

# Research on the Development Strategy of Chinese Table Tennis Participating in Public Diplomacy Against the Background of International Relations Construction

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**Abstract**—In the process of constructing international relations, due to economic and cultural differences, communication is not smooth. Therefore, how to achieve political identity, social communication and benefit sharing through effective means is the core issue that countries pay most attention to in developing international relations. With the development of social economy, sports have gradually formed a system. In order to show the quality of the people, each country has exchanged the competitive sports to enhance the skills and integrate culture. Sports have an important value and role in the integration and development of state relations at this stage. This paper studies the participation of Chinese table tennis in public diplomacy against the background of international relations construction through literature data method, expert interview method and logical induction method, and explores ways and methods of demonstrating national strength and integrating international relations through the medium of table tennis.

**Keywords**—*international relations; table tennis; public diplomacy; strategy*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Table tennis as a national ball in China has a good mass base and is better developed among the masses. Through table tennis, it can effectively enhance physical fitness and promote a healthy lifestyle. For a long time, people's understanding of table tennis has only been limited to the movement itself. The understanding and development of other functions of table tennis has not been enough, which has caused the whole society to have a profound enough understanding of table tennis. Through in-depth exploration of the educational function of table tennis and the development of table tennis communication functions, the value of table tennis will be enhanced, the popularity and spread of table tennis in the world will be promoted, the exchange of table tennis between different countries will be enhanced, and then the role of Chinese table tennis participating in the development strategy of public diplomacy against the background of international relations construction will be developed.

## II. RESEARCH OBJECT

The research object of this paper is the strategy and mode of Chinese table tennis participation in diplomacy against the background of international relations construction.

## III. RESEARCH METHOD

In the process of writing, this paper uses methods such as literature data method, expert interview method and logical induction method.

## IV. RESEARCH PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE

The purpose of this paper is to explore the ways and methods of promoting the development of international relations through table tennis through the study of the development strategy of Chinese table tennis in the context of international relations.

The significance of this paper is to further explore the role and significance of table tennis in the construction of international relations through the development and application of Chinese table tennis against the background of international relations construction.

## V. RESEARCH RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

### A. The Origin of Table Tennis and Its Development in China

Table tennis originated in the 19th century England, was introduced to China in 1904, and the National Table Tennis Federation was established in Shanghai in 1923. Then with the development of table tennis, it has gradually become one of the more popular projects in China. Although the conditions were simple during the War of Resistance, the Communists still used table tennis as a military sports activity to activate the atmosphere and enhance the collective sense of honor and tenacious spirit of the officers and soldiers. During Yan'an period, Chairman Mao often took

time to play table tennis. It is obvious that table tennis is very popular in China.

After the founding of New China in 1949, the party and state leaders attached great importance to the development of table tennis. In 1952, the first national table tennis competition was held in Beijing. This competition greatly mobilized the enthusiasm and initiative of the masses to participate in table tennis. Since then table tennis has gradually become one of the sports with the highest participation rate. In the 25th World Table Tennis Championships in 1959, Chinese player Rong Guotuan won the men's singles championship. This is the first time that Chinese players have won the world championship, and then they became the dominant players in the world table tennis, becoming a world-class team.

### *B. Relationship Between Sports and Politics*

The word "politics" belongs to imported goods. It comes from the Chinese characters used in the process of Japanese translation of English. Marx's understanding on politics is that politics is an economic-based superstructure, a concentrated expression of the economy, and the sum of various social activities and social relations based on political power. Since ancient times, sports have been a way of communication and exchange between various countries. The ancient Greeks participated in the Olympic Games to enhance the physical quality of the people and enhance the national defense capabilities, thereby achieving political goals. In the Warring States period, China raised the overall quality of the aristocracy by educating the nobles on etiquette, music, archery, driving, hand-writings, and skills. The archery and driving in these six arts belonged to the sports category. At the same time, the development of the ancient Chinese Cuju (the original football) better reflected the purpose of achieving mutual exchanges between countries through sports. It can be seen that sports has played an important role in politics since ancient times.

