

## Chinese Communist Party publishes "self-decoding" book series for Western audience

By Xinhua writers Lu Jiafei, Zhou Xiaozheng, Shang Yang - English.news.cn | 2015-05-29

NEW YORK, May 28 (Xinhua) -- In an unprecedented move to reach out to the Western audience and help them understand why it remains the single, largest ruling party in a country of 1.3 billion people, the Communist Party of China (CPC) has published a series of five books about itself, the English versions of which were launched here Thursday during BookExpo America (BEA) 2015. The "China Today: Understanding the CPC" book series, published by the Beijing-based Party Building Books Publishing House, represents the first attempt by the 86-million-member CPC in its 94-year history to convey a "genuine and understandable" image of itself to the outside world.

**Robert Lawrence Kuhn, chairman of the Kuhn Foundation dedicated to promoting China-U.S. relations, noted that the CPC's decision to open itself up bears significance to both China and the world. "China is involved in every matter of international importance, yet China is misunderstood in many ways," Kuhn told Xinhua. " People are more knowledgeable about China today but not so knowledgeable about the Party at all, and that's why it is critical for the Party itself to make an outreach to the world in a detailed manner." While China is eager to cooperate with the rest of the world in promoting world peace and prosperity, it could only happen when the world understands China and the CPC in a proper way, he added. "I think foreigners can disagree with the CPC, argue with the CPC, but all who need to understand China must understand the CPC, " said Kuhn.**

At Thursday's ceremony, Zhao Fan, the publishing house president, also stressed that the books' compilation and publication would have been impossible without the "strong support and all-round assistance" from various central departments of the CPC, particularly the Organization Department of the CPC Central Committee headed by Zhao Leji, which oversees the Party's all personnel and structural affairs.

**"In the past the Party seemed to be a sensitive topic to the external world, and it seemed to want to keep everything internal, but a very secretive approach doesn't work in the world today," said Kuhn. "Therefore, China and the Party should be credited, for a beginning of the current outreach and openness."**

**The 71-year-old expert on China also pointed out that over the past two and a half years under its new central leadership, the CPC has "taken a more aggressive and more open approach," as it has been "strengthened" in terms of anti-corruption, work style and transparency. "We have seen the Party develop and we have had Party building in different ways that are very important," he elaborated. "So now I think there is confidence (for the Party) to go out into the world. As this process continues, and as China continues to develop, I hope the Party will become more and more confident and more and more open.**