

Original Paper

Rule-of-Law Practice in Northeast China Against the Background of Comprehensive Revitalization

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Abstract

To advance the comprehensive revitalization of Northeast China in the new era and on the new journey, it is imperative to implement the strategic blueprint outlined at the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, which calls for achieving new breakthroughs in the region's holistic rejuvenation. From the perspective of rule-of-law development in the three northeastern provinces and the eastern Inner Mongolia autonomous region, this paper examines the background and essence of rule-of-law thinking, and provides a detailed analysis of the progress made in key areas such as promoting scientific legislation, rigorous law enforcement, impartial justice, and fostering a law-abiding society across the Northeast. By improving legislation in critical and emerging sectors, refining accountability mechanisms for administrative law enforcement personnel to enhance professional standards, and implementing diversified dispute-resolution mechanisms, the region is steadily moving toward an ideal scenario in which everyone abides by the law, legal channels are utilized to resolve issues, and conflicts are settled through legal means. Furthermore, it identifies existing challenges in the current rule-of-law construction process, including the lagging legislative system in some economic and social fields, the insufficient coordination between law enforcement departments, and the need to further enhance the legal awareness of the general public. Based on these analyses, the paper puts forward targeted countermeasures and suggestions, aiming to provide theoretical support and practical guidance for optimizing the rule-of-law environment in Northeast China, thereby creating a solid legal guarantee for the region's high-quality development and comprehensive revitalization.

Keywords

Northeast China, Comprehensive Revitalization, Rule-of-Law Practice, Scientific Legislation, Diversified Dispute Resolution

1. Introduction

The Report to the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China states that “socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, marking a new historical juncture in China’s development.” This shift signifies that the needs of the people have evolved from material and cultural necessities to the pursuit of a better life, while the principal challenge facing Chinese society has transformed from underdeveloped social production to unbalanced and inadequate development. Addressing these developmental imbalances and insufficiencies necessitates advancing the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacity through the rule of law. A deeper comprehension of the historical context and conceptual underpinnings of the rule of law is therefore essential for guiding social practice and informing local legal implementation in Northeast China. In this light, robust rule-of-law safeguards have emerged as a critical pillar for advancing the comprehensive revitalization of Northeast China.

2. The Path of Rule of Law Practice in Northeast China

2.1 Upholding Scientific, Democratic, and Law-Based Legislation

The rule of law concept requires advancing scientific, democratic, and law-based legislation. Under the unified leadership of the central authorities, the initiative and enthusiasm of the Northeast region should be fully leveraged.

Contents of Legislative Practice in the Northeast Region: Firstly, legislation in Key Areas. The three provinces and one autonomous region of Northeast China have successively promulgated a series of local regulations and rules, focusing on promoting key areas such as the economy, environmental protection, livelihood security, and science and technology. Examples include normative legal documents such as the Liaoning Province Regulations on Optimizing the Business Environment, the Heilongjiang Province Forest Management Regulations, the Jilin Province Ecological Protection Regulations, the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Regulations on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly, and the Heilongjiang Province Regulations on the Advancement of Science and Technology.

Secondly, legislation Aligned with Northeast Characteristics. The municipal people’s congresses and their standing committees in cities with districts within the Northeast region have formulated corresponding local regulations based on specific circumstances and actual needs, provided they do not contravene the Constitution, national laws, or administrative regulations. Examples include regulations such as the Yichun City Regulations on the Protection of Korean Pines, the Shenyang City Regulations on Integrated Multiple Planning, the Changchun City Regulations on the Protection of Historical and Cultural Districts and Historical Buildings, and the Hohhot City Regulations on the Ecological Protection of the Dahei River Country Park.

Thirdly, collaborative Legislation in the Northeast Region. Following the pace of modernization, Heilongjiang, Liaoning, and Jilin provinces established China's first regional legislative collaboration framework in 2006. This laid the foundation for further collaborative legislation across various fields in the future, highlighting the distinctive local features of the Northeast.

