

Pivot to the east - Chinese and Russian economists seeking to resolve the predicaments in border trade and economic cooperation

Zhao Yue none

Student (master)

Санкт-Петербургский государственный университет, Экономический факультет, Saint Petersburg, Russia

E-mail: 1843510478@qq.com

Over the past 20 years, as the political relations between China and Russia have reached to a new stage, economic and trade relations have also made great strides. However, the level of economic and trade cooperation between the three northeastern provinces of China and eastern Russia (Siberia and the Far East) is still quite moderate.

The share of the Eastern Russia region in the economic and trade cooperation between Russia and China dropped from 18% in 2014 to 14.5% in 2016; the share of the four neighboring provinces of China and Russia (Heilongjiang, Jilin, Liaoning and Inner Mongolia) declined even more deeply from 31% to 22%.

Although the rejuvenation of northeast China has been going on for nearly 10 years with Russia's Far East and Siberia, the development of docking cooperation has not made any significant progress. The reasons can be divided into three aspects: the cooperation between the two parties in the Far East lack sufficient self-confidence, both countries lack sufficient understanding of the partner and corresponding mechanisms for local cooperation. The cooperation between Russia and China lacks diversity, ideas and diversity of border contacts.

To solve this problem, China is actively promoting the "One Belt and One Road Initiative," and Russia is also building Binhai No. 1 and Binhai No. 2 transport corridors. This move undoubtedly has brought a dawn to the Russian-Chinese inter-regional cooperation. Under the framework of the "One Belt and One Road" there is a number of favorable factors for the development of the inter-regional cooperation, which can boost the growth of China's foreign investment. The emphasis should still be placed on cooperation in transport, energy, science, technology and agriculture. The northeastern provinces of China are improving business environment and attracting overseas investment.