经济高质量发展为全面建设社会主义现代化国家奠定坚实物质技术基础

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摘 要：实现社会主义现代化是中国共产党一以贯之的奋斗主题，而经济现代化是实现社会主义现代化的物质基础。随着社会主要矛盾的变化和经济发展约束条件的转换，高质量发展成为未来长期中国经济发展的主题，要求实现质的有效提升和量的合理增长。在党中央的坚强领导下，我们已经在构建高水平社会主义市场经济体制，建设现代化产业体系，全面推进乡村振兴，促进区域协调发展，推进高水平对外开放等领域取得了深刻变革与显著成效。新征程上，面对经济发展的新特征、新要求、新机遇和新挑战，更应深化并加快上述领域建设，解决发展中的卡点瓶颈，谋划新方略，寻求新突破，以经济高质量发展奠定全面建设社会主义现代化国家的坚实物质技术基础。

关键词：社会主义现代化 中国式现代化 高质量发展 经济现代化

JEL 分类号：E61, O21, P21

一、引言

中国式现代化，是中国共产党领导的社会主义现代化。[①]中国共产党建立百年来，团结带领中国人民所进行的一切奋斗，就是为了把中国建设成为现代化强国，实现中华民族伟大复兴。[②]在中国共产党领导中国人民进行革命、建设、改革的伟大实践中，中国式现代化得以萌发、探索、开辟，并成功推进和拓展，定型铸魂于中国特色社会主义新时代。历史经验表明，发展是党执政兴国的第一要务，实现现代化必须坚持以经济建设为中心。现代化作为由传统社会向现代社会的世界性历史变革，包含了经济、政治、文化、思想等多体系全方位的大转型。在国家现代化进程中，经济现代化作为其先导与动力，为其他领域的现代化建设提供经济基础、物质保障与有力支撑。因此，要走好中国式现代化道路，离不开经济领域的科学谋划与系统实施。

在改革开放以来中国举世瞩目的增长奇迹下，社会生产力快速提升，人民生活水平显著提高。随着中国特色社会主义进入新时代，中国社会主要矛盾已经由“人民日益增长的物质文化需要同落

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① 参见习近平：《高举中国特色社会主义伟大旗帜 为全面建设社会主义现代化国家而团结奋斗——在中国共产党第二十次全国代表大会上的报告》，http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2022-10/25/content_5721685.htm。

② 参见习近平：《新发展阶段贯彻新发展理念必然要求构建新发展格局》，http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2022-08/31/content_5707604.htm。

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后的社会生产之间的矛盾”转化为“人民日益增长的美好生活需要和不平衡不充分的发展之间的矛盾”，[③]中国经济发展也进入新时代，要素成本优势减弱、资源环境约束趋紧、国际科技竞争强化，迫切要求转变经济发展方式、优化经济结构、转换经济增长动力，实现经济高质量发展，于更高层次奠定全面建设社会主义现代化国家的坚实物质技术基础。正如党的二十大报告指出，“高质量发展是全面建设社会主义现代化国家的首要任务。发展是党执政兴国的第一要务。没有坚实的物质技术基础，就不可能全面建成社会主义现代化强国”。[④]

高质量发展是中国式现代化的本质要求之一，其要义是实现质的有效提升和量的合理增长。张军扩等(2019)认为，高质量发展是以满足人民日益增长的美好生活需要为目标的高效率、公平和绿色可持续的发展，既是经济增长方式和路径的转变，更是一个体制改革和机制转换的过程。高质量发展内涵可从系统平衡观、经济发展观、民生指向观三个视角理解，包含发展方式、发展结果、民生共享等多个维度(赵剑波等，2019)。其中，经济的较快增长与人均GDP水平的不断提高是不可或缺的基础，是完成基本实现社会主义现代化重要任务的关键目标(刘伟和陈彦斌，2021)。而系统性地创造发展优势，走符合实际和具有特色的道路，以各种有效和可持续方式满足人民不断增长的多方面需要，则是高质量发展的本质性特征(洪银兴等，2018)。

在中国特色社会主义新时代，更加有质、更加有效、更加公平、更可持续、更加安全是中国经济发展的航向标，经济高质量发展已经成为全面建设社会主义现代化国家的关键路径，已有众多研究论证了其重要意义。任保平(2018)认为，新时代中国经济已由高速增长阶段转向高质量发展阶段，受资源和环境条件的约束，必须扬弃过去数量型的经济发展模式，探索高质量发展道路。王一鸣(2020)则指出国际力量对比变化和大国博弈加剧要求中国转向高质量发展，以把握新一轮科技革命和产业变革机遇，应对经济全球化退潮和全球产业链供应链调整的挑战。徐现祥等(2018)的研究表明，将经济增长目标转向经济发展质量，地方政府将政策工具转向创新驱动发展，能够实现经济高质量和可持续发展，终结中国经济崩溃论。

走向高质量发展，社会经济系统的综合转型是必由之路(高培勇等，2019)。本文以经济高质量发展如何更好为全面建设社会主义现代化国家服务这一视角出发，紧密结合党的二十大报告中重点部署经济高质量发展的五大方面，即构建高水平社会主义市场经济体制、建设现代化产业体系、全面推进乡村振兴、促进区域协调发展、推进高水平对外开放，系统分析经济高质量发展的实践之维。从增长动力看，必须深化改革，构建高水平市场经济体制，破除体制机制障碍，进一步释放经济发展活力；必须转向创新驱动，建设现代化产业体系，依靠科技创新和知识型人才实现产业结构转

[③] 参见习近平：《决胜全面建成小康社会 夺取新时代中国特色社会主义伟大胜利——在中国共产党第十九次全国代表大会上的报告》，http://www.gov.cn/zhuanti/2017-10/27/content_5234876.htm。

[④] 参见习近平：《高举中国特色社会主义伟大旗帜 为全面建设社会主义现代化国家而团结奋斗——在中国共产党第二十次全国代表大会上的报告》，http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2022-10/25/content_5721685.htm。

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型升级，创造经济发展新动能。从发展目标看，必须注重协调发展，以全面推进乡村振兴联动城乡协调发展，以促进区域协调发展打造空间发展新布局，从而释放内需潜能，优化资源的空间配置。从发展战略看，必须推动高水平对外开放，形成国际合作和竞争新优势，化国际市场有利因素为我所用，服务国内经济社会发展大局。通过历史性成就梳理可以发现：高水平社会主义市场经济体制是实现经济高质量发展的制度保障；建设现代化产业体系是实现经济高质量发展的核心基础；全面推进乡村振兴是实现经济高质量发展的有力支撑；促进区域协调发展是实现经济高质量发展的系统布局；高水平对外开放是实现经济高质量发展的外源动力。面向新征程，应基于历史经验和现实条件灵活设计新方略，本文通过分析高质量发展阶段面临的重要问题，能为经济高质量发展提供经验借鉴和具体抓手，从而助力社会主义现代化强基赋能，为全面建设社会主义现代化国家奠定坚实物质技术基础。

二、高水平社会主义市场经济体制是实现经济高质量发展的制度保障

社会主义市场经济体制是马克思主义基本原理同中国具体实际相结合的一项伟大创举，它突破了传统马克思主义政治经济学以及西方主流经济学中公有制与市场经济不相容的教条，探索了一条在生产力落后国家进行社会主义经济建设的成功道路。社会主义市场经济体制是中国改革开放以来取得举世瞩目发展成就的经济制度基础，也是中国加快建设现代化经济体系，构建“双循环”新发展格局，实现经济高质量发展的制度保障。党的十八大以来，以习近平同志为核心的党中央充分发挥经济体制改革的牵引作用，不断探索有效市场与有为政府的有效结合方式。如今，中国特色社会主义市场经济体制逐渐从不断完善走向成熟定型，经济体制改革在市场主体改革、市场体系改革、宏观经济治理改革等方面取得显著成就。

（一）历史性成就

第一，市场主体活力有效激发。十年来，国有资本国有企业改革纵深推进，全面完成国有企业公司制改制，确立企业独立市场主体地位，深入实施劳动、人事、分配等制度改革。十年来，国有资本国有企业在促进经济高质量发展中起到了突出作用。2012~2021年间全国国有资本系统监管企业资产总额年均增长15.4%。其中，中央企业资产总额在2012~2021年年均增长10.3%。中央企业利润总额年均增长7.5%。2013年以来中央企业累计上缴税费18.2万亿元，约占全国税收收入的1/8；“十三五”时期，国有企业累计上缴税费17.6万亿元，约占全国税收收入的1/4。[⑤]十年来，国有经济布局不断优化、结构持续调整，如图1所示中央企业重组整合，其数量从117家调整至98家，其涉及国

[⑤] 数据来源：国务院国有资产监督管理委员会官网，http://www.sasac.gov.cn/。

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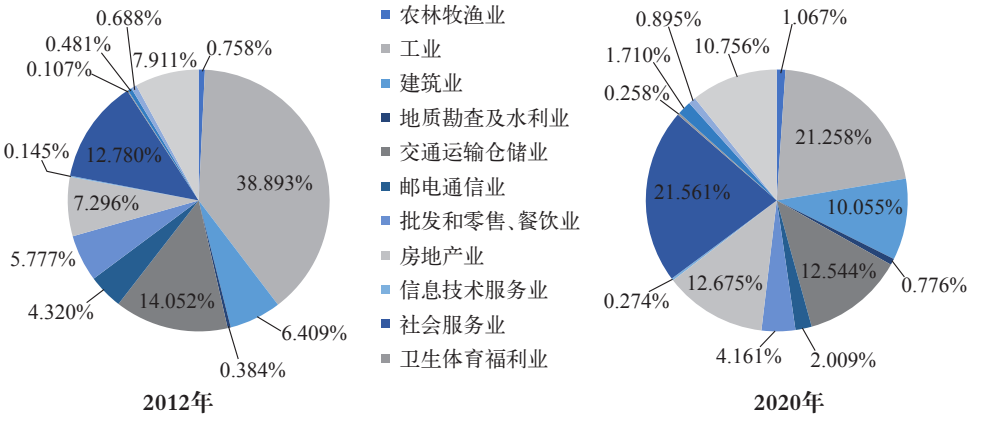

图1：2012年与2020年中国国有企业资产总额在行业中分布的对比

资料来源：数据整理自《中国财政年鉴(2021)》。

家安全、国民经济命脉和国计民生等领域的营业收入占总体比重超过70%。[⑥]石油、天然气、铁路、民航、电力、电信、军工等重点行业竞争性环节有序放开，国有经济与民营经济在产业上下游、在垄断性产业与竞争性产业间的分布和合作更加合理有效。混合所有制经济稳健发展。目前，中央企业混合所有制户数占比超过70%，地方国有企业混合所有制户数占比达54%。[⑦]十年来，中国毫不动摇鼓励、支持、引导非公有制经济发展，为民营企业发展打造公平竞争环境、创造广阔市场空间。2012~2021年民营企业从1085万家增长到4457万家，实现数量翻两番增长。

第二，市场体系建设持续完善。十年来，市场决定价格机制基本形成。截至2021年底，全社会商品和服务价格市场化程度已达97.5%，中央定价项目累计缩减约85%，地方定价项目缩减约70%。[⑧]与此同时，垄断行业科学定价机制、促进绿色发展价格机制、重要商品价格调控机制也在逐步建立。中国价格总水平始终保持在合理区间，如图2所示，2012~2021年全国居民消费价格指数年均涨幅在2%左右，在国际大宗商品价格不稳定性明显提升的大环境下，中国依然保持了国内价格的相对稳定，为国民经济平稳健康发展提供了有力支撑。十年来，各类妨碍统一市场和公平竞争的规定做法逐步被清理废除。市场准入“全国一张清单”全面推开，立法、执法、司法全方位产权保护制度体系逐步形成，公平竞争审查制度逐步建立，社会信用体系建设完善。“放管服”全面推进，中国建立了全覆盖、全方位的各级行政服务体系。在不断提升政府服务效能的进程中，营商环境持续优化，中国在全球营商环境排名中从2013年的第96位跃升至2020年的第31位。[⑨]十年来，中国深化要素市场化配置改革，着力解决土地要素价格扭曲、供需错配；促进户籍制度改革下劳动力合理有序顺畅流动；

⑥ 数据来源：国务院国有资产监督管理委员会《中央企业高质量发展报告(2022)》，http://www.sasac.gov.cn/n2588020/n2877938/n2879671/n2879673/c26508617/content.html。

⑦ 数据来源：国务院国有资产监督管理委员会官网，http://www.sasac.gov.cn/。

⑧ 数据来源：国家发展和改革委员会，https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/。

⑨ 数据来源：世界银行《全球营商环境报告2020》，https://archive.doingbusiness.org/en/reports/global-reports/doing-business-2020。

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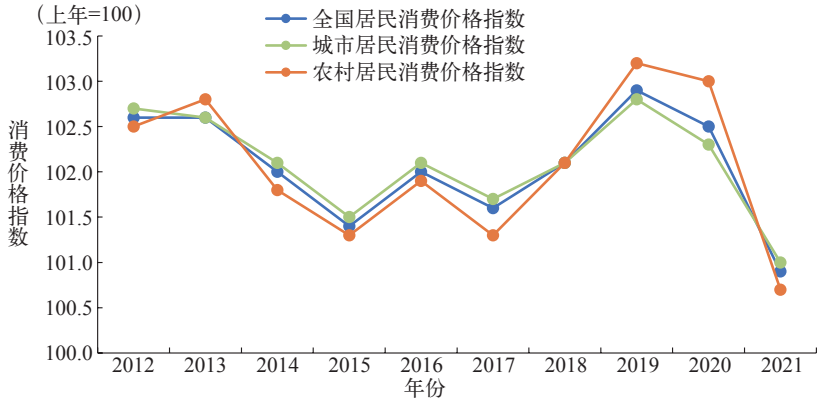

图2：2012~2021年居民消费价格指数趋势

资料来源：数据整理自国家统计局。

完善资本市场基础制度，更好地服务实体；强化知识产权、专利保护，畅通科技成果转化机制；保护数据资源安全，推进数据开放共享。目前中国已经形成了100多万亿元经济总量、14亿人口、4亿左右中等收入群体、1.6亿户市场主体的庞大国内市场，随着全国统一大市场的加快建设，市场规模效应愈加凸显，中国市场将成为自主创新的有力“培养皿”，也将成为吸引全球资源要素的强大“引力场”。