2.2 Adhering To Law-Based Administration and Advancing the Construction of A Law-Based Government

Guided by the rule of law concept that "administrative organs must exercise their powers in accordance with the law and reasonableness, and advance the construction of a law-based government," law enforcement agencies in the three provinces and one autonomous region of Northeast China strictly enforce laws and regulations, restrain public power, and protect the legitimate rights and interests of the people. Law Enforcement Practices in the Northeast Region: Heilongjiang Province has implemented a "Four Lists" system across the province to limit the discretionary scope of administrative power and maximize the protection of residents' interests. The Liaoning Provincial Government formulated the "Liaoning Province Implementation Plan for the Three-Year Action to Enhance Administrative Law Enforcement Quality (2023-2025)" to improve the quality of law enforcement within the province and standardize law enforcement behaviors. Jilin Province has carried out activities such as "Ten, Hundred, Thousand, Ten Thousand" – which includes non-penalization for first-time minor traffic violations – and establishing civilized service windows in administrative organs. The Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region revised the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Administrative Law Enforcement Supervision Regulations in 2020 to strengthen the supervision of law enforcement personnel's conduct.

2.3 Resolutely Advancing Impartial Judiciary and Upholding Fairness and Justice

The rule of law concept demands fostering a view of impartial justice, deepening the reform of the judicial system, and maintaining a people-centered approach. The British philosopher Francis Bacon once said, "One foul sentence doth more hurt than many foul examples." The three provinces and one autonomous region of Northeast China have deeply advanced the reform of the judicial system, strengthened judicial independence and impartiality, optimized the allocation of judicial functions and powers, improved judicial efficiency, and effectively guaranteed people's participation in the judiciary, ensuring that the people feel fairness and justice in every case. Judicial Practices in the Northeast Region: To uphold the authority of the law and provide judicial safeguards for the people, circuit courts have been established across the three provinces and one autonomous region. Examples include: the establishment of provincial medical dispute circuit courts in Heilongjiang; the Supreme People's Court setting up the Second Circuit Court in Shenyang, Liaoning; the establishment of traffic accident circuit courts in Jilin; and the Urad Middle Banner People's Court in Inner Mongolia, known as the "Mobile Court on the Grassland." According to conclusions drawn from the "Ten Typical Cases of Judicial Services for the Comprehensive Revitalization of Northeast China in the New Era" released by the Supreme People's Court, the three provinces and one autonomous region of Northeast China promote the implementation of the concept of impartial justice. This initiative aims to ensure that legal provisions align with social realities, thereby achieving a harmonious unity between legal effect and

social effect.

3. Problems Arising in the Rule-Of-Law Practice in Northeast China

3.1 Problems in the Legislative Process of Northeast China

3.1.1 Issues Concerning Legislative Scale

The number of legislative works is directly related to the improvement of a region's legal system and the quality of the rule-of-law environment. Compared with regions with higher economic development levels, the three northeastern provinces and the eastern Inner Mongolia autonomous region have a relatively insufficient number of legislative works. To a certain extent, this phenomenon reflects the gap between this region and advanced regions in terms of legal system construction, and may also have a certain impact on local social governance and economic development.

3.1.2 Issues Concerning Legislative Quality

Some legislative works in Northeast China have not been combined with the actual conditions of various regions, resulting in legal norms with poor applicability and practicality, lacking sufficient operability and pertinence. This makes it difficult for legal provisions to be effectively transformed into practice and to give full play to the role of legal norms.

