

自由応募分科会 1「内政・外交の関連性と国内知的基盤構築の新視点から見る中国の政策決定過程」・報告 4

報告テーマ

From Experimentation to Top-level Design? :The Role of Leading Small Groups in Chinese Policy Process

氏名(所属)

周 望(中国・南開大学)

ZHOU Wang

要旨

It is a trend in Chinese politics that the central leading small groups often play a large governing role. In addition to established political institutions, the CCP has a long-standing tradition of setting up smaller governing groups to deal with extraordinary or urgent matters. Despite their size, these groups often hold real power. Starting in 2013, the CCP successively strengthened the role of central leading small groups in decision-making and policy integration process.

It is still too early to conclude how much of an impact the central leading small groups will have on Chinese governance. However, there are two important things worth noting. First, these groups have yet to find their place in China's current legal system. As similar as these groups are with task-oriented organizations in the West, they are nonetheless rooted in a results-based and procedure-neglecting Chinese political system, and corresponding laws for their legal status have not yet been formulated. As the top-level designer, the central leading small groups must shoulder its own responsibilities and design its own state of being in line with the rules of law and modernization.

Another issue of concern is whether the design will contribute to the professionalization of decision-making made by the CCP's top leaders. Presently, many decisions are transferred to the inside of the central leading small groups whose members are highly professional, which is conducive to the professionalization of the CCP's decision-making. But from the perspective of group leader's exercise of power, it is highly likely that he will value political loyalty more than the professional background. In other words, cadres who are not from group leader's section are highly likely to be excluded from the central leading small groups even if they are professionally competent.