the 15th Five-Year Plan. With respect to the cause of copyright in China, work will be carried out, under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for the New Era, to thoroughly implement Xi Jinping Thought on the Rule of Law and Xi Jinping Thought on Culture, to fully implement in a comprehensive manner the *Fifth Five-Year Plan for National Social and Economic Development in the People's Republic of China*, the *Outline for Building an Intellectual Property Powerhouse (2021-2035)*, and the *Opinion on Accelerating High-Quality Development of the Cause of Copyright*, to further improve the copyright legal system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, to conduct a research on formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan for copyright sector, to strengthen all-round protection for copyright, to continue to improve the system of service for copyright, to deepen international exchanges and cooperation in the area of copyright, to participate in an intensive way in global copyright governance, to reinforce the ability on international communication in the area of copyright, and to tell China's copyright stories well to the world.

On the new journey, the work of copyright undertakes a glorious mission and entails significant responsibilities. China will accelerate high-quality development of the cause of copyright, to enable copyright to serve in a better way the grand plan for economic and social development of the country, and to contribute a new chapter of copyright to the building of a strong country through the Chinese path to modernization and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

Appendix 1: Principal Copyright Legal Documents Currently in Force in China

Category	Document Title	Issuing Authority	Notes
Laws	Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China	Standing Committee of the National People's Congress	Adopted at the 15th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the seventh National People's Congress on September 7, 1990; amended for the first time under the <i>Decision on Amending the Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China</i> at the 24th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Ninth National People's Congress on October 27, 2001; amended for the second time under the <i>Decision on Amending the Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China</i> at the 13th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Eleventh National People's Congress on February 26, 2010; and amended for the third time under the <i>Decision on Amending the Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China</i> at the 23rd Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Thirteenth National People's Congress on November 11, 2020.
Administrative Regulations	Regulations for the Implementation of the Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China	The State Council	Promulgated by Decree No. 359 of the State Council of the People's Republic of China on August 2, 2002, amended for the first time under the <i>Decision of the State Council on Annuling and Amending Certain Administrative Regulations</i> on January 8, 2011, and amended for the second time under the <i>Decision of the State Council on Amending the Regulations for the Implementation of the Copyright Law of the People's Republic of China</i> on January 30, 2013.
	Regulations on the Protection of Computer Software	The State Council	Promulgated by Decree No. 339 of the State Council of the People's Republic of China on December 20, 2001, amended for the first time under the <i>Decision of the State Council on Annuling and Amending Certain Administrative Regulations</i> on January 8, 2011, and amended for the second time under the <i>Decision of the State Council on Amending the Regulations on the protection of Computer Software</i> on January 30, 2013.

Continued

Category	Document Title	Issuing Authority	Notes
Administrative Regulations	Regulations on Collective Management of Copyright	The State Council	Promulgated by Decree No. 429 of the State Council of the People's Republic of China on December 28, 2004, amended for the first time under the <i>Decision of the State Council on Annulling and Amending Certain Administrative Regulations</i> on January 8, 2011, and amended for the second time under the <i>Decision of the State Council on Amending Certain Administrative Regulations</i> on December 7, 2013.
	Regulations on the Protection of the Right of Communication through Information Networks	The State Council	Promulgated by Decree No. 468 of the State Council of the People's Republic of China on May 18, 2006, and amended under the <i>Decision by the State Council to Amend the Regulations on the Protection of the Right of Communication through Information Networks</i> on January 30, 2013.
	Interim Measures for Remuneration Payment for Sound Recordings' Broadcast by Radio and Television Stations	The State Council	Promulgated by Decree No. 566 of the State Council of the People's Republic of China on November 10, 2009, and amended under the <i>Decision of the State Council on Annulling and Amending Certain Administrative Regulations</i> on January 8, 2011.
	Provisions for the Implementation of International Treaties on Copyright	The State Council	Promulgated by Decree No. 105 of the State Council of the People's Republic of China on September 25, 1992, and amended under the <i>Decision by the State Council to Amend and Cancel Certain Administrative Regulations</i> on November 29, 2020.
Department Rules	Interim Provisions on Remuneration Standards under Statutory License for Sound Recordings	National Copyright Administration	Promulgated by Order No. 41 (1994) of the National Copyright Administration on August 1, 1993; entry into force on the same date.
	Provisional Measures for Voluntary Registration of Works	National Copyright Administration	Promulgated by Order No. 78 (1994) of the National Copyright Administration on December 31, 1994; entry into force on January 1, 1995.

