

Research on the Development of Liaoning Province from the Perspective of Northeast Asia Regional Cooperation

Yuan Yue

City Institute, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian, China

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Abstract: Northeast Asia is one of the regions with the greatest economic development potential in the world. Northeast Asia regional cooperation is an important part of China's domestic and international dual circulation development. By deeply participating in Northeast Asia regional cooperation, it can provide favorable support for the economic development of Liaoning Province, the comprehensive revitalization of the Northeast region, and the construction of a new development pattern. As a window for China's opening up and cooperation, Liaoning Province is facing an important issue at this stage: how to play its geographical advantages in the new opportunities and achieve its own high-quality development in Northeast Asia regional economic cooperation.

1. Introduction

As the only coastal province in the old industrial base of Northeast China, Liaoning Province bears the important task of connecting China with Northeast Asia in economic and trade exchanges, and is also the vanguard of China's northern region participating in Northeast Asia regional economic cooperation. In Northeast Asia regional economic cooperation, compared to Heilongjiang Province and Jilin Province, Liaoning Province has more unique geographical advantages. On land, it is directly connected to Russia and Mongolia through major transportation corridors, and on the sea, it can take advantage of port advantages to carry out economic and trade cooperation with Japan, South Korea, and North Korea. This favorable land and sea trade conditions make Liaoning Province's foreign trade situation (total import and export volume of goods) among the top in the country[1].

2. Analysis of the current situation of regional cooperation in Northeast Asia

The regional cooperation in Northeast Asia presents a complex situation of both opportunities and challenges in the current situation. On the one hand, Northeast Asia has unique and superior conditions for regional cooperation, including geographical environment, politics, economy, security, and cultural relations. The economic cooperation in this region can be traced back to the 1980s, especially after the 1997 Asian financial crisis, where bilateral cooperation in Northeast Asia experienced rapid development. The financial crisis not only strengthened the cohesion of Northeast Asian society, but also promoted the integration of finance and the region. Now, the central government has also become an important component of promoting bilateral cooperation in Northeast Asia, with increasingly diverse forms of cooperation. In addition, the promotion of the the Belt and Road Initiative also provides new opportunities for the construction of transportation networks, economic and trade cooperation and cultural exchanges in Northeast Asia. The construction of projects such as the China Russia Mongolia Economic Corridor and the Beijing Harbin High speed Railway will promote the flow of goods and people, providing convenient conditions for economic cooperation[2].

On the other hand, regional cooperation in Northeast Asia is also facing a series of challenges. Firstly, the degree of economic integration in the region is still low, with low mutual investment dependence among countries and low trade dependence within the region. This means that although Northeast Asia has sufficient production capacity, the finished product market is relatively small,

which limits the depth of regional cooperation. Secondly, historical issues and conflicts of interest also pose obstacles to cooperation and communication in Northeast Asia. For example, the legacy of Japan's invasion history and differences in political systems, ideologies, and other aspects between Northeast Asian countries may affect the willingness of cooperation among countries. Finally, the tensions in the geopolitical situation may also have a negative impact on regional cooperation in Northeast Asia. Tensions in the US-Japan relationship, deterioration of Russia-Japan relations, and other factors may undermine peace and stability in Northeast Asia, which in turn affects the progress of regional cooperation[3].

In general, the current situation of regional cooperation in Northeast Asia is characterized by both opportunities and challenges. In the process of promoting cooperation, countries need to fully recognize the importance and urgency of cooperation, actively seek common interests, strengthen communication and coordination, overcome various difficulties and obstacles, and promote the continuous development of regional cooperation in Northeast Asia[4].

3. Impact of Northeast Asia Regional Cooperation on Liaoning Province

The impact of Northeast Asia regional cooperation on Liaoning Province is profound and positive, mainly reflected in:

Regional cooperation in Northeast Asia has played an important role in promoting the economic development of Liaoning Province. With the deepening of cooperation, Liaoning Province will have the opportunity to establish trade relations with more countries and regions, expand export markets, and enhance the competitiveness of export goods. At the same time, Liaoning Province will also attract more foreign investment, promote local industrial upgrading and structural adjustment, and enhance the level of industrial chain. As an important province in Northeast China, Liaoning Province can further expand its foreign trade channels and enhance the competitiveness of export goods through participating in Northeast Asia regional cooperation. At the same time, cooperation can also bring more foreign investment and technical support to Liaoning Province, promote its industrial upgrading and structural adjustment, and further promote the sustained and healthy development of the economy.

