

subject report

## Comment on regional and country studies in Chinese academic circles and Cognition of regional and national studies\*

Jiang Shixue

Abstract: In recent years, Chinese academic circles have attached great importance to regional and country studies.

At an unprecedented level, a large number of studies on what regional and country studies are and why

Scientific research results on issues such as carrying out regional and country studies and how to carry out regional and country studies,

The understanding of this subject is constantly deepening. However, some views in this understanding are questionable.

It is questionable. After regional and country studies are upgraded to "regional and country studies", it is necessary to seriously examine

Consider the following major issues closely related to the discipline construction of this discipline: Regions and countries

Research should be demystified because it is no more difficult than comprehensive research on international issues.

problem research. The main direction of cultivating regional and country research talents is not undergraduates, but young people.

Years of teachers, postdoctoral fellows and doctoral students. Regional and country studies and "regional and country studies" are required.

Correctly handle the relationship between basic theoretical research and applied strategy research to build a great foreign country with Chinese characteristics.

provide more powerful academic support. Academic innovation is essential, but it does not have to be based on

"x x studies" replaces "x x studies" because the difference between "x x studies" and "x

The difference is so slight that it is difficult to define. It is necessary to compile more books that reflect Chinese characteristics as soon as possible.

It is a textbook on regional and country studies, but its difficulty is self-evident.

Keywords: international issues research, regional and country studies, regional and country studies

Interdisciplinary discipline construction

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phased results

With the rise of China's international status, especially after the Ministry of Education established the first batch of "country and regional research cultivation bases" in 2012, Chinese academic circles have paid unprecedented attention to regional and country studies. To a certain extent, Regional and country studies have become a "prominent science". In recent years, in addition to in-depth research on the politics, economy, diplomacy, society, history and culture of various regions and countries in the world, many scholars have also written a large number of articles on what regional countries are. Research, why and how to carry out regional and country studies and other issues. There is no doubt that the Chinese academic community's deepening understanding of regional and country studies will help to enhance the academic status and academic status of this subject. It has great influence, helps to promote the discipline construction of "regional and country studies", and helps to provide powerful scholarship for major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics.

technical support

### 1. About the origin and important status of regional and country studies

Regional and country studies are regarded as "imported products". Ren Xiao believes that since the "Geographical Discovery" in the 15th century, the Western-dominated capitalist world market has rapidly expanded, and various originally isolated regions around the world have become increasingly connected into an organic whole. In the historical background of what is today called "globalization", the deepening of political, economic, and cultural exchanges between regions has made it a basic knowledge need to promote the understanding of external regions. From this, "regional country research" Qian Chengdan traced Western regional and country studies back to the 18th century. He believed that at that time, Western colonial expansion had spread all over the world. Out of the need to rule colonies and curiosity about foreign cultures, Western scholars began to understand and the study of colonial culture and society, thus giving rise to new academic fields such as "Orientalism" and "Egyptology". This is the earliest "regional and country studies". Han Dongyu also believes that, as a discipline, regional and country studies originated in the West, especially the United States, and later spread to East Asia.

However, some people believe that China's regional and country studies can be traced back to a longer period. For example, Liu Hongwu, from the perspective of academic history, believes that the "Book of Songs" more than 2,000 years ago can be roughly regarded as a Chinese

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The "Notice on Matters Concerning the Submission of Annual Reports of Training Bases" issued by the Ministry of Education in 2012 (Educational Foreign Affairs Department [2012] No. 1629) uses "regional and country research" ([http://www.moegovcn/s78/A20/tongzhi/guoji/201210/t20121023\\_144893.html](http://www.moegovcn/s78/A20/tongzhi/guoji/201210/t20121023_144893.html)) But it is in 2 "Notice on Issuing the Interim Measures for the Cultivation and Construction of National and Regional Research Bases" issued in 2015 (Teaching Foreign Supervisors [2015] No. 4) was changed to "Country and Regional Studies" ([http://www.moegov.cn/srcsite/A20/s7068/201501/t20150126\\_189316.html](http://www.moegov.cn/srcsite/A20/s7068/201501/t20150126_189316.html)). In academia, "Regional and Country Studies" and "Regional Country Studies" "Country and regional studies" and "country and regional studies" are indiscriminate. Ren Xiao and Sun Zhiqiang:

«The development process, trends and directions of regional and country studies - an interview with Professor Ren Xiao», contained in «International Politics Research» Issue 1, 2020

Han Dongyu: "Other experience and self-practice in regional and country studies", published in "Xuehai", Issue 2, 2022.

This is the earliest "area studies" work in China. The rational awareness and ideological wisdom in understanding the world reflected in this book, as well as the spiritual tradition formed on this basis, profoundly influenced later Chinese academic research on regions, regions, civilizations, etc. Li Anshan believes that China's regional and country studies have a rich historical tradition. China's official history has recorded information and materials on frontier fortresses and Sino-foreign exchanges. To a certain extent, today's Chinese people have a deep understanding of the surrounding areas and other parts of the world. The understanding of the region is based on the materials collected in the early days. These historical materials include "Historical Records", "Biographies of the Huns", "Biographies of South Vietnam", "Biographies of East Vietnam", "Biographies of Korea", "Biographies of Southwest Yi" and "Biographies of Dawan" etc. ̃ Tang Shiping believes that as one of the earliest ancient civilizations to invent writing, China is one of the earliest civilizations and countries to have the prototype of "regional studies". This can already be seen in the "Hai Neijing" chapter of "The Classic of Mountains and Seas" "Within the East China Sea, at the corner of the North Sea, there is a country named Korea and Tiandu. Its people live in the water and love each other." In Sima Qian's "Historical Records", there are even more descriptions of the Xiongnu, South Vietnam, East Vietnam, There are relatively detailed records of Korea and Southwestern Yi. ̃ Zhang Yuan also believes that China had the "Book of Mountains and Seas" in the pre-Qin period. There has also been a tradition of recording surrounding history and places in all dynasties, such as Zhao Rushi's "Zhufan Zhi" in the Song Dynasty and the Yuan Dynasty Tribute Most of the early foreign knowledge was empirical, and most of the records of foreign knowledge were travelogue-style foreign experiences. For example, the Tang Dynasty monk Xuanzang's "The Western Regions of the Tang Dynasty" is a record of what is now South Asia. and Central Asia. In North Africa, there is "Ibn Battuta's Travels" which records his experiences in most regions and countries in Asia. In West Asia, there is Ibn Huldazbih's "Records of Dauri State". In Europe, there is the famous "Marco Polo's Travels". 4 Ren Xiao regards the origin of China's "regional and country studies" in the 19th century as the product of the historical process of being forced into the global system by the mighty ships and cannons of Western powers. He believes that since the defeat of the Opium War, China has After the country was forced to open its doors, Chinese society encountered "changes unprecedented in three thousand years." In order to cope with unprecedented severe external challenges, knowledgeable Chinese intellectuals began to "open their eyes to see the world." The sages who actively explored the outside world include Lin Zexu, Wei Yuan, Xu Jishe, etc. They understood the language, culture, legal system, military technology, etc. of Western countries through various methods, and took charge of the translation of Western literature and materials. They successively compiled "Four Continents", "Haiguo Tu Zhi", "Ying Huan Zhi Lue" and other enlightening books. An important work of great significance, establishing the Chinese people's preliminary understanding of the external world.̃

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Liu Hongwu: "Historical Origins and Realistic Trends of China's Regional and Country Studies", published in "International Observation", Issue 5, 2020 ̃ Li Anshan:

"China's Regional and Country Studies : History, Purpose and Methods", published in "Cloud" Large Area Research», Issue 2, 2020 ̃ Tang Shiping, Zhang Jie, Cao Xiaoyang: "China's Regional Research: Achievements, Gaps and Expectations", published in "World Economy and Politics", ̃ Issue 11 , 2005

̃ Zhang Yun: «Regional and Country Studies in International Relations: Practical Turn and Disciplinary Approaches», published in «Chinese Social Science Evaluation», Issue 4, 2020. Ren Xiao

̃ and Sun Zhiqiang: «The development history, trends and trends of regional and country studies Direction——Interview with Professor Ren Xiao »̃ contained in «International Politics Research»̃ Issue 1, 2020

Huang Dayuan and others believe that the current regional and country studies in China are still in the exploratory stage. This judgment is questionable. As early as 1956, the Overseas Chinese Affairs Commission of China established the Nanyang Research Institute at Xiamen University. This may be the beginning of the People's Republic of China. The earliest research institution dedicated to regional and country studies established after the establishment of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. In 1961, the Department of Philosophy and Social Sciences of the Chinese Academy of Sciences established the Institute of West Asian and African Studies, the Institute of Latin American Studies and the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. From December 14, 1963 to February 1964, On September 4, Premier Zhou Enlai visited Africa. Before the visit, he chaired a meeting on how to strengthen research on international issues. After the meeting, the Central Foreign Affairs Group drafted a "Report on Strengthening Research on Foreign Affairs". Chairman Mao Zedong approved "This report" Very good. In 1964, according to the instructions of Chairman Mao Zedong and Premier Zhou Enlai, and with the approval of the Ministry of Education, Peking University, Renmin University of China and Fudan University all established departments of international politics, which effectively promoted regional and country studies.

