

Research on the Rule of Law Construction in Liaoning Coastal Economic Belt

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ABSTRACT

As an important economic region in Northeast Asia, the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt is of great strategic importance to promote the overall development of Liaoning Province and the revitalization of Northeast industries. This paper summarizes the current situation of the development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning from the perspective of rule of law improvement, and summarizes the obstacles and shortcomings in the development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning in terms of relevant regulations, management mechanism and unified leadership by analyzing the current situation and the basis of development. Based on the analysis of the existing obstacles to the development of the rule of law in China's Liaoning coastal economic belt, this paper presents a comprehensive analysis of the ways to improve the administrative public interest litigation in the marine environment and promotes the high-quality rule of law development of the Liaoning coastal economic belt from the perspectives of the rule of law and economic system.

Keywords: Liaoning coastal economic belt, Rule of law construction, Coordinated regional development, Northeast Asian economic belt.

1. INTRODUCTION

The coastal economic belt of Liaoning is located in an important position in the Northeast Asian economic belt and its special geographical location gives the coastal economic belt of Liaoning an important development mission, the development of which is related to the process of opening up to the outside world and the level of modernization of the industrial system in Liaoning and even the whole Northeast region. The Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China was held in Beijing from November 8 to 11, 2021. This paper takes the spirit of the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China as the leader, comprehends the spirit of rule of law construction, focuses on the current situation of the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt, and studies the path of high-quality rule of law development of Liaoning coastal economic belt to promote new breakthroughs and new progress in the revitalization of Northeast China.

2. CURRENT SITUATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF LIAONING COASTAL ECONOMIC BELT

2.1 Development Overview

In July 2009, the State Council adopted and released the "Liaoning Coastal Economic belt Development Plan", which has opened the prelude to the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt since then. Compared with other coastal belts in China, Liaoning coastal economic belt has a special and important geographical significance. Liaoning coastal economic belt is located in Northeast China, connecting the Bohai Rim region on one side and the Shandong Peninsula on the other, and includes all the administrative areas of six coastal cities in Liaoning Province, namely Dalian, Dandong, Jinzhou, Yingkou, Panjin and Huludao. The concept of Liaoning coastal economic belt originated from the concept of "Five Points and One Belt" proposed by Liaoning Province in 2005 in response to the revitalization of Northeast China. So far, the "Five Points" include

Dalian Changxing Island Lingang Industrial Belt, Liaoning Yingkou Coastal Industrial Base including Panjin Shipping Industrial Base, West Liaoning Jinzhou Bay Coastal Economic Belt including Jinzhou West Sea Industrial Belt and Huludao North Harbor Industrial Belt, Dalian Huayuankou Industrial Park and Liaoning Dandong Industrial Park. The "One Belt" is specifically the coastal highway starting from Dandong and ending in Suizhong, Huludao. The "Five Points and One Belt" constitute the geographical pattern of Liaoning coastal economic belt. The coastal economic belt of Liaoning is not only related to the revitalization of the old industrial base in Northeast China, but also closely related to the economic development of the Bohai Rim region. According to the instructions of the "Official Reply on the High-quality Development Plan for Liaoning Coastal Economic Belt" issued by the State Council in September 2021, the three major themes of the work for the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt are to do a good job of renovating and upgrading the "time-honored" brands, to develop the existing "original" brands in depth, and to cultivate the "new" brands. In this paper, it's hoped to promote the high-quality development of Liaoning coastal economic belt by vigorously developing the marine economy, promoting the modernization of Liaoning marine industry system, developing and improving the relevant regional coordination mechanism, promoting a higher level of opening up of Liaoning and Northeast China, promoting the active integration of Liaoning industries into the Northeast Asian economic cycle, and improving the competitiveness of Liaoning industry and economy in international economic and trade cooperation, so as to promote new breakthroughs and new progress in the revitalization of Northeast China.[1]

