

# On the Conditions of Eliminating Private Ownership-- Starting With Communist Manifesto

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## ABSTRACT

2020 marks the 200th anniversary of Engels's birth. It has been more than 170 years since He and Marx issued Communist Manifesto, and more than 40 years since China's reform and opening up. The abolition of private ownership" in the Communist Manifesto is to eliminate capitalist ownership and its concept. It is the unity of purpose and regularity. The elimination of private ownership does not depend on people's subjective will, but on conditions. China does not have the conditions to eliminate private ownership in the primary stage of socialism. We must adhere to the "two unswervingly". The Communist Manifesto "eradicating private ownership" and the development of the non-public economy at the present stage are not contradictory, all of which are the need for production relations to adapt to the development of productive forces.

**Keywords:** *private ownership, Communist Manifesto, Capitalism, Proletariat*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

2020 is the 200th anniversary of Engels' birth. Communist Manifesto, written by Engels and Marx, has been published for more than 170 years. A very famous point of view in the Communist Manifesto is to eliminate private ownership. Is there a contradiction between the two when socialist China allows the existence of private ownership? On the occasion of more than 40 years of reform and opening up and building a moderately prosperous society in an all-round way, it is of great practical significance to clarify the relationship between the two in order to deepen the reform in an all-round way.

## 2. THE SCIENTIFIC CONNOTATION OF "ELIMINATING PRIVATE OWNERSHIP" IN COMMUNIST MANIFESTO

Private ownership is the abbreviation of private ownership of means of production, which is the form of private possession. <sup>[1]</sup> The reason of private ownership is that at the end of primitive society, with the development of division of labor and productivity, families become independent production units, individual labor becomes possible, and labor products can be owned by private individuals, which leads to the emergence of private ownership. The expansion of commodity production and exchange has promoted the development of private ownership, which is the basis of exploitation. According to the form of ownership of means of production, it can be divided into public ownership and private ownership. Public ownership can be divided into primitive social public ownership and Communist public ownership.

Private ownership can be divided into slave ownership, feudal ownership and capitalist ownership.

### 2.1. Eliminate Capitalist Ownership

Communist Manifesto states: "the characteristic of communism is not to abolish the general ownership, but to abolish the ownership of the bourgeoisie. Modern bourgeois private ownership is the final and most complete expression of production and possession of products based on class antagonism and the exploitation of others by some people. In this sense, Communists can sum up their theory as one sentence: eliminate private ownership. " <sup>[2]</sup><sup>[4]</sup><sup>[14]</sup> This shows that the elimination of private ownership proposed in Communist Manifesto is the elimination of capitalist ownership, not the other two kinds of private ownership. Because the other two private ownership have perished or will be replaced by capitalist ownership. Marx believes that capitalist ownership is the last private ownership in human history. Capitalist ownership is a form of private ownership in which capitalists possess the means of production and exploit the employed workers. <sup>[3]</sup><sup>[17]</sup> To get rid of the fate of exploitation, the working class must eliminate capitalist ownership. The elimination of bourgeois private ownership was not initiated by Marx and Engels, but was proposed by Utopian Communists in the 18th century. The difference between the two is that one is science and the other is fantasy. The former puts forward that the elimination of capitalist private ownership is based on the reality and solves the problem of who will eliminate it and the way to eliminate it; the latter only stays on the subjective desire of moral level, refuses political action and hopes the ruling class will do great good.

## ***2.2. Eliminate the Concept of Private Ownership***

Marx and Engels proposed to replace the concept of private ownership with the concept of communism. "Communist revolution is the most thorough break with traditional ownership relations; it is not surprising that it should carry out the most thorough breakup with traditional ideas in its own development process." simultaneous interpreting of the Communist Party of China is a simultaneous interpreting of the traditional concept of ownership. <sup>[2]421</sup> This shows that the Communist revolution should not only eliminate private ownership, but also the concept of private ownership. Social existence determines social consciousness, that is, people's consciousness, which changes with the change of people's living conditions, social relations and social existence. If private ownership is eliminated, the concept of private ownership will be eliminated quickly or slowly. But social consciousness has initiative and can guide people's social practice. The idea of eliminating private ownership can point out the direction of the Communist movement. Communist society is a society without the concept of private ownership, which is yearning for and free from exploitation and oppression. "Communism does not deprive anyone of the right to possess social products, it only deprives anyone of the right to use such possession to enslave other people's labor." <sup>[2]416</sup> The elimination of the concept of private ownership can provide the proletariat with the spiritual power of unremitting struggle. If the proletariat wants to get rid of the fate of being enslaved and exploited, and wants to liberate itself, it must carry out the struggle to overthrow the bourgeois rule, then eliminate the capitalist ownership and establish a communist society.