In recent years, China's regional and country studies seem to have become a "prominent science". Institutions engaged in regional and country studies have mushroomed, and conferences, lectures and papers discussing regional and country studies have emerged one after another. Why should we strengthen regional and country studies? Almost all scholars attribute its necessity to China's strong comprehensive national strength and rising international status. For example, Qian Chengdan believes that regional country research is a need for big countries. Only big countries have strong requirements for regional country research. China After more than 40 years of rapid development, it has become the second largest economy in the world. Its comprehensive national strength and international status have been continuously improved, and its influence in the world has continued to expand. At the same time, the international landscape is changing rapidly, and the internal conditions and external environment for China's development are changing. Rapid changes are taking place. In this context, promoting the "Belt and Road" initiative, promoting Sino-foreign exchanges, strengthening international communication, participating in global governance, and jointly building a community with a shared future for mankind have become China's basic policy to cope with world changes and ensure sustained and stable development. The new situation and new goals require us to accurately grasp the international situation, correctly understand the external world, accurately formulate international strategies, and vigorously promote foreign work. All these require China to conduct in-depth and comprehensive research on countries and regions around the world. It is important to carry out regional and country studies. The needs of the times. Chen Yue believes that regional and national studies were formed in the United States after World War II. To be more precise, it was an interdisciplinary research field spawned by the Cold War and the struggle between the United States and the Soviet Union for hegemony. After World War II, the United States established its status as a global power.

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Huang Dayuan and Guo Runtian: «The Eurasian turn in regional and country studies: focusing on problem awareness», published in «Xi'an International Studies University Journal » Issue 6, 2021

The Institute of International Relations of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (now the China Institute of International Studies) was also established in 1956. Ren Xiao and Sun Zhiqiang: «The development history, trends and directions of regional and country studies—an interview with Professor Ren Xiao», published in «International Politics Research » Issue 1, 2020

Qian Chengdan believes that Britain and France were the most powerful countries in the world in the 19th century, and they initiated the overall study of many parts of the world. After the Second World War, the United States achieved world hegemony and became the leader in regional country research. Germany, Japan Countries such as China and South Korea have also successively carried out regional and country research, which is directly related to the improvement of their national strength. See Qian Chengdan: "Taking discipline construction as the key link to promote regional and country research in my country", published in "Universities and Disciplines", 2021 Issue 4 of the year

Correspondingly, the national interests of the United States have also radiated to the whole world. Strengthening research on various regions and countries in the world has become an urgent need to formulate the national strategy and foreign strategy of the United States. ̃ Xie Tao believes that since the beginning of the 21st century, China's comprehensive national strength has grown rapidly, its connections with the world have become increasingly broader and deeper, its willingness and ability to participate in global governance have gradually increased, and its influence in international affairs has continued to expand. On the one hand, China has become the focus of attention from the international community; on the other hand, China has become the focus of attention from the international community. The Chinese government and all sectors of society have a sharp increase in their demand for knowledge about the outside world. In particular, they need in-depth research on the politics, economy, culture, history, society and other aspects of various countries and regions. One of the signs of a global power is the ability to provide intellectual support for its diplomatic strategies. Country and regional research in China. The current country and regional research in China can be said to have ushered in a golden period. ̃ Zhao Kejin believes that attaching importance to country and regional research is, strictly speaking, a standard configuration for a world power, and it is also a step forward in the world. Wang Xiangyuan also believes that a country often emphasizes "Chinese studies" when its national strength is weak, but when its national strength increases, it can have enough time and energy to pay attention to its surroundings, pay attention to foreign countries, and face the world, and then it can be enthusiastic Promote regional research and regional construction. ̃ Guo Shuyong attributed the necessity of conducting regional and country studies to three benefits: It is beneficial to enrich the detailed and comprehensive understanding of relevant countries; It is beneficial to scientifically study and judge the situation and conditions for cooperation and development; It is beneficial to Carry out people-to-people and cultural exchanges and public diplomacy in a more targeted manner, serve the strategy of major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics and people-to-people bonds, help grasp the development trend of international exchange hubs, and contribute to global governance and a new type of international relations for win-win cooperation. ̃ Li Anshan pointed out in Africa As an example, it pointed out the contribution of regional country research to enhancing people's understanding of the world, learning from other countries' civilizational achievements and development experiences, and promoting exchanges in humanities and social sciences between China and foreign countries. For example, China can learn from countries such as Mauritius about social welfare progress, etc. In addition, the values of some African countries are also worthy of our study and reference, such as the "Ubuntu" spirit advocated by the African Union. The Ubuntu spirit has two meanings: "treating others humanely" (being kind to others) and "the world." Sharing, connecting everyone" (community). These two meanings are interrelated and mutually reinforcing. ̃

When promoting China's regional and country studies, can we learn from foreign practices? Luo Lin and others believe that China's country and regional studies are not "cooking" American regional studies. China's country and regional studies are different from those in the West. The country's regional studies have both similarities and distinct Chinese characteristics. First, in terms of discipline creation model, national and regional studies are deployed under the central leadership and educational administration.

̃ Chen Yue: «Intersection and Integration of Regional and National Disciplines», published in «International Forum», Issue 3, 2022. Xie Tao: «Regional and National Studies:

̃ Opportunities and Challenges», published in «International Forum», Issue 3, 2022 Issue ̃ Zhao Kejin: «The connotation, debate and trend of national regional studies».

̃ published in «Russian Studies», Issue 3, 2021. Wang Xiangyuan: «The disciplinary construction and basic theoretical issues of "regional studies"», published in «Academic Research» ̃ Issue 7, 2021. Guo

̃ Shuyong: «Strengthening regional and country research», Published in «People's Daily», Page 14, February 15, 2016. Li Anshan: «China's regional and country research: history, purpose and methods», Published

̃ «Research on Yunnan-Dalian Region», Issue 2, 2020.

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The overall construction of the discipline is organized and planned under the direct leadership of the department. Compared with American area studies, which relies on the academic community to spontaneously organize discipline creation activities, it has stronger mobilization power and wider participation. Second, in terms of cross-disciplinary collaboration, domestic Philosophy and social sciences have strong compatibility, and there is a certain consensus on establishing comprehensive disciplines in specific countries or regions, which helps to promote the development of disciplines. However, the division of humanities and social science disciplines in the United States is more refined, emphasizing the need to The development trend of "hard subjects" based on positivism is not conducive to the development of regional studies disciplines. Thirdly, in the path of discipline creation, national and regional studies adopt a "bottom-up, collaborative integration" path, consisting of foreign languages and literature, The three first-level disciplines of political science and world history are jointly involved, while the creation path of regional studies in the United States adopts a "top-down" top-level planning path. Fourth, in terms of financial support, China's national and regional studies have received Special support from the central government can ensure the sustainable development of research teams and discipline construction. However, during the establishment of regional studies in the United States, it relied on the support of government projects and private foundations. With the end of government projects and the withdrawal of private foundations, regional studies are facing challenges. However, Niu Ke believes that area studies in the United States have generally presented a richer and more complex pattern, and are breaking away from the "Cold War social science" style. Moreover, this situation is inconsistent with the history of social sciences and advanced studies. The development trends of in-depth and diversified research in the history of education, sociology of knowledge, and American politics echo each other and advance hand in hand. The Chinese academic community is building "country and regional studies", and of course we should have special expectations for such research. and attentiony

## 2. Research objects of regional and country studies

As the name suggests, the research objects of regional and country studies are all regions in the world and all countries, large and small. According to the relevant columns of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs website, the world consists of Asia, Africa, Europe, and North America. It consists of the Americas, South America and Oceania. In addition to these large and small continents and nearly 200 countries, there are also some sub-regions and nearly 20 non-independent regions.y

Some scholars have interpreted the concepts of "region" and "country" theoretically. For example, Chen Heng asked: We know approximately how many countries there are in the world, but do we know how many regions there are? Region

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y Luo Lin, Shao Yuzhuo: «Construction of a major country's academic system of national and regional studies under the perspective of "One Belt and One Road"», published in «Xinjiang Normal University Journal» (Philosophy and Social Sciences Edition), Issue 11, 2018.

y Niu Ke: «Regional and International Studies: Thoughts on History and "Principles"——Interview with Associate Professor Niu Ke»y in «International Politics Research », Issue 5, 2018

y Each region has several sub-regions. For example, Asia has Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, South Asia and Central Asia; Africa has North Africa, East Asia and Africa, West Africa, Central Africa and Southern Africa, Latin America has the Andes, Central America and the Caribbean, etc.

