

*The Formation of Regional Development Strategies for China's Border
Regions and the Actual Situation Thereof:
With a focus on the relationship between center and region*

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Summary

This paper, focusing attention on the development strategies aiming at the promotion of international cooperation which have been approved by the State Council for China's inland border regions, clarified the formative process by considering the situation for their specific formulation and implementation, and analyzed the relationship between center and region. It elucidated the actual situation for the portion of international strategies which local governments are allowed to take on by central government. When local governments develop economic diplomacy with neighboring countries, they are under various constraints, in terms of delegation of authority, organization, and financing, etc., and they are limited in the respect of taking on a role for the nation as a whole. In addition, regarding the priorities for local government measures, there is a tendency for them to be located in the major cities within provinces, and the budget is limited for sharing with the distant border areas with their low economic activity. As seen in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Jilin Province, the international cooperative activity by local governments has been greatly influenced by the unstable international situation.

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