## ***2.3. The Elimination of Capitalist Ownership Is the Unity of Purpose and Regularity***

First of all, it's purposeful. To eliminate capitalist ownership is the purpose of Marx and Engels to participate in the revolution. "The task of the Communist Manifesto is to declare that the ownership of the modern bourgeoisie is bound to perish." <sup>[2] 389</sup> Marx's lifelong mission is "to take part in the overthrow of capitalist society in one way or another... And take part in the liberation of the modern proletariat." <sup>[5]1003</sup> They proposed to replace capitalist society with a communist society - the free people's Union. "Instead of the old bourgeois society in which class and class antagonism existed, there would be such a union, where the free development of everyone is the condition for the free development of all people." <sup>[2]422</sup> To eliminate capitalist ownership is to create conditions for proletarian liberation and human happiness. Marx has the noble sentiment of seeking happiness for mankind since his youth. "When choosing a career, we should follow the main guidelines of human happiness and our own perfection," he wrote in his middle school composition <sup>[6]</sup>.

Marx and Engels exposed the evil of capitalism mercilessly. Marx pointed out in capital that "capital comes into the world, from head to toe, every pore is dripping with blood and dirty things." <sup>[7]</sup> Engels wrote in the ten hour workday question: "British workers! If you, your wife and children will be locked up again in a 13 hour "cage", you don't have to be pessimistic <sup>[8]</sup> Capitalism has created a lot of wealth for capitalists, but also brought endless disasters to the proletariat. Where there is oppression, there is resistance. Marx put forward that the purpose of eliminating private ownership is to eliminate exploitation and prevent capitalists from using the private ownership of means of production to occupy other people's labor achievements.

Marx and Engels had high hopes for the proletariat. The proletariat has the thoroughness of revolution. "Of all the classes currently opposed to the bourgeoisie, only the proletariat is the real revolutionary class." <sup>[2]410</sup> The revolutionary thoroughness of the proletariat is determined by its characteristic of nothing. "Proletarians have nothing of their own to protect, they have to destroy everything that has protected and safeguarded private property to this day." <sup>[2] 411</sup> Marx "for the first time made the modern proletariat aware of its own status and needs and the conditions for its liberation" <sup>[5]1003</sup> which greatly enhanced the confidence and sense of historical mission of the proletariat revolution.

Secondly, it is regular. The elimination of capitalist ownership conforms to the law of development of human society. Marx and Engels use historical materialism to clarify that the basic contradiction of human society is the contradiction between productivity and production relations. Production relations adapt to the development of productivity, and will promote social progress; production relations hinder the development of productivity, and will cause social revolution, overthrow the old system, and establish a new social system. The contradiction between productive forces and productive relations is manifested in class struggle in class society.

The bourgeoisie is not always there, but a product of historical development. Communist Manifesto points out that "the modern bourgeoisie itself is the product of a long-term development process and a series of changes in the mode of production and exchange." <sup>[2]402</sup> The bourgeoisie was born in the late feudal society, along with the bourgeoisie, there was also the proletariat. As a result of the industrial revolution, the large machinery industry has greatly increased productivity and produced a large number of goods. The existence of feudal territory hinders the circulation of commodities. The bourgeoisie urgently needs a unified market, that is, to break through the feudal aristocracy's segmented market. Feudal relations of production could not meet the needs of the development of productive forces. Therefore, through the bourgeois revolution, we should seize power, establish a unified and open market, and establish a capitalist society, which adapts to the development of productive forces. In less than a hundred years, capitalism has created a great deal of wealth, which is the best proof that the living relationship adapts to productivity. The same reason for the collapse of