3.1.3 Issues Concerning Legislation in Key Areas

Legislation in the Economic Field: The comprehensive revitalization of Northeast China requires optimizing the business environment, and the rule of law provides a guarantee for economic development. Firstly, although the three northeastern provinces and the eastern Inner Mongolia autonomous region have formed a relatively complete legislative framework for the business environment, the relevant legal systems tailored to the characteristics of Northeast China are still not perfect, which cannot effectively stimulate the enthusiasm of enterprises. Secondly, due to the lack of strong local regulatory systems for protection, the business activities of some enterprises have not been properly protected, hindering enterprises from making effective investments and carrying out various economic activities in Northeast China. Thirdly, some local regulations conflict with new legislative policies, and some old regulatory documents have not been cleaned up in a timely manner, which are obstructive and risky for market entities; at the same time, under the market economic system, there are more legal norms regulating the freedom of the market, while lacking legal norms for maintaining market order, resulting in legislative gaps. Fourthly, the business legal system has not been effectively implemented after its formulation. For example, the provisions on legal liabilities in the Regulations of Heilongjiang Province on Optimizing the Business Environment only list the penalty clauses for violations of the regulations, but do not clearly specify the types of illegal acts corresponding to each penalty clause, making it impossible to impose reasonable penalties on illegal market entities.

Legislation in the Environmental Field. "Lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets, we must consolidate the advantages of green development." At present, the environmental legal norms issued by the three northeastern provinces and the eastern Inner Mongolia autonomous region contain

more provisions on penalties for acts that damage resources and the environment, but fail to consider restoration and active construction, lack preventive systems in advance, and are not fully combined with the environmental characteristics and actual local conditions of Northeast China.

Legislation in other key areas also needs further improvement and revision.

Issues Concerning Legislation in Emerging Fields.

There is a certain lag in legislation in emerging fields, making it impossible to timely and effectively regulate new things. At present, in the legislation of new fields such as the e-commerce industry and live streaming, the legal system in Northeast China is still imperfect and cannot meet people's new needs. This hinders the implementation of norms, the assumption of legal liabilities, and the availability of appropriate legal remedies when rights are infringed upon.

3.2 Problems in the Administrative Law Enforcement Process of Northeast China

The so-called administrative violation refers to acts that violate administrative legal norms. On July 19, 2023, law enforcement agencies in Shenyang City, Liaoning Province, found during a routine inspection that a melon farmer had illegally set up roadside flag advertisements without authorization. A verbal conflict occurred between the two parties during the communication on the demolition. In November 2022, staff from the Market Supervision Administration of Zhaozhou County, Heilongjiang Province, found during a law enforcement inspection on epidemic prevention and control in business premises that the staff of a milk tea shop had notified customers to scan the health code relatively late, and imposed a penalty of closing the shop for one day on the shop. On September 6, 2021, an environmental supervision team found that the Urban Management and Law Enforcement Bureau of Changchun Urban Area, Jilin Province, had illegally piled up a large amount of construction waste in a pit of a factory without any approval, necessary evaluation, or any disposal measures. It can be seen from the above cases that the development level of Northeast China in the field of administrative law enforcement still needs to be further improved, mainly reflected in the slight deficiencies in law enforcement subjects, law enforcement acts, administrative liabilities, and administrative supervision.

3.2.1 Law Enforcement Subjects

Law enforcement subjects are mainly the government and other relevant departments. Most of the rules and systems formulated by the government and relevant departments are principled and have a certain lag; legal review has not been conducted on provisions that may duplicate higher-level laws, resulting in duplicate legislation that cannot be implemented or applied. There is a lag in the government's information release, and citizens have a single way to obtain information; the policy opinions issued by the government do not fully reflect public opinions. Although it is stipulated that the government should hold necessary hearings, demonstration meetings and other procedures before issuing norms, these procedures have not been truly implemented in practice. In social life, the government often intervenes only after disputes or controversies arise, failing to give full play to its due flexibility and initiative.

3.2.2 Administrative Law Enforcement Acts

At present, administrative law enforcement agencies attach importance to substantive norms but not to procedural norms, which is likely to lead to the abuse of administrative power. In the process of administrative law enforcement, there are still problems such as lax law enforcement, one-size-fits-all law enforcement, simple and rude law enforcement, excessive law enforcement, and mechanical law enforcement by administrative law enforcement agencies. For example: in the above case, the penalty of closing the milk tea shop for one day reflects the problems of one-size-fits-all and mechanical law enforcement by administrative law enforcement agencies.