Does it include the Antarctic and the North Pole? Does it include the ocean? Does it include space? Does cyberspace belong to a region? If it does, we really need to re-examine the existing concepts of time and space. He believes that the so-called region refers to politics, economy, and culture. It is a wide-area space composed of a country or multiple countries or adjacent parts of multiple countries that have the same, similar or similar aspects such as social or historical traditions. Obviously, regions and countries sometimes overlap, but in most cases they are. Across nation-states, there are also intersections between regions. This makes several units in traditional regional studies very complex, such as Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America. Their connotations and extensions are also constantly changing. In the rapidly developing world In the contemporary world, we cannot regard "region" as a fixed, static entity. It is a group of overlapping, blurred, sometimes intertwined and even conflicting economic and social relations, influenced by religious beliefs, political activities, and industrial activities. , agricultural activities, commercial activities, population mobility, volunteer organizations and other factors. ̣

Niu Ke believes that in terms of epistemological preferences, methodological approaches and disciplinary culture, regional studies that target regional "entities" constitute a departure and confrontation with the "hard positivism" that dominated social sciences at that time, because regional studies are inherently biased towards "concrete" "Image" rather than "general" knowledge form. To use some vocabulary related to the epistemology of social sciences, in a relative sense, the intellectual preferences and characteristics of area studies are specific orientations rather than universal orientations, and are inductive. Schemas and "models" that are empirical rather than deductive, empirical rather than theoretical, qualitative rather than quantitative, descriptive, narrative, and interpretive rather than reductionist and explanatory. Furthermore, regional studies pay more attention to the integrity of history and culture and "situational specificity", and are more likely to lead to historical and cultural relativism and pluralism. It prefers and pays attention to using local language and "overall cultural knowledge" to achieve "entity". "Extensive knowledge" and achieve "cross-cultural understanding" based on historical and cultural interpretation and comparison. ̣

Zhang Yunling raised "regional studies" to the level of "international regions". He believed that international regions are areas where multiple countries coexist. Geographical links are the basis of international regions. International regions are an objective existence with explicit relationships and direct relationships. For countries, the relationships and interests of their international regions are usually placed at the forefront of foreign relations and foreign-related interests. For the world, regions are important carriers of country groups and undertake important development and governance functions. ̣ We usually put regional and country studies together. Although regions and countries have inseparable characteristics, that is, studying regions cannot be separated from the study of countries, and studying countries cannot ignore the region in which they are located. However, international regions Research is an independent discipline

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̣ Chen Heng: «Beyond regional studies centered on Western discourse hegemony and nation-states», published in "Xuehai", Issue 2, 2022. Niu Ke: «Regional and international studies: thoughts on history and "principles"—— —Interview with Associate Professor Niu Ke »̣ contained in «International Politics

Research », Issue 5, 2018

̣ Editor-in-Chief Zhang Yunling: "Introduction to International Regional Studies", Jinan: Shandong University Press, 2022

Zhang Yun's interpretation of the concept of "country" seems to be rather esoteric and difficult to understand. He believes that in the real world, the country is not a simple unit under the "Waltz effect", but a practical community that needs to be "described in depth". Regional and country studies are extended from regional studies. The particularity of "country" can be restored through the disciplinary function of traditional regional studies. The research on the combination of regions and countries reflects the "localization" of countries. Complexity is the enrichment and restoration of national units in practice. From simple countries to regional countries, it is the decline of the unit level of international relations research from theoretical deduction to social practice. The ontological value of the unit level lies between theory and practice. A "Katzenstein-style" balance is needed. Among them, the assumptions of rational countries and simple countries need to be dismantled at the unit level.

There are also people who try to analyze the relationship between regional studies and country studies. For example, Wang Xiangyuan believes that so far, the academic community has not explained in depth why the combination of "regional and country" is adopted, nor what is the relationship between the two. He believes that logically speaking, countries are components of regions. In any case, regions cannot come first and countries come last. Therefore, we would rather understand the so-called "regional country research" as "country in a region". "Chinese research" is in line with the original meaning of the discipline. In this way, the country research in "country and regional studies" is not a simple and isolated country research, but a country research in a region.

Regional and country studies are interdisciplinary in nature. Therefore, the coverage of this subject should be very broad. Qian Chengdan believes that some people understand regional and country studies as international relations or international political research. This is a misunderstanding and is not correct. Understand. The scope of regional and country studies is larger, of which international relations and international political studies are part. Any country or any region is multi-faceted and very complex, so no discipline can include regional and country studies alone. Only through the cooperation, interaction and joint efforts of many disciplines can the situation of a country or a region be understood deeply and thoroughly. Therefore, the most essential feature of regional and country studies is its intersectionality, and it should be an interdisciplinary subject. Luo Lin et al. believe that country and regional studies are social scientific research in the fields of politics, economy, society, military, humanities, law, etc. of a specific country or region. They are specialized studies focusing on public affairs and public policies and are multidisciplinary. , the basic characteristics of cross-field. Guo Shuyong believes that regional country research is a comprehensive and in-depth study of the humanities, geography, politics, economy, society, military, etc. of a specific country or region.

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Zhang Yun: «Regional and Country Studies in International Relations: Practical Turn and Discipline Approach», Published in "Chinese Social Science Evaluation", Issue 4,

2020. Wang

Y Xiangyuan : «The Discipline Construction and Basic Theoretical Issues of "Regional Studies"» y Published in "Academic Research", Issue 7, 2021. Qian Chengdan:

Y "Taking discipline construction as the guideline, promoting regional and country research in China", Published in "Universities and Disciplines", Issue 4, 2021. Luo Lin,

Y Shao Yuzhuo: «Construction of a major country's academic system of national and regional studies under the perspective of "One Belt and One Road"», published in «Xinjiang Normal University

University Journal» (Philosophy and Social Sciences Edition), Issue 11, 2018.



Research. Regional country research is closely related to international issues research and international politics research, but it is greater than the latter in terms of breadth and depth. It has the characteristics of comprehensiveness, in-depthness, timeliness and strategic nature. Zhao Kejin quoted the British Economic In cooperation with the Social Science Research Council (ESRC) and the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), there are three definitions of country-specific regional studies: first, regional studies targeting countries (such as Japanese studies); second, regional studies based on countries Regional studies on the theme of globalization (such as interdisciplinary and comparative studies between different regions); third, regional studies oriented on important issues (such as terrorism, democracy, etc.);

Indeed, regional and country studies are not just the study of international relations. As Zhang Yuan pointed out, regional and country studies of international relations are a classified research field that uses international relations theories and methods to conduct detailed operations on regional countries. It is an "international" and the academic presentation of the disciplinary connotation of "relational" at the unit level (region, country). Its main research objects are the relational experience, international knowledge and socialization practices of a specific country or group of countries in a certain region. Among them It includes the interaction and practice between subjects and objects in which researchers, policymakers and practitioners participate. The knowledge production of regional countries is not only the main source of international knowledge, but also the source of motivation for the development of the discipline of international relations. The role of regional countries in international relations The significance of the research is reflected in at least two aspects: On the one hand, in theory, in the face of the decline of major theoretical research in international relations, as a unit level, regional countries are conducive to the shift of international relations research from major theories to meso and micro theories. International relations research provides new theoretical growth points. On the other hand, in practice, international relations research has always had the problem of interconnecting theoretical research, empirical research and policy research, that is, how theory can exert its ability to explain and serve reality. Regional The most important and active unit and level in which countries are involved in international relations in practice can balance the different needs of theoretical orientation and practice

orientation for international relations research. In the process of promoting regional and country research, how to deal with basic theoretical research The relationship between the two and applied strategy research is a controversial issue. Xie Tao believes that the "Notice of the General Office of the Ministry of Education on Doing a Good Job in National and Regional Research in 2017" states at the beginning: "Colleges and colleges carry out National and regional research work is of great significance for serving the national strategy and overall diplomatic situation and comprehensively promoting the construction of the 'Belt and Road'." The "Guidelines for the Construction of National and Regional Research Centers (Trial)" issued with the notice clearly stated: "The National and Regional Research Center should take government service as its primary purpose to create a large number of 'country-savvy', 'field-savvy' and 'regional-savvy' talents who can meet the country's major policy research needs." It can be seen that policy consulting is a country-specific and regional research, and also receive the support of the party and the

Guo Shuyong: «Strengthening regional and country studies», Published in "People's Daily", Page 14, February 15, 2016. Zhao Kejin: "Connotation, Debate and Trends of Country-Regional Research", Published in "Russian Studies", Issue 3, 2021 period

The most important reason why everyone attaches great importance to it 99

Zheng Chunrong believes that regional and country researchers in universities are engaged in basic research all year round. However, regional and country research naturally has the attribute of serving national diplomatic strategies and economic and social development needs. At the same time, many scholars often separate basic research, and applied strategy research, believing that the latter is the work content of think tank researchers, rather than the responsibilities of general researchers in universities. This is essentially related to the fact that most of the advisory results are not included in the professional title review and performance evaluation system. If regional and national are viewed separately, If separate basic research and applied strategy research are separated, the two will become "two skins" and the integration and linkage between them will not be able to play a role. He even believes that regional and national researchers in universities are still insufficient in serving the national decision-making needs. Consciousness and sensitivity in topic selection are also insufficient. For this reason, it is necessary to strengthen communication with substantive departments and understand the decision-making needs of the party and the country in a timely manner. In fact, long-term "unpopular" research and short-term "hot" research are not unrelated to each other. ̃ On the contrary, the former can provide material and method support for the latter, and the latter can provide practical concerns for the former. ̃

However, Li Anshan believes that "at present, the requirements for regional research on China seem to emphasize the advisory aspect of national strategy. I do not agree with this view. It is true that information must be collected on the basis of a solid language foundation and long-term follow-up research. Making judgments about local situations and providing advisory opinions for national decision-making is indeed an important task of the regional research base. However, the purpose and mission of China's regional research should be richer." He also pointed out that regional research is closely connected with government agencies. Playing a certain advisory role in national strategy is an important purpose of the United States in promoting regional research. ̃

Tang Shiping believes that what we need is that a scholar can gain recognition from the academic community and dignity as a scholar based solely on his academic contribution, rather than having to be recognized by the government. They even quoted American Economics In the words of Samuelson: Economists work for the applause of their peers, and government recognition is an unexpected surprise. ̃ Niu Ke also believes that regional and country research in universities cannot be limited to the think tank function. It cannot be said that what kind of knowledge the government needs, you can provide what kind of knowledge. ̃

In contrast, Yan Anlin's view is more pragmatic. He believes that basic research ultimately needs to serve real politics, but not directly, similar to the relationship between "science" and "technology".

