ZHANG Weiwei is a leading thinker from China and Dean of the China Institute and distinguished professor of international relations at Fudan University. He is a board member of China's National Think Tanks Council, Chairman of the Chunqiu Institute and editor-in-chief of the academic magazine Dongfang Journal. He is the host of China's popular weekly public affairs show "This is China" aired in Shanghai's Dragon TV and many social media platforms.

He received his Ph.D in International Relations from the University of Geneva. A former visiting fellow at Oxford, he was a senior research fellow for many years at the Centre for Asian Studies, University of Geneva.

He had worked as a senior English interpreter for Deng Xiaoping and other Chinese leaders in the mid-1980s. He has travelled to over 100 countries.

He is the author of the best-selling and award-winning *China Trilogy* (published by the Shanghai People's Press) of Zhongguo Chudong (*the China Ripple*), Zhongguo Zhenhan (*the China Wave: Rise of a Civilizational State*) and Zhongguo Chaoyue (*the China Horizon*, and the English editions of the latter two were published by World Century, New Jersey, in 2012 and 2016 respectively).

He is also known for his thesis on China as a civilizational state, as elaborated in many of his publications including the *China Trilogy* and Wenmingxing Guojia (*Civilizational State*, the Shanghai People's Press, 2017)

He first predicted that the Arab Spring would soon become the Arab winter in a much publicized debate in 2011 with Francis Fukuyama, the author of *the End of History and the Last man*.

His other works include *Ideology and Economic Reform under Deng Xiaoping* (Kegan Paul, London, 1996), *Transforming China: Economic Reform and its Political Implications* (Macmillan, London and St. Martins, New York, 2000) and Heweiminzhu (*What is Democracy*, Shanghai People's Press, 2021)

He has written extensively in Chinese and English on civilizational state, China's political and economic reforms, the China model of modernization, China's foreign policy and comparative politics.