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PROBLEMS FACING THE WORLD ECONOMIC ZONE

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«Автор»
2026

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Problems facing the world economic zone / С. Каледин — «Автор», 2026

This research investigates the development and status of free economic zones, the impact of free economic zones on economic integration, and the development of free economic zones has three main development stages: free port construction in the development stage of international trade, and freedom when Western colonialism divides the world. The establishment of trade zones and the economic development after World War II mainly include the creation, classification and concept of free economic zones. Internationally, free economic zones include free ports, free zones, transit zones, bonded zones, and free border zones.

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In the 21st century, regional economic integration continues to be rapidly promoted around the world, especially in Asia, mainly because of the difficulties of multilateral trade negotiations, slow progress, and compared with its economic globalization, regional economic integration has the following benefits: (1) Regional economic integration is achieved by the governments of the participating countries through negotiations and consultations, its "benefits outweigh costs", that is, the process of integration can be controlled, integration of cost expenditure is relatively fair; Although the market space opened up by regional economic integration is smaller than the market space created by economic globalization, its market risk is small; Regional economic integration can increase the ability of individual members and groups to withstand the impact of external markets. (2) Regional economic integration can gradually eliminate trade barriers among members of the region, simplify trade-level procedures, and lead to the cross-border flow of resources and the efficient allocation of resources. (3) Regional economic integration can expand the market size, enable members to exert comparative advantages and economies of scale, and promote the improvement of labor productivity.

(4) Regional economic integration can accelerate scientific and technological exchanges and cooperation among members, develop and utilize new scientific and technological achievements and advanced management means, increase the added value of products and the technical content of products, reduce and save production costs, and improve the international competitiveness and market share of products.(5) Regional economic integration can encourage members to take concerted action to increase regional and sense of destination, thus forming a joint effort to jointly safeguard the principle of priority for regional development and priority for regional security.

However, from international experience, in order to make substantial progress in trade negotiations and the operation of mechanisms, the following theoretical and practical issues must be properly addressed and resolved, regardless of the level of regional economic integration.

1. Exclusivity and openness

The so-called exclusivity of regional economic integration focuses on two issues: first, the qualification of its member States, which must be within the scope of their respective regions. For example, members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations can only be 10 countries in Southeast Asia, while countries in other regions cannot join. India had asked to become a member of ASEAN, but ASEAN rejected it on the grounds that India was a member of the South Asian subcontinent rather than a Southeast Asian country. Second, the limitation of its preferential policies, member states to give preferential treatment to each other is limited to the region, countries outside the region cannot enjoy. The essential meaning of a free trade area is for member countries to reduce trade barriers to each otherand gradually eliminate non- tariff restrictions, but still retain their own protection policies for non-member states. Even when the free trade area develops to the stage of customs union, it is to eliminate each other's import tariffs andrealize free trade, while the external trade barriers are still adopted and the unified external tariff rate is applied. The above-mentioned so-called exclusivity reasonable exclusivity must adhere to exclusivity. In fact, the sameistrueof the European Union and NAFTA. From the theoretical level, regional economic integration has the dual effect of trade transfer and trade creation. But in general the transfer effect is greater than the creative effect. From the practical point of view, regional economic integration is based on the principle of "regional development first". Therefore, regional economic integration in East Asia, including the establishment of a mechanism for economic cooperation of "10+ 3" and "10+ 1", should still adhere to the principle of different regions and outside the region. However, this does not prevent regional cooperation as a whole and individual from implementing "regional openness", actively developing comprehensive economic cooperation with other regions and countries, and even signing free trade agreements and establishing free trade zones with other countries outside them. In particular, today's regional economic cooperation mechanisms have shown a tendency to expand their organization and integration. ASEAN has expanded from the original 5 to 10 countries, the EU has also experienced a small to large development process, and after the upheavals in Eastern Europe, and the EU has continued to expand eastwards and southwards, with more and more followers. The United States is promoting the establishment of a "free trade area in the Western Hemisphere". In the long run, the United States has also tried to link the Americas with Asia through NAFTA, to form the Pacific Rim and to promote the establishment of an "Atlantic Community" between NAFTA and the European Union. In the long run, regional economic cooperation in Asia, especially in East Asia, cannot fail to pay attention to the new trend of strengthening mutual ties and cooperation among major regional economic cooperation organizations and take corresponding measures.

2. Dominance and non-dominance

Regional economic integration has always been a dispute over the need for regional "leadership cores" or "dominant countries", but there is no definitive conclusion yet. Some people think that the reason for the remarkable progress of regional economic integration in Europe and the Americas is that NAFTA is dominated by the United States, and as a strong leader, the United States spares no effort to promote regionalization. The EU is to "Franco-German axis" to promote regionalization from the economic field to political, military and social integration and other fields. Asia's economic regionalization is "irresponsible", like a string of scattered pearls, lacking an effective main line to string them together. It is precisely because of the lack of strong drivers of regional economic integration that little progress has been made in regional economic integration in Asia. If so, who should lead regional economic cooperation in Asia, especially in East Asia? Nothing but Japan, two is China, three is China and Japan are the joint leader, and the fourth is led by ASEAN. However, Japan considers its economic influence in Asia to be far stronger than China’s , and is a " natural leader" in regional economic cooperation in Asia, and is increasingly worried that China will strengthen its regional advantages and expand its regional influence, which in turn will lead to the status of Asia's first economic power being overtaken and replaced by China. On the contrary, China does not want to see Japan "sitting big" in Regional Economic Cooperation in Asia, preferring to support ASEAN's important role in regional cooperation. In addition, Japan has never had a correct understanding of historical issues, and China and Japan have not yet been able to establish a real mechanism of mutual trust, so it is difficult for China and Japan to jointly lead regional economic cooperation in East Asia. The key element in determining the leader and the dominant is the integration of national strength. Considering this element, China does not yet have the leading power in Asia, and from the perspective of ASEAN foreign policy, it has been adopting a policy of "balance of power among major powers", the essence of which is that it does not want to see any great power over-expanding in East Asia, especially in Southeast Asia, and trying to use ASEAN collective strength as the core of the Asian regional economic and security dialogue.