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̃ Xie Tao: «Regional and Country Studies: Opportunities and Challenges», published in «International Forum», Issue

̃ 3, 2022. Zheng Chunrong: «Several Issues and Improvements in Regional and Country Studies», published in «Russian Studies», 2021 Issue 3.

̃ Li Anshan: «China's Regional and Country Studies: History, Purpose and Methods», published in «Yunda Regional Research», Issue 2, 2020. Tang

̃ Shiping, Zhang Jie, Cao Xiaoyang: «China's Regional Studies: Achievements, Gaps and Expectations», Published in "World Economy and Politics", Issue 11, 2005. Quoted from An

̃ Gang: "Some Thoughts on China's Regional Country Studies - Interview with Niu Ke, Associate Professor of Peking University, and Lu Guangsheng, Professor of Yunnan University » ̃ Published in "World Knowledge", Issue 12, 2018

If there is no basic research, policy research and decision-making consulting research are difficult to do well. Therefore, basic research needs to be paid attention to and basic research cannot be neglected. But if there is only basic research and only basic research is done, it will not be transformed into decision-making consulting research. This is Academic research is also imperfect. Of course, it is necessary to solve the problem of how the basic research of experts and scholars can serve the last mile of decision-making and consultation. It is necessary to promote the organic integration of academic research and consultation research.

### 3. The meaning of regional and national studies

When analyzing the problems existing in China's regional and country studies and how to deal with them, many people have proposed the necessity of upgrading it to "regional and country studies." For example, Hu Chunchun believes that because "country and regional studies" have not entered the «Catalogue of Subjects for Degree Granting and Talent Training (2011)», therefore its development space is severely limited. For example, it is not possible to recruit students under the name of "National and Regional Studies", and students can only be affiliated to the disciplines in the catalog. Students There is no corresponding major after graduation. The professional advancement space of reserve talents (such as promotion to professional titles, etc.) depends to a large extent on the "face" of the disciplines in the catalog, making it difficult for national and regional studies to attract and retain outstanding talents. He said "Only by establishing "Country and Regional Studies" as a first- or second-level discipline in the subject catalog can we successfully promote the physical construction of teaching and scientific research institutions within China's higher education and scientific research system, thereby fundamentally solving the problem of country-specific studies. and regional studies talent training. Li Zhidong also believes that one of the constraints facing national and regional studies is that its disciplinary status is not generally recognized.

In fact, as early as 2013, the Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council included "national and regional studies" among the five "research objects" of the first-level discipline "foreign languages and literature" and defined it as follows: "national and regional studies" With the help of theories and methods from history, philosophy, anthropology, sociology, political science, law, economics and other disciplines, we explore the history and culture, political, economic and social systems and Sino-foreign relations of the countries and regions where the language is targeted, focusing on the global and regional development processes. It advocates the interpenetration of the theory and practice with international politics, international economics, international law

and other related disciplines." Wang Jisi believes that from an academic point of view, regional and country studies is a multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary comprehensive field, and it is impossible to become a separate discipline. It requires the integration of social sciences, humanities

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Yan Anlin: «Correctly handle the five pairs of relationships in regional and country studies», in «Russian Studies», Issue 3, 2021. Hu Chunchun: «Attention should be paid to the discipline and talent cultivation of country and regional studies», in «Country and Regional Studies», Issues 1 and 2. Li Zhidong: «National and Regional Studies in Foreign Language Subjects: Development and Challenges», Published in "Journal of Foreign Languages", Issue 1, 2021. Edited by the Sixth Discipline Evaluation Group of the Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council: «Introduction to the First-level Disciplines of Degree Granting and Talent Training», Beijing: Higher Education Press, 2013, page 50.

A lot of knowledge in science and natural science. History, anthropology, linguistics, sociology, political science, economics, law, geography, environmental science, etc., all form the disciplinary foundation of this field. To sum up, this discipline The foundation may be divided into four dimensions: the spatial dimension, which includes geography, environment, territory, network and other dimensions divided by region and space; the historical dimension, which is based on the historical experience of various nations, countries and regions in the world; the cultural dimension, which includes Research on language, religion, culture and other humanities fields. Social dimension, including politics, economics and other social science fields. ̃

Wang Jisi's prediction in 2018 was obviously too early. On December 30, 2020, the Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council and the Ministry of Education issued "About the establishment of "interdisciplinary" categories, "Integrated Circuit Science and Engineering" and "National Security" first-level Notice of disciplines» ̃ Decided to set up the "Interdisciplinary" category (category code is "14") ̃ In December 2021, the Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council issued the "Professional Catalog of Ph.D. and Master's Degree Granting and Talent Training Disciplines (Draft for Comments)" and Its management method includes regional and national studies into the first-level subject catalog of the 14th category of "interdisciplinary subjects", which can be awarded to law, literature, and history. degree in history. It can be seen that regional and country studies are expected to be upgraded to "regional and country ̃ studies". This upgrade will not only enhance the important status of regional and country studies, but also provide researchers with a greater scope for use. It can serve the diplomacy of a major country with Chinese characteristics, and can also expand the research field of Chinese social science research.

Regarding the necessity of this upgrade, Chen Heng believes that the emergence of "regional and national studies" means that the times require Chinese academic circles to build our own as soon as possible The academic system, subject system, and discourse system are designed to transcend those academic constructs full of nationalism and describe the world with a more objective attitude. The primary purpose of setting up this discipline is to cultivate a large number of compound high-end applied talents, not just to conduct academic work. Research. ̃ Liu Hongwu also believes that the setting and boundaries of disciplines should serve the needs of people's cognitive activities, rather than constraining people's cognitive activities or dominating people's cognitive activities. ̃ Qian Chengdan also believes that "regional and national studies" should be included in the subject catalog Establishing it as a first-level discipline is the most important step. One of the characteristics of China's education system is the discipline system. Under this system, only by using disciplines can talent training be incorporated into the discipline system. Otherwise, it is necessary to conduct research. ̃ We need people in this field, but no matter how much we appeal, it is useless, because there is no means to cultivate such talents. Under the current subject system, talents can only be cultivated through the subject catalog system. Therefore, it is necessary to build a first-level discipline to cultivate national talents. and regional studies

̃ Wang Jisi: «What is lacking in regional and country studies in China?» The Paper, December 27, 2018, <http://www.thepaper.com>  
̃ Chen Heng: «Beyond regional studies centered on Western discourse hegemony and nation-states», published in "Xuehai", Issue 2, 2022. Liu  
̃ Hongwu: «The historical origins and current trends of China's regional and national studies», published in « International Observation » Issue 5, 2020

## Talent, this is a fundamental solution.

However, how to make this sublimation worthy of its name, and how to make "regional and national studies" a first-level discipline in the true sense, still requires more scholars to use their intelligence and talents and put forward more insights. As Zhou Fangyin said As he said, "After regional and national studies become a first-level discipline, a practical problem faced is what substantive changes it will bring to regional and national studies. In other words, what is the substantive difference between after the discipline construction and before the discipline construction? What is the difference? The difference obviously should not only lie in whether masters and doctoral degrees in regional and country studies can be awarded, but also in promoting changes in the face of regional and country studies, especially in promoting the improvement of the academic level of regional and country studies." He also pointed out, "Compared with the relative prosperity of regional and country studies, China's regional and country discipline construction lags significantly behind. This has a lot to do with the disciplinary characteristics of regional and country studies: for example, it is related to economics, political science, sociology, and law. Different disciplines are divided according to research fields such as history and history. The research objects of regional and country studies are entities within a certain geographical scope, including international regions, sub-regions and countries. Another example is that many regional and country researchers do not have a sense of disciplinary belonging. Strong, because many people think that they turn to research on a specific region or country mainly because of job search considerations or work arrangements in their units."

In addition, after regional and country studies have been upgraded to "regional and country studies", what are the similarities and differences with international regional and country studies is also an important question that needs to be answered. Wang Hui believes that "regional and country studies are carried out in China today. What is the fundamental difference from area studies that originated in Britain and the United States and then spread to Europe, Japan and other regions? If we do not think about these issues, in addition to expanding the scope of knowledge, it seems that another round of imitation has begun." He He believes that "discipline construction and reflection need to proceed simultaneously. Without this process, we will immediately fall into a cycle - I am not trying to deny regional and country studies in Europe and the United States. We have learned a lot from them and will continue to learn. We need to re-ask the question in the process of large-scale promotion: What is regional and country research? Whose regional and country research? How is China's regional and country research in today's era different from the United Kingdom, which originated in the 19th century and grew in the mid-20th century? Later, regional and country studies in the United States and spread all over the world in the 1960s and 1970s? How to establish the motivation and goal behind each study?" ̄ How does regional and

country studies take advantage of interdisciplinary studies and how to embody the role of interdisciplinary studies? Characteristics are also questions that we must answer when promoting the construction of its disciplines. Wang Zhongchen believes that "the so-called interdisciplinary studies

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̄ Qian Chengdan, Liu Jun: «Discipline Construction of Country and Regional Studies—Interview with Professor Qian Chengdan», published in «Russian Studies» ̄ Issue 2, 2022

̄ Zhou Fangyin: "Knowledge pursuit and discipline establishment in regional and national discipline construction", published in "Asia-Pacific Security and Oceans", Issue 2022 Issue 3

̄ Wang Hui: "Region as a Space-time Body", published in "Xuehai", Issue 2, 2022.

