

# The Republic of China Treated in General History Textbooks: A Case Study of Historically Correct History Versus Politically Correct History

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## Abstract

Chinese history after 1911 is both eventful and complex. Given the sheer size of available information on the subject, the content of a general history of modern China is usually selective. To decide what information should be included in a general history and what can be left out of it is never easy for any historian. Yet the truth of history should be and can be preserved regardless of what information one chooses to use and how it is used.

Take for instance the coverage on the Republic of China, while some general history textbooks acknowledge the historical significance of the Republic of China, many others have neglected its existence by excluding such information. Using as an example how the Republic of China has been treated in some general history textbooks, this article looks at the impact on historical truth when certain essential historical facts are ignored.

**Keywords : 1911 Revolution, modern China, Republic of China (ROC), Taiwan**

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# 歐美通史教科書對中華民國之處理： 兼論「為歷史而歷史」與「為政治而歷史」

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## 摘 要

我國歷史，源遠流長。然數千年之浩瀚史料，非任何史籍所能全數容納。取捨之間，遺珠之憾，在所難免。吾人治史，無論史料選用之標準為何，歷史事實及真相應不受影響。話雖如此，以中國近代史為例，西洋坊間以此為主題之英文書籍多如過江之鯽，然其中絕大多數均捨中華民國而不談，致使諸多歐美學子不知亞洲第一共和國為何物。本文針對多本歐美通史教科書對中華民國部分之處理，做一介紹，並探討史實受到忽略對歷史真相所造成之影響。

**關鍵字：**辛亥革命、近代中國、中華民國、臺灣

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