

The Research on the Interaction Between Politics and Economy——Based on the Background of Porcelain Trade in the Qing Dynasty

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Abstract. Economics and politics are often the two most important factors for a government that can maintain authority. Governments deal with domestic and international affairs primarily for economic or political purposes, but what choices do governments make when faced with a contradiction between these two factors? To understand the basis and reasons for the government's choice, this article uses the porcelain trade in China during the Qing Dynasty as an example. Government options are explored by comparing differences in pre- and post-porcelain trade. It can be observed that politics is often the preferred choice. Governments usually adopt active economic policies while guaranteeing political security and stability. Similarly, governments sacrifice economic interests for political security and stability. The same phenomenon exists in the international community, where the root cause of contradictions and conflicts between States lies in politics rather than economics. A proper understanding of this phenomenon can help people better understand the purpose of certain policies and may make the government pay more attention to the positive role of the economy.

Keywords: Qing dynasty; porcelain trade; politics; economy.

1. Introduction

China is the homeland of porcelain and has a long history of porcelain production. Dating back to the Han Dynasty, porcelain has spread to countries and regions outside of China. Beginning in the Tang Dynasty, Chinese porcelain officially began to be sold as a commodity all over the world. Over the next thousand years or so, Chinese porcelain exports grew and destinations expanded from Asia to the world. In the process, the world economy has developed and become more interconnected. In addition, different civilizations from all over the world are also spreading and communicating in the process of trade using commodities as a carrier. The Qing Dynasty, the last dynasty in Chinese history, was the pinnacle of feudal autocracy, which declined rapidly after a long period of prosperity and triggered profound changes in society as a whole. The porcelain trade also fluctuated in the process, echoing the fate of the entire country. With the First Opium War as the dividing point, 1840, the Qing Dynasty can be divided into two periods. The early stage was the afterglow of the feudal absolute monarchy, and the later period was a transitional stage full of turmoil and pain. During these two periods, China and the whole world have undergone tremendous changes. By comparing the porcelain trade between the two periods, it is possible to see how political and economic factors interacted with each other during different phases of a regime. During periods of prosperity, the country's economy is usually more active and politically stable. In this case, for the development of the economy to pursue more interests. State policies generally make adjustments aimed at promoting and protecting the economy, or economic interests induce the government to adopt active policies, even if sometimes contrary to rules or political traditions. However, in the process of reform, society became unstable and insecure. At this time, economic interests are no longer the main goal of people, on the contrary, the government will introduce some relatively conservative policies to maintain social order and are not conducive to economic development. Even if it is not deliberately targeted, the adjustment of administrative institutions or the change of government power caused by the reform of the political system will harm economic development to a certain extent. Of course, when studying the economic issues of the late Qing Dynasty, especially foreign trade, we should not only consider domestic factors but also focus on the attitude and policies of Western powers towards China. These factors together

constitute a decisive role in the economy during special periods. Thinking about economic and political relations can be applied to the analysis of two problems. First, based on the analysis of the current stage of a country, it is possible to determine which political and economic preferences are the current government's priorities. Of course, the ideal state should be one in which politics and economics promote each other and develop together. The excessive influence of any one factor on the other can throw the development of both sides out of balance. When one party needs to wait for the other party's influence to occur before reacting, the relatively lagging process can hinder its development and delay feedback to the other party, eventually falling into a vicious circle. Only by identifying problems promptly and integrating economic and political development at the same stage as much as possible can the efficiency of improving the country's comprehensive capacity be maximized. Similarly, a country's government's different considerations of economic and political importance are reflected in foreign policy. For example, the fact that one country uses economic means to sanction another country shows that the economy used as a mode of attack is not a factor that is valued. That is, countries with economic conflicts are more likely to have conflicts due to political factors or other reasons, rather than differences of interests. In short, a correct understanding of the relationship between economics and politics plays an important role in the development of a country and the understanding of conflicts between countries. This article will use the porcelain trade of the Qing Dynasty as an example to analyze how these two factors influenced each other in different environments, and what their consequences were.