3.2.3 Administrative Law Enforcement Liabilities

There is a lack of evaluation mechanisms, and the provisions on administrative liabilities are not specific. Most of the provisions on the handling of illegal acts in the Regulations of Jilin Province on the Supervision of Administrative Law Enforcement are principled and general, such as: "Administrative law enforcement personnel who violate the provisions shall be dealt with in accordance with the law; those who constitute a crime shall be held criminally responsible in accordance with the law." These provisions do not specify specific handling measures, which may easily lead to situations of excessively light or excessively heavy penalties in practice.

3.2.4 Law Enforcement Supervision

At present, there are two forms of supervision in China, namely national supervision and social supervision. Administrative law enforcement agencies in Northeast China do not make sufficient use of social supervision during law enforcement, do not attach enough importance to social opinion and public supervision, have not established a practical and feasible law enforcement supervision system, and have not fully mobilized the enthusiasm of social supervision.

3.3 Problems in the Judicial Process of Northeast China

In judicial trials, there are problems such as long trial cycles, low efficiency of people's rights protection, and difficulties in rights protection. At the same time, effective mechanisms for resolving social contradictions and conflicts have not been truly implemented before and during litigation. At present, although the three northeastern provinces and the eastern Inner Mongolia autonomous region have successively issued the Regulations on the Diversified Resolution of Social Contradictions and Disputes, when people encounter disputes, they generally tend to seek help from administrative organs and judicial organs, which handle disputes in accordance with legal procedures. Although this approach reflects the rigor of legal procedures, it inevitably leads to a reduction in work efficiency and is not conducive to the rapid and effective resolution of disputes; communities or sub-district offices at all levels of cities and counties have established mediation committees in accordance with regulations, but they have not fully utilized the advantages of mediation, and lack training on legal knowledge for relevant personnel, making it impossible to effectively use the law to resolve contradictions and disputes.

3.4 Problems in the Law-Abiding Process of Northeast China

On the road of building the rule of law, universal compliance with the law has always been the goal pursued by the country. For a long time, China has continuously emphasized the importance of the rule of law and called on everyone to become a loyal guardian and conscious executor of the socialist rule of law spirit. This belief is not only a political slogan, but also a deeply rooted legal belief, which constitutes the foundation of a rule-of-law society and ensures that the authority of the law is reflected and maintained. However, in some parts of Northeast China, many people do not understand the connotation of national and local laws and regulations, making it impossible to apply them to real life. This phenomenon reflects that people lack sufficient trust in the law, have weak awareness of abiding by the law, and have not formed a social trend of putting the law first and acting in accordance with the law.

3.5 Causes of Problems Arising in the Rule-Of-Law Practice in Northeast China

The problems existing in the above-mentioned legislation, law enforcement, justice, and law-abiding are mainly due to the weak awareness of the rule of law and the relatively weak strength of the professional rule-of-law team.

3.5.1 Subjective Factors

People's understanding of the legal system is shallow, lacking sufficient understanding and respect, and people ignore the importance of in-depth understanding and correct application of legal knowledge. This phenomenon leads to low enthusiasm of the people in the process of rule-of-law construction. Such consequences not only affect the implementation of the law, but also are not conducive to the improvement of people's awareness of the rule of law.

3.5.2 Objective Factors

The strength of the professional rule-of-law team is relatively weak. At present, there are problems such as an imperfect rule-of-law team in Northeast China, a lack of professional foreign-related rule-of-law talents and high-level and specialized rule-of-law talents, and the quality and ability of rule-of-law workers need to be improved.

