

Impact of the Russian maritime doctrine on its national economy

LeYao Sheng

Shanghai University of Political Science and Law, School Of Government Management, Shanghai 201701, China

Abstract: Ocean and its closely related coastal areas have always been an important field of global competition and cooperation and the creation of new value, and Russia, as a maritime power, announced the approval of the new ocean doctrine in the context of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which reflects the overall construction of Russia's ocean policy. Based on the new version of the ocean Doctrine in 2022, this paper will explore the impact of Russia's ocean strategy on its national economy by analyzing Russia's value proposition for the ocean and its related ocean activities.

Keywords: Oceans; Maritime Doctrine; National Economy

1. Introduction

The ocean and its closely related coastal areas have always been an important area for global competition, cooperation and the creation of new value. The development and rational use of the world's Marine resources is of great economic significance. The importance of the ocean to the military and national strategy stems from the following factors: a considerable part of the strategic nuclear forces of the maritime powers are located in them, and the modern combat fleets with flight equipment and long-range missile systems can influence the situation of the world's oceans and greatly affect the world's military and political stability. The OECD has made a report estimating that the contribution of the ocean economy in 2010 was about 1.5 trillion US dollars, accounting for about 2.5 percent of the global GDP, according to estimates, by 2030 the total world ocean economy will increase to 3 trillion US dollars.

Russia has been actively engaged in geographical and economic research on the world's oceans since the 1960s and 1970s, and its research projects also reflect the increasing maritime orientation of the modern Russian socio-economic space, as documented in the Theory of the Sea of the Russian Federation, in which Russia is attempting to re-establish itself among the major maritime powers.

2. Russian geopolitical maritime environment

The length of Russia's maritime borders is 38,800 kilometers, the sea area is about 7 million square kilometers, the coastline is 43,000 kilometers, and two thirds of the country's territory is covered by the sea. Until 1991, Russia's maritime activities were confined to the framework of a single Union-wide ecological complex, which focused on the active exploitation and exploration of the seas and oceans. As a result, Russia is not only a land power, but also a maritime power. Although Russia's maritime frontiers extend to the Arctic and the Pacific Ocean, it has lost much of the coastal infrastructure of the former Soviet Union. As a result, since 1994, Russia's maritime development has been dominated by the restoration of infrastructure, and by the beginning of 2000 maritime activities had become the most important factor in Russia's integration into the global economy. Another important factor contributing to Russia's status as a maritime power is its abundant energy resources.

The multifaceted growth of maritime activities in Russia is in line with the positive development trend of the Russian shipbuilding industry. Russia is rich in Marine resources, especially its fishery resources, which are mainly concentrated in the Russian Pacific waters in recent years, showing a positive trend of development. At the same time, Russia is also a major shipping country in the world, and Marine transportation is an important part of its unified transportation system. Throughout the course of Russia's development, its strong maritime power, "national maritime power" and sound maritime strategy are the pillars supporting Russia's gradual emergence as a maritime power. From a series of maritime strategy documents formulated in 1998 to the "Principles and Vision of the Policy of the State of the Russian Federation in the Arctic Region until 2020" to the "Naval Strategy of the Russian Federation (Draft)", this series of documents not only laid the foundation for the recovery and development of the Russian Navy, but also set the tone for the development of Russia's maritime strategy.

Which has enabled Russia to seek more maritime interests in various fields, especially in the economic field.

The economic value contained in Russia's maritime strategy. Russia's economic activities are influenced by its geographical location and objective natural climate factors. Due to the special factors of its special geographical location, its activities in the world's oceans can greatly affect its competitiveness in various fields such as defense, finance, commerce, science and society. In order to solve the problems encountered in the course of economic development, Russia will adopt the Federal goal-oriented "World Ocean Program" aimed at creating the geopolitical conditions and related facilities needed by Russia in the world oceans

3. Overview of the maritime doctrine of the Russian Federation

· On July 31, 2022, the day of the Russian Navy, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced the approval of the new maritime doctrine of the Russian Federation in his speech during the military parade at the Naval base of Kronstadt. The new Doctrine conveys the essence of Russia's national interests and highlights the socio-economic dimension in its content, reflecting the overall official view of the State maritime policy of the Russian Federation and the maritime activities of the Russian Federation.