第三，宏观经济治理改革成效显著。十年来，党中央正确认识中国经济发展面临的新变化和新挑战，适应和引领经济发展新常态，坚持以提高经济发展质量和效益为中心，稳定经济增速，优化经济结构，培育经济新动能。2013~2021年，中国国内生产总值年均增长6.6%，高于同期世界2.6%和发展中经济体3.7%的平均增长水平。[⑩]从经济结构来看，中国现已处于工业化后期向后工业化时代的过渡阶段，最终消费支出对国内生产总值增长贡献已多年超越投资成为推动中国经济增长的第一引擎，符合工业化后期转入消费驱动的内生型增长模式。十年来，中国宏观调控体系不断完善，以中长期发展规划为战略导向，以财政政策和货币政策为主要手段，产业政策、科技政策、环境政策、社会政策等其他政策协同发力。注重全局视角与统筹兼顾，科学把握生产、分配、流通、消费各环节的整体关联，从系统论出发优化经济治理方式，在多重目标中寻求动态平衡。同时，创新宏观调控方式，综合利用区间、定向、相机调控、逆周期和跨周期调节等手段，保持经济在合理区间稳定运行。面对新冠肺炎疫情全球大流行的重大风险挑战，世界各国经济陷入严重收缩或增长放缓。如表1所示，得益于中国特色宏观调控体系的有力支持，中国于2020年第二季度快速开启了主要经济指标复苏步伐，如表1所示，得益于中国特色宏观调控体系的有力支持，中国于2020年第二季度快速开启了主要经济指标复苏步伐，并成为2020年全球唯一实现经济正增长的主要经济体。2021年中国经济增速显著高于世界平均水平。2022年中国在国内外多重超预期因素冲击下经济依然保持了3%的增速。2020~2022年这三年间中国平均经济增速在全球主要经济体中名列前茅。

⑩ 数据来源：国家统计局官网，http://www.stats.gov.cn/xxgk/jd/sjjd2020/202209/t20220913_1888196.html。

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表1：新冠肺炎疫情冲击下全球经济增速（单位：%）

年份	世界平均	发达经济体	发展中经济体	中国	美国	欧元区	日本	印度	东盟五国
2020	−3.1	−4.5	−2.1	2.3	−3.4	−6.3	−4.6	−7.3	−3.4
2021	6.0	5.2	6.6	8.1	5.7	5.2	1.7	8.7	3.4
2022	3.4	2.7	3.9	3.0	2.0	3.5	1.4	6.8	5.2
三年平均	2.0	1.0	2.7	4.4	1.4	0.7	−0.5	2.5	1.7

资料来源：数据整理于国际货币基金组织（IMF）。

注：由于时限原因，2022年数据为国际货币基金组织（IMF）于2023年1月30日发布的《世界经济展望报告》中的最新估计值。

（二）新征程新方略

在全面建设社会主义现代化国家新征程上，应更加清醒地认识到中国特色社会主义市场经济体制改革仍然任重道远，产权制度深化改革、统一开放竞争有序的市场体系建设、反垄断与防止资本无序扩张等领域仍然存在亟待解决的问题。“改革关头勇者胜，我们将以敢于啃硬骨头、敢于涉险滩的决心，义无反顾推进改革。”[⑪]

这就要求，一是继续建设高标准的市场体系。从制度入手，强化政策引导，坚持反垄断政策的有效实施，设置政策“红绿灯”，在建立健全市场准入制度的同时，规范市场公平，合理管控资本在市场中的流动和分配。加强监管力度，打造“政府-市场”互动平台，强化制度和政策的宣传工作，提高企业公平竞争意识。完善反“平台垄断”的体制机制，充实反垄断的监管理论，建立全方位、网络化、串并联共同布局的市场监管体系，实现市场中的全链条、全领域监管。

二是充分发挥有效市场和有为政府有机结合的体制优势。在数字经济全面渗透到各行各业的背景下，导致“市场失灵”的信息不对称问题得到有效缓解，市场这只“看不见的手”变得更加有效，因此要持续坚持市场化、法制化原则，充分发挥市场在资源配置中的决定性作用。要突出政府的引导能力，积极引导市场公平竞争，完善保护产权的制度体系，充分激发各类市场主体的活力。要坚持“两个毫不动摇”，在鼓励“专精特新”激发市场活力的同时，保证国有经济与民营经济的良性互动和国有经济在关键领域的核心地位，利用国有企业与政府联系紧密的天然优势，充分调动国有企业创新积极性，特别是要引导国有企业对具有强知识溢出效应的基础性、颠覆式原始创新的投入和研发，强化国有企业在国家创新体系中的领头羊地位。

三、建设现代化产业体系是实现经济高质量发展的核心基础

加快建设现代化产业体系，是筑牢现代化经济体系的核心和关键，也能为现代化经济体系的

⑪ 参见《习近平在华盛顿州当地政府和美国友好团体联合欢迎宴会上的演讲》，http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2015-09/23/content_2937427.htm。

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其他有机组成部分提供强有力的支撑，更是构建“双循环”新发展格局的经济基石，从而助力高质量发展取得显著成效。实体经济是国家经济的立身之本，制造业是实体经济的重要基础。当前，中国已建成世界上最为完整的产业体系，拥有世界上最为庞大的制造业规模。但要继续攀登，靠创新驱动来实现转型升级，通过技术创新、产业创新，在产业链上不断由中低端迈向高端。党的十八大以来，以习近平同志为核心的党中央高度重视实体经济特别是制造业发展，做出了构建现代化产业体系的重大战略决策。如今，现代化产业体系的建设在制造业的规模与质量、产业发展模式以及优势产业集群等领域已经取得了一系列历史性成就。

（一）历史性成就

第一，形成产业门类齐全的制造业生产体系，极具韧性和规模经济潜力。十年来，如图3所示，中国工业增加值从2012年的20.9万亿元增长到2021年的37.3万亿元，年均增长6.63%，工业占全球比重从18.3%提升至24.7%，制造业占全球比重从22.5%提升至近30%，十年中均保持世界第一制造业大国地位。[12]中国是唯一拥有联合国产业分类目录中所有工业门类的国家，具备多元化的生产结构，能够更好地利用资源，提高生产效率，应对市场的变化。当市场需求增加时，中国完备的制造业生产体系能够快速增加生产能力，从而避免出现供应短缺的情况；当市场需求减少时，能够快速调整生产结构，从而规避生产过剩造成的损失。通过跨国对比研究发现，在人均GDP大致相同时期，中国人均生铁和人均粗钢产量高于英美德法意，钢铁产能在总量和人均产量两个维度上的优势都很明显，除钢铁产业外，中国机械、电子、化工等其它产业亦表现出相同特征，充分体现了中国规模化经济优势，具有广阔的发展前景。

第二，产业发展模式稳步从规模速度粗放型增长向质量效率集约型增长转化，产业结构不断优化升级。研发投入是内生经济增长的重要动力，专利产出是技术和知识密集型产业发展的源头活水，十年来，中国的政府科技投入引导力度不断加大，研究与试验发展经费支出快速提升，发明专利申请授权数迅速增加。如图4所示，中国研发投入从2012年的1.03万亿元增长至2021年的2.80万亿元，年均增长11.7%，其中高技术产业研发投入从2012年的0.15万亿元增长至2021年的0.46万亿元，占比上升了2个百分点，年均增长13.4%；发明专利申请授权数从2012年的21.7万项增长至2021年的69.6万项，年均增长13.8%。[13]研发投入浇灌科技之花，战略性新兴产业硕果累累。十年来，中国新一代信息技术产业、生物产业、新材料产业、新能源产业等异军突起，以新材料产业为例，中国化工新材料产量从2016年的1536万吨增长至2021年的2653万吨，年均增长11.55%，诸多高技术产业均实现跨越式发展，成为引领建设现代化产业体系的中坚力量。

第三，优势产业集群初步形成，产品质量和竞争力不断提升。十年来，中国形成了相互联系、相

[12] 数据来源：工业和信息化部，https://www.miit.gov.cn/xwdt/szyw/art/2022/art_73e8ef1b62b14926ae503f0bfe63b289.html。
[13] 数据来源：国家统计局官网，http://www.stats.gov.cn/。

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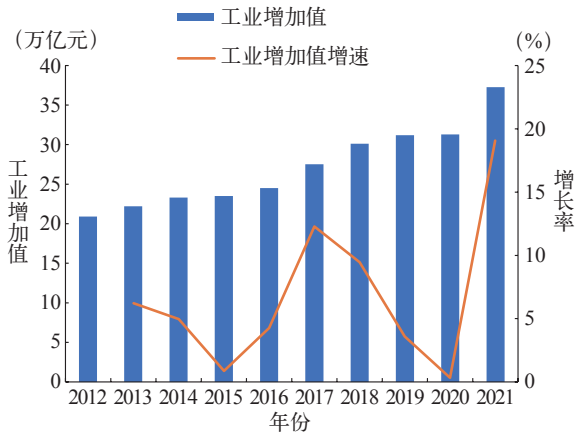

图3：2012~2021年中国工业增加值增长情况

资料来源：数据整理自国家统计局。

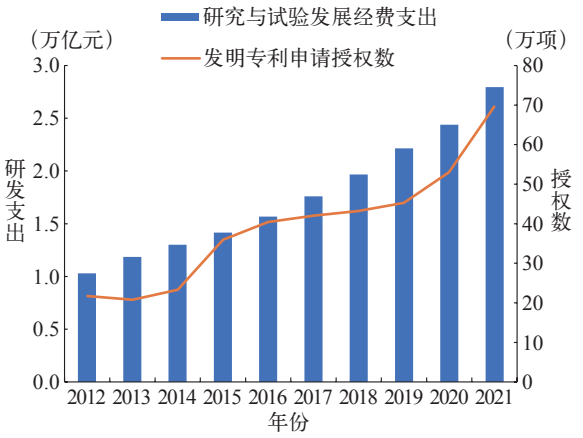

图4：2012~2021年中国研发创新增长情况

资料来源：数据整理自国家统计局。

互协作、相互促进的优势产业集群。借鉴Lafay指数衡量比较优势相对大小，利用联合国Comtrade数据库中中国2021年进出口贸易数据进行产业层面测算[⑭]，可以发现中国六成产业的Lafay指数大于0，即具备竞争优势，优势产业集群初步形成。其中海关编码目录第84、94、95、73、61章等产业门类的Lafay指数大于1，即机械、家具、玩具、钢铁、纺织等产业，是中国产业体系中的龙头产业，发挥支撑性作用，并且在新一代信息技术助力下不断培育发展新动能。2020年中国云计算整体市场规模超2000亿元，为优势产业转型升级提供数字基础设施保障；2021年中国机器人全行业营业收入超过1300亿元，其中工业机器人产量达36.6万台，为优势产业发展插上自动化的翅膀。十年来，中国优势产业生产效率不断提升，利用联合国统计司（United Nations Statistics Division）数据库计算中国分产业劳动效率可以发现，如表2所示，2012~2020年，中国纺织业劳动效率年均增长率为9.57%，钢铁产业为9.81%，机械制造业为5.00%，家具制造业为4.70%，其余产业亦于优势产业带动下实现长足进步，产业体系的总体效率更高、生产模式更新、成本控制更好，实现了提质增效。哈佛增长实验室（Harvard Growth Lab）的数据表明，过去十年间，中国的经济复杂度指标（ECI）排名提升幅度位列全球前三甲，产品的多样性和技术含量都有了显著提升，高质量发展之路行稳致远。

（二）新征程新方略

在全面建设社会主义现代化国家新征程上，现代化产业体系的建设引领中国经济增长模式发生实质性转变，正在实现从要素驱动模式向创新驱动模式的跃迁。应更加清醒地认识到，虽然中国已经成为了世界第一制造大国，但距离成为世界前列的制造业强国仍有一段距离，“大而不强，全而不优”的问题并未得到根本改善。历史逻辑表明中国优势产业领先地位源于成本竞争优势，而当前

[⑭] 计算方法参考LAFAY, G. “The measurement of revealed comparative advantages”. In: DAGENAIS, M. G. & MUET, P.-A. (eds.) *International Trade Modelling*. London: Chapman & Hall,1992.

