



An Analysis of the Multiple Characteristics and Function of the Inter-party Regulation Language

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Abstract. Inter-party regulations are an important institutional foundation for the CPC's self-construction and governance. After 100 years of development, a relatively systematic and mature system of inter-party regulations has been developed. Language is the specific form of expression of the rules and regulations within the party, and its most fundamental requirement. Language is the vehicle of expression, interpretation, and transmission. Influenced by the nature of inter-party regulations, language presents a tendency to multiple features. As the original content of socialist jurisprudence with Chinese characteristics, the gradual integration of the above three characteristics is also reflected in its language, which gradually develops into the distinctive style of language of the inter-party regulations. The language of the inter-party regulations can be divided into three types: political language, normative language and popular language. The language of the CPC's inter-party regulations has the function of promoting the development of the CPC itself and shaping the good image of the CPC in external propaganda.

Keywords: inter-party regulation; political language; normative language; popular language

1 Introduction

Inter-party regulations have been the institutional practice of the party since its birth. The *CPC Regulations on the Enactment of inter-party Regulations* (2019) specifically defines the concept of inter-party regulations, which are special rules and regulations formulated by the party's rule-making body, which reflect the unified will of the party, regulate the party's leadership and party building activities, and rely on party discipline for implementation. By 2021, a relatively complete system of inter-party regulations has been basically completed. The research into inter-party regulation is relatively recent, hence its theoretical foundation remains comparatively weak. On one hand, the extant basic theories are fraught with deficiencies, such as issues related to the essence and fundamental values of inter-party regulation that have yet to reach consensus in academia. On the other hand, there are substantial gaps in the theoretical research, for example, the focus of this paper, the language of inter-party regulation. In summary, research into the language of inter-party regulation lags to some extent

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behind the overall theoretical study of inter-party regulation.

As the externalized expression of ideas and ideological systems, the importance of language is particularly prominent in codified law, serving as the critical medium for expressing normative legal statements. Likewise, inter-party regulation, being a specific type of norm, relies on language as the principal vehicle for its expression and development. In recent years, revisions to fundamental inter-party regulations have embodied the organic integration of political and normative language, reflecting a dynamic balance between precision and vagueness^[1]. The normative language of inter-party regulation, as a specialized language formulated by the Communist Party of China, exhibits its deep-seated ideological, professional, and precise nature through its scientific approach, logical rigor, standardization, and succinctness. As a unique normative system, the inner-party regulations contain their own unique concepts, categories and principles. Influenced by the compound nature of the inner-party laws and regulations, their language presents three types and has multiple functions.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In the second part, the characters of inter-party regulations are analyzed in terms of their functions, forms, and contents. The third section proposes that the language of inter-party regulations contains three types, namely political language, normative language and popular language. The fourth section discusses the multiple functions of the language of inter-party regulations, including internal functions and external functions.

2 Methodology: Epistemology Based on the Characteristics of Inter-party Regulations

2.1 The functions of inter-party regulations reflect the spirit of the CPC

Inter-party regulation is first and foremost "of the Party". As an institutionalized reflection of the Communist Party of China's party spirit, inter-party regulation embodies the attribute of the "Party". Firstly, inter-party regulation manifests the unified will of the Party, using the guiding thought of the Party as its theoretical foundation and offering specific guidance for Party construction. Secondly, inter-party regulation underscores the Party's advanced nature and purity, proposing higher standards for Party members and Party organizations than the law, thus establishing a preference for the political individual over the natural person. Lastly, inter-party regulation provides institutional safeguards to promote the Party's all-round construction, establishing a comprehensive regulatory system that covers political, ideological, organizational, work style, and disciplinary construction. This system offers robust support for the Party's self-construction and its comprehensive governance.

2.2 The form of inter-party regulations determines their character as partial laws

Inter-party regulation possesses certain legal characteristics. From the perspective of legal pluralism, inter-party regulation not only embodies the attributes of soft law and

societal law but is also accepted as a generalized legal norm with the establishment of the dual structure of the socialist legal system with Chinese characteristics. Inter-party regulation, with its precise categorization and standardized system, is given the status of a broad law within the socialist legal system with Chinese characteristics. Its structural system is explicit, classified into central, departmental, and local inter-party regulations based on the creating subject and applicable range, further divided into seven types such as party constitution, guidelines, and regulations. The domains adjusted by these include organizational laws and leadership laws, among four major blocks. The efficacy hierarchy of this regulation system is clear, with the party constitution as the highest regulation, followed by central, departmental, and local inter-party regulations. The content of these regulations, distinct from policy-oriented documents, adopts a structure and arrangement similar to national legal provisions, forming an ordered and cohesive organic whole. This unique system and form reveal that inter-party regulation, as an independent standard, embodies characteristics of precision, logical rigor, unified regulation, and concise accuracy. Not only does this manifest its legal properties, but it also provides solid institutional support for the Party's advancement.