2. The Situation and Advantages of Porcelain Trade in the Early Qing Dynasty

2.1. The Process of Porcelain Production and Trade

The production and export of porcelain in China have undergone a long development process. Cultural relics unearthed in various places show that the earliest Chinese ancient ceramic era unearthed in Asia and Africa was the Han Dynasty, but the appearance of ceramics as commodities began in the Tang Dynasty, which is directly related to the economic prosperity, cultural prosperity, and maritime communication of the Tang Dynasty [1]. During this period, porcelain exports were mostly destined for Asian countries, such as the Philippines and Japan. The Song Dynasty was the most developed period of commerce and handicrafts in Chinese history, and the production and export of porcelain developed rapidly. In terms of policy, the Song Dynasty government set up the "City Lotus Department" and took measures to encourage overseas trade. In addition, thanks to the improvement in the level of technology, porcelain kilns specializing in the production of porcelain for export have appeared, especially in the southern region. Similarly, the Yuan government adopted a positive attitude towards overseas trade. During this period, blue and white porcelain produced in Jingdezhen was widely welcomed as a new product. Of course, the process of development cannot always be smooth. With the establishment of the Ming Dynasty, because of the continuous disturbance of the Japanese pirates in the coastal areas, the government had to adopt the export ban for a long time, prohibiting private people from exporting goods, which could only be operated by the government. Despite this, the large-scale export of porcelain remained. Especially as European countries opened new shipping routes, Portugal and Spain were the first to reach Asia and began to participate in the porcelain trade. Merchants from these two countries sold porcelain from China to Europe and were loved by the local population. However, the large-scale development of the Chinese and European porcelain trade was in the 17th century. The Dutch founded the East India Company, which dominated the porcelain trade in China and Europe with its maritime supremacy and made great profits. Encouraged by the success of the Netherlands, many European countries, including Britain and France, began buying porcelain from China and selling it to Europe.

The Qing dynasty, especially in the 18th century, is considered the time when the export trade of ancient Chinese porcelain was at its most prosperous. Thanks to the simultaneous socio-economic development of China and Europe, both the supply and demand sides of the porcelain trade have greater potential. Before the large number of Chinese porcelains entered, the utensils used by

Europeans were mainly pottery, wood, and metalware, of which pottery was the most widely used [2]. Compared with these materials, porcelain has great advantages in both appearance and texture. Even many Europeans saw porcelain from China as a symbol of wealth and status. There is no doubt that this fervent pursuit of porcelain has greatly increased the demand in the European market. In addition, the continuous expansion of China's production scale has also increased the supply of exported porcelain, and more and more styles are better in line with the demand from Europe. Nearly half of the exported porcelain came from Jingdezhen in Jiangxi. The porcelain industry in Jingdezhen relied on the production of blue and white porcelain to flourish and develop from the Yuan Dynasty. The division of labor in the Jingdezhen porcelain industry, which was completed in the early Qing Dynasty, is unique in the same industry in ancient China [3]. This method of production through a meticulous division of labor not only ensures the professionalism of each link producer but also greatly improves efficiency and ensures the supply of exported porcelain.

Thanks to relatively liberal commercial policies, European countries were allowed to establish trading offices in Guangzhou and Chinese merchants to trade. At the same time, Chinese businessmen also set up corresponding organizations. With the support of the Guangdong government, 16 firms signed contracts to establish a monopolistic "public bank" and formulated 13 rules and regulations [4]. This organization had a virtual monopoly on the export of commodities, and even a small number of goods that were allowed to involve other companies were traded under their supervision. In addition, the organization is responsible for the maintenance of commodity prices and the mediation of commercial disputes. As a major player in the export trade, the merchants within the organization usually have a good reputation. Every year, institutions of various countries established in Guangzhou receive an "order form" from their own country, which lists the type and quantity of porcelain required. Then the employees in Guangzhou will ask the Chinese "public bank" to buy, and some special types of products need to be customized by Chinese businessmen in Jingdezhen and handed over to European customers after completion. In this process, Chinese and European merchants would sign contracts to protect their interests, and these clear and efficient procedures ensured the smooth development of the porcelain trade.