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表2：2012～2020年中国分行业劳动效率

行业	年均增长率(%)	行业	年均增长率(%)
食品、饮料制造业	6.73	橡胶制品业	6.65
烟草制品业	6.81	非金属制品业	7.02
纺织业	9.57	金属冶炼及加工业	9.81
纺织服装制造业	8.66	金属制品业	6.05
皮革制品业	6.93	机械制造业	5.00
木材加工及制品业	9.32	电子设备制造业	−15.51
造纸业	8.49	电气机械制造业	5.83
印刷业	4.94	交通运输设备制造业	7.23
石油加工业	5.83	家具制造业	4.70
化学制品业	6.71		

资料来源：据UNSD数据计算所得。

中国产业发展优势已逐步转向规模化经济，亟待通过超大规模市场优势反哺生产领域、深化产业分工、提升产业高度，把握住第四次工业革命的重大历史性机遇。

这就要求，一是坚持深化改革，进一步释放中国产业规模化经济优势。在发展导向上，要坚持把发展经济的着力点放在实体经济上，推进新型工业化，发挥好中国优势产业的引领作用，加快产业结构转型升级。在制度建设上，构建全国统一大市场，完善产权保护、市场准入、公平竞争、社会信用等市场经济制度，释放超大规模市场反哺优势企业的引致效应；深化要素市场化改革，优化营商环境，发挥国家发展规划的战略导向作用，整合优势产业资源，避免重复建设和低效浪费，释放中国产能优势的规模经济效应。

二是通过前沿技术前瞻指引提高优势产业自主创新能力和国际竞争力，抓住新一轮科技革命和产业变革的重大机遇。在产业提质增效方面，应推动战略性新兴产业融合集群发展，通过新一代信息技术赋能传统优势产业，推动产业高端化、智能化、绿色化发展；应加快发展数字经济，促进数字经济和优势产业深度融合，开辟产业交叉的新赛道，兑现中国潜在优势产业潜力。在产业安全发展方面，加快补齐关键核心技术领域短板，增强产业链供应链韧性，避免受制于人，从而实现在全过程、全环节中巩固中国优势产业。

四、全面推进乡村振兴是实现经济高质量发展的有力支撑

中国是农业大国，重农固本是安民之基、治国之要。只有深刻理解并妥善解决农业、农村、农民问题，才能真正实现经济高质量发展。党的十八大以来，以习近平同志为核心的党中央坚持把解决好“三农”问题作为全党工作的重中之重，全面深化农村改革，组织推进脱贫攻坚战，在完成消除绝对贫困的艰巨任务后，又多措并举推进脱贫攻坚成果与乡村振兴有效衔接。如今，农业强、农村美、

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农民富的格局加速形成，乡村振兴已经取得了一系列历史性成就。

（一）历史性成就

第一，历史性消除绝对贫困，踏上共同富裕新征程。十年来，党中央把脱贫攻坚摆在治国理政的突出位置。如图5所示，2012~2020年平均每年1000多万人脱贫，数量相当于一个中等规模国家的人口。贫困人口收入水平显著提高，贫困地区农村居民人均可支配收入在2013~2020年年均增长11.6%，比全国农村平均增速高出2.3个百分点，脱贫群众不愁吃、不愁穿，饮水安全、住房安全、义务教育、基本医疗都有保障。[15]2020年，现行标准下9899万农村贫困人口全部脱贫，832个贫困县全部摘帽，12.8万个贫困村全部出列，区域性整体贫困得到解决，完成了消除绝对贫困的艰巨任务，使得接近世界1/5的人口摆脱了绝对贫困，为全球减贫事业发展和人类发展进步做出了巨大的贡献。中国农村地区正式迈上共同富裕的新征程。

第二，高度重视粮食安全，农业生产取得新成就。十年来，党中央把粮食安全作为治国理政的头等大事，提出确保谷物基本自给、口粮绝对安全的新粮食安全观，牢牢把握粮食安全主动权，带领亿万人民走出了一条中国特色粮食安全之路。如表3所示，2015~2021年中国粮食产量连续7年稳定在1.3万亿斤以上，2021年粮食产量再创历史新高，达13657亿斤，人均粮食占有量达483公斤，高于400公斤国际公认粮食安全线。随着居民生活水平的不断提高，消费需求从“吃得饱”转向“吃得好”，中国农产品品种也日臻丰富，品质持续优化升级，农产品质量安全例行监测合格率稳定在97%以上。[16]

第三，持续推进创新驱动，农业现代化迈上新台阶。十年来，党中央多次强调农业科技自立自

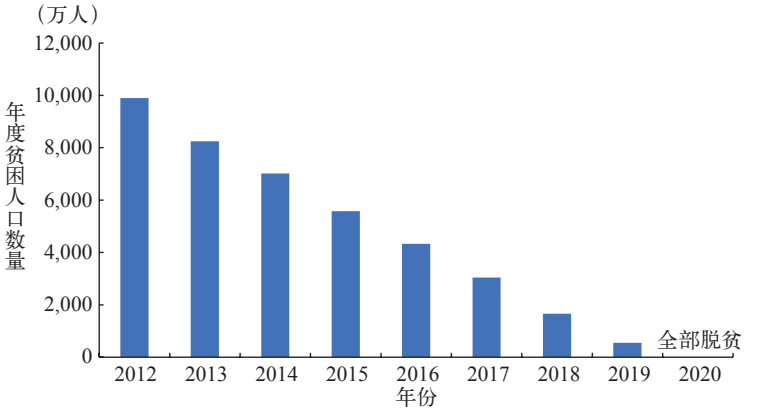

图5：2012~2020年全国农村贫困人口变动情况

资料来源：数据整理自《人类减贫的中国实践》白皮书。

[15] 数据来源：《人类减贫的中国实践》白皮书，http://www.scio.gov.cn/ztk/dtzt/44689/45216/index.htm。
[16] 数据来源：农业农村部，http://www.moa.gov.cn/。

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表3: 2012~2021年中国粮食产量及播种面积

年份	粮食产量（亿斤）	人均粮食产量（公斤）	粮食作物播种面积（千公顷）	粮食单位面积产量（公斤/公顷）
2012	12245	452.1	114368.04	5208.8
2013	12610	462.49	115907.54	5353.1
2014	12793	466.26	117455.18	5445.9
2015	13212	478.75	118962.81	5553.0
2016	13209	475.89	119230.06	5539.2
2017	13232	473.86	117989.06	5607.4
2018	13158	469	117038.21	5621.2
2019	13277	471.57	116063.6	5719.6
2020	13390	474.45	116768.17	5733.5
2021	13657	483.5	117630.82	5805.0

资料来源：数据整理自国家统计局官网。

强，不断优化农业基础设施布局，加快推进农业关键核心技术攻关。中国农林水务支出由2012年的11974亿元增长至2021年的22146亿元，涨幅近一倍，为稳定农业生产提供有力支持。截至2021年，中国农业机械总动力达到10.8亿千瓦，农作物耕种收综合机械化率超过71%，机械化助力农业生产换挡提速。[17]此外，中国累计建成9亿亩高标准农田，配套建设一批现代化灌区，正在加快推动由“靠天吃饭”的传统农业向“靠科技吃饭”的智慧农业快速转变。如图6所示，2012~2021年中国农业科技进步贡献率由54.5%提高到61.5%，农业科技整体水平已从世界第二方阵跨入第一方阵。[18]

第四，大力建设美丽乡村，农村焕发新面貌。十年来，农村公共基础设施建设扎实推进，农村人居环境显著改善，农村基本公共服务水平逐步提升。截至2021年底，87.3%的村通公共交通，99.0%的村通宽带互联网，94.2%的村安装了有线电视。[19]农村基础设施的不断完善推动了乡村产业蓬勃发展，电商直播、休闲旅游等新业态不断涌现。2021年末，有电子商务配送站点的村超过330000个，开展休闲农业和乡村旅游接待的村落近50000个。如图7所示，农村电商物流指数快速增长，以2015年1月为基期，截至2021年末，该指数已增长至基期的10倍以上，农村电商正成为乡村振兴重要的增长极。与此同时，农村生活方式也在加快转变，截至2021年末，农村卫生厕所普及率超过70%，生活污水集中处理或部分集中处理的村达47.6%，有卫生院的乡镇占比达90.8%，平均每个村拥有至少一个卫生室。[20]乡村更加美丽宜居，公共服务更加便利可及。

（二）新征程新方略

在全面建设社会主义现代化国家新征程上，最艰巨最繁重的任务仍然在农村。当前，“三农”工

[17] 数据来源：国家统计局官网，http://www.stats.gov.cn/xxgk/jd/sjjd2020/202209/t20220914_1888221.html。
[18] 数据来源：农业农村部，http://www.moa.gov.cn/。
[19] 数据来源：国家统计局官网，http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjsj/tjgb/nypcgb/qgnypcgb/201712/t20171215_1563589.html。
[20] 数据来源：国家统计局官网，http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjsj/tjgb/nypcgb/qgnypcgb/201712/t20171215_1563589.html。

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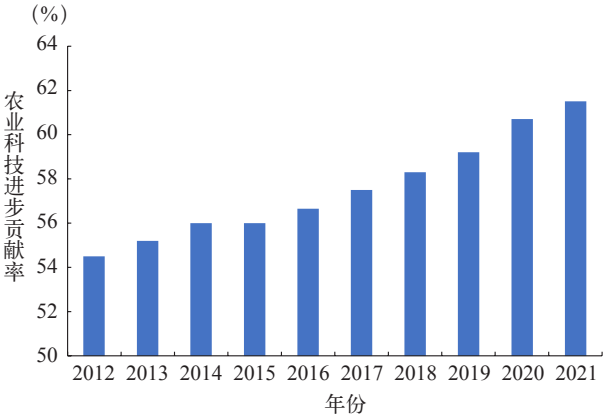

图6：2012~2021年全国农业科技进步贡献率变动情况

资料来源：数据整理自中国农业农村科技部。

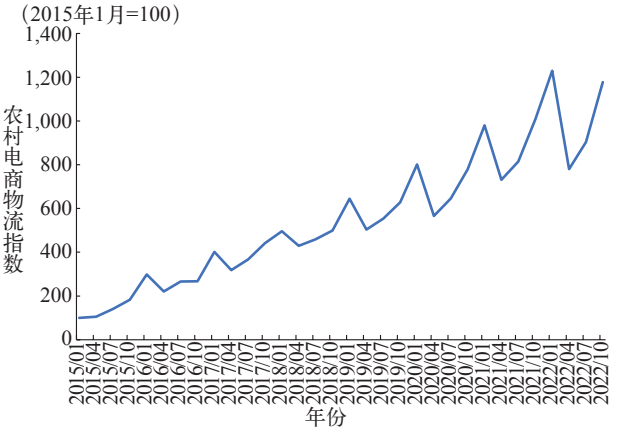

图7：2015~2022年农村电商物流指数增长情况

资料来源：数据整理自中国物流与采购联合会。

作重心已历史性转向全面推进乡村振兴。要继续坚持农业农村优先发展，加快提高农业关键技术自主创新，加速补齐农村基础设施和公共服务的短板和薄弱环节，大力推动农业农村现代化，为中国式现代化提供强有力支撑。

这就要求，一是坚持城乡融合发展，畅通城乡要素流动，率先在都市圈探索形成示范并推广复制。随着中国城镇化进入到成熟、完善、提高的新阶段，科学研究、技术创新、管理咨询、金融法律等职能进一步在都市圈核心城市集聚，而制造业、加工业等产业进一步向都市圈外围地区转移。应以都市圈为引导，在国内发育较成熟的都市圈周边深入探索城乡融合发展，聚焦要素流动、人员流通、权益流转等核心方面，破解制约城乡融合发展的体制机制障碍，形成示范效应并加以推广，引领带动全国城乡融合发展。

二是全方位夯实粮食安全根基，强化农业科技和装备支撑，确保中国人的饭碗牢牢端在自己手中。推进藏粮于地，落实最严格的耕地保护制度。加强用途管制，规范占补平衡，强化土地流转用途监管，坚决守住18亿亩耕地红线，逐步把15.5亿亩永久基本农田建设成高标准农田。推进藏粮于技，推动中国种业高质量发展。要推进种业领域国家重大创新平台建设，加强基础性前沿性研究，加强种质资源收集、保护和开发利用，加快生物育种产业化步伐。

三是发展乡村特色产业，拓展农民增收致富渠道，建设宜居宜业和美乡村。继续巩固脱贫攻坚成果，将工作重心从绝对贫困转向相对贫困、散点贫困、偶发贫困、能力贫困、代际贫困和精神贫困等处，提升低收入人群稳收、增收、创收能力。统筹考虑资源禀赋、区位条件、产业基础、市场需求等多重因素，构建地域特色鲜明、创新创业活跃、业态类型丰富、利益联结紧密的现代乡村特色产业体系。加快推进农业产业链延伸，推进农商文旅体结合，促进特色农产品深加工，拓宽农民增收致富渠道。

四是发展新型农村集体经济，深化农村土地改革，更好支撑助力中国式现代化。大力发展新型

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农村集体经济。建立新型农村集体经济组织，对农村内碎片化的资源进行集中收储，然后引进专业化的经营团队进行开发利用，与新型农村集体经济组织达成协商一致的合作协议，确保资源高效利用、村民收益分红实惠、新型农村集体组织发展壮大。持续深化农村土地改革。进一步深化完善农村土地“三权分置”、集体产权制度、宅基地制度等重大改革的本地化、场景化实施机制，赋予农民更加充分的财产权益，保障进城落户农民合法土地权益，为农村农业现代化提供强大保障。

五、促进区域协调发展是实现经济高质量发展的系统布局

中国幅员辽阔、人口众多，各地区自然资源禀赋差别之大在世界上是少有的，统筹区域发展从来都是一个重大问题。[21]所谓区域协调发展，是指不同区域之间良性的分工和互动关系，以及由此形成的比较理想的发展格局。彰显优势，以区域协调发展为抓手，构建协调联动的区域发展体系，促进区域良性互动、推进城乡融合发展，是实现经济高质量发展的系统布局。党的十八大以来，以习近平同志为核心的党中央把促进区域协调发展摆在更加重要的位置，部署并推动了一系列区域重大战略。如今，区域协调发展新格局正加快形成。

（一）历史性成就

第一，区域发展相对差距持续缩小。新中国成立初期，中国区域发展奉行平衡布局；改革开放初期，政策强调效率导向，向条件较好的东部沿海地区倾斜，进而带动全国发展；20世纪90年代以来，为促进区域经济协调发展，逐步缩小地区发展差距，在继续鼓励东部地区率先发展的同时，相继实施西部大开发、振兴东北老工业基地、促进中部崛起战略，形成了中国区域经济发展总体格局中的“四大板块”。十年来，地区之间经济发展差距扩大趋势开始减缓。当前中国中部、西部GDP增长速度已经高于东部，中部和西部地区生产总值占全国的比重由2012年的21.3%、19.6%提高到2021年的22%、21.1%，如图8所示。东部与中西部人均地区生产总值比分别从2012年的1.69、1.87下降至2021年的1.53、1.68，东西差距持续缩小，区域发展的协调性逐步增强。[22]

第二，区域重大战略深入推进。党的十八大以来，党中央提出并实施京津冀协同发展、粤港澳大湾区建设、长三角区域一体化发展、长江经济带发展、黄河流域生态保护和高质量发展、海南全面深化改革开放等区域重大战略，涵盖了中国24个省份和香港、澳门特别行政区，涉及全国50%的国土面积以及全国80.4%的常住人口。[23]在区域重大战略推动下，京津冀、长三角和粤港澳大湾区已成为引领和带动区域经济发展的“三大引擎”。2021年，京津冀地区、长三角地区、粤港澳大湾区内

[21] 参见习近平：《推动形成优势互补高质量发展的区域经济布局》，http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2019-12/15/content_5461353.htm。
[22] 数据来源：国家发展和改革委员会，https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/。
[23] 数据来源：国家发展和改革委员会，https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/。
[24] 数据来源：国家发展和改革委员会，https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/。