Is science just a platter of several disciplines? In the past, we have seen some so-called interdisciplinary disciplines. Often several disciplines are put together in form, but when it comes to actual research, they still have their own opinions. How can we pass multi-disciplinary research? cooperation, prompting internal changes in each related discipline, and then forming A new paradigm for interdisciplinary integration? This is definitely a new topic to be discussed." ̃ Sun Jiang also believes that regional and country studies have been upgraded to regional and country studies. "The cheerers are mainly scholars engaged in interdisciplinary research. These Scholars have found a common home outside the inherent disciplinary system. The doubters mainly come from the above three related disciplines. In the eyes of some scholars, regional and national studies are an unidentified visitor. It remains to be seen. For the long-term For the author who advocates interdisciplinary research, the conceptual history research we are engaged in is closely related to regional and country studies. Conceptually, regional and country studies should not be regarded as the sum of regional studies and country studies, but should be

regarded as "Transcendence of the two", ̃ Is interdisciplinary the same as multidisciplinary? On April 15, 2018, Yunnan University held a "Seminar on Regional Country Research Theories and Methods". Lu Guangsheng said that someone put forward such a view at the meeting: When constructing regional and country studies, we should avoid talking about "multidisciplinary methods", because mentioning "multidisciplinary" will lose the meaning of its independent existence, which will cause regional and country studies to become a big basket in which everything is put. ̃̃ However, Qian Chengdan believes that the intersection of disciplines is an inevitable trend. The major breakthroughs and achievements we see in academia and science today are almost all the result of the intersection of disciplines. He also pointed out that, Many people understand country and area studies as either the study of international relations, the study of international politics, or a part of the study of foreign languages and literature. Of course, there are other understandings. Most of these understandings are affected by the subject system and subject catalog. The influence of solid-state thinking under the framework is an understanding generated by solid-state thinking, that is, country and regional studies must still be understood as a solid field with very clear boundaries and obvious

boundaries. ̃ Chinese scholars are carrying out regional country research When conducting specific research, it is inevitable to have contacts with the international academic community. This requires translating "regional and country research" into foreign languages. Niu Ke believes that only when the name is correct can the words be correct, and be rational and practical. Vocabulary is related to the object of research. , units and issues, related to the trend and direction. The direct English translation of "country and regional studies" officially adopted by Chinese officials is "country and area (regional) studies". This is not popular internationally, and even It might give people a little v

̃ Wang Zhongchen: «How to establish the intellectual pedigree of China's regional and national studies?», published in "Xuehai", Issue 2, 2022 Sun

̃ Jiang: "The development of regional and national studies", published in "Xuehai", Issue 2, 2022 Issue

̃ ̃ Quoted from An Gang: «Some Thoughts on China's Regional and Country Studies—Interview with Associate Professor Niu Ke of Peking University and Professor Lu Guangsheng of Yunnan University», published in «World Knowledge», Issue

̃ 12, 2018 ̃ Qian Chengdan , Liu Jun: «Discipline Construction of National and Regional Studies—Interview with Professor Qian Chengdan», published in «Russian Studies» ̃



It plays a balancing and complementary role, thereby allowing us to better grasp and understand the diversity and complexity of the world.ŷ

Liu Hongwu gave the following definition of "Africanology" in his book "Africanology: Sixty Questions on Practice and Thinking":

Africanology is a discipline that takes the humanities and nature of the African continent as its research object and explores African civilization.

It is a comprehensive interdisciplinary subject of historical processes and contemporary political, economic and social development issues.

Its content includes not only various exploratory activities and processes of specialized cognitive research on the African continent, but also

the knowledge accumulated through these cognitive exploration activities. Systematized concepts and methods, knowledge and ideas. This

discipline is of great significance to creating shared knowledge between China and Africa, improving the contemporary Chinese academic

system, and promoting the construction of

a community with a shared future for China and Africa. ŷ Regarding "European Studies", Shen Yannan believes that ŷ From the

perspective of subject attributes, China's European studies belong to the category of Chinese international issues research, and also belong

to the larger category of social sciences. European studies originated from European studies. European studies should be carried out on the

basis of "basic theoretical research" The meaning of "research on concrete real problems", in terms of its research objects, can be divided

into four major branches: politics, economy, social culture and international relations. Therefore, the construction of European studies in China

is not new or innovative, nor is it manufactured. It is a plaything that scholars can watch carefully in their study rooms. Instead, it should

establish higher and more scientific research norms and evaluation systems based on the development of European studies in China, promote

the in-depth development of

European studies, and serve China's modernization cause. ŷŷ Liu Liqun believes that if you see the words marked with the word

"learn", you cannot simply assume that they are all science in the strict sense, even though they must be related to academic research. In

this sense, the study of Japan is called Japanese studies, American studies, etc. The study of studies is called American studies, etc., which

will cause some misunderstandings. However, since such titles have been conventionally used, then the title of European studies can also

be established. It only needs to be understood that they are not a science in the strict sense. Rather, it is enough to conduct comprehensive

academic research on countries

or continents. ŷ The "Dictionary of Social Science Subjects" published by China Youth Publishing House in 1990 believes that

"American Studies" is the study of the material civilization and spiritual civilization of the United States from a macro perspective. A

comprehensive discipline. Sun Zhe believes that since 1979, China's "American Studies" research has developed vigorously, and the number

of papers, monographs, and translations has increased day by day. He wrote in "American Studies--China's Study of American Politics and

Diplomacy" This book examines the development of "American studies" in China since 1979, especially the changes in Chinese people's

views on America. It comprehensively introduces the current situation of American research institutions and researchers in China, and summarizes China's American studies acad

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ŷ Liu Hongwu: "Historical Origins and Realistic Trends of China's Regional and National Studies", published in "International Observation", Issue 5,

ŷ 2020. Liu Hongwu: "The Development of African Studies - Sixty Questions on Practice and Thinking", Beijing: People's Publishing

ŷ House, 2019. Shen Yannan: «On the Construction of "European Studies" in China», published in "Academia", Issue 5, 2000.

ŷ Liu Liqun: "A Brief Discussion on European Studies", published in "Europe", Issue 4, 1995 period ŷ



And introduced the representative works in the field of American studies in China. Zhao Yifan believes that "American studies" is an independent major in the United States and a branch of area studies, similar to Russian and Soviet studies and Chinese studies, emphasizing comprehensive interdisciplinary research. Grasp the macro subject of the United States ̄̄

In contrast, Nie Youjun's definition of "Japanese studies" seems to be more specific: "Japanese studies" refers to the conscious study of Japanese country, society and culture by European and American scholars after the founding of Japan, centered on translating and studying Japanese classics. Systematized and disciplinary research. ̄̄ In contrast, the definition of the "Dictionary of Social Science Subjects" is specious: "Japanology" is the study of Japanese humanities, geography, history, culture, social life, politics, law, A comprehensive discipline covering national defense, diplomacy, economics, science and technology and other issues.

#### 4. About the discipline construction of regional and national studies

Discipline construction is to build the "software" and "hardware" of a subject by improving the knowledge system, promoting theoretical innovation, building a scientific research paradigm, enriching research capabilities, publishing textbooks, and setting up necessary courses. Regional and country After the research was upgraded to regional and country studies, the top priority is to do a good job in the discipline construction of this subject as soon as possible. Since the late 1950s and early 1960s, after more than 60 years of development, China's regional and country studies have become regional and country studies. A relatively rich knowledge system has been accumulated. Although this accumulation is never-ending, in fact, the accumulation of knowledge in any discipline takes small steps or even thousands of miles. Regional and national studies are no exception.

Zhao Kejin believes that as a first-level discipline in the interdisciplinary category, regional and national studies need to improve the subject objects and content of the first-level discipline, the classification of second-level disciplines, and the key layout of disciplines. ̄̄ Qian Chengdan believes that the establishment of first-level disciplines Colleges and universities should have at least ten first-level disciplines. If there are not a certain number of disciplines, how can interdisciplinary disciplines be formed? ̄̄ Chen Yue believes that the discipline construction of regional and national studies should focus on three aspects (teaching staff, talents (training, scientific research) start with: First of all, we must not only study the historical and cultural issues of the target country and region, but also study the contemporary political, economic and social issues of the regional countries, and the focus is on the latter. Secondly, we must not only study the target country and region region's own

̄̄ Sun Zhe: «American Studies—Research on China's Political Diplomacy of the United States» Shanghai: Shanghai People's Publishing House, 2008 Quoted

̄̄ from Wang Bo and Zhang Hanfu: «Constructing the Concept and Discipline System of American Studies in China—The First Session "American Studies and International Studies" Forum Review». Published in "Contemporary Foreign Language Research", Issue 4, 2019

̄̄ Nie Youjun: «Early "Japanese Studies" and the Japan Asia Society», published in «Japanese Studies», Issue 1, 2016. Zhao Kejin: «The Necessity and

̄̄ Layout of the Construction of the First-level Discipline of Regional and National Studies», published in «International Forum» ̄̄ Issue 3, 2022 ̄̄ Qian Chengdan, Liu Jun:

̄̄ «Discipline Construction of Country and Regional Studies—Interview with Professor Qian Chengdan» ̄̄ Published in «Russian Studies» ̄̄

Problems, we must also study the relationship between the target country and region and other countries, major powers and the international system, as well as its connection with the outside world. Finally, we must not only rely on English to study regional and national issues, but also try to master the local language of the target country and region. Carry out in-depth research. ̃ Dai Changzheng also believes that in order to promote the discipline construction of regional and country studies, the first is to further strengthen the discipline of regional and country studies, the second is to further promote the institutionalization of regional and country studies, and the third is to further Promote the institutionalization of regional and national studies ̃