2.3 The contents of the inter-party regulations reflect the position of the people

Inter-party regulations distinctly epitomize their people-oriented essence, fundamentally aimed at protecting the public's interests. Firstly, they express the common will, representing the Party's duty to safeguard the essential interests of the people. Its establishment process paves the way for standardizing the power operation and its scientific application, thereby promoting lawful power use and governance for the people. Secondly, the people-oriented character of inter-party regulations is mirrored in its purpose and the Party's inherent attributes. The regulations underline safeguarding and developing the fundamental interests of the public, and the Party's essence aligns with people's will. This is evident in many regulatory articles, like the preamble of the Party Constitution, affirming the Party's commitment to the interests of the working class and the broader masses. Thus, the inter-party regulations manifest their people-oriented nature by protecting the public's interests and reflecting their will.

3 Result: an analysis of the linguistic typology of inter-party regulations

Language is the vehicle of thought and the outward manifestation of the will of the subject. As a norm different from laws and policies, the language of inter-party regulations has a unique style^[2]. The ethos of "party rules and party spirit" forms the core of the language system of inter-party regulation, its imitation and innovation in the legal system reflect normativity and rigor. Meanwhile, the expression of its populist nature constitutes a crucial underpinning for the discourse of inter-party regulation. These three types collectively serve as the linguistic framework supporting the con-

struction of inter-party regulation.

3.1 Political Language that Embodies the Spirit of the Party

Part of the language of inter-party regulations comes first from the party itself, which can be divided into pre-exist and created languages. Part of this is the existing language of the party itself, including concepts of inter-party politics and language on party matters. The other part is the language created by the party leadership and experts, such as "lucid waters and lush mountains are gold and silver mountains", which is constantly absorbed into the inter-party regulations.

The language that embodies the spirit of the party has its peculiar features. As the spirit of the inter-party regulations, politics runs through the institutional logic, guides the spread of discourse, conveys the concept of governance, and shapes social values. At the same time, political language sometimes is vague. A large number of ambiguous words and sentences are used in inter-party regulations, including a large number of verbs, adverbs and adjectives indicating degree, and words or sentences indicating nature, state and mental activity are also used in the text. And many of the provisions also set ethical standards or quality requirements that are distinctly vague. The "three non-corruptions", which means the people are not afraid to corrupt, not able to corrupt and not wanting to corrupt, not only convey the party's philosophy but also enhance the legibility of the language^[3].

3.2 Normative Language Similar to the Linguistic Features of the Law

There is formal consistency between inter-party regulations and national laws. Inter-party regulations abstract the party leadership and party building activities when they are formulated into institutional arrangements with a high degree of coverage. And through the position of the ruling party, the will of the people is encapsulated so that inter-party regulations can reflect a certain spirit of the rule of law. In terms of formal presentation, inter-party regulations extensively draw upon national laws. This borrowing is manifested in aspects of textual form, expression style, conceptual terms, and sentence structures. For instance, some provisions in the "Regulations on Disciplinary Punishment" employ the "violation and punishment" sentence structure from the "*Criminal Law*". Regarding concepts and terms, words like "severity" and "lighter circumstances" are primarily derived from related concepts in the criminal code. As the vehicle for rule setting, the language of inter-party regulations pursues accuracy, brevity, and solemnity, akin to laws. The fifteenth provision of the "Regulations on the Formulation of Inter-Party Regulations" expressly emphasizes these demands, highlighting the congruence between inter-party regulations and laws in rule-making techniques, which is also the rationale for the normative language in inter-party regulations.

