The Possibility of the Development of the Third Phase of International Relations

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Abstract: Year of 2019 is generally regarded as the centenary of the establishment of the discipline of international relations. In order to further explore the relevant issues, the author of this paper has carried out a special discussion on the theme of "Global International Relations: Current Situation and Trends", and has analyzed the relevant issues separately, and put forward his views.

1. Introduction

Many people believe that since 1919, the University of Wales has established a chair named after Woodrow Wilson and a special Department of International Politics. By 2019, the international relations discipline has been established for 100 years. Since then, international relations as a discipline have begun to take shape and institutionalize. Just as major wars in the history of international relations have often become watersheds, major wars have also become a watershed in the history of international relations. The unprecedented scale of the First World War caused enormous casualties and serious damage. The deep disaster caused by the war has caused people to think hard. The League of Nations is a major international initiative in this regard.

2. Development process of international relations

2.1 First stage

Shortly after the war in November 1918, the board of directors of the University College of Wales (Aberystwyth) received a letter from an industrialist and member of the British House of Commons, who was David Davies. In his letter he expressed his willingness to donate 20,000 and set up a chair named after Woodrow Wilson (later named “The Woodrow Wilson Chair of International Politics”) to commemorate the University of Wales students who fell in the war and study those relevant legal and political, ethical and economic issues. These topics are proposed by the proposed League of Nations and are also truly understood by different civilizations. The first person to be the professor was Alfred Zimmer. Zimmer was not in office for a long time, two years later by Charles K., a scholar who specializes in the history of the 19th century diplomacy. In 1935, it was widely known as E. H. Carr was hired as the fourth professor of Wilson's seat. It was during his teaching that he wrote his most famous book, "the 20 Year Crisis", which was published in 1939 and later recognized as a classic theory of international relations. And it is also regarded as the first modern monograph of realism. In 1947, Carr resigned as a lecturer at the university of Wales and moved to Oxford, where he wrote another classic, entitled "What is history?".

Later, another British industrialist, Montague Maurice Burton, was also deeply interested in the career of the League of Nations and decided to donate funds. He established a professorship in international relations at the London school of economics and political science in 1923 and at Oxford University in 1930. As its sister organization in the United States, the Council on foreign relations was established in New York in 1921 and soon became a leading think tank. During the two world wars, the focus of international relations was in Europe, and the center of international relations was also basically in Europe, especially the United Kingdom. The first department of international relations in US universities was established at Yale University in 1934. And the former Fletcher...
School of Law and Diplomacy was established in 1933 with the goal of cultivating public and international law, diplomacy and international relations, and the international economy. This period can be counted as the first phase of the development of international relations, or a period centered on the United Kingdom.

2.2 Second stage

Since then, a wider and larger World War II has taken place, which once again decisively changed the course of world history. After the war, the United States jumped to become the world's no.1 power, also the center of the social sciences, including international relations, and it has been for many years. In the analysis, this status is obtained for at least three reasons.

First of all, the United States has strong financial resources. In the early post-war period, the total economic output of the United States accounted for almost half of the world’s economy. Under this circumstance, the US government with strong financial resources provides financial support to academic institutions in accordance with domestic legislation such as the National Defense Education Act. As early as before the war, major private foundations such as Rockefeller, Carnegie, and Ford have emerged in the United States, and there have been further developments after the war. Outside the government, these private foundations have provided continuous financial support for social science research, including political science and international relations, which has greatly promoted the prosperity of academic research.

Secondly, the United States has a vast territory, with many universities, think tanks, academic journals and publishing companies. The number of employees is very large, forming a large academic community of political science and international relations.

Thirdly, the status of English as an international language is beyond the expectation of any other language in the world. And the world status of the United States has strengthened the international status of English. The special status of English has enhanced the international influence of American academics. The two have formed a mutually reinforcing situation.

For international relations, however, dominance is not a healthy condition. Relatively speaking, the United States is a young country, but because of its foundation, it lacks maturity and stability. This situation is also reflected in the American international relations, its limitations are as follows. In theory, several kinds of "ism", which are familiar to people, are advocated, leading to a serious mindset. There has been no major development in American international relations theory for many years, and it has a lot to do with it. Secondly, the superstitious method mistakenly believes that once the method is mastered, the research of the problem will be solved. However, this belief and practice seriously misrepresented the nature of social science. The nature of this is that social science is fundamentally about people and people. Researchers are keen to play with complicated techniques, formulas, and models, thinking that this is the "scientific" of international relations, and they are deeply caught in the misunderstanding and do not know. Last but not least, the United States often thinks of itself as the leader of the world, not paying attention to and not caring about the academic and ideological development of the rest of the world, thinking that it can explain everything and doesn't need other countries or other people to talk about it.