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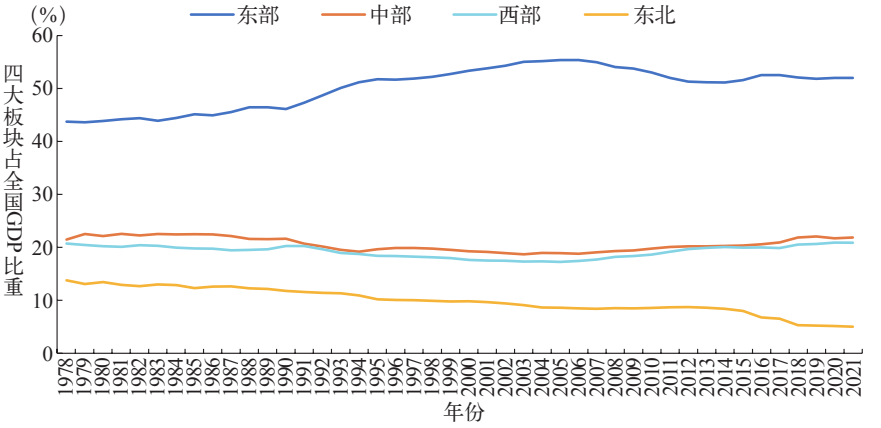

图8：改革开放以来中国四大板块GDP占全国比重变动趋势

资料来源：数据整理自国家统计局分省年度数据。

地九市GDP分别达9.6万亿元、27.6万亿元、10.1万亿元，占全国GDP比重分别达8.4%、24.1%、8.8%，其总量占比超过全国的40%。[24]长江、黄河流域生态保护也稳步推进，着力打造绿色发展、协同共治新典范。2021年，长江流域国控断面Ⅰ类~Ⅲ类优良水质比例97.1%，显著优于全国平均水平84.9%，黄河流域Ⅰ类~Ⅲ类优良水质比例81.9%，较2012年大幅提升21.2个百分点，水质状况由轻度污染转变为良。[25] 海南积极探索高水平对外开放新模式。2021年，海南货物进出口额1476.8亿元，同比增长57.7%，增速较全国快36.3个百分点，服务进出口额287.8亿元，同比增长55.5%，货物贸易、服务贸易进出口规模均创历史新高。与此同时，“一带一路”倡议与国内区域重大战略、区域协调发展战略融合互促。丝绸之路经济带建设为西北、东北的发展提供了新的机遇，而海上丝绸之路为东部沿海等地区对外开放水平的进一步提升提供了良好平台。

（二）新征程新方略

在全面建设社会主义现代化国家新征程上，更应清醒地认识到“不平衡是普遍的，要在发展中促进相对平衡”。[26]需明晰特色优势、厘清功能定位、把准方向航道，按照客观经济规律调整完善区域政策体系，发挥各地区比较优势，促进各类要素合理流动和高效集聚，推动城乡融合发展，形成主体功能明显、优势互补的高质量发展经济系统布局。

这就要求，一是加强建设区域间规划的协调机制，完善区域政策框架体系。区域协调发展要求各区域扭转发展观念，避免资源、人才、招商等方面的恶性竞争，建设区域间规划的协调机制，在基础设施建设、资源开发利用和环境保护等方面加强分工协作，防止由于区域间的重复建设造成低效

[25] 数据来源：中国生态环境部，https://www.mee.gov.cn/pc/。
[26] 参见习近平：《推动形成优势互补高质量发展的区域经济布局》，http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2019-12/15/content_5461353.htm。

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浪费。各区域应将区域协调发展纳入政策目标，从设计、执行、评估等全方面完善区域政策框架体系，加强产业、科技和环保等区域政策间的统筹联动。

二是通过制度建设破除商品和要素市场壁垒，推进资源配置优化，带动区域比较优势发挥。要深化土地管理制度改革，促进土地发挥生产资料功能，通过用地指标跨区域流转等措施，实现相对落后地区土地集约化和缓解先发地区建设用地紧张的双赢；要深化户籍制度改革，增强劳动力流动的灵活性，有利于提高劳动力过剩地区的劳动生产率，发挥要素集聚效应，助力区域协调发展。

三是积极探索城乡协调发展路径，坚持因地制宜，发挥中心城市和增长极的带动作用。应根据城乡自身禀赋和发展阶段，结合各地实际情况推进城乡协调融合发展。一方面缓解中心城市由于人口过于拥挤带来的环境问题，加快产城融合，消除产城分离；另一方面发挥中心城市对次级城市和乡村的辐射带动作用，催生新产业，引领结构转型，从而促进城乡融合发展。

六、高水平对外开放是实现经济高质量发展的外源动力

开放是中国经济崛起的关键一招。多年来的实践证明，中国经济发展成就是在开放条件下取得的，未来中国必须坚持更高水平的开放，为中国经济高质量发展增添外源动力。党的十八大以来，面对纷繁复杂的国际形势、加速演变的世界格局，以习近平同志为核心的党中央统筹“两个大局”，坚定不移推进高水平对外开放，实行更加积极主动的开放战略，推动建设开放型世界经济。如今，中国的对外开放格局已经发生历史性变革。

（一）历史性成就

第一，贸易规模稳居第一，货物服务贸易协同发展。十年来，中国贸易高质量发展取得历史性成就。如图9所示，2012~2021年中国货物贸易进出口额由3.9万亿美元增长至6.1万亿美元。其中2020年，中国货物贸易进出口额仍实现1.9%的增长，中国是当年全球唯一实现贸易正增长的主要经济体。截至2021年，中国出口国际市场份额达15.1%，进口国际市场份额达11.9%，均创历史新高，货物贸易第一大国地位进一步巩固。[27]

与此同时，中国服务贸易也稳中向好发展。如图10所示，2012年，中国服务贸易进出口额为4829亿美元，占世界服务进出口总额的5.6%。2021年，中国服务进出口额为8212亿美元，较上年增长24.1%，占世界比重达13.5%，创历年新高，服务贸易规模连续八年位居世界第二。[28]

第二，市场多元化成效明显，区域布局更趋均衡。如图11所示，十年来，中国前三大贸易伙伴稳定为东盟、欧盟以及美国，对其进出口额占中国进出口总额的比重保持在40%左右。其中，中国与东

[27] 数据来源：中国商务部，http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/。
[28] 数据来源：中国海关总署，http://www.customs.gov.cn/。

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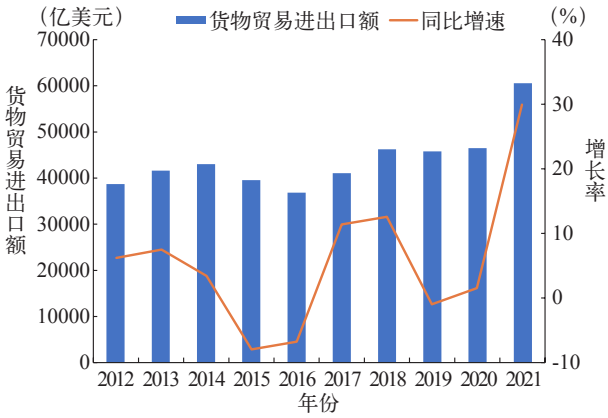

图9：2012–2021年中国货物贸易发展状况

资料来源：数据整理自商务部。

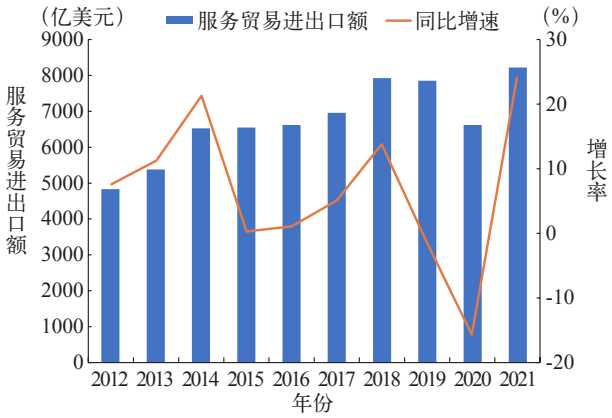

图10：2012~2021年中国服务贸易发展状况

资料来源：数据整理自商务部。

盟双边贸易稳健提升，东盟于2019年超越美国，于2020年超越欧盟，现已成为中国第一大贸易伙伴。中国对“一带一路”沿线国家进出口保持快速增长，从2013年的6.5万亿元增长至2021年的11.6万亿元，年均增长7.5%，占同期中国外贸总值的比重上升了近5个百分点。[29]“一带一路”倡议对于中国贸易多元化发展发挥了积极的推动作用，推动共建地区之间形成相互促进的良性循环格局。

随着中西部地区基础设施和营商环境不断完善，对外开放水平持续提升，承接加工贸易梯度转移取得积极成效。十年间，中国中西部地区进出口从2012年的2364亿美元增长至2021年的1.1万亿美元，是2012年的4.7倍，年均增长18.6%，增速明显高于东部地区，对外开放区域布局更趋均衡，应对外贸冲击韧性增强。

第三，商贸结构持续升级，国际分工地位不断提升。十年来，中国一般贸易方式进出口占比不断提升，商贸结构更趋合理。如图12所示，2012~2021年中国一般贸易方式进出口比重由2012年的48.2%明显提升至2021年的60.9%，加工贸易进出口比重由2012年的42.2%大幅下降至2021年的24.6%，带动出口产品附加值提升，有利于延长国内产业链条，通过前向和后向联系助力经济增长。与此同时，跨境电商、市场采购等新业态、新模式层出不穷并蓬勃发展，2021年，中国跨境电商进出口规模近2万亿元，增速达15%，中国市场采购出口0.93万亿元，增速高达32.1%。这些新业态、新模式成为高水平对外开放的新生力量，助力中国培育参与国际合作和竞争的新优势。

（二）新征程新方略

在全面建设社会主义现代化国家新征程上，要更加清醒地认识到世界百年未有之大变局加速演变，国际环境不稳定性、不确定性日益增强。一是新冠肺炎疫情导致全球供应链修复缓慢，全球需

[29] 数据来源：中国商务部《中国对外贸易形势报告》，http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/。

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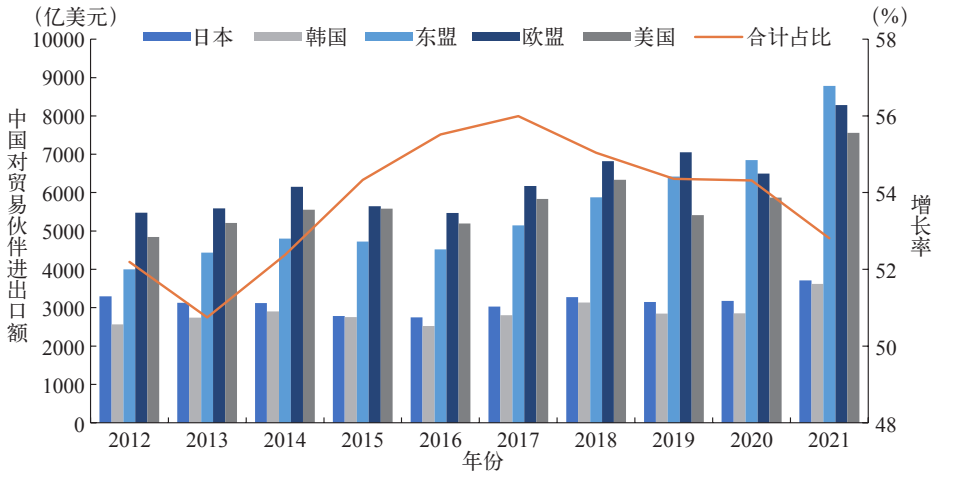

图11：2012~2021年中国对前五大贸易伙伴双边贸易发展状况

资料来源：数据整理自商务部。

求回落。二是地缘冲突的激化、广泛且持续的高通胀对全球经济增长前景造成较大冲击。三是全球产业链供应链加速重构。在一个更加不稳定不确定的世界中谋求发展，需要更好地联通国内国际两个市场，更好地利用国内国际两种资源，培育新形势下参与国际竞争合作的新优势，与世界各国建立起良好的伙伴关系和牢固的利益纽带，积极参与全球治理体系改革和建设。

这就要求，一是全力保障产业链供应链稳定畅通，提升强度和韧性。持续推动国际物流、结算畅通，提升贸易便利化水平，促进产业链供应链上下游协作。增加研发投入，打好核心技术攻坚战，加强自主创新确保产业链供应链安全稳定。把握数字经济发展机遇，推动供应链数字化转型升级。

二是以中国广阔的市场空间以及完备的产业配套形成新的比较优势，吸引全球优质要素资源在中国经济领域集聚。以出口贸易拓宽全球产业链分工体系，以对外投资降低全球工业化门槛，以进口消费加快全球工业化升级速度，以资本市场开放提升全球生产要素报酬（张辉等，2021）。

三是创新全球治理，深化国际合作，提升对国际经贸规则的制定能力和话语权。推动区域和多边合作，维护多边贸易体制。加强与各国的政策沟通和标准对接，努力提升中国对国际经贸规则的制定能力和话语权。充分发挥金砖组织、上合组织、亚投行等新型国际组织作用，形成推动国际经贸规则变革的合力，提供与中国能力相适应的更多国际公共产品。

七、结语

在中国共产党的坚强领导下，中国创造了经济快速发展和社会长期稳定这两大奇迹，中国式现代化道路得以成功开辟、推进并拓展，这不仅将指引中华民族伟大复兴，也可为广大发展中经济体实现现代化提供全新参照。在充满光荣和梦想的新征程上，经济现代化是社会主义现代化的物质基础，高质量发展是全面建设社会主义现代化国家的首要任务，面对经济发展的新特征、新要求、新

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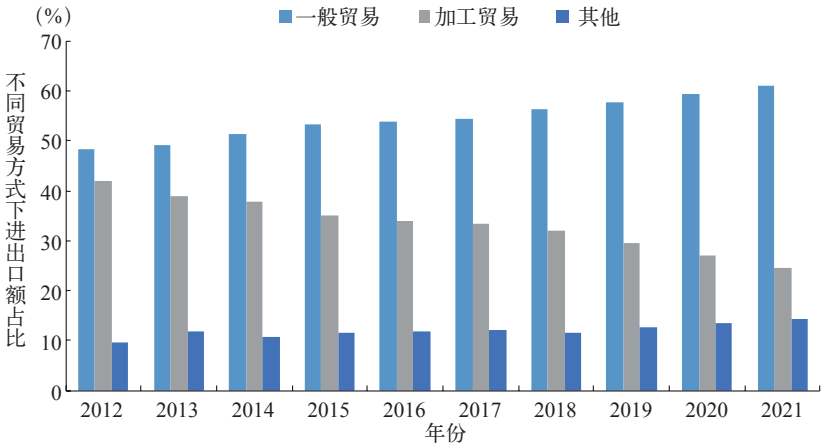

图12: 2012~2021年中国贸易方式结构调整情况

资料来源:数据整理自商务部。

机遇和新挑战,中国更应加快构建高水平社会主义市场经济体制,建设现代化产业体系,全面推进乡村振兴,促进区域协调发展,推进高水平对外开放,以经济高质量发展奠定全面建设社会主义现代化国家的坚实物质技术基础。相信在中国共产党准确识变、科学应变、主动求变的引领下,定能在更高的历史起点上取得社会主义现代化建设的新的历史成就,定能推进中华民族伟大复兴的百年梦圆!

