

Development of Sino-US trade relations and employment of labor force

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Abstract. International trade needs healthy and balanced development, and so does labor employment. There are some connections between the two, so both need to be taken into account in development. In terms of international trade, Sino-US trade is a hot topic at present. Based on the development of Sino-US trade relations and the correlation between the development of Sino-US trade relations and the employment of the labor force, this paper makes a summary. This paper mainly studies the development stage and changing trend of Sino-US trade relations, and discusses the influence of the development of Sino-US trade relations on labor employment. This paper mainly analyzes the impact of Sino-US trade relations in a relatively stable state, including positive and negative impacts. In addition, this paper mainly discusses the relationship between trade relations and labor employment and strives to achieve a balanced development of the two, promote the healthy development of trade, and stabilize employment and people's livelihood.

1. Introduction

After Trump took office, he insisted on the ruling philosophy of "bringing manufacturing back to the United States" and launched trade wars against China many times. In 2018, Trump instructed American representatives to impose tariffs on goods imported from China, and the Sino-US trade war began. In this war without smoke, China and the United States fought fiercely. Many people began to study the development trend of Sino-US relations and have a heated discussion on whether China and the United States can decouple. However, on November 15, 2023, Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, had a meeting with Biden, the president of the United States in Filoli Manor, San Francisco, USA, China and the United States have reached a consensus in many fields and aspects, which has attracted worldwide attention. The development of Sino-US relations is the focus of world attention, among which the development of Sino-US trade relations is an important factor affecting Sino-US relations. Since the founding of New China, Sino-US trade relations have experienced ups and downs, with cooperation in hostility and friction in communication. Employment is the biggest livelihood, stable employment, and, trade and employment has become an important topic in contemporary international trade research, and the relationship between trade and employment is different in different countries and regions [1]. For some countries, the prosperity of trade may bring positive effects on labor employment, while for other countries, the prosperity of trade may lead to negative effects on labor employment. As far as the information is concerned, a

large number of domestic documents have thoroughly studied the background, changes, trends, and prospects of Sino-US trade development, and there is still much room for research on the impact of Sino-US trade development on labor employment. This paper will sort out and sort out the development of Sino-US trade, study its impact on the labor employment market, and then explore the balance of interests between Sino-US trade development and employment development, grasp the relationship between trade development and employment, stabilize employment while developing trade reasonably, and build a solid foundation for people's livelihood.

2. Current situation of trade between China and the United States

Nowadays, the connections between countries around the world are constantly strengthening, and even under the impact of anti-globalization and unilateralism, economic globalization is still developing in depth. No country can leave international trade, completely independent of the international division of labor and trade, achieve complete self-sufficiency, and thrive.

In the context of economic globalization, as two major economies, China and the United States, their trade relations and development have always been a hot topic of global concern. This section of this article will elaborate on the current development status of China-US trade relations in recent years.

The current trade between China and the United States shows strong complementarity and dependence, with frequent trade exchanges between the two sides. The United States is one of China's largest trading countries, and the bilateral trade volume between China

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and the United States continues to expand, increasing from 2.451 billion US dollars in 1979 to 587.62 billion US dollars in 2020, an increase of nearly 238 times in 41 years. The 2021 bilateral trade data released by the General Administration of Customs of China shows that even against the backdrop of many restrictive policies imposed on Sino-US trade, the total trade volume between China and the United States still reached a historic high - from the perspective of total trade volume, the total trade volume between China and the United States reached 755.645 billion US dollars in 2021. Among them, China imported \$179.531 billion from the United States and exported \$576.114 billion to the United States. From the perspective of complementarity, China is a typical developing country, an industrial powerhouse with a complete industrial system, and its most typical feature is "large and comprehensive". As a developed country, the United States has a technological advantage, and its manufacturing industry is mostly high-end. The commodity trade between the two countries is both complementary and competitive. At the same time, China is an important foreign investment market for the United States. The United States has technological advantages and numerous high-tech products. China has abundant labor resources and low costs. American companies investing in China can reduce costs and enhance their international competitiveness with the reduced costs. China utilizes American investment to obtain technological and financial support, thereby improving its technological level and enhancing its strength [2].

At present, there are continuous trade frictions between China and the United States. Since March 2018, the trade frictions between China and the United States have officially begun. The United States has repeatedly provoked trade disputes and initiated tariff measures on Chinese goods, and China has also implemented countermeasures against the United States [2]. Trade frictions are gradually showing characteristics of diversification, comprehensiveness, and concealment; In addition, the politicization of economic and trade issues has led to investment protectionism in developed countries such as the United States, mainly targeting emerging markets and developing countries, to protect emerging advantageous industries such as steel, automobiles, communication equipment, and chemical products. The imperfect foreign trade management system in our country and political factors in the United States have become the reasons for trade friction [3].

From the various data on Sino-US trade and the development of Sino-US trade relations, the current situation has the historical characteristics of the development of Sino-US trade relations, with constant friction between the two sides. However, the degree of trade dependence is extremely high and cannot be easily decoupled. Meanwhile, looking at the current situation, it is in line with the general trend of the development of Sino-US trade relations, with fluctuations in stability and a tendency towards stability after fluctuations.