2.2. The Advantages and Influence of Qing Dynasty Porcelain Export

As the world's largest silver inflow country at that time, the Qing Dynasty had a trade surplus for a long time in the early years. Many products, including porcelain, were exported in large quantities, giving the Qing Dynasty a relatively advantageous position in international trade. There are many reasons for this phenomenon, the main ones being the following. First, favorable policies. Compared with the Ming Dynasty's ban on commodity exports, the Qing government generally had a positive attitude towards foreign trade. Although trade with foreign merchants was only allowed in certain cities along the coast, it was sufficient for the market demand at the time. Second, a relatively safe and stable external environment. The reason why the Ming government restricted foreign trade was related to the frequent pirate attacks on the coastal areas at that time. In the early Qing Dynasty, especially after the Kangxi Emperor recovered Taiwan, the security of China's southeast coast was basically guaranteed, which also established the foundation for the development of trade. Third, advanced production technology. As mentioned earlier, Jingdezhen at that time had built the world's largest and most detailed porcelain industry cluster. With advanced technology and sufficient output, it is well adapted to the needs of overseas markets. Fourth, the prosperity and stability of domestic society. The early Qing dynasty was the last prosperous period of China in the feudal era, which lasted for nearly a hundred years. At that time, the domestic society was stable, the people lived relatively prosperously, and the large growth of the population provided sufficient labor for various handicraft industries, including porcelain making. Therefore, the scale effect generated by the continuous expansion of production scale helps to further compress costs, reduce product prices, and gain advantages in the international market.

There is no doubt that the rapid development of the porcelain trade had an important impact on the entire society in China at that time. Due to the dominance of China's self-sufficient small-scale

peasant economy, coupled with the huge international demand for goods, China has always been in surplus in trade with the West, and Western countries have had to pay large amounts of silver in exchange for the goods they need [5]. As a result, silver from overseas flowed into China in large quantities. Before this, due to the lack of silver mines and insufficient mining in China, China lacked silver for a long time, and copper coins could only be used as the main currency, but with the boom in international trade, the inflow of silver has finally made China have the conditions for silver monetization. Compared with copper money, silver has many advantages and is more acceptable to the public. At the same time, silver as the main currency can also be consistent with European countries. Both sides were able to trade silver as a mutually recognized currency, accelerating the further formation of the world market. Second, as trade develops, the cultures of both sides are constantly exchanged. Chinese culture uses goods sold to Europe as a carrier and has an impact on local culture in the process of being used and consumed. In particular, porcelain is more popular as a daily commodity, which has an impact on the living habits and lifestyles of people in European countries. At the same time, in order to better meet the consumption needs of European customers, Chinese businessmen also need to take into account the cultural traditions and consumption habits of Europeans when designing and producing export goods. The most obvious is the change in the patterns and shapes that appear in porcelain, and a large number of characters or things with Western characteristics are depicted on the surface of porcelain. Not only that, the shape of porcelain has gradually broken through the traditional Chinese "bottle" and "jar" and other vessel types, and more exaggerated shapes such as "double-ended bottle" have appeared. It can be seen that Europeans are also influenced by Eastern culture while consuming Chinese goods, and the Chinese are absorbing and borrowing Western culture while exporting goods. In other words, the exchange, development, and prosperity of Chinese and foreign porcelain cultures are two-way [6].

3. The Background of the Late Qing Dynasty and the Changes of Porcelain Trade

3.1. Background

In the late Qing Dynasty, especially after 1840, all aspects of Chinese society underwent tremendous changes due to the invasion and colonization of Western countries. Of course, the porcelain trade of this period was inevitably affected, but before discussing these effects, it is necessary to understand how Chinese society changed at that time. From an economic point of view, the biggest change is the beginning of the disintegration of China's traditional small-scale peasant economy and the emergence of capitalist organization and mode of production. The impact of this change is undoubtedly enormous. The small-scale peasant economy is an economic structure based on households that closely integrates agriculture and handicrafts. Its production scale is relatively small and the basic purpose of production is to meet its own survival needs [7]. Male labor is usually responsible for agricultural production to obtain food, thereby paying taxes and supplying family members. Female labor, on the other hand, is responsible for producing some of the necessities of life, such as weaving cloth and making clothes. The combination of the two can ensure the basic needs of a family at that time, that is, food, clothing, and warmth. In this case, the average household is neither able nor necessary to make other consumption. Therefore, although China has participated in international trade in a relatively positive attitude in societies dominated by small-scale peasant economies in the past, the self-sufficiency inherent in its economic structure has determined that the demand for consumer goods in China is not large. However, with the disintegration of the small-scale peasant economy, traditional production has become no longer sustainable, forcing some farmers to leave the land and become free laborers. The loss of the means of production has led to the loss of the conditions for self-sufficiency, and they can only obtain food and necessities through purchases. To earn income, they will work in other industries other than agriculture, such as industry and services. In the process, they not only expand the supply of products but also increase social demand as

consumers. In this case, a simultaneous increase in production and consumption would strengthen China's need for international trade.

