

## On the "Soft Adjustment" Function of Positive and Healthy Inner-Party Political Culture on Resolving the "Four Dangers"

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**Abstract:** To purify Inner-Party Political Ecology in an all-round way and resolutely correct all kinds of unhealthy tendencies, we need both "Hard restraint" and "Soft adjustment". The active and healthy inner-party political culture pioneered by general secretary Xi Jinping is a "Soft adjustment" means by adjusting the political cognition and political psychology of Party members, to standardize the political behavior of Party members and cadres. Giving full play to its functions of discerning, preventing, controlling and guiding transformation is of great value for purifying the political ecology of the party and promoting the comprehensive and strict governance of the party to the in-depth development.

At the second plenary session of the party in the sixth Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee, general secretary Xi Jinping made a groundbreaking point of "strengthening inner-party political culture is for improving Inner-Party Political Ecology". [1] In the report of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, he once again stressed: " We must develop a positive and healthy political culture in the Party and improve the Party's political ecosystem, resolutely correct misconduct in all its forms, and show zero tolerance for corruption. We will continue to strengthen the Party's ability to purify, improve, and reform itself, and forever maintain its close ties with the people." At the same time, it was emphasized that " We must also fully recognize the intensity and severity of the dangers of a lack of drive, incompetence, disengagement from the people, inaction, and corruption. So we must focus on solving problems, maintain strategic resolve, and ensure strict Party self-governance". [2] In short, General Secretary Xi Jinping believes that the development of a positive and healthy intra-party political culture is an important means of eliminating the "Four Dangers" and purifying the intra-party political ecology. Under this political background, this paper intends to discuss the effect of active and healthy Inner-Party political culture on "Soft adjustment" to resolve the "Four Dangers".

### 1. Resolving the "Four Dangers" Requires both "Hard Restraint" and "Soft Adjustment"

As we all know, "Four Dangers" are the "dangers" that must be highly vigilant and overcome before the whole party in the new era. They are high generalization of various unhealthy styles of work in the party. They seriously damage the party's fighting capacity, creativity and cohesion. We must combine "Hard restraint" with "Soft regulation" to resolve them.

"Hard constraint" focuses on exerting restraint, supervision and vigilance with the help of the rigid force of the legal system. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core has attached great importance to running the Party by institutional means and in accordance with rules and regulations, and has made comprehensive arrangements and achieved remarkable results. To enact related laws and regulations, such as the Communist Party of China "on the political life of the party under the new situation of several guidelines" honest self-discipline rules of the Communist Party of China "regulations on the accountability of the Communist Party of China the Chinese Communist Party disciplinary regulations" patrol regulations on the work of the Communist Party of China and the Communist Party of China work conditions etc. We will improve the system for selecting and

appointing persons with both political integrity and talent, so that speculators who engage in bribery and make connections do not have an opportunity to do so, and those who are capable and virtuous are selected and put to good use. Adhere to and implement the principle of democratic centralism: to regulate intraparty political life, deal with the complex relations within the party, effectively resist the formation of despotism, mountain-top, sectarianism and other undesirable style of work within the party. We will strengthen accountability and oversight of public power: We will implement a power list system to ensure that power is exercised in a transparent manner, and that the power entrusted to public servants by the people is subject to supervision by organizations, public opinion and the people. To formate the high-pressure situation of anti-corruption: with the heroic man to cut his wrist, scraping the bone to cure poison verve and courage to carry out anti-corruption, shouting out anti-corruption is always on the road strong slogan.

"Soft regulation" focuses on giving full play to the self-restraint effect of the party's political culture. The Inner-Party Political Culture is a kind of ideological product which integrates politics, truth and morality. Through the ideological product, the political cognition and political psychology of Party members and cadres can be influenced imperceptibly by the ideological product, and then the political behavior of Party members and cadres can be adjusted to create a national cadre with correct political consciousness, value judgment and high moral conduct. This invisible flexible function is to enable the party members and cadres to conduct self-reflection, self-analysis, self-awareness and self-revolution through two ways of personal awakening and environmental impact, so as to achieve a balanced state of "the political community, the community of destiny, the community of interests, and the community of undertakings between the Communist Party of China and the people." [3]

In short, "Hard restraint" is heteronomy and "Soft regulation" is self-discipline. They complement each other, work together, and govern both internally and externally. Since "Soft regulation" is based on the individual itself, it can produce basic, intrinsic and fundamental effects when resolving the "Four Dangers", so "Soft regulation" means is indispensable.