Continued

Category	Document Title	Issuing Authority	Notes
Department Rules	Measures for the Registration of Computer Software Copyright	National Copyright Administration	Promulgated by Order No. 1 (2002) of the National Copyright Administration on February 20, 2002; entry into force the same date.
	Measures for the Administrative Protection of Copyright on the Internet	National Copyright Administration; Ministry of Information Industry	Promulgated by Order No. 5 (2005) of the National Copyright Administration and the Ministry of Information Industry on April 29, 2005; entry into force on May 30, 2005.
	Measures for the Implementation of Administrative Sanctions for Copyright	National Copyright Administration	Promulgated by Order No. 6 (2009) of the National Copyright Administration on May 7, 2009; entry into force on June 15, 2009.
	Measures for the Registration of Copyright Pledge	National Copyright Administration	Promulgated by Order No. 8 (2010) of the National Copyright Administration on November 25, 2010; entry into force on January 1, 2011.
	Measures for Remuneration Payment for the Use of Works under Statutory License in Textbooks	National Copyright Administration; National Development and Reform Commission	Promulgated by Order No. 11 (2013) of the National Copyright Administration and the National Development and Reform Commission on October 22, 2013; entry into force on December 1, 2013.
	Measures for Remuneration Payment for the Use of Literary Works	National Copyright Administration; National Development and Reform Commission	Promulgated by Order No. 11 (2014) of the National Copyright Administration and the National Development and Reform Commission on September 23, 2014; entry into force on November 1, 2014.
Judicial Interpretations	Interpretation of the Supreme People's Court on Certain Issues Concerning the Application of Laws in the Trial of Criminal Cases of Illegal Publications	Supreme People's Court	Interpretation No. 30 (1998), adopted at the 1032nd Meeting of the Judicial Committee of the Supreme People's Court on December 11, 1998, promulgated by the Supreme People's Court on December 17, 1998, and entry into force on December 23, 1998.

Continued

Category	Document Title	Issuing Authority	Notes
Judicial Interpretations	Interpretation of the Supreme People's Court on Certain Issues Concerning the Application of Laws in the Trial of Civil Cases of Copyright	Supreme People's Court	Adopted at the 1246th Meeting of the Judicial Committee of the Supreme People's Court on October 12, 2002; amended under the <i>Decision of the Supreme People's Court on Amending Eighteen Judicial Interpretations on Intellectual Property, including Interpretation (II) of the Supreme People's Court on the Application of Laws in the Trial of Disputes Regarding the Infringement of Patent Rights</i> , which was passed at the 1823rd meeting of the Judicial Committee of the Supreme People's Court on December 23, 2020.
	Provisions of the Supreme People's Court on Certain Issues Concerning Application of Laws in the Trial of Civil Cases Involving the Infringement of the Right of Communication through Information Networks	Supreme People's Court	Adopted at the 1561st meeting of the Judicial Committee of the Supreme People's Court on November 26, 2012; amended under the <i>Decision of the Supreme People's Court on Amending Eighteen Judicial Interpretations on Intellectual Property, including Interpretation (II) of the Supreme People's Court on the Application of Laws in the Trial of Disputes Regarding the Infringement of Patent Rights</i> , which was passed at the 1823rd meeting of the Judicial Committee of the Supreme People's Court on December 23, 2020.
	Interpretation by the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate on Certain Issues Concerning Application of Laws in Criminal Cases involving Infringement of Intellectual Property	Supreme People's Court; Supreme People's Procuratorate	Interpretation No. 5 (2025), adopted at the 1947th Meeting of the Judicial Committee of the Supreme People's Court on April 7, 2025, and at the 51st Meeting of the Fourteenth Procuratorial Committee of the Supreme People's Procuratorate on April 11, 2025; entry into force on April 26, 2025.