After the First Opium War, China's politics also began the process of modernization. On the one hand, Western powers have forced China to abandon its traditional and conservative foreign policy with its powerful force. On the other hand, after seeing the world as it is, China needs to change itself and connect with the world. Among the series of changes in the political system, the most noteworthy is the establishment of the "Prime Minister's Office for State Affairs". The establishment of this department meant a change in the traditional Chinese mentality of "heaven and kingdom", and began to try to integrate into the world in an equal and even humble posture. The responsibility of this newly formed department was to manage all matters related to foreign affairs, which had never existed before the Qing Dynasty. Because ancient China has long occupied economic, military, and cultural advantages in the world, China's status is higher than that of any country in the world in the eyes of the people and officials, which is why ancient China has never had a department in charge of diplomatic work. Because the basic norm of diplomacy is equality, but under the influence of such thinking, no one thinks that any country can interact with China on an equal footing. Without a sense of diplomacy, the establishment of diplomatic institutions would certainly not be considered. Although almost every dynasty had an institution similar to a "ceremonial ministry", they received tribute-paying vassal states rather than diplomatic missions. However, in just 20 years, from the Opium War to the establishment of Prime Minister Yamen, Western powers with strong ships and cannons twice used cannons to explain to China that they were not tributes in the traditional sense and that they must set up corresponding diplomatic institutions to receive them [8]. Therefore, the significance of Prime Minister Yamen was not only the establishment of a new executive branch but more importantly, it meant that the Chinese government at that time began to have the same political ideas and concepts as the rest of the world. Under the influence of this thinking, more departments with different functions will be established which eventually lead to the reform of the political system. There is no doubt that the porcelain trade will also change with the establishment of new institutions and the spread of new ideas.

3.2. The Decline of the Porcelain Trade

As mentioned earlier, European countries forced the Qing government to open the door to the world through war. Before this, all exports, including porcelain, were restricted to trading in Guangzhou. With special policies, local merchants and governments in Guangzhou almost monopolized import and export trade. Of course, this is not conducive to the free development of the economy and commerce, but this changed with the defeat of the Qing dynasty in the First Opium War. After the war, the Qing Dynasty was forced to open five coastal commercial ports, including Guangzhou, Xiamen, Fuzhou, Ningbo, and Shanghai, and allowed foreigners to live, which opened several small gaps in the original system [9]. After that, the Qing government's restrictions on trade ports were gradually relaxed, and the number of ports increased to about 70. The increase in ports has made the trading of commodities more convenient, and to a certain extent, the export of porcelain and other commodities has been promoted. In fact, the total import and export trade of porcelain during this period did show a gradual growth trend. In terms of the value of goods, from the 140457 Liang in 1868 to the 2737918 Liang in 1918, the increase of 2597461 Liang [10]. However, the hidden problems behind the prosperity are gradually being revealed. When measuring the status of a commodity in a country's trade, it is necessary not only to focus on its quantity and value but more importantly, its proportion in the country's international trade. Unfortunately, although the total trade volume of porcelain imports and exports continued to grow, its share of the Qing dynasty's import and export trade continued to decline. In 1868, the total import and export trade of the customs was 125108179 customs, porcelain accounted for 0.11%, and by 1895 it accounted for 0.51%. The proportion of porcelain then began to decrease, from 0.46% in 1900, 0.31% in 1910 and 0.26% in 1918 [10]. It follows that the prosperity shown by the porcelain trade during this period is false. Thanks to the expansion of the overall trade scale of the Qing Dynasty, the total import and export

volume of porcelain continued to rise. Its growth rate lags far behind that of other commodities, resulting in a declining share. An important reason for this phenomenon is the rapid development of the European porcelain industry during this period. The contradiction between the huge demand for porcelain and the limited supply in the market will inevitably lead to the generation of huge profits. The merchants' pursuit of profit inspired them to try to develop their porcelain industry. At the same time, the European aristocracy was also dissatisfied with the price of porcelain, and even unaffordable, so European governments and merchants formed a community of interests and began to develop their porcelain [11]. Thanks to sufficient capital and a well-developed industrial system, the European porcelain industry developed very rapidly. By the 19th century, European porcelain could even be exported to China. According to the observation of the quality of imported goods from various countries, the porcelain in Britain and Germany at that time was all machine production, the scale was grand and its technology was extremely ingenious, not only the cost was low, but also the variety of porcelain was innumerable. German porcelain is of better quality and cheaper, and it is most popular in China [10]. In general, the development of the porcelain trade in the late Qing Dynasty was already fraught with difficulties. Although the Qing government's deepening participation in international trade provided impetus to some extent for the development of porcelain trade. However, the production of porcelain itself has gradually lost its advantages in price, quality, and quantity, and it has become difficult to maintain a dominant position.