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[9] 赵剑波、史丹、邓洲,2019,《高质量发展的内涵研究》,《经济与管理研究》第11期。

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High-Quality Economic Development for Building a Modern Socialist Country in All Respects

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Abstract: *Socialist modernization has been a consistent goal of the Communist Party of China (CPC). The success of socialist modernization is based on economic progress. In the face of changing primary social contradiction and constraints on economic growth, the Chinese economy will pursue a path of high-quality development long into the future, prioritizing qualitative improvement with a reasonable growth rate. Under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee, we have made exceptional progress in creating a socialist market economy and a modern industrial system, advancing rural vitalization, coordinating regional development and opening more broadly and at a higher level. Faced with new economic development expectations, opportunities, and challenges, we must deepen and accelerate development on the above fronts, eliminate development bottlenecks, and formulate new strategies to seek new breakthroughs. Achieving high-quality economic development will create the material and technological conditions for constructing a modern socialist country in all respects.*

Keywords: *Socialist modernization, Chinese modernization, high-quality development, economic modernization*

JEL Classification Code: E61, O21, P21
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1. Introduction

Chinese modernization is the socialist modernization under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC)[1]. Over the past century, the CPC has united and led the Chinese people in all their struggles to build a strong and modern country and achieve the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation[2]. The great practice of revolution, development, and reform by the Chinese people under the leadership of the CPC has led to the emergence of Chinese modernization, which has culminated in the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Historical experience has shown that development should be at the top of the Party's agenda for state governance. Modernization encompasses economic, political, cultural, and ideological transformations; among which economic modernization comes first and foremost. Science-based development strategies, therefore, are crucial to bring Chinese modernization to its fruition.

Social productivity has increased rapidly, and people's living standards have improved significantly as a result of China's economic growth miracle since the reform and opening-up policy. In the new era

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[1] See Xi Jinping, "Hold High the Great Banner of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics and Strive in Unity to Build a Modern Socialist Country in All Respects - Report to the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China", http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2022-10/25/content_5721685.htm.

[2] See Xi Jinping, "The Implementation of the New Development Concept in the New Development Stage Necessarily Requires the Construction of a New Development Pattern", http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2022-08/31/content_5707604.htm.

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of socialism with Chinese characteristics, China's principal social contradiction has changed from that "between the ever-growing material and cultural needs of the people and backward social production" to one "between unbalanced and inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better life"[3]. In the new era, the Chinese economy faces weakening cost advantage, increasing resource and environmental constraints, and intensifying global technological competition. To navigate these challenges, China must adopt a new paradigm of high-quality development by optimizing economic structure and reviving growth dynamism, paving the way for building a modern socialist country at a higher level.

As mentioned in the Report to the 20th CPC National Congress, "To build a modern socialist country in all respects, we must assign the highest priority to achieving high-quality development. Development is our Party's top priority in governing and rejuvenating China, for without solid material and technological foundations, we cannot hope to build a great modern socialist country in all respects".[4]

As an integral component of Chinese modernization, high-quality development places a premium on qualitative improvement at a reasonable pace. According to Zhang et al. (2019), high-quality development means more efficient, fairer, greener, and more sustainable development to meet people's growing needs for a better life; it is not only a change in the approach to economic growth, but also a process of institutional reform and paradigm shift. High-quality development has implications in terms of systemic equilibrium, approach to economic development, and livelihoods, and should deliver better development results and improve welfare for all (Zhao, 2019). Rapid economic expansion and a rising GDP per capita are prerequisites (Liu and Chen, 2021) for the completion of the momentous task of socialist modernization. In pursuit of high-quality development, we should foster development strengths, take a pragmatic and distinctive approach, and meet people's growing and multifaceted needs effectively and sustainably (Hong et al., 2018).

In the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the country's economic development is steered towards better quality and efficiency, equality, sustainability, and security. In many ways, building a modern socialist country has become contingent on achieving high-quality economic growth. In the research literature, the significance of high-quality development has been extensively shown. According to Ren (2018), China's economy has shifted from rapid growth to high-quality development, and due to the constraints of natural resources and environment, the emphasis on economic expansion should be abandoned in order to explore the path towards high-quality development.

Considering the shifting international power balance and great-power competition, Wang (2020) emphasized the importance of China's transition to high-quality development. The country must adopt this quality-oriented approach to seize the opportunities presented by a new round of technological and industrial revolutions, confront the backlash against economic globalization, and adapt to the changes in global industrial and supply chains. According to Xu et al., (2018), China's economy will be able to develop sustainably and with high quality and the "China's economic collapse" theory will be debunked so long as quality takes the center stage in economic growth targets and local governments use policy instruments to promote innovation-driven development.

There is no alternative to China's pursuit of high-quality development and comprehensive socioeconomic systemic transformations (Gao et al., 2019). This paper presents a comprehensive analysis of how the concept of high-quality development can be put into practice to serve China's goal of building a modern socialist country in all respects. Our discussion will echo the five pillars of

[3] See Xi Jinping, "Secure a Decisive Victory in Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects and Strive for the Great Success of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Eras——Report to the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China", http://www.gov.cn/zhuanti/2017-10/27/content_5234876.htm.

[4] See Xi Jinping, "Hold High the Great Banner of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics and Strive in Unity to Build a Modern Socialist Country in All Respects - Report to the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China", http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2022-10/25/content_5721685.htm.

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high-quality development identified in the Report to the 20th CPC National Congress, including the development of socialist market economic systems at a higher level, the creation of a modern industrial system, the vitalization of the countryside, the coordination of regional development, and the opening-up policy at a higher level.

In order to unleash its economic strength, China must intensify reforms, upgrade its market economic systems, and overcome institutional barriers. It must transition to a growth model driven by innovation, modernize its industrial systems, and rely on innovation and talent to propel economic growth.

In order to achieve its development goals, China must coordinate regional, urban, and rural development through rural vitalization to unleash domestic demand potentials and optimize the spatial distribution of economic resources.

In terms of development strategies, China must continue to open up to the rest of the world, cultivate new strengths for international cooperation and competition, and set favorable international market conditions to work for domestic social and economic development.

A closer look at China's historical achievements reveals the importance of the socialist market economic system as the country's institutional strength, the modern industrial system as its cornerstone, the vitalization of rural areas as its impetus, the coordination of regional development as its systematic policy, and opening up at a higher level as its driving force for high-quality development. It will be crucial on the new journey to develop new strategies based on past experiences and current circumstances. This paper provides some insights to China's ongoing socialist modernization and transformation into a modern socialist country through high-quality economic development.

2. Socialist Market Economic System: Institutional Strength for High-Quality Development

The socialist market economic system is a brilliant innovation that combines Marxist theory with China's national conditions. It rejects the tenet, held by both orthodox Marxist political economics and mainstream Western economics, that public ownership is incongruous with the market economy. This has made it possible for the socialist economy to thrive in a country with low productivity. Since the reform and open-up policy in 1978, China's impressive growth has been supported by the country's socialist market economy. It also creates the institutional conditions for the country's economic modernization and high-quality development under the new paradigm of "dual circulations." Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping at its core has given full play to the impetus of economic reforms and explored effective ways to combine an efficient market with an active government. As China's socialist market economy matures, great strides have been made in reforming market entities, market systems, and macroeconomic management.

2.1 Historic Accomplishments

First, reforms have unleashed great dynamism from market entities. Over the past decade, China pushed forward the reform of state-owned enterprises (SOEs), established the status of enterprises as independent market entities, and reformed labor, personnel, and the income distribution systems. As a result, SOEs have played a prominent role in supporting high-quality economic development. Between 2012 and 2021, China's state capital assets maintained an annual average growth rate of 15.4%. Specifically, central SOE assets and gross profits grew on an annual average basis 10.3% and 7.5%, respectively. Since 2013, China's central SOEs have cumulatively paid 17.6 trillion yuan in tax revenues, which made up roughly a quarter of the country's total tax revenues[5].

China's state sector of the economy has made continuous structural improvements over the

[5] Source: Official website of the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council, http://www.sasac.gov.cn/.

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past decade (see Figure 1). The number of central SOEs has decreased from 117 to 98 as a result of consolidation, and 70% of their business revenues came from sectors involving national security, economic lifelines, and people's livelihoods[6]. Competition has increased in critical industries such as oil and gas, railway, civil aviation, electric power, telecommunications, and defense. This has resulted in a more efficient distribution of state and private sectors between upstream and downstream sectors and monopolistic and competitive markets. In addition, progress has been made in the development of a mixed-ownership economy. Over 70% of central SOEs and 54% of local SOEs are of mixed ownership[7].

China has consistently supported the development of the private sector economy over the past decade, leveling the playing field for private businesses. China's private enterprises have more than quadrupled from 10.85 million in 2012 to 44.57 million in 2021.

Second, continuous improvements have been made to the market systems. Over the past decade, the market-based price mechanism took hold. By the end of 2021, 97.5% of commodities and services were market-priced, centrally priced items decreased by 85%, and locally priced items fell by 70%[8]. Progress has been made in establishing price mechanisms to guarantee fair pricing in monopolized industries, support green development, and maintain price stability for key commodities. Consequently, China's overall price level has been stable. As shown in Figure 2, China's consumer price index (CPI) increased around 2% annually from 2012 to 2021. Despite the volatility of international commodity prices, China's domestic price stability has effectively supported a stable and healthy economic development.

In the past decade, great efforts have been made to eliminate policies that hinder a unified national market and disrupt fair competition. China has implemented the National List for Market Access, established legislative, law enforcement and judicial systems for the protection of intellectual property rights (IPRs), and adopted fair competition review and social credit systems.

Progress has been made in streamlining the government, delegating power, and improving government services. China has created an administrative service system with a broad coverage, and relentlessly improved its business environment by making government services more efficient. In 2020, China ranked 31st as the easiest country to do business, up from 96th in 2013[9].

To cancel land price distortions and supply-demand mismatch, China has expanded reforms based

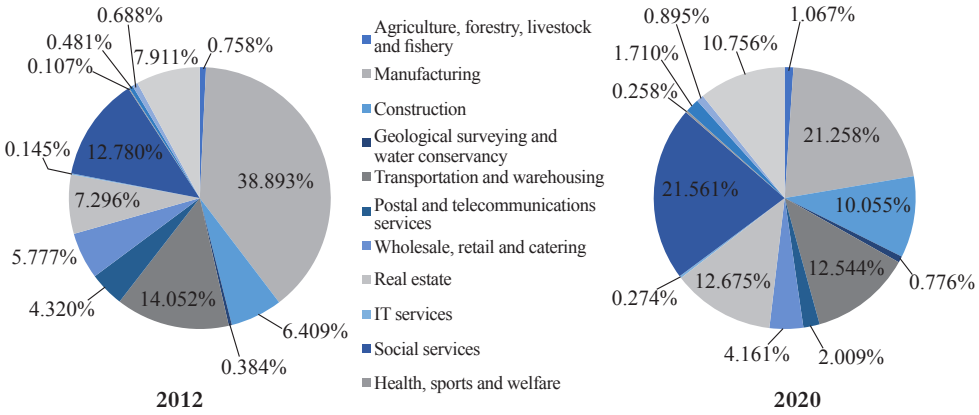

Figure 1: Sectoral Distribution of SOE Assets in 2012 and 2020

Source: *China Fiscal Yearbook 2021*.

[6] Source: SASAC's *Report on the High-Quality Development of Central SOEs (2022)*, http://www.sasac.gov.cn/n2588020/n2877938/n2879671/n2879673/c26508617/content.html.

[7] Source: SASAC's official website: http://www.sasac.gov.cn/.

[8] Source: The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/.

[9] Source: The World Bank Group's *Ease of Doing Business 2020*, https://archive.doingbusiness.org/en/reports/global-reports/doing-business-2020.

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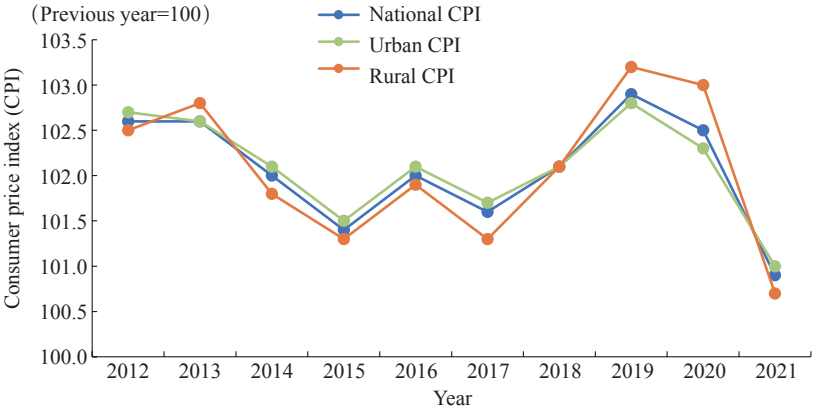

Figure 2: China's CPI Trends, 2012-2021

Source: The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

on allocating resources more efficiently through the market. It has improved fundamental capital market systems to better serve the real economy and reformed the household registration system to make it easier for workers to move around the country. It has adopted mechanisms for commercializing the results of research and development and improved protections for intellectual property rights and patents. Maintaining data privacy while also encouraging its free and open exchange have both been prioritized.

