An Analysis of the Dialectical Relationship between Frontier Security Governance and National Governance

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Abstract: The dialectical relationship between frontier security governance and national governance is highlighted by the interaction between frontier security governance and national governance as mutual influence, interaction and mutual cause and effect. In order to theoretically clarify the interaction and internal law between frontier security governance and national governance, this paper intends to systematically analyze the inherent logic of frontier security governance and national governance, and to explain in depth the relationship of frontier security governance and national governance in the goal and function, so that we can better promote their coordination and unification, and achieve modernization of national governance and long-term stability in the frontier.

1. Introduction

The dialectical relationship between frontier security governance and national governance is highlighted by the interaction between frontier security governance and national governance as mutual influence, interaction and mutual cause and effect. On the one hand, frontier security governance is the premise and foundation for effective national governance. The realization of the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity is inseparable from the continuous advancement of China's frontier security governance. On the other hand, as an important part of national governance, China's frontier security governance needs to be based on the reality and development goals of China, and from the perspective of the interests of the people, fully guarantee the security needs of the people of all frontiers. Furthermore, the frontier security governance is either implemented in the national governance, whether it belongs to the traditional security governance of the frontier or the non-traditional security governance of the frontier. At present, the changes in the security environment in China's frontier areas put forward higher requirements for frontier security governance and national governance capabilities. Therefore, accurately grasping the dialectical relationship between frontier security governance and national governance helps to promote their unity and coordination, and has a very unique and important significance for promoting the modernization of contemporary China and realizing long-term stability in the frontier areas.

2. The Inherent Logic of Frontier Security Governance and National Governance

As a multi-dimensional realization process, governance does not operate in a one-dimensional manner. The frontier and the state are all links in the process of achieving governance. However, the current understanding of the intrinsic relationship between frontier security governance and national governance is far from clear, which makes the further exploration of the inherent logic between frontier security governance and national governance an important and urgent issue.

The frontier is the frontier of the country. Since ancient times, the frontier has not only been a natural geographical area, but a marginal area of the national territory, with the state as the main body. In the dynasty's national era, in order to effectively govern the vastly different territories, the dynasty countries separately distinguished the marginal regions and adopted special governance strategies. Thus, the marginal region in the national territory that is distinguished and specifically governed is the frontier. Since entering the modern times, as the state form has changed from a dynasty state to a nation-state, important changes have taken place in the frontier. Under the framework of the nation-state, the frontiers of the country have gradually become clear, and the national boundaries have been clarified with the determination of the frontiers. As a result, the frontiers are no longer regarded as marginal zones in the center of the dynasty, but have a clear boundary within the scope of the division of national sovereignty. Today, with the deepening of globalization, the frontiers are no longer confined to the scope of territorial sovereignty, but present a rich and diverse form, but no matter how they are defined, the frontiers are not separated from the basic framework of the state. In fact, regardless of the dynasty country or the nation state, the frontiers use the state as their logical premise. Once the country dies, the frontier will lose its original meaning. [1] Correspondingly, it is a matter of course to highlight the proper status of the country in the formation of the frontier.

On the other hand, the frontier is also an indispensable part of the country. As part of the overall strength of the country, the situation in the frontier not only affects the real development of the country, but also determines the future of the country. From the reality, the influence of the frontier on the state is at least the following three aspects: Firstly, from the national map, the length of the frontier and the size of the frontier are directly related to the size of the territory. The longer a country's boundary line is, the larger its frontier area is, and the larger the area surrounded by the boundary line, namely the country's territory is. Secondly, the frontier has considerable advantages in energy, minerals, forestry, agriculture, etc. It can provide the country with indispensable resources, and transform its own resource advantages into the country's economic advantages, thus providing material foundation for the country's all-round development. [2] Thirdly, as the outer zone of the core region of the country, the development of the core areas of the frontiers is the country's military defense fortress and strategic depth. If the frontier is violated and becomes incomplete, then the country will "the country will not be a country."

2.2. Frontier Security Calls for Frontier Governance, Frontier Governance Promotes National Governance.

Along with the development process of the past decades after the reform and opening up, China's frontier areas are transitioning from traditional society to modern society, and the political life and social life of the frontier have profoundly changed. At the same time, however, in the process of modernization and globalization, the complexity and uncertainties of the frontiers will inevitably bring about diversified security risks. In addition, the fragility of the frontier itself and its information asymmetry in its relationship with the central government tend to further exacerbate this insecurity. The deterioration of the security environment has made the frontiers enter the era of "risk society" that Ulrich Beck called. Under such circumstances, actively carrying out frontier governance and improving the effectiveness of frontier governance are undoubtedly of special significance for maintaining frontier security and social stability.