For a long time, the academic community has been arguing whether sports should be independent and not affiliated with politics. Especially European and American countries seem to be mostly political and sports independent, and even advocate that politics and economy are independent of each other. But are they truly independent and not interconnected? The answer will be no. Things are interrelated. The development of one aspect affects the development of the other aspect. And sports in Europe and the United States are mostly developed with the support of the government. For example, many sports clubs in the early days of their operation mostly had been given great support from the government. Whether it is the division of land or the formulation of taxes, even after the club is on the right track, the government still gives great support, reduces the tax, and provides policy support. It can be seen that regardless of the system of the country, the national conditions, politics, economy, and sports are always closely related and there is no mutual independence.

### *C. The Significance of Table Tennis in Chinese Diplomacy*

In the process of writing the thesis, the interpretation of diplomacy in the "Ci Hai" is: diplomacy is the foreign activities of the state implementing its foreign policies proceeded by heads of state, heads of government, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and diplomatic representative offices, such as visiting, negotiating, negotiating, issuing diplomatic documents, concluding treaties, participating in international conferences and international organizations, etc. Through interviews with experts and access to relevant literature, it is concluded that sports diplomacy refers to the means and strategy of communication, cooperation and win-win between two or more countries through sports. Table tennis has played an important role in the history of China's diplomacy, effectively alleviating tensions between the state and the country and promoting exchanges between China and other countries.

*1) Promoting exchanges between countries:* At the beginning of the founding of the People's Republic of China, people's livelihood was overwhelmed and abandoning. In this period, China urgently needs to recuperate and promote the recovery and growth of the national economy. Western hostile forces frequently put pressure on China, and China was in a passive situation for a certain period of time. Among these factors, the primary issue in front of China was how to deal with relations with other countries. In this process, table tennis has become an important factor in diplomacy, played an important role, promoted exchanges with other countries, and promoted trust between countries through the exchange of this small ball. In the years since the exchange of table tennis between China and African brotherhood country Guinea in the 1960s, China has conducted ping-pong diplomacy with Japan, Thailand, and the United States, and the effects are very significant. The diplomatic significance between the United States and the United States is the most profound and significant. It breaks the ice between the two countries and creates the legend that the small ball turns the big ball. Since then, the relationship between China and the United States has been greatly eased. The significance of this table tennis diplomacy is extraordinary.

*2) Integrating ideas from different countries:* Due to different regional cultures, the ideas between countries are also different. However, in China, the thoughts are different in different periods, and the ideas in different regions are different. The differences in language, history and culture of different countries in the world are greater and communication is more difficult. In any part of the world, as long as table tennis is carrying on, the rules of table tennis are the same. Table tennis through different races can promote communication between individuals and teams. Through the deepening of communication, the individual can further promote the understanding of the language, culture, background and other aspects of the other country. In the communication, the deep understanding of the different regions of thought and culture prompts the

acceptance of the other party's thoughts, promotes the collision and exchange of different ideas, and promotes the fusion of ideas.

3) *Advocating the fair competition environment*: Some countries in the international environment are relatively powerful. Some countries are relatively backward, and they are at a weak level in diplomacy. Simply communicating in the form of diplomacy between the two countries will easily lead to a high-spirited mentality in the strong side, and there will be unequal exchanges between the two countries. Through the medium of table tennis, the exchanges between the two countries can be shifted from the negotiating table to the competition venue. The competition can be guaranteed of the fairness and justice under the rules. Through the small table tennis, the country can gradually realize no matter what kind of communication, it should be carried out on the basis of fairness and fairness. Otherwise, as a referee and a coach, there must be unfairness in this kind of competition. Even if you win the game, it is difficult to convince the public. The same is true of the exchanges between the two countries, that is, they must be honest.

4) *Showing the image of the country*: The image of the country is influenced by many factors. The economy is a relatively important factor. The national sports with better economic foundation tend to be better. According to the comparison of the Olympic gold medal list, the number of gold medals obtained by developed countries is relatively higher than that of developing countries. Sports can often reflect part of the image of a country. Sports gives people an intuitive feeling of spirit, uplifting and hard work. Through the exchange of table tennis between different countries, it shows the spirit of the country and promotes its positive diplomatic image.