Under China's discipline system, regional and national studies must have a certain number of secondary disciplines. How to set up secondary disciplines is a question that we must answer when promoting the discipline construction of regional and national studies. Qian Chengdan believes, "About secondary disciplines There has been some discussion on how to set up disciplines. Some people think that they can be set up according to countries and regions, such as setting up secondary disciplines such as European studies, American studies, and Japanese studies. However, the disadvantage of this setting is that it is difficult to comprehensively cover all countries and regions. There are more than 200 countries and regions in the world. Do we need to set up hundreds of secondary disciplines? Even if we set up dozens of secondary

disciplines, it is unrealistic." ̃ As a discipline, regional and country studies need theory Support. Have we built a theoretical system for regional and country studies? Wang Jisi believes that China's academic resources and material conditions for regional and country studies have been significantly improved. Today's problem is not a lack of data and opportunities for external exchanges. But it lies in the lack of theoretical innovation and the lack of integration between disciplines. ̃ Zhou Fangyin believes that regional and country studies must not just contribute "raw materials" to social science theory, but must have their own independent basic theories. This requires the basic theory of regional and country studies. , a number of important results have been produced in terms of basic principles, changing the phenomenon that the common knowledge base and common knowledge of country studies in different regions are not deep enough. ̃

Li Chenyang believes that although domestic and foreign scholars have explored and summarized the theories and methods of regional and country studies for a long time, they are generally not systematic and mature enough. Li Zhonghai believes that many of the current popular international political theories are derived from developed countries . These theories must be extracted from the history and reality of different countries or other different types of countries. The applicability of these theories must be tested. Otherwise, blindly pursuing "borrowingism" and using these theories to guide regional and country research will not only fail to explain specific regions and Country-specific practical issues,

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̃ Chen Yue: «Intersection and Integration of Regional and National Disciplines», published in «International Forum», Issue 3, 2022.

̃ Dai Changzheng: «Building Regional and National Studies with Chinese Characteristics», published in «International Forum», Issue 3, 2022.

̃ Issue 3̃ Qian Chengdan, Liu Jun: «Discipline Construction of Country and Regional Studies——Interview with Professor Qian Chengdan» ̃ Published in «Russian Studies» ̃

Issue 2, 2022̃

̃ Wang Jisi: "A brief discussion on the disciplinary foundation of regional and country studies", published in "International Strategic Research Briefing", Issue 72, 2018.

<http://www.iss.pku.edu.cn/research/bulletin/3480.html> [2022-02-25] Zhou Fangyin: "Knowledge pursuit

̃ and discipline establishment in regional and national discipline construction", published in "Asia-Pacific Security and Oceans", 2022

Issue 3. Li

̃ Chenyang: "Disciplinary of Regional and Country Studies", published in "World Knowledge", Issue 2, 2018.

It is also unable to put forward practical and targeted policy suggestions. ̄ Li Wei also believes that as a brand-new discipline, the biggest shortcoming of regional and country studies is the lack of unified theoretical foundation and research methods. Therefore, if regional and country studies are to be To become a flourishing and competitive discipline, we must look for theoretical resources from existing disciplines, especially those with profound academic accumulation.̄

There is only one world, but there are countless theories. However, so far, there is no ready-made regional and country theory in the world. This flaw is determined by its interdisciplinary nature. In other words, regional and country studies can only rely on Theories from other disciplines. However, Guo Shuyong believes that there are many commonly used theories in country studies, because the country has always been the central topic of human social activities. In his book "New Introduction to Regional Country Studies", he introduced four commonly used theories in country studies. This theory includes national character theory, national conditions theory, exceptionalism and modernization theory. It also introduces several commonly used theories in regional studies, including geocultural theory, geopolitical theory, geoeconomic theory, regional integration theory, regional governance theory and community theory. Theorȳ̄

Regardless of whether the several theories mentioned by Guo Shuyong are inherent in regional and country studies or regional and country studies. theory, the guiding role of Marxist theory is indispensable. As Yu Nanping said, deepening the understanding of Marxist political economy will contribute to the development of a new academic paradigm for regional and country studies.

Expansion. He believes that the epistemology and methodology created by Marx's political economy in the 19th century have more advanced and deeper insights into explaining the evolution of regional, international interactions and national issues today than other popular theories. He The conclusion of Ignoring or even abandoning the scientific theories and methodologies with universal explanatory power proposed by Marx's political economy not only does not help to grasp the essence of changes in international relations, but also makes it easier to fall into the "self-construction of mathematical models" and "self-construction of mathematical models" in detailed demonstrations. The quagmire of "data piling", or immersed in self-value explanations and cultural abstract descriptions included in case descriptions and analyses.

Any kind of scientific research pays attention to methods, and regional and country studies are no exception. However, Chinese scholars seem to have different views on how many methods there are for regional and country studies and which methods should be used. For example, Li Qiang believes that regional There are two methods of country research, namely humanities method and social method.

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̄ Li Zhonghai: «Thoughts on the characteristics and development direction of the discipline of regional and country studies», in "Russian Studies",

̄ Issue 3, 2021. Li Wei: «Regional and country studies: a discipline unique to big countries», in « International Forum », Issue

̄ 3, 2022. Edited by Guo Shuyong and others: «New Introduction to Regional and Country Studies» Beijing: Higher Education

̄ Press, 2019. Yu Nanping: «Marxist Political Economy in Regional and Country Studies Application of Methods», published in "Russian Studies", 2021

Social scientific methods. Both of these are indispensable and important methods for regional and country studies. Regional and country studies that lack social science knowledge background and methodology cannot be stable and far-reaching. Only by carrying forward and improving the existing humanities disciplines Advantages, it is necessary to strengthen the application of social science methods in teaching and research as soon as possible and achieve the organic combination of humanities and social science methods. Only then can the healthy development of the discipline be achieved. He believes that compared with other disciplines, political science is closely related to regional and national disciplines. It is the social science discipline with the most intertwined research on specific areas. Taking the United States as an example, in the field of comparative politics there are many scholars who focus on regional or national politics. In the field of political science research, the methodological debate on regional and national studies is the most intense. Many of these theories or views have reference significance for us to think about regional and country research methodologies today.

In recent years, comparative political research has received more attention in China. How to make comparative political research and regional and country studies complement each other? Wang Weihua believes that comparative politics and regional studies are both social science research fields "Made in the United States" during the Cold War era. From the 1950s to the 1980s, there was a period of collaboration between comparative politics and regional studies that considered each other and developed intertwined. However, since the 1990s, the differences between the two have become larger and larger, and they have gradually become alienated. Through Tracing the process of how comparative politics and regional studies went hand in hand in the early stages of "coupling" to "decoupling" and then "decoupling", it is not difficult to find that the "decoupling" of the two is a natural result of the improvement of the cohesion of the political discipline.

In order to promote the discipline construction of regional and national studies, the curriculum of colleges and universities may undergo certain changes. Regarding this issue, Chang Chenguang and others took the School of International Translation and Translation of Sun Yat-sen University as an example and proposed integrating "ideological and political elements" into regional and national studies. They believed that the ideological and political construction of courses in the direction of country and regional studies should involve the following aspects: Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, the concept of major-country diplomacy, patriotism, Feelings of family and country, China's stance, world conditions, national conditions, party conditions, and people's conditions, China's excellent traditional culture, "Four Self-confidences", socialist core values, rule of law education, academic style education, professional ethics education, critical thinking ability cultivation, etc.

But Chen Heng believes that it is unrealistic to rely solely on individual universities for academic planning, because they pay attention to

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Li Qiang believes that scholars who study Chinese issues with humanistic methods are usually called "Sinologists". Most of the so-called "Sinologists" have received training in Chinese language, or have good knowledge of Chinese literature and history based on language. Scholars who use social science methods to study Chinese issues are generally unwilling to be called "Sinologists" and even despise the title "Sinologists". They are experts in a certain subject, but they just happen to choose China as the object of comparative research. That's all. This type of scholars has a good knowledge background in a certain subject, but their understanding of the actual situation in China is much inferior to that of Sinologists. Many of them cannot read Chinese and rely to a considerable extent on second-hand materials to study China. See Li Qiang : «Thoughts on the Methodology of Regional and Country Studies», Published in «European Studies», Issue 5, 2020.

Li Qiang: «Thoughts on the Methodology of Regional and Country Studies», Published in «European Studies», Issue 5, 2020. Wang

Weihua: «"Decoupling" or "Decoupling"? ——The Connection between Comparative Politics and Regional Studies» In "Research on International Politics" Issue 6, 2021

Chang Chenguang, Zhou Hui, and Zeng Ji: "Curriculum Ideology and Politics in National and Area Studies Courses—Concepts and Practices", published in "China Foreign Languages", March 2021.

It is short-term and fast, it is immediate, it is a rapid increase in "academic GDP". Who is willing to make long-term investment?

He suggested: We should formulate a strategic plan for China's regional and country research, and formulate a strategic plan

for 2035 or even 2050. In the field of research Develop long-term plans in terms of , research layout, talent structure, etc.