Appendix 2: International Copyright Treaties Joined by China

Treaty	Date of Accession/Ratification	Entry into force in China
Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works	July 10, 1992	October 15, 1992
Universal Copyright Convention	July 30, 1992	October 30, 1992
Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms	January 5, 1993	April 30, 1993
Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)	November 11, 2001	December 11, 2001
WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT)	March 9, 2007	June 9, 2007
WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT)	March 9, 2007	June 9, 2007
Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances	July 9, 2014	April 28, 2020
Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled	February 5, 2022	May 5, 2022

Appendix 3: Administrative Enforcement of Copyright in China (2015–2024)

Year	Administrative Penalties		Case Referrals		Entities Inspected		Entities Shut Down		Underground Sites Busted		Fines	
	Number of Cases	Year-on-Year Increase	Number of Cases	Year-on-Year Increase	Number	Year-on-Year Increase	Number	Year-on-Year Increase	Number	Year-on-Year Increase	Amount (in RMB)	Year-on-Year Increase
2015	3,477	-26.46%	160	-56.28%	846,140	-20.41%	9,340	7.53%	392	-18.67%	9,746,538	-27.80%
2016	3,065	-11.85%	189	18.13%	878,013	3.77%	6,243	-33.16%	325	-17.09%	13,406,043	37.55%
2017	3,552	15.89%	442	133.86%	636,864	-27.47%	4,102	-34.29%	155	-52.31%	10,024,793	-25.22%
2018	3,033	-14.61%	203	-54.07%	522,135	-18.01%	2,361	-42.44%	203	30.97%	16,155,654	61.16%
2019	2,539	-16.29%	186	-8.37%	384,641	-26.33%	1,224	-48.16%	152	-25.12%	23,995,277	48.53%
2020	2,198	-13.43%	251	34.95%	243,267	-36.75%	1,178	-3.76%	169	11.18%	35,946,385	49.81%
2021	2,665	21.25%	212	-15.54%	293,097	20.48%	775	-34.21%	196	15.98%	25,135,271	-30.08%
2022	2,930	9.94%	215	1.42%	299,588	2.21%	841	8.52%	194	-1.02%	36,769,428	46.29%
2023	3,238	10.51%	294	36.74%	276,504	-7.71%	1,057	25.68%	192	-1.03%	22,601,106	-38.53%
2024	3,227	-0.34%	267	-9.18%	246,124	-10.99%	245	-76.82%	173	-9.90%	23,993,515	6.16%

**Appendix 4: Actions by Chinese Authorities to Promote Software Copyright
Compliance (2015–2025)**

Year	Work Measures
2015	Inspection was made on 95 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 1,600 computer sets being checked.
2016	Inspection was made on 287 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 7,900 computer sets being checked.
2017	Inspection was made on 389 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 27,000 computer sets being checked.
2018	Inspection was made on 374 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 50,400 computer sets being checked.
2019	Inspection was made on 278 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 45,000 computer sets being checked.
2020	Inspection was made on 199 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 35,900 computer sets being checked.
2021	Inspection was made on 205 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 45,400 computer sets being checked.
2022	Inspection was made on 199 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 66,100 computer sets being checked.
2023	Inspection was made on 200 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 79,100 computer sets being checked.
2024	Inspection was made on 206 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 66,700 computer sets being checked.
2025	Inspection was made on 184 units to ensure use of legitimate version of software, with 23,800 computer sets being checked.