4. The Differences and Reasons of Trade between the Early and Late Qing Dynasty

4.1. Specific Difference

The early Qing Dynasty mentioned in this article refers to 1800 and before, and the later period refers to the period after that to the end of the Qing Dynasty. Compared with these two periods, China's internal situation and international situation have undergone tremendous changes, as has the porcelain trade. The first is that the main destinations of porcelain exports have changed many times. As mentioned earlier, the first European countries to trade directly with China were Spain and Portugal, and then the Netherlands officially began to import porcelain from China on a large scale in the seventeenth century. In the eighteenth century, Britain replaced the Netherlands as the largest importer of Chinese porcelain. However, after that, due to the development of the European porcelain industry and the decline of the Chinese porcelain industry, the number of British imports of Chinese porcelain gradually declined. In 1801, the British East India Company finally stopped importing Chinese porcelain [12]. At the same time, direct trade routes between China and the United States were opened, and Chinese porcelain exports found new markets, so from the nineteenth century, the United States became the main destination for Chinese porcelain exports. This trend corresponds to the increase in the number of locations in China where international trade is allowed. Especially after the First Opium War, according to the provisions of the Treaty of Nanjing, China's trade ports increased from one to five in Guangzhou and have increased since then. In addition, the most significant change in the porcelain trade was the loss of China's dominant position. In the early trade, thanks to many advantageous conditions, China's porcelain had unique advantages in the world market in terms of quality and quantity, but in the later stages, this advantage was already difficult to maintain. On the one hand, the scale and quality of domestic porcelain production in China have shrunk and deteriorated. On the other hand, the European porcelain industry developed rapidly and surpassed China. Therefore, although the volume of China's porcelain trade is growing, it is only because of the expansion of the scale of trade around the world. China's porcelain exports not only accounted for a decline in the proportion of world porcelain trade but also produced a huge gap with silk, tea, and other commodities in China's exports. In short, compared with the previous prosperity, China's porcelain trade has gradually declined.

4.2. Reason Analysis

There are many reasons for the decline of Chinese porcelain exports after the nineteenth century, mainly the following four points: First, the European porcelain industry developed rapidly. To meet the needs of the domestic market and reduce costs as much as possible, European countries have been trying to localize porcelain. At first, due to immature technology and low production, porcelain produced in Europe could only meet the needs of some nobles because of its high price. Later, thanks to sufficient funds and a sound industrial system, the European porcelain industry quickly broke through the technical barriers. Porcelain produced in Europe surpasses China in terms of quality and quantity. In addition, to protect the domestic porcelain industry, European countries have increased import tariffs on porcelain, resulting in the further loss of price advantages of Chinese porcelain in the European market. Second, the perception of China in European society has changed. In addition to taking into account economic factors, porcelain, as a product rich in cultural attributes, is also influenced by the international image of the country of origin. During the Yuan Dynasty, China was described by Marco Polo as "the land of gold." For Europeans, China is a mysterious oriental country, a symbol of prosperity and civilization. Therefore, the European aristocracy and people not only had material needs for fine porcelain from China but also curiosity and desire for Eastern civilization. However, this positive impression changed after the Opium Wars. In the eyes of many Europeans, China is no longer a beautiful country full of flowers, but a country of decay, backwardness, barbaric autocracy, and crumbling [13]. The changing perception of Europeans also had a negative impact on the export of Chinese porcelain. Third, China's sovereignty is gradually losing. In the late Qing dynasty, especially after 1840, China's sovereignty was greatly damaged by the signing of multiple unequal treaties. For example, the Treaty of Nanjing stipulates that the tariff rules for British businessmen's trade with China should not be decided by the Chinese side alone, but should be agreed upon by both sides to be valid [14]. Since then, China has changed from an autonomous tariff to a treaty tariff. As mentioned earlier, European countries have raised tariffs to protect domestic industries. Instead, China is forced to import goods from Europe at lower tariffs. This has led to the fact that porcelain from Europe is even more competitive in China than Chinese porcelain. Chinese people are more willing to choose European imported porcelain because of the price, which makes Chinese porcelain lose its advantage in the domestic market. Fourth, China's porcelain industry is declining. Although the European porcelain industry developed rapidly at that time, the regression of the Chinese porcelain industry itself was also an important reason for it to be surpassed. On the one hand, due to the long-term maintenance of large-scale production, most of the high-quality raw materials in China's domestic porcelain-producing areas have been exhausted. Without the supply of high-quality raw materials, the quantity and quality of the porcelain produced cannot be guaranteed. On the other hand, the defeat of the war led to the intensification of social contradictions in the country. From 1840 onwards, China's foreign wars were almost entirely lost. Massive war reparations and casualties led to growing dissatisfaction with the government and sparked civil war. In such a social environment, the production system of many products, including porcelain, was destroyed. In the end, China's century-old prosperous porcelain industry and porcelain export trade completely went to a trough.