Make effective organizational plans in terms of talent strategic reserves, number of researchers, research quality, etc. ̣

## 5. Talent training for regional and country studies

Any kind of academic research must have two necessary conditions: sufficient funding and high-quality people

Talent. Both are indispensable. In recent years, as China's economic strength has become increasingly powerful, the funding for regional

and country research has continued to increase. Therefore, the vast majority of research institutions are no longer troubled by insufficient

funds. However, high However, the number of quality researchers has failed to increase with the increase in funding. Therefore, how to

cultivate more regional and country research talents is a major issue that must be seriously

considered. There are different opinions on the definition of regional and country research talents, and there is no consensus.

According to According to the "2022 National and Regional Research Talent Support Plan" released by the China Scholarship Council on

November 1, 2011, national and regional research talents should have an international perspective, be familiar with international rules, and

be able to participate in international affairs. Qian Chengdan He believes that those who possess both knowledge of a certain region and

country as well as professional knowledge in a certain field are the talents for regional and country research. ̣ Li Anshan believes that if

you want to become an expert in a region or country, or a "knowledge of a certain country" ̣ Not only do you need to be familiar with the

local language, but you must also frequently visit the country during your lifetime academic practice, get in touch with the local society and

make various friends. At present, research on individual developed countries may have produced a handful of "Experts", but there is an

obvious lack of such experts in most areas. ̣

Chen Heng believes that talents in the field of regional and country studies should have the following talents: intensive

language learning, proficiency in the language of the research target area, sometimes more than one language, and in-depth

field research in the local language, such as culture Like anthropology, through the discovery, collection, and arrangement of

original materials, we can gain an in-depth and intuitive understanding of the culture of the region and the role they play in

shaping local lifestyles, and pay close attention to local history, culture, traditions, and current politics. , economic, and military

fluctuations, have smooth information channels, and can be summarized, explained, elaborated, and criticized based on

detailed observations, and then realized the construction of theories, while crossing the boundaries of social sciences and humanities

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̣ Chen Heng: «Beyond regional studies centered on Western discourse hegemony and nation-states», Published in "Xuehai", Issue 2, 2022. Qian Chengdan: «How  
̣ to train regional and country research talents?», Chinese Society Science Network, March 20, 2022, [http://www.cssn.cn/gjgxx/gj\\_bwsf/202203/t20220320\\_5399647](http://www.cssn.cn/gjgxx/gj_bwsf/202203/t20220320_5399647)

shtml [2022-03-02] Li Anshan: «China's regional and country studies: history, purpose and methods »̣ Published in "Research on

̣ Yunnan-Dalian Region", Issue 2, 2020

Limitations, and even use natural science to conduct multidisciplinary dialogues, work together to raise new questions, test past theories, and challenge national prejudices. ̃ Liu Xincheng and others suggested that in addition to receiving comprehensive learning of language and multidisciplinary knowledge, talents in this discipline must have a grounded object. In addition to the experience of in-depth investigation in China, they also need to have special feelings, have the determination to "sharpen a sword for ten years", not pursue fame and fortune, and be able to deeply identify with the "China Plan" and the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind from a broad academic perspective. ̃ Objectively interpret "heterogeneous culture", be willing to turn the understanding of the starting point "we" into conscious actions, and "build bridges and pave the way" in the interaction between China and the outside world. ̃ Chen Jie also believes that national and regional studies need some basic qualities include the following: solid language foundation, interdisciplinary knowledge structure, standardized academic training, in-depth overseas fieldwork, and cross-cultural communication skills. ̃

Many people have discovered that China's regional and country research is facing a talent shortage problem. For example, Qian Chengdan believes that what we lack most is talent, that is, research talents who can conduct research and do work in regional and country areas. ̃ Li Zhonghai believes that in recent years, many domestic universities have established a variety of regional and country research institutions, which have played an important role in the prosperity and development of regional and country studies. However, it should be noted that many regional and country research units are faced with the shortage of professional talents. The problem of shortage is that some institutions have many listings but few academic achievements. The shortage of professional researchers is the main constraint. At the same time, there is also a structural problem of asymmetry between talent supply and demand. On the one hand, there is a shortage of talents, and on the other hand, there is a shortage of related majors. Ph.D.s face employment difficulties. In addition, during the doctoral training stage, there are still outstanding problems such as insufficient training in scientific thinking and insufficient basic training in thesis writing. In particular, there is a great lack of training in writing ability. Li Chenyang believes that students who learn the target language can only when doing translation, sometimes due to the lack of knowledge of the target country and other disciplines, the translation is not good, let alone the ability to do finance, public diplomacy (press speech), legal affairs, international trade and secretarial work at the same time. And very few students majoring in finance, journalism, law, international trade, etc. are proficient in English, let alone the language of the target country, so they can only be equipped with translators.

Regional and country studies require foreign languages. Therefore, many scholars believe that China's foreign language colleges should

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̃ Chen Heng: «Beyond regional studies centered on Western discourse hegemony and nation-states», published in "Xuehai", Issue 2, 2022. Liu Xincheng, Li

̃ Jianjun: «Based on "us" and seeking "win-win" - About the region Thoughts on the construction of the discipline of national studies», Published in "Guangming Daily", Page 11, May 27, 2022. Chen Jie: "Three Questions" on the

Training of Talents for National and Regional Studies with Chinese Characteristics: Specifications, Paths and Purposes», Published in «Education Development Research ̃Research » ̃ Issue 21, 2021

̃ Qian Chengdan, Liu Jun: «Discipline Construction of Country and Regional Studies—Interview with Professor Qian Chengdan», published in «Russian Studies» Issue 2, 2022

̃ Li Zhonghai: «Thoughts on the characteristics and development direction of regional and country studies disciplines», published in «Russian Studies», Issue 3,

̃ 2021 Li Chenyang: «The talent training model for country and regional studies needs urgent reform», published in «World Knowledge» ̃ Issue 14, 2021 ̃

However, so far, foreign language colleges and universities are still facing a variety of problems in the process of cultivating regional and country research talents. For example, Zheng Chunrong believes that regional and country studies in foreign language colleges and universities are still in the process of cultivating talents. There are the following four shortcomings in talent training: First, the knowledge system is limited to a single country or region, lacking cross-national, cross-regional and global knowledge; second, researchers are not familiar enough with party and national policies; There is insufficient understanding of China's national conditions. The third is to underestimate the advantages of foreign language disciplines. The fourth is not to pay attention to the abilities and qualities of researchers. ̣ Chang Junyue and others believe that in terms of developing regional and national education, there are three major problems in the curriculum setting of English majors in Chinese universities: First, there are too many language skills courses, which reduces the space for offering professional knowledge courses. Second, the courses involve more Britain and the United States, neglecting attention to other countries and regions. Third, knowledge and language are artificially separated, and the concept of curriculum construction has seriously lagged behind.̣

In order to solve various problems in talent training in foreign language colleges, Chen Jie called on foreign language colleges to start from the following six aspects of "supply-side" reform: setting progressive training goals, establishing a diversified curriculum system, and focusing on participation provide multi-type research experience, provide multiple types of resource support, change the one-dimensional teacher knowledge structure, and break down traditional organizational barriers. ̣ Chang Junyue and others suggested that it is necessary to introduce regional and national education courses in foreign language colleges. In order to achieve this, It is necessary to reform the curriculum system of English majors. The key to reforming the curriculum system is to completely break the traditional curriculum construction concept of "language skills training-oriented", implement the concept of "integrated teaching of professional content and English language", and build content and language The curriculum system of integrated teaching can fundamentally solve the space problem of regional and national education courses. ̣ As for how to solve this

problem, Li Chenyang believes that it is necessary to implement undergraduate, master and doctoral through-training for national and regional research talents. For learning Undergraduate students majoring in foreign languages must fully implement the "foreign language + major" training plan. Relevant universities must allow students majoring in foreign languages to minor in financial management, accounting, international economics and trade, law, public utility management, journalism and other majors. Colleges and universities that have the conditions to do so can open separate classes to teach minor courses for these students. At the master's and doctoral levels, political science, applied economics, theoretical economics, international law, world history, journalism and communication and other disciplines focus on recruiting undergraduate majors in foreign languages, especially non-English majors. It is best for students who learn common language to be intensively trained in the same second-level unit and follow their

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̣ Zheng Chunrong: «Analysis of National and Regional Talent Training from the Perspective of Global Governance», Published in "China Foreign Languages", November 2020.

̣ Chang Junyue and Feng Guangwu: «Carrying out regional and national education to serve the country's foreign strategy—contributing to the construction of English Thoughts on the core curriculum system of regional and country education at the professional undergraduate level», Published in "China Foreign Languages".

̣ Issue 3, 2017. Chen Jie: "Three Questions" on Training Talents for National and Regional Studies with Chinese Characteristics: Specifications, Paths and Purposes» In "Education Development Research" Research»̣ Issue 21, 2021

̣ Chang Junyue and Feng Guangwu: «Carrying out regional and national education to serve the country's foreign strategy—Thoughts on building a core curriculum system for regional and national education for English majors at the undergraduate level», published in «China Foreign Languages», Issue 3, 2017.

Teachers from other disciplines are selected to teach and serve as mentors to cultivate high-end talents needed for major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics and the implementation of the "One Belt, One Road" initiative.