3.3 Popular Language Close to Social Life

Inter-party regulations, adhering to the mass line, convey the Chinese Communist Party's governance philosophy, guidelines, and policies to the people through vibrant and accessible language^[1]. This utilization subtly unveils their distinctive populist characteristics while shaping and guiding mainstream ideologies and values in society. The regulations employ symbolic language, such as depicting severe and minor corruption as "tigers" and "flies" respectively, to vividly portray their political goal of fighting against corruption. Notably, the "looking in the mirror, dressing properly, taking a bath, and treating the illness" metaphor used in the "Regulations" vividly demonstrates the Party members' determination for self-reflection, conveying the Party's pursuit of political integrity to all members and society. This adroit strategy of using popular language not only strengthens the normative nature of the inter-party regulations but also exhibits their profound populist essence, thereby further enhancing the people's trust and support for the Chinese Communist Party^[4]. Simultaneously, it provides a reference for the construction and development of other parties, further manifesting the CCP's advanced nature, purity, and courage for self-innovation.

4 Discussion: Multidimensional functions of the language of Party regulations

In the context of the overall promotion of the rule of law and governing the Party by law, the language of the inter-party regulations shows diversified and integrated features. Its multiple characteristics also determine that it has multiple functions of promoting the development of the party, regulating its membership and external publicity, and shaping the party's image.

4.1 Internal functions: Party development and membership regulation

Inter-party regulation is a specialized set of rules and regulations to standardize the leadership and development activities of the Party, serving as a potent guarantor for the development of the Chinese Communist Party. On one hand, inter-party regulation plays a dual role in promoting its self-construction and maintaining unity. Its article-style expression and precise, solemn language highlight the common features of the regulations. Simultaneously, the use of political discourse underscores its normative function while maintaining its affinity, thereby effectively maintaining party unity^[5]. More importantly, the language of the inter-party regulation incorporates the will of the masses, thereby solidifying the Party's leadership position. On the other hand, the content conveyed by the language of inter-party regulation plays a consolidating role for the leadership position of the Chinese Communist Party. Through a series of regulations on party leadership, the relationship between the Party and organizations such as the People's Congress, the government, the CPPCC, supervisory bodies, judicial bodies, and prosecutorial bodies is regulated. This not only adheres to legal principles and operates within the scope of the constitution and laws, but also standardizes

various leadership activities through inter-party regulations, thereby consolidating the Party's leadership position.

Much akin to national laws, inter-party regulations exercise normative and binding force, proficiently governing internal members. Primarily, such regulations, with their precise linguistic construct, directly modulate the execution of public authority. Furthermore, they delineate the behavior of party members, steering their actions based on the party's collective will. Meanwhile, the distinct linguistic charisma of these regulations proffers political guidance and ideological inspiration. Despite its borrowed legal language characteristics of rationality, conciseness, and seriousness, it underscores political discourse, reflecting its political essence. It expertly balances the rigid constraints with a humane touch, signifying its unique normative strength.

4.2 External Function: Propaganda and Party Image Building

With its populist language characteristics, inter-party regulation serves not only as the code of conduct for party members but also effectively guides, educates, and regulates the public through policy propaganda. Its clever use of language combines normative and political discourse, enhancing the expectation of disciplinary actions for party members' behavior. Simultaneously, it employs vivid rhetorical techniques, such as analogy and metaphor, to vividly convey the party's position. It adeptly bridges political and public discourse, enabling the masses to understand and oversee the party.

As a critical component of the intra-party rule of law culture, the language in inter-party regulations distinctly communicates the core value pursuit of "people-first" principles, thereby sculpting the image of the Communist Party of China (CPC). This populist discourse not only establishes the rule of law within the party but also serves the people more effectively, thereby enhancing the people's identification with the party. The usage of language in inter-party regulations enables the public to comprehend the stringent constraints on party members through normative standards. This deepened understanding ascends to a mainstream ideology, thereby amplifying the CPC's progressiveness, purity, and capacity for self-revolution, and cementing the foundation for public confidence in the party's leadership.

5 Conclusion

As a distinctive element of socialist jurisprudence with Chinese features, inter-party regulations intertwine characteristics of the party, law, and populace. These features shape its dual function - an internal role promoting party development via effective member oversight, and an external role enhancing the party's image. The language of these regulations, intrinsically tied to textual and codified systems, garners increasing academic attention. However, compared to political language within such regulations, further research is needed on its academic and legal language. Academics should intensify exploration on the unique attributes and functions of inter-party regulation language, particularly its generation, articulation, and dissemination capacities.

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