

Research on International Industrial Cooperation and Cross-border Integration in Hebei Province

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Abstract: This paper analyzes the complex situation of international political economy, and emphasizes the opportunities brought by the effectiveness of RCEP and the recovery of emerging economies. In this context, Hebei has shortcomings in the areas of cooperation and investment scale. International production capacity cooperation and the integration of cross-border industrial chains have become the key to achieving high-quality and open development. Hebei should make up for the loss of foreign trade through production capacity cooperation, ensure the safety of the industrial chain, and promote the flow of production factors. Cross-border industrial chain integration is an important way for Hebei to "go global" with superior production capacity, which will help stabilize the industrial foundation, promote cooperation in the whole field and cultivate new advantages. Hebei should adapt to the new situation of trade and investment, promote the upgrading of production capacity cooperation, and promote regional economic integration.

Keywords: Hebei competitive industries; Cross-border industrial chain integration; International production capacity cooperation; Dialectical relationship research

In recent years, Hebei province has actively participated in the joint construction of "Belt and Road", and achieved a substantial increase in import and export and investment in countries along the Belt and Road through cross-border production capacity cooperation and international trade^[1].

1. Situation analysis

China has a superior system, a sound economy, complete industries and rich human resources, and has the conditions for high-level opening up. Facing a complex and volatile domestic and international environment, economic development has shifted from factors driven to innovation driven, but the contraction of internal and external demand and supply-side shocks have increased the expected pressure^[2]. It is imperative to strengthen the guidance of opening to the outside world, cultivate new advantages of international economy and trade, and build a high-quality open economy^[3].

2. Advantages and weaknesses coexist

2.1 Strong industrial foundation and complete industrial system

As a big industrial province, Hebei has strong industrial foundation and complete industrial system; equipment manufacturing, iron and steel metallurgy, petrochemical industry constitute three pillar industries, food, medicine, textile, agriculture and other traditional advantage industries, the province has 150, 000 manufacturing enterprises, forming Baigou bags, Qinghe cashmere, Anguo traditional Chinese medicine, Pingxiang bicycle and other 79 county characteristic industrial clusters of ten billion level; has a number of world top 500 and national top 500 enterprises^[4].

Hebei is located in the Bohai Rim Economic Belt and the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Development Zone, which is the key intersection of "Belt and Road" in the Bohai Rim region and has the geographical advantages of two-way participation and cooperation^[5].

2.2 Regional coordinated development, pilot reform focus

Hebei has implemented a series of national strategies and policies and measures, and the Xiongan New Area and coastal areas have developed rapidly. By 2022, Hebei has made remarkable achievements in the construction of cross-border e-commerce platforms, parks and overseas warehouses, forming the advantages of cross-border e-commerce clusters and strongly promoting the open development of the province.

2.3 Cooperation areas are narrow and the investment scale is limited

Due to the impact of COVID-19 and the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, Hebei's export and foreign investment have been blocked, and the security of industrial and supply chains is facing challenges^[6]. To this end, it is necessary to expand efforts, enhance the level of cooperation, strengthen information collection and government guidance to cope with the current difficulties and achieve sustainable development.

3. Production capacity cooperation and foreign trade

3.1 Domestic post-epidemic recovery combined with the recovery of emerging economies

Although exports increased in 2023, problems such as rising costs and order outflows caused by the pandemic remain. This will not only help improve the domestic industrial level, expand the production scale of production and international market share, but also inject new impetus into the economic development of the host country^[7].

3.2 Production capacity cooperation can relieve the contraction pressure of external demand

Since 2022, the conflict between Russia and Ukraine has intensified global inflation, and the outlook of the world economy is worrying. Although Hebei's import and export has maintained growth, the growth rate has slowed down significantly. Research shows that Hebei export enterprises face the double pressure of reduced orders and rising costs.