2.3 Third stage

The world of thought, like the world of matter, needs balance or a more balanced state. Thought needs to be stimulated and even impacted. In 2013, Amitaf Acharya presented and systematically expounded the concept of “Global IR” in the speech of President ISA, which is a very important and positive development. The global concept of international relations has six main points as follows. Firstly, it opposes a monistic universalism, recognizing and respecting the diversity of the world of international relations. Secondly, it is based on the world history, not just the history of Greece, Rome, Europe or the United States. Thirdly, it encompasses international relations theories and methods, not replace them. Fourthly, it integrates regional, regionalism and regional studies. Fifthly, it must avoid cultural exceptions and narrowness. Last but not least, it recognizes multiple forms of
action beyond material power, including resistance, normative action, and local construction of the global order.

The presentation of global international relations and these six principles are very important and have received wide attention. The discussion around global international relations is continuing. This development, along with other changes, marks the beginning of a new phase, which most of the people call the third phase of international relations. Today in the 21st century, the world continues to be in a period of total peace, without the possibility of major wars or major wars. It is also for this reason that the third phase of the development of international relations may be difficult to demarcate. The introduction of "Global Relations in International Relations" has become one of the signs.

Another sign of the third period is the rise of current and future research on China's international relations. In view of the current situation, IR is becoming a global discipline, and international relations developed from non-Western regions are showing a greater presence in the academic circles of international relations. This trend will continue, and one of the increasingly important components is China. And there are two main reasons for this. Firstly, China has risen further in the world, then secondly, IR is a rapidly developing discipline in China. From past experience, the status of a discipline has a very direct correlation with the world status of the country. With the rise of China in the world, China's social sciences, including international relations, will also have a greater impact in the world's academic halls, occupying a more important position.

From a realistic perspective, China is becoming a rather dazzling country in the field of international relations. One is that China's IR community is growing. China’s younger generation of international relations scholars are growing rapidly.

In China, as in other countries, universities are undoubtedly the most concentrated and largest number of international relations scholars. China also has research institutions affiliated with the government that are owned by many other countries and affiliated with the government. But unlike most countries, China is outside the university, as well as the Academy of Social Sciences and the Party School System.

The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences has eight research institutes. In addition to the Institute of World Economics and Politics, which is a comprehensive research institution, the other seven regional research institutes cover geographically across the globe. The local academies of social sciences, especially the provinces, municipalities, and autonomous regions also have certain strengths. Among them, the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences has the strongest strength, and the social science academies in the border provinces often have good research on neighboring countries. The latter refers to central party schools and local party schools. In addition to the relevant teaching and research departments of the Central Party School, the International Strategy Institute (now known as the Academy) has been established several years ago. Local, especially provincial, municipal, and autonomous region-level party schools also have some strength.

The degree of specialization has been greatly enhanced, and the development of disciplines and the output of research products has shown a very prosperous situation. Professional journals of international relations with high quality have sprung up and have achieved extraordinary success. Under the circumstances that the publishing department strictly controls the total number of journals and the official publications are difficult to obtain, a number of serial publications "book-based publications" published in book numbers have emerged, for example, Fudan University's Fudan International Relations Review (each issue has a theme), Renmin University of China's World Politics Review, etc. The Relationship Studies, International Observation, and International Outlook sponsored by relevant academic institutions in Shanghai each have their own merits, and the latter two have entered the ranks of Chinese Social Science Citation Index (CSSCI) source journals.

In addition, some academic journals in English have been run by the China International Relations Academy. Chinese academic institutions have hosted English publications for at least 30 years, but they have had little impact over the years. The main reason for this is the "self-cycling". They have not entered the mainstream international distribution channels and have a narrow reading area. Their role is mainly used for external communication. Things are different now. Indicatively, the Institute of International Relations of Tsinghua University has sponsored The Chinese Journal of
International Politics which published by Oxford University Press. Fudan University's School of International Relations and Public Affairs has sponsored the Chinese Political Science Review, published by Springer Publishing, an internationally acclaimed company. In general, the English-language international academic journals run by Chinese academic units have undergone a transition from communication to research, and they will undoubtedly have an international impact in the future.

The third and most important is that there have been several Chinese-originated international relations theories. Among them, the more representative are world political relations theory, moral realism, world theory, and symbiosis theory. The problem to be solved is that academic products with Chinese originality must be produced or further produced. At this time, the entire country of China has reached a stage where it is necessary to produce its own original products such as core technologies and important academic theories. The events and situations that have appeared in the "trade war" in recent years have made people see that the key core technologies are in the hands of others. Once there is a sign of disturbance or trouble, we're going to be trapped and stuck. The situation in international relations is different but there are still a little similar things. Where is the original contribution and theoretical sublimation of the Chinese? This is a question that must be addressed. Over time, it must emerge or it must emerge further before China can gain a place in the theoretical building of world international relations.

3. Conclusion

What is important is that China's international relations must follow the path of independent development, and it cannot follow the West. The original idea of the "Chinese School" that advocates the construction of international relations is generally the same, and it is normal to have different views on this issue. The "Chinese School" that advocates the construction of international relations is not a land, but a part of global international relations. From the big trend, international relations are developing from a Western or basically Western discipline to a global discipline, and China is becoming an increasingly important part of it. In this sense, the third phase of the development of international relations may be a time when it is going on.

References