4. Improving Rule-Of-Law Measures in Northeast China under the Guidance of the Rule-Of-Law Thought

4.1 Measures for Improving Legislation in Northeast China

Improve legislative quality and focus on coordinated legislation. Firstly, establish a scientific and democratic legislative system. In the process of constructing and implementing the system, it shall comply with legal authority and procedures, conform to objective social laws, and strictly abide by the provisions of the Constitution and higher-level laws. In addition, broaden channels to solicit opinions and suggestions from all sectors of society, and establish a complete mechanism for soliciting opinions from the people, including the adoption of suggestions, the proposed suggestions, and whether the practicality and applicability of the suggestions meet the standards. The legislative needs should be

examined from the perspective of the people, so as to enhance the public opinion foundation of legislation and strengthen the people's trust and reliance on the law.

Secondly, strengthen legislation in key areas. Legislative departments in various provinces of Northeast China should sort out old legal systems and formulate specific legal review systems to ensure that new systems do not duplicate or violate higher-level laws. Economic Legislation: The three northeastern provinces and the eastern Inner Mongolia autonomous region should formulate protection and relief systems for market entities as soon as possible, so that market entities can clearly understand the content of the legal system, clarify behavioral boundaries, maintain the market economic order, attract more effective investments, and form a situation where "investments are willing to cross the Shanhai Pass". Environmental Legislation: A clear environmental prevention system and a restoration system after environmental damage should be formulated, the penalties for acts that damage the environment should be increased, and green development should be promoted. Focus on emerging fields such as the e-commerce industry, new media industry, and online cyber violence, formulate laws and regulations that keep pace with the times, and timely fill legislative gaps. It is possible to formulate industry access systems, integrated online and offline industry supervision systems, legal liability systems, and relief systems, and timely adjust and update the existing legal framework to ensure that they can adapt to the continuous evolution of new technologies, new business models, and consumer behaviors, and protect employees from unfair competition, intellectual property infringement, and other illegal activities that may threaten the healthy development of the market.

Thirdly, improve regional coordinated legislation. Accelerate economic development and regional integration in Northeast China, and strengthen regional coordinated legislation. Due to their unique geographical locations, the provinces in Northeast China have particularly close economic ties. This geographical advantage provides a platform for promoting inter-regional cooperation. On this basis, establish a unified legal system for the three northeastern provinces and the eastern Inner Mongolia autonomous region, and clarify the legislative content in terms of legislative procedures, guarantees, supervision, and accountability. The three northeastern provinces and the eastern Inner Mongolia autonomous region can adopt the implication of consultative legislation, reach a consensus on important aspects or major issues in the future, formulate and implement an overall plan, so as to enhance the sense of cooperation among various provinces, promote resource sharing and policy coordination, and achieve win-win economic development.

4.2 Measures for Improving Administrative Law Enforcement in Northeast China

Firstly, adhere to building a law-based government. Government power is granted by the people. Therefore, in the process of building a law-based government, the three northeastern provinces and the eastern Inner Mongolia autonomous region should focus on constructing an open, transparent, efficient and convenient government, based on protecting the legitimate expectations of citizens. Government staff should strengthen the cultivation of rule-of-law thinking and capabilities, attach importance to rule-of-law theories while applying laws to work, handle issues with rule-of-law thinking, and ensure

that power operates in the sun and with transparency.

Within the current administrative management framework, government departments and relevant authorities must assume the responsibility of strictly reviewing existing rules and regulations. This process is not only a necessary step to ensure the accuracy of laws and regulations, but also an important measure to maintain the rule-of-law order and enhance policy adaptability. Through regular legal reviews, potential legal loopholes or outdated clauses can be timely identified and corrected, thereby ensuring the fairness, rationality and effectiveness of policies. At the same time, for already effective rules and regulations, continuous evaluation and updating are required in accordance with actual conditions and the needs of social development to ensure their timeliness and adaptability. The government should protect the people's right to know, publish normative documents and important information, and open up online channels for collecting public opinions. Through official websites, WeChat public accounts and other popular online platforms, timely respond to issues closely related to the public, explain specific issues and achievements in law enforcement activities, and promptly disclose relevant content to the society.