Regional cooperation in Northeast Asia is conducive to optimizing resource allocation and enhancing the level of industrial chain in Liaoning Province. Through cooperation with neighboring countries and regions, Liaoning Province can more effectively utilize domestic and foreign resources and markets, optimize resource allocation, reduce production costs, and enhance industrial competitiveness. At the same time, cooperation can also promote the upgrading of Liaoning Province in the industrial chain, from low-end manufacturing to high-end manufacturing, from traditional industries to emerging industries, and realize the extension and expansion of the industrial chain.

Northeast Asian regional cooperation also helps Liaoning Province enhance its influence in the region and even the world. By participating in cooperation, Liaoning Province can strengthen its ties and communication with neighboring countries and regions, enhance mutual understanding and trust, and enhance its position and influence in regional cooperation. This can not only bring more development opportunities to Liaoning Province, but also provide strong support for it to show its strength and image on the international stage.

Northeast Asia regional cooperation will also promote the cultivation of talents and innovative development in Liaoning Province. Through exchanges and cooperation with neighboring countries and regions, Liaoning Province can introduce more outstanding talents and advanced technologies, providing strong support for the local economic and social development. At the same time, cooperation will also stimulate the innovation vitality of Liaoning Province, and promote local enterprises and institutions to make more breakthroughs in scientific and technological innovation, industrial innovation and other aspects.

Northeast Asian regional cooperation has also had a positive impact on the social and cultural development of Liaoning Province. Through exchanges and cooperation with neighboring countries and regions, Liaoning Province can absorb and learn from advanced cultural concepts and

management experience, and promote the progress and development of its social and cultural undertakings. At the same time, cooperation can also provide more cultural exchange opportunities for Liaoning Province, enhance its friendship and mutual trust with neighboring countries and regions, and promote regional peace, stability, and development. In addition, through cultural exchanges and cooperation with neighboring countries and regions, Liaoning Province can enhance mutual understanding and friendship with these countries, promote cultural mutual learning and civilized exchanges. This will help enhance the cultural soft power of Liaoning Province and inject more cultural elements into the local future development.

In general, the Northeast Asian regional cooperation has had a multidimensional impact on Liaoning Province, including in the fields of economy, industry, society and culture. Liaoning Province should actively seize the opportunity to strengthen cooperation and exchanges with neighboring countries and regions, and promote its own high-quality development. Northeast Asian regional cooperation has a positive role in promoting the future development of Liaoning Province. Liaoning Province should seize the opportunity to actively participate in cooperation, continuously improve its own strength and level, and lay a solid foundation for achieving higher-quality development.

4. SWOT analysis of Liaoning's development in Northeast Asia regional cooperation

SWOT analysis of Liaoning's development under the Northeast Asia regional cooperation can be explained from the following four aspects:

1) Liaoning's advantages in participating in Northeast Asia regional cooperation

The advantages of Liaoning's participation in Northeast Asia regional cooperation are mainly reflected in: (1) geographical location. Liaoning is located in the southern part of Northeast China, bordering Jilin, Inner Mongolia, and Hebei, separated from North Korea by a river, and facing Japan and South Korea across the sea. It is a vital transportation artery connecting the inside and outside of the Northeast region and an important gateway to the world. It has unique geographical advantages. (2) Strong industrial foundation. As an old industrial base, Liaoning has a relatively complete industrial system and strong industrial strength, especially in the fields of equipment manufacturing, petrochemical industry, steel, electronic information and other fields. (3) Rich resource endowment. Liaoning has abundant mineral resources, agricultural resources and marine resources, which provide strong support for economic development. (4) High degree of openness to the outside world. As a coastal province, Liaoning has a long history of opening up to the outside world and has several national economic development zones and free trade pilot zones, which provide strong support for attracting foreign investment and expanding foreign trade.