3.3 Production capacity cooperation to ensure the security of industrial chains and supply chains

In recent years, the United States has promoted the trend of "desinification", and global trade has increasingly become a foreign policy tool. Hebei's export industry chain and supply chain face the risk of "chain break" and "decoupling". Through deepening cooperation, Hebei can effectively improve the resilience and security level of the industrial chain, cope with trade frictions and risks of production capacity migration, and achieve sustainable development.

3.4 Production capacity cooperation promotes the free flow of factors of production

In January 2022, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) came into force, covering 15 Asia-Pacific countries, marking the start of the world's largest free trade area. Hebei province has close economic and trade exchanges with RCEP member states, and the automobile, textile and other industries are facing challenges. According to statistics, from January to July 2022, the total import and export value of Hebei increased by 17.0%; from January to May 2023, the total value increased by 6%. The Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region and the RCEP member states have complementary advantages.

4. Cross-border industrial chain integration is the only way out

4.1 Open a new bureau in the changing situation

At present, China proposes to build a new pattern of domestic and international dual-cycle development in order to meet challenges and seek opportunities. In the "14th Five-year Plan" period, the domestic and foreign market linkage, enterprise expansion and internationalization has become the trend. Hebei province should look for opportunities in the crisis, seek innovation in the change, and strive to become a model of double cycle pattern to create "Hebei sample".

4.2 Realize a stable industrial basic plate

In recent years, the economic and trade friction between China and the United States has escalated, and the US side has questioned China's market economic system. This measure is of positive significance for stabilizing the economic fundamentals and opening up a new battlefield. It is also a useful exploration in the face of a complex and volatile international environment.

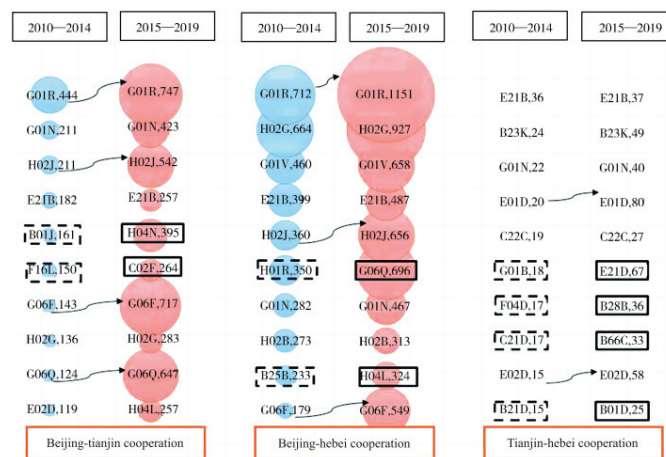
4.3 Promote industrial cooperation across all fields

The implementation of RCEP enables the cumulative rules of origin to cover 15 member states, which is conducive to resource optimization and coordination for export enterprises, especially those with a long production chain, and promote trade liberalization within the region. At the same time, RCEP's back-to-back proof of origin system increases the flexibility of enterprises, promote industrial chain cooperation among member states, optimize cross-border chain extension and chain complement, and promote regional economic integration.

4.4 Cultivate new advantages in international cooperation

Beijing-Tianjin region has coordinated industrial development, Beijing is the leader in knowledge and technology innovation, Tianjin is the high-end manufacturing transformation base, and Hebei is the new industrialization strategy support.

In the past decade, technical cooperation between the Beijing-Tianjin, Beijing-Hebei and Tianjin-Hebei regions in power facilities and digital information services has been strengthened. In practice, it is necessary to give full play to the role of government guidance and market entities, strengthen policy support, build cooperation platforms, and promote exchanges and cooperation between enterprises and international advanced enterprises.



5. Conclusion

To sum up, the close combination of Hebei's competitive industries with international production capacity cooperation and cross-border industrial chain integration is of great significance for promoting the international development of Hebei's industry, enhancing the overall competitiveness of the industrial chain and promoting economic globalization and regional integration. By strengthening international cooperation and exchanges, Hebei will be able to better integrate into the global industrial chain and value chain, and realize the transformation and upgrading of competitive industries and high-quality development.

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