the bourgeoisie is that the relations of production cannot adapt to the development of the productive forces. The contradiction between socialized mass production and capitalist private possession is the embodiment of the contradiction between productivity and production relations in capitalist society. Socialized mass production and mechanized mass production require cooperation and collaborative development of the whole society. However, due to the private ownership of capital, the coordinated development of the whole society cannot be achieved. Capitalist private ownership means that the means of production are privately owned by the bourgeoisie, so the labor products are also freely owned by the bourgeoisie. Capitalist production is to pursue endless profits, expand investment and produce a large number of goods. Workers' wages are low and they are unable to buy all the commodities. At last, a large number of commodities are overstocked, forming a business crisis, which then turns into an economic crisis. The economic crisis will cause the possibility of proletarian revolution. The business crisis "brings extreme poverty to the workers every time, arouses general revolutionary enthusiasm, and causes great danger to the whole existing system." <sup>[2]301</sup>

The economic crisis is the expression that the productive relations can not adapt to the productive forces. "The history of industry and Commerce for decades is nothing more than the history of modern productive forces resisting modern production relations and the ownership relations as the existence conditions of the bourgeoisie and its rule. It's enough to point out the business crisis that increasingly endangers the survival of the whole bourgeois society in the cyclical repetition." <sup>[2]406</sup> To overcome the economic crisis, we must eliminate capitalist ownership. "The productive forces have become so strong that they cannot adapt to this relationship, and they have been hindered by this relationship; and when they begin to overcome this obstacle, they will cause chaos in the whole bourgeois society and threaten the existence of bourgeois ownership." <sup>[2]406</sup> Capitalist society produced the grave diggers of the bourgeoisie. "The bourgeoisie has not only forged a weapon to kill itself; it has also produced the people who are going to use it - the modern workers, the proletarians." <sup>[2] 406</sup> The proletariat and the bourgeoisie launched a fierce class struggle. The result of the struggle is that "the collapse of the bourgeoisie and the victory of the proletariat are equally inevitable." <sup>[2]413</sup>

Finally, the unity of purpose and regularity. Marx and Engels made no secret of their class nature, and publicly stated that they were for the service of the proletariat and the liberation of the proletariat. "Communism is a theory about the conditions for the liberation of the proletariat." <sup>[2]295</sup> Capitalist ownership is the root of hindering the liberation of the proletariat. Eliminating capitalist ownership is not only the goal of the revolutionary tutor, but also conforms to the law of the development of human society - the law of the contradictory movement between productivity and production relations. If capitalist production relations do not adapt to the development of productivity, there will inevitably be new production relations to replace it, that is, public ownership of

communism. However, the elimination of capitalist ownership is conditional.

### **3. CONDITIONS OF ELIMINATING CAPITALIST OWNERSHIP**

Capitalist ownership is a kind of private ownership. Private ownership does not always exist. The emergence of private ownership is the result of a certain development of productivity, but also of insufficient development of productivity. It is an inevitable result of the development of productive forces that public ownership is replaced by private ownership. The existence of private ownership does not depend on people's subjective wishes. Because private ownership is not eliminated by law, but by conditions. The emergence and maturity of this condition is not transferred by the subjective will of a single person or some groups. This condition is both subjective and objective.

#### ***3.1. The Subjective Conditions of Eliminating Capitalist Ownership***

First, major western developed countries, such as Britain, the United States, France, and Germany, have simultaneously revolutionized, driving revolutions in other countries. Only in this way can we seize power and eliminate capitalist ownership. "Joint action, at least that of all civilized countries, is one of the first conditions for the proletariat to be liberated." <sup>[2] 419</sup> Because "communism is only empirically possible if it is a simultaneous act of the dominant nations at once." <sup>[2]166</sup> In capitalist society, commodity economy is produced for sale. The sale of goods and the import of raw materials are closely linked with people all over the world. "The need to expand the market of products constantly drives the bourgeoisie to travel all over the world. It has to be built everywhere, developed everywhere, connected everywhere. The bourgeoisie, by opening up the world market, has made the production and consumption of all countries worldwide." <sup>[2] 404</sup> The world market established by the great industry connects people all over the world closely. People in various countries have a deeper influence on each other. So has the influence of the proletarian revolution. Communist society is not regional but global. "Any expansion of contacts will wipe out any regional communism." <sup>[2]166</sup> The conclusion at the end of Communist Manifesto: "their purpose can only be achieved by overthrowing all existing social systems with violence." <sup>[2]435</sup> In order to establish a communist society, the Communist Party must overthrow the existing systems of all countries by violence. Therefore, it is impossible for a single or a few countries to establish a communist society.