## **2. The Positive and Healthy Inner-Party Political Culture Plays a Soft -regulated Role in Resolving the "Four Dangers"**

First of all, The function of discernment. In his nineteen major reports, general secretary Xi Jinping emphasized the values of Communists who are loyal and honest ,fair and decent, practical and realistical as well as pure and lean ,and resolutely prevented and opposed the "six doctrines", namely individualism, decentralism, liberalism, sectarianism, departmentalism and unprincipled nice-guyism, and resolutely prevented and opposed the "two cultures", that is, circle culture, wharf culture, and resolutely oppose double-dealing and duplicity. This enables party members and cadres to have a clear judgment and discrimination of various political acts advocated, encouraged, opposed and prevented by the Party Central Committee, and effectively overcome the political paralysis of being unable to distinguish between the right and wrong of politics and the unclear political direction. The reality of the "four dangers" is very complex. Party members and cadres should have strong political sensitivity and political discrimination. The dangerous external manifestations of "mental slack" include lack of thinking, lax fighting spirit, declining willpower, not thinking of making progress, muddling along, etc. the specific forms such as work often taking form or floating on the surface, lack of the spirit of responsibility, giving up halfway, etc. run counter to the fine traditional style of arduous struggle, seeking truth from facts, seeking truth from facts and being pragmatic advocated and encouraged by the Party Central Committee. The external appearance of the danger of "insufficient ability" is that party members and cadres do not really understand the spirit of the party's documents, the theory is often divorced from practice, and the work progress is slow. The specific forms, such as the insufficient role of the party's staff, the low ability of organization and leadership, and the poor ability to resist risks and crises, are not in line with the superb governing ability required by the Party Central Committee. The external manifestation of the danger of "breaking away from the masses" is that party members and cadres ignore the masses, neglect the masses, and are not grounded in their work. The specific forms

include the unequal communication between cadres and the masses, the leaders' lack of care for the people, and formalism. This is because the party members and cadres have been eroded by the negative political culture such as inner-party circle culture, wharf culture, sectarianism, departmentalism and liberalism, thus abandoning the fine traditional style of loyalty and honesty, seeking truth from facts, and close contact with the masses. The external manifestations of the danger of "negative corruption" are extravagance and waste of Party members and cadres, cronyism and sectarianism. The specific forms of "negative corruption" are bureaucracy, decentralization, double dealing and double faced people, which deviate from the fine traditional style of hard work and honesty encouraged and carried forward by the party Central Committee.

Secondly, The function of prevention and control. The Party Central Committee advocates the construction of a positive and healthy Inner-Party Political Culture, which is to give full play to the influence of the environment on the style of cadres. It is exactly the so-called "environment also creates people" [4], which is the fundamental policy to resolve the "four dangers". This role is mainly reflected in two aspects: first, to prevent the emergence of the "four major dangers". By carrying out regular and centralized education of ideals and beliefs to supplement the "calcium" of the spirit of Party members and cadres; through the use of the glorious history and red resources of the central and state organs to enhance the party spirit and revolutionary will of Party members and cadres; by promoting Loyalty Education to the party, to enhance the patriotic feelings of Party members and cadres to share the worries and responsibilities for the party; and to carry out the education of fine traditional style of work. In order to maintain the political character of the party members, cadres and communists forever; to make party members and cadres think alike and introspect themselves when they see the virtuous by playing the exemplary and leading role around them; to publicize the positive and healthy Inner-Party Political Culture by creating the brand of Inner-Party Political Culture with department characteristics, so as to make party members and cadres follow their own example. At the same time, we should create a positive and healthy political atmosphere within the party, so that party members and cadres can imperceptibly adjust their political cognition and political psychology in the process of daily study without observing and "daily use without feeling"[5], so as to achieve the effect of preventing the "four major dangers". Secondly, we should control the development of the "four major dangers". Assuming that party members and cadres already have one or several characteristics of the "four dangers", they will firmly implement the party's political line and mass line, strictly abide by political discipline and political rules, and maintain a high degree of consistency with the Party Central Committee in the political position, political direction, political principles and political road after being baptized by a large number of party spirit education. In addition, we should respect the party constitution, strictly implement certain norms of political life within the party under the new situation, strengthen the "four characteristics" of political life within the party, oppose and resist the erosion of various negative political cultures in the party, and carry forward the fine tradition and fine style of work of the party. Even less willing to step on the "red line" of law, the "high line" of morality and the "bottom line" of conscience, and Party members and cadres who are on the way to danger or have already stepped into a dangerous situation will stop at the precipice and correct once they know their mistakes.