In fact, under the current complicated and severe domestic and international situations, safeguarding national security, reunification and the harmonious stability of frontier society are still the primary tasks of frontier governance. The state is a legitimate user of public power, which determines that contemporary China's frontier governance must also be considered from the perspective of the state, especially facing frontier society composed of cross-frontier ethnic groups, multiple religions, and various domestic and foreign factors, only by ensuring that state power plays an active role in the frontier can we effectively promote various integration efforts. In this sense, the
effectiveness of the governance of frontier security issues is not only related to national unity, social and political stability, even the territorial integrity of the country, but also has a fundamental impact on the level and capability of national governance. [3]

3. The Relationship between Frontier Security Governance and National Governance in Achieving Goals

The goal of governance is the concrete embodiment of the guiding ideology of governance and the realistic reflection of the pursuit of strategic value. Frontier security governance and national governance have obvious links in the realization of goals. On the one hand, frontier security governance is an important way to achieve national governance. On the other hand, national governance also provides a platform for frontier security governance to be carried out.


Frontier security governance is an important part of the national governance system. From the perspective of national development and national strategy, frontier security governance and national governance are the means and objectives. Frontier security governance is a means to serve the country's governance. The work of frontier security governance must focus on national governance; national governance is the goal, in a dominant position, and plays a leading role. In this sense, whether the implementation of frontier security governance is effective determines whether the goal of national governance is successfully achieved. From the perspective of governance content, the frontier security governance system includes values, mechanisms, systems, etc. The rational allocation and benign operation of these internal mechanisms determine the level of modernization of national governance, which in turn can boost and deepen national governance. This is because:

Firstly, the "people-oriented" value concept enhances the political legitimacy and policy science of national governance. "People" is the core value of the frontier security governance. On the one hand, the people of all frontiers are an important resource for the security governance of the frontier areas. Faced with the complicated security environment of the frontier and more and more security threats, frontier security governance can no longer rely solely on state power in the past, but must let the people of all frontiers actively participate and solve existing security problems and contradictions. On the other hand, from the perspective of human development, the frontier security governance is ultimately aimed at improving the living conditions of the frontier people, ensuring that the people live and work in peace and contentment, and promote the realization of human security. This kind of safe governance makes sense only if the people’s quality of life is constantly improving, and safety and well-being are guaranteed.

Secondly, the multi-participation mechanism structure promotes the optimization of governance structure and ultimately achieves good governance. Security governance is a collaborative approach that involves national and non-state actors in addressing security issues. For China's frontiers, the complexity and uncertainty of the frontier security environment and the particularity of frontier security issues make it difficult to respond to various security risks in a timely and appropriate manner based solely on the government's official governance methods. This requires more than one entity to establish a coordination and cooperation mechanism, using a variety of methods and means for effective prevention and governance.

Thirdly, the system practice based on the rule of law improves the governance level and ability of the governance subject. As far as frontier security is concerned, the rule of law is undoubtedly an important form of institutional practice in the frontier. The rule of law is not limited to the party and the government according to the constitutional rule and the rule of law, but also extends to the rule of law life and the rule of law at the citizen level. Both the frontier government and the frontier people must obey the authority of the law. Obviously, the rule of law practice in frontier security governance can help improve the ability of frontier governments and people to manage frontier security affairs according to law, provide favorable conditions for institutionalizing and standardizing security governance in frontier areas, and promote the improvement and development of national governance.

National governance is often considered a concept at the meso level. It combines state and governance, and thus is very different from other forms of governance. The security environment is a prerequisite for the normal activities of the country and its citizens. If the state cannot guarantee its own security in the survival and development, especially in the core interests, then nothing will be discussed. National governance plays a vital role in resolving frontier security issues and thus achieving the goal of frontier security and effective governance. Specifically, the impact of national governance on frontier security governance is mainly reflected in the objectives and means of governance.

From the perspective of national governance, the governance of any country must proceed from the protection of basic national rights. Safety is undoubtedly one of the most basic rights of human beings. All rights and interests enjoyed by human beings are based on the premise of life, production and life safety. Safeguarding national security and enhancing social well-being is the responsibility of the state and the most important value goal of national governance. To this end, from the perspective of the protection of national rights, it is necessary to promote the security of the frontier people and the realization of their rights by promoting the security of frontiers. In this sense, frontier security governance also constitutes an important part of national governance.