Second, we should form a class consciousness of the proletariat, and the proletariat all over the world should unite to overthrow the rule of the bourgeoisie. In a class

society, class struggle is the direct driving force of social development. The highest form of class struggle is revolution. The economic crisis does not naturally lead to the collapse of capitalism, it is only a necessary condition for the collapse of capitalism, not a sufficient condition. The bourgeoisie will not automatically withdraw from the stage of history. They will unite all reactionary forces against the Communist revolution. "In order to carry out the holy encirclement and suppression of this ghost (communism), all forces in old Europe, the Pope and the Czar, Metternich and kizo, the French Radicals and the German police, have united."<sup>[2]399</sup> The proletariat must carry out a violent revolution in order to overthrow the rule of the bourgeoisie. The bourgeoisie exploits and oppresses the proletariat as a class. Therefore, it is necessary to overthrow the community of the bourgeoisie so that the proletariat can be liberated and a free people's union can be established. Communist Manifesto calls for "proletarians from all over the world, unite" <sup>[2]435</sup> to revolt against the world's combined bourgeoisie. To unite, first of all, we need to form the class consciousness of the proletariat. To form class consciousness, class education must be strengthened. Therefore, "the Communists do not neglect for a minute to educate the workers to be as clear as possible about the hostile opposition between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat." <sup>[2]434</sup> An important factor in the failure of the French Revolution from 1848 to 1851 was that the French working class had not yet formed the class consciousness of the proletariat. Marx and Engels set up the first proletarian party - the Communist League and led the first international workers' organization - the International Workers' Association, which made great contributions to publicizing the proletarian class consciousness.

### **3.2. Objective Conditions of Eliminating Private Ownership**

First, the productivity is highly developed. "Due to the development of large industry, it has produced unprecedented large-scale capital and productivity, and has the means to improve this productivity infinitely in a short period of time." <sup>[2]303</sup> That is to say, only the developed productive forces can create enough wealth for distribution. On the contrary, backward productivity leads to poverty, which only leads to social unrest and unrest. Marx and Engels pointed out: "this development of productivity The reason why it is an absolutely necessary practical premise is that if there is no such development, there will only be the universalization of poverty; in the case of extreme poverty, the struggle for necessities must be restarted, and all the stale and dirty things will be revived again." <sup>[2]166</sup> Productivity determines production relations. What kind of productive forces there are will be what kind of relations of production to suit them. In the poverty of philosophy, Marx said: "the society of feudal lords is produced by hand grinding, and the society of industrial capitalists is produced by steam grinding." <sup>[2]222</sup>

Highly developed productivity adapts to public ownership, whereas it adapts to private ownership. Engels stressed that to achieve communism, private ownership must be abolished. The abolition of private ownership is the main requirement of the Communists, but private ownership can not be abolished at once, "only after a large number of necessary means of production have been created can private ownership be abolished."<sup>[2]304</sup> Because the existing productivity cannot be expanded to the same extent as necessary to realize property at once. Great material wealth requires highly developed productivity.

Second, the rich and the poor are polarized, and the poor cannot guarantee their survival. "Productivity is concentrated in the hands of a few bourgeoisies, and the masses of the people are becoming more and more proletarians. The wealth of the bourgeoisie is increasing, and the situation of the proletarian is more miserable and intolerable." <sup>[2] 303</sup> The polarization between the rich and the poor is the inevitable result of the development of capitalism. The interests of the bourgeoisie and the proletariat are in serious opposition and in sharp contradiction. If the proletariat is unable to guarantee even the most basic survival needs, it will have a thorough sense of revolution.