2.2 Development Basis

From the perspective of today's international economic development trend, the Pacific and East Asia regions have great development potential and momentum and are the direction of future world economic development. The implementation of Liaoning coastal economic belt development strategy coincides with the direction of the general trend of world economic development. The geographical location of the Liaoning coastal economic belt gives it great strategic development significance. It is located in the Bohai Rim region and the Northeast Asian economic circle zone, and is an important platform for the Northeast region to

participate in the economic interaction of Northeast Asian countries and open up to the outside world. In addition, the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt is also catered to the needs of national policies. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the country has been committed to promoting the expansion of opening up to the outside world and the deepening of the reform of regional development strategies. The Communiqué of the 6th Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China proposed to be based on a new development stage, implement a new development concept, build a new development pattern, promote high-quality development, and deepen reform and opening up comprehensively. The development of Liaoning coastal economic belt is in line with the direction of deepening and gradual development of the national economy from Pearl River Delta, Yangtze River Delta, Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Bohai Rim region to the Bohai Rim region, which provides a window and platform for the opening up of Liaoning Province and even the three Northeastern provinces to the outside world and the economic interaction with Northeast Asia, promotes Liaoning Province to end its original closed state, strengthens the communication with the world economic market, and strengthens the mutual support and coordination with the inland hinterland, making Liaoning Province a potential province with openness and functionality. Located in the Northeast region, Liaoning coastal economic belt naturally inherits the strong industrial foundation background there, with rich natural resources and perfect industrial infrastructure. With five major power centers in Suizhong, Jinzhou, Yingkou, Dalian and Dandong, Liaoning can fully guarantee the energy supply of the coastal economic belt. Liaoning Province also has excellent port conditions and the scale has reached the needs of modern ports, which can carry out large-scale intensive marine ship transportation, providing transportation infrastructure support for the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt.

3. OBSTACLES AND PROBLEMS OF RULE OF LAW DEVELOPMENT IN LIAONING COASTAL ECONOMIC BELT

The year 2021 is the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China. In the past one hundred years, the Party has led the people, with the great spirit of continuous exploration and unremitting struggle, to open up a road of socialist

rule of law construction. The 6th Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China adopted the Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on the Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party over the Past Century (hereinafter referred to as the Resolution). The Resolution points out that people should insist on the organic unification of the Party's leadership, the running of the country by the people and the rule of law, and that people should insist on the rule of law, build the road to a socialist state under the rule of law through the formulation of a new constitution, and form a perfect socialist legal system with Chinese characteristics. [2]It's necessary to be based on Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, and comprehend and study the spirit of the 6th Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. Social governance is inseparable from law, the development concept of Liaoning coastal economic belt should integrate the spirit of rule of law, and the construction of Liaoning coastal economic belt should take the road of rule of law. However, there are still some problems in the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt itself, and there are still some obstacles in using legal means to promote development.

3.1 The Lack of Laws and Regulations Related to the Development of Marine Matters

With the opening up of Liaoning coastal economic belt to the outside world and the accelerated process of regional cooperation, the related matters and issues involved will become more and more complicated, and more detailed and specialized laws and regulations are needed to regulate and guide the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt. However, the overall legal situation now is that there is a lack of perfect laws and regulations for both the governance of the marine area and the coordinated development of the region. In terms of marine governance, China has a certain system of marine laws and regulations, but there is a lack of specific marine laws to regulate specific marine related matters. There are also conflicts and gaps between the existing specialized laws, which greatly restrict the handling of marine-related affairs in the coastal economy of Liaoning, thus hindering the development of the maritime undertaking in the coastal economic belt of Liaoning. The current situation of marine

governance shows that the development of the country urgently needs a comprehensive marine basic law to fill the existing legal gaps and alleviate the conflicts between the existing specialized laws. The absence of a basic marine law has become an important factor limiting the development of China's marine undertakings. From the perspective of the relevant areas of regional cooperation, the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt has promoted the cooperation and exchange between Liaoning and foreign countries and brought opportunities for Liaoning's marine economy to participate in the Northeast Asian economic circle. The coastal economic belt of Liaoning has an open character, and conducting regional coordinated development requires not only a lot of cooperation and exchange with foreign countries, but also focuses on coordinated cooperation with the inland hinterland to promote the Bohai Rim region to develop in depth and breadth. The lack of a unified standard in China and foreign countries and the lack of a perfect cooperative development mechanism and joint law enforcement mechanism in the process of coordinated development have to a certain extent hindered the process of marine economy and opening up of Liaoning coastal economic belt to the outside world.[3]

