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Victor C. Shih is a political economist at the University of California at San Diego specializing in China. An immigrant to the United States from Hong Kong, Dr. Shih received his doctorate in Government from Harvard University, where he researched banking sector reform in China with the support of the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship and the Fulbright Fellowship. He is the author of a book published by the Cambridge University Press entitled *Factions and Finance in China: Elite Conflict and Inflation*. It is the first book to inquire the linkages between elite politics and banking policies in China. He is further the author of numerous articles appearing in academic and business journals, including *The China Quarterly, Comparative Political Studies, Journal of Politics, The Wall Street Journal* and *The China Business Review*. His current research concerns the role of factional ties on CCP officials' career prospects, elite coalition formation, and Chinese banking policies.