4.3. Enlightenment and Practical Significance

By studying the rise and fall of the porcelain trade in the Qing Dynasty, one can discover the principle that whether a country's economy prospered depended on the stability of the regime. Among the many factors that influenced the porcelain trade in the Qing Dynasty, the most decisive was the attitude of the government, that is, the policy. In the early stage, an important prerequisite for the rapid development of the porcelain trade was that the rule of the Qing government at that time was stable enough. On the one hand, the anti-Qing forces that occupied Taiwan were eliminated. On the other hand, ethnic contradictions in the country have also been temporarily eased. Under these circumstances, the Qing government abolished the original "expert ban" policy and began to implement some active economic policies. To be sure, if the stability of the regime is not guaranteed,

the Qing government will continue its relatively conservative economic policies. Because for a regime, the most critical need is stability of rule, not economic prosperity. According to this principle, when the existence of a regime is threatened and there is a risk of extinction, the first thing to be given up by the ruler is economic interests. This is why the late Qing government still signed so many unequal treaties with a clear understanding of the dangers. Only by satisfying the improper appropriation of China's economic interests by Western countries can the rule of the Qing government continue to be maintained. The extent to which these losses will negatively affect people's lives and industrial production is not a priority for a government at risk of extinction. Except in extreme cases where a regime faces extinction, this principle is equally valid in the ordinary course of development. It can be used to explain the nature of many contradictions and conflicts in the world today, such as the trade conflict between China and the United States. This is something that has happened in recent years and is likely to continue. As the world's two largest economies, trade conflicts between them can have a serious negative impact on their own and even the world's economies, but they still make this choice. Because behind the trade conflict is not a difference of economic interests, but a confrontation and conflict between the two countries at the political level. From the founding of China to the present, the ultimate political goal pursued by the government has always been to achieve national rejuvenation. In the process, as an emerging country, it will inevitably have an impact on the original world order and upset some kind of balance. This will contradict those countries that profit from the current world order, and the United States is one of them. In this context, it is understandable that the United States would rather suffer short-term economic losses than hit China through trade sanctions. Of course, China will also fight back to ensure that its development is not stopped. In this conflict, the economy is used only as a weapon against the other side, and the root of the problem lies in political contradictions. Perhaps only by correctly recognizing the root causes of conflict can the problem be solved as much as possible.

5. Summary

According to the differences in the porcelain trade of the Qing dynasty at different times, it can be seen that the government made different choices between economics and politics in different situations. Of course, both political and economic elements are key to the survival and development of a country and even the world. A study of the relationship between the two leads to the conclusion that political stability is a necessary condition for economic development and that good economic conditions are conducive to maintaining political stability. For a regime, survival and continuity are the primary pursuits, and economic development is to help achieve its goals. A correct understanding of this relationship has a positive impact on the exploration of many issues. For example, it helps to better understand the fundamental purpose of a government to implement a policy or to grasp more accurately the real causes of international conflicts and contradictions. It should be emphasized that the scope of application of this conclusion has yet to be determined, which is also a limitation of this study. First of all, limited by the temporal and spatial conditions of the subjects studied in this paper, this conclusion is more likely to apply to China or East Asia. Second, considering that different political systems and philosophies in different countries lead to different factors for governments to consider when faced with choices, this conclusion may be more convincing when studying some highly centralized governments. A government that has no or loses sufficient control over the country is not qualified to choose between politics and economics. Even if they want to implement a policy, they may encounter resistance from local governments and not take effect. It is foreseeable that the focus of future research should be to select appropriate criteria to classify different countries, and then explore the clearer and more specific scope of application of this conclusion in combination with the specific conditions of the research subject.

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