Secondly, improve law enforcement acts. At every link of law enforcement, both administrative decision-making and implementation must take the law as the criterion to ensure that every measure operates within the rule-of-law framework. Law enforcement personnel should follow strict procedures and standards; the entire process, including pre-prevention and guidance of potential illegal acts, in-process investigation and evidence collection, and post-penalty measures, should be fair, transparent, and consistent with legal norms. On this basis, administrative efficiency should also be pursued: administrative acts must be necessary and appropriate, and consistent with these principles; the principle of proportionality should be applied to minimize restrictions on the people; the duration of administrative measures should be shortened as much as possible, and simple issues should be resolved on the spot in a timely manner to eliminate delays. Especially in the exercise of discretionary power, appropriate restrictions should be imposed on such discretion, supplemented by reasonable principles, to ensure law-based and civilized law enforcement, prevent abuse of power, and protect the legitimate rights and interests of citizens.

Thirdly, all provinces and cities should strengthen joint law enforcement and enhance law enforcement efforts. In accordance with General Secretary Xi Jinping's instructions on the development of Northeast China, we should "constantly optimize and improve regional policies and systems in accordance with the objective economic laws, give full play to the comparative advantages of each region, promote the rational flow and efficient agglomeration of various factors, enhance the momentum of innovative development, and accelerate the formation of a dynamic system for high-quality development". To this end, the author suggests attempting joint law enforcement in Northeast China and, on this basis, increasing joint law enforcement efforts to provide legal guarantees for the development and vitality of Northeast China's economy. At present, pilot projects of joint law enforcement cooperation have been carried out within the scope of the "three provinces and one

autonomous region”. All departments perform their respective duties, coordinate and supervise each other, achieving remarkable results. On this basis, joint law enforcement can also be carried out in areas such as food safety and the business environment to improve the law enforcement capabilities of the three northeastern provinces and the eastern Inner Mongolia autonomous region.

Finally, strengthen supervision over law enforcement and refine the accountability of law enforcement personnel. Adopt objective, accurate and guiding evaluation mechanisms, or entrust professional third-party organizations to conduct systematic and comprehensive evaluations of the entire law enforcement process of law enforcement personnel, and conduct comprehensive legal reviews of normative legal documents of administrative organs. Strengthen the supervision mechanism; only by investigating illegal administrative acts at the source can they be accurately analyzed and evaluated. Improve the internal reward and punishment system to prevent abuse of power and keep power within the cage. Regarding the division of responsibilities and specific punishment measures, the author believes that the judicial case-handling responsibility system and the wrongful case accountability review system can be adopted to address these issues. Such perfunctory administrative responsibilities are absolutely intolerable. After law enforcement personnel assume their responsibilities, a sound rectification plan should be formulated and effectively implemented. During the rectification process, supervision from all sectors of society should be accepted.

4.3 Measures to Improve the Judicial System in Northeast China

Innovating and implementing a diversified mechanism for resolving conflicts is essential to effectively address the sole reliance on litigation for rights protection.

The report of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China points out the need to uphold and develop the “Fengqiao Model” for the new era, improve the governance systems of urban and rural communities, and resolve conflicts and disputes at the community level and nip them in the bud. People’s mediation serves as the “first line of defense” in maintaining social stability and plays a crucial role in social governance. Concurrently, priority must be given to non-litigation dispute resolution mechanisms, channeling more resources of the rule of law towards guidance and mediation to prevent conflicts from the source. This plays an irreplaceable and vital role in building a social governance model characterized by shared construction, governance, and benefits. In addressing social disputes, Northeast China cannot rely solely on judicial and procuratorial organs. It must achieve coordinated efforts across multiple departments, fully utilizing the strengths of each. While promoting integrated mediation development, the three northeastern provinces and the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region have all established diversified dispute resolution mechanisms, yet there remains considerable room for improvement. For instance, the three provinces and the autonomous region need to further expand the coverage of mediation centers, ensuring each city or province establishes a comprehensive mediation center to facilitate local dispute resolution for the public. While emphasizing offline mediation, new media should also be applied to other fields, broadening digital, intelligent, and information-based platforms, and standardizing online mediation work. Drawing on the experience of

advanced regions, pilot programs for the online “Fengqiao Model” can be conducted, enabling timely understanding of public sentiment, assessment of social opinions, and ensuring targeted and effective measures.