China has developed a sizeable domestic market worth around 100 trillion yuan. With a population of 1.4 billion, the country boasts a middle-income group of 400 million people and 160 million market entities. China's increasingly unified national market will create economies of scale, catalyze homegrown innovation, and attract factors of production from around the world.

Third, impressive progress has been made in the past decade thanks to reforms in macroeconomic governance. Considering the new realities and challenges facing China's economy in the "new normal," the CPC Central Committee has prioritized the quality and efficiency of economic development, achieving growth stability and structural improvement. Annual GDP growth in China between 2013 and 2021 averaged 6.6%, which was higher than both the global average of 2.6% and the average level of 3.7% for developing economies[10]. Judging by its economic structure, China is moving from the late-industrial stage to the post-industrial stage. For a considerable period, consumer spending has been more important than investment in driving China's economic growth, which is consistent with an endogenous growth model based on consumption typical of the late-industrial era.

The past decade has also seen continuous improvements in China's macroeconomic regulatory system; it has combined a focus on fiscal and monetary policies with a variety of industrial, technological, environmental, and social policies, guided by the strategic orientation of its mid- and long-term development plans. The country has enhanced economic governance with a comprehensive approach by coordinating manufacturing with distribution and consumption and pursuing a dynamic equilibrium among multiple policy objectives. The government has employed targeted, well-timed, countercyclical and cross-cyclical regulations in order to maintain various economic indicators within an appropriate range. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, many nations have experienced economic contractions or sluggish growth. Backed by China's macro-regulatory system, China's primary economic indicators began to recover in the second quarter of 2020 (as shown in Table 1), making it the only major economy with positive growth in 2020. China's economic growth significantly higher than world average in 2021 and maintained a 3% growth rate in 2022 against multiple unexpected factors. In the three years between 2020 and 2022, China remained one of the world's fastest-growing economies.

[10] Source: Official website of the National Bureau of Statistics, http://www.stats.gov.cn/xxgk/jd/sjjd2020/202209/t20220913_1888196.html.

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Table 1: Global Economic Performance amid the COVID-19 Pandemic (%)

Year	World average	Advanced economies	Developing economies	China	US	Eurozone	Japan	India	Five ASEAN countries
2020	-3.1	-4.5	-2.1	2.3	-3.4	-6.3	-4.6	-7.3	-3.4
2021	6.0	5.2	6.6	8.1	5.7	5.2	1.7	8.7	3.4
2022	3.4	2.7	3.9	3.0	2.0	3.5	1.4	6.8	5.2
Average for the three years	2.0	1.0	2.7	4.4	1.4	0.7	-0.5	2.5	1.7

Source: Data for 2020 and 2021 are from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
Note: Data for 2022 are the latest estimated value from *World Economic Outlook Report* released on January 30, 2023 by IMF.

2.2 New Strategy for the New Journey

On the new path to building a modern socialist nation in all respects, we should be mindful about the arduous and long-term nature of reforming China's socialist market economic and property ownership system, developing a unified, open, and competitive market system, and restricting monopoly and disorderly capital expansion. "We must be audacious enough to break hard nuts and ford hazardous whitewater during reform and that only the daring will prevail at crucial stages of reform." First, we must continue to develop a high-standard market system. Policy guidance must be enhanced to combat monopoly. Positive and negative lists should be implemented to enhance market access. Capital flow and distribution should be brought under reasonable control. Government-market interaction platforms should be created to communicate regulatory policies and rules and increase fair competition awareness among companies. Regulatory mechanisms should be developed, and theories enriched to curb monopoly, including platform monopoly. Market regulation should be all-inclusive and integrated.[11]

Second, we should fully give play to the institutional strength of an effective market and an effective government. The pervasiveness of digital economy has made the "invisible hand" of the market more effective and market failures less likely by reducing information asymmetry. Therefore, we should adhere to the market-oriented approach and the rule of law and maximize the market's decisive role in resource allocation. The government should promote fair market competition, strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights, and encourage the entrepreneurial spirit of market participants. We should strive resolutely to consolidate and expand the public sector, as well as to encourage, support, and direct the development of the private one. We should foster positive interactions between the state and private sectors of the economy and maintain the state dominance in critical sectors. SOEs should utilize their strong ties to the government to become more innovative; they should focus on leading fundamental and disruptive original innovations with a strong spillover effect.

3. Modern Industrial System: Cornerstone of High-Quality Economic Development

As the cornerstone of the new development paradigm of "dual circulations," the modern industrial system vigorously supports other components of the modern economic system and paves the way for high-quality development to make significant progress. Manufacturing is the foundation of the real economy that underpins the national economy. China has the world's largest and most comprehensive industrial system. Therefore, future advancement is contingent on innovation-driven industrial chain upgrade. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the CPC Central Committee

[11] Xi Jinping's speech at a welcome banquet jointly hosted by Washington State government and friendly communities, http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2015-09/23/content_2937427.htm.

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with Xi Jinping at its core has made strategic decisions to establish a modern industrial system with an emphasis on manufacturing, resulting in watershed in the country's manufacturing growth and competitiveness.

3.1 Historic Accomplishments

First, China has created a complete and resilient manufacturing system with great economies of scale. From 2012 to 2021, China's industrial value-added increased from 20.9 trillion to 37.3 trillion yuan, up 6.63% annually, as shown in Figure 3. As the world's largest manufacturing powerhouse throughout the past decade[12], China saw its share of global industrial output rise from 18.3% to 24.7% and its share of global manufacturing output expand from 22.5% to nearly 30%. China is the only country that has all the economic activities listed in the industrial sections of the United Nations industry classification system.

China's diverse manufacturing structure enables it to make the most of its resources and compete in a changing market with great manufacturing efficiency. When market demand rises, China's complete manufacturing system can swiftly crank up capacity and avoid a shortage of supply. When the reverse occurs, it can flex down production to avoid losses from overcapacity. At similar levels of GDP per capita, China's per capita output of pig iron and crude steel is greater than those of the UK, the US, Germany, France, and Italy. In addition to the steel industry, the enormous potentials of China's economies of scale have been demonstrated in other sectors, such as machinery, electronics, and chemical engineering.

Second, China's industrial development has transitioned from a crude pattern of growth to a focus on quality and efficiency as evidenced by its improving industrial structure. R&D expenditure is a key driver of endogenous economic growth, and patents are the source of innovation in technology- and knowledge-intensive industries. The Chinese government's increased investment and guidance in technological research has resulted in a surge in patent applications and approvals. As shown in Figure 4, China's R&D expenditures increased from 1.03 trillion in 2012 to 2.80 trillion yuan in 2021, an increase of 11.7% per year. Specifically, R&D spending for high-tech sectors increased at an annual average rate of 13.4% from 0.15 trillion in 2012 to 0.46 trillion yuan in 2021, resulting in an increase of two percentage points in its share of total national R&D expenditures. The number of invention patents

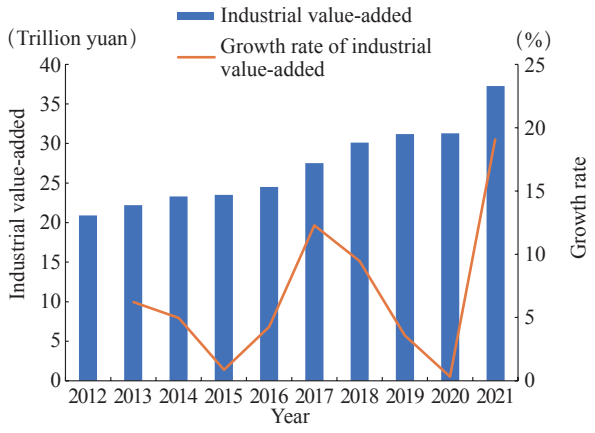

Figure 3: Growth of China's Industrial Value-Added, 2012-2021
Source: Data are compiled from the NBS.

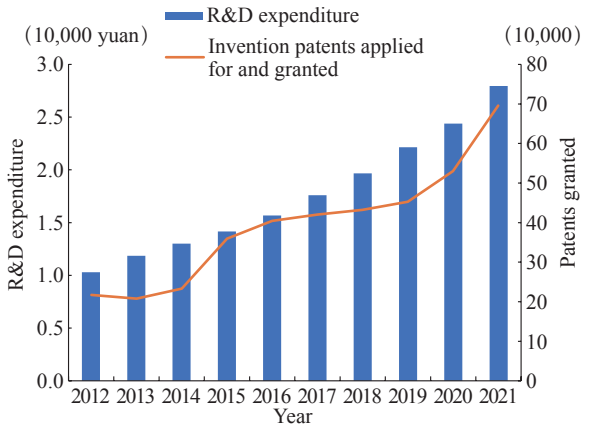

Figure 4: Growth in China's R&D Innovation, 2012-2021
Source: Data are compiled from the NBS.

[12] Source: The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), https://www.miit.gov.cn/xwdt/szyw/art/2022/art_73e8ef1b62b14926ae503f0bfe63b289.html.

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applied for and granted increased by 13.8% annually from 217,000 in 2012 to 696,000 in 2021.[13]

China's strategic emerging industries, including new-generation information technology, bio-industry, new materials, and new energy, have flourished as a result of massive investments in R&D. China's output of chemical new materials increased by 11.55% per year between 2016 and 2021, from 15.36 million to 26.53 million tons. The growth of many high-tech industries has increased; they have grown significantly, underpinning the nation's modernization of the industrial system.

Third, China has nurtured advantageous industrial clusters that collaborate with each other to bring about constructive cooperation. According to China's import and export data at the industry level for 2021 from the UN Comtrade database[14], the Lafay index is positive for 60% of China's industrial sectors, indicating competitive advantages. Among them, the Lafay index is greater than 1 for industrial sectors in Chapters 84, 94, 25, 73 and 61 of the customs code lists. In other words, the dominant sectors of China's industrial system include machinery, furniture and toys, iron and steel, and textile which derive new vitality from modern information technologies. In 2020, China's cloud computing market surpassed 200 billion yuan in 2020, providing digital infrastructure to support the growth of advantageous industries. In 2021, China's robotics industry generated more than 130 billion yuan in total business revenue and produced 366,000 industrial robots. Automation has boosted efficiency in advantageous industries.

According to data from the United Nations Statistics Division, labor productivity in China increased at an average annual rate of 9.57% in the textiles industry, 9.81% in the iron and steel industry, 5% in the machinery manufacturing industry, and 4.70% in the furniture manufacturing industry. Likewise, substantial progress has been made in other sectors. China's industrial system has become more efficient as a result of advanced technology and cost management. According to the Harvard Growth Lab, China was ranked among the top three nations in the Economic Complexity Indicator (ECI) thanks to significant improvements in its product diversity and technological sophistication.

Table 2: China's Sectoral Labor Productivity, 2012-2020

Sector	Annual average growth rate (%)	Sector	Annual average growth rate (%)
Food and beverage manufacturing	6.73	Rubber products	6.65
Tobacco products	6.81	Non-metal products	7.02
Textiles	9.57	Metal smelting and processing	9.81
Textiles and garments	8.66	Metal products	6.05
Leather products	6.93	Machinery manufacturing	5.00
Timber processing and products	9.32	Electronic equipment manufacturing	−15.51
Papermaking	8.49	Electrical machinery manufacturing	5.83
Printing	4.94	Transportation equipment manufacturing	7.23
Petroleum processing	5.83	Furniture manufacturing	4.70
Chemical products	6.71		

Source: Calculated based on UNSD data.

[13] Source: NBS official website: http://www.stats.gov.cn/.

[14] For calculation method, refer to LAFAY, G. "The measurement of revealed comparative advantages." In: DAGENAIS, M. G. & MUET, P.-A. (eds.) *International Trade Modelling*. London: Chapman & Hall, 1992.

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3.2 New Strategy for the New Journey

China is rapidly shifting from factor-driven to innovation-driven economic growth as it develops a modern industrial system on its way to building a modern socialist nation. China is the world's largest manufacturing nation, but not the most advanced. Its manufacturing system is still "large but not robust, complete but not consummate." In the past, the country's advantageous industries flourished on their cost advantage, but now the industrial development is fueled by economies of scale. China should utilize its ultra-large market advantage to support manufacturing, intensify industrial division of labor, and seize the historic opportunity presented by the fourth Industrial Revolution.

First, reforms should be deepened to unleash China's industrial economies of scale. In developing the economy, the government should prioritize the promotion of advantageous industries as the locomotive of the new-type industrialization and expedite industrial transition and upgrade. In terms of institutional development, the government should establish a unified national market, strengthen market economic systems for the protection of property rights, market access, fair competition, and social credibility, and cultivate business champions by virtue of the ultra-large market. To avoid repetitive development, inefficiency, and waste, it is also important to transform the factor market, improve the business climate, implement national development strategies as guidance, and integrate resources for advantageous industries. Scale economies should result from China's manufacturing skills.

Second, cutting-edge technologies and outlook for them should help boost indigenous innovation and international competitiveness for advantageous industries, as well as grasp opportunities presented by a new round of technological and industrial revolutions. To promote industrial quality and efficiency, it is recommended to develop clusters of strategic emerging industries and empower traditional advantageous industries with new-generation information technologies for the development of a high-end, intelligent, and ecofriendly industries. The digital economy should be integrated with advantageous industries for new opportunities to arise from industrial integration and to harness the potential of China's advantageous industries. To ensure industrial security, it is crucial to acquire critical technologies and increase industrial and supply chain resilience in order to reduce reliance on others and strengthen China's competitive industries in all processes.

4. Comprehensive Countryside Vitalization: Strong Support for High-Quality Development

China's agriculture is the foundation of people's livelihoods and state governance. High-quality economic development cannot take place without addressing the problems affecting its agriculture, countryside, and farmers. The CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping at its core has given top priority to addressing the problems of agriculture, countryside, and farmers, deepening rural reforms on all fronts, and overcoming poverty. After declaring a victory in eliminating absolute poverty, it has taken a host of initiatives for countryside vitalization, making agriculture stronger, countryside more beautiful, and farmers more affluent.