Third, economic crisis occurs frequently. "This powerful and easy-to-grow productivity has developed to a level far beyond the control of private ownership and asset holders, which often causes extremely violent shocks in the social system." <sup>[2] 304-305</sup> The economic crisis showed that capitalist ownership could not adapt to the development of productivity at that time. An insurmountable disease in capitalist society is the economic crisis. The frequent economic crisis will cause a great deal of damage to the productive forces, create intolerable difficulties for the proletariat, and arouse the proletariat's resistance and revolution.

From the above we can see that the abolition of private ownership cannot happen in the slave society, feudal society, only in the developed capitalist society. "Lenin always believed that the development of capitalism to a certain extent and the existence of the proletariat were the basic conditions for the socialist revolution. The former capitalist countries do not have this basic condition. If anyone said that the proletarian revolution could be carried out and won in the former capitalist countries, he would not know the basic common sense of scientific socialism." <sup>[9]309</sup> Both the Russian society before the October Revolution and the Chinese society during the new democratic revolution developed their capitalism to a certain extent. Although Lenin put forward that socialist revolution can win in one country first, he stressed that "one country cannot build socialism. "Building socialism" here refers to building socialism as envisioned by Marx and Engels, that is, complete socialism or developed socialism, rather than socialism or underdeveloped socialist society in the primary stage."<sup>[9]473</sup> Because socialism (communism) is a historic cause of the world, one or more countries alone cannot build developed socialism, Only through the joint efforts of the proletariat all over the world can this be done. He believed that the

Russian proletarian revolution would ignite the European Revolution, and finally realize the proletarian revolution in the whole world, overthrow the bourgeoisie and establish socialism.

#### **4. CHINA DOES NOT HAVE THE CONDITIONS TO ELIMINATE PRIVATE OWNERSHIP AT THE PRIMARY STAGE OF SOCIALISM**

The scientific basis for eliminating private ownership put forward by Marx is that the production relationship is better adapted to the development of productivity, so is China's reform and opening-up; the disintegration of the former Soviet Union is the result of the production relationship not adapting to productivity. The capitalist countries of the western developed countries have not perished, but also adjusted the relations of production, which temporarily adapted to the development of productivity. Capitalist countries still have economic crisis because they have not eliminated private ownership. Because of the existence of non-public ownership in socialist China, there is also the risk of economic crisis

##### ***4.1. It Is Unrealistic to Eliminate Private Ownership at present***

On the one hand, in the current level of productivity development, the practice of capitalist countries has proved that the elimination of private ownership is not realistic. Compared with the conditions for the elimination of capitalist private ownership, from the perspective of the whole world, at present, the possibility of western developed countries to overthrow capitalism together in a revolution is very small, and the possibility of the proletariat to unite in the world is also very small. The relationship between capitalists and workers in western capitalist countries has been eased to a certain extent, and the survival of workers has been basically guaranteed. Although there have been economic crises, they have not caused fatal harm to these countries, let alone revolution. Developed capitalist countries have always been leading in science and technology, that is, capitalist relations of production can also promote the development of productivity. Marx pointed out that "no matter which social form, before all the productive forces it can accommodate are brought into play, it will never perish; and the new higher relations of production, before its material existence conditions mature in the old society, will never appear."<sup>[10]</sup> When capitalism can also promote the development of productive forces, it is impossible to eliminate capitalist ownership. The main reason why capitalism has not perished so far is that the adjustment of production relations has temporarily adapted to the development of productivity. After Marx's death, the ownership of means of production in western capitalist countries has been changing. From the ownership of private capital to the ownership of private share capital, the ownership of legal person capital and the ownership of

state capital, the production relationship has been constantly adjusted to meet the needs of social mass production. Communist Manifesto says this very thoroughly: "unless the bourgeoisie continues to revolutionize the means of production, thus the relations of production and all social relations, it will not survive"<sup>[2]</sup><sup>403</sup>. In other words, the reason why the bourgeoisie can survive is because it realizes its own problems, It constantly adjusts and renews its production and social relations, which proves the correctness of Communist Manifesto.