**Appendix 5: First-Instance Copyright Cases Received by the People's Courts
(2015–2025)**

Year	First-Instance Civil Cases		First-Instance Administrative Cases		First-Instance Criminal Cases	
	Number	Year-on-Year Increase	Number	Year-on-Year Increase	Number	Year-on-Year Increase
2015	66,690	12.10%	10	-16.67%	504	-31.43%
2016	86,989	30.44%	37	270.00%	195	-61.31%
2017	137,267	57.80%	17	-54.05%	169	-13.33%
2018	195,408	42.36%	17	0.00%	156	-7.69%
2019	293,066	49.98%	16	-5.88%	210	34.62%
2020	313,484	6.97%	12	-25.00%	304	44.76%
2021	360,489	14.99%	19	58.33%	333	9.54%
2022	255,693	-29.07%	12	-36.84%	304	-8.71%
2023	251,687	-1.57%	11	-8.33%	627	106.25%
2024	247,149	-1.80%	9	-18.18%	938	49.60%
2025	259,248	4.9%	27	200%	1,071	14.18%

Appendix 6: Copyright Registrations in China (2015–2025)

Year	Copyright Registrations		Copyright Registrations for Works		Copyright Registrations for Computer Software		Registrations for Copyright Pledge	
	Number	Year-on-Year Increase	Number	Year-on-Year Increase	Number	Year-on-Year Increase	Number	Year-on-Year Increase
2015	1,641,166	35.49%	1,348,200	35.90%	292,360	33.63%	606	22.18%
2016	2,007,698	22.33%	1,599,597	18.65%	407,774	39.48%	327	-46%
2017	2,747,650	36.86%	2,001,966	25.15%	745,387	82.79%	299	-5.38%
2018	3,457,338	25.83%	2,351,952	17.48%	1,104,839	48.22%	547	82.94%
2019	4,186,549	21.09%	2,701,564	14.86%	1,484,448	34.36%	537	-1.83%
2020	5,039,543	20.37%	3,316,255	22.75%	1,722,904	16.06%	384	-28.49%
2021	6,264,378	24.30%	3,983,943	20.13%	2,280,063	32.34%	372	-3.13%
2022	6,353,144	1.42%	4,517,453	13.39%	1,835,341	-19.50%	350	-5.91%
2023	8,923,901	40.46%	6,428,277	42.30%	2,495,213	35.95%	411	17.43%
2024	10,630,610	19.13%	7,802,965	21.39%	2,827,213	13.31%	432	5.11%
2025	10,677,043	0.44%	7,493,861	-3.96%	3,182,829	12.58%	353	-18.29%

Appendix 7: Copyright Collective Management Organizations in China

Name	Date of Establishment	Official Website
Music Copyright Society of China (MCSC)	December 1992	https://www.mesc.com.cn
China Audio-Video Copyright Association (CAVCA)	June 2008	https://www.cavca.org
China Written Works Copyright Society (CWWCS)	February 2009	http://www.prccopyright.org.cn
Images Copyright Society of China (ICSC)	February 2009	https://www.icsc1839.org.cn
China Film Copyright Association (CFCA)	October 2009	http://www.cfca-c.org

**Appendix 8: Contributions of Copyright-Related Industry to China's Economy
(2015–2024)**

Year	Value Added of Copyright-Related Industry		Urban Employment in Copyright-Related Industry		Goods Export Value of Copyright-Related Industry	
	Value Added (in RMB 1 million)	Share of GDP	Number of Employees (in 1,000 persons)	Share of National Urban Employment	Export Value (in USD 1 million)	Share of Total Goods Exports
2015	5,005,414	7.30%	16,669.0	9.23%	263,336	11.58%
2016	5,455,146	7.33%	16,724.5	9.35%	241,674	11.52%
2017	6,081,092	7.35%	16,734.5	9.48%	264,773	11.70%
2018	6,634,148	7.37%	16,455.3	9.53%	384,243	15.45%
2019	7,320,375	7.39%	16,286.0	9.49%	365,330	14.62%
2020	7,508,881	7.39%	16,165.2	9.49%	388,725	15.01%
2021	8,478,992	7.41%	16,171.9	9.50%	457,610	13.61%
2022	8,973,361	7.41%	16,000.5	9.58%	463,875	13.03%
2023	9,378,731	7.44%	15,739.9	9.62%	414,613	12.27%
2024	10,060,000	7.46%	15,895.0	9.63%	421,165	11.78%

Appendix 9: WIPO-NCAC Copyright Awards (2020–2025)