3.2 Deficiencies of the System and Mechanism of Marine Management

The development of Liaoning's coastal economic belt has led to an increasing demand for marine services, which in turn has placed higher demands on the management mechanism of the marine undertaking. Nowadays, there are problems of redundant personnel and institutions, inefficiency of marine-related administrative departments and duplication of functions of related institutions in marine management institutions. China's marine integrated management system still has many aspects to improve. In terms of vertically central-to-local management, the legal division between the central and local management scope and management responsibilities of marine management is not clear, and no clear laws and regulations have been adopted to divide the power of the central and local authorities, which has led to a lack of coordination between the central and local authorities in marine management matters. In terms of horizontally local-to-local cooperative management, there is a lack of clear administrative boundaries for the authority of local governments in coastal areas to handle marine management and coastal affairs, and various related management

agencies have crossed, overlapped, or lacked functions in marine management. [4] This is also the cause of conflicts and disputes over interests in the process of marine development. Not only is there a problem in the division of authority, but there is also a certain defect in the coordination mechanism of various marine management organs, which in turn creates administrative inefficiency in matters involving land and sea coordination and affects the efficient development of Liaoning coastal economic belt. At the same time, the operation mechanism of China's maritime rights maintenance and enforcement is not perfect. To maintain China's maritime rights and interests and promote the orderly development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning requires a high-level and high-quality maritime law enforcement team and a sound maritime law enforcement operation mechanism. Nowadays, the power of marine law enforcement lacks restraint, management lacks supervision, law enforcement lacks accountability, and marine governance lacks a perfect marine law enforcement power supervision mechanism to safeguard it. Without shutting the corresponding power into the cage of the system, it will become a major hidden danger and constraint to the long-term and orderly development of Liaoning coastal economic belt. [5]

3.3 The Leading Role of the Party Still Needs To Be Strengthened

Based on the spirit of the 6th Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, to promote the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt, it is necessary to strengthen political awareness, unswervingly follow the Party's leadership and support the Party's policies. The most significant advantage of China's national political governance is the leadership of the Communist Party of China, and the development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning has not yet maximized the political guarantee role of the Party's leadership. The construction of Liaoning coastal economic belt needs more support from the Party's leadership, and the external development and regional coordination of Liaoning coastal economic belt needs more policy support and guarantee. The Party's leadership for the construction of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning still needs to be strengthened. The Communist Party of China is the leading core and backbone of China's overall development cause. The development of China's political party system requires the leadership of the

Communist Party of China. Only by improving and giving full play to the role of the "core cohesive political party system" can the advantages of the political system be effectively transformed into governance effectiveness in national construction to promote the development of China's overall cause. The development of Liaoning coastal economic belt is an important part of building a maritime power. The realization of the strategic goal of a marine power is of great significance to the construction of socialist modernization. To promote the construction of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning faster and better, it is necessary to strengthen the Party's leadership on the existing basis. Party leadership, as an important leading force and leading direction, plays a vital role in the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt and even the revitalization construction of the whole Northeast industry. In the affairs of coordinated development of Liaoning coastal economic belt and Northeast Asia, the Party leadership has not been integrated into the whole construction system. The development of the Liaoning coastal economic belt requires the Party's philosophy to play a creative role in politics, a leading role in ideology, a planning and management role in organization, and a creative role in institutional design. To effectively integrate the Party's leadership with the construction of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning, it must start from the overall situation and put the development and construction of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning into the overall layout of the national goal of building a marine power, in order to better promote the overall construction and development of Liaoning and the realization of the goal of revitalization of Northeast China.[6]

4. ENLIGHTENMENT OF RULE OF LAW DEVELOPMENT IN LIAONING COASTAL ECONOMIC BELT

4.1 The Rule of Law Guarantee To Promote the Comprehensive Deepening Reform in Northeast China

The coastal economic belt of Liaoning is located in the Northeastern region and is responsible for the development strategy of revitalizing the Northeast. As China's development enters a new era, the development of the Northeast region is also facing new difficulties and challenges. Only by solving the development problems of the

Northeast region can it be possible to clear the obstacles for the construction of the Liaoning coastal economic belt. To promote the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt by the rule of law, people should coordinate policies to address the problems of the low degree of marketization in the Northeast, the lack of vitality of the existing state-owned enterprises in the Northeast, and the insufficient economic development of private enterprises. These contradictions and problems mainly arise in the system and mechanism, industrial structure and economic structure. In response to these problems in the Northeast, the comprehensive deepening reform can be used to solve them and the rule of law path should be applied to guarantee reform. From the existing situation in Northeast China, the traditional industrial structure and product structure show the characteristics of resource-oriented, traditional and heavy chemical industry. These traditional industries are not able to adapt to the fast-changing market, which requires the introduction of relevant regulations and policies to lead the transformation of traditional industries, promote the development of new industries, and improve the relevant laws and regulations on ecological protection in the face of resource depletion in the Northeast. In addition, it is necessary to establish and improve laws and regulations on social security, insist on putting people's interests first, and reduce the pressure on people's livelihood. [7] The rule of law measures for deepening reform should be centered on improving the quality and economic development of the Northeast region and the coastal economic belt of Liaoning, establish confidence in development, maintain the strategic determination to revitalize the Northeast and build China under the rule of law, improve the management system of institutions and mechanisms, promote structural adjustment with laws, encourage innovation and entrepreneurship with policies, and achieve reform and development goals in the process of safeguarding and improving people's livelihood.