Judging from the means of national governance, the rule of law is a major means of national governance. As the organic security component of national governance, the basic way of achieving effective governance is still the rule of law. The rule of law is undoubtedly conducive to further clarifying the security responsibilities of the frontier government and guaranteeing the legal status of the security governance of other security entities. Of course, in the long run, while actively promoting the frontier security and the rule of law, frontier security governance needs to rely on ethics. Only in this way can its security be reliable, durable and secure.

4. The Relationship between Frontier Security Governance and National Governance in Function Play

Governance function refers to the beneficial effects of the governance of a certain thing. The function of national governance is the positive value pursued by national governance, or it can be said to be "good governance." The function of frontier security governance also needs to aim at good governance. Therefore, frontier security governance and national governance also have a relationship in function play. It can be said that national governance theory provides a theoretical basis for frontier security governance, and frontier security governance creates a good internal environment for national governance.


National governance is a unique concept of modern countries. It is gradually formed in the long history of human history through the development of state rule and national management concepts. As far as contemporary China is concerned, although national governance has some reference to Western governance theory, it still has certain differences and is a political concept with Chinese characteristics.

The concept of national governance is consistent with certain elements of governance and good governance theory. The theory of governance and good governance emphasizes the good cooperation between the government and citizens and the active participation of citizens to achieve the democratization of management. It believes that the governance of public affairs is a process of interaction, which should be achieved through joint consultation, good cooperation, and establishment of common goals. Its essence lies in the realization of the interests, rights and values of citizens. Therefore, citizens are not only consumers of public goods and services, but also supervisors of public goods and services. Therefore, in the same way, the theory of national governance re-constructs the relationship between the government and citizens, and clarifies the
main position of the government as the main body of plural governance.

Since the theory of national governance absorbs the main content of governance and good governance theory, then frontier security governance, as the specific application of national governance theory in frontier security issues, should naturally be based on good governance. The frontier areas dominated by ethnic minorities are subject to natural conditions, economic foundations and external environment. It is determined that frontier security governance cannot rely on government-led governance to achieve good governance, but urgently needs government, market and society. Together with diverse governance entities such as citizens, it forms an open governance system. And this is precisely the core concept advocated by the theory of national governance. [5]

4.2. Frontier Security Governance Creates Internal Environment for National Governance.

For a long time, the frontiers have been the most sensitive and fragile areas of the domestic security situation. Terrorism, separatism, internal disputes and other issues are intertwined and cause each other. The regional security situation is often in a state of impunity, the security level in China's frontier areas is still at a high risk.

Under this circumstance, frontier security governance is of great significance to the frontier people, to China's national security and to national governance. From a political perspective, on the one hand, strengthening the identification and crackdown of criminal acts that may threaten China’s territorial sovereignty will help safeguard China’s national unity, national unity and political stability, and on the other hand, be effective against frontier ethnic and religious issues. Governance can fully guarantee the political rights of ethnic minorities in the frontier areas, thus realizing their recognition of the legitimacy of the state and political parties. From an economic perspective, relying on the inherent resource advantages of the frontiers, accelerating the economic development of the frontier areas and narrowing the economic gap with the mainland will help to improve the local poverty situation to a certain extent and promote the integration process between the frontier and the mainland. From a cultural perspective, frontier security governance can not only promote the inheritance and development of China's traditional cultural resources, but also ensure the characteristics and vitality of Chinese culture. At the same time, it can help resist the invasion and deconstruction of China's mainstream culture by hostile forces abroad, thus safeguarding the security of Chinese culture. From a social perspective, properly solving frontier social problems such as smuggling, drug trafficking, AIDS, and population movements in accordance with the law will not only help maintain the stability of the social order in the frontiers, but also create a good social security. More importantly, it will enable the formation of frontier society. A good atmosphere of the rule of law will enhance the effectiveness and overall level of frontier governance and national governance.

In short, frontier security is related to national security and long-term stability of society. Under such a severe security situation in China's frontiers, it is extremely urgent and necessary to strengthen frontier security administration. It is the premise and basis for the country to further carry out other aspects of governance. Only with a relatively peaceful and stable security environment can national governance be reliably guaranteed.

References