When discussing the training of foreign language professionals, Zhong Zhixiang and others cited the requirements set out in the "National Standards for the Teaching Quality of Undergraduate Majors in General Universities" issued by the Ministry of Education on January 30, 2018: "Foreign language majors aim to cultivate students with good comprehensive qualities, solid basic foreign language skills and professional knowledge and abilities, and mastery of relevant professional knowledge, various foreign language professionals and composite talents adapt to the needs of China's foreign exchanges, national and local economic and social development, various foreign-related industries, foreign language education and academic research. type of foreign language talents." In addition, they also started from the perspective of talent use positioning, dividing the talent training of undergraduates, master's students and doctoral students into four categories: applied talents, applied research talents, research application talents and research talents. This division seems necessary in theory, but it may lack operability in reality, because it is difficult for employers to strictly distinguish between these types. Moreover, real talents cannot be limited to "application" or "research", and It should have skills and expertise in both aspects.

Since regional and country research is interdisciplinary, researchers engaged in this research must not only communicate with researchers in other disciplines, but also conduct necessary communication within the discipline, but such communication is far from enough. Wang Jisi believes that it seems difficult for scholars who study Africa and Japan to find common interests in the field of political science, and it is unlikely that they can learn from each other in the same academic group. Scholars who study Latin America in the field of economics also find it difficult to find common interests. Experts and experts who study the Middle East probably have few opportunities to communicate. Some researchers on major country relations have little understanding of the political, economic, social, and cultural conditions of any of these major countries. Communication with experts on country-specific issues is also limited. There are not many, so the works they write often can only discuss the matter and float on the surface. Therefore, in order to form a synergy between regional and country studies, on the one hand, scholars who study the same target country or target region but belong to different disciplines need to coordinate and cooperate with each other. On the other hand, scholars with the same subject background but studying different target countries or regions also need to coordinate and cooperate with each other. Relatively speaking, coordination and cooperation in the latter aspect are more difficult, and the integration task is also more urgent.

## Six comments

By analyzing Chinese scholars' understanding of regional and country studies, the following points can be drawn.

Li Chenyang: «The talent training model for national and regional studies needs urgent reform», in "World Knowledge", Issue 14, 2021.

Zhong Zhixiang: "On the direction of national and regional studies in foreign language disciplines and its talent cultivation", in «Country and Regional Research » Issue 4, 2020

Wang Jisi: «What is lacking in regional and country studies in China?» December 27, 2018 <https://www.thepaper.cn/>



First, regional and country studies should be demystified. International issues research includes two major categories: comprehensive issue research and regional and country issues research. Each academic research has its inherent difficulties. It is true that regional and country studies Research has interdisciplinary characteristics. Therefore, researchers must master as much knowledge as possible in various disciplines. However, compared with the research on comprehensive issues in international issues, regional and country research is not necessarily more difficult, because the research on comprehensive issues is not only It also requires interdisciplinary knowledge, and it also requires a grander strategic vision and stronger analytical and judgment abilities. To a certain extent, regional and country studies may be less difficult than world economy, international finance, international politics, and international studies. It is no wonder that many people believe that the "threshold" for entering country and regional studies is not high. It should also be pointed out that China's regional and country studies have a history of more than 60 years so far. During this short period of time, Chinese academic circles have accumulated a large amount of valuable academic experience and a relatively rich knowledge system. Therefore, regional and country studies are no longer unfathomable. What Chinese academic circles have to do is not endless. It is not necessary to introduce the definition and origin of country and area studies, and it is not necessary to elaborate on the importance of this discipline. Of course, the times are developing, China's international status is rising, and the necessity of country and area studies is increasing. Therefore, China The academic community should indeed provide stronger academic support for major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics.

Second, talent training for regional and country studies must be more targeted. Uncovering the mystery of regional and country studies does not mean that we can ignore the necessity and urgency of talent training. As we all know, just like other research fields The development of regional and country research must have two guarantees: financial resources and human resources. Sufficient financial resources will help researchers go abroad for inspections, hold academic conferences, and purchase books and periodicals. Fortunately, as China's economic strength increases, For the vast majority of research institutions, financial resources are no longer a problem. In contrast, the talent shortage is still a big problem that needs to be solved. In order to cultivate talents for regional and country studies, many foreign language colleges and universities have proposed specific policies. Various suggestions for undergraduate teaching and training. Of course, it is undoubtedly necessary to pay attention to the improvement of regional and country research capabilities among undergraduates. However, it must be pointed out that undergraduates cannot directly engage in regional and country research after they leave school. Only after receiving professional training from master's and doctoral students (maybe even postdoctoral) can one be qualified for this arduous job. Facts have shown that the employment of the vast majority of undergraduates cannot be "connected" with regional and country studies. This means that It is noted that the focus of training talents for regional and country studies is not undergraduate students, but doctoral students, postdoctoral fellows and young teachers in the field of international issues research. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, especially since the reform and opening up, foreign language teaching in Chinese universities has achieved rapid progress. development division

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• The study of comprehensive issues involves world economy, international trade and investment, international politics, international relations, world order, and national affairs.

The international system, globalization, global governance, war and peace, etc., it is really all-encompassing, and it has it all.

• In fact, even those who engage in regional and country research during their doctoral and postdoctoral studies may not eventually be able to enter universities or think tanks.

Continue this research work.

The resources are very strong. Of course, most (even the vast majority) foreign language teachers can only engage in research in the fields of language, translation or culture. They know little about international politics, international relations, diplomacy and world economy, and therefore cannot engage in regional and country research in the true sense. This shows to a certain extent that in order to adapt to the needs of regional and country research, the knowledge structure and academic interests of young teachers majoring in foreign languages need to undergo substantial changes.

Third, the primary task of regional country studies and "regional country studies" is policy consultation. The Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core attaches great importance to philosophy and social sciences, and has made a series of important expositions on strengthening basic theoretical research and applied countermeasures research. Xi Put forward a series of important requirements. On March 4, 2019, when he participated in the joint meeting of members of the cultural and art circles and social science circles of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, he pointed out that the scientific research in philosophy and social sciences must be based on the great practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and proposed that it should have autonomy, original theoretical viewpoints. All valuable and meaningful literary and artistic creations and academic research should reflect reality, take reality into account, and should be conducive to solving real problems and answering real issues. Xi As we all know, in recent years, among regional and country studies Therefore, the most important reason for achieving rapid development and being upgraded to a first-level discipline is that the practice of major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics requires strong academic support from the academic community. In a certain sense, judging the success of regional and country studies is One of the signs is whether it can promote the integrated development of basic theoretical research and applied strategy research. It is undoubtedly undesirable to deny the guidance of theory on country and regional research. However, some results in the field of regional and country research one-sidedly emphasize the importance of theory. Xi When studying major practical issues in a certain region or a certain country, they spare no effort to use some obscure words (most of which were invented by Western scholars). What is even more bizarre is that some scholars discuss how to engage in regional countries. When studying such a specific issue, they also use some so-called theories that are far-fetched and far-fetched from reality, and use terms and concepts that only the author himself can understand to explain the necessity and importance of promoting regional and country studies. Importance

Fourth, "study" cannot be invented at will. The promotion of regional and country studies to the first-level discipline "regional and country studies" has both academic and discipline construction necessity, because one of the characteristics of China's education system is that disciplines System. In an era when academic innovation is vigorously advocated, the name of a certain region or country is used as a modifier for "study" (such as "African studies", "European studies", "American studies", "Japanese studies", "Middle Eastern studies", "Latin American studies"). "Asia-Pacific Studies", etc.) is certainly refreshing and worthy of encouragement. However, the following issues require further discussion. First, what are the similarities and differences between "xx studies" and "xx studies"? So far, there has been no discussion Determine a definition that can distinguish them, and thus the boundaries of their academic fields

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Xi Jinping visited members of the literary, artistic and social science circles who attended the CPPCC meeting», Xinhuanet, March 4, 2019, <http://www.xinhuanet.com>

It is unclear. Second, what kind of place names or country names can be used to modify "study"? Can we propose "Caribbean studies", "Central American studies", "North African studies", "Northeast Asian studies", "Vietnamese studies" and "Mauritania studies" "Study" and "Jamaica Study"? The third is how to translate these x discipline Are (subjects) interchangeable? The answer is obviously no. Fifth, it is necessary to compile more regional and country studies textbooks as soon as possible. After regional and country studies are upgraded to "regional and country studies", how to

promote the construction of the discipline is It is an arduous task that Chinese academic circles cannot refuse. One of the essentials for discipline construction is textbooks. So far, there are very few textbooks used for teaching regional and national studies, both at home and abroad. Compiling a textbook on regional and national studies It is not an easy task. Considering the interdisciplinary nature of regional and national studies, the compilation of teaching materials for regional and national studies can be done in the following two ways: First, borrowing ready-made teaching materials from other disciplines, as long as the content is condensed or Just delete it, for example, compile the core content of textbooks on economics, political science, diplomacy, sociology and other disciplines into a volume. The second is to start from scratch or start from scratch. There is no doubt that the first method is simpler, and the second method is more complicated. Difficulties. No matter which method is adopted, Chinese scholars need to seriously consider the following issues when compiling regional and country studies textbooks. First, how to make regional and country studies textbooks a subject system with Chinese characteristics, Chinese style, and Chinese style. , academic system, and discourse system. Secondly, can we create a Chinese knowledge system that is different from the West by writing this textbook, including Chinese theories and Chinese research methods? Finally, how to integrate various regions of the world The basic knowledge of nearly 200 countries of different sizes is condensed in one textbook. Academic research needs competition, and the compilation of regional and country-specific textbooks also needs competition. Therefore, the Ministry of Education should do a good job in top-level design and organize several more regional countries. Biexue textbook writing team will launch one or several high-quality textbooks as soon as possible.

(Editor Gao Han)