4.2 Improving the Legal System of Socialist Market Economy

The coastal economic belt of Liaoning is open in nature and involves opening up to the outside world and regional cooperation. To promote the high-quality development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning, people must insist on combining marketization and rule of law. It is necessary to use legal means to strengthen the market mechanism, promote the formation of healthy competition in the

economic market, reduce the institutional transaction costs for the development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning, and ensure the quality of the development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning through the establishment of a unified, open, and orderly competitive market system of high standards.[8] In the essence of rule-of-law socialist market economy, to improve the relevant laws and regulations, it is needed to focus on the protection of property rights and contracts in economic trade, unify market standards, promote fair competitions, emphasize the principle of equality, build a regulatory system by law, and provide a fair and orderly rule of law environment for the activities of market players in the coastal economy of Liaoning by improving the relevant legal system of the market economy.[7] The high-quality development of Liaoning coastal economic belt should be realized in the high level of international competition, and the opening up should be promoted by building institutional rules, regulatory rules, standard rules and other laws and regulations, to enhance the attractiveness of Liaoning coastal economic belt in the international market and the competitiveness of Liaoning coastal enterprises in the international arena. It is necessary to promote the marketization, rule of law and internationalization of the construction of Liaoning coastal economic belt by improving the relevant market economy legal system.

4.3 Strengthening the Party's Leadership in the Construction of the Liaoning Coastal Economic Belt Under the Rule of Law

Based on the spirit of the 6th Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, reviewing the Party's struggle for more than a century, the centenary founding of the Party is a hundred years of the Party leading the people in the road of the rule of law, constantly pursuing, unremittingly exploring, not slacking in building, and constantly advancing, in order to build a socialist country under the rule of law. The rule of law is inseparable from the path of reform and development in the Liaoning region, and the realization of China under the rule of law should always firmly follow the leadership of the Party. Only by always adhering to the Party's leadership can it be possible to provide fundamental, global and long-term institutional guarantees for the high-quality development of Liaoning coastal economic belt. Only by adhering to the Party's leadership and the path of rule of law development can people

successfully achieve the goal of Liaoning's development and Northeast China's revitalization. The basic experience of China's socialist construction tells people to always adhere to the Party's leadership and carry out the Party's leadership to the whole process and all aspects of Liaoning's coastal economic construction and rule-of-law reform. General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that "Party leadership is the soul of socialist rule of law with Chinese characteristics, and is the greatest difference between our rule of law and that of Western capitalist countries." [8] The road to the construction of Liaoning coastal economic belt is bound to be not smooth. But no matter how complex the domestic and foreign environment faced by the development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning is, and how heavy the strategic responsibility of opening up to the outside world and revitalizing the northeast is, people must insist on using the rule of law thinking and means to improve the relevant legal system under the leadership of the Party and optimize the development environment of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning. Only by strengthening and adhering to the leadership of the Party can it be possible to ensure the correct strategic decision and scientific policy design for the development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning, and promote the steady and high-quality development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning.

5. CONCLUSION

To promote the high-quality development of the rule of law path of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning, and to achieve the development goals of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning as well as the comprehensive rejuvenation of the Northeast region, it is necessary to guarantee innovation as the first driving force through the rule of law, make coordination an endogenous feature of the rule of law development path of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning, make green a universal form of development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning, and grasp the necessary path of reform and opening up, so as to promote the route of high-quality development with co-construction and sharing. To use the path of rule of law to promote the economic transformation of Liaoning coastal economic belt in terms of quality, efficiency and impetus, and to realize the unification of history, practice and theory in the development of Liaoning coastal economic belt, it is necessary to put the route of rule of law and high-quality development through all aspects and links of the development of

Liaoning coastal economic belt, in order to make the development of the coastal economic belt of Liaoning contribute its own "Liaoning power" to China's new journey of building a comprehensive socialist modernization country and to the country's achievement of the second centennial goal.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

Yuwei Wang is responsible for paper writing, Zhaobin Pei reviewed the paper, and Huiwen Wang contributed to editing.

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