3. Sino-US trade development relations fluctuated locally and were generally stable

On the whole, Sino-US trade relations show twists and turns and spiral development trends. First of all, China and the United States have close trade relations. As of 2007, according to Chinese statistics, the United States is China's largest trading partner, and according to US statistics, China is the second largest trading partner of the United States [4]. By 2017, the trade data between the two sides fluctuated slightly. The United States has become China's second-largest trading partner, the fifth-largest source of imports, and the largest export market. China is also the second-largest trading partner, the largest source of imports, and the third-largest export market of the United States [5]. According to the data, the trade between China and the United States is close and stable. From 2007 to 2017, after ten years, the trade between China and the United States still accounts for a large proportion of each other's total trade, showing a stable trend, reflecting the interdependent economic and trade relations between the two countries. Today, although the United States has launched trade wars with China many times, it is obvious that it is still difficult to "decouple" Sino-US trade relations. At the beginning of the founding of New China, the United States imposed a blockade on China; Nowadays, with the rise of anti-globalization and new trade protectionism, the trade between the two countries is facing many difficulties, but it is still very close and difficult to "decouple". So how did Sino-US trade relations develop? The following summarizes and combs the views of some scholars.

The development of Sino-US trade can be divided into several stages. Yang Zhihuang and Yang Nanlong believed that Sino-US trade is characterized by "long-term politicization", "long-term friction", "asymmetry" and "complementary competition", and the development of Sino-US trade relations from 1949 to 2019 can be divided into six stages. They are the "freezing isolation period" (1949-1970), the "thawing and ice breaking period" (1971-1978), the "growth honeymoon period" (1979-1988), the "fluctuation rising period" (1989-2000), "the golden period of joining WTO" (2001-2016) and "head-on confrontation period" (2017-2016). During the "frozen isolation period", due to the intensification of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union, the United States adopted various means, such as strict trade control with China and prohibiting import and export trade with China, to block the new China; During the thawing and ice-breaking period, the United States was deeply mired in the Vietnam War, which led to one after another domestic anti-war voice. At this time, the hegemony between the United States and the Soviet Union was in a stalemate, and the United States did not have an advantage. At this time, the relationship between China and the Soviet Union deteriorated after the Treasure Island incident in 1969. During this period, the relaxation of relations and trade development between China and the United States was in the interest of both sides, thus

breaking the 21-year isolation, relaxing restrictions on China by the United States, and greatly increasing the trade volume between China and the United States. From 1979 to 1988, Sino-U.S. trade relations entered the honeymoon period of growth. After the formal establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States in 1979, economic and trade cooperation between China and the United States expanded, and Sino-US trade developed rapidly. After the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the United States lost a big threat, China lost its value of balancing the Soviet Union, Sino-US trade relations declined, a series of proposed agreements were canceled, and sanctions were imposed on China. The two sides held several rounds of negotiations on MFN treatment, a period of rising fluctuations. Sino-US trade relations faced many problems and challenges, but the areas of cooperation continued to expand and economic exchanges continued to deepen. In the golden age of China's entry into WTO, competition and cooperation coexist in Sino-US economic and trade relations, while friction and cooperation coexist. In the period of confrontation that began in 2017, the United States kept pressing, and China was forced to deal with it [6]. The author believes that this study carefully divides the stages of Sino-US trade development, completely combs the context of Sino-US trade development, and reflects the characteristics and changes in different periods. However, the division is more general, and the development of Sino-US relations is observed from a macro perspective, and the influence of events on the development of relations is not analyzed in detail. At the same time, the basis for division and the signs of transformation are not clarified.

Ding Xiayang divided Sino-US trade after 1949 into three stages. One is the comprehensive isolation stage marked by the United States' comprehensive embargo on China in November 1950, which lasted from 1950 to 1969. The second is the limited recovery stage with the Nixon administration's announcement of the partial lifting of the ban on trade with China in July 1969; The third is the all-round development stage that took China's reform and opening-up in 1977 as an opportunity and continued to this day [7]. This study, marked by specific events, analyzes in detail the influence of specific events on the changes and even turning points of Sino-US relations and divides the development stages on this basis.

Song Hong thinks that the development of Sino-US trade is ups and downs, which is roughly divided into the interruption of economic and trade relations (1951). The Embargo, the period of mutual isolation (1952-1971); The deepening period of recovery and mutual communication (1972-present) [8]. Based on the data of trade itself, this study analyzes the development of Sino-US trade relations through a large number of data.