Finally, The function of transformation. Relevant data show that some cadres in Party organizations have one dangerous characteristic; some have two kinds, some have three or even four kinds. This kind of phenomenon is a severe challenge to build a Marxist ruling party which is always at the forefront of the times, supported by the people wholeheartedly, brave in self-revolution, able to withstand all kinds of storms and trials, and full of vigor and vitality. It is very difficult for the party organization to cultivate a qualified Communist Party member. It is necessary to carry out ideological and political education to those cadres and comrades who have not touched the legal red line, so that the latent "disease" will not develop, deteriorate or even turn to benign development. For example, for Party members and cadres with two "diseases" of spiritual slack and lack of ability, the party organization does not need to regulate them with the help of "hard constraints", but only needs to edify their "mind learning" through positive and healthy

Inner-Party Political Culture, so as to achieve the purpose of cultivating people with culture, educating people with culture, and cultivating people with culture, so as to achieve the effect of self-examination and self-government. If the "disease" carried by Party members and cadres is very serious, it has three or four dangerous characteristics. In view of this situation, the party organization should treat the disease and save the patient according to the severity of the disease. For the "patients" with three characteristics but without negative and corrupt characteristics, we should adopt a relatively soft way as far as possible, so that the "patients" can find their political identity again in the baptism of education and discipline, straighten out the political direction, and strengthen the political determination, so as to transform the "disease" into a good situation. However, if Party members and cadres have four kinds of dangerous "diseases", it shows that the political mind and body of "patients" have been eroded. In view of this kind of "patients", it is difficult for the party organization to play an effective role in guiding education, reminding and urging. This "patient" cannot regain the political character of being positive, healthy and good in a short period of time, because his main internal organs have shown a necrotic situation and must be given legal punishment and "strict control". However, while exerting the rigid power of the system, it still needs to assist the necessary ideological and political education, which is also a positive and healthy Inner-Party Political Culture to play its role in guiding party members and cadres A special way of political personality transformation.

### **3. Give Full Play to the Positive and Healthy Inner-Party Political Culture "Soft Adjustment" Role of the Focal Point**

It is needed to preach positive and healthy inner-party political culture. The promotion, development and even positive effect of any thought should be based on the subject's full understanding of the object. Similarly, a positive and healthy Inner-Party Political culture should be a compulsory and regular course for party members and cadres. The strategic thought of "Developing inner-party political culture" has not been put forward for a long time, and party members and cadres may not have a profound understanding and understanding. We should vigorously publicize the background, scientific connotation, construction significance, basic principles, goal orientation and implementation steps of the political culture within the party, so that party members and cadres can have a basic understanding of the inner-party political culture in their minds. The Communist Party of China is a big party with more than 90 million Party members and more than 4.6 million grass-roots party organizations. It is not easy to preach the inner-party political culture. It is necessary to set up some propaganda groups at different levels, sub sectors and regions to promote Party members and cadres to understand the inner-party political culture through propaganda. When preaching, we should first focus on the scientific connotation of the inner-party political culture and its core part, the values of the communists, and then point out the unhealthy style of work that the communists oppose. This will help party members and cadres to understand which behaviors are actively advocated and encouraged by the Party Central Committee, and which behaviors are severely rejected and resolutely attacked by the Party Central Committee, laying the ideological foundation for the identification and prevention of the "four major dangers". Practice has proved that the main reason party members and cadres have not stepped into the quagmire of the "four dangers" is that they have not thoroughly studied the spirit of the party's documents and that their learning and application are out of touch. Therefore, it is necessary to publicize the political culture within the party.