4.4 Measures to Improve Law Compliance in Northeast China

Firstly, Legal Personnel: Legal personnel must highly prioritize the application of rule-of-law thinking and methods in handling social issues. This entails strengthening their sense of responsibility, enhancing their service orientation, and reinforcing management concepts that combine training with both internal and external supervision. Integrating the rule of law with rule of virtue, they should improve their professional ethical standards, the core and focus of which is serving the people. When addressing instances where the public violates administrative norms, they must balance the sternness of the law, making the public aware of the illegality of their actions, while also analyzing the reasons for the violations. From the violator’s perspective, they should combine leniency with severity, thereby encouraging the public to correct their mistakes. This approach neither compromises the rigor of the law nor contradicts current social values advocating people-oriented principles and human rights protection. Judicial personnel should leverage their role in explaining the law through cases. By providing vivid interpretations of actual cases and disseminating legal knowledge to the public in an accessible manner, they can enhance the public’s awareness and understanding of the law. This not only strengthens public legal consciousness but also helps guide people to handle conflicts rationally and in accordance with the law when disputes arise, fostering an environment where people seek legal recourse for problems, use legal methods to solve them, and rely on the law to resolve conflicts.

Secondly, The Public: Relevant departments in the three northeastern provinces and the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region should broaden channels for disseminating legal knowledge, adopting a combination of offline and online methods. For example, enterprises, institutions, companies, schools, and communities should organize regular legal education activities, hire professional legal personnel to conduct lecture series, hold legal knowledge competitions, and regularly post legal education videos on media platforms. These measures provide the public with more avenues to access legal information, gradually fostering them into upholders and discriminators of the spirit of the rule of law, and jointly striving to create a positive atmosphere where everyone abides by the law, all matters are handled according to the law, and legal principles are respected everywhere.

4.5 Measures for Enhancing the Specialized Rule of Law Workforce

The development of a specialized rule of law workforce is a crucial component in advancing the rule of law. It is essential to cultivate highly competent legal professionals who possess and continuously enhance their “Four Consciousnesses”: political awareness, overall perspective, core alignment, and maintaining unity.

The Northeast region of China occupies a unique geographical position, bordering countries such as Russia, South Korea, and Japan. Against the backdrop of the ongoing implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative and the emphasis on developing foreign-related legal affairs, the Northeast region

should leverage its geographical advantages to focus on cultivating foreign-related legal professionals. For instance, universities in the region can establish foreign-related legal programs tailored to practical needs, such as those incorporating Russian, Korean, or Japanese languages, to nurture talent in foreign-related legal affairs. By fostering friendly cooperation with neighboring countries, providing legal consultation and assistance, and resolving foreign-related disputes in areas such as commerce, the Northeast region can enhance its level of foreign-related legal governance. Building a specialized foreign-related rule of law workforce represents an imperative measure for implementing and advancing the strategic arrangements of the Party and the state regarding foreign-related legal work in the new era.

5. Conclusion

This paper aims to provide an in-depth analysis of the practices and outcomes in implementing the rule-of-law philosophy within China's Northeast region, using its rule-of-law development as the focal point. Through a comprehensive analysis of the region's rule-of-law practices, it reveals how this area actively constructs a law-based society and government under the legal framework, safeguards the legitimate rights and interests of the people, and promotes social fairness and justice. The article meticulously examines and evaluates the specific measures adopted to ensure strict law-based administration in the enforcement process and impartial justice in judicial adjudication. These measures ensure the potency of the law is upheld, providing a solid rule-of-law foundation for the governance of the Northeast region.

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