On the other hand, the practice of socialist countries has proved that the elimination of private ownership is not feasible at the current level of productivity development. Marx and Engels put forward that the elimination of private ownership is based on the developed capitalist countries, while China and the former Soviet Union did not reach the development level of the developed capitalist society before the socialist revolution, but the productivity is backward. Trying to enter the Communist society without the full development of commodity economy is just a dream. Before Lenin's wartime communism was resisted by the Russian people at the end of 1920 and failed. After that, there were dramatic changes in Eastern Europe and the collapse of the Soviet Union, all of which were due to this. Of course, there are many reasons for the drastic changes in Eastern Europe and the disintegration of the Soviet Union, but most of them are due to external or subjective reasons, such as the peaceful evolution of the western countries and the corruption of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. In fact, the real objective reason is that the production relations do not adapt to the development of the productive forces. Relations of production can neither lag behind nor advance productivity, otherwise it will hinder the development of productivity. The Soviet Union is far from meeting the conditions for the complete elimination of private ownership and the full implementation of public ownership. After witnessing the disintegration of the Soviet Union, Deng Xiaoping deeply felt that China would perish if it did not reform or change the relations of production that did not adapt to the productive forces. Deng Xiaoping pointed out that "no socialism, no reform and opening up, no economic development, no improvement of people's lives, can only be a dead end."<sup>[11]</sup> Therefore, Deng Xiaoping proposed that the essence of socialism is to liberate and develop productive forces, eliminate exploitation and eliminate polarization, and finally achieve common prosperity. Reform is to allow private ownership of means of production to exist to a certain extent, so as to meet the needs of China's underdeveloped productivity and play a positive role in capital. Before the reform and opening up, private ownership was excluded, and only public ownership - ownership by the whole people and collective ownership - was allowed.

#### ***4.2. The Elimination of Private Ownership Is A Long Process***

First of all, the improvement of productivity needs to be accumulated gradually over a long period of time, not in a short period of time. On the one hand, the development of productivity is the result of human purposeful activities. On the other hand, the development of productivity is not determined by the common will of individuals or independent groups, but gradually accumulated. "People create their own history, but they don't create it at will, not under the conditions they choose, but under the conditions they directly encounter, set and inherited from the past."<sup>[2]669</sup> People can't choose productivity at will, but they inherit it from the past and develop productivity on this basis. The starting point of building socialism in China is the backward productivity, which starts from the lack of a large industrial base. In June 1954, Mao Zedong said anxiously, "what can we make now? We can make tables and chairs, teapots and teapots, we can grow food, we can grind flour, we can make paper, but we can't make a car, an airplane, a tank or a tractor."<sup>[12]</sup> It can be seen that China's socialism is not based on developed capitalism, but on the contrary, the productivity is extremely backward. Secondly, economic development is a natural historical process. Marx pointed out that "my view is to understand the development of economic and social forms as a process of natural history"<sup>[10]84</sup>, which can neither be skipped nor cancelled. From natural economy, commodity economy to product economy is the law of historical development of human society. Marx pointed out: "even if a society explores the natural law of its own movement it can neither skip nor cancel the natural development stage by law. But it can shorten and ease the pain of childbirth."<sup>[10]83</sup> Violence can only be a midwife, but not a parturient. The establishment of the realistic socialist system is that violence plays the role of parturient and foreshadows the drastic changes in the Soviet Union and the eastern region. Although violence destroyed private ownership in Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and China, and established socialist public ownership, the productivity of these countries did not become developed because of the revolution. In fact, the productivity of these countries still did not reach the level of development required by the elimination of private ownership. The stage of commodity economy is a natural stage. Without fully experiencing this stage, productivity cannot develop rapidly. This is the reason why China is in the primary stage of socialism and needs to establish a socialist market economy system to vigorously develop the commodity economy. Finally, the Communist movement will be a long process. "History will bring about this kind of Communist action, and the movement of self sublation that we have realized in our thoughts will go through a very difficult and long process in reality."<sup>[4]232</sup> The practice of communism is far more complicated than the theory of communism, and the two are not simply corresponding one by one. The theory of communism is a general generalization of the law of the development of human society, while the practice of

communism in China is concrete. China's Communist practice is not based on developed capitalism, but on commodity economy to promote the development of productivity. It will take a long time to move from backward productivity to highly developed productivity.

