



According to a survey by the Center for China and Globalization, while China ranks first in the world in terms of human resources, it ranks eighth in terms of overall competitiveness, which is marginally inadequate in light of China's total economic capacity.

In other words, we have nurtured a pretty large labor force, but the education level of this labor force leaves much to be desired.

To address the deficit would require nothing less than a national effort.

#### Education and talent

"In the report by the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, science, education and talent are listed side-by-side

for the first time, stating that 'education, science and technology, and human resources are the foundational and strategic pillars for building a modern socialist country in all respects,'" explained Wang Huiyao, founder and president of CCG, in his report at the Hongqiao Forum.

Wang believes that science and technology, education, and human resources will be crucial areas to focus on for the foreseeable future.

According to UN statistics, China has a median age of 38.4, which is still younger than Japan's 48.7, but older than India's 27.4 and Vietnam's 32.4.

Given the demographics and the perception that many couples lack the desire to have more children, our average population increase would be substantially lower than

the global average.

More cause for concern would be the structural cracks.

Consequently, when China is surpassed by India in terms of population, one of the more serious issues will be a paradigm shift in terms of the ratio of labor forces, as the size of the skilled labor force may predict the direction of industrial transfer, posing new challenges to the global division and distribution of economic resources and trade.

China will undoubtedly continue to demonstrate its resilience in the face of these obstacles.

We have every reason to expect that the country will be able to handle the demographic problems if the central and local governments are more proactive in developing incentives and benefits for would-be parents.