Year	Creativity Award	Award for Copyright Utilization	Award for Copyright Protection	Award for Copyright Administration & Management
2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>My Altay</i> (Book) 2. <i>Ne Zha 2</i> (Cinematographic Work) 3. <i>Northwest Years</i> (TV Drama) 4. <i>Black Myth: Wukong</i> (Video Game) 5. <i>The Peony Pavilion</i> (Complete Version of Kunqu Opera) 6. <i>National Treasure: Exhibition Season</i> (Variety Show) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People's Education Press Co., Ltd. 2. Alpha Group Co., Ltd. 3. Mango Excellent Media Co., Ltd. 4. National Museum of China 5. Bank of Beijing Co., Ltd. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Intellectual Property Tribunal of Shanghai Pudong New Area People's Court 2. Fourth Procuratorial Department of the People's Procuratorate of Beijing Municipality 3. Intellectual Property and Counterfeit and Substandard Goods Crimes Investigation Section, Intellectual Property Crime Investigation Division, Anhui Provincial Public Security Department 4. Changzhou Cultural Market Comprehensive Administrative Law Enforcement Detachment 5. The Fifth Electronics Research Institute of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Qingdao Municipal Press and Publication Bureau 2. Cangzhou Municipal Copyright Bureau 3. Copyright Administration Division of Anhui Provincial Copyright Bureau 4. Copyright Administration Division of Fujian Provincial Copyright Bureau
2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Path of Leadership: Xi Jinping's Inspiring Journey of Regional Development</i> (Book) 2. <i>A Comprehensive Collection of Ancient Chinese Paintings</i> (Book) 3. <i>A Lifelong Journey</i> (TV Drama) 4. <i>The Battle at Lake Changjin</i> (Cinematographic Work) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. China Industrial and Information Technology Publishing & Media Group Co., Ltd. 2. Henan Television 3. Longshine (Guangzhou) Publishing Company 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General Guidance Division, Cultural Market Comprehensive Administrative Law Enforcement Supervision Bureau, Ministry of Culture and Tourism 2. Trial Supervision Division of Beijing Intellectual Property Court 3. Environmental, Food, Drug, and Tourism Security Detachment, Tongzhou Branch of Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Copyright Administration Division of Jiangsu Provincial Copyright Bureau 2. Copyright Administration Division of Shanghai Municipal Copyright Bureau

Continued

Year	Creativity Award	Award for Copyright Utilization	Award for Copyright Protection	Award for Copyright Administration & Management
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <i>ZW3D</i> (Computer Software) 6. <i>The Journey of a Legendary Landscape Painting</i> (Choreographic Work) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. People's Literature Publishing House Co., Ltd. 5. KylinSoft Corporation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Comprehensive Business Office of Ningbo Customs 5. Rights Protection Office, Liaison Department, China Writers Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Jingdezhen Municipal Copyright Bureau 4. Changsha Municipal Copyright Bureau
2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The Three-Body Problem Series</i> (Written Work) 2. <i>The Core Values of Chinese Civilization</i> (Written Work) 3. <i>Like a Flowing River</i> (TV Drama) 4. <i>The Climbers</i> (Cinematographic Work) 5. <i>Gu Jian</i> (Computer Software) 6. <i>Confucius</i> (Choreographic Work) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Xuexi.cn 2. Phoenix Publishing & Media, Inc. 3. Beijing International Copyright Trade Center 4. Beijing Bantao Technology Co., Ltd. 5. Jingdezhen Taoxichuan Ceramic Art Avenue, Jiangxi Province 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Fifth Collegial Panel of Civil Adjudication Tribunal No.3, Supreme People's Court 2. People's Procuratorate of Zunyi City, Guizhou Province 3. Public Security Bureau of Yangzhou City, Jiangsu Province 4. Comprehensive Law Enforcement Detachment of Cultural Market of Weifang City, Shandong Province 5. Copyright Bureau of Foshan City, Guangdong Province 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Copyright Administration Division of Beijing Municipal Copyright Bureau 2. Market Supervision and Administration Bureau of Yiwu City, Zhejiang Province 3. Copyright Affairs Center of Sichuan Province 4. China Audio-Video Copyright Association