It is needed to carry out party spirit education and practice activities. General secretary Xi Jinping pointed out: "our party's political culture is guided by Marx's theory, guided by the Chinese excellent traditional culture, based on revolutionary culture, and with the advanced socialist culture as the main body and fully embodies the party's party spirit of the Communist Party of China." [6]General Secretary Xi Jinping summed up the foothold of the party's political culture as party culture. "The party spirit is the cornerstone for a party member and cadre to establish himself, career, speech and morality"[7], reflects the working style of leading cadres of Party members. Party spirit education is a kind of positive guidance education, which aims to make party members and cadres

continuously carry out ideological and political physical examination after being infected by a positive and healthy atmosphere, and check whether their indicators are qualified one by one. General secretary Xi Jinping asked Party organizations and Party members at all levels in the summing up of the theme of "summing up ideas" and "remembering the mission": "the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China requires" benchmarking ", scanning Party Constitution and Party Regulations "and" looking at the new expectations of the masses ", Compared with the martyrs and advanced models,[8] party spirit education is mainly through collective learning and exchange meetings, such as the mass line education organized by the Party Central Committee, the special education of "three stricts and three practicalities", the learning education of "two learning and one doing" and the theme education of "not forgetting the original intention and remembering the mission". In addition, we also carried out education on fine traditional style of work, such as criticism and self-criticism, hard work, thrift, close contact with the masses, and integration of theory with practice. On the basis of ideological education, the party spirit education should also strengthen the practical link, so that party members and cadres can digest and improve in practice.

We should grasp the typical tree model and play the demonstration effect. It is difficult and ineffective to improve the political character, cultural quality and moral cultivation of party members and cadres simply relying on organizational education. Therefore, it is of great value to create a group of advanced figures and typical units as a benchmark. To grasp the model and set an example is to make the values of the Communists three-dimensional and fresh in the real society, so that party members and cadres can more directly examine themselves and examine themselves, so as to achieve the goal of self-education. The cadres of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee should set an example and use the "key minority" to drive the "overwhelming majority" of more than 90 million people. As the saying goes, first forbid one and then others. We should give full play to the role of vanguard, model and hero of the times, and give full play to the warning role of negative examples, so as to touch the thought and soul of every Party member and cadre. The "opinions on strengthening and improving the party building of the Central Committee and state organs" issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China pointed out that the positive and healthy Inner-Party Political culture should be "cultivated by creating the brand of inner-party political culture with departmental characteristics, and the political ecology of organs with clean atmosphere should be cultivated." [9] Efforts should be made to create a number of ideological, cultural and valuable political attribute brands in the vast territory of China at different levels, sub sectors, regions and characteristics, so as to publicize the scientific connotation of the inner-party political culture, so as to connect the inner-party political culture with the real society. The selection of these brands should establish a set of strict evaluation system, constantly clarify and refine the selection index, assessment index, evaluation standard, reward and punishment mechanism, and carry out practice tracking. The brand of inner-party political culture is a "leader" that drives the whole situation locally, which has a positive leading and exemplary effect on Party organizations and Party members and cadres in the whole country, so that every organization and every party member has standards to refer to and models to follow. However, the demonstration education of both advanced figures and typical units can't take a gust of wind. It is necessary to establish a long-term mechanism to make these educations normalized and daily.

It is needed to carry forward the fine tradition of criticism and self-criticism. Criticism and self-criticism are powerful weapons to remove the Inner-Party Political dust and political micro-organisms, and are the necessary links to resolve the "four major dangers". History and practice have proved that the reason that our party has been standing in the jungle of the world and has made remarkable achievements is owing to our party's political character of self-revolution. Self-revolution is to examine and criticize ourselves all the time. However, today's party members and cadres are always afraid when carrying forward this fine tradition. Self-criticism is afraid of losing people, and criticizing others is afraid of offending others, which leads to the form of criticism and self-criticism in democratic life meeting and organizational life meeting. The modern society is complicated. There are many temptations. Party members and cadres are not careful

enough. Criticism and self-criticism "weapon" is particularly important to maintain the advanced nature and purity of the party. Criticism seems to be seeking trouble. Sometimes it can really hurt others' self-esteem. However, as long as we pay attention to methods and sincere attitude, criticism is a good medicine for ourselves and others. Spirit slack appearance, oneself may not be aware of, but other people's eyes are clear. When the ability is insufficient, one is often looking for an excuse, while others can point out the problem. When divorced from the masses, they always think that they will not have a negative impact on their future official career, but the masses are full of opinions. When they are negative and corrupt, they always have a fluke mentality, and others know it clearly. This requires that party members and cadres, in the spirit of being highly responsible to their own comrades and organizations and to the party, boldly use the sharp tools of criticism frequently. The reality is that some leading cadres regret when they are punished by law: "if someone had bitten their ears and pulled their sleeves, they would not have come to this day"[10]. Criticism can sometimes "cure the sick and save people".

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