2) Weaknesses of Liaoning's participation in Northeast Asia regional cooperation

The disadvantages of Liaoning's participation in Northeast Asian regional cooperation mainly include two aspects: First, the institutional reform is not deep enough, and it faces great pressure of economic restructuring. Although Liaoning has advantages in some fields, its industrial structure is relatively single, with a large proportion of traditional industries and a relatively lagging development of emerging industries. It faces the pressure of economic restructuring and transformation and upgrading. On the other hand, there is a serious brain drain and insufficient innovation ability. Due to the relative lagging economic development in some areas, the problem of brain drain is more serious, which affects the regional innovation ability and development momentum. In addition, compared with some developed regions, Liaoning still needs to strengthen in scientific and technological innovation, talent cultivation and other aspects, which to some extent restricts the development speed and quality of regional economy.

3) Opportunities for Liaoning to participate in Northeast Asia regional cooperation

In the context of regional cooperation in Northeast Asia, Liaoning has ushered in unprecedented development opportunities. With the deepening of regional cooperation in Northeast Asia, Liaoning, as an important node, will benefit from the convenience of trade, investment, technology and other aspects brought by regional cooperation, which will help enhance the economic competitiveness of the region. Northeast Asia has abundant resources and a vast market, and there is great potential for

economic and trade cooperation between countries. As an important gateway connecting the Eurasian Continental Bridge, Liaoning can make full use of its industrial foundation and resource endowment to carry out trade and investment cooperation with neighboring countries. At the same time, with the advancement of the China-Japan-Korea FTA negotiations and the construction of the China-Russia-Mongolia Economic Corridor, Liaoning is expected to play a more important role in these regional cooperation mechanisms, further expanding the space and depth of economic and trade cooperation.

4) Threats to Liaoning's participation in Northeast Asia regional cooperation

The complex and volatile geopolitical situation in Northeast Asia may bring uncertainty to regional economic cooperation. Liaoning needs to pay close attention to changes in the international situation and strengthen its risk warning and response capabilities. In addition, with the rise of international trade protectionism, Liaoning may face more trade frictions and barriers in expanding its foreign trade. With the deepening of globalization, the international market competition is becoming increasingly fierce. Liaoning needs to continuously improve its own strength to cope with external competitive pressure.

Liaoning region faces many advantages and opportunities in the regional cooperation of Northeast Asia, but also has some disadvantages and threats. In order to fully utilize the regional advantages, seize the opportunities, overcome the disadvantages, and deal with the threats, Liaoning needs to further strengthen its own construction, promote economic transformation and upgrading, and high-quality development. At the same time, it is also necessary to strengthen cooperation and exchanges with neighboring countries and regions, and jointly promote the prosperity and development of Northeast Asia.

5. Countermeasures and suggestions for the development of Liaoning in the perspective of Northeast Asian regional cooperation

In the perspective of Northeast Asian regional cooperation, Liaoning's development strategies need to be more specific and in-depth. Here are some more specific measures:

5.1. Adjustment and upgrading of industrial structure

As an old industrial base in China, Liaoning has abundant resources and industrial foundation. However, the problems of single industrial structure and poor risk resistance still exist. Therefore, Liaoning should accelerate the adjustment of industrial structure, promote the upgrading of traditional industries, and actively cultivate and develop emerging industries, especially high-tech industries such as new energy, new materials, biotechnology, etc., to achieve diversification and upgrading of industrial structure. At the same time, Liaoning needs to accelerate the technological transformation and intelligent upgrading of traditional industries. For emerging industries such as new energy, new materials, biotechnology, etc., special support policies should be formulated, including tax incentives, financial support, talent cultivation, etc., to attract and cultivate related enterprises and projects.