Since the first edition in 2001, the doctrine of the Russian Navy has been one of the departmental documents with the National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation as its core. What has now changed is that the doctrine has shifted its focus to naval issues, in effect turning the doctrine of the Sea into a document that complements the military doctrine of the Russian Federation. Most of the new provisions of the 2022 edition of the Doctrine of the Sea are primarily a statement of intent. Experts and scholars generally believe that these are unlikely to be realized in the next few years. The implementation and enforcement of these plans will require not only that Russia maintain adequate levels of funding, but also that it build a system of anti-American alliances based on selected African and Asian countries. This does not mean that Russia has been unable to invoke the provisions of the document in its operations, but its capabilities are limited to destructive activities in bodies of water adjacent to land, mainly in the form of blockades and destruction of Ukrainian ports.

At the macro level, the new document aims to be analyzed in conjunction with the 2021 National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation. In the strategy document, Russia claims that it is effectively resisting external pressure and defending its internal unity and status as a sovereign state. According to the strategy, Russia is playing a leading role in "shaping a new architecture, new rules and new principles for the world order." In August 2022, speaking at the opening of the International Security Conference in Moscow, Russian Defense Minister General Sergei Shoigu made a special reference to confrontation with the West: "The Western world order divides the world into 'democratic partners' and 'authoritarian regimes, and any measure of influence is permissible. '" The new maritime doctrine also reflects the counterpoint view that the global order is no longer unipolar and that Russia is engaged in a hybrid war with the "collective West." That makes it all the more important to analyze the doctrine from Russia's vantage point.

4. Impact of the maritime doctrine on the Russian national economy

The Russian Federation Maritime Doctrine 2022 contains a clear focus on maritime activities aimed at "ensuring Russia's economic independence and food security" in order to protect Russia's national interests. Among other things, the doctrine establishes the goal of establishing national and trans-regional maritime economic centers in what the document calls "advanced development zones." And given the importance of the Arctic in terms of resources, transportation and other considerations, Russia also regards the Arctic as a priority area of its national maritime policy. This, from an economic point of view, also highlights Russia's leading position in the field of space research and development in the Arctic ocean. This is an important change both from an economic point of view and from the perspective of maritime law. Compared to the 2015 Maritime Doctrine, the development of the maritime pipeline system is listed as an independent functional direction of the State maritime policy of the Russian Federation. There are also important changes in the socio-economic direction of the new Russian maritime doctrine, which further place other elements of Russian maritime power under a legal framework.

In addition to the above, the 2022 Maritime doctrine primarily Outlines Russia's priority needs for the Arctic, where Russia clearly sees climate change, China's interest in the Northern Sea Route and NATO's expansion of the high seas of the North Sea as making its northern coast the most critical factor for defense and growth.

5. Strategic significance of the new version of the ocean doctrine

In the previous doctrine, Russia proclaimed itself the world's second-best navy, now it is content to be a maritime power among its peers. The Russian leadership is seeking to solidify the Russian navy's position among the world's leading maritime powers, but it no longer boasts of alleged superiority. Beyond that, Russia is a nuclear power, and he too believes he is ready for all-out war, while also looking for opportunities to open himself up to cooperation with the international community in Russia's favor.

The new Russian Oceanography of 2022 complements the country's strategic planning. In defining Russia's main maritime goal as maintaining the independence and self-sufficiency of the Russian Federation in the field of maritime activities, the doctrine points to the United States and its Allies as its main adversaries. Is "challenging Russia's ability to maintain its position as a strong maritime power responsible for maintaining the strategic stability of the world's oceans." While the strategic documents adopted by a country often contain larger objectives rather than a clear achievable goal, they provide value by defining a country's overall strategic deployment plan to drive its military strategy forward, pointing the way for the country's development. As with Russia's maritime doctrine, while such strategy documents contain lofty goals rather than exact deliverables, they still provide value by defining a country's worldview and the assumptions that drive its military strategy.

Under the guidance of the new edition of the Russian Federation Maritime Doctrine in 2022, Russia identifies and defends its national interests in the seas and oceans, and in doing so seeks an adequate naval presence for Russia. The vision of the new Maritime Doctrine includes both enhancing Russia's naval potential to enhance its ability to defend national security and promoting the sustainable socio-economic development of Russia.

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