4.1 Historic Accomplishments

The eradication of absolute poverty is a significant landmark and the beginning of a new path towards common prosperity. Over the past decade, the Central Committee of the CPC has made poverty reduction a top priority of state governance. As depicted in Figure 5, between 2012 and 2020, China lifted more than 10 million people out of destitution annually, the equivalent of a medium-sized nation. There was a substantial increase in the incomes of poor populations. In poor regions, rural per capita disposable household income increased by 11.6% per year between 2013 and 2020, which is 2.3 percentage points higher than the national average rural income growth. People who have been lifted from poverty have no need to worry about food, clothing, safe drinking water, housing

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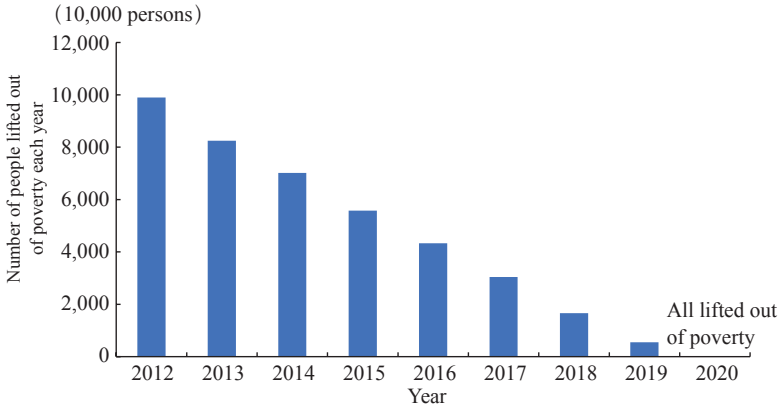

Figure 5: Change in China's Rural Poor Population, 2021-2020

Source: Data are compiled from the *Poverty Alleviation: China's Experience and Contribution* whitepaper.

security, compulsory education, or basic healthcare[15]. China lifted the final 98.99 million people from poverty by 2020 and removed 832 poor counties and 128,000 poor villages from the poverty list. It has resolved regional poverty and accomplished the arduous task of lifting nearly one-fifth of the world's population out of absolute poverty, which is an enormous contribution to global human development. Therefore, China's rural areas have officially embarked on a new path towards common prosperity.

Agricultural production has increased substantially to ensure grain security. Over the past decade, the CPC Central Committee has identified grain security as a top priority of state governance and has led the people to attain basic self-sufficiency in grains and absolute grain security. According to Table 3, China's grain output between 2012 and 2021 stayed above 650 billion kg for seven consecutive years, reaching a record high of 682.85 billion kg in 2021, or 483 kilograms per person, exceeding the international grain security threshold of 400 kilograms. As people's living standards have increased, consumer demand has shifted from eating enough to eating healthily. The variety of agricultural products has increased and quality improved. Over 97% of agricultural products have passed regular quality and safety inspections[16].

Table 3: China's Grain Output and Sown Area, 2012-2021

Year	Grain output (100 million *jin*[17])	Per capita grain output (kg)	Grain crop sown area (1,000 hectares)	Grain output per unit area (kg/hectare)
2012	122,45	452.1	114,368.04	5,208.8
2013	126,10	462.49	115,907.54	5,353.1
2014	127,93	466.26	117,455.18	5,445.9
2015	132,12	478.75	118,962.81	5,553.0
2016	132,09	475.89	119,230.06	5,539.2
2017	132,32	473.86	117,989.06	5,607.4
2018	131,58	469	117,038.21	5,621.2
2019	132,77	471.57	116,063.6	5,719.6
2020	133,90	474.45	116,768.17	5,733.5
2021	136,57	483.5	117,630.82	5,805.0

Source: Data are compiled from NBS official website.

[15] Source: *Poverty Alleviation: China's Experience and Contribution* whitepaper, http://www.scio.gov.cn/ztk/dtzt/44689/45216/index.htm.
[16] Source: The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, http://www.moa.gov.cn/.
[17] 1 *jin* = 500 grams.

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Innovations have brought agriculture modernization to a new stage. Over the past decade, the CPC Central Committee has called for self-reliance for agricultural technology, ameliorated agricultural infrastructure, and accelerated the research of critical agricultural technologies. China's national spending on agriculture, forestry and irrigation nearly doubled from 1,197.4 billion yuan in 2012 to 2,214.6 billion yuan in 2021, boosting agricultural production. By 2021, China's agricultural machinery reached 1.08 billion kW in total power, and the integrated mechanization rate for crop cultivation, sowing and harvesting exceeded 71%[18]. China has constructed 60 million hectares of high-standard farmland with modernized irrigation facilities and is shifting from traditional agriculture at the mercy of the elements to technology-empowered smart agriculture. As illustrated in Figure 6, China's agricultural technology advancement contributed 61.5% to output growth in 2021, up from 54.5% in 2012. The country's overall agrotechnology level rose from the second to the first tier of nations[19].

Rural landscapes have been refreshed as a result of extensive efforts to build a beautiful countryside. The past ten years have seen steady improvements in public infrastructure, human habitat, and basic public services in countryside. By the end of 2021, China provided public transportation in 87.3% of villages, broadband internet access in 99.0% of villages, and cable television in 94.2% of villages[20]. China's rural industries have flourished as rural infrastructure has improved, and new business models - such as e-commerce live streaming and leisure tourism - have emerged. By the end of 2021, more than 330,000 villages had e-commerce pick-up stations, and nearly 50,000 villages offered leisure agriculture and rural tourism services. Figure 7 shows more than a tenfold increase in China's rural e-commerce logistics index between January 2015 and the end of 2021. Rural e-commerce has become a new growth engine for countryside vitalization. The rural way of life is changing rapidly. By the end of 2021, the construction of sanitary toilets surpassed 70% in rural areas, 47.6% of villages had centralized or partially centralized domestic wastewater treatment facilities, and 90.8% of townships had health centers, with each village possessing at least one health clinic[21]. The countryside has become more attractive and inhabitable thanks to improving public services.

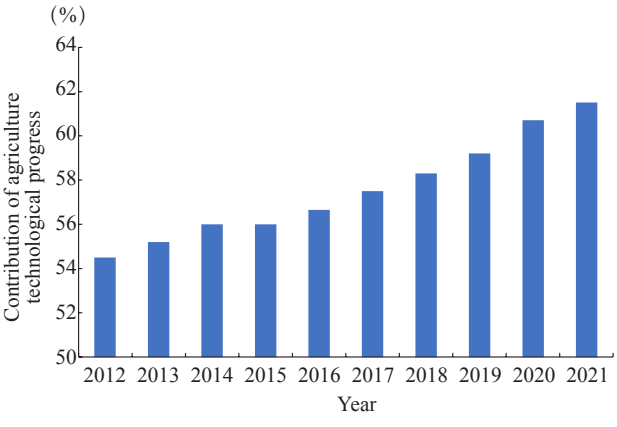

Figure 6: Contribution of National Agricultural Technological Progress, 2012-2021

Source: Data are compiled from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

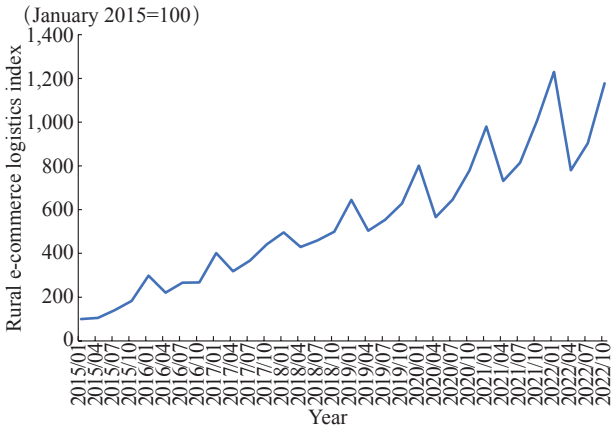

Figure 7: Growth in China's Rural E-Commerce Logistics Index, 2015-2022

Source: Data are compiled from the China Federation of Logistics & Purchasing.

[18] Source: NBS official website, http://www.stats.gov.cn/xxgk/jd/sjjd2020/202209/t20220914_1888221.html.
[19] Source: The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, http://www.moa.gov.cn/.
[20] Source: NBS official website, http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjsj/tjgb/nypcgb/qgnypcgb/201712/t20171215_1563589.html.
[21] Source: NBS official website, http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjsj/tjgb/nypcgb/qgnypcgb/201712/t20171215_1563589.html.

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4.2 New Strategy for the New Journey

On the new journey of building a modern socialist country, the most arduous priorities remain in the countryside. The focus of work on agriculture, countryside and farmers has shifted to countryside vitalization. In this context, we should continue to prioritize agricultural and rural development, promote homegrown innovation for critical agricultural technologies, address the deficiencies in rural infrastructure and public services, and modernize agriculture and countryside.

First, we must pursue integrated urban and rural development, encourage the flow of factors between cities and the countryside, and create and replicate pilot programs in metropolitan circles. With China's urbanization entering an advanced stage, metropolitan core cities have experienced a growing preponderance of scientific research, innovation, management consulting, and financial and legal services. In the meantime, manufacturing and processing industries have relocated to the city's outskirts. We should attempt to integrate urban and rural development in the vicinity of metropolitan circles, focusing on factor flow, personnel exchange, and equity transfer, with the goal of removing institutional barriers to integrated urban and rural development and disseminating the best practices across the nation.

Second, we should strengthen food security and enhance agricultural technology and equipment to hold tight our rice bowl in our own hands. The strictest arable land policies should be implemented to maintain sufficient land reserves for grain production. From enforcing land use control to balancing land use with land compensation and supervising land transfer, every effort must be made to ensure that China's total arable land is no less than 1.8 billion *mu* (120 million hectares). Steps should be taken to construct 1.55 billion *mu* (103.33 million hectares) into high-standard farmland. Technology is another pillar for grain production. We should develop seed industry through innovation and research, collect, protect, and utilize seed resources, and commercialize seed cultivation.

Third, we should cultivate rural feature industries, expand opportunities for farmers to earn higher incomes, and build a job-generating, livable countryside. We should build on the progress made in reducing poverty and shift the focus of our efforts to fight relative poverty, sporadic poverty, accidental poverty, capacity poverty, and intergenerational poverty, , as well as helping low-income individuals increase their incomes. It is important to consider resource endowment, location, industrial foundation, and market demand when developing a modern rural industrial system with distinct regional characteristics, thriving innovation and entrepreneurship, diverse business models, and shared interests. Farmers' income can be increased by extending agricultural industrial chains, integrating agriculture with culture and tourism, and developing agricultural deep processing.

Fourth, we should develop the new-type rural collective economy and press ahead with rural land reforms to better support Chinese modernization. Rural collective economic organizations should be established to pool fragmented resources in the countryside and engage professional operational teams for the efficient development and utilization of those resources, the proceeds of which should be distributed among villagers. In addition, rural land reforms should continue to be deepened. Major reforms - such as the separation of the ownership, contract, and operation rights of rural collective land, the collective property ownership system, and the rural housing allotment system - should be implemented on a case-by-case basis in accordance with local conditions. Farmers ought to be granted property rights to a fuller extent. Migrant farmers who have relocated in cities should have their legal land rights protected. These institutional arrangements lay the groundwork for China's rural and agricultural modernization.

5. Regional Coordination: Systematic Arrangement for High-Quality Economic Development

Because of its territorial size and enormous population, China faces the challenging task of coordinating regional development, given the exceptional regional diversity of its natural resources[22].

[22] See Xi Jinping, *Fostering the Regional Economic Layout with Complementary Advantages and High-Quality Development*, http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2019-12/15/content_5461353.htm.

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Coordination of regional development refers to the productive division of labor and interactions between regions. Regional cooperation and urban-rural integration are essential to high-quality economic development. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping at its core has prioritized regional coordination and implemented a series of regional strategies with positive results.

5.1 Historic Accomplishments

First, the relative gaps of regional development have narrowed. Upon the founding of New China in 1949, the Chinese government followed a balanced regional development approach. In the early stage of reform and opening up in 1978, China's regional development policy began to prioritize efficiency, giving preference to coastal regions in the east to spearhead national development as a whole. In order to balance regional economic development and reduce regional gaps, the Chinese government has implemented strategies since the 1990s to develop the western region, revitalize the old industrial base in the northeast and promote the rise of the central region, which together with the leading position of the eastern region, comprise the "four segments" in China's overall layout of regional economic development.

Over the past decade, regional gaps in China have waned. China's central and western regions have outpaced the eastern region in terms of GDP growth rate, and their share of national total GDP increased from 21.3% and 19.6% in 2012 to 22% and 21.1% in 2021, respectively. The ratio of GDP per capita between the eastern region and the central and western regions has decreased from 1.69 and 1.87 in 2012 to 1.53 and 1.68 in 2021, respectively. Gaps between the eastern and western regions have continued to narrow, and regional development has become more balanced[23].

Second, the implementation of main regional strategies has also progressed steadily. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the CPC Central Committee has implemented major regional development strategies, such as coordinated development in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region, the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, integrated development in the Yangtze River Delta Region, the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt, ecological protection and high-quality development for the Yellow River Basin, and the comprehensive deepening of reform and opening up.

These regional development strategies encompass 24 provinces and the special administrative

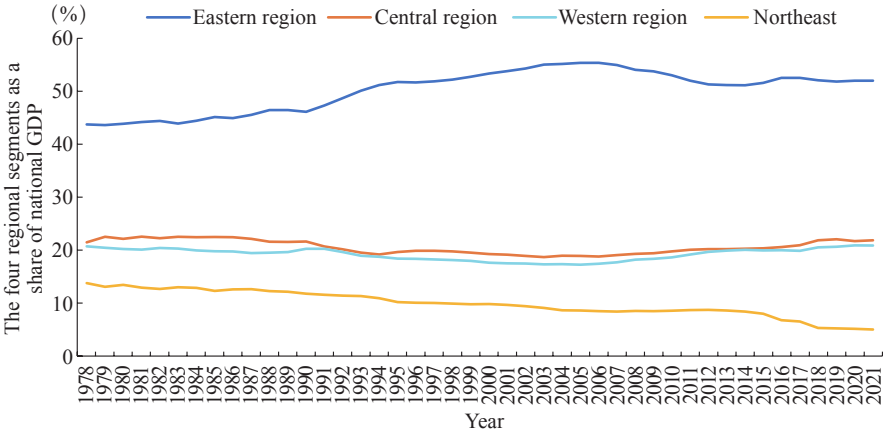

Figure 8: Share of China's Four Regional Segments in National GDP, 1978-2021

Source: Data are compiled from NBS provincial annual data.