5.2. Regional cooperation and linkage

Liaoning should strengthen cooperation and interaction with other countries and regions in Northeast Asia, especially in the fields of ports, customs, finance, information, etc. Through deepening cooperation, we can jointly promote infrastructure construction, optimize resource allocation, reduce transaction costs, and enhance the competitiveness of the entire region. In addition, Liaoning should also actively participate in the construction of the Northeast Asia Economic Corridor and promote the docking development with neighboring countries in transportation, finance, industry, etc. Liaoning should regularly hold economic and trade fairs and investment promotion activities to promote in-depth cooperation with Northeast Asian countries in trade, investment, and technology. Additionally, the province should strengthen cooperation with neighboring countries in the fields of railway, highway, aviation, and maritime transportation to jointly build a convenient transportation network in Northeast Asia.

5.3. Expand opening up and attract investment

Liaoning should further expand its opening up to the outside world and actively attract foreign investment, especially from neighboring countries in Northeast Asia. By holding investment promotion activities such as "cloud investment" and telephone investment, it will attract more foreign-funded enterprises and projects to settle in Liaoning. At the same time, it should also strengthen international cooperation on production capacity, promote Liaoning enterprises to "go global" and participate in the reconstruction of the global industrial chain. In terms of optimizing investment promotion, Liaoning needs to simplify the foreign investment access procedures, relax the foreign investment access areas, and reduce the foreign investment operating costs. Liaoning should increase its investment promotion efforts in high-tech and strategic emerging industries to attract more high-quality foreign-funded projects to the province. Additionally, the province should strengthen international cooperation on production capacity: encouraging local enterprises to 'go global' and participate in international production capacity cooperation and the reconstruction of the global industrial chain. By establishing overseas industrial parks and carrying out overseas investment, Liaoning can elevate its industry to a higher level of development.

5.4. Innovation-driven and talent cultivation

Innovation is an important driving force for economic development. Liaoning should increase investment in scientific and technological research, promote the deep integration of production, education, and research, and cultivate innovative enterprises and high-tech industries. At the same time, it should strengthen talent cultivation and introduction, especially high-level talents and innovative entrepreneurial talents, to provide strong talent guarantee for the development of Liaoning. And invest more resources to support scientific and technological innovation, establish a number of high-level scientific research institutions and innovation platforms. Liaoning should strengthen cooperation with domestic and foreign universities and scientific research institutions to promote the deep integration of production, education, and research. The province should implement more active talent policies to attract and cultivate high-level talents and innovative entrepreneurial talents. Additionally, Liaoning should establish a sound talent incentive mechanism and service system to provide a good working and living environment for talents.

5.5. Optimize the business environment and service system

Liaoning should continue to optimize the business environment, simplify the approval process, reduce enterprise costs, and improve the efficiency of government services. At the same time, it should also improve the foreign trade service system, support the development of foreign trade comprehensive service enterprises, and enhance the level of international trade facilitation. By optimizing the business environment and service system, it will attract more domestic and foreign enterprises to invest and start businesses in Liaoning. Liaoning Province also needs to simplify the administrative approval process, reduce the approval process and time. Liaoning should strengthen supervision during and after the event to ensure a fair and orderly market order. The province should also strengthen the construction of the government service system to improve the level and efficiency of government services. Additionally, Liaoning needs to establish and improve the communication mechanism between government and enterprises to timely understand the needs of enterprises and provide accurate services.

5.6. Strengthen resource conservation and environmental protection

Liaoning should encourage enterprises to adopt clean energy and energy-saving technologies to reduce energy consumption and emissions. Liaoning should promote the development of the circular economy and improve resource utilization efficiency. The province should strengthen ecological protection and restoration by increasing investment in ecological protection and enhancing the protection and restoration of natural ecosystems such as forests and wetlands. Additionally, Liaoning should promote green production methods and lifestyles to foster harmony between man and nature.

6. Conclusions

Liaoning region faces many advantages and opportunities, as well as some disadvantages and threats in regional cooperation in Northeast Asia. In order to fully leverage regional advantages, seize opportunities, overcome disadvantages, and respond to threats, Liaoning needs to further strengthen its own construction, promote economic transformation, upgrading, and high-quality development. At the same time, it is necessary to strengthen cooperation and exchanges with neighboring countries and regions, and jointly promote the prosperity and development of Northeast Asia.

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