#### ***4.3. The Elimination of Private Ownership Is the Goal of the Advanced Stage of Socialism, Not the Goal of the Primary Stage of Socialism***

Socialism itself is the primary stage of communism, and our country is in the primary stage of socialism. In the advanced stage of socialism, due to the relatively developed productive forces, quite a lot of products can be created for distribution according to work. The elimination of private ownership is the proper meaning in the high stage of socialism. Communist Manifesto abolishes the private ownership and the socialism with Chinese characteristics allows the existence of private ownership. The unity lies in that the logical basis is that the relations of production must adapt to the law of the development of productivity. Unity is also reflected in the long-term goal of both is to achieve communism, that is, to eliminate private ownership. The opposite is that the former is to eliminate private ownership, which is China's short-term goal in terms of the final result of the development of human society as a whole. China is now in the primary stage of socialism and does not have the conditions to eliminate private ownership. At the primary stage, private ownership cannot be eliminated at once, because productivity cannot be raised to the level required for the full implementation of public ownership. Engels made it clear. He wrote in the communist principles, the predecessor of Communist Manifesto: "can we abolish private ownership at once? No, we can't, just as we can't immediately expand the existing productivity to the extent necessary for the implementation of public ownership of property. Therefore, the proletarian revolution, which is likely to come, can only gradually transform the present society, and only after the necessary means of production have been created can private ownership be abolished."<sup>[2]304</sup> The fundamental reason for the drastic changes in the Soviet Union and the eastern region is that these countries abolished the private ownership at once, but the productivity has not yet reached the condition of realizing the public ownership. Therefore, the report of the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China puts forward two "unswervingly" policies, namely, "unswervingly consolidate and develop the public sector of the economy, unswervingly encourage, support and guide the development of the non-public sector of the economy".<sup>[13]</sup>

China's development of non-public economy is a means, not an end. To promote the development of productive forces through this means is to meet the needs of the development of productive forces. The development of non-public economy can improve productivity, produce more and better goods and meet the needs of people's

better life. Marx and Engels affirmed the historical progress of capitalist ownership. They pointed out that "the productive forces created by the bourgeoisie in its class rule of less than one hundred years are more and larger than those created by all generations in the past."<sup>[2][405]</sup> At present, China also needs to make use of private capital, the non-public sector of the economy, to serve socialism, to play the role of private capital in mobilizing the enthusiasm of workers, increasing employment, technological innovation and so on. At present, China also needs to limit the negative effects of capital. The negative effects of capital are polarization, environmental pollution and economic crisis. At present, our country is carrying out three key battles, namely, prevention and resolution of major risks, precise poverty alleviation and pollution prevention. We should learn to control private capital and put it in the cage of the socialist system.

## 5. CONCLUSION

In short, the elimination of private ownership is not only the purpose of the Manifesto of the Communist Party of China, but also the original intention of the Communist Party of China. It is not the negation of the reform and opening up to develop the non-public economy. The highest ideal and ultimate goal of the Communist Party of China is to realize communism. The original intention of the Communists is to eliminate private ownership, not to forget and not to abandon it, otherwise the Communist Party of China will go on the wrong path. "China does not follow the old closed and rigid road, nor the evil road of changing its flag."<sup>[14]</sup> General secretary Xi Jinping once said that if our descendants cannot strengthen their ideals and beliefs, and cannot adhere to socialism with Chinese characteristics, we cannot adhere to the leadership of the party, and cannot take our classes well, leading to the change of flag in China. What is the significance of fighting so hard today?<sup>[15]</sup> Communists must be firm in their communist ideals and fulfill their vows to join the party - to fight for communism for life (to eliminate private ownership). The main reason why the Communist Party of China wants to carry out reform is to adjust production relations to adapt to the development of productivity. At the present stage, the productivity has not reached the development level of completely eliminating private ownership, so we should vigorously develop the non-public economy in order to better promote the development of productivity. In the past 40 years of reform and opening up, great success has been achieved, which is the best proof that production relations adapt to productivity. In the primary stage of socialism, China does not have the conditions to completely eliminate private ownership. We must adhere to and improve our socialist basic economic system, unswervingly consolidate and develop the public economy, unswervingly encourage, support and guide the development of the non-public economy.

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