The United States has important strategic and economic interests in Asia, especially in East Asia, and countries rely on and expect more from the United States than on Japan, so the important agendas and steps of regional cooperation require all countries to consider the intentions of the United States as an important member of the "absence". Mahathir's "Core Forum on East Asian Economy" and Japan's "Asian Monetary Fund" initiative were "dead pool" because they did not include the United States and were opposed by the United States. From the strategic point of view of the United States, any regional economic cooperation entity in Asia or East Asia, excluding the United States, will not receive real support from the United States. The United States will neither support China nor ASEAN in leading regional economic cooperation in East Asia. Developed countries such as the United States have long been dissatisfied with ASEAN's "monopoly" of the ASEAN Regional Forum and have repeatedly called for the establishment of a "double chair". Especially since the East Asian financial crisis, the cohesion within ASEAN has been weakened, economic and political contradictions between them have increased, economic development has fluctuated, and it has not been able to recover to its pre-financial crisis strength. Diplomatically, China's support for ASEAN and the ASEAN Regional Forum to play a leading role in regional economic cooperation and security dialogue is undoubtedly the right choice. But with increasing external pressure and growing internal differences, whether ASEAN countries can unite and withstand external pressure is a diplomatic issue that China should consider as soon as possible.

It is the correct strategic policy to promote the coordinated development of cooperation between China, Japan and South Korea, and China should continue to emphasize that "10 + 3" is the main channel of East Asian cooperation in the future. However, according to the current actual

situation in East Asia, the establishment of a "10-3" cooperation mechanism will be quite difficult, and China's focus for this purpose should seem to be on the decision-making of China and ASEAN to establish a free trade area, but this does not affect the "10-3" mutual consensus on certain sectors or cooperation, and make substantial progress. For example, the cooperation of East Asian countries in the financial field has already made greater moves. Japan has concluded currency swap agreements with South Korea, Thailand, the Philippines and Malaysia. China has also concluded currency swap agreements and agreements with countries such as Thailand and Japan. Since the establishment of a free trade area between China and ASEAN will not have the problem of who will lead and control, and there will be no sensitive agricultural subsidies, and the establishment of a free trade area between China and ASEAN is neither the expansion of the ASEAN Free Trade Area nor the replacement of the ASEAN Free Trade Area, the result will be a win-win situation. However, in the process of establishing the "10-3" cooperation mechanism, the issue of its dominance will emerge.

3. Institutionalization and de-institutionalization

Regional economic integration goes through five stages: free trade zones, customs unions, common markets, economic union and full economic integration, all of which are institutionalized forms of economic cooperation organizations, and the higher their stages, the stronger the degree of institutionalization. Since APEC was established as a loose, consultative and non-institutionalized economic forum, it has led to a misunderstanding that de-institutionalization is better than institutionalization.

The main difference between institutionalization and de-institutionalization is that the former must be negotiated through official state negotiations and locked in the consensus reached in the form of the conclusion or signing of treaties or agreements, which need to be ratified by national parliaments and are therefore mandatory and binding by law. Rather than institutionalizing, collective bargaining is a commitment to be implemented by their respective leaders, but their commitment has no legal effect and is bound only by credibility and morality. Developing APEC members, especially ASEAN, have always opposed the transformation of APEC into an institutionalized economic bloc, such as the United States, with the main aim of protecting ASEAN's independence and maintaining its central position in APEC. China is also concerned about U.S. control and domination of APEC and is wary of APEC moving towards institutionalization out of doubt about the U.S. proposal to establish a "New Pacific Community". Because APEC members have different stages of economic development, developed and developing members are allowed to adopt different timetables for tariff concessions, but provide for "term space" agreements, developed members and developing countries.

Members will liberalize trade and investment in 2010 and 2020, respectively. In order to prevent members from taking measures to liberalize trade and investment on schedule, the United States proposed the establishment of a review mechanism. APEC's "collective action, unilateral action, and evaluation mechanism" approach has actually taken on an institutionalized connotation. In order for APEC to make substantial progress, it is a trend to move from non-institutionalization to institutionalized cooperation, and China's economic and technical cooperation needs institutionalized guarantees. East Asia's "10+" and "10-+1" will be institutionalized regional economic cooperation mechanisms. At the heart of institutionalization is negotiations between state officials. The content of the negotiations is quite broad, from the united States, Canada and the United States, Canada, Mexico Free Trade Agreement, including the principles, objectives, institutions, basic framework, operating mechanisms, modes of operation, etc. focusing on the "principles of trade liberalization" among member countries, "conflict coordination institutionalization principles", "regional economic development priority principles", covering commodity trade, trade in services, agricultural trade, intellectual property rights, environmental protection, investment regulations, competition policy, government procurement, import and export procedures, trade and other technical indicators. The negotiations between China and ASEAN on a free trade agreement have "the same thing" with the United States, Canada and Mexico, that is, North America since trade agreements are based on the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement, while the China-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement is based on the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, so for China, the North American Free Trade Agreement and the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement should be studied. After 16 months of negotiations on the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement, only 14 months of negotiations on the U.S.- Canada-Mexico Free Trade Agreement, china and ASEAN can use the “fast-track process “to reach an early negotiating consensus because they do not have to start a new “stove " . At the heart of free trade agreements is the establishment of free trade zones. When a free trade agreement is formally signed, that is, the day the free trade area begins to operate.

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