The development of Sino-US trade relations is long and has ups and downs. There are exchanges in competition and frictions in cooperation. It is not static, but it is difficult to make substantial changes. For the sake of various interests, Sino-US trade will be stable for

a long time. As Song Guoyou believes, after the collision of the Trump administration, Sino-U.S. economic and trade relations still show the fundamental characteristics of strong complementarity and mutual benefit. Among the new development characteristics of Sino-US economic and trade relations, re-integration, strong competition and weak decoupling are the three most typical trends. As for Sino-US trade relations, this paper holds that their development is generally stable, but there are local fluctuations. Throughout the development process, there was no extreme confrontation or deep cooperation except for the isolation of Sino-US trade relations in the early days of the founding of the People's Republic of China, and the overall trend is stable. This paper divides the development of Sino-US trade relations into three stages. First, from 1949 to 1979, before the formal establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States, there were few economic and trade ties between the two countries, and after 21 years of "no contact", economic and trade exchanges were not frequent. Second, from 1979 to 2017, Sino-US trade exchanges were frequent, and Sino-US trade relations fluctuated, but the overall development was relatively moderate. Third, from 2017 to today, the development of Sino-US trade relations has been severely collided and hindered.

4. The influence of Sino-US trade relations development on labor employment

Employment is the biggest livelihood, and trade has a direct impact on employment. Trade affects supply and demand, thus affecting related jobs, enterprises, and industries. The development of labor employment is closely related to the development of trade. This chapter discusses the relationship between the development of Sino-US trade relations and labor employment by summarizing the influence of the development of Sino-US trade relations on labor employment.

China and the United States are highly complementary in industrial structure, and the two countries have complementary advantages in economic and trade cooperation, forming a large-scale and extensive international division of labor cooperation [9], international division of labor can promote industrial development, help enterprises expand their scale, increase employment resources, and stimulate employment to play a positive role in employment. Li Kaijie takes the wage level as the breakthrough point mainly studies the influence of export trade on labor employment, and thinks that export trade has a significant regional labor market effect, which will affect the wage level of floating labor. Mainly reflected in the following four aspects: First, the scale of export trade has a significant positive impact on the wage level of migrant workers, from benefiting low-income groups to benefiting high-income groups. Second, export trade widens the wage gap within the floating labor force. Third, the impact of export trade on the wages of migrant

workers gradually decreases with the increase in age. Fourthly, export trade has a positive effect on the wage level of migrant workers with different inflow durations, and this effect increases with the increase of inflow duration [10]. The author believes that the scholar's research clearly and intuitively analyzes the influence mechanism of trade on labor employment in terms of wage level.

Some scholars believe that the development of Sino-US trade hurts labor employment. This paper mainly sorts out the impact on labor employment caused by the current Sino-US trade relations. Song Guoyou believes that in terms of employment, due to tariff pressure, some domestic manufacturing industries have experienced outflows, which has led to the outward transfer of corresponding jobs [11]. Zhou Shen and Yu Linke believe that after World War II, trade liberalization became the dominant orientation of trade policies of major economies in the world. In recent years, anti-globalization thoughts have emerged, and American trade policy has gradually shown the color of trade protectionism. This change in trade policy has worsened Sino-US trade relations and hurt China's labor market. Specifically, on the one hand, the U.S. government, to protect its enterprises and workers, will curb the import of some industries through trade policy measures, especially by reducing exports from China, which will directly reduce employment in China. It has inhibited the export of Chinese enterprises to the United States and then destroyed some of the original export employment pulling effects. On the other hand, the shift in American trade policy has brought about an increase in the uncertainty of trade relations between China and the United States, which will hurt the export decision-making of Chinese enterprises and impact China's employment by affecting the business decision-making of Chinese enterprises [12].

The development of Sino-US trade has positive and negative effects on the employment of both sides. When the relationship is good, the positive effect is greater than the negative effect. When the relationship is good, it will promote industrial development, expand the industrial scale, and develop high-tech industries in the United States. When the Sino-US trade relationship is good, it will accelerate the industrial transformation and upgrading in China, which will help increase employment, such as foreign trade and product production. At the same time, it is also conducive to improving the quality of labor employment and improving the overall employment level. When the relationship deteriorates, it will lead to a series of negative effects, such as the increase of foreign trade costs and the decrease of profits, which will lead to the contraction of the foreign trade industry, the difficulty in developing related industries in this field, the decline of employment rate and wage level in this related industry, and people are not optimistic about employment in this industry. But there are also positive effects, capital and labor will flow to other industries, thus stimulating the development of employment in other industries.

5. Conclusion

As for the future development of Sino-US trade relations, this paper holds that the United States is bound to suppress China to prevent China from profiting more from trade, and China will not sit still and fight back. Therefore, the future development of Sino-US trade relations will not be "calm" and it is difficult to deepen cooperation greatly, "by going up one flight of stairs". However, the development of Sino-US trade today has a long history, and the industrial dependence and complementarity between the two countries are high, so it is difficult to reduce the relationship.

In the face of the changes in Sino-US trade relations, society should pay full attention to them, and adjust countermeasures in time while conforming to the changing trend, and make countermeasures. For example, when the relationship is improving, foreign trade enterprises can expand investment and production, and relevant employees can tend to develop in the direction of trade, especially trade with the United States; When the relationship deteriorates, enterprises reduce their investment in trade with the United States, reduce the scale or avoid the trade of certain specific commodities, and reduce losses. The employment of related labor can develop in other trade directions or transfer to other industries, thus maintaining the relative stability of labor employment and building a solid foundation for people's livelihood. At the same time, grasp the influence of labor employment on the development of Sino-US trade relations and promote the stable and positive development of Sino-US trade relations.

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