#### *D. The Strategy of Table Tennis Participation in Diplomacy in the New Era*

1) *Correct understanding of overseas table tennis groups*: Since the reform and opening up, the conditions for going abroad have become more releasing. More and more people have gone abroad and visited the world. Sports are also the same. In the process of sports competition, the exchange of athletes has been promoted. Due to oversupply, the outflow of sports power has formed sports immigrants. Due to the wealth of table tennis talents in China, it is more difficult to get along in the domestic arena. So many individuals go abroad to represent other countries. This phenomenon has brought some trouble to Chinese table tennis. In recent years, the debate of the advantages and disadvantages of overseas table tennis is endless. In the long run, overseas table tennis groups are of great significance both for the development of Chinese table tennis and for the development of world table tennis. Overseas table tennis can effectively promote the development of table tennis in other countries. With the further development of table tennis in the world, the further improvement of influence can increase

the income of table tennis players. It will be necessary to promote political, economic, cultural and sports exchanges between China and other countries. As the world's competition increases, China's desire to achieve better results requires continuous improvement of its own table tennis technology and promoting the continuous improvement of table tennis technology.

2) *Promoting the development and popularization of table tennis in the world*: The main reason why football can become the world's largest sport is the popularity of football. The further development and promotion of table tennis needs to expand the breadth and depth of communication, and deliver high-level coaches to countries with poorer table tennis skills to constantly improve the country's table tennis skills. By increasing the opportunities for table tennis exchanges with players from other countries, it can improve the level and ability of the opponents, accumulate the mass base of table tennis, enhance the enthusiasm of the masses to participate in table tennis, and increase the number of participants, which has the important function and the influence to the popularization of this sport.

3) *Developing a strategy for table tennis diplomacy*: The Beijing Olympics China has also been questioned in the international community. How China has transformed from a big sports country into a sports power is an important task at the present stage. As the country attaches more importance to sports, the means and measures of reforming institutions, deepening institutional reforms, organizing and managing, etc. have changed the thinking of over-emphasizing gold medals and achievements in the past, and began to pay attention to the participation of mass sports. As one of the best projects of the masses in China, table tennis plays an important role in promoting the national image and promoting the fitness of the whole people. It will be of great significance to dig deep into the cultural and economic value of table tennis, and play an important role in the role of table tennis in diplomacy. For example, during the visit to Japan, President Hu Jintao conducted table tennis exchanges with Japanese table tennis players, which promoted exchanges between the two countries on the one hand, and enhanced the image of the country on the other hand. This exchange of table tennis has been well received by the outside world.

4) *Establishing a table tennis diplomatic development institution*: Drawing on the sports diplomacy strategy of the United States, Germany, the Philippines and other countries, international diplomacy can be promoted by setting up table tennis exchange development institutions. These institutions are different from the management system of the government management system and have their own modes of operation and characteristics, mainly through organizing some folk or student competitions to achieve the purpose of publicity and communication. Having a good public opinion has a certain auxiliary effect on government diplomacy. Putting government-led affairs in civil to organize and carry

out not only does not reduce the importance of the competition system, but makes it more popular, which is conducive to the development and dissemination of the event. The influence is increasing instead of reducing.

5) *Increasing the frequency of communication in multi-layer*: The international table tennis competitions are mainly played through the national team. Due to the high level and low frequency, the number of participants is small. The masses can only act as spectators. By increasing non-governmental competitions, it can promote ordinary table tennis enthusiasts or student groups to participate in international competitions, and increase the mass base of table tennis. In the process of organizing the event, certain funds are required. In this process, funds can be supported in the form of corporate sponsorship to meet the needs of the event. At this stage, information technology is developing rapidly. It is necessary to publicize the event through the network, increase the influence and popularity of the event, and encourage more and more individuals to participate.

## VI. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

### A. Conclusion

In the process of constructing international relations, table tennis can promote the exchanges between countries and integrate the ideas of different countries. It has the significance of advocating fair competition environment and displaying the image of the country. It can achieve political identity, social communication and the purpose of sharing interests through table tennis diplomacy.

### B. Suggestions

It is suggested that in the process of constructing international relations, China should correctly understand the role and significance of overseas table tennis groups, promote the development and popularization of table tennis in the world by increasing the frequency of table tennis exchanges, establishing a table tennis diplomatic development organization, and formulating strategies for table tennis diplomacy, and play the role and significance of table tennis in the diplomatic process.

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