[23] Source: The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/.

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regions of Hong Kong and Macao, which together account for 50% of China's land area and 80.4% of its permanent resident population[24]. In China, the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region, the Yangtze River Delta, and the Greater Bay Area of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao have emerged as the three principal locomotives of regional economic development. In 2021, the nine major cities in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region, the Yangtze River Delta region, and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area recorded a GDP of 9.6 trillion yuan, 27.6 trillion yuan, and 10.1 trillion yuan, respectively, accounting for 8.4%, 24.1%, and 8.8% of the national total, adding up to over 40% of the national total[25].

In an effort to promote green development, steady progress has also been made to safeguard ecosystems in the Yangtze and Yellow River basins. In 2021, 97.1% of cross sections under national monitoring in the Yangtze River Basin had excellent or good water quality, which was substantially higher than the national average of 84.1%. Class I-III (excellent and good) water quality comprised 81.9% of the Yellow River Basin, an increase of 21.2 percentage points since 2012, and the overall water quality changed from being slightly contaminated to good[26].

Hainan Province has explored a new model of opening up at a higher level. In 2021, Hainan's total imports and exports of commodities reached 147.68 billion yuan, an increase of 57.7% year-over-year and 36.3 percentage points above the national average, while its imports and exports of services reached 28.78 billion yuan, an increase of 55.5%. Hainan's trade in both goods and services reached new heights. Meanwhile, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has been incorporated into key regional development strategies. The Silk Road Economic Belt has created new opportunities for China's northwestern and northeastern regions, while the Maritime Silk Road provides a platform for East China's coastal regions to open up at a more advanced level.

5.2 New Strategy for the New Journey

We must recognize the "universality of disequilibrium and strive to achieve relative equilibrium through development" as we embark on the new path towards building a modern socialist nation in all respects[27]. Regional policy system should be adjusted and improved on the basis of a thorough knowledge of regional advantages and functions in order to create a regional economic structure with distinct primary functions and complementary advantages.

First, we must improve interregional planning coordination and regional policy framework. Local governments should coordinate with one another rather than competing for resources, talent, and business. There must be coordination for regional division of labor, infrastructure development, resource utilization, and environmental protection in order to avoid inefficiency and waste resulting from repetitive development across regions. Local governments should establish coordinated regional development as a policy objective, improve the regional policy framework in terms of design, implementation, and evaluation, and enhance interregional coordination of industrial, technological, and environmental protection policies.

Second, we must remove commodity and factor market barriers through institutional development, optimize resource allocation, and capitalize on regional competitive advantages. Land system should be reformed to promote the function of land as the means of production. The interregional transfer of land use quotas will contribute to the concentration of land in underdeveloped regions and alleviate the shortfall of construction land in prosperous regions. Reform of the household registration system should be accelerated in order to increase the flexibility of labor migration, boost labor productivity in regions with an excess of labor force, and encourage factor concentration for coordinated regional development.

Third, we should proactively explore pathways for coordinated urban and rural development and

[24] Source: NDRC, https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/.
[25] Source: NDRC, https://www.ndrc.gov.cn/.
[26] Source: The Ministry of Ecology and Environment, https://www.mee.gov.cn/pc/.
[27] See Xi Jinping, *Forming a Regional Economic Layout for Complementary Advantages and High-quality Development*, http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2019-12/15/content_5461353.htm.

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enhance the role of central cities and growth poles based on local conditions. We should encourage coordinated urban and rural development based on the resource endowments and development stages of cities and rural areas. Growth poles should aid in mitigating environmental issues caused by overpopulation in central cities, promote industry-city integration, and prevent sleep towns. In addition, central cities should have cascading effects on secondary cities and rural areas by spawning new industries and enhancing urban-rural development.

6. Opening Up at a Higher Level: Exogenous Impetus for High-Quality Economic Development

The opening up policy has been a crucial factor in China's economic ascent. Indisputably, China's economic development has been accomplished in an open environment. China must maintain a higher level of opening-up going forward and derive exogenous impetus for high-quality economic development. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping at its the core has pursued a more proactive opening up strategy amid complex and volatile international situations, contributing to build an open global economy. Consequently, China's economic openness has undergone historically significant changes.

6.1 Historic Accomplishments

First, China has become the world's largest trading nation. As depicted in Figure 9, China's imports and exports of goods increased from 3.9 trillion US dollars to 6.1 trillion US dollars over the past decade from 2012 to 2021. China's imports and exports of goods increased by 1.9% in 2020, making it the only major economy with positive trade growth in that year. By 2021, China accounted for 15.1% of exports to the international market and 11.9% of imports from the international market, both of which were record highs[28].

Similarly, China's trade in services has exhibited consistent and positive growth. Figure 10 shows that China's imports and exports of services totaled 482.9 billion US dollars in 2012, accounting for 5.6% of the global total. China's imports and exports of services reached a record high of 821.2 billion US dollars in 2021, an increase of 24.1%, accounting for 13.5% of the global total. For eight years in a row, China ranked second in the world for trade in services[29].

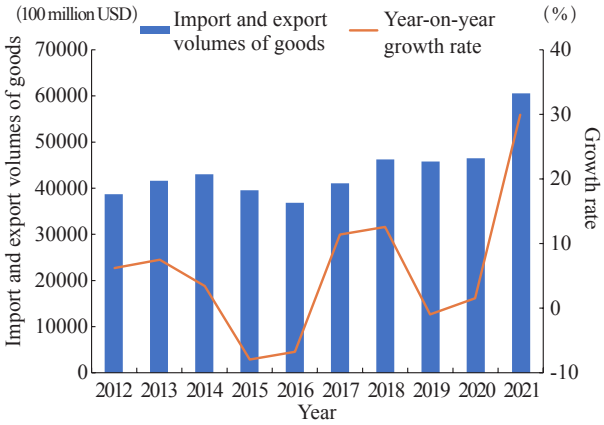

Figure 9: China's Trade in Goods, 2012-2021

Source: Data are compiled from the Ministry of Commerce.

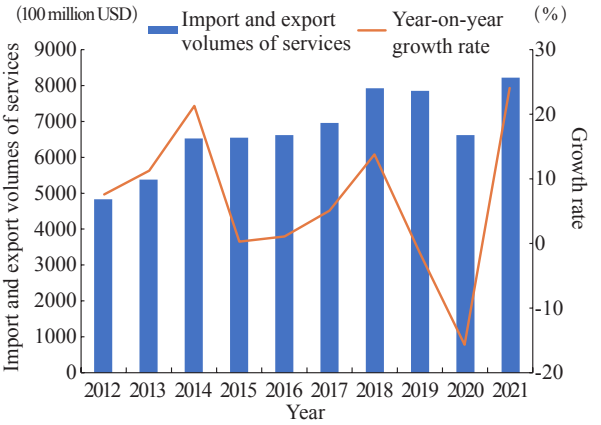

Figure 10: China's Trade in Services, 2012-2021

Source: Data are compiled from the Ministry of Commerce.

[28] Source: The Ministry of Commerce, http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/.

[29] Data source: The General Administration of Customs of China, http://www.customs.gov.cn/.

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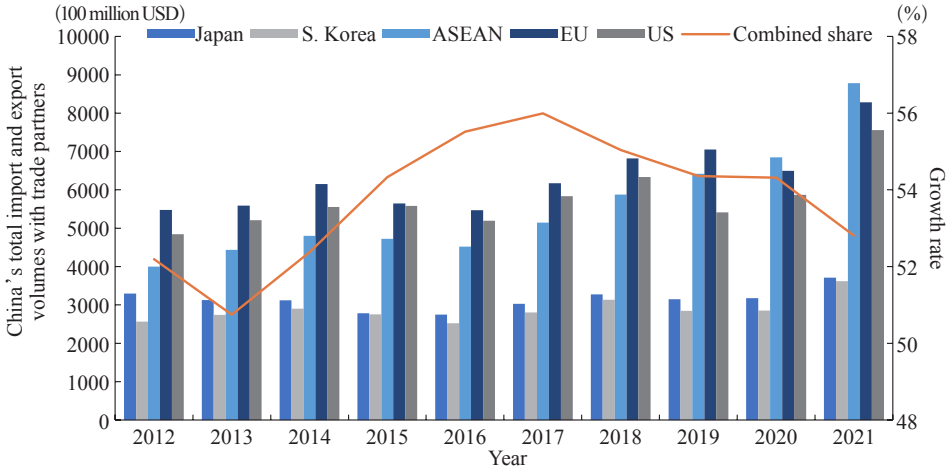

Figure 11: China's Two-Way Trade with Top Five Trading Partners, 2012-2021

Source: Data are compiled from the Ministry of Commerce.

Second, the regional layout of trade has become more balanced as a result of the diversification of international markets. China's top three trading partners over the past decade have been ASEAN, the EU, and the United States, accounting for approximately 40% of China's total import and export volumes. In particular, China's two-way trade with ASEAN has increased steadily, which surpassed the US in 2019 and the EU in 2020 to be China's largest trading partner. China's imports and exports with Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) countries increased by 7.5% annually from 2013 to 2021, from 6.5 trillion yuan to 11.6 trillion yuan; trade with BRI countries as a share of China's total trade volume rose by nearly 5 percentage points[30]. The BRI has contributed positively to China's trade diversification and the exchange of goods and services between regions.

With improving infrastructure and business climate, China's central and western regions have increasingly opened up and served as destinations for the gradual relocation of processing trade. From 2012 to 2021, imports and exports in China's central and western regions increased from 236.4 billion US dollars to 1.1 trillion US dollars, a 4.7-fold increase or an annual increase of 18.6%. China's regional layout of opening up has become more balanced and resilient as the central and western regions outpace the eastern region in terms of trade growth.

Third, China has upgraded its trade structure and improved its position in the international division of labor. As shown in Figure 12, general trade accounted for 60.9% of China's total trade volume in 2021, up from 48.2% in 2012, while processing trade decreased from 42.2% in 2012 to 24.2%. Raising the value-added of export commodities is important for extending domestic industrial chains and fostering economic growth. In the meantime, new business models have emerged, such as cross-border e-commerce and market procurement. In 2021, China's cross-border e-commerce import and export volume approached 2 trillion yuan with an annual increase of 15%, and China's market procurement export reached 0.93 trillion yuan with a growth rate of 32.1%. These business models have become new driving forces behind China's higher-level opening-up, making it better prepared for global competition.

6.2 New Strategy for the New Journey

On the new journey towards building a modern socialist country in all respects, we should be

[30] Source: *Report on China's Foreign Trade Situation* from the Ministry of Commerce, http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/.

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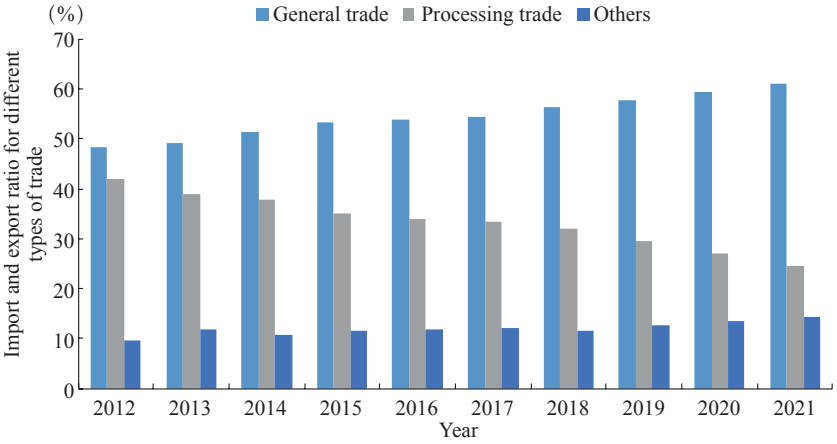

Figure 12: China's Trade Structure Adjustment, 2012-2021

Source: Data are compiled from the Ministry of Commerce.

mindful of turbulent changes in today's world unseen in a century and the growing instability and uncertainty in the international environment.

First, global supply chain recovery has slowed amid the COVID-19 pandemic and weak global demand. Second, intensifying geopolitical conflicts and persistent high inflation have dimmed global economic outlook. Third, global industrial and supply chains are restructuring at fast pace. It takes better interconnection between domestic and international markets and better use of domestic and international resources to seek development in a more volatile and uncertain world and foster new strengths for international cooperation and competition in the new situation. China should build partnerships and shared interests with all countries across the world and take an active part in reshaping the global governance system.

China should foster new comparative advantages with broad market potentials and a complete industrial supporting system to attract the concentration of global superior factor resources in China's economic sphere. It should broaden the global industrial chain division of labor through exports and lower the threshold of global industrial development throughout outbound investment,

Our country should bring innovation to global governance, deepen international cooperation, and increase its capacity and discourse power in setting international trade rules. It should give full play to the role of the BRICS, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and other new-type international organizations, form cooperation to drive change in international trade rules, and intensify exports according to our national capabilities.

7. Concluding Remarks

Under the CPC's strong leadership, China has created rapid economic development and long-term social stability. The success of Chinese modernization not only shows the way for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation but provides a reference for modernization in other developing economies. On the new journey of glory and dream, economic modernization is the material groundwork for socialist modernization, and high-quality development is the principal task for building a modern socialist country in all respects. In the face of new opportunities and challenges, China should expedite the creation of a socialist market economic system at a higher level, create a modern industrial system, advance countryside vitalization, coordinate regional development, and advance opening up at a higher level. High-quality economic development will create the material and technological conditions for building a modern socialist country in all respects. There is no doubt that by identifying and adapting to changes,

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the CPC will make new historic progress in socialist modernization at a higher historical starting point and realize the centennial dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

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